

Research collaboration towards climate-resilient energy technologies in Africa

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Building Bi-regional Partnerships for Global Challenges



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Objectives

- Bringing together academia, public and private sectors, and donors in endeavours towards sustainable energy technologies in developing countries
- Providing guidance and feedback to early-career academic researchers based in Africa
- Piloting a platform for enhanced collaboration with a focus on sustainable energy
- Contributing to capacity-building in a comparatively novel field of research

Expected Outcomes

- Proposals at an advanced stage of preparation for research projects in the energy sector
- Thirteen early-career participants from Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe
- Awareness of funding opportunities for the elaborated projects, e.g. Horizon 2020
- Contribution towards creating a crop of African researchers in climate change-related energy studies who could collaborate with European counterparts
- Institutionalising a platform for replication and longer-term sustainability: our WP2 tangible legacy

The Broader Picture

- Facilitating research collaboration between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa in science, technology and innovation (STI); Work Package 2 on climate change
- Previous stock-taking workshops at REC level (EAC; SADC; ECOWAS) + Bergen with embryo of platform
- Mutual benefit at core of collaborative partnership
- However: Existing asymmetry between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa
- Deliberate emphasis on early-career researchers
- Critically important to make the relationship less asymmetrical than at present

Today's Programme

- Official opening of the workshop by Marie-Christine Gasingirwa, Director General, MINEDUC
- Rich programme with five presentations:
 - Dr. Berhanu Abegaz, Executive Director, African Academy of Sciences
 - Dr. Aschalew Tigabu, Research Fellow, African Centre for Technology Studies
 - Prof. Pontien Ndabaneze, Deputy Executive Secretary, Inter-University Council for East Africa
 - Prof. Nelson Ijumba, African Centre for Excellence on Energy, Rwanda
 - Dr. Saidi Kibeya, Deputy Executive Secretary, East African Science and Technology Commission
- Pre-lunch summing up by co-chairs

Today's Programme 2

- Two case presentations:
 - James Haselip, UNEP DTU Partnership, Denmark
 - Cecilie Larsen, UNEP DTU Partnership, Denmark
- Group-based session for early-career researchers to solicit advice and guidance from speakers/presenters regarding research proposals; resource persons will ambulate between the smaller groups
- Wrap-up of first day by co-chairs

Thank you for your attention



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