

From policy to implementation



Europe and Africa have a long-term relationship and are connected by history, culture, strong trade links and cooperation programmes. Recently, European and African leaders recognised it was time to reassess their relationship and transform it into real political partnership. The result is the EU-Africa Strategic Partnership that lays out a number of selected priority areas and activities. One of these is the Africa-EU Energy Partnership that will strengthen existing Africa-EU actions and dialogue on energy access and energy security.

Together, Africa and the EU aim to create:

- A more structured and effective Africa-EU dialogue on access to energy services and energy security.
- Improved access to reliable, secure, affordable, climate friendly and sustainable energy services for both continents.
- Increased European and African investments in energy infrastructure in Africa, including promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Making it happen – an integrated framework of EU instruments

The Africa-EU Energy Partnership will be a political framework for stimulating existing and new funding instruments as described below.

The EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure – interconnecting Africa

The EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership was launched in 2007. It focuses on cross-border regional and national infrastructure. For energy, the Partnership facilitates investments in cross-border interconnections, grid extension and rural distribution, in order to improve access to sustainable and affordable energy services.

The Infrastructure Partnership responds to the development goals of the African Union and its New Economic Partnership for Africa's Development. The European Investment Bank (EIB) is managing a trust fund set up as one of the financial instruments of the Partnership. The Fund receives grant funding from the European Development Fund and additional Member States contributions of approximately €100 million. The EIB will mobilise loans four to five times this amount.

energy security



The ACP-EC Energy Facility – reaching-out at the local level

The ACP-EC Energy Facility enables the European Commission to co-finance projects with Governments, the Private Sector, International Organisations and Civil Society. Its objective is to increase access to energy services at local level. A first tranche of €198 million is being allocated to 75 projects.

The private sector participates in many of the projects, both in small and large-scale infrastructure. The projects span from the extension of the electricity grid in Benin to decentralised renewable energy solutions, such as hydropower, efficient use of biomass and solar power in Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Tanzania and Ghana.

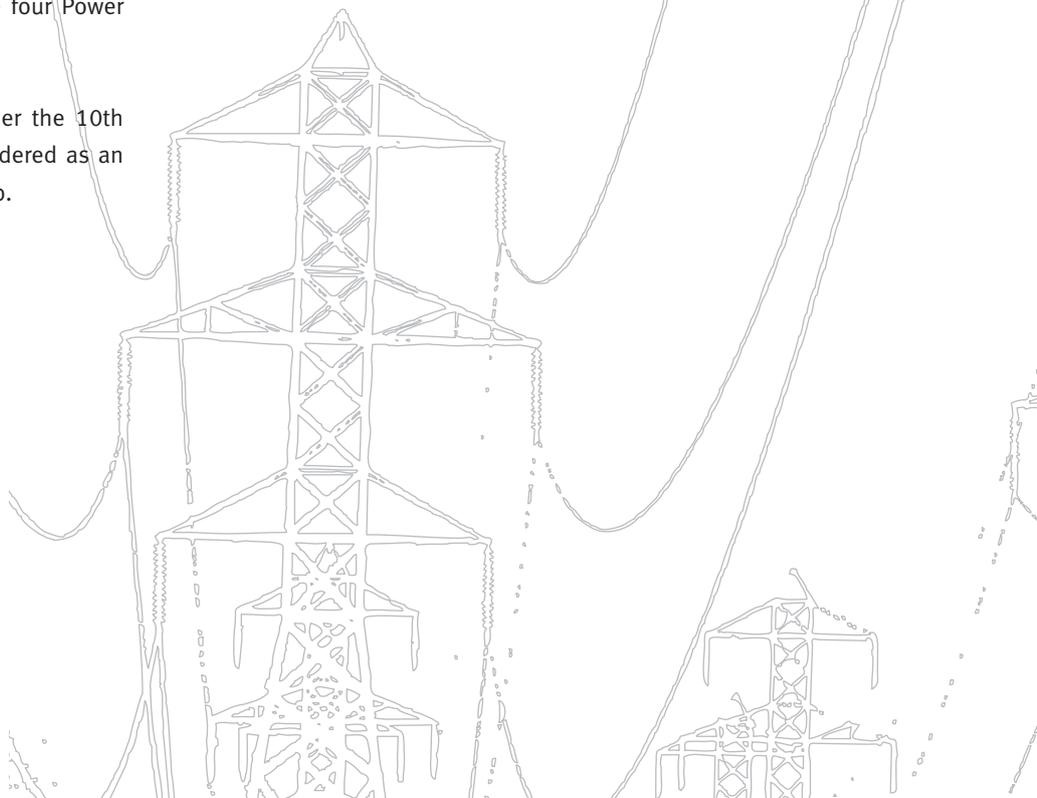
Some of the projects are regional in nature and vary in scope from cross-border electrification to capacity building. In addition to these projects, the Energy Facility also provides a €10 million support to the four Power Pools of Sub Saharan Africa

