



EUEI Bulletin

Selected news and information on European Energy Development Cooperation

No. 12 | June 2017

Dear EUEI Members, dear Readers,

With the European Development Days fast approaching, and an EUEI Meeting scheduled for the 28th of June, we look forward to continuing our engagement with you on European energy development cooperation and share with you the latest EUEI Bulletin.

As always, if you would like to feature your work in next month's edition, please contact fiona.wollensack@euei-pdf.org.

We look forward to seeing you in Brussels soon,
Your team of the EUEI support project, EUEI PDF

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ EU Green Week; 29 May-2 June; Brussels, Belgium | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Energy Infrastructure Forum; 1-2 June; Copenhagen, Denmark | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Expo 2017: Future Energy; 1-11 June; Astana, Kazakhstan | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Asia Clean Energy Forum; 5-8 June; Manila, Philippines | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Clean Energy Ministerial 8 (CEM8); 6-8 June; Beijing, China | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ European Development Days; 7-8 June; Brussels, Belgium | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Africa Energy Forum; 7-9 June; Copenhagen, Denmark | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Afrobytes Tech Conference; 8-9 June 2017; Paris, France | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Energy Ministerial Conference and Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development; 11-14 June; EXPO Congress Center, Astana, Kazakhstan | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ G20 Conference on Africa; 12-13 June; Berlin, Germany | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Africa Solar & Energy Storage Congress & Expo; 27-28 June; Nairobi, Kenya | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ POWER-GEN & Renewable Energy World Europe; 27-29 June; Cologne, Europe | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ EUEI Meeting; 28 June; Brussels, Belgium
- ▶ 9th Africa Carbon Forum; 28-30 June; Cotonou, Benin | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ 7th European Conference on African Studies: Urban Africa – Urban Africans: New encounters of the rural and the urban; 29 June-1 July; Basel, Switzerland | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Solar and Storage Finance Asia; 4-5 July; Singapore | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ Africa Day 2017; 6 July; Berlin, Germany | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF); 10-19 July; New York, USA | [Event Details](#)
- ▶ POWER-GEN & DistribuTECH Africa; 18-20 July; Johannesburg, South Africa | [Event Details](#)

THEMATIC SECTIONS

[News from the European Union](#) : *With the latest on the new European Consensus on Development*

[In the Spotlight](#) : *Includes news from Bonn, the Vienna Energy Forum, the UN's ECOSOC meeting in New York and the G20*

[Opportunities for the Private Sector](#) : *Offering a useful Tender Tracker, a Call from the Nordic Climate Facility, and an update on green bonds*

[Africa Focus](#) : *Features important reports on African economic development, skills and entrepreneurship, and new partners for the Africa Climate Change Fund*

[News from the Member States](#) : *With partnerships in Estonia, events in Germany, reports from the Netherlands, and a state visit from Poland*

[Media Suggestions](#) : *Offering interviews, reports and tools, as well as a reportage and the world's report card on development cooperation*

NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

European Consensus on Development agreed at Foreign Affairs Council Meeting, while EU presents political priorities and proposals for a stronger strategic partnership with Africa

Two important Foreign Affairs Council meetings took place in Brussels on the 15th and 19th of May, setting the framework for important issues in European development cooperation. The [Council Meeting on the 15th](#) focussed on Africa, including the EU's evolving partnership with the African Union and on [calls for a renewed impetus in the Africa-EU Partnership](#). The revitalised framework for the partnership aims to improve cooperation in three areas, including sustainable and inclusive economic development in Africa to create the jobs that the continent needs. The Council meeting also addressed the political and security challenges being faced in the Horn of Africa. The discussions from this meeting will feed into the preparation of the EU-Africa Summit, taking place in November 2017. A recent [note by the European Political Strategy Centre](#) offers further insights into the future vision for the two continents partnership in the run-up to the summit.

Development Ministers then met on the 19th of May, continuing discussions on the humanitarian situation in Africa and looking to the future of the [EU-ACP relations after 2020 as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda](#). Importantly, the Council adopted the new [European Consensus on Development](#), outlining the future of the EU's and Member States' development cooperation, and linking this to achieving the SDGs.

Structured Dialogue between EP DEVE committee and Commissioner Mimica

On the 3rd of May the European Commissioner for International Development, Neven Mimica, met with the European Parliament's Development Committee for their structured dialogue. The conclusions of the meeting fed into the Parliament's position on the Commission Work Programme of legislative and political priorities for 2018.

