Born in 2012, RES4Africa (Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa) is a Foundation that works in support of Africa’s just energy transition in order to achieve the SDG7, ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. It functions as a bridge between Europe and Africa: gathering a network of members from all over the clean energy sector from both continents and high-level international partnerships, we ensure constant dialogue between the most relevant energy stakeholders willing to scale-up a sustainable electrification.

10+ YEARS OF COMMITMENT FOR AFRICA’S GREEN FUTURE

WORLDWIDE PARTNERSHIPS

100+

PEOPLE TRAINED IN 30 COUNTRIES

1700+

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

90+

PUBLISHED STUDIES

100+

CHALLENGE

Advancing Africa’s energy transitional agenda requires promoting fruitful collaboration between public and private institutions to overcome existing barriers, mobilising available expertise, building dialogue platforms and supporting the dissemination of knowledge and experience.

MISSION

RES4Africa is committed to creating conducive conditions to increasing investment in clean energy technologies and related infrastructures, in order to accelerate the electrification of Africa along the entire value chain.
ADVANCING ELECTRICITY REFORM AGENDA - THE MISSING LINK

The Missing Link is a strategic, multi-year initiative jointly implemented by RES4Africa and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The programme aims to support the progress of the electricity sector reform agenda in Africa and enable private-led investments in generation, transmission, distribution and off-grid infrastructures at scale. Taking a private sector perspective, programme’s activities are meant to advance African electricity markets’ openness, attractiveness and readiness by:

- **Increasing** awareness of the preparedness of national electricity policy and regulatory frameworks to crowd-in private investors;
- **Sharing** experiences on successful policy and regulatory reforms across Africa;
- **Enhancing** national capacity to conceive, adopt and implement regulatory reforms;
- **Building** continental consensus on the electricity reform agenda.

DE-RISKING INVESTMENT - renewAfrica

Led and promoted by RES4Africa, renewAfrica is an industry-backed initiative advocating for the creation of a European comprehensive de-risking programme for renewable energy investments in Africa, to be promoted and owned by EU institutions. The ultimate goal of the 27 leading European actors supporting the initiative is to engage with the EU Commission to propose a comprehensive, integrated, end-to-end approach as a viable tool. The approach reflects and builds on the accumulated expertise of leading private sector companies as an important contribution to the EU programming for Africa’s clean energy developments.

As a result of the efforts carried out in the last three years, a proposed programme building on the recommendations of renewAfrica has been presented to the European Commission, which is currently preparing the related terms of the programme RISE for the structuring of the related financial guarantee and technical assistance services.
ACCESS TO ENERGY PROGRAMME

Africa’s growing need for energy and its multifaceted energy landscape is at the core of RES4Africa’s Access to Energy Programme. Through research, advocacy, capacity building, innovative thinking and on-field projects, the programme aims at supporting knowledge development and on-field solutions to foster sustainable access to renewable energies in the whole continent, from North Africa to the Sub-Saharan area.

The activities include analyses of current challenges, barriers and opportunities in RE African markets. A specific focus is given to the Water-Energy-Food Nexus approach, both in terms of research and on-field solutions, that considers energy as an enabler to foster productive uses and accelerate the industrialization process of African countries. Analysis of innovative and transformative business models to accelerate investments in RE in Africa is also a key part of the programme.

GRIDS4AFRICA

The Grids4Africa programme focuses on the development of Africa’s electricity networks as a key factor to achieve universal access to energy, improve the quality of service, and successfully incorporate increasing amounts of variable renewable energy. Leveraging on the expertise of RES4Africa’s members with experience in electricity networks, the programme aims at providing technical analysis and the publication of reports and studies, and advocating for the development of public-private partnerships to bring much-needed knowledge and resources to the grid segments.

