

# TOWARD ENERGY TRANSITION IN AFRICA

## Understanding and Ensuring Just Energy Transitions in Africa



August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Tunis, Cité de la Culture

Théâtre des jeunes créateurs

With the participation of



Japan International  
Cooperation Agency



NATIONAL AGENCY FOR  
ENERGY CONSERVATION  
**ANME**  
A sustainable and renewable engagement



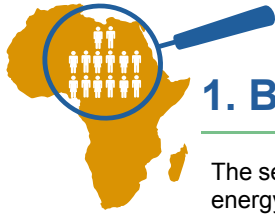
# Concept Note

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## TOWARD ENERGY TRANSITION IN AFRICA

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# 1. Background

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The seventh Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) calls for universal energy access by 2030. This means that urgent steps should be taken to facilitate access for the **580 million Africans** without access to electricity today. However, this effort must be guided by the commitments made by African leaders during COP 26 in Glasgow in 2021. The **Glasgow Climate Pact** stresses the need for the world to move away from high-polluting fossil fuels for energy production and transition to more sustainable energy sources. This has serious implications for Africa. First, the transition shifts the focus to the **900 million** without access to clean energy. Second, it poses a dilemma for almost one-third of African economies that are dependent on hydrocarbons. Third, it has poverty implications that include inevitable job losses, as well as the potentially increased costs of sustainable energy. Fourth, the transition could exacerbate inequalities with women, youth and those living outside large cities disproportionately disadvantaged.

Energy transitions are shifts in the way people produce and consume energy using different technologies and sources. A low-carbon energy transition is a type of energy transition involving a shift from high-carbon energy sources such as oil, gas and coal to low-carbon and zero-carbon energy sources such as renewables and within fossil fuels from coal and oil to natural gas or from unsustainably produced biomass to other sources. This is the goal inherent in Africa's SDG7 and COP26 commitments.

The task of providing universal access is not made easier by the rapid population growth, which may increase from 1.4 million in 2022 to 2 million in 2040 and almost double, to **2.5 million**, in 2050. With a goal of at least 75 million new access per year through 2030 to meet SDG7, further action is required. Reaching SDG7 goals on cooking implies that almost 1 billion people in sub-Saharan Africa move away from the traditional use of solid biomass to alternative fuels (LPG, ethanol, natural gas, and electricity) by 2030. This transition would require tripling the average number of people gaining access per year from around 20 million today to over 60 million people a year with investment to match, increasing from the current **USD 26 million to 50-60 million** a year.

Africa has vast resource potential in wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal energy. Hydropower also remains a cornerstone of sub-Saharan Africa's power system, while falling costs will increasingly bring solar within reach. Wind and geothermal will be important where resources are available. Better regional cooperation and integration of power networks will be instrumental in unlocking hydropower's huge

potential and distributing the electricity generated. An energy system centered on renewable energy can help resolve many of Africa's social, economic, health and environmental challenges. Economies of scale, a huge domestic market and the large spectrum of renewable energy options are key drivers for a sustainable energy mix with a large and rapidly expanding share of renewable energy. This huge increase in renewable energy deployment will also provide unprecedented opportunities for the development of a domestic, African industry for manufacturing and assembly of energy-relevant technologies (if facilitated by the right domestic and regional policies).

Africa has abundant mineral resources essential to the production of electric batteries, wind turbines, and fuel cells, such as manganese, copper, lithium, cobalt, chromium and platinum. These form important export commodities in the global market transitioning towards zero carbon. However, the benefits Africa will derive from the energy transition will also depend on the extent to which raw material producers invest in and develop processing capacity further up the value chain.

Building infrastructure for the green energy transition will require a significant scale-up in investment. The level of investment required to achieve universal access in Sub-Saharan Africa is estimated by the IEA (2018) to be **\$55 billion** per year, of which \$25 billion for clean cooking, which is double the current rates of investment. One estimate, also by IEA, is that annual investment in the power sector as a whole needs to increase to about \$100 billion a year, a four-fold increase compared to the current value. The **"Financing net-zero roadmaps"** (prepared for COP26) mention decarbonization investments in energy and transport in the order of **\$200-300 billion** a year in Africa over the period 2026-2050 and \$100 billion per year over 2021-2025.

