



News from the Africa-EU Energy Partnership

October, 2017

Dear readers,

In the lead up to the AU-EU Summit, the Africa EU Energy Partnership is happy to reflect on 10 years of successful cooperation and significant achievements in what has proven to be a critically important and dynamic sector. This edition of the newsletter therefore serves as a celebratory news piece to all the partners and stakeholders of the Africa EU Energy Partnership across the two continents and beyond. In particular, the Secretariat wishes to salute the untiring commitment put in by its [Steering Group members](#) to sustain the momentum of this mutual cooperation. Private sector, civil society and academia as key AEEP focal points have also continued to play a central role within the thematic Workstreams. This has undoubtedly ensured actions are translated into impacts “on the ground”, breathing life into the Partnership.

As we look to the future of the Partnership, the AEEP is in a process of realigning our work to fit the present landscape, address old and new challenges, increase momentum and opportunities for future cooperation to improve access to sustainable energy in Africa.

We hope you find the newsletter informative and wish all those who will participate in the AU-EU Summit (in Abidjan, Ivory Coast) and at the COP23 (in Bonn, Germany) productive discussions!

Sincerely,

David Otieno, Head of AEEP Secretariat

Overarching Topics:

Energy a key focus at COP23: Renewable energy will once again play a key role in the international climate discussions to be held in Bonn from the 6th-17th of November, with two days dedicated specifically on nexus topics of energy and land/water as well as its role in the migration debate. Both the EU and AU will host pavilions to highlight projects and host discussions on hot topics such as Energy in African cities and Coordination and Harmonization in the energy sector and progress of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI). For more information on the COP, click [here](#).

Preparations underway for AU-EU Summit: Heads of State and Governments from both continents are preparing to meet at the end of November in Abidjan for the 5th AU-EU Summit, where the focus of discussions will be on harnessing the potential of Africa’s youth demographic. Green jobs and energy sector development will therefore play a critical role in the discussions of enhanced job creation and skills development for young people. In the sidelines of the Summit, the [6th EU-Africa Business Forum](#) is planned. In addition, AU and European Commissions will gather key private sector representatives and high-level political representatives to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the AEEP, and inaugurate the Africa-EU High Level Platform on Sustainable Investments. To read more about the AU-EU Summit, click [here](#).



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Germany launches “Green People’s Energy for Africa”: Africa’s potential for renewable energy is enormous. At the same time, more than half the population of Africa has no access to electricity. Decentralised supply structures based on renewable energy sources are playing an important role to provide quick and effective supply to rural areas. Therefore, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has launched the initiative “Green People’s Energy for Africa” to support decentralized energy solutions in rural areas through municipalities, private investments and local cooperatives. Click [here](#) for more information on the initiative.

Renewable energy tariff toolbox in ECOWAS region launched: The EU Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility and the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable and Energy Efficiency have collaborated in developing a renewable energy tariff toolbox with the aim to support ministries, regulators and utilities to apply appropriate approaches and methodologies in the design of renewable energy tariffs. The tool has already been tested and applied in two countries and will be officially launched at the [ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum](#). For more information on the toolbox, click [here](#).

The role of energy in migration identified: European and African partners are currently exploring the role of energy in Migration. Through a [series of webinars](#) convened by the FAO and the European Commission, more insights into the challenges, opportunities and current activities in the field of energy and migration has been provided.

COMESA and EU sign Multi-Million Euro agreement on energy enhancement: European Union has signed a delegation agreement of seven million Euro in order support the development of a conducive market for investment in sustainable energy. The funds will be used to address market governance and regulatory related challenges that affect the implementation of energy development projects in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean regions. More information can be found [here](#).

International Cooperation and SDG Discussions in Rome: On the 25th and 27th of October, the UN global compact network(s) will meet in Rome to discuss best practices in implementing sustainability issues in conformity with Agenda 2030 SDGs. Moreover, the Italian Ministry will hold a conference on the 15th of November in Rome to discuss urban development in Africa and the needs of Africa cities such as sanitation, transport and energy. For more information, click [here](#).

News from the AEEP Secretariat

Highlights

AEEP Supports the CLUB-ER Annual Meeting with 2-day Training: More than 40 Rural Electrification Agency representatives gathered in Lusaka, Zambia to attend the CLUB-ER Annual Meeting, where the AEEP’s [Energy Access Workstream](#) organized a two-day technical training for CLUB-ER members. Trainings focused on tariff setting, operational models for mini grids and national electrification strategies. For more information on the CLUB-ER, click [here](#).



