

Europe renewable energy addis ababa

LEAP-RE seeks to create a long-term partnership of African and European stakeholders involving government (programme owners and funding agencies), research and academia, private sector, and civil society. Establishing and jointly implementing research, innovation, and capacity-building activities is the main objective of LEAP-RE.

LEAP-RE also highlighted their interest and efforts in exploring strategies for scaling future renewable energy innovations through the market uptake of renewable energy technologies specifically tailored to funding RE innovation in Africa.

As a long-term partnership with more than 80 African and European stakeholders, LEAP-RE is strategically placed to reduce fragmentation and foster the alignment of existing bilateral and multilateral frameworks on sustainable energy and energy access.

LEAP RE website

LEAP RE Stakeholder Forum in Milan

Relations between the European Union (EU) and Africa cover partnerships on green transition and energy access, digital transformation, sustainable growth and jobs, peace and governance, and partnership on migration and mobility.

This new strategy and these partnerships are in line with the common priorities set by the EU and the African Union at the 2017 Summit in Abidjan. It takes inspiration notably from the very fruitful discussions between the European Commission and the African Union Commission, which took place in Addis Ababa on 27 February 2020 and reflects the EU's proposals for the ongoing exchanges with African partners in view of defining a joint partnership agenda. EU-Africa engagement will continue at bilateral, regional and continental level.

The EU, with its extensive experience in developing and implementing the first and second EU Circular Economy Action Plan, is supporting the AU in developing its AU Circular Economy Action Plan, addressing priority sectors for circularity in Africa, aligned with the EU ones - food systems, packaging, built environment, electronics and fashion and textiles. These were identified by the African Circular Economy Alliance, who together with the African Circular Economy Network, the AfDB and other stakeholders, promote and support the transition to a circular economy in Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa remains the world's region with the largest "access to energy" deficit: about 600 million people are lacking access to electricity and 850 million do not have access to clean cooking facilities, despite



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the very high and largely underexploited potential of Africa's renewable energy sources (wind, solar, hydropower, etc.).

Address the energy needs of Africa's growing population means putting the focus on resilient infrastructure, cleaner, more sustainable and secure energy access, maximising renewable energy sources, energy transition and efficiency across all value chains, as well as regional integration for energy security.

LEAP-RE seeks to create a long-term partnership of African and European stakeholders in a quadruple helix approach: government (programme owners and funding agencies), research and academia, private sector, and civil society. Impact will be sought by creating a framework, methodology, and cooperation model. The aim is to reduce fragmentation by aligning existing bilateral and multilateral frameworks. LEAP-RE establishes and jointly implements research, innovation, and capacity-building activities.

The programme opted for a large-scale, inclusive consortium of 96 partners from 34 countries and 2 international organisations, to ensure a broad thematic, geographical and stakeholder coverage, and to demonstrate the feasibility of the collaboration and build trust in view of a long-term partnership addressing the post-2025 period.

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