



IEA RIAB Special Session

Africa's renewable energy transition: What does it take?

24 October 2018 – Farnesina Palace, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Rome, Italy

The IEA Renewable Industry Advisory Board, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has the pleasure of gathering members and observers for a special one-day workshop focusing on necessary strategies and measures to accelerate renewable energy (RE) deployment in the African continent.

Energy issues, among which the development of RE, are an increasingly pressing priority in national and global policies. Given its pivotal role in the main international fora on energy resources, notably in the IEA, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the General Directorate for Global Issues, has graciously agreed to host this special session dedicated to Africa at the Farnesina palace. The special session will take place one day prior to Africa's leaders meeting for the Ministerial Conference Italy-Africa.

Africa is characterized by vast RE resources, dynamic population growth, and falling technology costs, which provide significant potential for investment and development opportunities.

RE deployment plays a pivotal role to improve energy access, strengthen energy security, consolidate resilient growth, trigger socio-economic benefits such as job creation and inclusive development, and improve prosperity, security and socio-economic stability in Africa overall.

Accelerating the continent's RE transition requires a favorable business environment based on appropriate enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, and bottom-up innovation dynamics and business models. Strong financial de-risking mechanisms are pivotal to promote medium and long-term investments in grid-connected and off-grid RE projects. Supporting the creation of enabling environments for RE investments will help bring about innovative and sustainable, locally-grown solutions.

The event will aim to present a status update on the continent's RE market developments; address the issues of energy access through decentralized solutions and the quality of supply in grid-connected systems; and highlight the IFI's perspective on the way forward. By gathering high-level participants from industry, financial sector and governments, the IEA RIAB session provides an ideal forum for dynamic and high-level exchange between the sector's most important actors on what is needed to scale up RE investments in Africa.

Organized yearly, RIAB special sessions represent an ideal opportunity to take a step back from day to day necessities and jointly brainstorm a strategic vision on the industry's emerging developments. This is followed by a facilitated discussion under Chatham House rules between RIAB members, observers and IEA top-management.

AGENDA:

Africa's renewable energy transition: What does it take?

08 15 Registration & welcome coffee

09 00 Welcome and opening remarks

- Massimo GAIANI, Director General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- Paolo FRANKL, Head of Renewable Energy Division, International Energy Agency (IEA).

09 15 Session 1 – RE in Africa: status, scenarios, priorities

Keynote speeches:

- Amani ABOU-ZEID, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission (AUC);
- Vera SONGWE, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA);
- Antonio CAMMISECRA, President RES4Med&Africa and CEO Enel Green Power.

Signature of the letter of intent for a “Renewable Energy Capacity Building Program” by the African Union, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and RES4Africa; Signature of memorandum of understanding between United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and RES4Africa.

Open discussion under Chatham House rule

09 45 Session 2 – How to improve quality of electricity supply? Challenges and opportunities in sub-urban and peri-urban areas

Setting the scene & moderator:

- Thierry LEPERCQ, Executive Director, Terrawatt Initiative;

Input remarks:

- Matteo CODAZZI, CEO, CESI;
- Vladimir CHADLIEV, Director Global Grid Integration, First Solar.

Panel discussion:

- Arthouros ZERVOS, President, REN21;
- Giuseppe ARTIZZU, Executive Director, Electro Power System (EPS);
- Patrick DJAN-SAMPSON, Principal Consultant, General Electric Energy;
- Tareq EMTAIRAH, Director Energy Department, UNIDO.

11 00 Coffee break

11 30 Session 3 – Decentralized renewable energy to accelerate sustainable development: what business model and what role for PPP's?

Setting the scene & moderator:

- Giovanni TULA, Head of Innovation & Sustainability, Enel Green Power;

Input remarks:

- Paul-François CATTIER, President Francophone Africa, Schneider Electric;
- Emmanuel BEAU, Co-Founder & Investment Manager, Energy Access Ventures (EAV);

Panel discussion:

- Margarita ASTRALAGA, Director, Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division; International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
- Michele BRUNI, Co-Founder & Technical Director, InspiraFarms;
- Olivier DUBOIS, Senior Natural Resources Officer & Leader Energy Programme, Climate and Environment Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Closing remarks:

- Giorgio MARRAPODI, Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI).

12 45 Light lunch

13 15 Session 4 – IFI's role to accelerate RE investments, what additional tools?

Setting the scene & moderator:

- Paolo FRANKL, Head of Renewable Energy Division, International Energy Agency (IEA).

Input remarks:

- Antonio CAMMISECRA, CEO, Enel Green Power;
- Jon LEZAMIZ CORTAZAR, African Market Development Director, Siemens Gamesa.

Panel discussion:

- Ousseynou NAKOULIMA, Director Renewable Energy Department, African Development Bank (AfDB);
- Carlo SEGNI, Head of International Cooperation, Cassa depositi e prestiti (CDP);
- Paloma PEREZ DE VEGA, Head of Division, Project Finance, Global Partners & Neighbouring Countries, European Investment Bank (EIB);

- Hon. Matthew NKHUWA, Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Energy, Zambia;
- Dana YOUNGER, Chief Renewable Energy Specialist, International Finance Corporation (IFC);

- Andres Javier PEREZ GARCIA, CCO Exports & North Africa, Prysmian;
- Steve SAWYER, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC).

15 15 Close