Africa Climate Week 2022

Proposal: RES4Youth Panel

Libreville, 01/09 11-12 am

In the framework of the close cooperation established with the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition, started through last year's edition of the Youth4Climate conference in Milan and the organisation of two side-events at COP26, RES4Africa has built a **comprehensive initiative aimed at supporting African Youth** in order to place them at the centre of the continent's just energy transition.

The Foundation has a long experience in capacity building and strongly believes that training and knowledge-sharing is the most cost-effective way to create the right conditions for private investments, which will be crucial to meet the ambitious goals set by 2050.

With the Youth Task Force, the Foundation has chosen to give the floor to a group of highly qualified and motivated young engineers, policy makers and SDG7 advocates to find together the best way forward to our goals.

As per the focus of the panel, we propose to set up a **RES4Africa Youth panel**, grounded on RES4Youth's working pillars:

- **Engage**: Bringing young and future leaders into international discussions with governmental and private stakeholders is a key factor to build awareness about the current policies to reach Net-zero emission by 2050. A collaborative approach to reach prompt sustainable solutions is a necessity. How could the African youth be engaged in policy recommendations? Also, given the uniqueness and diversity of the African continent, what are the different measures the African youth recommend to address climate change issues?
- **Educate**: It is fundamental to identify and address skill gaps to enable youth to become agents of change in the sustainable energy transition and drive positive impact at the community as well as international levels. Then, how to best upskill youth competencies to lead sustainable energy transition and counteract climate change challenges? And perform a pioneering role within their communities?
- **Support**: The prominent challenge of the African context is securing and allocating the necessary funding and financing for youth-led innovative initiatives. Thus, this raises the question: what are the appropriate financing sources for young African change makers? What are the procedures that shall be adopted to assess the funding opportunities?

These pillars will be exhibited by delegates of the **Youth Task Force** and centred on Youth Empowerment through in-depth discussion on capacity building, public-private partnership, financing and fundraising.

Agenda

Moderator – Damiano Borgogno, Chief Technical Specialist, Nature and Climate, United Nations Development Programme

Duration	Details	Speakers
2 mins	**RES4Youth video** • Short introduction of the panel, the contents and the speakers	**Moderator**
15 mins	**Engage**: • To reach a net-Zero emission by 2050, what are the policies and regulations needed in terms of capital spending, costs, and jobs to foster the public-private partnership to achieve the transformation? • How can the public and private sectors support the scale-up of decarbonization policies through innovation opportunities and new technologies? • From R4A perspective, why Youth? Why must Youth play a crucial role in the development of RE in Africa? • RES4Africa modus operandi and the role and purpose of the Youth Task Force	**Maame Boateng** (*remote*), YTF member, Africa- Europe Foundation **Mohamed Alhaj,** YTF Chairman, Clean Energy 4 Africa
15 mins	**Educate**: • Introduction of the RES4Africa capacity building initiatives: RE4Africa Academy (MGA and Reskilling LAB), Advanced Training Course • How can capacity-building programmes promote youth participation and empowerment in response to climate change? • MGA personal experience: how do they equipped youth in terms of practical knowledge, financial awareness and projects assessments? • And how do these programmes benefit not only youth but also their communities?	**Etumuka Amamize,** YTF member, SDG7 Youth Constituency **Norah Magero,** YTF member, Drop Access
15 mins	**Support:** • Introduction of R4A instruments to support young entrepreneurs both MGA Talent of the Year Award and the creation of the RES4Africa Youth Fund • MGA Talent of the Year Awards – Personal experience on the selection of project ideas (gaps and main concerns) • How can young innovators attract funds for their clean energy initiatives in light of the economic challenges in the African continent and what are the sources of financing that are most compatible with the clean energy Agenda?	**Esther Githinji,** YTF member, Clean Energy for Africa **Martin Masiya** YTF member, Sollys Energy Ltd
10 mins	**Q&A Session**	