



# 10 Years of Successful Cooperation

## The Africa-EU Energy Partnership



**10** Years  
Africa-EU  
Energy Partnership

## Imprint

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The **Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)** constitutes one of the initial eight partnerships under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), a long-term framework for cooperation between the two continents. The African Union Commission, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretariat, Egypt, the European Commission, Germany, and Italy are the Steering Group members providing political guidance to the Secretariat. The AEEP Secretariat is based at Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

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### AEEP Steering Group



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# Message from the Co-Chairs

The ten-year anniversary of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership marks a decade of fruitful, effective and important cooperation between our two continents on sustainable energy; a sector that has proven to be critically important and dynamic.

Since its creation in 2007, the Partnership has been a successful motor of progress: some of the AEEP's 2020 political targets are either achieved, exceeded, or on good course. In addition to the progress made on electricity connections and other targets, many new cross-border connection projects that are in the pipeline continue to improve energy security on the continent, while energy intensity has decreased steadily, leading to higher rates of energy efficiency. In overall, there is progress in all areas, but there is still more to do.

The last ten years have seen energy rise to the top of the political agenda, most notably signaled by the inclusion of energy as an explicit Sustainable Development Goal. Setting the agenda, the AEEP has been there along the way, providing a platform for high-level political dialogue and representing a shared voice for Europe and Africa, as well as providing key input and supporting instruments to international initiatives. Within this period, major Africa-focused initiatives have entered the stage, for instance the Sustainable Energy for All, Power Africa and lately the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative.

The work of the AEEP, however, does not stop here. We look forward to future collaboration where we will further align priorities to fit the changing stakeholder landscape, and scale-up the development of sustainable energy systems in Europe and Africa. For now, we celebrate the last decade of multi-stakeholder engagement and dialogue in the Partnership; a Partnership we aim to continue as key agenda-setters in African-European cooperation on energy issues.

## The Co-Chairs of the AEEP



**“The opportunities and challenges we are faced with, bringing sustainable, reliable, affordable and clean energy to Africa call for strong and visionary partnerships.”**

**H.E. Neven Mimica**, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development

**“The Africa-EU Energy Partnership has helped put energy on the international agenda. It was a pioneer in setting clear political targets for energy access, renewable energy and energy efficiency.”**

**Thomas Silberhorn**, German State Secretary, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

**“Through the Africa-EU Energy Partnership, we can bring critical interconnection projects to the highest level, the level of the Africa-EU Joint Strategy process.”**

**Sindiso Ngwenya**, Secretary General, COMESA



**“Europe is one of our most important and oldest partners and we highly value the partnership we have had, in particular in energy.”**

**H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid**, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy

**“Peace and security have to be reached through the creation of conditions, implying also the access to energy. In this sense having the opportunity to work with the AEEP is part of a larger strategy of pursuing peace and security in Africa.”**

**H.E. Ambassador Sergio Mercuri**, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

**“As we know, access to electricity in African countries is very low. The AEEP can be a tool to liaise between African countries and the EU on this challenge, and Egypt can be a bridge for that.”**

**Dr. Mohamed Moussa Omran**, First Undersecretary for Research Planning & Authorities' Follow-up, Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Energy

# The Africa-EU Energy Partnership

In 2007, African and European Heads of State and Government launched the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) at the AU-EU Summit in Lisbon. As one of eight strategic partnerships under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), it aims to connect the two continents in one mission: to increase the effectiveness of efforts to secure reliable and sustainable energy; to enhance access to modern energy services and expand renewable energy and energy efficiency in Africa. In this partnership of equals, African and European leaders combine market potential and expertise to collectively meet energy challenges. To reach these goals, the AEEP evolves around sharing knowledge, setting political priorities and developing joint programmes on the key energy issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Structured and strategic dialogue builds the cornerstone of the AEEP. High-level meetings bringing together political leaders from both continents as well as national and regional energy dialogues open the forum for intensive policy discussion. By reinforcing capacities of political institutions, for instance in form of staff secondments,

the Partnership ensures participation on an equal footing and enables the exchange of best practices among African entities.

The AEEP's efforts focus on meeting a series of concrete, realistic and visible targets by 2020, as agreed on at the AEEP's 1<sup>st</sup> High Level Ministerial Meeting. To this end, the AEEP publishes biennial status reports on the progress and achievement of the targets, namely energy access, energy security, renewable energy and energy efficiency on the African continent.

