



## PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA – EUROPE'S POLICIES

The VENRO Project on the  
Africa-EU Partnership

# New Dynamics for Renewable Energies in Africa IRENA and the Africa-EU Energy Partnership

2010



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Presentations, Interviews, Results

**VENRO**  
ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN  
DEVELOPMENT NGOS

  
*German NGO Forum on  
Environment and Development*

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Church Development Service  
An Association of the Protestant  
Churches in Germany

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Editorial

No future for fossils: With Renewable Energy against poverty

No doubt energy is increasingly moving centre-stage in international relations and institutions – due to global concerns on energy security, energy access and climate change. This has also reinforced the links between the energy futures of Africa and Europe. With the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) resolved in Lisbon in 2007 and the founding of the International Agency for Renewable Energies (IRENA) early in 2009, new instruments have been created to promote Renewable Energies in Africa and to develop strategies for implementing them.

Any such strategy should not be something tailored by Europeans for Africa, but designed together with Africa and its people. Neither must it only focus on providing energy security from Africa for Europe, but also on ensuring access to electricity for the people in Africa themselves, especially in the rural and more remote areas. Access to affordable, decentralised and sustainable energy supply is the key to poverty alleviation and rural development. It contributes to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. For more than 160 countries in this world that are energy importers – amongst them many of the least developed countries – it also helps to escape the threat of the debt trap owing to ever more expensive imports of fossil energy.

We as civil society play an important role in this process. We can contribute to educating people at grass-root level and inform them about the advantages of Renewable Energies. We can also put pressure on politicians and authorities to go for such clean, sustainable and affordable energies – for the sake of their own countries and people. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are therefore key when it comes to policy consulting and network building within the Africa-EU Partnership, and especially within IRENA.

Unfortunately, to date, the involvement of NGO experts in these processes and their efforts in them have not reached the desirable level. VENRO, the umbrella organisa-

tion of about 120 development non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Germany, the German Forum Environment and Development and Church Development Service want to change this situation and get more civil society organisations from both Africa and Europe involved.

The symposium “IRENA and the Africa-EU Energy Partnership - New Dynamics for Renewable Energies in Africa” that took place in Berlin on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010 was an important step in that direction. This documentation gives an overview of the debates and results and provides the reader with practical experiences and examples of Renewable Energy solutions in African countries. Studying them, it becomes clear that there is no future for fossil fuels. With renewable energies, we can end poverty now!

Christa Randzio-Plath Vice Chairperson, VENRO



Jürgen Maier Director NGO Forum, Environment and Development



Jürgen Reichel , Head of Development Policy Dialogue Department, eed







## We need leadership from the African side

Presentation of Ibrahim Togola on challenges of African energy policy in the 2010s

**Dr. Ibrahim Togola** is the Chairman of the Mali-Folkecenter (MFC), established in 1999. MFC is among the leading NGOs in West Africa in the fields of energy, environment and climate change. Togola, an engineer and economist, was one of the initiators and President of the Malian Commission for Renewable Energy (CER). He is also active in numerous other organisations dealing with sustainable energy. In Berlin, he talked about the “Challenges of African Energy Policy in the 2010s” and the relationship between Renewable Energies and development.

For more information, see: [www.malifolkecenter.org](http://www.malifolkecenter.org)

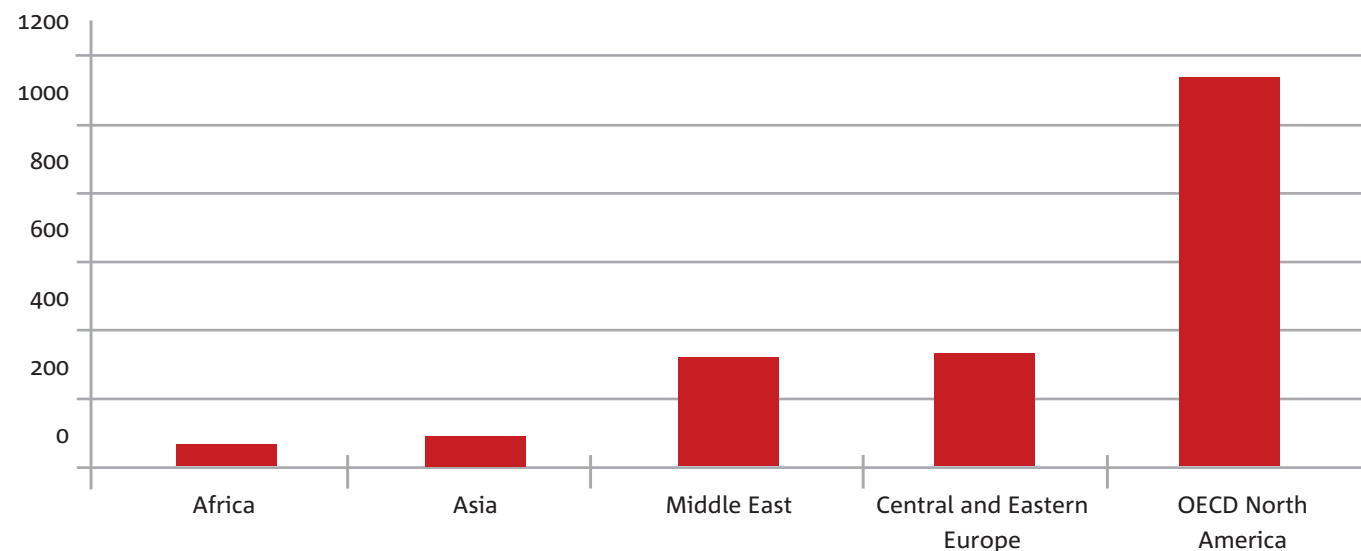


With Africa being a continent rich in energy and other natural as well as human resources, energy is a key element of human development, says Ibrahim Togola. To him, Africa has a promising future in this regard and can “learn a lot from mistakes that have been made in the countries of the northern hemisphere so far”. Yet the right decisions still have to be taken. Energy can contribute to economic development – if it is based on sustainable techniques. “Energy based on the utilisation of oil will not bring Africa anywhere,” says Togola.

Money spent on oil consumption could be much better spent for development and social projects. Africa should

therefore become independent from oil and oil imports and “try something else”. This applies even more because Africa has a huge renewable potential – such as solar and wind energy – but has so far not made good use of it. According to Togola, five hundred million people in Sub-Sahara Africa still do not have any access to electricity. Renewable Energy could change this unbearable situation, create sustainable jobs, enhance decentralisation, contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and speed up rural development. Energy could therefore be used as a cross-cutting tool. But all this can only happen if rural communities are directly involved in international partnerships and projects

Energy Consumption per Capita (kWh/capita) by region of the world (2005)



for promoting and implementing Renewable Energies in Africa. “They are already waiting for this,” Togola claims.

