



Green people's energy for Africa – local, people-centric and renewable

More than half the population of Africa has no access to electricity. This problem particularly affects rural areas and the slums in major cities. Without access to a secure electricity supply, development is not possible for them. Furthermore, Africa's energy demand is going to carry on rising – by 2040, it is likely to be 80% higher than it is today.

At the same time, Africa is the first continent that could be able to supply its energy needs entirely from renewable sources. The necessary technologies already exist. Africa also has a broad basis for sustainable agricultural production and a young population full of entrepreneurial spirit and innovative force.

OUR GOALS ARE

- to develop decentralised energy structures in rural regions with the help of sub-national authorities, cooperatives and private-sector investments
- to strengthen sub-national African authorities for the task of providing affordable, reliable and sustainable energy
- to improve regional and trans-boundary energy supply networks
- to expand vocational training in the energy sector
- to avoid any further increase in the use of carbon-based fuels in Africa

OUR APPROACH: GREEN PEOPLE'S ENERGY FOR AFRICA

In Germany, there are already more than 900 energy cooperatives in which some 160,000 people are actively involved as members. They are the societal backbone of the energy transition. We want to use their knowledge and know-how to develop green people's energy in Africa, building on existing European and international initiatives and our bilateral cooperation with 27 African countries.

Decentralised supply structures and small-scale grids based on renewable energy sources (solar,

wind, biomass and hydropower) are to be the basis for bringing together many small generators of power to form stable networks. Decentralised green people's energy will thus contribute to the development of a green energy system that of course includes transmission and distribution lines, and also regenerative (central) power stations.

The funding for setting up decentralised supply structures will need to come above all from the private sector, and from local authorities and cooperatives.

Together with our partners we want to work on creating new, future-proof jobs and vocational prospects:

→ For example, farmers can use solar-powered water pumps to irrigate their fields.

→ Green isolated grids can be used to light public spaces, markets and schools, or to cool medicines and food.

→ Tradespeople and industrial manufacturers can operate their machines without interruption, thus increasing their productivity and creating additional jobs.

OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WE WANT TO ...

- establish 100 people's energy partnerships with Africa that communities and individuals from Germany can get involved in directly;
- support eight African countries in creating a political and administrative framework for people's energy cooperatives;
- supply at least 500 other businesses (micro enterprises, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – at least 50% of them in the agricultural sector) with green energy;
- support the efforts of 500 local and community players in eight African countries to develop business plans (incl. innovative payment systems) and concrete projects;
- further strengthen vocational education and training in the energy sector with a new "Energy Training Initiative".

