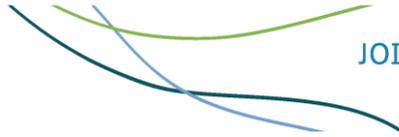




Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



JOINT CLIMATE ACTION –
SHAPING OUR FUTURE

BMZ Side Event

Green People's Energy for Africa: Empowering people to generate their own renewable energies

11 December 2018, 14.00 – 14.45

**German Pavilion (E11)
UNFCCC COP24, Katowice, Poland**

As of 30 November 2018

Renewable energy produced and productively used by citizens offers a secure and sustainable energy supply and new opportunities for local economies.

600 million people in Africa have no access to electricity. 75% of them live in rural areas. Whether urban or rural, development is not possible without energy.

This growing energy demand in Africa can be served by renewable energy sources in a more beneficial way to the environment, climate, and health of the population than by fossil fuels. Energy expansion in Africa is possible without further carbonisation.

Africa has the chance to be the first continent with a self-sufficient renewable energy supply. The necessary technologies already exist. In many parts of Africa, decentralized renewable energy is even the most cost-efficient option.

Through the “Green People's Energy for Africa” initiative, community groups, cooperatives and municipalities are empowered to generate and productively use decentralized energy supplies of solar, water, wind and biomass to produce light or to run water pumps, mills, air conditioners, refrigerators, dryers and more. Small electricity grids owned by community groups have the potential to generate sources of income and jobs. Furthermore, by interconnecting these small grids a secure provision of electricity can be achieved, thereby strengthening the communities they serve. Such an approach would at the same time address several of the sustainable development goals.

How can community groups, cooperatives, associations and municipalities gain access to decentralized energy from the sun, water, wind and biomass, and at the same time ensure a stable, low-emission energy supply that permits economic development? Where do such decentralized energy suppliers already operate? How do they serve the affected populations?

Ms Bärbel Höhn, the BMZ Special Representative for Energy in Africa, will share updates on Federal Minister Müller's „Green People's Energy for Africa” initiative. Examples from Africa demonstrate how energy production and jobs creation are connected and why small, decentralized structures provide relevant alternatives to large power stations.

Programme (As of 30 November 2018)

14.00	Welcome by Moderators <i>Dorothea Otreмба, Senior Consultant, GIZ</i> <i>Video from Ghana</i>	
14.05	<i>Impulse 1</i> Green People's Energy: Multiple benefits <i>Bärbel Höhn, BMZ Special Representative for Energy in Africa and former State Minister of Environment and Agriculture of North Rhine-Westphalia, MdB a.d., Oberhausen, Germany</i>	
14.15	<i>Impulse 2</i> How citizens are taking the production of renewable energy into their own hands <i>Manuel Araújo, Mayor, Quelimane, Mozambique & Member of ICLEI's Global Executive Committee</i>	
14.25	Questions from participants	
14.40	Summary, thank participants and conclude	
14.45	Snacks and drinks are available outside	



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Thematic cluster: Innovations towards a climate neutral and resilient economy (4)

Further information: www.german-climate-pavilion.de/ and www.bmz.de/en/cop24

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