Furthermore, action must not only be taken at international level. “We need leadership from the African side to say what we need and where we want to go”, Togola points out. Whereas the Europeans know very well what they want and expect from partnerships like AEEP and IRENA, the Africans are still lagging behind. “But we need to take the full lead if these partnerships are supposed to be successful.”

“Energy based on the utilisation of oil will not bring Africa anywhere.”

Togola also opts for large-scale projects. One solar panel here and there would not help Africa to solve its energy problems. “We need big power,” he says. China is already installing heavy power plants in Africa. If Europeans want to compete with this and ensure the development of Renewable Energies in Africa, they also have to think “big” – much more than this has been the case so far.

## A strong call for quick action

Interview with Ibrahim Togola, Mali-Folkecenter on the added value of AEEP

**Q: Mr Togola, has the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) been useful for the work of Mali-Folkecenter so far?**

A: Yes, it has helped us to identify and assess the different initiatives working on renewable energy solutions, which already exist on the continent. Now we can link up with them and initiate joint projects. AEEP helps us to understand that we have a huge potential and to ask ourselves what we are going to do with it. This awareness raising is very much in the interest of the EU.

**Q: Critics might say that there are already a lot of projects and initiatives, but nothing is really happening. So is AEEP, alongside with IRENA, just another – maybe fruitless – initiative?**

A: It is true that Africans, especially the young generation, are waiting for concrete results. Sometimes we do not

### CEMA – reliable information for successful resolutions

With regard to energy solutions, many African countries and regional authorities lack up-to-date knowledge and capacity to fully utilise the potentials that exist in their countries and the instruments that are provided by international partnerships. CEMA, the “Capacity Enhancement and Mobilisation Action for Energy in Africa”, wants to change this situation. It is a collaboration between the EU Energy Initiative (EUEI) Information platform and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The four-year activity is designed to support the Africa-EU Energy Partnership.

CEMA aims at supporting the regional needs assessments related to energy development, enhancing the exchange of experiences and expertises by creating so-called information groups and creating reliable knowledge and data bases.

[www.cemafira.net](http://www.cemafira.net)

get them from Europe, so a lot of our countries turn towards China for co-operation. But I am convinced that AEEP and IRENA can deliver such concrete results.

**Q: What are the main challenges for the energy partnership?**

A: So far, some key actors are still missing, such as European and African civil society organisations and the private sector in Africa. We were participating in the beginning of the Lisbon process that led to AEEP, but then the subsequent Road Map was developed without us. However, I am convinced that our symposium here in Berlin has already contributed to an enhanced dialogue.

**Q: As we all know, people in Africa desperately need access to energy to improve their living conditions. They might accept any energy – regardless whether it is conventional or renewable.**

A: Yes, you are right, that is a danger. That’s why initiatives and partnerships like ours have to take the lead to make sure that people go for sustainable solutions. We have to be quick. We cannot afford to wait – because converting from conventional to renewable energies will always be more difficult than implementing Renewables from the very beginning.



## On the road to Renewables – with a new, international partner

Presentation of IRENA by Mika Ohbayashi

**Mika Ohbayashi** has been the Scenarios and Regional Policy Manager at the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), situated in Abu Dhabi, since May 2010. Before joining the organisation, she worked for the British Embassy to Japan, as Advisor on Climate Change Policies. She is also one of the founders of the Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP) in Japan. In Berlin, she introduced IRENA and its future strategies and plans to the audience.



“A new paradigm shift of sustainable Energy for people”, this is the principal character of IRENA, according to Mika Ohbayashi. It is also characterised by its global approach, since “global challenges demand global solutions”. While other national and international organisations vote for Renewable Energies too, IRENA is the only one exclusively dedicated to the promotion of Renewables.

The budget of the organisation in the first year was 14 million US dollars. The staff consists of 50 people, but are intended to become five times as much. Despite the rapidly growing number of member states – 147 to date – there are still some weaknesses to overcome, among them the fact that real “big players”, like China, Brazil, Canada and others, have not yet ratified the statute. To Ohbayashi it is clear that IRENA’s future success depends on four pillars: political determination, policy, finance and training.

The Work Programme for 2010 is focused on knowledge, finance and training. In the field of Knowledge, IRENA has started to set up data-bases and business models for Renewable Energies – i.e. it is dedicated to gather, assess, systemise and disseminate relevant data and information. The final aim is a global database on Renewable Energy potentials.

With regard to finance, IRENA is currently establishing a co-operation scheme with the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development. The Fund offers 50 million US dollars annually for projects relating to Renewable Energy. IRENA will define selection criteria on the basis of which projects will be chosen to benefit from the funds available.

“ *It is clear that the international community recognises the huge potential for renewable energy. The importance of Renewables to the world’s 1.6 billion people who do not have access to electricity cannot be understated. Renewables can enhance energy security, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate climate change, and boost the global economy; all of which have a social impact on the communities involved.* ”

**Hélène Pelosse**, Interim Director-General, IRENA.

As for Training and Capacity Building, IRENA is conducting a Fellowship programme together with the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) – a private, non-for-profit, independent, research-driven institute developed with the support and co-operation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. IRENA will award up to 20 scholarships to MIST for highly qualified graduate students from around the world within the range of academic programmes offered by the institution. Of two years’ duration, the IRENA - MIST Scholarships provide the chosen students with the opportunity to work on research projects in the field of renewable energy, and contribute to the implementation of the Agency’s mandate.

Those students enrolled in the Master of Science (MSc) programme with an IRENA-MIST Scholarship will write their final thesis on a topic relevant to renewable energies. They will divide their time between classes at MIST and research. Students will profit from the interaction with IRENA experts and the possibility to network in an environment that is dedicated one hundred percent to renewable energies. The IRENA-MIST Scholarships cover students’ housing, insurance, travel, laptops, textbooks, and a monthly stipend.

Masdar, by the way, is projected to be a carbon-neutral, zero-waste city just outside of Abu Dhabi, where IRENA’s office is supposed to move to in 2011.

In addition to all this, IRENA is supporting direct, bilateral support to countries. One of the first to have requested for such a support is Tonga, thus becoming the first country partner for IRENA on a pilot project basis. A number of islands within the Kingdom of Tonga are lacking basic electricity supply. IRENA now is intended to give policy advice and financial/technical assistance to develop and implement the “Tonga Energy Roadmap”.

