



## **ENSURING A PEOPLE-CENTERED ENERGY TRANSITION IN AFRICA THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT.**

### ***KENYA NATIONAL PROJECT LAUNCH AND WORKSHOP ON RENEWABLE ENERGY***

#### **CONCEPT NOTE**

**10<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

**HILTON HOTEL**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Global energy poverty is now concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).. Currently, around 580 million in the region, roughly 75% of the global total, have no electricity (IEA, 2019). And a staggering 80% of the population (about 800 million people) lacks access to modern energy and relies on biomass products such as wood, charcoal, and dung to cook.

This acute energy poverty affects many developments and environmental outcomes negatively; notably health, household income, quality of life, access to modern services such as ICTs (Morrissey, 2017), as well as human capital development, productive land use, and sustainable forest management. Across the continent, it is preventing women and children from leading more productive lives, expanding inequality gaps, and fomenting a wide range of social injustices. It is lowering the region's chance of attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (Corfee-Morlot, et al. nd) and Africa's Agenda 2063.

Access to clean, sustainable and modern energy services is needed to meet basic human needs and for economic and social development across Africa. Increased access to energy, 'can unlock sustainable economic growth, improve human health and well-being and enable women and children to lead more productive lives. Beyond direct economic and social benefits, clean energy access will raise human security and build resilience in states and communities to help limit the risk of large-scale migration across the African continent as well as accelerate the attainment of SDGs, Agenda 2063 goals and climate commitments under the Paris Agreement' (OECD, nd).

Renewable energy initiatives (REI) are lining up to drive RE uptake on the continent. The number of these initiatives has grown to at least 58 (Kirsten et al., 2020), most of them since the concluding of the Paris Agreement in 2018. The more prominent REIs include the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Program (RECP), EU-Africa Green Energy Initiative, Africa Power Vision, Africa Clean Energy Corridor, and the African Energy Transition Programme (AFRETRAP). Bilateral actors, notably China and India, have also entered the RE space.

National political will is also growing and present opportunities for a sustainable energy transition. Of the 53 submitted NDCs, all but Botswana's NDC mention renewable energy contributions, with quantitative figures in 46 of them. Many of these contain rural development and pro-poor renewable energy contributions, such as the electrification of rural areas with standalone PV systems and mini-grids, or sustainable use of biomass.

The expansion of the RE playing field, however, also presents risks. The many REIs in Africa lack coordination and transparency; often exclude important stakeholders, particularly of the civil society; and are poorly governed. This leaves room for unnecessary redundant efforts, program and project duplications; a narrow focus on certain RE solutions and countries; and the absence of independent means of monitoring and tracking their performance. In turn, these shortcomings undermine the effectiveness of RE initiatives in delivering transformative and sustainable energy access, especially for the poor.

## **2. Justification**

The Kenyan energy sector is poised to be one of the most progressive on the continent – only second to South African. Currently, the sector has an installed power capacity of 2,732MW with KenGen contributing 61% (1,630MW) and IPPs contributing the difference. The Ministry of Energy (MoE) is responsible for policy and



planning within the sector and Kenya Power (KP) is the single off taker for grid connected power with distribution and retail functions. Geothermal Development Company (GDC) oversees early geothermal steam development while the Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA) develops framework and implementation of the national nuclear power development programme with a view to introducing nuclear power within the power subsector.

However, other sector reforms and strategies including those proposed in the Kenyan NDCs like Solar PV and Solar Thermal Regulations, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Policy (Energy Management Regulations 2012), Universal Access of Electricity by 2020 and the FIT (2008, 2012) and Energy Act 2019 aim at opening access for the transmission and distribution systems, creation of consolidated fund and creation of the net metering regulatory framework, among others for the stakeholders and consumers to actively engage and meet the growing demand respectively. Regardless, statistics have increasingly shown limited involvement of key stakeholders – especially the non-state actors – in driving a people responsive, environmentally just and climate resilient energy systems – especially drawing the conclusions from the sector report launched by the president in 2021<sup>1</sup>.

To address these gaps, civil society engagement is crucial to facilitate and push for renewable energy initiatives and an energy transition that is sustainable and people-oriented. Civil society participation has the potential to ensure buy-in, prevent external interests from driving RE development, and guarantee that development is designed with a thorough understanding of the local context, social norms, values, and customs. This will be achieved by building a critical mass of the none-state-actors that will interrogate RE investments against a set of minimum criteria and ensure that RE initiatives prioritize decentralised small-scale RE investments that meet the needs of the people.