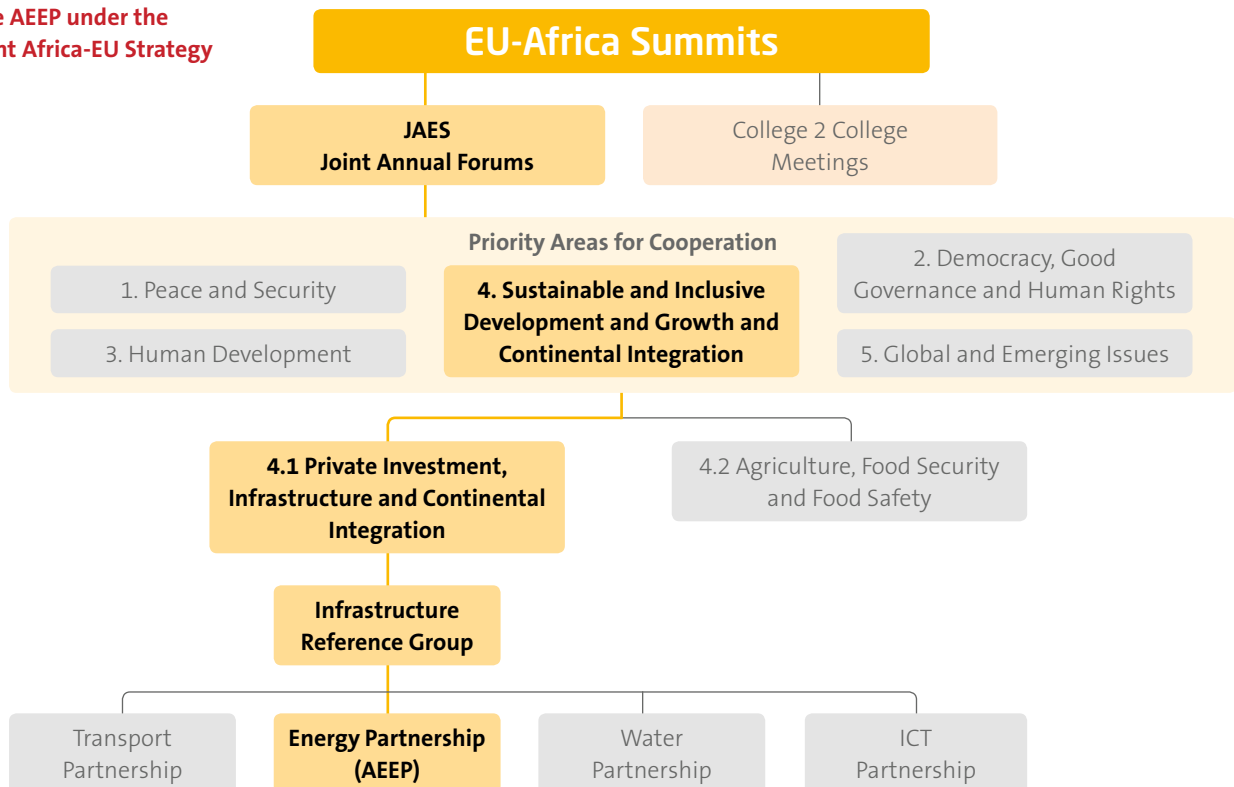
To ensure maximum participation of the private sector, civil society and academia, the Partnership runs a unique process of action groups and stakeholder meetings, which feeds back into political decision-making. In addition, the AEEP has developed a dynamic youth programme to ensure the "voices of tomorrow" are incorporated at the highest level of political dialogue. The Partnership is guided by a Steering Group that reports back into the larger framework of the Africa-EU Joint Strategy.



## The structure of the AEEP



## The AEEP under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy



# 10 Years of Successful Cooperation

From the 2007 AU-EU Lisbon Summit to its ten-year anniversary in 2017, the Africa-EU Energy Partnership has grown into one of the most active partnerships under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. In the past ten years, the AEEP has ensured commitment at the highest political level: its High Level Meetings in Vienna in 2010 and in Addis Ababa in 2014 – each brought together more than 300 participants – are milestones of the African-European political dialogue on energy.

As an agenda-setter, the AEEP has helped highlight the role of sustainable energy in Africa actively engaging at key forums such as the COPs, G7 and G20 summits. The last ten years have seen energy climb to the top of the political agenda, with initiatives such as the AREI growing out of the UNFCCC climate processes, SEforALL, and the adoption of SDG7. Since 2007, the AEEP has given a boost to such joint initiatives and to a common agenda. The AEEP Communiqué endorsed at the G7 Energy Ministerial Meeting in Rome 2017 can certainly be counted as one of the most recent highlights.

Besides helping international debates and joint initiatives flourish, the Partnership has also acknowledged the importance of coordinating and aligning efforts. Some AEEP efforts on the way to making the most efficient use of resources for Africa's energy transition were: two Stakeholder Forums uniting more than 300 international energy advocates in Cape Town in 2012 and in Milan in 2016; the recent exercise of mapping energy initiatives and programmes in Africa.

