

# Development of the Energy Balance Statistics and Energy Systems Model for the Union of Comoros



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#### List of Acronyms

| DEA   | Direction de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement                   |
|-------|---|
| DEM   | Direction de l'Energie et des Mines                         |
| DER   | Direction des Energies Renouvelables                        |
| DG    | Direction Générale  |
| DGEME | Direction Générale de l'Energie, des Mines et des l'Eau     |
| EDA   | Electricité d'Anjouan                                       |
| EPS   | Service d'Etudes, Planification et Statistiques             |
| GDP   | Gross domestic product                                      |
| HFO   | Heavy fuel oil  |
| IEA   | International Energy Agency                                 |
| LCOE  | Levelized cost of energy                                    |
| LDC   | Least Developed Country                                     |
| LEAP  | Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning                     |
| MAMWE | Gestion de l'Eau et de l'Electricité aux Comores            |
| OECD  | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development       |
| SA    | Service de l'Assainissement                                 |
| SAEMR | Service Accès, Efficacité et Maitrise des ressources        |
| SCA2D | Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development |
| SCH   | Société Comorienne des Hydrocarbures                        |
| SE    | Service de l'Energie  |
| SEI   | Stockholm Environment Institute                             |
| SERVP | Service Etudes, Recherche et Valorisation du Potentiel      |
| SM    | Service des Mines   |
| SRE   | Service des Ressources en Eau                               |
| TPES  | Total Primary Energy Supply                                 |
| UNECA | United Nations Economic Commission for Africa               |
|       |   |

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#### **Executive summary**

This report is developed as part of an advisory service request made to UNECA by the Government of the Union of Comoros. The request was for the development of national energy balance statistics to bridge gaps in the energy information system, as well as for the development of a national energy systems model to support energy sector planning, the analysis of the National Energy Strategy and the delivery of capacity development in energy planning. This report focuses on the development of Comoros' first energy balance statistics (for 2017) and on a nationally and regionally disaggregated energy systems model. It also analyses model scenarios on the basis of targets specified in the Energy Strategy 2033.

The energy sector of Comoros is characterized by a reliance on firewood and petroleum products as the two main sources of final energy consumption in the country (which totals 6,487 terajoules (Tj) per year). The energy mix is 57% biomass, 2% electricity and 41% oil products. The role of renewable energy in generation is gradually increasing, but is still negligible compared to conventional energy sources. Considering the different sectors, household energy consumption accounts for 63% of total final energy consumption; the other main sources are the transport sector (32%) and the industrial and commercial sector (5%). Most of the biomass consumed is used for households and restaurants (93%) and ylang-ylang (essential oil) distilling (7%). The petroleum products consumed are all imported and are used for transport, electricity generation and household use. Comoros relies mainly on thermal generation of electricity from fossil fuels (219.11 million kilowatt hours (kWh)), while using some hydro (8.65 million kWh) and minimal solar energy. The high cost of electricity is mainly attributed to the dilapidated state of the distribution grid, which gives rise to over 40% losses in energy transmission. The management challenges of the state-owned utility (MAMWE) and high costs of imported fuel also increase the delivered cost of energy.

To develop the energy balance statistics, the International Energy Agency guidelines were used; energy data was thus gathered at the decentralized level of each island (Grande Comore, Anjouan and Mohéli) and combined for the national energy balance statistics. These statistics indicate that the country's total primary requirements stood at over 7.5 petajoules (PJ) in 2017, over half of which arose in Grande Comore. Nationally, this indicates an average annual requirement of 9.1 gigajoules (GJ) per capita. Among final energy demands, the average annual electricity consumption per person in Comoros was 66.1 kilowatt hours (kWh) per capita. Comparatively, the average electricity consumption across all Least Developed Countries was just over 200 kWh/capita in 2014. The energy intensity of the Comoros economy was USD 0.19 per megajoule (MJ) in 2017, similar to economic intensities observed in other Least Developed Countries. Energy requirements are dominated by wood and other biomass, satisfying nearly half of primary energy needs in 2017. This is followed by diesel consumption, which is also used for power generation. Gasoline and kerosene are important fuels for transportation, and households also rely on kerosene for cooking needs. All petroleum products are imported.

