AFRICA ENERGY UPDATE

1. Ghana: Ghana's LPG price increases marginally

- Consumers of LPG in the Republic of Ghana are expected to pay for 8 Ghana pesewas more per kilogram of LPG in order to enjoy the commodity. Thus, consumers who used 14.5kg will be paying almost GHS 1.20p extra on the current price.
- Ghana's Minister for Finance Ken Ofori-Atta announced the 8 pesewas increment when he presented the country's mid-year budget statement in Parliament, July 29, 2019.
- Meanwhile, The LPG Marketing Association had expected the minister to take advantage of the mid-year budget review, to bring some form relief to Ghanaians.

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2. Senegal: Mainstream erects first turbine for 158MW wind farm in Senegal

- The flat semi-arid Sahel plain of Senegal has a new feature the first of 46 towering turbines in what is set to be West Africa's largest wind farm.
- The construction work marks a significant milestone for the Taiba N'Diaye Wind Farm, which is being developed by our Africa Joint Venture, Lekela.
- Located 90km northeast of the capital Dakar, each of the 117metre towers will produce up to 3.45 MW through their 61.7m blades and latest Vestas V126 turbine.
- As its first utility scale wind farm, the 158 MW project will boost Senegal's energy generation capacity by 15% enough to power the lives of two million people when it begins transmitting electricity to the grid later this year.

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3. Congo: World's biggest hydroelectric project inches closer to reality in Congo

- A dream of building the world's biggest hydroelectric project in the heart of Africa may be inching closer to reality.
- For decades, plans have been made and discarded to construct a series of hydroelectric power stations on Africa's second-longest river that would generate almost twice the power of the Three Gorges Dam in China, the world's largest. If completed, a Grand Inga Dam could go a long way to addressing one of the most debilitating obstacles to development across Africa from Nigeria to South Africa: electricity shortages.
- Not all Congolese are however convinced that the dam will solve the nation's desperate lack of energy. In its current form, most of the power it will generate is meant for other countries.

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4. Guinea: AfDB's support for electrification changes habits and lightens loads for Guineans

- For over a year in Conakry, the Guinean capital, and in several other major towns and rural areas in the country, habits have changed. Like many of her compatriots, Arama Sire Camara, a fruit and vegetable seller in the province of Kindia (135 km from Conakry) is now much more confident and happy carrying on her business day and night.
- "With lighting on the road at night and illuminating our goods, it means we are safer, especially with all the cars on the road. You can work for longer after nightfall, and so we can make more of our products," she says.
- With a river network of 6,250 km, Guinea has an estimated hydroelectric potential of 7,000 megawatts (MW), one of the most powerful on the continent. The country is taking advantage of this to improve popular access to electrical power, with the support of the African Development Bank.

Afdb.org

5. Nigeria: Sweet crude glut in Atlantic basin sends Nigerian differentials sliding

- A glut of light sweet crude in the Atlantic basin owing to a surge in U.S. exports and homeless North Sea cargoes has sent differentials for Nigerian sliding.
- Around 15 cargoes of Nigerian crude remain from the August loading programme, with the prompt barrels dragging down prices for September cargoes yet mostly failing to attract much buyer interest despite seller mark-downs.
- Two cargoes of prompt-loading Forcados still await a buyer, with buyers holding out for a price well below a premium of \$2 compared to dated Brent among the lowest values in 2019.
- Bonny Light and Qua Iboe were said to be trading below dated Brent plus \$2.00.

Af.reuters.com

6. Nigeria: NNPC looks to resume oil search in Chad Basin, Benue Trough with military support

- The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has expressed its preparedness to re-enter and commence full operations at the Chad Basin, Gongola and Benue Trough, as it seeks for wholistic military supports for the protection of its workforce and high-tech equipment.
- Group Managing Director of the corporation, Mallam Mele Kyari, made this submission when he led top Management of the NNPC on a visit to the Chief of Defence Staff, General Gabriel Olonisakin, at his office in Abuja on Tuesday.
- Mallam Kyari stated that the NNPC was seriously challenged due to the
 nefarious activities of pipeline vandals, petroleum products thieves and
 other economic saboteurs that breach the operations of the corporation
 in various parts of the country.

• He said the military and the NNPC had been working together and the visit of the GMD would further bolster the various operations to secure the oil and gas installations, adding that the Military had devised several strategies to stem the tide of pipeline breaches in the country.

Nnpcgroup.com

7. South Sudan: South Sudan raises oil production by 6,000 barrels

- South Sudan Petroleum Minister, Awow Chuang, on Wednesday said that the country had boosted its oil production by 6,000 barrels, bringing the oil output to over 180,000 barrels per day.
- Chuang told state-owned radio South Sudan Broadcasting Corporation (SSBC) on Wednesday in Juba.
- The minister said the increase followed resumption of production at Block 1&2 in Manga Oilfield, which was closed six years ago due to insecurity in the northern parts of the country.
- He said the reopening of the Manga oilfields would boost the government's ambitious efforts to reach the 200,000 barrels mark by the end of 2019.

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8. Benin: Benin strengthening its gas to power infrastructure

- With a population of less than 12 million and a GDP of \$10.35bn in 2018, Benin is often overshadowed by its massive neighbour, Nigeria. Yet as African countries try to revitalize their energy sector, bring in private capital and develop gas-to-power, it is in West Africa and Benin that observers should look for positive developments. With recent legislative reforms and a strong political will, the small West African nation is strengthening its place as the capital of the West African Power Pool (WAPP) and positioning itself as a big hub for gas and power in the sub-region.
- On July 24, French super-major Total signed a Gas Supply Agreement and Host Government Agreement with Benin and its state utility, the Société Béninoise d'Energie Electrique (SBEE). The agreement will see the development of a 0.5 mtpa Floating, Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU), the first in West Africa. LNG supplies sourced from Total's global portfolio are set to start in 2021 and last for 15 years.

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