Ten years of successful cooperation also include working towards harmonisation at the regional level, strengthening of the private sector, monitoring the achievements of the AEEP 2020 Targets, and involving non-state actors in the Africa-EU energy dialogue, such as civil society, academia and youth. The overview of AEEP milestones and the following pages tell the story of a successful decade.

**“One of the most important tasks of this Partnership is to promote energy access and to coordinate the different initiatives working on this challenge.”**

**Cheikh Bedda**, Director of Infrastructure and Energy,  
African Union Commission

**“This is a partnership of equals. Africa offers an opportunity for investment. Europe has the know-how, equipment, and technology which Africa does not have, but Africa has the market.”**

**David Otieno**, Head of the AEEP Secretariat



## AEEP Milestones

### **2007: AU-EU Lisbon Summit**

European and African leaders establish the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) and constitute the Africa-EU Energy Partnership.

### **2012: 1<sup>st</sup> AEEP Stakeholder Forum (Cape Town, South Africa)**

More than 300 stakeholders commend the way forward for the AEEP and initiate the monitoring of the AEEP 2020 Targets.

### **2014: 2<sup>nd</sup> AEEP High Level Meeting (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) & Launch of the AEEP Status Report**

More than 400 leaders from governments, private sector, international organisations etc. shape the future of Africa-EU energy cooperation based on results from the AEEP Status Report.

### **2016: 2<sup>nd</sup> AEEP Stakeholder Forum (Milan, Italy)**

With more than 300 participants, the Forum further strengthens the involvement of key stakeholders in the energy dialogue and sees the launch of RES4Africa. Other Forum highlights are: publication of the *Second AEEP Status Report, Mapping of Energy Initiatives and Programmes in Africa* and the first dissemination of the Energy Access working group's *AEEP Energy Access: Best Practices 2016*.

### **2010: 1<sup>st</sup> AEEP High Level Meeting (Vienna, Austria)**

Endorsement of the AEEP 2020 Targets and launch of the Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP).

### **2013: AEEP National Energy Business Dialogue Forums**

Several national forums in Uganda, Djibouti, Zambia, Ghana, Cameroon and Vienna help promote the energy agenda.

### **2015: New Steering Group Members, Ministerial Meeting (Rome, Italy)**

Egypt and COMESA join the Steering Group of the AEEP and the first North African AEEP Energy Security Dialogue takes place in Egypt. At the Ministerial Meeting in Rome, the AEEP organises the Italian-African private sector session *Off-grid Renewable Energy Dialogue Forum* jointly with the Italian government.

### **2017: 10 Years AEEP**

The Partnership celebrates ten years of successful Africa-EU energy cooperation. It is endorsed at the G7 Energy Ministerial Meeting, to which the AEEP contributes with a side-event. Several events take place, for instance one of the AEEP's to date most successful national energy dialogues in Zambia, which feeds into the S4forALL country processes. Present at all of these events, the AEEP Youth Programme builds momentum.

# Regional Momentum

Close engagement and reinvigoration of Africa's regional institutions is vital to reach the continent's energy challenge. Exchanging information, sharing best practices and developing joint regional programmes can lead to much needed harmonisation of energy systems and regulations, and incentivises private sector actors.

The AEEP has supported the exchange and creation of regional institutions right from the start. In the past ten years, it has engaged with Regional Economic Communities (RECs), supported the design and inauguration of regional energy centres of excellence, and encouraged power pool and utility association participation at high-level decision-making forums. It has played a pivotal role in fostering dialogue and providing capacity, for instance through studies such as on the institutional role of RECs in the African energy sector. Three successful examples of regional coordination are EAC, COMESA and ECOWAS.

## **East African Community**

In the context of the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP), the AEEP supported the EAC with an advanced scoping mission into the area of technical raining gaps within the small hydropower sector. This work was followed up by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (a co-chair of the AEEP), which announced its commitment to support the implementation of selected aspects within the recommendations in 2015.

## **COMESA**

As one of the AEEP co-chairs, COMESA is committed to fostering regional cooperation, and represents a common voice for all RECs within the AEEP Steering Group. Within its member countries, COMESA has been a leader by establishing regional associations of operators and regulators where they do not exist, thereby strengthening energy cooperation through enhancing trade and facilitating development of regional energy infrastructure. Moreover, in collaboration with the EU, COMESA signed an agreement of €7 million to support the development of a conducive market for investment in sustainable energy.

## **ECOWAS**

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a best practice example for regional integration of energy systems. In the past years, the ECOWAS Commission has established a dedicated centre for renewable energy and energy efficiency (ECREEE), which leads the region's programme for renewable energy (EREP). In close cooperation with the AEEP and several international partners, ECOWAS has recently developed of a toolbox for renewable energy feed-in tariffs, and the harmonised Regional Renewable Energy Policy, that was adopted by all ECOWAS Heads of State in July 2013.