These are mind-boggling figures and raise the question of how such a level of investment can be mobilized. Because of low domestic savings rates and tax revenues, many African countries cannot finance the required infrastructure domestically. There are limits to what governments can do, given their fiscal constraints, and state-owned utilities are mostly in a weak financial position. Thus, investments in large energy projects tend to be supported by international finance and development institutions and could be financed through sustainable finance mechanisms. The remaining issue is the access to sustainable finance.

In the power generation, larger scale have been more reliant on public financing, while renewables have been more financed with private sources. Supportive policies and regulations, as well as maturing markets, have helped attract private sector investment into mini-grids and stand-alone systems.

There will be winners and losers in Africa's energy transition. For example, jobs will be lost in the coal and (informal) charcoal sectors that currently provide

livelihood for millions. Some regions and countries will benefit, while other regions and countries will see an economic and social decline. The net wealth created may be concentrated in the hands of the happy few, while the gap between the wealthy and the poor is likely to increase. These points were raised in a joint 2021 publication by UNDP and the UN Capital Development Fund titled: **Energy and the Poor: Unpacking the Investment Case for Clean Energy**. Failing to address these potential injustices will leave the sustainable development goals unfulfilled, generate widespread suffering, and even risk derailing the transition through widespread resistance. Hence, the Paris Agreement calls for “just transitions”, i.e., transitions to environmentally sustainable societies in which no one is left behind.

As the host of TICAD8, to be organized at this critical juncture for sustainable development of the continent amid global crisis with the impact of the War in Ukraine, COVID-19, and climate change, the Government of Tunisia will host a series of side-event to advocate for key development and investment agendas in Africa.

As part of the official programme of TICAD8, this side event intitled “Understanding and Ensuring Just Energy Transitions in Africa” is organized by the Tunisian ministry of industry, mines and energy, the National Agency for Energy Conservation (ANME) in partnership with UNDP and is focusing on Just Energy Transition in Africa. The Government of Tunisia, through its Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, is currently developing its national energy transition strategy for 2035, which guarantees the supply of clean, accessible, and affordable energy for all Tunisian citizens and for economic activities focusing on Security of Supply, Decarbonization, Just Transition, and Inclusive Economic Development. The main goals of Tunisia national transition strategy are to reduce its energy demand by 30%, raise the renewable electricity production to 35% and reduce its carbon intensity by 45% to pave the way for carbon neutrality. Tunisia will need to benefit from the opportunities offered by a just transition that involves innovative technologies, capacity building and in particular on sustainable finance to meet its transition goals.



## 2. Objectives

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This event will explore the following issues:

What would a just energy transition look like across Africa's diverse contexts? Justice for whom? Should the focus be on accessibility? Or affordability? What are the development implications within the context of the SDGs?

Which energy mix would be most appropriate for Africa's energy transition? What are the merits and demerits of a phased transition?

How would African countries finance a sustainable energy transition? What sustainable financing instruments are available to African countries? What steps could be taken to de-risk (or pool risks) for sustainable energy investments? Would regional approaches facilitate financing? Is creating a "TICAD energy Transition Fund or TICAD sustainable finance fund" could be as part of the solution?

What steps could be taken to ensure affordability and accessibility for traditionally marginalized individuals and communities? How could we ensure that no one or no region is left behind?

What role could development organizations (like UNDP, UNIDO) play in supporting and facilitating a just energy transition across Africa? How would the post-Ukraine war weakening of multilateralism affect prospects for Africa's just energy transition?



### 3. Expected Results

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The expected results are as follows:

- ✓ The challenges of a just energy transition in Africa are identified and shared by the various stakeholders.
- ✓ Good practices and lessons learned from the implementation of national just energy transition strategies are shared to guide future actions undertaken by countries.
- ✓ The reforms and mechanisms put in place to facilitate energy transition policies consider the issues of just transition and the necessary adjustments identified.
- ✓ Broaden international advocacy so that the financing of the African energy transition takes into account the fair and equitable dimension.