The overall objective of this roadmap is to reduce the state’s vulnerability to oil price shocks and to increase access to modern energy services in an environmentally sustainable manner. Within the next three years, Tonga plans to generate 50 percent of its grid-based energy from renewable energy sources. A larger group of development partners, including the World Bank, are already involved in the process for grid-based renewable energy supply for Tonga’s existing island grids. IRENA was requested to concentrate particularly on the small remote/outer island communities and to develop and co-ordinate – supported by Japan and Australia – an integrated approach for their electrification. Starting with Tonga and subsequently assisting other countries, IRENA will develop its own systematic advisory approaches and methodologies for policy advice in the field of renewable energy.

For Mika Ohbayashi there is no doubt that more and more countries have to develop Road Maps and strategies towards the implementation of Renewable Energies – for

the sake of their own economies. Ohbayashi gave the example of Morocco: According to her, this country spends 40 percent of its national budget on energy imports.

### IRENA: The global voice for Renewable Energy

The International Renewable Energy Agency IRENA was founded on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 by 75 member states, with its headquarters situated in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. It is aiming to become the global voice for Renewable Energy. IRENA’s vision is a world where modern and effective Renewable Energy is accessible in all countries and becomes one of the major energy sources. The Agency’s mandate is to assist its Member states in defining their strategy across the fields of all Renewable Energies: bioenergy, geothermal, hydro-power, ocean, solar and wind.

In just over a year, IRENA has grown to become one of the largest international organisations. A total of 147 countries and the European Union have already signed its statute. Thirty member states have ratified it. Thus, on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010, this statute came into force. The International Renewable Energy Agency has become a fully-fledged International Organisation.

The Interim Director-General of IRENA is Hélène Pelosse. To her, it is clear: “We cannot rely on energy of the past to power our future. Now, Renewables account for 18 percent of world electricity production, but potential scenarios show it can reach 50 percent or even higher. It is the only energy source which can serve the needs of the predicted nine billion earth population in 2050.”

[www.irena.org](http://www.irena.org)





## Money goes to wrong projects and old technologies

**Panel discussion: The Africa-EU Energy Partnership – A critical analysis**

### Participants<sup>1</sup> :

- Teodoro Sanchez, Practical Action, Great Britain
- Hein Winnubst, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
- Ibrahim Togola, Mali-Folkecenter, Mali

The AEEP provides a forum for joint dialogue on energy cooperation between Europe and Africa and focuses on improved energy access and security on both continents. Investments in energy in Africa have been far too low for decennia. Recently, there has been a renewed interest in energy investments in Africa, both from public and private resources. European public and private actors are very active in the energy sector in Africa. The AEEP profits from this revival.

African electricity production relies heavily on coal, diesel and hydropower. It is a major challenge to convince decision-makers of the huge homegrown renewable potential of wind, solar, geothermal and biomass. The AEEP, which is still at the beginning, has identified this as a gap and will initiate a joint EU-African Renewable Energy Programme. Hein Winnubst from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development also talked about the problem of trade barriers, like customs duties and high tariffs, preventing the import of renewable techniques into African countries to a larger extent. But according to Ibrahim Togola, Mali-Folkecenter, this problem has already been solved in a number of countries. Senegal, for example, removed taxes from Renewable Energies.

Still, there is the problem of wrong funding priorities, as Togola puts it. The World Bank, for example, has funded grid-interconnections in West Africa, but most of the time there is no electricity in the grid. “There is money, but it goes to the wrong projects and old technologies,” Togola says.

As an example, Togola mentioned the project using Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), i.e. the waste that arises from the production of petrol, e.g. propane and butane. This project is financed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) – even though LPGs are not Renewables.

According to Hein Winnubst, the energy partnership is comparatively successful. But he agrees with Togola that financing remains a problem: “Everybody is interested in Re-

newables but lagging behind in investment.” The role of Civil Society can include consultation at regional level. The EU has done this in the past and intends to continue doing so, Winnubst points out. “The capacity to organise frequent consultation meetings through the AEEP are however limited.” The AEEP relies on a very lean administrative support structure. But Civil society input is recognised and influences the political decision-making process in various ways, including multinational processes, such as Millennium Development Goal preparatory conferences, inputs to G8 meetings etc. Furthermore, there is considerable EU public funding available for NGO projects through the EU Energy Facility and there has been intensive dialogue on the priorities of this instrument with CSO representatives.

Winnubst also reminded the audience that energy access for the poor had never been integrated into the Millennium Development Goals. And in his opinion, there is a strong role for NGO addressing access and biomass strategies in the national context, where especially biomass issues are often not in the focus of African energy ministries. The AEEP puts a strong focus on energy interconnections between different countries. According to Winnubst, there the role of NGOs is very limited.

According to Teodoro Sanchez of Practical Action, the AEEP roadmap has two main issues: energy security and energy access. “There is a strong role for electricity but not for cooking. Biomass is not the same as cooking. Priorities of the partnership are large infrastructure projects, while small projects are generally ignored,” Sanchez claimed. He criticised that the same is true for the Renewable Energy programme, having the same priorities. “Six activities are mentioned, with all of them strongly relying on market mechanisms to push energy security,” Sanchez said, “but energy for cooking is left out.” There are also roles defined for different actors, such as utilities, universities and the private sector, but not for NGOs.

Ibrahim Togola considers that within AEEP, two commissions are working together, but with different perceptions. “Does the AU commission really have the power to guide policies and daily life?” Togola asked. According to his opinion, AU does not influence the policies of its member states as the EU is doing. Therefore, it is much more difficult to not only formulate but also implement energy policies all over Africa. But Togola concludes that “Africa is changing very fast. The Africa-EU Partnership is an opportunity for the African Union to demonstrate that there is some progress at last.”

1. All the panel rounds during the IRENA Symposium in Berlin were facilitated by Nicola Liebert, freelance journalist and Press Officer for the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Berlin.

## With money, democracy and more enthusiasm

**Panel discussion: A complementary approach to promote Renewable Energies in Africa**

### Participants :

- Wolfgang Hofstätter, KAÏTO Projekt GmbH, Germany
- Jürgen Maier, German NGO Forum Environment and Development
- Wolfgang Moser, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria
- Mika Ohbayashi, IRENA
- Ibrahim Togola, Mali-Folkecenter

Looking at Africa’s reality sometimes leads to puzzling results. People not having access to electricity on the one hand, but walking everywhere with mobile phones even in the most remote areas on the other. Why is what was possible for the mobile phones, a quick spread-out all over the continent, not possible for Renewable Energies? This was

the leading question with which facilitator Nicola Liebert opened up the discussion to identify the major challenges and obstacles in promoting Renewables in Africa.

