

SEMINAR ON FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FOR INVESTING IN ENERGY PROJECTS IN AFRICA**SE4A 2021 Cotonou November 11/2021*****Aim of the seminar***

To present and to discuss the various financial instruments (well-established or innovative) for investing in energy projects in order to provide or to improve access to energy (in particular electricity) for all with regards to sustainable development (i.e. security of supply, low cost , pollution-free), in close cooperation with European & African Institutions.

Expected audience

Energy decision-makers, industrialists, R&D sector (including PhD young applicants), academic & university world, high ranking officials, public and private investors, financial institutions, foundations, development agencies, business development support funds, consultants, energy related NGO's.

Approach

To help the African attendants to learn and to understand how to proceed with energy investment projects on basis of a relevant analysis of availability/accessibility of natural and industrial resources (Africa has a huge potential of energy resources), of the existing energy policy (national, regional or local) as well as of the specific climate, environment and population conditions.

While keeping in mind the potential impacts on the welfare of the communities and on the sustainable development of the economy.

Types of energy and energy solutions projects

All primary sources of energy and all energy solutions covering different aspects such as production, transport, distribution, in rural or urban areas, with in case of electricity supply power facilities from a few KW thru several tens of MW as well as energy solutions like conversion technologies, from primary thru secondary energies towards energy services.

- Production : biomass (domestic, community, industry), bio/agro-fuels, charcoal/wood (domestic), hydraulic , solar PV (domestic or farm) and CSP , wind (local or farm), gas (natural, CNG, LNG), oil (diesel generator), coal (with or without CCS-CCU) , geothermal, « green » hydrogen, e-fuels, nuclear (SMR's), hybrid solutions .
- Distribution : macro-grid electrification (on-grid) (expansion, renovation, stability, avoidance of losses, regional interconnection...) and mini-grid (off-grid) electrification for isolated communities and business entities (agriculture, farming, small industries, manufacturing and commerce activities).
- Storage : batteries, pumping mode & turbine mode units, heat pumping units, compressed air tank and others.

Financial Instruments

Various kinds of financial instruments will be presented and reviewed on basis of already achieved energy projects or projects currently deployed or tentatively addressed for future specific energy projects, all being for illustration purposes.

These instruments with specific aspects would include :

- Debt/loan : short term, long term, interest rate
- Grants/subsidies : recoverable or not
- Equity : share, return, duration, refund
- Supplier credit : part of contract value, interest rate, duration, guarantee
- BOOT : Build, Own, Operate & Transfer for specific large development projects
- Renting/leasing : with or without purchase option
- Hybrid financial tools : appropriate combination of above instruments
- Others : co-investing, Pay-Go, Pay-U, crowdfunding

Financial Stakeholders

Expected Financial Stakeholders to participate as contributors or attendants will be :

- Specific Development Agencies : to support the private sector
- Specific Development Agencies : to support the public sector and the civil society
- Plant builders and Equipment suppliers of the energy sector : to offer supplier credit
- International Banks and Financial Institutions : to support projects with their specific rules
- Credit Insurance Agencies

Seminar programme

The seminar will be organized in one session, max 2 hour duration including 80-90 minutes for contributions plus 30 minutes for Q&A. This duration will include some time provision to easily switch from one speaker to the following one .

Lectures (in English or in French) by each contributor will be limited to 10 min and followed by a panel discussion with Q/A. Ample time will therefore be given for in-depth discussion with the audience.

The contributors will support their presentation with a slide show to explain their respective expertise including recommended practices as well as examples of realized or on-going energy projects .

Agenda : November 11 from 13:30 to max 15:30 CET

Coordinator: Ir Bernard MAIRY (Belgium)

Moderator: Mrs Mireille JANSSENS (Belgium)

- Mrs Axelle Bourreau /EIB (GD of Luxemburg) – EIB investing in Western & Central Africa for renewable energy
- Mrs Natalia Svarinska/ ElectriFI/(Belgium) - Addressing the financing gap in access to renewable energy markets in Sud-Saharan Africa
- Mrs Medjo Wafo /PROPARCO (Côte d'Ivoire) - PROPARCO : présentation et activités dans le domaine des énergies en Afrique de l'Ouest
- Mrs Camille Fronville / BIO-Invest (Belgium) – BIO Invest facts & figures
- Mrs Mireille Janssens /CREDENDO (Belgium) - How can an Export Credit Agency provide financing for energy projects in Africa. The case of Credendo in Belgium
- Mrs Alzouma Nouhou /AREI (Nigeria) - L'initiative de l'Afrique sur les énergies renouvelables.
- Mrs Glory Oguegbu /RETTI (Nigeria) - Investment that Works; A look at investing in the African Renewable Energy Industry; instruments and things to keep in Mind.

Potential impact

The potential impact of this financial seminar is to promote a better understanding and a fairly basic control -by transferring financial knowledge- of the existing financial instruments (conventional & innovative) available for investing in energy production and energy applications projects.

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