# Private Sector Engagement

Since the launch of the AEEP, the private sector has played an important role in the Partnership, both as an actor and a key topic on the agenda. Creating an enabling environment and strengthening private investment in African renewable energy is paramount for reaching both continents' development goals. Business is the motor of energy development and job creation: energy is delivered by companies with big investments in hydro, solar and other renewable energies undertaken by private operators. Most importantly, there is a great incentive for African-European private sector collaboration: while European businesses are looking for new opportunities and markets, African countries are improving policy frameworks in order to attract investments in their soaring energy markets.

In the past decade, the AEEP has advocated for the involvement of private companies, bringing its actors together in National Energy Business Dialogue Forums and giving them a voice on the political stage. The Partnership's focus on the private sector has led to an uptake of this element in strategies of many political bodies and the international donor community.

**“In this Partnership, the private sector plays a very important role. Energy is delivered by companies with big investments in hydro, solar and other renewable energies undertaken by private operators.”**

**Roberto Ridolfi**, Director Planet and Prosperity,  
European Commission

At the First AEEP High Level Meeting in Vienna in 2010, the AEEP launched a dedicated programme to mobilise investment in African renewable energy through support to business actors. Focusing exclusively on private sector development, the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Programme (RECP) has linked market actors, financiers and investors in more than 3,000 B2B meetings. Together with the Electrification Financing Initiative (ElectriFi), it has received almost 600 applications from African-European stakeholders for project support, resulting in more than 160MW projected installed capacity only through RECP-supported projects.

The AEEP has also supported and closely cooperated with business associations, such as the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) and the South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA). To others, it helped give birth, such as RES4Africa; a network of international leaders from across the clean energy value chain. In the past ten years, the private sector has decisively contributed to the success of the Partnership.

# International Debates

With energy's rise to the top of the political agenda, with it came many new initiatives both African and European led, as well as global agreements to address the sustainable energy access gap. All of these initiatives share the understanding that without sustainable energy, countries cannot achieve their development goals, and the environment cannot be preserved for future generations.

As an established stakeholder representing the shared European and African voice in the energy and development sector, the AEEP was a pioneer in the setting of concrete targets for sustainable energy, which paved the way for international agreements, such as SEforALL, the targets under the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), and most notably, SDG7.

Moreover, the AEEP was cited in key international agreements, including the G20 and G7 communiqués on sustainable energy in 2015 as a key stakeholder important in contributing to an African energy transition. In 2017, the AEEP was mandated by political leaders to bring messages

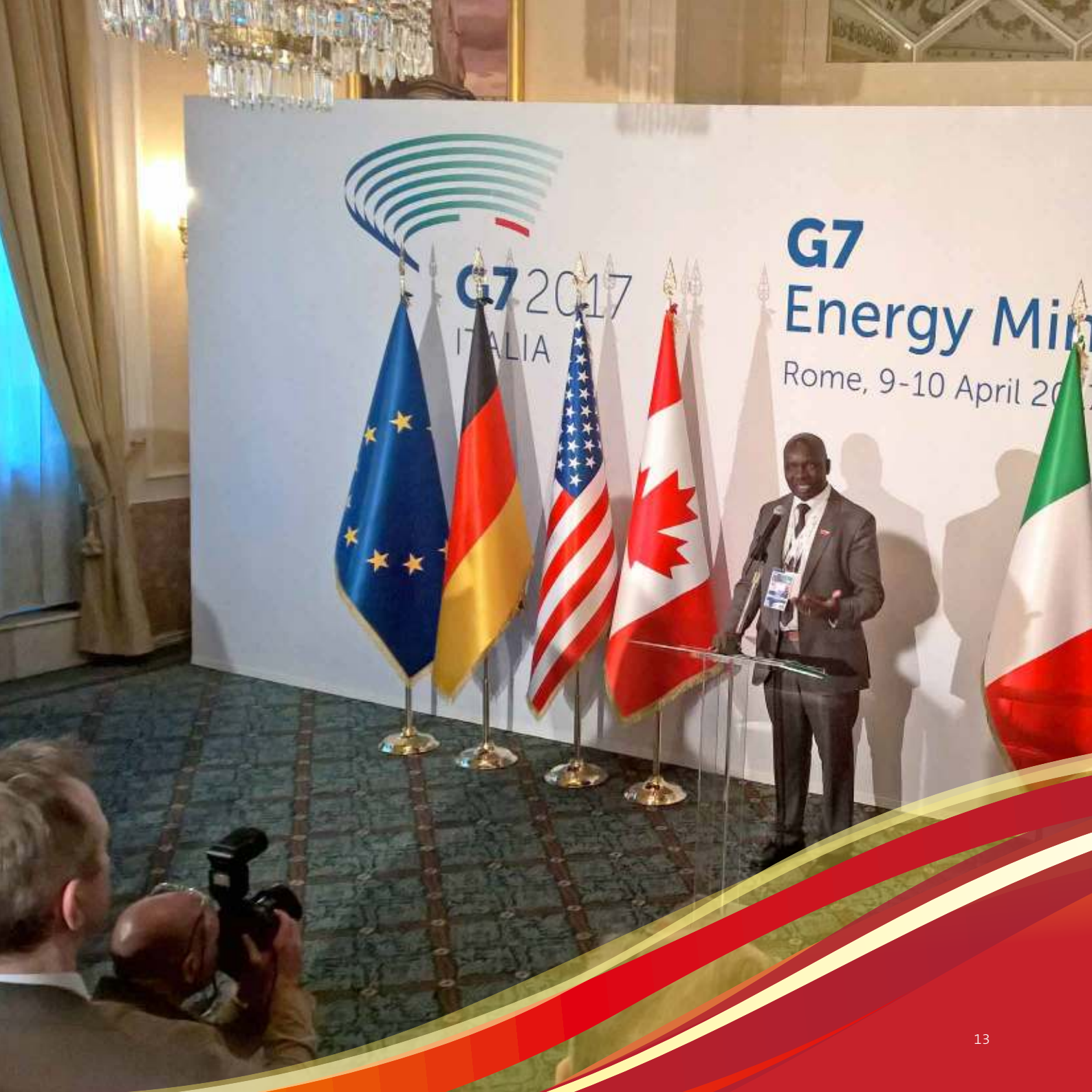
to the G7 leaders summit on behalf of the Partnership on the importance of scaling up investments in renewable energy in Africa.

