Creating a Competitive Renewable Energy Sector in Côte d'Ivoire

RES4Africa Side Event at the CGECI Academy 2023

October 26th, 2023
14:00 – 18:00
Daloa Room Sofitel Hotel Ivoire
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

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Concept note

Context

Côte d'Ivoire stands at a crossroads in terms of the development of its power sector. Following the partial opening of the electricity market in the 1990s, the country has now achieved increasing and impressive levels of energy access for the population, and today close to 94% of Ivorians are connected to the power grid. The success of innovative formulas of involvement and interaction between the private sector, DFIs and public actors, in combination with complex financial packages, paved the way for one of the continent's most robust energy systems.

However, given the high share of electricity generated from hydropower in the national energy mix (33% in 2019), the Ivorian energy sector could see increased levels of vulnerability to climate impacts due to the increasingly less regular precipitation in the region. In addition to that, the growing demand for electricity (which is expected to increase by 5.2% per year on average in the period 2020-2050) makes it necessary for the sector's resilience and for the country's overall economic growth to foster new cycles of investment and innovation such that make Côte d'Ivoire's sustainable development an imperative priority.

As demonstrated in recent decades by the country's significant achievements, it is therefore crucial to expand and stimulate a fruitful dialogue between public and private stakeholders and strong collaboration between national and international investors.

Côte d'Ivoire possesses the capability to emerge as a leading force in the energy transition both regionally and continentally. RES4Africa Foundation, along with its industry members and financial partners, is eager to be a reliable partner for the country in supporting this effort.

About the event

Following-up to a first stakeholder engagement mission in October 2022, RES4Africa and the European Investment Bank would like to support Côte d'Ivoire in pursuit of its green transition goals through a tailored side event that will capitalize on the existing network and contacts. Consistent with the objective of the "**Sustainable Growth of Businesses in Africa: Focus on Competitiveness**" event organized by the Confédération Générale des Entreprises de Côte d'Ivoire (CGECI), the aim of the RES4Africa side event is to bring together public and private sector actors to highlight the opportunities in Côte d'Ivoire's renewable energy sector and how it can become a competitive regional and continental player in the energy transition. The event will also serve as the **launch of a report co-published by IRENA Coalition for Africa and the RES4Africa Foundation** on **Scaling Up Renewable Energy Investments in West Africa**.

Agenda

14:00 – 14:30 **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

Welcoming Remarks	
14:30 – 14:45	***Andrea Renzulli**, RES4Africa Foundation*
Keynote Discussion: De-risking Côte d'Ivoire's renewable energy sector	
14:45 – 15:15	***West Africa Representative,** European Investment Bank*
	***Joao Cunha**, Manager & Coordinator Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), AfDB*
	***Andrea Renzulli**, RES4Africa Foundation*
Panel 1: Working with Côte d'Ivoire for RE investments at scale *Moderator: European Delegation (tbc)*	
15:15 – 16:00	**TBC**, Ministry of Energy
	Fatoumata Sissoko-Sy, Infrastructure, IFC
	Tony Blair Institute (tbc)
	Ismaïl-Claude Candolo, Investment Director, West and Central Africa, Inspired Evolution Investment Management (Pty) Ltd

16:00 – 16:30 ---------- Coffee Break ----------

Keynote Discussion: Regional Power Decarbonisation and Trading Opportunities in West Africa – Report Launch	
16:30 – 17:00	**Jarred McCarthy**, Associate Programme Officer – Coalition for Action, Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, **IRENA**
	Andrea Renzulli, RES4Africa
Panel 2: Grid Infrastructure to support the growth and development of renewables Moderator: **Andrea Renzulli**, RES4Africa Foundation	
17:00 – 17:45	**Siengui Apollinaire Ki**, Secretary General, WAPP (TBC)
	TBC, CIE
	Frederic Tailheuret, Director General, SICABLE (Prysmian Group)
	Sandrine Mecapeu Gbaha, Product Application Expert, Schneider Electric
Closing Remarks	
17:45 – 18:00	***West Africa representative**, European Investment Bank*

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