A replenishment of the Energy Facility under the 10th European Development Fund is being considered as an EU contribution under the Energy Partnership.

ENRTP Thematic Programme – flexible financing for energy

The EU Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Including Energy (ENRTP) 2007-2013 has a global budget of more than €800 million. One of the ENRTP's priorities is to support sustainable energy options in the EU's partner countries and regions. This includes a follow-up of the COOPENER programme and core contributions to the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund.

The current COOPENER programme addresses the market and regulatory conditions for the provision of sustainable energy services. Launched under the Intelligent Energy for Europe Programme with a budget of €17 million, COOPENER supports more than 40 projects – mostly in Africa – aimed at strengthening local capacities in energy planning, energy efficiency and renewable energy.





Global Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Fund – mobilising commercial investments

The Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEEREF) aims to accelerate the transfer, development and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies.

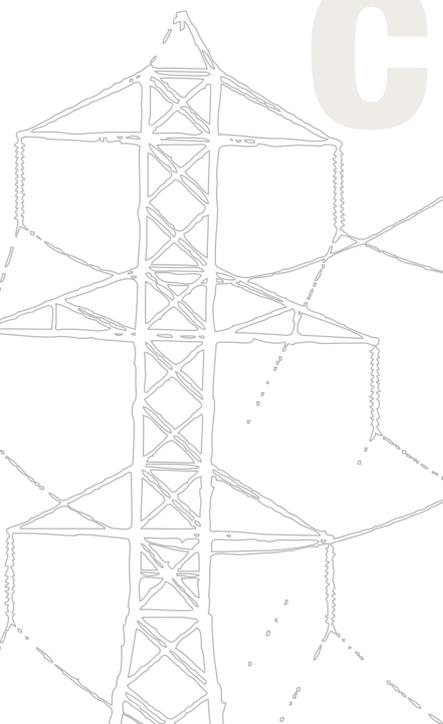
GEEREF aims to help overcome barriers created by the lack of risk capital in developing countries by providing new risk-sharing and co-financing options to mobilise international and domestic commercial investments. It will invest in a broad mix of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. The initial grant funding for GEEREF exceeds €125 million and includes significant contributions from the European Commission and from EU Member States.

Global Climate Change Alliance – mainstreaming climate change

Climate change is threatening poor countries, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). To address this challenge, the Commission proposes to build a Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) with the developing countries that are most vulnerable to climate change.

The Alliance will provide a platform for dialogue and exchange of experiences of integrating climate change into all levels of decision-making and development investments. It will comprise of contributions from ENTRP and the 10th EDF, and will seek cooperation with EU Member States.

climate change





International initiatives – cooperation and co-funding

The EU cooperates both directly and through the EU Energy Initiative with several international initiatives and funds that are relevant to the actions envisioned under Africa-EU Partnership, including:

- The Infrastructure Consortium for Africa
- The World Bank Investment Framework for Clean Energy and Development
- The Global Gas Flaring Partnership
- The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

Gas venting and flaring: huge losses and emissions of greenhouse gases

Through the Energy Partnership, Africa and the EU will jointly address gas flaring and venting. When crude oil is brought to the surface, gas also surfaces, which is released into the atmosphere un-ignited (vented) or ignited (flared).

In 2006 an estimated 150 billion m³ of natural gas were flared or vented, which is equivalent to 30% of the EU's annual gas consumption.

Africa's 40 billion m³ of gas flared each year equals half the continent's power consumption.

EU Energy Initiative

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