Consequently, the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA, through the the Kenya Platform on Climate Governance (KPCG), the Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access, in partnership with German-watch and plan to launch the Kenya component of the project “Ensuring a People-Centered Energy Transition in Africa through Civil Society Engagement” on 10 and 11 March 2022. The project launch will take the form of an inception workshop and training of RE for members of KPCG and other relevant stakeholder. KPCG is also collaborating with VSO on capacity building and stock take on just energy transition perspectives among stakeholders

## **Objective**

The main objective of the inception workshop is to achieve consensus of what the project is hoping to achieve – a collective understanding among project CSO beneficiaries and other stakeholders. The workshop shall pursue the following specific objectives:

### **3. Specific objectives**

- To build a common understanding of the project objectives and expected outcomes and implementation modalities among all project partners and stakeholders;
- To develop a road map of project coordination at the national level including roles and expected benefits/needs of the mapped institutions;
- To review and update project implementation tools, including M&E baseline data
- To share experiences and information on existing projects, programmes at national or regional levels to ensure synergies and avoid overlapping of activities;
- To identify and expand the network of stakeholders and beneficiaries.

### **4. Expected outputs**

- KPCG, its members and partners are well-equipped to implement the project at the national level and contribute to the overall project goal of enhancing RE initiatives that repond ot the true needs and expectations of communities.

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<sup>1</sup> [Why Uhuru Did Not Keep Promise to Lower Electricity Cost by December - Kenyans.co.ke](https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/why-uhuru-did-not-keep-promise-to-lower-electricity-cost-by-december)



- Kenyan authorities and other key actors are aware and support project implementation

## 5. Programme

Time	Activity	Lead
<b>Day 1: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>		
08:30-09:00	Registration	Fides
09:00-9.15am	Introduction and agenda setting (15 mins)	Collins
09:15-09.45 am	Keynote remarks (30 mins): Dr Augustine B Njamnshi, Coordinator ACSEA -Dr.Mithika Mwenda-Excecutive Director, PACJA -George Awalla-Country Director VSO Jitolee - Mrs. Annett Günther ,The Ambassador, The Federal Republic of Germany to Kenya (TBC) -PS, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum(TBC) -PS, Ministry of Environment and Forestry(TBC)	Anne Tek
09.45-10:00	Project Overview (15 mins)	Augustine B Njamnshi
10:00 – 10:30	Project Launch (Kenya)	Mithika Mwenda
10:30 – 11:00	Photos / Tea Break	KPCG Logistics
11:00- 11.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National level project outcomes and activities (15 mins)</li> <li>Q&amp;A (15 mins)</li> </ul>	Hope
11.30am-12.00pm	Renewable energy targets in Kenya's NDC and policy framework (30 mins)	TBC (Ministry of energy/climate change rep)
12:00-12:30	Renewable energy projects and initiatives in Kenya(30 mins)	TBC (CSO rep)
12:30 – 13:00	General Discussions (30mins)	Collins
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 15:00	Project implementation tools and guidelines (1 hour)	Eugene
15:00 – 16:00	Group reflections, feedback and recommendations (1 hour)	Anne Tek

Time	DAY 2 Item of discussion/Action	Moderator
<b>8:30 – 9:00</b>	<b>Arrival and registration</b>	Valentine Maina
<b>9:00 – 9:30</b>	Recap of Day 1	Christine Ogola
<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	Review Agenda Day 2  How will the day look like and Day 2 objectives	Evans Otieno
<b>10:00 – 10:45</b>	<b>Activity 1:</b> Background of the energy transition over the last 10 years.  Group activity to identify changes in energy use, evolution and how they are affecting communities	Mwangi Waituru



<b>TEA BREAK</b>		
<b>11:15 – 12:00</b>	<b>Activity 2:</b> CSOs and community perspectives on Just Transition in Kenya  Group activities to identifying community adaptations, innovations, and coping mechanism on energy transition.  Group activity for CSOs to identify best practices, key sector plans and actions.	Evans Otieno
<b>12:00 – 1:00</b>	<b>Activity 3:</b> Developing key messages on Just, inclusive and green energy transition	Evans Otieno
<b>LUNCH</b>		
<b>2:00 – 3:00</b>	Group feedback presentation and plenary session	Evans Otieno
<b>3:00 – 3:30</b>	sharing consolidated CSOs perspectives and community groups perspectives on just transition in Kenya and closing remarks	Mwangi Waituru

#### **Registration Link**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArdO2hpjIrGtdWuy\\_PQmeBWCfUUZ8o8cmZ](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArdO2hpjIrGtdWuy_PQmeBWCfUUZ8o8cmZ)