Find the video to the recorded livestream [here](#).

African Union welcomes EU's External Investment Plan

Roberto Ridolfi, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development at the European Commission visited the African Union Commission (AUC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on the 4th and 5th of May to discuss the EU's External Invest Plan (EIP) with the Commissioners and Ambassadors as well as with AUC staff. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid, African Union Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy,

[welcomed the EIP](#) and the support of the European Commission in “building an appropriate environment and capacity for the sustainable mobilisation of funds”. The EIP is expected to leverage investments worth more than EUR 44 billion by 2020. Further information about the EIP can be found [here](#).

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

UN’s ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up held in New York

The UN’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [Forum on Financing for Development follow-up](#) (FfD Forum) took place from the 22nd to the 25th of May at the UN headquarters in New York. The Forum focused on the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the review and follow-up on financing development outcomes. The FfD forum is held annually and was established in accordance with the [2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda \(AAAA\)](#), and the need to follow-up and review the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

The FfD Forum featured a [Ministerial segment](#) as well as an expert segment to review the implementation of the AAAA. The meeting resulted in a [conclusion](#) and recommendations that will directly contribute to the review of the implementation of the Agenda 2030 at the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

Forthcoming G20 conference on Africa Partnership focusses on sustainable private sector investment

As part of its ongoing G20 Presidency, Germany will host the [G20 Africa Partnership - Investing in a common future](#) Conference on the 12th and 13th of June in Berlin. The G20 Africa Partnership is a central project of Germany’s G20 presidency. Its aim is to improve conditions for sustainable private sector investment, investment in infrastructure, economic participation, and employment in African countries. The event links closely to a number of [other German initiatives](#) as part of its G20 Presidency, including a [visit by Federal Ministers Gerd Müller and Brigitte Zypries to Nairobi](#) earlier in the year, and its [Marshall Plan with Africa](#).

The Africa Partnership meeting comes weeks before the [G20 Summit of the Heads of State and Government](#), which will be held on the 7th and 8th of July in Hamburg. Additionally, for the first time a [high-level dialogue](#) between the members of the Vulnerable Twenty (V20) Group and the G20 took place on the 23rd April in Washington D.C. Both groups demonstrated their interest to join forces to address climate change. The V20 and G20 representatives also stressed the importance of [phasing out subsidies for fossil fuel](#).

Bonn Climate Change Conference

From the 8th to the 18th of May the latest round of talks and meetings took place as part of the UNFCCC process at the [Bonn Climate Change Conference](#). Some 4,000 delegates attending, including government officials, representatives from UN bodies and agencies as well as intergovernmental organisations and civil society representatives. The conference hosted the 46th sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation ([SBI 46](#)) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice ([SBSTA 46](#)), as well as the third part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement ([APA 1-3](#)). The subsidiary bodies and the Working Group adopted several

conclusions to facilitate the operationalisation of the Paris Agreement and to prepare the work for COP 23, due to take place in November. You can find further information reporting back on the conference and its outcomes can be found [here](#).

Vienna Energy Forum 2017 addresses linkages between SDGs and Paris

From the 9th to the 12th of May the biannual Vienna Energy Forum (VEF) 2017 took place, convening some 1,650 delegates from around the world to discuss the challenges and opportunities of 'Sustainable Energy for the Implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement'. The Forum kicked off with two days of substantive side events, covering a range of issues including sustainable energy and energy efficiency financing, the role of cities in, clean energy for refugees and vulnerable groups, and on gender-inclusive energy policy. The Ministerial segment, taking place on the 11th and 12th of May, picked up on a number of the themes and issues raised in the side events and fostered dialogue on the nexus between energy, climate, transport, food, water and health – with the aim to support the implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

The event was organised by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and International Affairs, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) initiative, and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA).

An overview of the side events which took place can be found [here](#), while a series of short interviews with panellists of the side events can be found on [UNIDO's YouTube Channel](#). Impressions of the event are also available [here](#), and a comprehensive [event report](#) by IISD gives further substantive details of the conference.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Green (climate) bonds continue to grow

April saw the launch of the "[world's largest green bond fund dedicated to emerging markets](#)" was launched by the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC) together with the French asset management company Amundi. The initiative is worth \$2 billion and aims to unlock private funding for climate-related projects. IFC states that their goal for the green bonds initiative is "to catalyse \$13 billion in private sector capital annually by 2020 to climate-friendly projects". [Green bonds](#) are used to finance climate and environmental projects, and though the share of green bonds remains a small one in the bond market, the issuance of green bonds grew by 42% in 2017 compared to last year. Further information about the IDC and Amundi issuance can be found [here](#).

