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PRESS RELEASE

Empowering Africa

AEEP-Status Report highlights first achievements and triggers further tasks

Progress in all areas – but there is still more to do. This is the short sum-up of the Status Report of the Africa-EU-Energy Partnership (AEEP) which was published during the 2nd AEEP High Level Meeting, taking place 11-13 February in Addis Ababa. More than 450 participants are gathered at the Headquarters of the African Union to learn about developments in the AEEP.

The report highlights positive trends towards meeting some of the AEEP's political targets. The renewable energy generation capacity increased steadily and is expected to increase even stronger over the next years. Hydroelectric power capacity rose from 26,752 MW in 2010 to 27,546 MW in 2012. Up to 25 MW are scheduled to be build. Wind power capacity has increased from 1,080 MW in 2010 to 1,192 MW in 2012. Solar capacity has started at a low level of 77 MW in 2010 and has reached 123 MW in 2012.

According to the report, access to electricity rose from 32.8 percent in 2000 to 38.3 percent in 2010. Access to non-solid cooking fuel, which is used as an indicator for access to modern, sustainable fuel, rose from 29.3 percent in 2000 to 33.2 percent in 2010. There is also a slight increase in the indicators for energy security and energy efficiency. However, it is not sure if the ambitious AEEP targets can be met until 2020. „We need to redouble our joint efforts“, says H.E. Gary Quince, Head of the Delegation of the EU to the African Union. Next steps in the AEEP include further engagement for the 2020 targets which are closely monitored by the AEEP secretariat.

A main problem is the incoherent situation of data available all over the continent. Several numbers had to remain estimation because of a lack of liable data. Nevertheless, the Status Report enables participants in the energy sector to refer to a summary of information on the current situation in Africa.

More than three years ago, the AEEP was officially launched at a first High Level Meeting in Vienna as a follow-up to the 2007 Africa-EU summit in Lisbon. “I'm very pleased that what was started in Vienna three years ago has elevated to such a high-level meeting today,” says Ingmar Stelter, EUEI PDF Programme Manager, while presenting the Status Report. Guests and speakers at the Second AEEP High Level Meeting include senior representatives from the African Union, the European Commission, African and European governments, and of non-governmental organizations and companies dealing with the energy sector.

Contact

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