AEEP's Young Leaders and Journalists Continue to Advocate for Youth Engagement: The AEEP's young leaders created [a call for action](#) to African Rural Electrification Agencies at the CLUB-ER Annual Forum, highlighting that youth engagement is paramount to achieving Africa's energy goals. The young journalists attended and reported on the RES4Africa event "Fostering the deployment of Renewable Energy in Ethiopia: A sustainable roadmap" in Addis Ababa, as well as conducted interviews focused on employment opportunities for youth in the renewable energy sector, in preparations for the focal theme of the AU-EU Summit in November.

Activities Update

Harmonized Continental Regulatory Frameworks in the African Energy Sector: With support from the EU Technical Assistance Facility (TAF), the AUC has successfully developed a strategy and Action Plan for the programme on harmonized frameworks focusing on the electricity markets. The AUC has already started the implementation of the second phase of the programme with a kick-off workshop in Harare, Zimbabwe (September) on effective transmission tariffs and micro grids. For more details, click [here](#).

Progress from the AEEP's Energy Efficiency Work Stream: The Energy Efficiency Workstream is in the advanced stages of developing a detailed matrix with clear recommendations on how to advance energy efficiency in Africa in all sectors. The matrix is built with the aim of fostering collaboration among members and institutions to enhance political dialogue and stakeholder engagement for expanding networks and outreach on the topic of energy efficiency and joint cooperation between Africa and Europe. A final version of the matrix is planned for publication at the end of the year. For more information, click [here](#).

Regional centres take centre stage in Africa's energy sector: A close engagement and reinvigoration of Africa's regional institutions is vital in order to foster the exchange of information, dialogue and share best practices as well as contribute towards Africa's integration. The AEEP is supporting an exchange between regional centres and specialized institutions. Currently, the AEEP is finalizing on a study that seeks to assess the institutional role and engagement levels of REC's (Regional Economic Communities) in the African energy sector alongside their implementation efforts. To learn more about the RECs, click [here](#).

News from the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP)

RECP's Finance Catalyst Service at Capacity: The Finance Catalyst has received more than 240 applications for support. The team has selected 35 projects, which could represent investments into Africa's energy markets of over 550 Mio. EUR and over 180 MW of additional capacity. With these 35 projects, the team has now reached its internal capacity limits. However, the application window remains open and newly submitted projects will be assessed as soon as capacities are freed up. More information can be found [here](#).

RECP Prepares for the Coming Conference Season: With over 3000 individual business meetings organised through our partnerships so far, RECP is far from being done; there are still more than 10 upcoming events planned in close collaboration with our various industry partners. The second half of

2017 will again be filled with opportunities for meeting your next business partner, learning more about opportunities in African markets as well as about support instruments in the sector. Latest information on upcoming RECP supported events can be found [here](#).

RECP provides support to a more conducive investment framework for Renewables: In Namibia, RECP has provided support to the regulator ECB on improving its regulations on net-metering. In Uganda and Kenya, RECP has provided a platform to further discuss the impact of variable Renewable Energy on the network focusing on technical requirements and economic benefits such systems provide. At the request of the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME) in Mozambique, RECP has provided technical and legal support towards the regulation of mini grids; a public consultation has been organised to ensure inputs from private sector and related public entities are included to make the regulations workable for private investment. For more information, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

- ▶ RES4Africa, Fostering Deployment of REs in Ethiopia, 3-4 October in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | [Event link](#)
- ▶ Talking Business: Microfinance for Decentralised Renewables in Africa, 9 October, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | [Event link](#)
- ▶ ECOWAS Renewable Energy Forum, incl. the Launch of the ECREEE/EUEI PDF Toolbox for Renewable Energy Tariffs, 11-13 October, Dakar, Senegal | [Event Link](#)
- ▶ Energy for Africa, 23-25 October, Brussels, Belgium | [Event link](#)
- ▶ RECP Trade Mission: Business Opportunities for Solar Energy in Mozambique, 23-27 October, Mozambique | [Event link](#)
- ▶ Unlocking Solar Capital: Africa, incl. RECP matchmaking sessions for RE business, 25-26 October, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire | [Event link](#)
- ▶ Renewables in the Electrification of Mozambique, 25-26 October, Maputo Mozambique | [Event link](#)
- ▶ COP23, 6-17 November in Bonn, Germany | [Event link](#)
- ▶ AU-EU Summit, 29-30 November in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire | [Event link](#)
- ▶ Future energy East Africa, 29-30 November in Nairobi, Kenya | [Event link](#)
- ▶ RES4Africa RES-EXPO 2017, 4-9 December in Nairobi, Kenya | [Event link](#)
- ▶ Africa-EU Renewable Energy Research & Innovation Symposium (RERIS), 23-26 January 2018 in Maseru, Lesotho | [Event link](#)
- ▶ AFRICA Energy INDABA 20-21 February 2018, Johannesburg, South Africa | [Event link](#)