According to Wolfgang Moser, representing AEEP as well as the government of Austria, there are a number of obstacles, first and foremost the difficulty to change traditional habits – amongst them the use of fuel energy. “As long as it remains cheaper than biogas, for example, it will be attractive for the people,” Moser said. The lack of experts with regard to renewable techniques seems to be another problem. Africa lacks not only educated engineers but also job opportunities for those few who could be able to work in the area. “They might end up working as taxi drivers, with jobs sometimes taken away by international experts, leaving nothing for the locals,” Moser said. He also called for the enhanced involvement of the private sector. But so far, Europeans often do not know enough about investment opportunities in Africa.

Wolfgang Hofstätter, representing KAÏTO, also supports an enhanced involvement of enterprises and business







people to implement Renewable Energies in Africa. To him, more grants for loans are prerequisite for this. But to date, it is very difficult for a local entrepreneur to get such credits. “Grass-root business needs money,” Hofstätter said. According to him, more joint ventures are needed to ensure this – but they should be conducted by governments or international organisations. Associations like e.g. the German Africa Association are not the right forum. Also, the EU could serve as a bailer for such credits.

Joint Ventures for Renewable Energies in Africa should also develop applications and products that are payable for Africans. In Hofstätter’s view, initiatives like AEEP and IRENA are helpful. Still, they should not waste too much time building up large infrastructure but rather start with smaller and concrete single projects. Only by creating visible results on a short-term and mid-term basis will the initiatives be able to create trust and enthusiasm with regard to Renewables. As a response to this, Mika Ohbayashi from IRENA pointed out that co-operation with the civil sector first needed to be intensified in order to develop such projects. She also called for a maximum of transparency within all the project managements.

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“Visible results create enthusiasm for Renewable Energies.”

**Wolfgang Hofstätter**

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Ibrahim Togola from Mali-Folkecenter identified the monopolised state energy sector in many African countries as one of the key obstacles to implementing Renewable Energy. Centralisation is another problem – with big business and politics being concentrated in the cities, sufficient access to energy there and no interest in electrifying remote and rural areas. Like Moser and Hofstätter before him, Togola stressed the as yet insufficient business opportunities for Renewable Energy enterprises. “We do not have appropriate financial mechanisms,” he said.

Jürgen Maier from the German Forum Environment and Development also mentioned centralisation, technical lack of modern infrastructure and lack of energy access for the rural poor as the biggest problems in Africa. His demand was to “give people more power to look for their power”. According to him, donor-driven energy programmes mostly do not include local participation. Debates over technical and financial questions were not sufficient, Maier said. “We need political will and political reform to implement Renewable Energies. Without that, technical solutions are useless,” he claimed. Maier pointed out that the use of traditional biomass is a very serious problem, stating that “it is not renewable, not sustainable and over-exploited”.

After having identified the obstacles, the discussion focused on how initiatives like AEEP and IRENA can overcome these problems. According to Wolfgang Moser, AEEP is already very active, but results are often not published. In addition, he admitted that work and influence of AEEP has its limits. “If there is no political will for Renewables, there is not much we can do”, he said, agreeing with what was

mentioned earlier on by Jürgen Maier. “Take the example of Ethiopia,” Moser said. “People have already accepted the fact that their forest is being chopped down – thus, a change of mentality is very difficult.” Mika Ohbayashi also had to admit that IRENA could so far not provide the public with many concrete results, stating that “we are not an implementation organisation”. But co-operation, knowledge building, exchange of experiences – all this would facilitate the implementation of sustainable projects in the long run. Ohbayashi said that “people should submit their project proposals to us. We will consider them.” She admitted that IRENA, just like AEEP, has to become better known to the public.

Wolfgang Hofstätter and Ibrahim Togola once again stressed a strong involvement of the private sector as a solution to many problems. “We need to fund more social-orientated business,” Togola said. Hofstätter also wants to enforce co-operation between NGOs and business, and claimed that “we have to overcome the false notion that NGOs are good and business is bad in order to work together for a common goal”. Both also brought in the idea of feed-in tariffs for Renewables, as they exist in Germany, for example. But Jürgen Maier rejected that proposal. “A Feed-in-Law<sup>2</sup> like in Germany only works where there is a strong grid, which is definitely not the case in African countries,” he explained. Instead, he considers pressure by non-governmental organisations as a key prerequisite for the implementation of Renewable Energies. Maier referred to the example of India, where half of all wind energy is concentrated in just one state – Tamil Nadu. “And this is not because this region has more wind than others, but because of the strong involvement of NGOs calling for Renewables – thus leading to a different policy,” Maier said. To him, there is a direct link between democracy and Renewable Energy.

“The more progressive energy policies are to be found in democratic countries. And the same is true for Europe,” Maier added. While the United Kingdom has more wind, Germany has a more active NGO scene – leading to more engagement for wind power.

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“The more progressive energy policies are to be found in democratic countries.”

**Jürgen Maier**

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2. The German Feed-In Law, implemented in 2000, is an instrument to ensure priority for electricity based on Renewable Energies – such as solar, wind, water, biomass and geothermal. Grid operators are obliged to take up electricity produced with Renewable Energies and provide it for 20 years on minimum prices, fixed by the state.

Taking up what Maier said, facilitator Nicola Liebert then asked how AEEP and IRENA could improve dialogue with civil society. So far, she added, the process of implementing Renewable Energies in Africa seemed to be too much government-driven. Mika Ohbayashi envisaged the building up of IRENA focal points in different regions. As for AEEP, Wolfgang Moser wants to co-operate with NGOs especially in the fields of awareness raising, initiating projects and creating markets for them. He pointed out that Regional Centres already exist in Cairo and Cap Verde, adding that “co-operation with NGOs is strongly welcomed there”.

The subsequent discussion with the audience continued to focus on the role of NGOs for the IRENA and AEEP process. It was widely admitted that not only those initiatives have to enforce their dialogue with the NGOs, but that the non-governmental organisations themselves also should show more engagement and enthusiasm towards these Renewable Energy initiatives. In addition to that, some critics mentioned that Europeans still tend to look at Africa as a whole, as if it was just one country – neglecting the diversity of its countries. But for coming up with sustainable energy solutions, a close look at the different social and political circumstances in each one of the countries would be indispensable.

#### No progress without a strong political will

Without a strong political will to implement Renewable Energies, all efforts in this regard are fruitless. Take South Africa for example. The country does have a law concerning Renewable Energies including a Feed-In-Tariff comparable to the German model, but to date not one single solar plant exists. 93.4 percent of the country’s energy is still produced on the basis of coal, while 5.5 percent is nuclear power. Renewables only make up two percent of South Africa’s energy production – despite ideal conditions to produce Renewable Energy. Apart from solar energy, the country also has a high potential for wind energy. By relying on Renewables, it could become more independent of expensive energy imports, too.

