



2018 RES4Med&Africa Annual

Conference Brief

22 June 2018 - Rome



RES4Med&Africa Presentation Video

Highlights

- **RES4MED&Africa hosted its 7th Annual Conference, “A call for Africa: Enabling Sustainable Projects”**, dedicated to sustainability and bankability of renewable energy projects at the Enel Auditorium in Rome. Held under the patronage of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in collaboration with Enel Green Power, the event gathered more than 230 participants and over 30 speakers from key institutional and international organizations as well as private sector companies and international financing institutions (IFIs).



Roberto Vigotti, RES4Med&Africa's Secretary General, and Joy Doreen Biira open the Annual Conference.

The theme of this year's Annual Conference was dedicated to the sustainability and bankability of renewable energy projects, and how they can create real value for Africa's sustainable development and growth. Renewable energy solutions, both large-scale and decentralized, are economically competitive, rapidly deployable, reliable and clean. Besides ensuring access to power to Africa's growing population, they foster economic growth and are the backbone for sustainable development.



“Today, sustainability must be an integral part of business and not simply the mitigation effort on past actions of an economic cycle. RES4Med&Africa recognises this strategic focus as a key element to accelerating Africa’s clean energy transition. We believe occasions like these provide the perfect opportunity, for both private and public stakeholders, to evaluate the situation and to plan possible future scenarios”.
RES4Med&Africa’s President and Enel Green Power CEO **Antonio Cammisecra**.



“As the business case for renewables is going mainstream, the next frontier is to make the renewable energy transition truly sustainable by ensuring the economic, environmental and social sustainability of renewable energy projects in Africa”.
RES4Med&Africa’s Secretary General **Roberto Vigotti**.

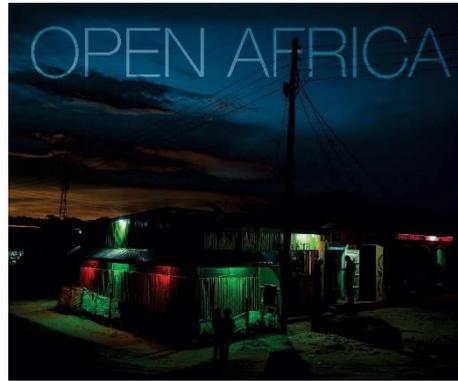
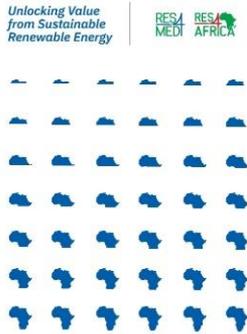


"Africa needs access to electricity that is reliable, affordable and clean. Today, as renewables are fiercely competitive, scalable and sustainable, most of the continent can be empowered with renewable energy solutions, which represent a real solution for Africa's energy future".

Enel CEO **Francesco Starace**.

The morning session on sustainability saw panellist speakers coming from international and regional organizations and private companies highlighting among others, the necessity of local capacity building, of a multi-stakeholder inclusive approach and of enabling policies to ensure the economic, social and environmental sustainability of renewable energy projects. During the afternoon session on accelerating sustainable energy investments in Africa, representatives of international and development financing institutions (DFIs) and private sector actors exchanged ideas on key issues regarding de-risking investments, enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, and innovative business models.

During the conference, two new RES4MED&Africa publications were presented. [Unlocking Value from Sustainable Renewable Energy](#) the first in a series of annual features, gathers multi-stakeholder and pluri-disciplinary insights from RES4MED&Africa's members and partners on what is needed to scale renewables and make Africa's sustainable energy future a reality. [Open Africa](#) is a RES4Africa project that aims to visually illustrate how access to sustainable energy in Africa positively impacts African livelihoods. Composed of a photo book and a web documentary, the project was launched during a dedicated side event of the Annual Conference, while the conference included an exhibition space displaying photographs contained in the book. Both projects were developed in partnership with Enel Foundation.



High-level presence and contributions included a keynote address by Francesco Starace, CEO of Enel, followed by speeches by Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of IRENA, and Francesco La Camera, Director General for Sustainable Development, EU & International Affairs of Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea.

Ministerial key messages were given by Minister Plenary Massimo Gaiani, Director General for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy; H.E. Frehiwot Woldehanna, State Minister of Electricity of Ethiopia; H.E. Joseph Njoroge, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Energy of Kenya; H.E. Hassan Abouyoub, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Italy; H.E. Sheldon Moulton, Vice Ambassador of South Africa to Italy; and Mr. Chahar Boulakhras, President, General Director of SKTM, representing the Ministry of Energy of Algeria.

On the sidelines of the conference a high-level bilateral meeting was held between Hon. Joseph Njoroge, Principal Secretary of Ministry of Energy of Kenya, and Francesco La Camera, to discuss areas of cooperation and future activities in the field of climate change vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation, following the MoU signed at the [RES4Africa RES-EXPO](#) event in Nairobi last January 2018.





[Click here for more photos of the Annual Conference.](#)

More information

- [All conference proceedings are available for download here.](#)
- [Promuovere la generazione da fonti rinnovabili ed estendere le reti di trasmissione, InfoAfrica](#)
- [Africa: perché non accelera la transizione energetica?, Nuova Energia](#)

For more information feel free to contact us at communication@res4med.org, or visit www.res4med.org and res4africa.org.

Renewable Energy Solutions for the Mediterranean & Africa (RES4MED&Africa) is an association that promotes the deployment of large scale and decentralized RE & EE in Southern-Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan African markets to meet local energy needs for growth. Since 2012, RES4MED&Africa gathers a member network from across the clean energy value chain and supports the creation of an enabling environment for renewable energy investments and strategic partnerships.