

# Africa EU Energy Partnership

## Background on the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)

The Africa EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) is a long-term framework for strategic dialogue between Africa and the EU aimed at sharing knowledge, setting political priorities and developing joint programmes on key energy issues and challenges of the 21st century. Established in 2007 as one of the partnerships between Africa and the EU in the

framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, the AEEP can look back on a remarkable success story in the past eight years. AEEP is under the guidance of a Steering Group comprising of Germany, Italy, the European Commission and the African Union Commission.

At its first High-Level Meeting in Vienna in September 2010, the AEEP agreed on the AEEP Political Targets to be reached by 2020 and launched the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP).

## AEEP 2020 Political Targets

### Energy Access

- Bring access to modern and sustainable energy services to at least an additional 100 million Africans

### Energy Security

- Double the capacity of cross-border electricity interconnections, both within Africa and between Africa and the EU
- Double the use of natural gas in Africa, as well as double African gas exports to Europe

### Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

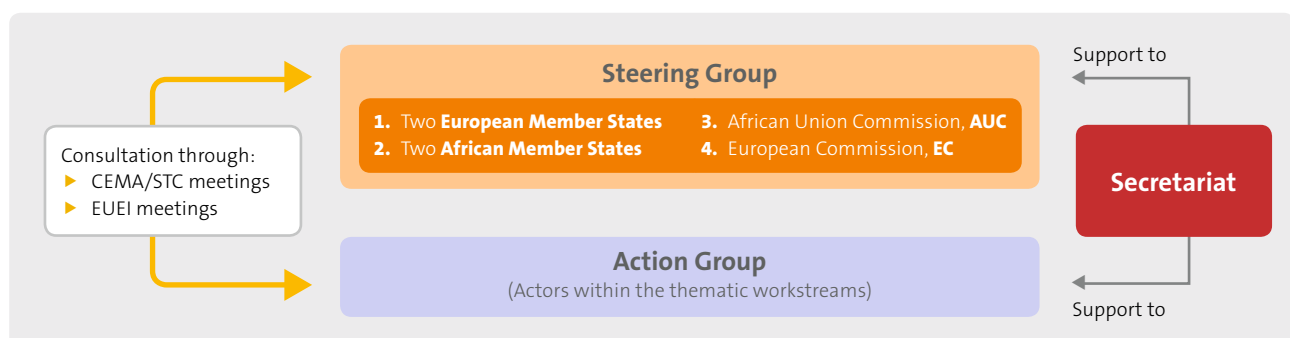
- 10,000 MW of new hydropower facilities
- 5,000 MW of wind power capacity
- 500 MW of all forms of solar energy capacity
- Triple the capacity of other renewables
- Improve energy efficiency in Africa in all sectors

## New AEEP Governance Structure

Since 2014, the AEEP has a new structure which will enable it to continue its role as a platform for strategic political dialogue between Africa and Europe, as well as broader strategic networking. The new AEEP structure is expected to feed into and collaborate closely with the infrastructure steering platform of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), i.e. the Infrastructure Reference Group. The current governance structure consists of:

- ▶ **Steering Group:** Two European Member States (Germany and Italy); two African Member states (still to be appointed) and the AUC and EC. This will be the highest organ of the AEEP and will report to the Infrastructure Reference Group.

- ▶ **Action Group:** Focal persons from the private sector, civil society and research/academia as well as the Regional Economic Communities, specialised institutions and African/EU Member States relevant to thematic topics. These will be the implementing arm of the AEEP making sure actions are taken to achieve the targets set in the area of renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy access and energy security.
- ▶ **Secretariat:** EUEI PDF will continue to perform Secretariat functions supporting both the Steering Group and the Action Group.