So, why does South Africa not implement its own law on Renewables? Observers identify two main reasons: a high level of bureaucracy and, above all, the monopoly of the state-owned company ESKOM, which does not want to lose its privileged position in the market.



## We have to bring all relevant players on board

Interview with Wolfgang Moser on key challenges of AEEP and IRENA



**Wolfgang Moser** is Head of Division in the Programming and Planning Unit at the Department for Development Cooperation within the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs in Vienna, Austria. Together with Germany, he chairs the European Implementation Team in the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP). In Berlin, he discussed the key challenges that AEEP and IRENA face while promoting Renewable Energies for Africa.

**Q: Mr Moser, how do you consider the development and success of AEEP so far?**

A: In the beginning, it was extremely difficult to get the Africans on board. They are very sceptical nowadays with regard to European projects and initiatives. In their view, dealing with the Chinese is much easier and bears quicker results. So it was difficult for us to find permanent African members for AEEP. The spirit of the AEEP is to do the framework-setting jointly. Finally, Mauritius, our co-chair partner, Uganda, Mozambique, Egypt, Senegal and Kenya, for example, have joined us as such permanent members.

**Q: Why are important countries like Nigeria or Ghana not taking part?**

A: Some countries, like Nigeria, have their own agenda because of their richness in fossil fuel; and some prefer to work within their own regional economic committees like Southern African Development Community (SADC) or Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). All these organisations have their own departments for energy and they are supposed to aim for integration, harmonisation and co-ordination of energy issues of their member states.

**Q: If that's the case, why are new initiatives like the Africa-EU Energy Partnership necessary at all?**

A: AEEP can provide a more global approach, which is not interest-driven by certain countries or regions alone. The issue of energy security, energy access and Renewable

Energies must be taken much more into account by African governments and authorities than has been the case so far. AEEP can enhance this process by facilitating the dialogue with the support of the increasingly important African Union Commission, together with the institutions of the European Union.

**Q: In the meantime, have you been able to convince more African countries of the importance of AEEP?**

A: Yes, a lot of them have become less sceptical, and we work together very well. Jointly, we identified three core issues: Access to energy, energy security in both directions (Africa and Europe) and gas exports. We will support the implementation of Renewable Energy projects – hydropower, wind, solar and geothermal energy – in several countries. For example, we aim at producing 10,000 MW based on new hydropower facilities all over the continent, and 5,000 MW based on wind as well as 5,000 MW for all forms of solar energy; and by tripling the capacity of other Renewables, such as geothermal and modern biomass. We are trying not to be too ambitious with our Renewable projects, because financing is still a problem. There are also obstacles, like resistance to Renewables in specific countries. If a country like South Africa still prioritises fossil fuels, especially coal-carbon, we have to accept that somehow. We cannot prohibit it. But there are also limits: we are not supporting, e.g., the construction of an oil pipeline from Uganda to Kenya, as we were asked for. Such projects are not possible with us.

**Q. How do AEEP and IRENA work together and support each other?**

A: One important aspect is the exchange of knowledge and information. Another aspect is to bring more players on board – beyond the national authorities. We are supporting Regional Centres on Renewable Energies, like the ones in Cairo/Egypt and a new one for the ECOWAS region in Cape Verde, too. We hope to be able to facilitate the building up of more such centres in Africa. We also have to take into account that with Official Development Aid (ODA) alone, we cannot solve Africa's energy needs. The private sector has to be taken on board, too. But to date, it is still difficult to create bankable projects with regard to Renewable Energies. It is difficult to prove their profitability, and a lot of banks are reluctant to grant loans.

**Q: What other challenges do you see?**

A: There is also the issue of Capacity Building. Sustainable usage of energy should become a vital part of engineering training and formation. But so far, I hardly know any civil engineer office in Africa specialised in this. For example, there is the Nile Basin Capacity Building Network for River Engineering in Cairo, co-operating with Delft University, Netherlands. They want to enhance the formation of River Engineering, but financing is a problem. AEEP alone cannot help: we are not a financing instrument in the first place. Still, there are ways to get financial support, e.g. from the "Regional Indicative Programmes" for the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), which are provided through the European Commission. The only problem is that people often don't know about these resources. So far, only 30 percent of the programmes' means for the RECs have been retrieved, the rest was unspent. We need to strengthen our information policy in this regard, too.

**Q: It is often said that civil society has so far not played a sufficient role within AEEP and IRENA. What is your opinion on this?**

A: According to the Lisbon Declaration, on which AEEP is based, civil society should play an important role as being one of the key actors. On the European side, we undertook several efforts to bring non-governmental organisations, NGOs, on board. But the dialogue was difficult somehow. Which European NGO should take the lead seems to be a controversial issue. With regard to the African side, we asked the African Union Commission for a list of relevant NGOs, which we have not received so far. We hope that our co-operation with IRENA can help us here. All in all, we are still in the beginning. The fact that the First High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership, which was originally planned for April 2010 in Vienna, had to be cancelled due to the volcanic activities in Iceland and the resulting closure of airspaces in Europe, was certainly a setback for us. It really disturbed the dialogue because Min-

isters from Africa could not travel, and I was very frustrated because of what seemed to be a waste of time in the preparation for the event. But I hope that the postponed meeting, which is now re-scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in Vienna, will bring us back on track.

**Q: What are the next steps after that?**

A: We will work on our second action plan of the Energy Partnership and prepare the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme and we will also have an Africa-EU Partnership summit in Libya in November 2010, where we are supposed to launch some flagship projects. Furthermore, we will start our "quick action phase" 2010–2013, with five million euro from the European climate fund.







## Centralised or decentralised? We need to do both!

Panel discussion: What kind of energy structures does Africa need?

### Participants :

- Jean-Luc Ekwa MponyoM Bokete, Church of Christ (ECC), DR of Congo
- Claudia Hanisch, SolarWorld AG, Germany
- Dr. Christian Ruck, Member of German Bundestag, Germany
- Hans Peter Zerfas, World Vision, Germany

The aim is clear: to ensure better and increased access to energy services, especially for poor people in Africa's remote and rural areas. But how can this goal be reached? This question is much more difficult to answer. What kind of energy structure is appropriate to fulfil Africa's energy needs? The debate in Berlin concentrated on whether Renewable Energy concepts should be centralised or decentralised, whether they should be implemented on a small-scale, local basis or come up as broader and large solutions.