This climate financing news comes as the meeting of the [Adaptation Fund Board \(AFB\)](#) in March and the [16th Green Climate Fund \(GCF\) Board meeting](#) in April approved new projects and programmes on climate mitigation and adaptation worth a total of \$815 million.

Business initiatives step up their action on SDG reporting

Business' engagement in the broader sustainability agenda is long established, with dedicated reporting systems enabling them to chart their progress. Initiatives such as UN's Global Compact have provided the reference framework within which the private sector could contribute to the Millennium Development Goals. Helping to align business' activities with the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN Global Compact and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) have recently launched the Action Platform for Reporting on the SDGs. Assessing corporate contributions to the

SDGs will occur according to GRI standards, a sustainability reporting standard, and the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact.

Regional CSR networks in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region are currently engaging the private sector in achieving the SDGs, and in Europe are conducting a scoping survey of private companies on the issue. Questions include on companies' levels of awareness, a ranking of the SDGs in order of priority for businesses, and what the European Commission could do to help business integrate the SDGs into their activities. The findings will be presented at the European Business Summit in Brussels, Belgium, on the 22nd of May 2017.

This focus on the role and contribution of the private sector to the SDGs comes as blending and leveraging efforts are intensified, and as the multilateral development banks work to encourage private sector investment in sustainable infrastructure.

Further details are available [here](#).

PowerAfrica launches new Tender Tracker

The PowerAfrica initiative has launched a new service for businesses and organisations interested in working in the energy sector in Africa: Its Tender Tracker collates relevant open tenders and calls for proposals so that businesses and organisations from around the world can apply. Regularly updated, the Tender Tracker provides a useful one-stop-shop for those seeking to work towards Power Africa's goals of expanding energy access and clean energy generation.

To see what opportunities are currently available, you can call up the tracker [here](#).

Nordic Climate Facility launches new call for proposals to help test innovative green business concepts

The Nordic Climate Facility (NCF), a fund for innovative climate change projects, has announced it will launch a new call for proposals on the 28th of August 2017. This is the seventh call for proposals of the NCF and this year will focus on "Climate as Business - Testing innovative green business concepts", placing emphasis on the commercial viability of possible climate-related business ideas.

Since its launch in 2009, over 70 projects have been implemented across three continents as part of the NCF. Funding for the NCF comes from the Nordic Development Fund and is allocated on a competitive basis.

More information about the NCF can be found [here](#).

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AFRICA FOCUS

New publications released on Africa

Three new reports with a focus on Africa have been launched recently:

- The African Development Bank, the OECD Development Centre and the United Nations Development Programme have recently released the [African Economic Outlook 2017](#). It presents the current, as well as predicted future state, of affairs in Africa. The report shows that the continent's performance in 2016 slowed in the fields of economic growth, social policy and governance, but the forecasts for the next two years are favourable. The report further highlights the potential of African entrepreneurs to accelerate the continent's industrialisation - but also discusses the necessary policies to [foster the opportunities for women entrepreneurs in Africa](#) in particular.

- The [Africa Competitiveness Report](#) meanwhile is a biennial publication produced jointly by the World Economic Forum (WEF), the African Development Bank and the World Bank Group. This year it addresses Africa's demographic dividend. Key findings of the report include the urgent need of African economies to address low levels of competitiveness in order to assure the creation of enough jobs for young people that will enter the job market in the years to come.
- Picking up on the future of the labour market, the [Future of Jobs and Skills in Africa](#) report offers a practical guide by the WEF for leaders from business, government, civil society and the education sector to plan for future needs for jobs and skills. The report highlights that urgent reforms are required to ensure both the creation of jobs and the development of the skills needed to fulfil these roles. Sub-Saharan African currently captures only marginally more than half of its human capital potential.

European national and regional partners establish Africa Climate Change Fund

Italy and the region of Flanders in Belgium have agreed to join Germany's efforts in scaling up climate smart development in Africa. With commitments of €4.7 million and €2 million respectively, the new partners have joined the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF), established in 2014 with an initial €4.7 million commitment from Germany. The fund has been converted into a multi-donor trust fund to enable the participation of the two new partners, and opens the door to further support from other donors interested in supporting African countries in their transition to low-carbon, climate resilient development and green growth.