### 4. Organization and side event format

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- **Date:** August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- **Duration:** : 1H30, from 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm
- **Format:** Hybrid
- **Venue:** Cité de la culture, Théâtre des jeunes créateurs
- **Registration and online participation link:**

[https://undp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hyNIIDdSSO29xspAfirLnQ](https://undp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hyNIIDdSSO29xspAfirLnQ)

- **Numbers of participants** : 40

## 5. Participants



### National participants:

National Agency for Energy Conservation, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, Ministry Environment; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Trade; Ministry of Economy and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries, Minister for the Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, Mayors of partners cities, The Tunisian Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, the Tunisian Caisse des Prêts et de Soutien des Collectivités Locales, The Tunisian Instance Générale de Prospection et d'Accompagnement de Processus Décentralisé, Tunisian Electricity and Gas Company; Trade union representatives, University, academics and researchers, Representatives of private and financial sectors.



### International participants:

Representatives of the African Association of Energy Conservation Institutions (AFRENER), International cooperation Partners: European Commission, World Bank, The Agence Française de Développement, KfW development bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International Labour Organization, UNWOMEN, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Food Programme, Japan International Cooperation Agency, UNHABITAT, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Development Programme, Swiss Cooperation in Tunisia.





## 6. Programme

### 2:30pm - 2:40pm Welcome and Opening remarks

- **Mr. Achim Steiner**, Administrator  
*United Nations Development Programme*
- **Ms. Neila Nouira Gongi**, Minister  
*Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of Tunisia*

#### Moderator

- **Mr. Sami Marrouki**, Energy and Climate Change specialist, Tunisia

### 2:40pm - 2:50pm Keynote presentation on Just Energy Transition in Africa

- **Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa**, Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director for Africa  
*United Nations Development Programme*

#### Moderator

- **Mr. Raymond Gilpin**, Chief, Strategic Analysis and Research Team  
*Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP*

### 2:50pm - 3:20pm Introduction of Panel

- **Mr. Sami Marrouki**, Energy and Climate Change specialist, Tunisia

#### Panel discussion

- **Mr. Fethi Hanchi**, General director  
*National Agency for Energy conservation*
- **Ms. Damilola Ogunbiyi**, Chief Executive Officer  
*Sustainable Energy for All*
- **Mr. Victor Djemba**, Chief of Africa Regional Division  
*United Nations Industrial Development Organization*
- **Dr. Katsuya Kuge**, Senior Director, Energy and Mining Group, Infrastructure Management Department  
*Japan International Cooperation Agency*

- **Dr. Daniel Schroth**, *Director of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency*  
*African Development Bank*

#### Moderators

- **Mr. Sami Marrouki**, *Energy and Climate Change specialist, Tunisia*
- **Mr. Raymond Gilpin**, *Chief, Strategic Analysis and Research Team*  
*Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP*

#### Rapporteurs

- **Hassen EL Agrebi**, *National Agency for Energy Conservation*
- **Ms. Dorra Essafi**, *United Nations Development Programme*

### 3:20pm - 3:55pm Questions & Answers session

#### Moderators

- **Mr. Sami Marrouki**, *Energy and Climate Change specialist, Tunisia*
- **Mr. Raymond Gilpin**, *Chief, Strategic Analysis and Research Team*  
*Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP*

### 3:55pm - 4:00pm Wrap-up

#### Moderators

- **Mr. Sami Marrouki**, *Energy and Climate Change specialist, Tunisia*
- **Mr. Raymond Gilpin**, *Chief, Strategic Analysis and Research Team*  
*Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP*

## 7. Biographies

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**Mr. Achim Steiner,**  
*Administrator, United Nations  
Development Programme*

Achim Steiner became UNDP Administrator on 19 June 2017. The United Nations General Assembly confirmed his appointment following his nomination by Secretary-General António Guterres. In April 2021, the General Assembly confirmed his appointment to a second four-year term beginning in June 2021. Mr. Steiner is also the Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, which unites 40 entities of the UN system that work to support sustainable development. Over nearly three decades, Achim Steiner has been a global leader on sustainable development, climate resilience and international cooperation. He has worked tirelessly to champion sustainability, economic growth and equality for the vulnerable, and has been a vocal advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals. Prior to joining UNDP, he was Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow of Balliol College, University of Oxford. Mr Steiner has served across the United Nations system, looking at global challenges from both a humanitarian and a development perspective. He led the United Nations Environment Programme (2006-2016), helping governments invest in clean technologies and renewable energy. He was also Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi. Achim Steiner previously held other notable positions including Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Secretary General of the World Commission on Dams. Achim Steiner has lived and worked in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Latin America and the United States. He graduated in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (MA) from Worcester College, Oxford University and holds an MA from the University of London/School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS).



