Green solar energy ghana

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As part of its efforts to decarbonize the energy sector and fight climate change, the country aims to completely give up fossil fuels by 2070 and fully adopt environmentally friendly green energy.

Beyond capturing targets in documents, does Ghana have the financial, expertise, and regulatory capacity to participate in the promising green hydrogen economy and what should be the starting point in order not to be left behind?

These were some of the critical questions that emerged from various engagements when a 12-member team from Ghana embarked on a week study tour on green hydrogen in Germany as part of the 2024 Group Visitors Programme of the Federal Government.

The team comprised representatives from the Energy Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Bui Power Authority, Ghana Standards Authority, A-B Hydrogen Limited, Kumasi Institute of Technology and Environment (KITE), Tamale Technical University, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Don Bosco Solar Training Centre, EverGreen Development Project Limited, and the Ghana News Agency.

The team also explored the potential for Ghana"s green hydrogen production and the opportunity cost, appropriate technology to adopt, and partnership opportunities in the areas of research, financing, and training.

The delegation, at various meetings, made a case for Ghana as the potential hub for green hydrogen production in Africa and requested a pilot project to assess the feasibility of a large-scale production of green hydrogen in the West African country.

The world is racing to decarbonise the global economy by 2050 as a crucial step to fighting climate change, and this requires a major transformation of the global energy systems to meet the target.

Researchers and scientists have identified hydrogen as a viable long-term solution that can reduce emissions in heavy-polluting sectors, such as power generation, ground, sea and air transport and chemicals, and iron and steel.

The IEA has projected that hydrogen demand will increase by more than 1.5 times to reach more than 150 metric tonnes by 2030 - and about 30 per cent of the demand will come from new applications.

A key step taken by Germany is the development of a comprehensive hydrogen strategy to guide the production, usage, international cooperation, and importation of hydrogen to feed industry and other purposes.

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The strategy targets a 10-gigawatt domestic production capacity of hydrogen out of a projected demand of 95 to 130 Terawatt hours in 2030. This means that 50 to 70 per cent of green hydrogen will be imported.

Germany has also passed the Hydrogen Acceleration Act to provide legal backing to key aspects of the hydrogen framework and established the National Hydrogen Council to advise and support the State Secretaries" Committee on Hydrogen.

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