

# THE AFRICA-EU GREEN ENERGY INITIATIVE (AEGEI) POWERS A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR AFRICA

A Continental Programme for one African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM), a Continental Power System Masterplan (CMP), and the African Energy Efficiency Strategy (AfeES) in a Nutshell

## THE WAY TOWARDS A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRANSITION IN AFRICA

### Current energy challenges in Africa



**Over 600 million people**

*in particular in rural areas of Sub-Saharan Africa, lacking access to electricity*



**850 million people**

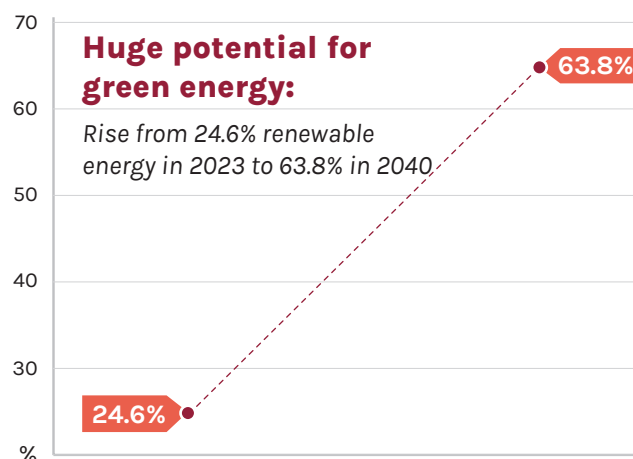
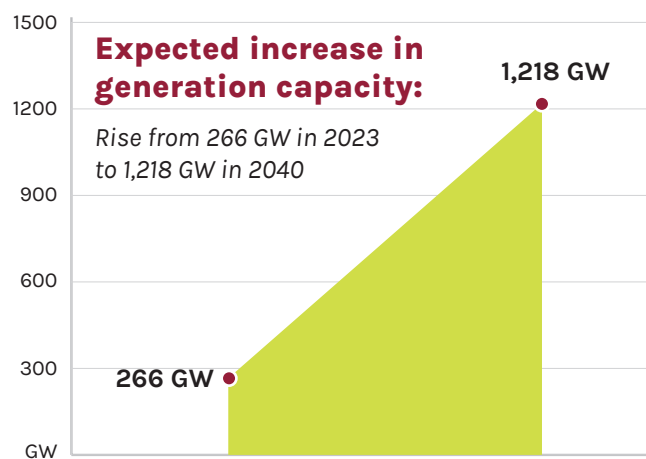
*lacking access to clean cooking facilities*



**up to 60%**

*of the electricity generated in Africa is lost on its way to the consumer, due to problems in the electricity networks*

At the same time, the **demand for electricity is expected to triple by 2040** due to industrialisation, urbanisation, higher household income, and climate change. To curb the trajectory, a **substantial increase in investments of about USD 1.29 trillion** is needed.



### Africa's electricity generation capacities

Africa is endowed with significant renewable energy sources, whilst the cost of sustainable technologies is continuously decreasing. At present, the continent's primary energy needs are met by fossil fuels (50%) and unsustainable biomass or waste (48%).



**1.2%**  
solar PV



**2.8%**  
hydropower



**0.9%**  
wind

## COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF ENERGY BETWEEN THE EU AND THE AU

Since 2015, there has been a strong and continuous cooperation on energy between the European Union (EU) and the African Union (AU) institutions, which has substantially involved the expertise and funding of the EU.

In February 2022 during the 6th EU-AU Summit, the EU updated its commitment to strengthen the partnership with African countries, proposing the **Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative (AEGEI)**, which aspires to consolidate the joint efforts to support green energy investments in Africa.



**AEGEI will provide 100 million people in Africa with access to electricity**

The three overarching objectives of the AEGEI are:

### OBJECTIVE #1

*To increase access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy services for people and businesses via the generation of electricity from renewable energy sources;*

### OBJECTIVE #2

*To strengthen cross-border electricity trade and integrate regional electricity markets including between the EU and Africa; and*

### OBJECTIVE #3

*To increase energy efficiency in Africa.*

## THE AEGEI CONTINENTAL PROGRAMME THROUGH THE AFSEM, CMP, AND AFEES

An ambitious continental flagship programme is underway within the AEGEI in close cooperation with the African energy stakeholders. The Programme includes the following initiatives, which are currently supported through the **EU Global Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (EU-GTAF)**:

**1**

**AfSEM**, which aspires to become one of the world's largest electricity markets by 2040 by enhancing access to reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity in Africa through the harmonisation of policies, legislation and regulatory frameworks at the regional and continental level;

**2**

**CMP**, which is the "blueprint" of the AfSEM, providing the necessary infrastructure to link all national and regional Power Pools' transmission networks and enabling intra- and inter-regional electricity trade; and

**3**

**AfEES**, currently under development, which seeks to explore and define the role of energy efficiency technology in the energy mix of the continent, pledging to achieve a 50% increase in energy productivity by 2050.

These initiatives constitute a unique example of collaboration of African energy stakeholders and the EU. The African Heads of State suggested to include both the AfSEM and CMP in their list of flagship projects of the AU Agenda 2063.

## THE BENEFITS OF THE AEGEI

Supporting the Global Gateway and the AEGEI through the three continental energy initiatives is an important step towards the green energy transition in Africa and they bring numerous benefits to the African continent, including:



Enhanced energy access



Increased energy security and resilience



Job creation and skill development



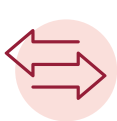
Economic growth and development



Pan-African cooperation



Access to new markets and investment opportunities for European partners



Transfer of technology and expertise



Climate change mitigation and adaptation



Geopolitical stability and demonstrating global leadership



Aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and beyond

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

So far, the three initiatives have made considerable progress, with critical policy papers and strategic plans already in place. The next phase involves deepening cross-border cooperation and developing robust transmission networks to facilitate efficient electricity trade across national and regional markets.

The EU will empower African energy stakeholders to take the lead and work in partnership for a more sustainable future that will benefit all Africans and our planet!

The activities of these three initiatives are led by the EU through the Global Gateway Investment Strategy in partnership with various AU institutions – most notably by the **African Union Commission – Department of Infrastructure and Energy (AUC-DIE)**, the **African Union Development Agency – New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD)**, and the **African Energy Commission (AFREC)** and approved by the AU Member States in AU Summits. Numerous other energy stakeholders such as Regional Economic Committees, Regional Regulatory Authorities, and Power Pools are involved in the participatory consultation processes. The EU continuously provides technical expertise and co-funding.

[Website EU Delegation at the African Union](#)

[Website AUC-DIE](#)

[Website AUDA-NEPAD](#)

[Website AFREC](#)