Dear Experts in Off-Grid Renewable Energy,

The Italy-Africa Initiative, in its specific energy-environment sector, plans to relaunch relations with African countries through an analysis of the prospects for investment in power generation, development of transmission networks and renewable energy - all decisive factors in the path towards a sustainable development of the continent.

The aim is to strengthen the presence of businesses in these areas and to share with African partners the experience gained by our companies in the energy sector.

Jointly with the Africa EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) and in cooperation with the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) - the partnerships' private sector focal point - the Initiative has dedicated the first day of the Italy-Africa conference to a Dialogue session of the private sector working in off-grid renewable energy. The forum will bring together major European and African private sector practitioners to discuss pertinent issues with regard to investing in Africa’s renewable energy market.
The conference will enable participants to:

- compare experiences of dealing with investment risk in Africa;
- build business partnerships; and
- identify investment opportunities.

During the upcoming Italian Presidency of the EU, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will host the world premiere of the **Focus Africa of the World Energy Outlook**, the most prestigious publication of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and a **technical workshop on "How to deal with risks in the African energy sector"** hosted by the Africa-EU Energy Partnership. The conference will see the participation of the main international energy institutions like IEA, IRENA, UN agencies, as well as global initiatives such as the UN Sustainable Energy for All, among others.

**When**
13 - 14 October 2014

**Where**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Piazzale della Farnesina, 1
00135 Rome
Italy

**Registration**
Kindly confirm your participation at [italiafrica.energia@esteri.it](mailto:italiafrica.energia@esteri.it) AND [secretariat@aeep-conference.org](mailto:secretariat@aeep-conference.org). Agenda and official invitation will follow.

**Contact**
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*The Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) is a long-term framework for political dialogue and cooperation between Africa and Europe.*