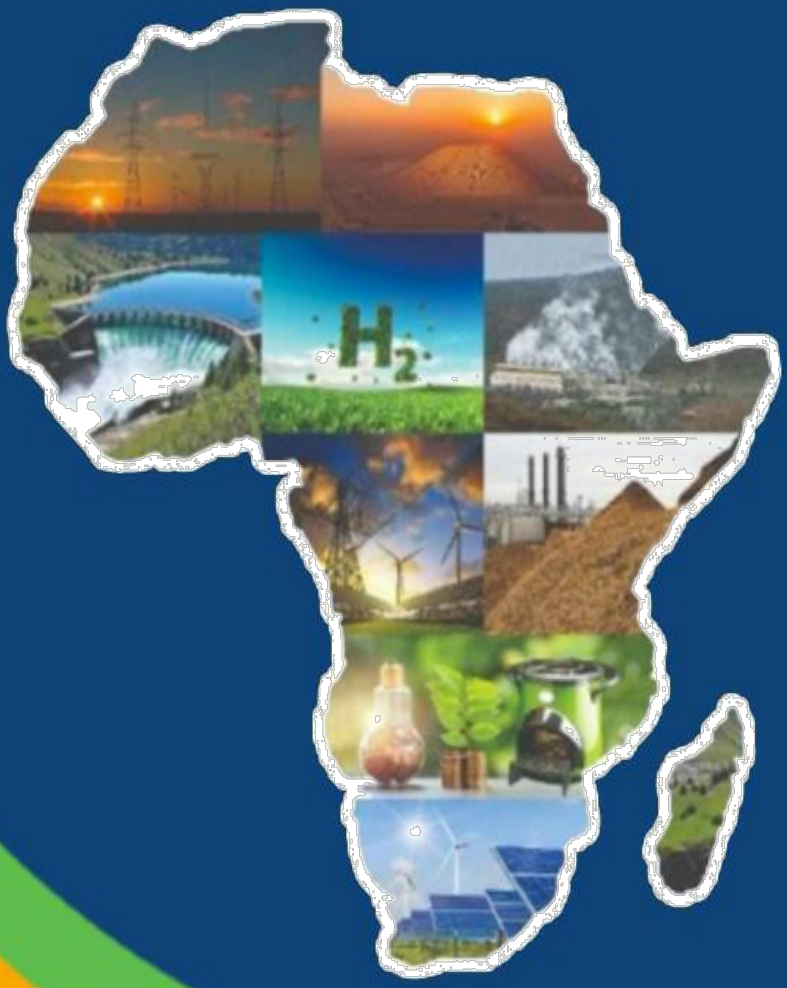
Africa Renewable Energy Initiative Initiative
Initiative Africaine pour les Énergies Renouvelables



AREI FORUM 2nd EDITION
AFRICAN RENEWABLE ENERGY

Final Communique

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FINAL COMMUNIQUE

From **July 25 to 27** - in **Cairo**
AREI organized the **2nd edition** of the African Renewable **Forum**, co-organized with the Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy

More than 600 participants - 51 countries, 43 African and global regional organizations attended the 2nd edition of the AREI Forum

The objective of the forum - in view of the delay caused by the global Covid 19 pandemic - was to present the implementation of the commitments of Phase 1 - 10 GW (2020) of Clean and Renewable Energy and to commit to the ambitious target of 300 GW of RE by 2030 by objectively sharing observations on the reality of global warming caused by the most polluting countries of which Africa is a victim, while giving orientations for the future of this continent in particular and the planet in general, by engaging more actively in RE in order to actively contribute to the fight against global warming.

AREI Hybrid Forum was opened from Namibia by:

***H.E. Dr. Hage GEINGOB*,**
President of the Republic of Namibia,
Interim Chairman of AREI Board of Directors

In the presence of:
H.E. Dr. Mohamed Shaker EL-MARKABI - Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt
H.E. Dr. Amani ABOU-ZEID - Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission,
Ms. Ségolène Royale President of COP 21
H.E. Yonis Ali GUEDI - Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Djibouti;
Mrs. Carla MONTESI - Director of International Partnerships, European Union
Mr. Francesco LA CAMERA - Director General of IRENA
H.E. Mr. Marc BARETY - Ambassador of France to Egypt
H.E. Prof. Kariuki Kevin KANINA - Vice President for Energy, AfDB - represented by Mr. Monojeet PAL
Dr. Augustine NJAMNSHI, Continental Coordinator of the African Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access (Civil Society)
Dr. Chantal COLLE - Acting Director of AREI-IDU, member of the Technical Committee in charge of West Africa.

