

Discussion guidance note - Working Group 2

Mapping and Coordination

[Room tbc]

General topic

Mapping and coordination of energy initiatives in Africa

Working Group Context

Recent years has seen a strong expansion of the efforts to support African countries in their quest for universal energy access, renewables and energy efficiency. Development finance for the sector reached record levels in 2015, with more than 7 USD billions committed and more than 5 USD billions disbursed in Africa¹. A recent mapping of Energy Initiatives in Africa counted more than sixty regional, multi-country initiatives including SEforALL, Power Africa, the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and the New Deal on Energy for Africa, on top of the classic multilateral and bilateral aid to support the energy sector.

The increasing efforts from both the country side and the donors' side are encouraging, but challenges remain in relation to effective coordination in view of limited absorption capacities at country level. How can the delivery mechanisms of the major initiatives be improved and better coordinated? What kind of processes (or structures) are needed at country level to facilitate the matching of demand and offer of financing and technical support for achieving access to sustainable energy for all? What are the most suited instruments available for a rapid implementation of the priorities designed in the Action Agendas and the projects envisaged in the Investment Prospectuses? What are the lesson learned from the programs that promotes clean cooking, off-grid access and energy efficiency?

¹ Data from OECD-CRS database, retrieved in March 2017, nominal prices. Official Development Finance commitments include ODA (5.214 USD billions) and Other Official Flows (2.027 USD billions), Official Development Finance disbursements include ODA (3.821 USD billions) and Other Official Flows (1.466 USD billions).

Previous Recommendations and implementation status

At the latest SEforAll Annual Workshop held in Abidjan, in February 2016, participants addressed the question of coordination of the various energy initiatives in Africa and expressed a series of recommendations, including:

- To facilitate a one stop shop for information exchange and knowledge management for SE4All activities in Africa through the SE4All Africa website, such as the production of a guidebook/reperory with information on available funding mechanisms and their eligibility criteria/conditions for access, project scale, stage and funding contact persons amongst others.
 - *The Hub is providing comprehensive information on the implementation of SEforALL on its [website](#), but a proper “information center” for financing opportunities has not been implemented yet. At the same time other partners such as [Power Africa](#) have made efforts on which one can build.*
- It was also recommended to further clarify the roles, responsibilities and value addition of the different SE4All partners and to support the replication of the ECREEE model in terms of regional coordination of SE4All activities in other RECs.
 - *On the second point the Hub has started initial discussion with the SACREEE at the latest SADC meeting to replicate ECREEE experience in supporting SEforALL in a regionally coordinated manner.*
- To collaborate with the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) on the mapping of energy initiatives. Regarding the institutionalization of the mapping, it was recommended that the Africa Hub should ensure the continuous maintenance and dissemination of the mapping once finalized.
 - *The Hub worked with the AEEP and the first phase [mapping report](#) was presented in May 2016 at the AEEP stakeholder forum in Milan which also mandated the Africa Hub to work with AEEP to take the mapping forward. A second deeper analysis including at country level is under preparation.*
- To promote continuous partner coordination through the SE4All Action Agenda process at country level, participants recommended to formally establish the AA as a framework for SDG7 implementation at national level and to establish a link between the INDC/NDCs most of which contain strong references to the energy sector and the Action Agendas in particular.
 - *The African Union Specialized Technical Committee in its Ministerial Lomé declaration of March 2017 re-affirmed the SEforALL Action Agendas “as a suitable implementation framework for the Sustainable Development Goal*

(SDG) number 7 at the national level and platform for coordination of partners”. It also requested the SEforALL Africa Hub to continue its coordination role with particular focus on mobilizing support for implementation of the priorities contained in the Action Agendas and Investment Prospectuses.

Moderation and scene setting

Christine Eibs Singer, SEforALL, will be the moderator for the session and also provide an update on SEforALL’s work on tracking of finance flows.

The scene setters for this working group will be:

- **Crispen Zana, AEEP:** will present the main findings of the AEEP mapping exercise and the next phase of the mapping going forward.
- **Niclas Hallstroem, AREI IDU:** will present AREI’s plans in relation to mapping of energy activities/initiatives.
- **Karin Reiss, SACREEE:** will present the role of regional coordination in the implementation of the initiatives including SEforALL and notably SACREEE’s role going forward.

Working Group objectives

This roundtable discussion will take into account the recommendations of previous workshop and reflect on their implementation status and challenges, and will in particular discuss the following three themes:

- **Continuous mapping of energy initiatives, including at country-level:** *how can national and international initiatives be mapped at regional and country level as a continuous exercise, in order improve information and coordination of all actors? How to ensure that the various mapping exercises are complementary and add value to countries?*
- **Simplifying access to information on TA and financing instruments:** *is the idea of one stop shop for information on available financing instruments and their conditions still valid? If so, how can it be concretely implemented?*
- **Development partners/energy, stakeholders’ coordination: development of joint compacts/MoUs etc.** *How can – at the international and local levels – the various energy initiatives coordinate their activities in order to gain efficiency and efficacy, reduce red tape and transaction costs? Would joint compacts, country*

transformation packages, MoUs or other instruments be the right response to the needs of African countries?

Expected outcomes

The working group will elaborate a set of **key recommendations** to be reported for discussions to the plenary session.