



Sustainability and bankability of renewables take centre stage at RES4MED&Africa Annual Conference

22 June 2018, Rome - RES4MED&Africa hosts 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 gathers more than 200 participants and over 30 speakers from key institutional and international organizations as well as private sector companies and international financing institutions. For its 2018 edition, the Annual Conference is dedicated to discussing how sustainable and bankable renewable energy investments can create real value for Africa’s development and growth.

As every year, the conference offers an ideal platform for strategic public-private dialogue on how to accelerate Africa’s clean energy transition. This year brings together the leadership of African and international public and private sector actors in a high-level discussion on ensuring the sustainability and bankability of renewable energy projects in Africa. The conference is opened by Roberto Vigotti, RES4MED&Africa Secretary General, and Antonio Cammisecra, President of RES4MED&Africa and CEO Enel Green Power. *“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”* states **Antonio Cammisecra**. *“We therefore believe occasions like these provide the perfect opportunity, for both private and public stakeholders, to evaluate the situation and to plan possible future scenarios”*.

The key objective of the conference is to shape the way forward on boosting public and private renewable energy investments in Africa that are economically, environmentally and socially sustainable. *“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”* adds RES4MED&Africa’s Secretary General **Roberto Vigotti**.

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

The event is also graced with ministerial presence and key messages 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.

During the Annual Conference, RES4MED&Africa launches its new flagship publication, *“Unlocking Value from Sustainable Renewable Energy”*, developed in cooperation with Enel Foundation. The publication, 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.



The event also provides the occasion for high-level bilateral meetings: one is held between Hon. Joseph Njoroge, Principal Secretary of Kenyan Ministry of Energy, and Mr. Francesco La Camera, Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, to discuss future activities regarding the field of climate change vulnerability, risk assessment, adaptation and mitigation, and financing, following an MoU signed at the RES4Africa RES-EXPO event in Nairobi last January 2018.

For more information please visit www.res4med.org or write to communication@res4med.org

Renewable Energy Solutions for the Mediterranean & Africa (RES4MED&Africa) is an association that promotes the deployment of large scale and decentralized renewable energy 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.

Enel Green Power, the renewable energies division of the Enel Group, is dedicated to the development and operation of renewables across the world, with a presence in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Oceania. Enel Green Power is a global leader in the green energy sector with a managed capacity of around 42 GW across a generation mix that includes wind, solar, geothermal, biomass and hydropower, and is at the forefront of integrating innovative technologies into renewable power plants. EGP is also one of the founding members of RES4MED.



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