Since COP21, the energy and development sector has also welcomed many climate stakeholders to the community to join in the shared objective to increase access to sustainable energy. The AEEP has been liaising between climate and energy stakeholders to advocate for a cohesive and coordinated approach to achieving the Paris Climate Agreement and the targets as outlined by the AREI.

The energy sector in both Europe and Africa is changing: renewables are increasingly competitive to traditional energy sources, the energy sector is perceived to be a major creator of green jobs in the future, and climate concerns are ever more pressing. It is in this context that the AEEP will continue to advocate for a harmonised approach to address these changing issues, and will rely on its ten years of experience to continue to engage in international processes and bring forward a joint position of Europe and Africa to the table.

**“The outcome of COP21 is clear: we need more clean energy investment – and this is what the Partnership does: boosting investment between the two continents. It will also help tackle the climate change challenges.”**

**Felice Zaccheo**, Head of Unit, Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, European Commission



G7 2017  
ITALIA

G7  
Energy Ministers Meeting  
Rome, 9-10 April 2017

# Shaping Environment for Joint Initiatives

Under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, the AEEP has helped build the context for several energy initiatives. The Partnership's Stakeholder Forums and High Level Meetings have created a space for actors to come together and discuss joint projects. Many of them have flourished in the past ten years, providing a major contribution to reaching access to, as well as reliable and sustainable energy services on the African continent.

## **Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility**

In 2012, the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF) was established to fund, facilitate and accelerate geothermal development in the Eastern African Rift region. It encourages public and private investors to develop geothermal prospects for power generation. This is done via grants to reduce the high upfront risks related to the development of geothermal power. The GRMF is a special success story of cooperation between several AEEP co-chairs: it is hosted and managed by the African Union Commission, and receives funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the EU via the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund, and the UK Department for International Development. In November 2017, the GRMF had been supporting 26 projects in East Africa with a total grant amount of US\$80 million.

## **Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme**

The Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) is a multi-donor programme promoting renewable energy market development and investment in Africa. It was launched by more than 35 ministers and commissioners of both continents at the AEEP's First High Level Meeting in 2010. Since then, it has supported project developers and financiers active in Africa through more than 3,000 B2B meetings, partnerships with major European and African industry associations, and specialised market briefings. The programme cooperates closely with the EU-funded Electrification Financing Initiative on pipeline development, providing advisory to project developers towards bankability, training and linking projects with finance.

**“The AEEP was a pioneer in ensuring commitment at the highest political level, but also set and monitored clear targets. That was before SEforALL and the SDGs. It gave a boost and almost birth to these initiatives, and the targets on renewable energy later on.”**

**H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid**, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy





To deliver on its objectives in the framework of the Africa-EU cooperation, the European Commission is transforming commitment to action by launching major initiatives:

#### **Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy**

The Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (TAF) is a European Commission-funded programme. It is active in developing countries all over the world, but has a particular success story in sub-Saharan Africa. The TAF was created in 2015 to support energy authorities in fine-tuning their policies and regulatory frameworks to allow for increased investments. This happens by means of capacity building, technical support in programming and project preparation, mobilisation of funds and creation of partnerships, as well as industrial and technology cooperation. The TAF was an offspring of the European-led (EUEI PDF) mission to Uganda to support SEforALL.

