



Call for Applications

Technical & Vocational School

Host City, Country: Nairobi, Kenya

Dates: 9-13 November 2026

Executive Summary

The Technical and Vocational School on Decentralised Renewable Energy Systems aims at creating a skilled and conscious workforce to deploy renewable energy solutions. Its mission is to enhance access to energy while fostering socio-economic development, local entrepreneurship, and job creation.

Formerly called Micro-Grid Academy, it was launched in 2018 in Nairobi with the goal of training people ranging from community technicians to project managers, developers, engineers, and students.

The training curriculum, also registered under the Kenyan National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), consists of 4 modules. It provides participants with a comprehensive set of skills necessary to successfully design, develop, manage and operate decentralised renewable energy projects, through interactive training modules led by experts in the renewable energy value chain.

About the Technical & Vocational School

The Micro-Grid Academy (MGA) was launched in January 2018 to strengthen local capacities in energy access and decentralized renewable energy solutions across Africa. In 2023, the initiative evolved into the Technical and Vocational School, while maintaining its original mission of equipping young African technicians and engineers with the knowledge and skills needed to build a specialized local workforce. By fostering technical expertise, entrepreneurship, and employability, the programme contributes to increasing and improving access to energy, while fostering economic development and job creation across local communities.

The training program provides participants with comprehensive theoretical and practical training, including technical, economic and regulatory competencies, and advanced tools to assess and deploy the most appropriate solutions in different African energy contexts. This approach enables efficient and effective integration of renewables in emerging electricity markets, whilst nurturing an international network of experts.



The Technical & Vocational School 2026

This edition of the Technical and Vocational School will be held in **Nairobi, Kenya, from 9 to 13 November 2026.**

The programme is jointly developed and delivered by Enel Foundation and RES4Africa Foundation (**“Promoting Parties”**), in collaboration with Strathmore University. The course is held under the framework of the Italian Government's Mattei Plan for Africa.

Programme duration: one week

Training modality: In person

Language: English

Venue: Strathmore University

Why Apply?

Among others, the Technical and Vocational School contributes to the following:

- Build human capacity for the development and implementation of new energy technologies;
- Strengthen and expand national and regional networks, stimulating regional cooperation and knowledge exchange;
- Create managerial, technical, soft and entrepreneurial skills among African professionals, including project management and market design, Operation&Maintenance (O&M), and best practices in the policy and regulatory domains;
- Focus on social inclusion, specifically integrating youth and women participation;
- Create networking opportunities and a community of peer experts and professionals that will encourage the exchange of experiences also in the future.

Programme Structure

The training course (**“Training”**) focuses on solar mini-grids according to the standard curriculum developed in collaboration with Strathmore University and registered under the Kenyan National Industrial Training Authority (NITA). This Training consists of **4 Modules** which provide a general overview of the whole mini-grids value chain for rural electrification and hands-on learning in laboratories about renewable energy technologies.



The 4 modules covered by the programme are as follows:

- Module 1: Fundamentals of Decentralised Renewable Energy Systems (DRE) solutions;
- Module 2: DRE engineering;
- Module 3: DRE construction, O&M and safety;
- Module 4: DRE business models and economics.

The methodology foreseen for the Training course consists of in-class training in Nairobi, Kenya. More specifically:

- 1) Lessons will be delivered **in-person** at Strathmore University and/or at other partners' locations in Nairobi communicated ahead of the start of the training;
- 2) **Lecturers** will come from Strathmore University and other programme's local (Kenyan) and regional partners, as well as from the Promoting Partiespartners operating in the energy sector;
- 3) At the end of the training, students will take a **final survey** and a **final exam** to assess the newly acquired skills and knowledge.

The Promoting Parties may decide to complement in-class activities with site visits in the country of training implementation. Any such activity shall be optional and may be organized at **Strathmore University and other partners' facilities in Nairobi**.

Upon successful completion of the course, Participants will receive certificates of attendance. The official Certificate of Attendance will be granted to the trainees who **will have attended at least 70%** of the total amount of training hours, and who will have successfully taken the **final exam** and participated in the **final survey**.

Strategic Focuses of this Edition

This Training course will be implemented and delivered in collaboration with **Strathmore University** and will focus on **Module 1: Fundamentals of DRE solutions**:

- Module 1.1: Background and rationale;
- Module 1.2: DRE technologies overview;
- Module 1.3: Energy Need Assessment and site selection;
- Module 1.4: Stakeholders and policies

Relevant topics for each module include:

- Module 1.1: Sustainable electrification in Africa; Energy security and tiers of Energy Access;



Approaching the Productive Uses of Energy; Basis for characterization and comparison of RE systems;

- Module 1.2: RE sources potential in Africa; RE generation technologies; Non-RE generation technologies; Off-grid DRE systems - Part I: basic characterization; Off-grid DRE systems - Part II: focus on mini-grids; Grid-connected DRE systems - basic characterization; Digitalization in DRE systems;
- Module 1.3: DRE systems' deployment: main project's phases; Energy Need Assessment - Part I: data collection and analysis; Energy Need Assessment - Part II: demand profiling; Applications of Productive Uses of Energy in Rural Communities; Emergency Energy Needs; Load profile exercises;
- Module 1.4: Community and Stakeholder Engagement in DRE projects; Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework - Fundamentals; Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework - Case studies.

