

# Eight sites identified for construction of dams

By Mary Anane, HO

EIGHT sites have been identified for the construction of hydro dams in the Volta Region.

The selected sites are at Hohoe, Likpe Kukurantumi, Afegame, Wli Waterfalls, Alavanyo- Abehenesi, Ahamansu, Dodi Papase, and Menuku.

Feasibility studies have already been conducted on the eight potential sites.

Each of the projects is expected to provide an average of 1.4 Megawatts (MWs) of power, which would be connected to the national grid and last for 30 years.

## Investors

Already, a consortium of investors from Italy and Switzerland has expressed interests in constructing the eight hydro dams.

Known as EQO Project, the consortium specialises in environmental and energy projects.

The consortium was invited into the country by the Agbogbomefia of the Asogli

State, Togbe Afede XIV, to unearth the potential of those lakes in the energy sector.

## Key stakeholders

The team of investors have already held a meeting with the various stakeholders, including Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ghana Grid Company (Gridco), Ministry of Power, Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) and Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL), on how to properly make good use of the potential sites.

Construction of the projects will start in December, and they are expected to be completed within a year.

Giving a briefing of what the project entailed, the Chief Engineer of one of the companies, Ambiente E. Paesaggio, Mr Fabrizio Breganni, said most of the areas, especially Hohoe and Likpe Kukurantumi, had enough water and the basic infrastructure to commence the projects.

'This project is very important to us as a company and, therefore, we would need a collaborative effort to bring it into fruition,' he said.

The company extended invitation to the Volta Regional Minister to visit some of their projects in Italy.

The Volta Regional Minister, Ms Helen Adwoa Ntoso, observed that the power crisis had become a burden to everyone in the country.

## Positive impact

'We are excited about the good news because these projects would benefit the people

of the Volta Region and the country at large and also create jobs for the youth'.

The minister informed the team that the region was expecting to see the project commenced in the next six months, assuring them of maximum support to bring them into fruition.

To ensure its success, she said the Volta Regional Co-ordinating council would set up a committee which would involve experts and key stakeholders to engage with the team so the project did not become a white elephant.



• Ms Helen Adwoa Ntoso in a chat with the investors.