#### **Electrification Financing Initiative**

The Electrification Financing Initiative (ElectriFi) is a recent initiative, launched at COP21 by the European Commission and Power Africa as a financing scheme. It supports electrification investments that will lead to new and improved connections in developing countries, with strong features for scalability. ElectriFi provides investment support to projects or businesses that have at least entered the active development stage but before traditional financial institutions come in, and offers flexible financing instruments. In October 2017, it had received more than 300 applications for support.



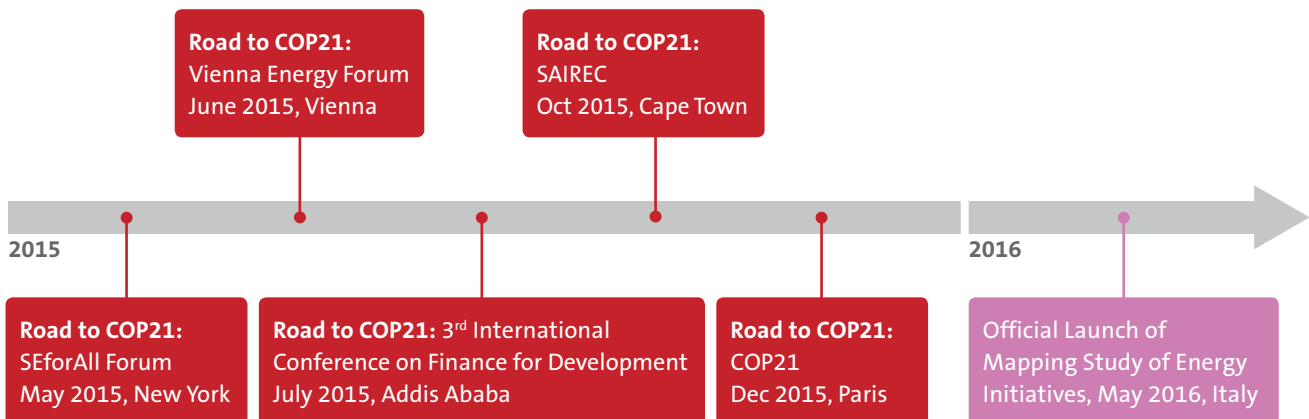
# Harmonisation and Coordination of Energy Initiatives in Africa

With the rise of sustainable energy to the top of the political agenda in the past years, numerous initiatives by African governments, international organisations, and development partners have entered the energy and development sector. Over time, this added another element to the role of the Partnership: besides agenda-setting and fostering joint initiatives, the AEEP has taken an active role in promoting coordination and harmonisation of efforts to support the continent in achieving a sustainable energy future.

With energy in Africa in the spotlight at the COP21 in Paris, the AEEP (in coordination with SEforALL) launched a series of consultative discussions with key sector stakeholders on the topic of coordination. At such discussions, held in the sidelines of major sector events, high-level stakeholders

explored the need and drive for coordination and harmonisation of energy initiatives in Africa, and tasked the AEEP and the SEforALL Africa Hub to conduct a general mapping exercise of existing frameworks and initiatives to determine the extent of the coordination gap. The first output, the report *Mapping Energy Initiatives and Programs in Africa* was launched at the Second AEEP Stakeholder Forum in May 2016.

Following the launch of the Mapping report, and based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback from the sector, the AEEP and the SEforALL Africa Hub are continuing their work in mapping energy initiatives and encouraging coordination in the sector by disseminating this information through a user-friendly website.



# Achievement of the AEEP 2020 Political Targets

The Africa-EU Energy Partnership took an early lead in setting out targets that could measure progress in increasing levels of energy access, energy efficiency and energy security. Following work by the AEEP Secretariat in consultation with stakeholders, the AEEP's 2020 Political Targets were announced at the AEEP's First High Level Meeting in Vienna, Austria in 2010.

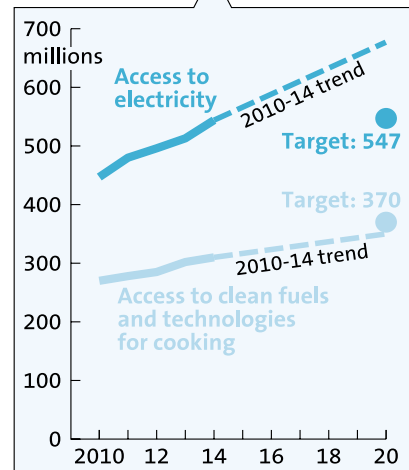
Progress towards the 2020 Political Targets has been monitored in a series of Status Reports, the key tool for tracking achievements and challenges designed to inform decision-makers and other stakeholders. An initial, comprehensive baseline study, *Monitoring Progress under the AEEP*, was launched at the Partnership's First Stakeholder Forum in Cape Town, South Africa in 2012.