Christian Ruck, member of the German Bundestag, pointed out that it is very important to integrate local and regional strategies into any approach for Renewable Energies in Africa. "We have to build up networks of electricity," Ruck said. At the same time, he opted for large-scale solutions, e.g. big water and solar power plants, as they are needed in Congo and elsewhere. "You cannot base big industrial progress in Africa only on local solar energy." To Ruck, there is no choice between centralised and decentralised projects. "We need to do both".

In any case, to realise effective energy projects in Africa, the public and private sector need to work together. As already mentioned by other panelists in previous discussions, Ruck also said that a strong political will was prerequisite for implementing Renewable Energy projects in Africa. "We need the willingness of African elites to develop their own countries," he claimed. Thus the German government is working a lot on awareness-raising with its African partners. "Take our engagement in Morocco, for example," Ruck added. "The most important thing for us there was not to give money but to build a legal framework for pushing Renewable Energies, especially wind power."

“ We need the willingness of African elites to develop their own countries. ”

Christian Ruck

Claudia Hanisch from the German company SolarWorld voted for decentralised Renewable Energy solutions. Centralised structures are common in countries that use fossil energies, Hanisch said. In accordance with this, Solarworld has an office in Cape Town/South Africa from where it works together with 30 local partners to install solar systems ranging from small solar home systems to bigger plants that can serve radio stations, hotels, lodges or entire villages. "The advantage of solar and wind energy is that they are 'scalable', which means they can come along both as small or large

solutions," Hanisch said. "It is not a problem to build up big solar plants of 100 Megawatts in Africa."

Jean-Luc Ekwa from the Democratic Republic of Congo pointed out that his Church is also very much interested in promoting Renewable Energies, since it is accompanying the government in developing the country. "By providing access to energy, rural poverty can be reduced and people can take care of themselves," Ekwa said. But to date, Congo is not using the huge potential that it has for Renewable Energy. As a future strategy, Ekwa proposed that producers of Renewable technology also be involved in technology transfer. There should be a triangle of co-operation between producers, the local population and those financing the energy solutions.

Hans Peter Zerfas from World Vision Germany stated that the question of which energy structure is needed in Africa could only be answered by the Africans themselves. "Each African country has its unique situation," Zerfas said. "Therefore, each country has to find its own solution. But it is our task to facilitate this process." In his opinion, especially the agricultural sector needs to be provided with modern energy in order to reduce poverty. "In some regions the energy situation remains the same as it was 35 years ago," Zerfas said.

The ongoing debate focused on the example of Desertec – an ambitious 400-billion-dollar project planned by an international consortium to send solar power to Europe from the Sahara by using high-voltage direct-current cables to transmit the power from North Africa to Europe.

**The panelists were all very sceptical with regard to this project – for several reasons:**

- A. There is no experience with this transmission technology, which might pose problems, they said. A similar energy cable between France and the United Kingdom had already run into difficulties. The new one of Desertec would be ten times as long.
- B. Europe, by trying to get independent of Russian gas supplies, might indeed end up with new dependencies by receiving a large amount of its energy from Desertec.
- C. It will take time to implement the project. But in ten years from now solar energy sent from Africa to Europe will not be competitive any more, since Renewable Energy in Europe will be much cheaper as well, also thanks to photovoltaic generating.

Finally, and this seems to be the most critical argument, Desertec does not really create a win-win situation for both sides. "Once again the Europeans are exploiting African resources. European companies gain, while there is not much left for Africa," the panelists concluded. Claudia Hanisch pointed out that "we import oil and gas from Africa, so we should at least give something back, e.g. by using carbon credits to stimulate Renewable Energies in Africa".







## Talking about health means talking about light

A promising “Solar2World” project: Electrifying a hospital in Mali

Apart from debates and the exchange of experiences, as they took place in Berlin, concrete results on the ground are indispensable to further promote Renewable Energies in Africa. Claudia Hanisch from Deutsche Solar (the company being a member of the international Corporate Group SolarWorld) and her counterpart Ibrahim Togola from the Mali-Folkecenter can present such results – thanks to a fruitful partnership.

“Solar2World” is the name of a programme that provides non-governmental organisations in Africa and Latin America with solar plants free of charge. The organisations give these plants e.g. to schools and hospitals. Solar plants are also used for water purification and to drive other environmental facilities. The plants substitute diesel-power engines that are harmful for the environment. In many cases, solar plants bring energy to regions where there has been no electricity at all so far. The project partners take care of maintenance, that young people are trained for during the installation phase.

This is also the case in Dégnékoro, a village about 200 kilometres from Bamako, the capital of Mali. The local hospital there provides medical treatment for 10,000 people from nine communities. Previously, they had no electric light – treatment at night and births had to be conducted with the help of petroleum lamps. “Whoever talks about health is actually referring to light,” says

Omar Sangare, who works as a male nurse at Dégnékoro hospital.

Now brighter times have started. With “Solar2World”, two solar modules, each at 135 Watt, were installed. And it is not only patients who are benefiting from it. With the courtyard of the hospital being lighted up at night from now on, people from the village have a new place to meet.

“Solar2World” also has several other projects in Africa. It supports nine other hospitals and educational centres in Mali as well as a water pump for nomads in Timbuktu. As a result of climate change, they had to give up their traditional way of living and settle down. With the solar-powered water pump, they can now irrigate their vegetable fields all year long.

Another “Solar2World” project is a solar plant in Luambe National Park in East Zambia. It provides a lodge with electricity and thus contributes to enhancing eco-tourism. One partner in this project is the Luangwa Wilderness Association based in Cologne/Germany, with its Director Dr. Olaf Behlert, who is also Deputy Director of Cologne Zoo. The association was founded to support the Luambe National Park.

[www.solarworld.de](http://www.solarworld.de)

## Buying energy like buying a chewing gum

KAÏTO invented “Energy Kiosks” for African villages

Buying energy at a kiosk, just like one buys newspapers, chewing gums or cigarettes there? What seems to be a very unusual idea at first glance is in fact possible – thanks to an invention of the German company KAÏTO. It brings electricity directly to African villages.

The so-called “Energy Kiosk” is an independent solar-driven plant that works like a filling station. People can come here and recharge their lamps, mobile phones, batteries and accumulators according to their individual energy needs. They can also apply e.g. for a freezer at the kiosk or rent lamps for their homes. Bigger kiosks – intended to be used e.g. by local companies or hospitals – are also being set up. The aim is to attach all the plants to one local grid in the long run.

