

Africa Renewable Energy Initiative

From launch to implementation

20 September 2016, 1:15-2:30PM

CR7, UNHQ, New York

Concept

Africa's renewable energy potential is considerable: By 2030, IRENA estimates that at least 300 GW of the continent's installed generation capacity could come from hydroelectric, wind, solar and geothermal energy.

This opportunity is what African governments seized when they launched the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative at COP21. The initiative aims to increase Africa's installed renewable energy capacity by 10 GW by 2020 and by 300 GW by 2030.

Attentive to Africa's priorities, the President of the French Republic, François Hollande, placed the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative at the heart of his "Climate challenges and African solutions" summit and 10 partners committed to mobilizing 10 billion dollars between 2015 and 2020 to contribute to the objectives the continent established.

Ségolène Royal, COP21 President, is very committed to the implementation of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative. The report she drafted in consultation with African governments and their partners makes a series of recommendations and lists known projects that could contribute to the initiative's objectives.

Similarly, the African Union has pursued its work on the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative. An Independent Delivery Unit now exists and its director has been appointed. Work on mapping existing initiatives and programmes has started, as envisaged in the AREI work plan.

Objectives

The COP22 will be an action COP and an African COP. Progress on the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative will be given considerable attention.

Therefore, this meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss the operational recommendations the COP21 President makes in her report, examine the concrete projects she proposes and discuss next steps.

The meeting will also be a chance to listen to the proposals of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative's Independent Delivery Unit on the next steps for the African continent's energy transition.

Participants

François Hollande, President of the French Republic

Ségolène Royal, COP21 President

Salaheddine Mezouar, incoming COP22 President

The following high-level delegates have been invited to make opening remarks:

Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Abdel Fatah Al-Sissi, Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State on Climate Change (CAHOSCC)

Alpha Condé, designated by the African Union as the continent's representative on renewable energy

Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank

All African heads of state and government, as well as partners of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative, have been invited to this event.

Contact: Nicolas Dasnois – nicolas.dasnois@diplomatie.gouv.fr