The First AEEP Status Report was published to coincide with the Second High Level Meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2014. This operationalised the AEEP Monitoring Tool – a power project database then containing more than 3,250 generation projects, along with details of transmission lines, cross-border connections and export markets. A 50-page Status Report Update was launched at the AEEP's Second Stakeholder Forum, held in Milan, Italy in May 2016, followed by a new and expanded version at the 5<sup>th</sup> EU-Africa Summit in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in November 2017. The latest Status Report Update 2017–18 shows that some of the Political Targets will be exceeded before or by 2020, while others have fallen short. In some sectors, like the installation of solar and hydroelectric power, the targets will be spectacularly exceeded. In others, the slow pace of project implementation in much of the last decade has held up development.

## AEEP 2020 Political Targets



## Status of Achievements

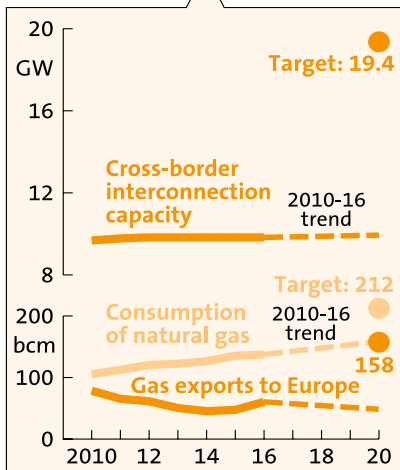


## Energy security

Double the capacity of cross-border interconnections

Double the use of natural gas in Africa

Double African gas exports to Europe



## Renewable energy

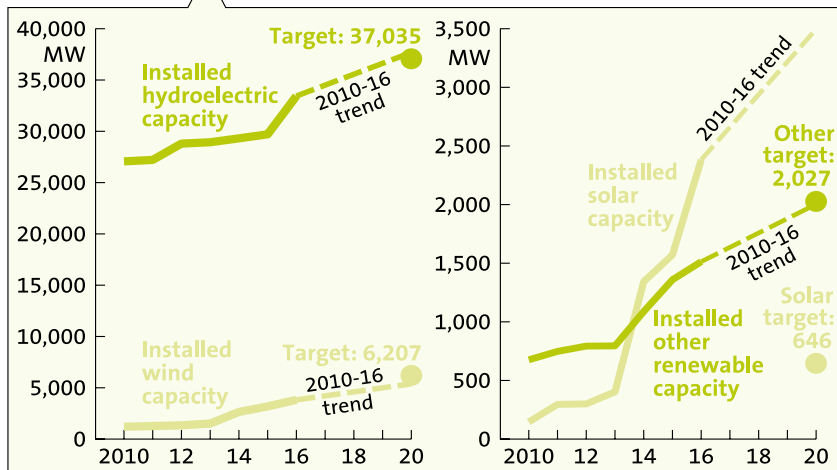
10,000MW new hydropower facilities

5,000MW new wind power capacity

500MW new solar energy capacity

x3

increase in other renewables



## Energy efficiency

Improving energy efficiency in all sectors



# Engaging Youth

Young people in both Europe and Africa are key agents for sustainable development in all areas of society. Not only do young people have innovative views, but they are also the ones most affected by today's challenges and decisions, and have been particularly strong voices in the fight against climate change. In Africa, about 65% of the population are younger than 35 years, making it the most youthful continent on earth. In the past years, many members of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership have acknowledged the important role of youth for development; for instance, the European Commission has a Young Leaders Programme at its annual European Development Days, and the African Union dedicated 2017 to investment in youth.

In 2014, the AEEP invited a group of European and African young journalists to cover its second High Level Ministerial Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The idea behind was to involve young professionals in the dialogue with decision-makers as well as engage them with other key stakeholders and make them spread the word about the importance of renewable energy development in Africa. The project was a full success and the AEEP Youth Programme was born. Today, it comprises three elements: Young Leaders, Young Journalists, and Young Scientists & Entrepreneurs.

**Young Leaders** are the newest element of the programme. It addresses young advocates, public sector workers, or social entrepreneurs that work to improve energy development in Africa. They are given the opportunity to participate in political dialogues ►

► through shared communiques and calls for action. In 2017, six Young Leaders in Energy Access were selected to present their projects and speak at the ARE Energy Access Investment Forum in Portugal and the CLUB-ER Annual Meeting in Lusaka. Their Communiqués issued at these occasions have been endorsed by the events' high-level participants.

