



## Press Release

### **RES4Africa returns to Kenya with conference and exhibition “Renewable Energy in East-Africa: New Frontiers”**

**Nairobi, 23-24 January 2018** – After launching its Kenya program in 2016, RES4Africa returns with a 2-day regional conference at Strathmore University in Nairobi. The event, organized in collaboration with the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP), aims to assess progress made, foster further dialogue and discuss best practices for effective renewable energy deployment in the region. Over 300 participants and more than 70 speakers are attending the conference, including representatives of the Kenyan government, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), regional and international organizations, private sector, academia and civil society, to exchange perspectives on how to accelerate the country’s renewable energy transition. The event is sponsored by Siemens Gamesa, and supported by Enel Green Power, ERM, European Investment Bank, FRIEM, Enertronica, and EPS.

Kenya is one of the fastest growing countries in East Africa and has made remarkable progress in unlocking its already recognized renewable energy potential. *“After its official regional launch in 2016, RES4Africa aims to follow-up on its commitment to help drive Kenya’s sustainable energy transition by creating more opportunities for multi-stakeholder dialogue, sharing market intelligence and fostering capacity building, with a distinct role for private sector”* says Roberto Vigotti, RES4MED&Africa Secretary General. RES4Africa will present on its actions made last year, including the launch of the “Micro-Grid Academy” and the results of a grid integration study of non-programmable renewables in the National Electric System of Kenya; two concrete initiatives to accelerate the country’s integration of renewable energy.

RES-EXPO is designed as a regional conference and showcasing exhibition, including B2B match-making sessions. The 2-day conference agenda will touch upon the key topics for renewable energy deployment such as enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, financing solutions and innovative business models, technological and technical issues, capacity building and socio-economic benefits to local economies. The showcasing exhibition allows local, national and international renewable energy solutions providers to present their businesses and products, while the B2B sessions connect companies to leverage business opportunities in Eastern African emerging markets. As an outcome of the event, RES4Africa releases a book of 15 position papers that supports the agenda topics with concrete recommendations for the way forward. *“Sustainable integration of renewable energies into the country’s supply chain is an economical prerequisite to be met by both the public sector and the private sector”*, adds David Otieno, Head of Secretariat, Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP).

The development of African start-ups and its entrepreneurial innovation scene plays a key role in driving the region’s sustainable energy transition. To that end, Enel X, Enel’s new advanced energy services division, in partnership with Seedstars World, is awarding a particularly innovative start-up with the Africa Energy Prize, following a competition launched in April 2017. RES-EXPO hosts a side-event on innovation, including the awarding ceremony of the competition’s winning African start-up.



**RES4AFRICA Renewable Energy Expo (RES-EXPO)**  
"Renewable Energy in East-Africa: New Frontiers"



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**Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa (RES4Africa)** is an association that promotes the deployment of large scale and decentralized renewable energy in Sub-Saharan African countries to meet local energy needs for growth. RES4Africa gathers a member network from across the clean energy value chain and supports the creation of an enabling environment for renewable energy investments and strategic partnerships.

**The Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)** launched as one of the eight strategic partnerships of the Africa-EU Joint Strategy (JAES) by the African and European Heads of State during the 2007 Second EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon, Portugal. The AEEP is an established forum for high-level political dialogue between Europe and Africa, and it has performed as an instrumental agenda-setter in African-European cooperation on energy issues as well as contribution at the international scene. The AEEP's overall objective is to increase the effectiveness of efforts to secure reliable and Sustainable energy services and extend their access on both continents, enhance access to modern energy services and expand renewable energy and energy efficiency in Africa.