KAÏTO’s activities are not development projects but, as Directors Wolfgang Hofstätter and Heidi Schiller call it, “Business based on equality and partnership”. The installation of all Energy Kiosks is conducted without subsidies and financed on a private, economical basis. The plant therefore has to gain profit. Whoever comes to take electricity has to pay for it.

The kiosks are maintained in the framework of a franchising model. Everyone can apply for it – as long as he or she is willing to undergo special training, work with the label “KAÏTO” and settle all revenues properly with the company.

In recognition of its innovative energy and business model, KAÏTO has now won the Silver Medal in the “Solar

for all Design Contest” at the Intersolar North America in San Francisco. The prize is announced by several foundations, amongst them the German Fraunhofer Institute. It awards innovative off-grid solutions, which contribute to the electrification of developing countries and directly address the consumer. To win an award, the solutions must be flexible, adapted to local needs and expandable.

[www.kaito-afrika.de](http://www.kaito-afrika.de)

### Facts and figures

- Floor space required for the solar generator: between 5 und 20 square metres
- Life span: solar technology: 20 years, electronics: 10 years, batteries: 5 years
- Output: between 600 W and 1,800 W
- Combustion time of a lamp that can be rented: about 12 hours (about one litre of petroleum can be saved per lamp and per week) Average rental period: 4 days
- Catchment area: about 3 kilometres of radius
- Households to be provided: between 30 and 100
- Income possibilities for the owner of a kiosk: about 50 euro a month
- Range of maintenance: every four weeks



## At a glance: Discussion results in Berlin

As a wrap-up of the symposium and the debates, four clusters were identified by Richard Brand, Church Development Service, Germany:

1. Challenges
2. Success factors
3. Creative thinking
4. Stakeholder relations
5. Further discussion

### Challenges

Providing people with access to energy remains the overall challenge. Imported fossil fuels are becoming too expensive for more and more people and countries, so that alternative energies are an economic imperative. Reverting to traditional biomass is unsustainable – it is already overexploited. This leaves us with modern, sustainable renewable energies as well as increased energy efficiency as the only realistic options for economic development and energy security. However, due to the lack of long-term and mid-term energy strategies in many countries today, there are still many obstacles. There is a lack of awareness, political will and legal frameworks for implementing strategies to promote renewable energies on a large scale. As a consequence, more often than not, financing Renewable Energy projects is quite difficult.

### Success factors

As much as it is the key obstacle it is also the key success factor for implementing Renewable Energies in Africa: political will, especially by central governments and authorities, but also decentralised decision-making in the energy sector and the abolition of government monopolies. Policies in favour of Renewables, proper financing, training, capacity building and decentralisation go along with this. Africa needs:

- a paradigm shift in the energy sector
- power for the people
- better co-operation with the private sector
- enhanced business models for Renewable Energies
- an enabling framework for investment in the energy sector
- training
- awareness raising

### Creative thinking

The importance and value of AEEP and IRENA depends on the extent to which they improve these success factors or not.

### Stakeholder relations

There is still room for improvement within the Africa-EU Energy Partnership. Civil Society has to be fully included in this process. Interlinkages between AEEP and IRENA have to be strengthened. Relations between civil society and those in the business sector who implement the technologies for a sustainable energy future should be improved.

### Further discussion

Further debates and strategies should take into account:

- discussing how to create a new dynamic into the debate
- linking the discussion about Renewable Energies to the carbon markets and the climate negotiations
- striking a balance between energy access in general and access for the poor
- combining market-based approaches and access to energy for the poor
- clarifying the role of subsidies
- creating partnerships beyond Official Development Assistance (ODA):

## Speakers



**Wolfgang Moser**, a graduate engineer, has been working for the Austrian Ministry for European and International Affairs since 1990. Together with Germany, he chairs the European Implementation Team in the Africa-EU Energy Partnership. Overseas activities with UNIDO brought him to Papua New Guinea for three years and, for some time, to Zimbabwe. He is familiar with several African countries and is currently active in Austrian Development Co-operation in the Africa-EU Partnerships, where he integrates the results in bilateral programming activities focusing on regional infrastructure programmes. [www.bmeia.gv.at](http://www.bmeia.gv.at)



**Claudia Hanisch** became Press and Public Relations Officer for the SolarWorld location of Freiberg in 2008. She co-ordinates projects in the context of the “Solar2World” programme, in which SolarWorld AG provides solar plants for NGOs, above all in Africa. After studying Romance languages and literature, political and communications science as well as Latin American language and literature at TU Dresden, the Catholic University of Lille/ France and the University of Cergy-Pontoise/France, Claudia Hanisch worked as a freelance journalist and French teacher. In parallel, she established a journal on initiatives in the field of renewable energies and travelled to Mali several times to install solar plants. [www.deutschesolar.de](http://www.deutschesolar.de)



**Wolfgang Hofstätter** is a Board Member of KAITO Energie AG in Munich. This company projects, delivers and operates plants generating electricity from renewable sources. Wolfgang Hofstätter is a graduate mathematician who worked in the IT industry for 26 years and became active in rural Africa in 2000, as chairman of a development aid association until 2003 and as a coach for people starting a business until 2006. Since then, he has been a Rural Energy Provider. KAITO invests in and operates sustainable solutions for power supply across the whole of Africa and develops projects to use this electricity economically at local level. [www.kaito-afrika.de](http://www.kaito-afrika.de)



**Dr. Christian Ruck** has been Member of the German Parliament since 1990 and is Vice Chairman of the Christian-Democratic Parliamentary Group responsible for environment policy and development co-operation. Dr. Ruck studied economics at the Universities of Augsburg (Germany) and Paris (France). He moved to Africa to do research for his thesis on the economic effects of national parks in developing countries. Since 2002, Dr. Ruck has been chairman of the Working Group on Economic Cooperation and Development of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group. Now he is Vice Chairman of the Christian-Democratic Caucus. [www.christian-ruck.de](http://www.christian-ruck.de)





**Prof. Dr. h. c. Christa Randzio-Plath** is Vice Chairperson of VENRO. She works as a lawyer and is an advisor to the European Commission and a lecturer at the University of Hamburg and the College of Europe in Hamburg. Since 1984, she has been President of the Marie-Schlei Association, an NGO giving financial support to women's projects in countries of the South. From 1989 to 2004, she was member of the European Parliament. During her term in the European Parliament, she was a speaker on trade issues for the PSE, the SPD delegation's spokeswoman on economic, taxation and monetary issues policy in the European Parliament and a member of the ASEAN delegation. From 1999 on, she was Chairwoman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.  
[www.venro.org](http://www.venro.org)



**Jürgen Maier** has been Director of the German NGO Forum Environment & Development in Bonn and Berlin since 1996. From 1993 to 1996 he was Director of the German Asia Foundation in Essen and was a member of the German Green Party's National Executive Committee from 1987 to 1991. He is currently a member of the Advisory Committee of the German Asia Foundation, of the Board of the Climate Action Network as well as of the Steering Committee of the German Climate Alliance and the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels.  
[www.forum-ue.de](http://www.forum-ue.de)



**Nicola Liebert** studied politics, sociology and journalism in Berlin, Edinburgh and New York. She was Economics and Environment Editor with the daily taz and Financial Times Deutschland Correspondent in New York. Since 2004, she has been working as a free-lance journalist and Press Officer for the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Berlin.