The Energy Strategy 2033 of the Union of Comoros specifies targets to be achieved. On the basis of the national and regional energy systems model developed in the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) tool, five scenarios from the strategy are analysed to demonstrate a pathway for their achievement. The first is a Reference Scenario based on historic growth trends. The second is the National Energy Independence Scenario, which requires the share of renewable energy to increase to 10% by 2018 and 55% by 2033. To achieve the required dispatch mix, the national installed capacity of renewables on each of the islands was 9.4 MW, based on baseline electricity demand projection.

The third is the Accelerated Electricity Access Scenario, seeking to increase electrification to 60% by 2018 and 100% by 2033. To meet this goal, electricity demand would increase by 55% in 2033 to 135 GWh, requiring Comoros to generate an additional 23 MW power capacity to satisfy the demand. The fourth is the Biomass Energy Transition Scenario, seeking to reduce the contribution of wood fuels in the country's overall energy consumption to 65% by 2018 and 25% by 2033. In implementing this policy, Comoros would be able to save 20% of total final energy demand from the baseline and reduce total wood requirement for final energy delivery by 64%. The rise in LPG demand in this ambitious scenario requires concerted action and active private sector involvement.

A Combined Scenario analysis is also conducted for all these policy measures. On the supply side, the National Energy Independence scenario results in the decrease of electricity generation by 25% (from 145 GWh to 109 GWh) in 2033. This is attributed to grid stabilisation and reduced grid losses. The Biomass

Energy Transition (BIO) scenario has minimum effect on electricity supply. The Accelerated Electricity Access Scenario steeply increases electricity demand, increasing the generation requirement to 226 GWh – 56% higher than the Reference Scenario. But a combined implementation of the Accelerated Electricity Access and National Energy Independence scenarios keeps down the increase to 17%. This is attributed to the savings from an enhanced grid network and a more efficient renewable energy technologies mix.

In conclusion, the energy balance statistics for Comoros (2017) showed that 51% (or 3,820 TJ) of the total energy consumed is imported, while 49% (or 3,742 TJ) is generated within Comoros. Most of this generated energy is the firewood used in the residential sector for cooking. The total primary supply of energy on each of the three islands was 4,392 TJ for Grande Comore, 2,759 TJ for Anjouan and 411 TJ for Mohéli in 2017. However, an average of 13% of this energy is lost during transformation, transmission and distribution. Comoros has a great opportunity to reduce these losses through grid stabilisation.

The projections indicate that Comoros' energy demand up to the year 2033 will grow from 6,597 TJ in 2017 to 11,189 TJ in 2033 in the baseline (reference) scenario. This would be met by 9,383 TJ in total energy supply, made up of 72% oil products, 22% biomass and 6% renewable.

The following key recommendations are made to strengthen the country's energy planning capacity and relevant energy statistics:

- Based on the 2017 Energy Balance Statistics developed at island and national levels, subsequent updates and reporting of energy balance statistics should be pursued by organizing national data in accordance with the baseline balance statistics established and the IEA guidelines.
- 2. Strengthen the Energy Planning Unit within the Directorate General of Energy, Mining and Water as a hub for collecting and organizing energy sector data and to implement the national energy systems model to respond to energy sector policy and planning requirements.
- 3. Support institutionalization of the annual production of the national Energy Balance Statistics report by the Directorate General of Energy, Mines and Water Resources.
- 4. Maintain a national biomass inventory to support evaluation of sustainable biomass use and improve on biomass energy planning.
- 5. Conduct additional data gathering to fill the gaps in the developed national and regional energy systems models to improve the accuracy of the model for policy and planning uses.

Finally, it is essential that Comoros continually build capacity in all energy sub-sectors and relevant government agencies if the country is to achieve the National Energy Strategy and Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, particularly goal #7 on energy.

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