Further details about the ACCF's work can be found [here](#).

Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development tracks progress on SDGs prior to HLPF

From the 17th to 19th of May the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The ARFSD focused on [ensuring inclusive and sustainable growth and prosperity for all](#), and tracked progress in the implementation of the SDGs. The results of the ARFSD will provide input to the forthcoming UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, to be held in New York in September. The ARFSD was organised by UNECA together with the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, and other UN agencies.

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NEWS FROM THE MEMBER STATES

Estonia

Estonia has signed a new partnership agreement with the leading development think tank, the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM). Signed by the Estonian Undersecretary for Development and Economic Affairs Mr. Väino Reinart on the 28th of April, the partnership aims, amongst other things, to support the country's upcoming EU presidency which will start in July 2017.

Germany

On the 27th of June the German Cooperative and Raiffeisen Confederation (DGRV), in cooperation with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), will host a conference on "New Energy for Africa: cooperative – decentralized – renewable". The conference will take place

in Berlin with the aim to foster dialogue between Germany and Africa to initiate new energy partnerships. High-level participation is expected, and Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Gerd Müller, will discuss, amongst other things, the question of whether know-how from cooperatives in Germany can be used for cooperation with African partners.

Netherlands

A recent report by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency has found that international climate finance could be better targeted to smaller-scale decentralised electricity projects, especially if SDG7 is to be reached. The report "[Towards universal electricity access in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)" also found that government support to small, off-grid projects that are typically disregarded by investors will be key to achieving this goal. Analysing the technology and financing requirements needed to achieve SDG7, the report found that though significant investments and an expansion of access can be expected by 2030, "explicit new and additional policies" are needed if SDG7 and universal access are to be achieved. The report also found that changes to framework conditions, policies, and ensuring a level playing field also play an important role – finance is important but not a silver bullet.

Poland

On the 9th of May, H.E. Dr. Andrzej Duda, President of the Republic of Poland, paid [an official visit to the African Union Commission](#) (AUC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. At the meeting he highlighted Poland's shared belief in the potential of the continent, as expressed in the AUC's "Agenda 2063". The AUC Deputy Chairperson acknowledged the contributions of the Polish government, particularly in supporting modern agriculture and technology transfer. He furthermore invited Polish companies to expand investments in Africa in order to harness the demographic dividend of the youth through investments in education, science and technology.

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MEDIA SUGGESTIONS

- ▶ Database: 2016 Climate Change Financing; Asian Development Bank (ADB). [Here](#)
- ▶ E-learning programme: Renewable Energies for Sustainable Development; UNITAR, University of Strathclyde, Gaia Education. [Here](#)
- ▶ Working and discussion paper: The effects of aid on EU employment and trade: an econometric investigation; ODI. [Here](#)
- ▶ Toolkit: G20 Energy Efficiency Investment Toolkit; Energy Efficiency Finance Task Group (EEFTG) / IPEEC / UNEP FI / IEA. [Here](#)
- ▶ Handbook: Mainstreaming climate compatible development; Climate & Development Knowledge Network. [Here](#)
- ▶ Videos: IEA Tracking Clean Energy Progress 2017; UNFCCC Climate Change Studio. [Here](#)
- ▶ Report: Forging low emission development paths in Latin America; Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP). [Here](#)
- ▶ Publication: Growth, Investment and the Low-Carbon Transition; OECD. [Here](#)
- ▶ Report: World falls to B- ranking in Council of Councils report on international cooperation; Council of Councils. [Here](#)
- ▶ Documentary: Konzerne als Retter?; arte. Available until 7 August 2017 in German and French. [Here](#)
- ▶ Online Tool and Webinar: NDC Toolbox Navigator; NDC Partnership. [Here](#) and [here](#)

- ▶ Video Interview: Dr. Youba Sokona in conversation with Power for All. [Here](#)
- ▶ Atlas: Energy potential of Africa and opportunities for investment to meet Africa's energy needs; UNEP. [Here](#)
- ▶ Publication: Insights on women/gender in development; ECDPM. [Here](#)
- ▶ Policy Brief: Lessons and Innovations to Spur Green Investment in Developing Countries; CPI. [Here](#)
- ▶ Webinar (1st of June): Grid interconnection of micro/mini hydro mini-grids: What happens when the national grid arrives?; Energypedia. [Here](#)

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