**Hein Winnubst** works for the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development as Deputy Head of the Division for Water, Energy and Urban Development. Together with Austria, he chairs the European Implementation Team in the Africa-EU Energy Partnership. From 2004 until 2008 he worked for the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Head of Development Cooperation in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Before joining the German Federal Government in 2001 Mr. Winnubst worked for UNICEF and the German catholic Non-Governmental Organisation Misereor.  
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**Jean-Luc Ekwa MponyoM Bokete** is Director of BATIR (Bureau d'Architecture Technologies appropriées et Infrastructure rurales), a department of the Church of Christ in Congo (ECC). He is a construction engineer who graduated from the University of Brussels. Before working for BATIR/ECC, he was a consultant at the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in Addis Ababa, where he was responsible for industrial and infrastructural co-operation. Later, he worked as a consultant for the Bureau de Coordination, (BCECO) of the DR Congo. There, he was responsible for the rehabilitation of infrastructure.  
[ecc.faithweb.com](http://ecc.faithweb.com)



**Dr Hans Peter Zerfas** has been Team Leader Technical Advisory Group at World Vision since 2010. He is also responsible for energy, climate adaptation and climate justice. Zerfas, a qualified agricultural engineer, has had several years of experience with development co-operation projects in Malawi, India and Yemen in the fields of agriculture, poverty alleviation, WASH and training. In 2006, he joined World Vision, where he was initially responsible for Humanitarian Aid in the regions of Southern Africa and Asia.  
[www.worldvision.de](http://www.worldvision.de)



**Teodoro Sanchez** works for Practical Action in the UK, having held the post of Energy Technology and Policy Advisor since 2004. Born in Peru, he has more than 30 years of field experience in the implementation of projects related to small-scale renewable energies in developing countries, especially in Peru and other countries of Latin America. He graduated as a Mechanical Engineer in Peru in 1978 and obtained the degrees of MSc in Renewable Energies in 1988 and PhD in the UK in 2006.  
[www.practicalaction.org](http://www.practicalaction.org)



**Mika Ohbayashi** has been Scenarios and Regional Policy Manager at the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) since May 2010. IRENA promotes the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy. Before joining the organisation, she worked for the British Embassy to Japan, as Advisor on Climate Change Policies. She is one of founders of the Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP, Japan) and served as Deputy Director for eight years since its establishment in 2000. She started her career in the energy field by joining Citizens' Nuclear Information Center in 1992.  
[www.irena.org](http://www.irena.org)



**Richard Brand** works in the Development Policy Dialogue Department of Church Development Service (EED), focusing on climate and energy. He is an economist and has been involved in various professional activities, mostly linked to development issues, including long-term stays in Mozambique and Bosnia-Herzegovina. He is focusing on international climate policy, the impact of the Clean Development Mechanism on developing countries, Climate Finance, Renewable Energies and technology transfer. The EED co-operates closely with partner organisations in developing countries and with ecumenical development agencies, aiming to achieve a fair and ambitious climate agreement and world-wide sustainable development.  
[www.eed.de](http://www.eed.de)



**Dr. Ibrahim Togola** is Chairman of Mali-Folkecenter (MFC), having established the organisation in 1999. MFC is among the leading NGOs in West Africa in the fields of energy, environment & climate change. He has also initiated the creation of the Malian Renewable Energy & Environment Protection Association and the social enterprise Agro Industrie Developpement SA. Dr. Togola, an engineer and economist, was one of the initiators and President of the Malian Commission for Renewable Energy (CER). He is a Board member of the African Wind Energy Association and has been Chairman of a UNEP initiative since 2001, a project called AREED (African Rural Energy Enterprises Development). He was Facilitator of Mali and Niger for the Multi Stakeholder Group for EU Energy Initiative for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation.  
[www.malifolkecenter.org](http://www.malifolkecenter.org)





VENRO is the umbrella organisation of development non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Germany. The organisation was founded in 1995 and consists of around 120 organisations. Their backgrounds lie in independent and church-related development co-operation, humanitarian aid as well as development education, public relations and advocacy. 16 one-world networks are part of VENRO. These represent about 2,000 local development initiatives and NGOs. VENRO's central goal is to promote fair globalisation, with a special emphasis on eradicating global poverty. The organisation is committed to implementing human rights and conserving natural resources.  
www.venro.de



The German NGO Forum on Environment and Development was founded in 1992 after the UN Conference on Environment and Development. It co-ordinates activities of German NGOs in international political processes concerning sustainable development. Our main aim is the implementation of sustainable development. Issue-based Working Groups develop common positions as well as public relations and lobbying strategies. Once a year, the Forum meets in plenary. Co-ordination and information within and outwards are managed by the Secretariat. It is a kind of 'marketplace' for positions discussed by NGOs within the Forum. The Forum's political leadership is a Steering Committee consisting of representatives from environment as well as development organisations.  
www.forumue.de



Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst – EED) is an association of the Protestant Churches in Germany. By means of financial contributions, staff involvement, scholarships and consultancy services, EED supports the development work of churches, Christian and secular organisations. In this world-wide partnership, EED is participating in establishing a fair society. It takes and promotes action to arouse and enhance people's willingness to stand up to overcome need, poverty, persecution and violence. In 2012 EED will merge with Bread for the World, a campaign of the protestant churches and free churches in Germany to bring about justice for the poor. EED is a member of the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of more than 160 churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian assistance and advocacy and of the Association of World Council of Churches related Development Organisations in Europe (APRODEV).  
www.eed.de



With the project “Prospects for Africa – Europe's Policies” VENRO seeks an active civil society contribution to the implementation of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. The project builds on co-operation with African partners that began during VENRO's successful EU Presidency Project in 2007. VENRO member organisations then worked together with their African partners to develop statements for policy-makers, the media and interested public on the main topics of the project: energy and climate policies, regional integration and trade, and gender.  
www.prospects-for-africa.de

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## **PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA – EUROPE’S POLICIES**

The VENRO Project on the  
Africa-EU Partnership