The study “Frugal Innovation for Grids Development” will highlight the necessity of grid digitalization for the effective management of distribution grids, identifying progress in this field - by collecting low digital solutions best cases in Latam and Asia - and discovering where they have been implemented to replicate them in Africa. Furthermore, the study will provide a general overview of benefits of such a system and underline that low digital solutions investments will not and should not necessarily be an economic burden for already financially fragile utilities.
**SUB-SAHARAN PROGRAMME**

RES4Africa's Sub-Saharan (SSA) Programme works to support the region to maximize its green energy potential, creating an enabling environment for the implementation of RE projects to drive the just energy transformation of sub-Saharan African countries. Building a regulatory and legislative environment which favours RES projects and attracts private investments is key in driving the regional energy transition: to achieve these goals, RES4Africa continuously works to address the key issues of the area, adapting and developing its actions to suit local needs through advocacy, reports, studies and training programmes.

**SOUTHERN AFRICA PROGRAMME**

The Southern Africa Programme prioritises South Africa, the continent's biggest electrical market. Since 2019, the RES4Africa Foundation has supported South Africa's clean energy transition from coal to renewables from its permanent desk in Johannesburg. In a nation where fossil fuels are such a large part of the economy, planning for and managing the social implications of the energy transition is crucial, and it should focus on energy security, employment, and reskilling.

The Foundation provides essential research and tailor-made programmes to meet local requirements in support of South Africa's Just Energy Transition.

**AM-POWERING CONNEXIONS**

Regular open meetings for South African energy professionals to address market issues Energy Transition.

**RE-SKILLING LAB**

Capacity development programme to assist the energy transition of Mpumalanga’s «coal communities» by allowing local education bodies to integrate renewables-related modules in their core courses and be exposed to the sector.

CSIR and NEDBANK are RES4Africa’s first African members in South Africa, while the University of Pretoria, SAPVIA, SAWEA, and EWSETA are all major local partners. The Foundation is devoted to building local ability to make the energy transition inclusive and local-led.
RES4MED

Since its inception in 2012, RES4Med kicked on as a leading platform for public-private dialogue to promote clean energy transformation in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries as a cost-effective, sustainable, and reliable energy strategy. To achieve its goals, RES4Med activities include the:

**ANALYSIS**

ANALYSIS of policies and solutions to mobilise clean energy investments, through reports and studies on specific and technical issues suggested by local stakeholders and in line with the critical factors driving the energy transition.

**ADVOCACY**

ADVOCACY of the opportunities and benefits of clean energy investments in events and webinars gathering the most important actors in the sector.

RES4Med works closely with local stakeholders to ensure ownership, relevance, and quality of the output of its activities and actively engages in building a strong network of local partners to facilitate knowledge exchange and impactful action.

**FOCUS AREAS**

- POLICIES AND REGULATORY REFORMS FOR A JUST AND SECURE ENERGY TRANSITION
- DE-RISKING TOOLS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENTS
- ROLE OF ELECTRICITY GRIDS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RENEWABLES
- REGIONAL INTERCONNECTIONS ELECTRICITY
- BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS
- AGRIVOLTAICS
- RENEWABLE DESALINATION
- GREEN HYDROGEN
- ELECTRIC MOBILITY
RES4AFRICA ACADEMY

RES4Africa has a long track record of experience in training and capacity building with several well recognized and established initiatives. RES4Africa Academy is the environment in which all those initiatives converge and grow pursuing a wide set of goals, including the promotion of open access to content and inclusivity, the empowerment of women and youth, and the provision of various levels of capacity-building, from vocational to managerial.

ACADEMY PROJECTS

EXECUTIVE SCHOOL
Formerly Advanced Training Course (ATC), the Executive School is the RES4Africa Foundation’s flagship capacity-building initiative addressed to institutional and high-level professionals, managers and profiles operating in the RE sector in Africa. It is organised every year in partnership with Enel Foundation, Politecnico University Graduate School of Management of Milan and SDA Bocconi, and in collaboration with RES4Africa members.