Participants

The Training course is open to a maximum of **25 participants**.

Profiles can include students, technicians, operators, managers, entrepreneurs and other professionals dealing with the Renewable Energy Sector.

Applicants must be able to speak and read in English.

Applicants up to 30 years old and **women** (of any age) will be given priority.

Scholarship

As part of its commitment to strengthening local capacities and supporting Africa's energy transition, a limited number of partial scholarships are offered to participate in the Technical & Vocational School.

Tuition fees will be paid by students as per the below prospect:

Course Fees	Cost*	No. available	Deadline to apply
Round 1 Scholarship	KES 25.000	12	16 th October 2026
Round 2 Scholarship	KES 12.500	8	22 nd October 2026
Full fee	KES 50.000		26 th October 2026

*All costs are expressed in Kenyan shillings.

For this course, **20 partial scholarships** will be assigned to applicants according to their profile, academic and professional background, and motivation. The scoring system is based on specific criteria including age, gender, education, English knowledge, IT knowledge, experience in DRE, general



experience in the energy sector and employment status. The highest scoring applicants will be given priority in the assignment of scholarships. Qualified female applicants are particularly encouraged to apply.

All fees include course materials, trainers, training venue, meals during training, and field visits at the premises of the organizing entities in Kenya. Participants will be expected to cover their transport and accommodation costs during the training period. International participants will have to cover their VISA, flights, accommodation, and in-country travel costs during the training period.

Deadline for the submission of the application

The deadline for the submission of the application is **the 26th of October 2026 at 11:59 pm EAT**.

Any application received after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

Milestone	Date
Call opening	2 nd week of October
Application deadline	26 th October 2026
Notification of selected participants	27 th October 2026

Required Documents

Applicants are required to submit the following documents:

- Curriculum Vitae;
- Motivation Letter;
- Any additional documentation requested in the application form.

Incomplete applications submitted without the required supporting documentation will not be considered.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a national of, or legally reside in, an African country;
- Have relevant experience or knowledge in the energy sector (where applicable);
- Demonstrate leadership potential and a strong commitment to sustainable energy development;
- Be fully proficient in English;



- Be eligible to travel to the host country.

Application Process

The application process starts with the completion of the Online Standard Application form by the Applicants available at the following link:

Application Form

The evaluation of applicants will only be completed for those who complete the Online Standard Application form, ensuring all sections are properly filled out (mandatory).

The selected candidates will receive a confirmation email and will be requested to confirm their attendance by proceeding with fee payment.

All documents must be provided in English.

Each Applicant cannot submit more than 1 application.

The Promoting Parties support gender balance in the selection of participants, therefore women applicants are highly encouraged to participate.

For any doubts/clarifications please contact the following email address: spvtraining@strathmore.edu; elarning@res4africa.org.

Selection Process

By participating to this Call for Application, applicants acknowledge and agree that the evaluation and selection process will be based on the criteria specified below. No detailed evaluation of individual submissions will be provided to applicants.

Applicants also acknowledge that the Promoting Parties reserve the right to withdraw the Call for Application and may modify it at any time at their sole discretion. This includes changes to deadlines, events, locations, or specifications of the program, which will be posted on the Promoting Parties website.



Applicants should regularly visit the Promoting Parties website to check for any updates of the challenge.

An administrative check of the applications will be carried out by RES4Africa. If the examination reveals that it does not meet the requirements stated in the eligibility criteria above, the application will be excluded automatically.

- A Selection Committee composed by representatives of the Promoting Parties will select twenty-five candidates (“**Participants**”) to participate to the Training and capacity building program based on the following criteria: Professional experience;
- Academic background;
- Leadership potential;
- Motivation;
- Geographical representation;
- Gender balance.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to ensure an appropriate balance in terms of geographical representation, professional background, institutional affiliation, and gender.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

By applying, Applicants accept that the Promoting Parties shall have full discretion over the application and selection process and the organisation and delivery of the Programme, including its content, format, schedule, faculty, activities and participant allocation. The Promoting Parties may amend, postpone, suspend or cancel any part of the process or Programme for reasonable organisational, academic, operational, legal or force majeure reasons. To the fullest extent permitted by law, their decisions shall be final and shall not give rise to any claim, compensation or entitlement to admission or continued participation.

Personal Data Protection

RES4Africa, as Data Controller, will process personal data in accordance with applicable regulations. We inform you that your personal data will be made accessible to RES4Africa partners, that will act as Autonomous Data Controllers, for the purposes of the Project.

Additionally, please note that for any privacy-related request, the following email address is available: valentina.francini@res4africa-org



Enel Foundation, as autonomous Data Controller, will process personal data in accordance with applicable data protection law (Regulation EU n. 679/2016 – “GDPR”). We inform you that your personal data will be made accessible to Enel Foundation partners, that will act as Autonomous Data Controllers, for the purposes of the Project.

For more information on how Enel Foundation will process your personal data, we invite you to review the privacy policy available on Enel Foundation website.

Additionally, please note that for any privacy-related request, the following email address is available: dpoeuenel@enel.com