This hybrid forum allowed the participation of more than 600 participants - including several ministers of the Continent, representatives of 51 countries including 43 regional, African and global organizations

The forum recognizes the positive results of AREI Phase 1: 10GW
And more than 40% invested in energy efficiency
650 projects labeled by the Technical Committee are available on the continent

The forum was preceded by two working days with AREI Technical Committee, followed by a one-day training for AREI focal points on how to use AREI's new digital tools. The forum started with a pre-meeting on Fomi project with the presence of different partners. It should also be noted that the forum was followed by a one-week training offered by the Arab Republic of Egypt from 28 July to 1st August.
- The 2nd edition of AREI FORUM on Renewable Energy in Africa noted and congratulated AREI leaders - and particularly the Presidents of Namibia and Egypt - for their continued commitment to the African Renewable Energy Initiative
- All participants acknowledged the successful outcome of AREI Phase 1, highlighting the strengths and sources of competitive advantage of AREI
- African ownership
- Strong political commitment to RE& EE by African leaders representing the 5 regions in the Board of Directors
- A lean, efficient and cost-effective Delivery Unit (IDU). - A committed, determined and consistent Technical Committee (CT),
- The effects of the pandemic and conflicts have had a negative impact on the progress of AREI, but have also helped shape the priorities of AREI Phase 2 towards the goal of 300 GW by 2030, which will certainly require a readjustment of governance and ncreased technical support and investment in ER and EE in Africa.

The forum recognizes
- the initial positive results of AREI Phase 1 Pre-Evaluation Report (10GW-2020)
206 projects adopted - 14 currently being adopted representing for 60% of the European subsidy the 10Gw and 40% invested in energy efficiency - and one inter-regional project that can be supported with the remaining amount of the European subsidy - Fomi and a pool of over 650 projects labeled by the Technical Committee are available on the continent
- Unique features that enabled the positive outcomes of Phase 1 were identified and recognized as important to the success of Phase 2

1. African initiative owned and led by Heads of State, covering the entire continent as a NETWORK;
2. Political support from the African Union, support from the AUC and recognition by the international community: COP, major energy partners and development banks.
3. Flexible functioning, non-formal hierarchy, direct links between CT, IDU and Heads of State;
4. Ability to promote under a single initiative all renewable energy technologies and measures for EE, including policies and regulatory frameworks for the African continent.

- Discussions during the three-day forum highlighted various critical issues regarding the development of the RE EE sector in Africa as well as the priority areas that AREI will address in its Phase 2 as follows
- ***The need to recognize energy and particularly green energy as a direct link against global warming***
- ***Considering green energy as a universal right of the world populations and particularly African, unjust victims of global warming and its consequences***

- ***Enable the integration of renewable energy as a common basis for all SDG-related investments, so that a % of the project budget be systematically allocated to renewable energy***

The need for institutional upgrading of countries that have not yet adopted RE and EE policies. Promote advocacy to increase political efforts on the mobilization of national resources for RE and EE.

- AREI after this FORUM appeals to investors from international development institutions, philanthropic funds and various initiatives, organizations, with financial resources to promote the acceleration of project development and implementation by partners as well as the minimization of implementation time, in terms of renewable energy in order to simultaneously combat global warming

- ***The FORUM recognizes the need to increase convergence, harmonization and synergies between different institutions and partners working in the sector such as the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB and others to leverage various strengths and capacities***

- Help countries to identify the most relevant market challenges with civil society in order to allow ownership by the populations of the projects in terms of renewable energy and the fight against global warming

Have a vision for 2050

Global renewable energy outlook through studies and peer support, in order to engage more investments in green hydrogen of which Africa holds more than 50% of the world's resources as presented by IRENA

- The Forum therefore strongly recognizes the ambitious target of the second phase of AREI of 300 GW by 2030 and its unwavering de facto commitment to the fight against global warming, which requires a people-centered approach and creates a core workforce of skills at all levels and therefore promotes the idea of the **AREI Academy** towards a pan-African pre-university level initiative

AREI Academy could support three key elements:

1. Mapping and tracking

There are over 350 energy initiatives and they need to be mapped in quantity and monitored in quality (what has been their impact?). AREI needs to be equipped with best practices (and learn from bad practices) that can represent a regional focus.

2. Holistic Approach

The 300 GW target requires the ability to carefully deliver effective projects that are planned according to a well-defined comprehensive labeling/protocol/methodology that begins with a needs analysis and ends with an impact assessment.

3. Activate local expertise

It will be relevant to stimulate closer cooperation between local universities and policy makers for the benefit of societal development in the field of just energy transition.

AREI after this Forum, commits to a higher visibility during phase 2 - focused on digital in order to enable the whole initiative and its committed actors - especially civil society - to be an active player in preserving our planet together while participating in the minimum achievement of 300 GW of renewable energy by 2030