

Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme

Creating opportunities for renewable energy



Information Note

SUPPORTING PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKET

Why invest in Africa?

Sub-Saharan Africa's **economy has more than doubled** since 2000. The International Energy Agency estimates that **energy demand will increase by 80% until 2040**, as a result of a growing middle class, urbanisation and high population growth rates.

Africa has **substantial renewable energy resources** which are largely untapped: Only 10% of the continent's hydropower potential is being utilised, the vast potential for solar is nearly untouched, wind energy resources have not yet been exploited and geothermal energy will play a crucial role in East Africa in the near future.

Throughout the continent, stakeholders from the public and private sector as well as civil society have demonstrated their **commitment to renewable energy** and a number of projects have been successfully developed.

While Latin America and Asia are the markets of today, Africa will be the **market of tomorrow**. For European companies this poses **significant investment opportunities** to engage in Africa's renewable energy markets.

However, **challenges remain**. Lack of market information hinders the identification of opportunities and the establishment of business relations. High capital costs, as well as the complicated access to dedicated finance options delay investments. Remaining gaps in the regulatory framework need to be closed and local skills and capacities need improvement.

What is the RECP?

In light of these challenges, more than 35 African and European Ministers launched the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation

Programme (RECP), a multi-donor instrument of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP).

The objective of the programme is to **support market development for meso-scale renewable energy technologies in Africa** in order to harness the untapped potential and meet current and future energy needs.

The RECP supports African and European companies to join forces and invest, while engaging with finance institutions and governments, with the objective of increasing private investment in renewable energy in Africa.

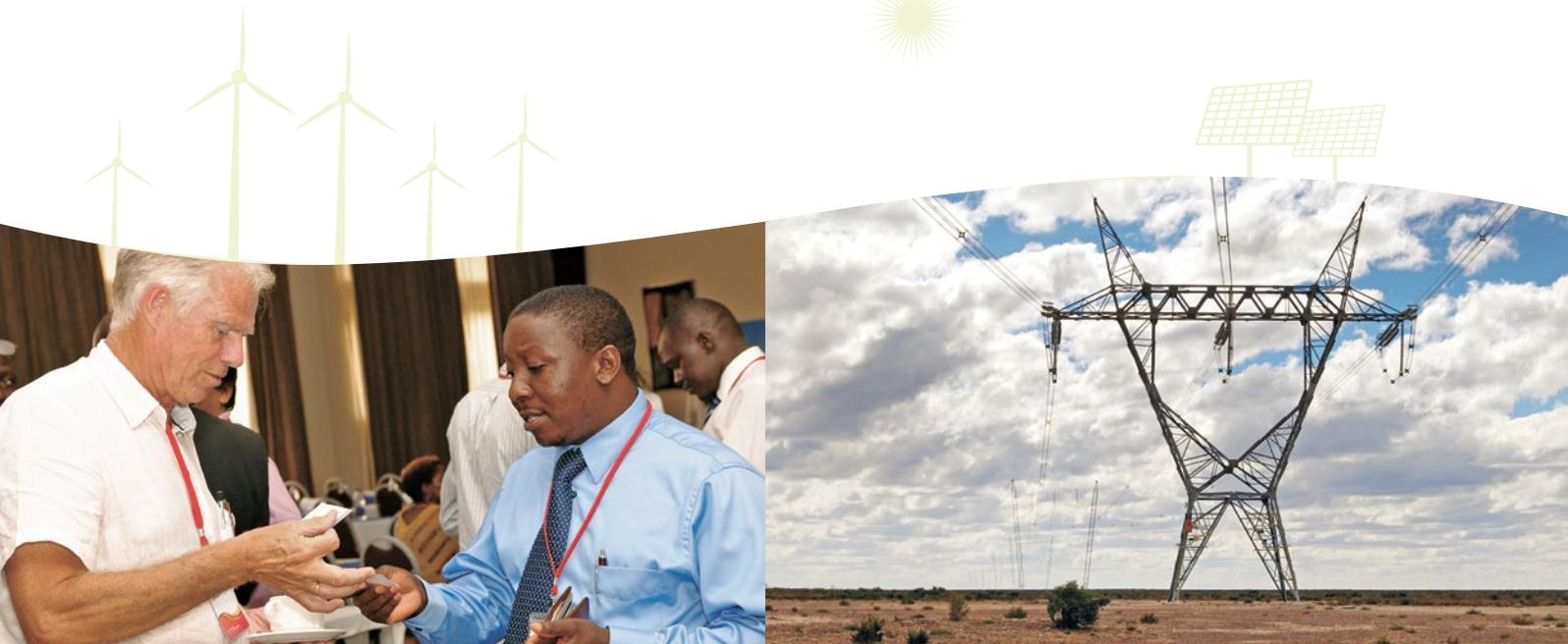
Building upon many years of **international experience** and involvement of African partners, the RECP has **extensive knowledge of African markets and funding instruments**.