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
Formerly Micro-Grid Academy (MGA), it is a Technical and Vocational Capacity Building Programme born in 2018 in Nairobi with the aim to create a skilled and conscious African workforce to deploy decentralised renewable energy solutions (micro and mini-grids) within the East-Africa region in order to enhance the access to energy in urban, peri-urban and rural communities while promoting youth empowerment by strengthening local enterprises and job creation.

RE-SKILLING LAB
The need for this Lab arose in South Africa due to the extensive plans aiming in substituting coal plants with solar and wind generation capacity. RES4Africa has chosen to support this transition with a dedicated pilot training programme to skill trainers and trainees on the new solar and wind technologies in the regions.

GRID DEVELOPMENT LAB
RES4Africa has developed a dedicated training program addressing technical, economical and policy aspects related to the integration of large-scale Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) systems into the electrical grid. This topic is becoming more and more urgent for the most developed Countries in Africa in terms of VRE penetration and local institutions are particularly sensitive to any initiative that can shed light on the VRE grid integration topic.

KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM
The Knowledge Platform constitutes a repository of technical training content, available to the access of third parties in accordance with the core principle of RES4Africa of open knowledge sharing. Organized in modules developed in collaboration with the Foundation’s members, the Platform provides a comprehensive overview of the crucial aspects connected to the implementation of RE projects in Africa. Such content will also constitute the base to delivers on- request trainings to the professionals of the energy sectors, empowering local expertise.
Green Hydrogen, produced with renewable energy, has the potential to rapidly decarbonise hard-to-abate industrial sectors. Many African countries are well-suited to develop green hydrogen, with strong solar and wind energy potential. This could provide Africans with new access to clean energy sources, job opportunities in the zero-emission economy, public health benefits such as cleaner air and domestic wealth creation. RES4Africa Foundation is taking major steps in increasing its expertise and operative efforts dedicated to Africa’s green hydrogen sector. This goal is being pursued through a dedicated operative working group, attended by experts from RES4Africa’s membership network, which responds to the necessity of fostering knowledge, technical and human capacities, while stimulating the creation of multi-stakeholder partnerships to analyse the current status quo of Africa’s green hydrogen sector and formulate specific advocacy proposals.

Innovative solutions in the field of renewable energies will be the response to the climate changes and energy deficit that Africa faces. In this deeply needed path towards its just energy transition, the continent can and must rely on one of its most precious resources: its youth. That’s why in 2022 RES4Africa launched its Youth Task Force, a panel of young entrepreneurs, activists and representatives of international youth organizations, operating in the renewable energy sector. The young professionals have a mutual interest in conveying youth’s voice to shape policymakers opinions, aiming at providing a platform to propose and discuss priority areas of action, identifying new synergies on youth’s role within RES4Africa initiatives and programmes.

In 2023, the Foundation launched RAISEAfrica, a pre-accelerator and accelerator programme in the renewable energy sector powered by RES4Africa. This programme provides African startups with the resources, mentorship, and funding necessary to overcome key challenges while scaling up their businesses.
THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

ADVOCATE
Advocate for the opportunities and benefits of clean energy investments in order to become the backbone of a prosperous Africa.

ANALYSE
Analyse solutions to expand energy access and mobilise clean energy investments to inform evidence-based decision-making towards the achievement of SDG7.

TRAIN
Train individuals and institutions to build the human capital necessary for leading the sustainable transformation of Africa’s electricity sectors.

SUPPORT
Support the adoption of sustainable solutions to answer to Africa’s electricity needs.

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT RES4AFRICA

1. **Sign up to our newsletter**: we will send you a selection of the most important news, as well as editorials and comments on the most interesting topics in the world of renewables.
2. **Follow us on our social media**: we update our accounts daily with information about our activities and news from the RE sector.
3. **Visit our website**: you will find everything you need to know about the Foundation, past projects, ongoing initiatives and publications.
4. **Take part in our events and webinars**.

A BRIGHTER AND GREENER FUTURE FOR AFRICA

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