



CONTACT PERSON /

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SPEAKER BRIEFING

TARGET 2030: REINFORCING THE AFRICA-EUROPE ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

SDG 7 PAVILION – SIDE EVENT AT COP26

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2021 / 15:45-16:45 GMT
ON-SITE / ZOOM AND LIVESTREAM

CONTEXT /

As Africa and Europe seek to re-set their partnership, the Africa-Europe Foundation is engaging with a host of diverse voices from youth leaders, its network, partners, and key stakeholder from both continents on the long-term vision to shape a common pathway by 2030. Looking at the diverging and converging issues at the heart of this established cooperation, the Africa Europe Foundation's goal is to facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue, catalyse partnerships and unlock new opportunities that can transform Africa-Europe relations into action.

As part of COP 26, the Africa-Europe Foundation in partnership with the African Climate Foundation and Sustainable Energy for All will be hosted by the South-African and SDG 7 Pavilions. Our side events will focus on strategically positioning the two continents on the international stage, hearing from an intergenerational panel of key voices to share their views on how to empower and accelerate the impact and reach of this partnership in the lead up to the Africa-Europe Summit, crucially looking ahead to COP 27 in Africa. These high-level debates will offer a platform to civil society, business, governments, and emerging young leaders to exchange ideas and start working together to drive climate action and ensure human and economic development are encompassed on our road to COP 27 in Africa.

PROGRAMME /

COP 26 is a make-or-break milestone for global climate and energy action. The moment presents a unique opportunity to accelerate efforts towards 2030 and integrate shared efforts to open a new chapter of the Africa-Europe energy partnership, especially through an innovative Africa-Europe Climate Alliance. It is time to build a new foundation for Africa-Europe relations and reinforcing our energy partnership should be a central plank for this. Now is the time to reboot political and financial leadership for delivering energy access and clean cooking solutions, and to improve the regulatory environment to offer investors a long-term credible policy framework. Both Africa and Europe also share a strong common interest in research and technology development to ensure grid stability in terms of base-load generation and distribution, as well as a big expansion in capacity to enable widespread electrification, facilitate the intake of renewables, and the deployment of off-grid solutions.

Questions will include:

- How can government, business and civil society across Africa and Europe work together throughout this last Decade of Action to achieve the SDG 7 and advance a common agenda in preparation of COP 26 and COP 27?
- What are the difficulties and potential obstacles in attracting investments to accelerate the race to universal access to energy in Africa and towards net-zero in Europe?
- How can Africa and Europe work together and develop country-to-country partnership to achieve ambitious climate and energy targets?

SPEAKERS /

- Kandeh Yumkella, Co-chair of the Africa-Europe Foundation Strategy Group on Energy, and former Chief Executive Officer of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll)



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- Magdalena Kouneva, Director-General of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)
- Tariye Gbadegesin, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, ARM-Harith Infrastructure Investment LTD
- Sébastien Treyer, Executive Director at the Institute of Sustainable and International Relations (IDDR)

MODERATOR /

- Camilla Toulmin, Senior Fellow at the Africa-Europe Foundation

FORMAT OF THE EVENT /

This event is a lively and interactive debate of around 60 minutes. It will consist of short, concise interventions. The moderator will actively encourage a balanced discussion between the speaker and the audience. The language of the event is English. In order to make the debate livelier and more interactive, interview questions will replace formal speeches. The format does not allow for prepared speeches or PowerPoint presentations.

Participants either be on-site (limited to 30 individuals) or log-on from across Africa and Europe and will include representatives of governments, international organisations and institutions, business and trade associations, academia and civil society. The debate will also be livestreamed.

Kindly note that this event will be recorded and that the Africa-Europe Foundation will be live-tweeting during the debate.

The Zoom virtual audience will consist of a targeted and well-balanced group of participants from the African and EU institutions and governments, international organisations, policymakers, business and trade association representatives, academia, social partners, civil society and the international press.

YOUR ROLE /

The debate will begin by an introduction by the moderator, following by an opening question to Kandeh. The moderator will then open the discussion to other panellists to comment and will ask a series of questions, starting with Tariye, Magdalena and Sebastien. The moderator may come back with follow-up questions based on your responses.

You will of course have an opportunity to come back into the discussion and also to respond to points/questions raised by other speakers and participants.

SCENARIO /

-00:15 – 00:00: 15 minutes in advance of the session, speakers are invited to meet in person at the SDG 7 Pavilion for a briefing with the moderator, Camilla Toulmin (AEF), until the start of the session

-00:00 – 00:00: Participants and speakers to join the session physically

00:00 – 00:05: Start of the session and welcome by the moderator, Camilla Toulmin (AEF)

00:05 – 00:35: The moderator will invite 3/4 speakers to answer a series of questions and may come back to comments and statements, and ask the audience to come in.

Starting with Kandeh, Tariye, Magdalena & Sebastien



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00:35 – 00:55: Q&A with on-site and zoom virtual audience. Questions will be chosen on the day.

00:55: Closing remarks by the moderator, thanks to the speaker and wrap up of the debate

00:60: End of debate