How can your company benefit from RECP?

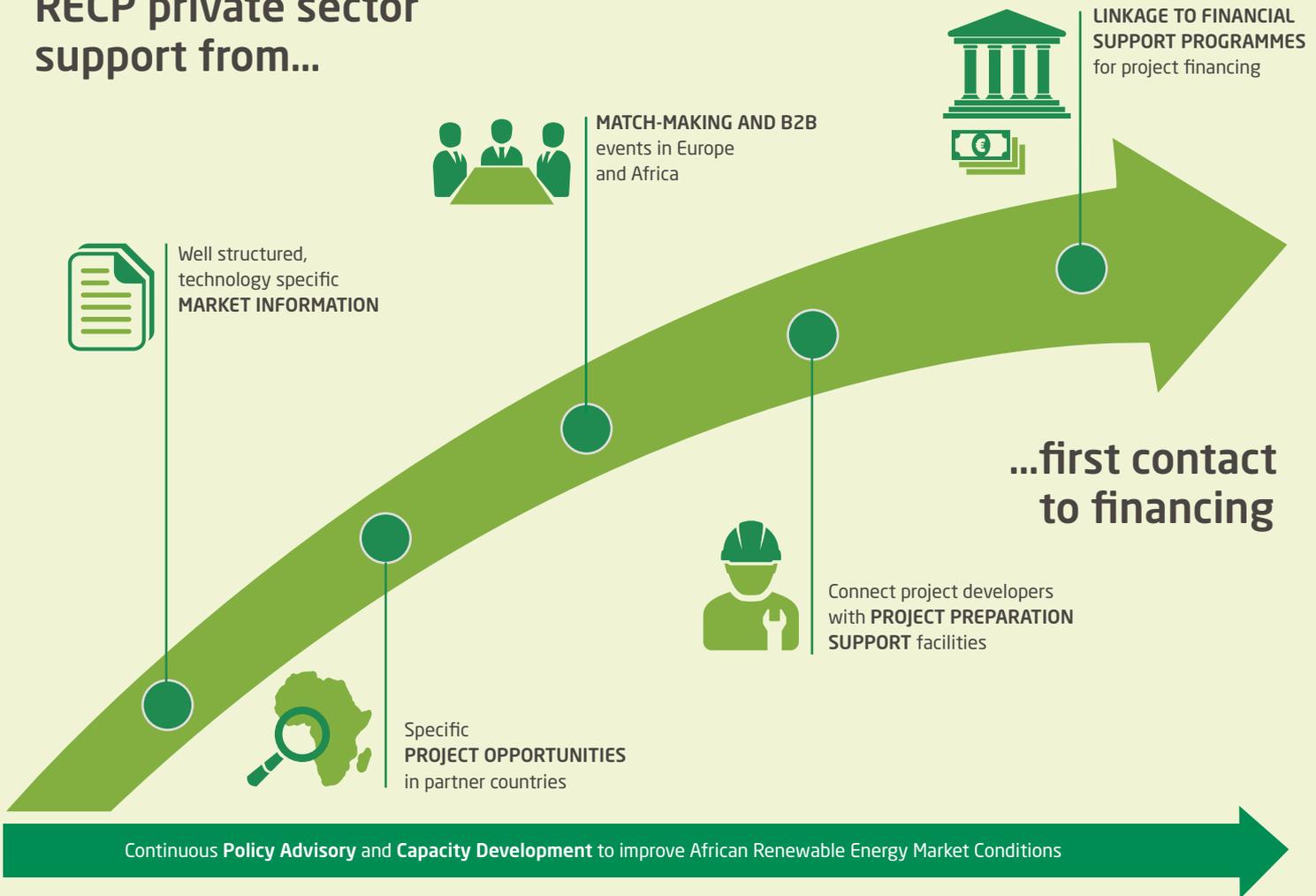
The **coherent and integrated approach** of the RECP includes activities to facilitate your business throughout the development and investment process – from project planning to financing.

1. RECP provides your business with **market and policy information**.
2. RECP helps identifying new **business opportunities**.
3. RECP links you with **potential European and African business partners**.
4. RECP works together with you and governments to **close remaining regulatory obstacles**.
5. RECP facilitates access to **project preparation support** and financiers.
6. RECP supports the **training of local experts** to create necessary local capacities.





RECP private sector support from...



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