**Ms. Neila Noura Gongi,**  
*Minister, Ministry of Industry, Mines and  
Energy of Tunisia*

Since October 2021, named as Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy.

Ms. Neila Noura Gongi was Graduated from the National School of Administration of Tunis as “Conseiller des Services Publics” in 1985 and from the National Institute of Defense (IDN), 23rd promotion.

She served later as a responsible of bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the Ministry of National Economy and she was a permanent representative of the Ministry for the negotiations with the European Commission and the World Trade Organisation.

In 1995, she served as a Director of International Cooperation within the Ministry of Industry and as a General Director of Industrial Strategies within the same Ministry from 2003 to 2006. She also served as CEO of Monastir-El Fejja Competitiveness Pole (MFCPOLE) from 2006 until 2021.

Ms. Neila Noura Gongi has extensive work experience in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy and she has significant experience in implementing industrial development strategies:

- Her last position as the CEO of MFCPOLE allowed her to develop, under a public and private partnership scheme, the components of the competitiveness pole including Monastir Technopark for Textiles and Materials. It allowed her also to acquire/ put into practice specific know how on Technoparks management, research and innovation facilitation, clusters governance and technology startups assistance.
- Her complementary skills and trainings cover the fields of negotiation management, certificates of origin, Intellectual Property, policy evaluation, innovation management, management of European projects.
- She was an active member of several associations, among them, the Tunisian Technoparks Association which she presided for eight years.



**Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa,**  
*Assistant Secretary General  
and Regional Director for Africa,  
United Nations Development  
Programme*

She leads over 4000 staff implementing a \$1.2 billion annual development programme in 46 African countries. She is deeply passionate about equality, inclusion, reshaping narratives on Africa, mobilizing for youth entrepreneurs and the dignity of Africa's people. Her vision "Africa's Promise: The UNDP Renewed Strategic Offer in Africa" employs an opportunity lens to development practice in Africa. She established the Africa Influencers for Development (AI4D) to ensure that Africa's Money works for Africa's Development; the Africa Young Women Leaders Initiative; Africa Innovates Magazine; and the Africa Borderlands Centre. She leads UNDP Africa socioeconomic response and recovery from COVID 19 and (Co) Chairs the UN Africa Regional Collaborative Platform which oversees implementation of the Secretary General's regional UN reform. She spent 10 years as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ethiopia, Uganda, and Lesotho. As Chief (Africa) at UN OCHA, she led response to natural disasters, emergencies and transitions to recovery. Before the UN, Ms. Eziakonwa worked for "Initiatives of Change" serving as international coordinator of its' "Creators of Peace – Women's Initiative". She is an alumni of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School Executive Programme and has a Bachelors in Education from University of Benin Nigeria.



**Mr. Fethi Hanchi,**  
*General director, National Agency  
for Energy conservation*

Graduated in mechanical engineering, Mr. Hanchi has more than 22 years of experience in the field of energy efficiency. He has been actively involved in the reform of the energy sector in Tunisia and has contributed to the design, implementation and evaluation of energy efficiency programs in the country. Since 2011, F. Hanchi has been Director of the Energy Rational Use Division at ANME. In this respect, he was in charge of the management and coordination of energy efficiency programs and activities in the tertiary, residential, building and transport sectors in Tunisia. Its portfolio includes a contribution to the development of national programs for energy efficiency in the public sector, energy efficiency agreements with local authorities, as well as national and Mediterranean cooperation projects. He has a solid experience in the economic and management aspects of energy efficiency. Since March 2019, he has been appointed central technical director of ANME, and from June 2020, he has been appointed Director General of ANME.



**Ms. Damilola Ogunbiyi,**  
*Chief Executive Officer,  
Sustainable Energy for All*

Damilola Ogunbiyi was the Managing Director of the Rural Electrification Agency of Nigeria from May 2017 to December 2019. She was also the Senior Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, and Head of the Advisory Power Team within the Office of the Vice-President. Ms. Ogunbiyi is a commentator on renewable energy access, the Sustainable Development Goals and the inclusion of women and youth in the energy sector. She has written about the importance of energy access for health-care services during the COVID-19 pandemic and how energy access can support economic recovery from the pandemic in countries like Nigeria. She is a Commissioner for the international think-tank the Energy Transitions Commission, and a Commissioner for the Global Commission to End Energy Poverty, an initiative by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Rockefeller Foundation.