**Young Scientists and Entrepreneurs** get the opportunity to present their work with more global and relevant stakeholders. Input of this youth group is largely organised in Science & Business Slams to link innovation and market, for instance at the Second Stakeholder Forum in Milan or the First Africa-EU Symposium on Renewable Energy Research and Innovation in 2016, organised by the RECP, UniPID and the AEEP.

**Young Journalists** take part at selected events of the AEEP and its partners to gain a deeper understanding of cooperation in the energy sector and to report about it. For instance, African and European young journalists participated in the Second AEEP Stakeholder Forum in Milan in May 2016, where amongst others they had the opportunity to interview H.E. Dr. Elham Ibrahim, former Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission.

# Vibrant Civil Society and Academia

The AEEP acknowledges that the responsibility to ensure a sustainable energy future for all is not that of the public sector alone, nor can it be achieved solely through public investments. Besides the private sector, other non-state actors such as civil society and academia play a pivotal role in driving the growth of sustainable energy development in Africa. Several action groups have formed under the Partnership, developing holistic approaches to energy issues based on the actors' different backgrounds.

The working group on energy access aims to close the gap between the public, private, NGO and the academic sector. Its core activities are geared towards improving access to secure, affordable and sustainable energy for both continents with a special focus on increasing investment in African energy infrastructure. Amongst other things, the consortium collected best practice cases of energy access in the publication *AEEP Energy Access: Best Practices*. In 2017, the working group hosted a stakeholder workshop to provide feedback to the Zambian SEforALL Action Agenda, and designed a two-day training for Rural Electrification Agency representatives from all over Africa on topics such as improving integration of communities in rural electrification plans, to increasing support for post-secondary education in energy-related fields at the CLUB-ER General Assembly.

A second working group on energy efficiency has worked on a matrix with clear recommendations on how to advance energy efficiency in all African sectors. The matrix is built with the aim of fostering collaboration among stakeholders, enhancing political dialogue and expanding cooperation between African and European networks on energy efficiency.

To strengthen energy security, the Strategy for the Development of a Harmonised Regulatory Framework for the Electricity Market was developed. This was mainly to ensure effective regional and continental electricity markets and enhance renewable energy frameworks on both continents. One of the key outputs emerging from the Strategic Plan document is the development of an Action Plan for achieving the harmonisation process.

**“The best thing the Partnership can do is to provide an equal platform for dialogue. That can help leverage change for poor people in Africa.”**

**Dr. Lucy Stevens**, Practical Action



# Looking Ahead: Future Opportunities

Looking back on ten years of successful cooperation, the Africa-EU Energy Partnership is motivated to continue its work in the dynamic sector of energy and development. New priorities, challenges and opportunities have called for a realignment of the Partnership in order to continue its pioneering role in the future.

With many of the AEEP's 2020 Political Targets either on track, or already achieved, the AEEP will look to define more ambitious goals and track the sector's contribution to social, economic and environmental development in Africa. Ensuring that development of sustainable energy systems is done in a way to provide equitable access to all, offers capacities for countries to both mitigate and adapt to a changing climate, and creates sustainable, green jobs in Africa which are of utmost importance over the next years.

Moreover, as renewables become increasingly cost competitive, engaging private sector and reducing barriers to market entry for project developers will undoubtedly be a core focus of the AEEP's work.

It is in this respect that the Partnership will continue to be an effective framework for high-level political dialogue between the continents, engage with international initiatives, promote coordination and act as an information facilitator for innovative ideas and best practices. We remain committed to supporting key African and European institutions and initiatives working in the energy and development sectors in Africa. Finally, we look forward to continue engaging with actors from many stakeholder and thematic backgrounds to speed-up access to sustainable energy in Africa, and contribute to energy transitions on both continents.

## The evolution of the AEEP (2007–2020)



## Abbreviations

AEEP	Africa-EU Energy Partnership
ARE	Alliance for Rural Electrification
AREI	Africa Renewable Energy Initiative
AUC	African Union Commission
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CLUB-ER	African Association for Rural Electrification
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COP	UNFCCC Conference of the Parties
EAC	East African Community
EC	European Commission
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ElectriFI	Electrification Financing Initiative
EU	European Union
EUEI	European Union Energy Initiative
EUEI PDF	European Union Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility
G7	Group of Seven
G20	Group of 20
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GRMF	Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility
IRG	Infrastructure Reference Group
JAES	Joint Africa-EU Strategy
MW	Megawatt
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
REC	Regional Economic Community
RECP	Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme
RES4Africa	Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa
SAIREC	South African International Renewable Energy Conference
SAWEA	South African Wind Energy Association
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal; Goal 7: ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
SEforALL	Sustainable Energy for All
STC	Specialized Technical Committees
TAF	Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy
UK	United Kingdom
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UniPID	Finnish University Partnership for International Development



