



Global Exchange Platform: Promoting Sustainable Energy Solutions in Landlocked Developing Countries

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This newsletter highlights the work carried out by Member States, United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders in accelerating achievement of sustainable energy for all objectives of the Vienna Program of Action for LLDCs and of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the LLDCs.

Latest News:

- **Himalaya-Hindukush Centre:** There was a [Validation workshop](#) in land-locked Kathmandu/Nepal. Read the press release [here](#)
- **Germany** is to announce a new initiative for 2018: The [“Green Peoples Energy for Africa”](#) initiative will focus on the development of a green energy system that includes transmission and distribution lines, and also regenerative (central) power stations. The funding for setting up decentralised supply structures will need to come above all from the private sector, and from local authorities and cooperatives. The **Goals** are:
 - to develop decentralised energy structures in rural regions with the help of sub-national authorities, cooperatives and private-sector investments
 - to strengthen sub-national African authorities for the task of providing affordable, reliable and sustainable energy
 - to improve regional and trans-boundary energy supply networks
 - to expand vocational training in the energy sector
 - to avoid any further increase in the use of carbon-based fuels in Africahttps://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier39_5_06_2017.pdf
- The [AFRICA-EU ENERGY PARTNERSHIP](#) has become 10 years old: (http://www.euei-pdf.org/sites/default/files/field_publication_file/aEEP_success_stories_2017_-_10_years_of_successful_cooperation.pdf)
- **UN-OHRLLS organized an Expert Group Meeting on [Financing Infrastructure Development for Enhanced Integration of the LLDCs into Global Trade](#)** held on 4 and 5 October 2017 in New York. The meeting stressed the urgent need to develop financing instruments for small scale energy projects below an investment volume of US\$10 to 20 million in partnership with local banks. The meeting also recommended the importance of capacity building for LLDCs for the development of bankable projects and the need to provide LLDCs with information on available funding resources.



- **Mid-term review of the Vienna Programme of Action** - The UN member States have agreed on a resolution to organize the comprehensive high-level mid-term review of the Vienna Programme of Action in 2019 which shall review progress made by the landlocked developing countries, transit countries and development partners in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action; shall be a forum to share best practices and lessons learned, identify obstacles and constraints encountered and actions and initiatives needed to overcome them, as well as new challenges and emerging issues to further accelerate the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.
- **The Green Climate Fund** is open for Simplified Approval Process submissions - For more information please visit the [GCF SAP website](#)
- **The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)**, in partnership with the **Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)**, is [inviting applications](#) until February 15th, 2018 for renewable energy projects in developing countries. Within the framework of the ADFD-funded US\$350 million (AED1.285 billion) IRENA/ADFD Project Facility, the current funding round of US\$50 million in concessional loans marks the sixth of seven annual cycles.
- **NAMA Facility** was jointly established by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) with the objective to provide financial support to developing countries and emerging economies that show leadership on tackling climate change. The [NAMA Funding for Low-Carbon Development \(5th call\)](#) is open between 13 November 2017 and 15 March 2018. National governments of developing countries and countries with emerging economies as well as other qualified applicants are invited to submit NAMA Support Project Outlines.

Upcoming Events in 2018

- 2nd, 3rd May 2018: **Lisbon “Sustainable Energy For All Forum”**
- 14th to 17th May 2018, the **“6th VIENNA ENERGY FORUM” + “Austrian World Summit” with Arnold Schwarzenegger**
- 3rd, 4th October 2018: Austrian Presidency HL event in Vienna: **“Global Network Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC)”**
- **New York: The meeting of the [High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#)** in 2018 convened under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council will be held from Monday, 9 July, to Wednesday, 18 July 2018; including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from Monday, 16 July, to Wednesday, 18 July 2018. The theme is "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies". [SDG Goal 7](#), Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is among the set of goals to be reviewed in depth.

About this newsletter

This is the second issue of the joint UN-OHRLLS, UNIDO and Government of Austria Newsletter developed as part of a global LLDCs platform to promote information and data exchange following



the **Second meeting of the “GLOBAL NETWORK OF REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CENTRES (GN-SEC)” in the context of the 5th Vienna Energy Forum, 13th of May 2017** and the High-Level Meeting on “Accelerating Sustainable Energy for All in Landlocked Developing Countries through Innovative Partnerships” that was held on 24 and 25 October 2016 in Vienna, Austria which discussed in detail potential strategies to address existing barriers for up-scaling energy access, renewable energy and energy efficiency in LLDCs.

Recap of the key recommendations of the Vienna Senior officials’ meeting on accelerating sustainable energy for all in landlocked countries of 2016 include the following:

- **Strengthen** synergies of the three goals of Sustainable Energy for All (access, energy efficiency and renewable energy) by building linkages with other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) like health, food, water, gender, industry and others.
- **Accelerate** policy processes to achieve SDG7 and SDG 13. LLDCs should develop and adopt realistic national energy-mix policies and plans.
- **Build resilient sustainable energy infrastructure**, promote inclusive industrial development and foster innovation in LLDCs (SDG9).
- **Enable country-specific, integrated national planning** which guarantees national ownership, taking into consideration the plans and requirements of all energy sub-sectors and related sectors.
- **Engage in Public-Private Partnerships:** Governments of LLDCs with the support of their development partners should engage in PPPs in the energy sector in order to increase investments into renewable energy generation and distribution within their country.
- **Incentives for private sector investments** as well as enabling environments shall be given by LLDC Governments.
- Sustainable energy for **local value chain creation and employment** is inevitable of local sustainable energy manufacturing and service industry and innovation chain in LLDCs. There is need for a critical mass of domestic energy entrepreneurs, companies and private sector groups.
- **The nexus between energy, water and food within a circular economy** is an inseparable and essential contributor to social progress and human well-being.
- **Regional organizations** as well as their subsidiary organizations (power utilities, regulators as well as sustainable energy centres) in partnership with regional development banks and International Finance Institutions are encouraged to **scale-up investments** into regional generation and transmission projects.
- **The Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres** will be further consolidated by UNIDO in partnership with the respective regional organizations and domestic as well as international support. The expansion of the network of centres to other LLDC regions such as the Himalaya-Hindukush (HCREEE) and Central Asia as well as Latin America is encouraged. The regional centres will play an important complementary role to the regional SE4All hubs.

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