**Mr. Victor Djemba**

*Chief of Africa Regional Division,  
United Nations Industrial Development  
Organization*

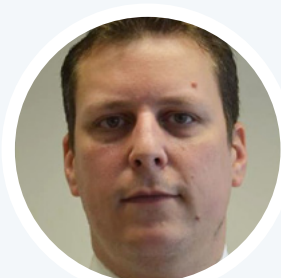
Mr. Victor Djemba is the United Nations Industrial Development (UNIDO) Chief, Regional Division for Africa. Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Djemba served as the UNIDO Representative in Senegal with coverage of Cabo-Verde, The Gambia, GuineaBissau and Mauritania from 2013-2018. From 2007 to 2013, he was based in Vienna, coordinating country-level operations regarding inter alia the implementation of the United Nations Secretary-General High-Level Panel recommendations on UN System-wide Coherence and “Delivering as One” initiative as well as UNIDO’s contribution in the consultation processes for the formulation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. Mr. Djemba joined UNIDO in 1996 as an Associate Expert and worked in Madagascar and Côte d’Ivoire for seven consecutive years. Before joining UNIDO, he worked in the private sector in France.



**Dr. Katsuya Kuge,**

*Senior Director, Energy and Mining  
Group, Infrastructure Management  
Department, Japan International  
Cooperation Agency*

Dr. Kuge joined JICA in 2002. He was stationed in Africa for 7 years, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Kenya. He has vast experience in energy, peacebuilding and agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Currently he is leading Africa power pool and energy transition as head of Energy and Mining Group. He obtained his PhD degree in Engineering from the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan.



**Dr. Daniel Schroth,**  
*Director of Renewable Energy  
and Energy Efficiency, African  
Development Bank*

Dr. Daniel-Alexander Schroth is the Director for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency at the African Development Bank. In this capacity he oversees the Bank's lending and non-lending activities in the renewable energy, energy efficiency and clean cooking space. He is also responsible for the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), the Bank's largest blended finance facility, and the Desert to Power Initiative. He was previously the coordinator of the Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) Africa Hub hosted by the AfDB in partnership with the AU, NEPAD and UNDP. Daniel also coordinated the Africa Climate Technology and Finance Center project, the Green Mini-Grid Market Development Program and the Bank's involvement in the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund. Daniel has extensive experience in energy policy and renewable energy. Prior to joining the AfDB, he worked for several years for the European Commission in both headquarters and the field, for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and in the private sector. Daniel serves in several steering and oversight committees. Daniel holds a Ph.D. and Masters in International Relations with a focus on international energy policy from the University of Cambridge, and business degrees from Reims Management School and the European School of Business (ESB) Reutlingen.





**Mr. Raymond Gilpin,**  
*Chief Strategy, Analysis & Research  
Team, UNDP Regional Bureau for  
Africa*

Dr. Gilpin is the Chief Strategy, Analysis & Research Team, in the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa. Prior to joining UNDP, he was the Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies in Washington DC and Economics Director at the United States Institute of Peace. He has also held senior positions at the Central Bank of Sierra Leone, the African Development Bank, and the World Bank. Raymond was inducted into the Martin Luther King Collegium of Scholars at the historic Morehouse College in Atlanta in 2015 for his work on economics and peace.



**Mr. Sami Marrouki,**  
*Energy and Climate Change specialist,  
Tunisia*

Sami Marrouki has been an energy engineer since 1989 with more than 30 years experience, half of which in the public sector and the other half in the private sector as an international consultant in energy and environment and industrial entrepreneur. He is expert in energy efficiency and renewable energy, environmental techniques and climate change as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Sami Marrouki is the Board Chair of the United Nations Global Compact Network Tunisia since its creation in September 2015 and President of the Institute of Corporate Social Responsibility of Tunisia (IRSET) since 2014. He is also Vice President of the Tunisian Cluster of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (TuniCREEE).

