Just energy transition study

The study – carried out in partnership with CSIR and ERM - assesses the occupational and re-skilling opportunities for the coal sector workers in the future renewables spreading scenario, as foreseen in the IRP (Integrated Resource Plan) 2019. The analysis includes a section of best practices and lessons learned from around the world.

What we have done:
The first outcomes have been presented and discussed with a panel of critical actors from the South African energy market. The outcomes include:

- assessment of jobs gains in the 2019 IRP;
- evaluation of the skills requirements in the solar and wind sector;
- summary of best practices and lessons learned from other countries.

What we will do:

- conclusion on how to adapt the lessons learned to the South African case;
- employee transfer options evaluation;
- development of the re-skilling plan for the South African energy transition.

Decarbonisation roadmap for South Africa

South Africa has one of the worst carbon intensity economy among G20 countries. Such situation is mainly due to the massive use of coal in power generation. However, South Africa is already committed to face issues related to GHG emissions by adopting initiatives for system decarbonization. The study – carried out by RES4Africa and Afry - aims at analyzing ongoing policy impact on GHG emissions trend to 2050 and proposing alternative scenario that, taking into consideration socio-economic constraints, will allow South Africa to lower GHG emissions.

What we have done:

- mapping of ongoing policies related to GHG emission for different sectors (IRP 2019, IEP, Green Transport Strategy 2015, National Energy Efficiency Strategy post 2015, Carbon tax, etc.);

What we will do:

- build up a reference policy scenario for GHG emission until 2050;
- build up a scenario based on international reliable sources (IEA, IRENA, WB, AfDB);
- build up 2 alternative “RES4Africa Scenarios” (one more aggressive, one more conservative);
- conclusions and recommendations.

Expected completion:
End of May
Independent Transmission Company Study
This study – carried out in partnership with CESI - analyses the restructuring of Transmission within the National Utility Eskom as a separate entity to support Government and Eskom’s ongoing work to improve efficiencies and integrate new generation in alignment with the IRP 2019.

What we have done:
• Scope of work agreed with Eskom.

Expected completion:
End of May

Localisation study for new RES Sites
The aim of this study – carried out in partnership with CESI - is to capacitate the implementation of the IRP 2019 through the analysis of different locations for the development of the planned renewable energy capacities, taking into consideration resource availability and grid connection constraints.

What we have done:
• Scope of work agreed with Eskom.

Expected completion:
End of September

The Missing Link – South Africa
The program – carried out in partnership with UNECA - establishes an innovative and comprehensive market-driven analytical framework applied to the electricity sector in 14 African countries. Its ultimate aim is to expand private sector contribution and investments in generation, transmission, distribution and off-grids to accelerate the African energy transition.

What we have done:
• Methodology Review Meeting at UNECA headquarters in Addis Ababa (Sept 2019);
• Country Experts Training at UNECA headquarters in Addis Ababa (Dec 2019);
• Contracts signatures with Country Experts (Jan 2020).

What we will do:
• Consolidation and standardisation of phase-1 country data (South Africa, Kenya, Ethiopia, Zambia, Ghana, Morocco, Angola);
• Verification of consolidated phase-1 country data in local fact-check meetings;
• Regional Dissemination event;
• Phase-2 country analysis (Tunisia, Egypt, Senegal, Cote d’Ivore, Cameroon, Rwanda, Uganda) in 2021;
• Continental Dissemination event to present the final results of the whole program in 2022.

Expected completion:
End of July 2020 (South Africa analysis)
Local Activities & Partnerships

**awareness activities**

**status:** launched – starting session from April*

**Morning monthly appointments**, in cooperation with the most authoritative and independent South African organizations, involved in energy/renewables (NERSA, CSIR, SAPVIA, SAWEA, etc.).

**aims:**
- to nurture an open, self-powered local community (high level network);
- to identify hot topics to inspire the Foundation’s SA activities (tuned to the local issues);
- to spread and share ideas (be perceived as an authoritative platform).

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**networking activities**

**status:** ongoing

- **DMRE** - Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
  An MoU is under discussion, aimed at framing the cooperation with the Foundation. It is a strategic stage in order to widen the relation with the DMRE high levels.

- **NERSA** - National Energy Regulator of South Africa
  An MoU, aimed at starting capacity building programme, is in the final approval’s step. It is already started a concrete cooperation with the Foundation in terms of communication’s activities and networking (they joint the AM-Powering Connexions project and will manage a desk for institutional communication activities during the Foundation SA launch event – 24th June).

- **CSIR** confirmed his participation to the AM-Powering Connexions project.

- **ERM** has been involved in the local dialogue, to support the connections with local employment issues.

- **Italian Embassy + European Delegation** – the Italian Embassy has been offering to participate (also in terms of economical contribution) to the Foundation’s SA Launch Event. The COP-26, and the Pre-COP Youth, offer the key to internationalize the Italian Embassy presence by involving the European Delegation (and probably the UK Embassy) in a focus session on local initiatives for youth and environment.

- **Nedbank** – Nedbank required to sponsor the RES4Africa Program Launch and to start the process to candidature the bank as member of the Foundation.

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**status:** ongoing

- **Involvement of the coal miners’ employment issues into the discussion** on Just Energy Transition, by developing a dialogue with key organizations (including NGO’s, Mining Industry Associations, Labor Unions, etc.)

**aims:**
- to make the public opinion aware about the concrete contribution that the Foundation can locally acts (e.g. Micro-grid Academy addressed to miners, other training and capacity building activities);
- to obtain their endorsement;
- to create business links: Micro-grid as reskilling and new job opportunity, but also enabling mining companies to become potential RES customers.

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*depending on the COVID-19 situation