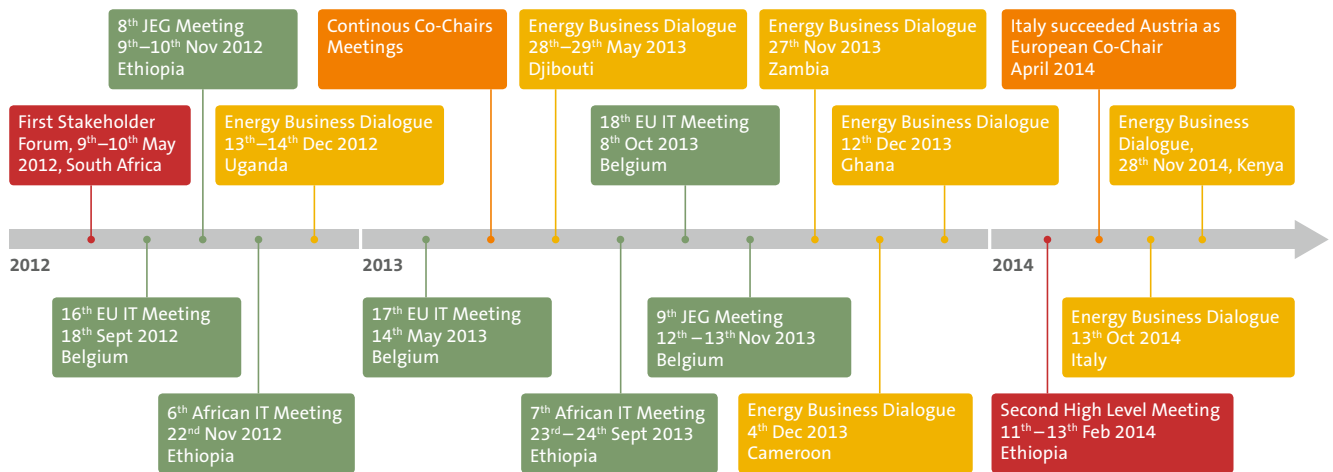


## AEEP Governance Meetings and Activities

Between 2012 and 2015, the AEEP governance structure was based on the following governance levels: Joint Expert Group (JEG) Meetings; Africa and EU Implementing Teams

(IT) Meetings as well as the still ongoing Co-Chair's Meetings (see box below "Governance").

During this phase several events such as the Second High Level Meeting, the First Stakeholder Forum and several National Energy Business Dialogues (see box below "Events") were organised by the AEEP Secretariat.



### Governance

#### Joint Expert Group (JEG) Meeting

- ▶ JEG included representatives from African and EU member countries, African regional organisations and specialised institutions as well as non-state actors from Africa and Europe.
- ▶ JEGs were responsible for the implementation of the AEEP's action plan and roadmap.

#### Africa and EU Implementing Team (IT) Meetings

- ▶ The African IT was composed of the AUC, the selected 12 African Member States as well as African regional organisations and specialised institutions.
- ▶ EU IT involved the EC and EU Member States and other actors active and interested in Africa-EU energy relations and involved in development cooperation with African states on energy infrastructure.

#### AEEP's Co-Chairs Meetings

- ▶ The AEEP's Co-Chairs are currently the AUC for the African IT\* and EC, Germany and Italy for the European IT\*\*.
- ▶ The EUEI PDF as an AEEP Secretariat organises physical and telephone meetings between the Co-Chairs in order to adequately prepare the respective IT Meetings in topics such as reviewing the progress of AEEP; mapping and agreeing on a way forward of activities (action plan) etc.

\* Mauritius was African Co-Chair until 2014 and stepped aside in order to allow for an African Member State rotational chair. Two African Member States replacements are currently being discussed.

\*\* Italy succeeded Austria as European Co-Chair in 2014.

### Events

#### Second High Level Meeting

Meeting with over 400 European and African Ministers and non-state leaders from several different countries with the objective of discussing an action map on how to achieve the AEEP targets in the areas of energy access; renewable energy; energy efficiency and energy security until 2020 and how to monitor progress.

#### First Stakeholder Forum

Meeting with over 300 African and European state and non-state participants to endorse the AEEP targets for 2020 and launch the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP).

#### National Energy Business Dialogues

National Energy Business Dialogues aim at creating a dialogue platform for various stakeholders including non-state actors and public institutions. Organised on national level they address a variety of issues such as the legal and political framework for business actions, financial mechanisms for facilitating investment in renewable energy projects and the involvement of SMEs.

## AEEP Steering Group



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development



Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



**Published by:** European Union Energy Initiative – Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF), c/o Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1–5, 65760 Eschborn, Germany

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**Date:** June 2015