

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Climate finance for sustainable energy transition in Africa

VENUE: ISSER Conference Facility, University of Ghana

Accra, 5 July 2023, 08h30 – 16h15

In-person participation in Conference:

Registration: <https://apps.eui.eu/EventRegistration/?eventId=560332>

Online participation for Panel 3 *What's next – Voices of Next Generation*

Registration: <https://apps.eui.eu/EventRegistration/?eventId=561283>

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 5 July 2023

08.30 – 09.00 GMT Arrival and registration

09.00 – 09.40 GMT Welcoming remarks

Speakers:

Peter Quartey, Director of Institute of Statistical, Social Economic Research, University of Ghana

Felix Ankomah Asante, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Development, University of Ghana

Mohammed Amin Adam, Minister of State, Ministry of Finance

Pieter Smidt Van Gelder, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., EU Delegation to Ghana

Renaud Dehousse, President, European University Institute

Maitre de cérémonie:

Teniola Tayo, YALP Alumna & Trade Policy Fellow, APRI

- 09.45 – 11.15 GMT** **Panel 1: Meaning of and vision for the sustainable energy transition in Africa**
Speakers:
Robert Bright Mawuko Sogbadji, Director Renewables, Ministry of Energy
Ebenezer Koranteng Harmah, Manager Project Evaluation, Petroleum Commission, Ghana
Bola Adigun, Partner & West Africa ICP, Deloitte
Folake Soetan, Chief Executive Officer, Ikeja Electric Plc
Moderator:
Ignacio J. Pérez-Arriaga, Interim Director, African School of Regulation
- 11.15 – 11.45 GMT** **Coffee Break**
- 11:45 – 13:15 GMT** **Panel 2: Financing sustainable energy transitions in Africa – pitfalls, potentials, and paradoxes**
Speakers:
First Bank of Nigeria
Chris Ofikulu, Regional Chief Executive Officer, UBA West Africa
Ian Mashingaidze, Programme Director, ACBF
Oluwaseun David-Akindede, Head of Corporate Communications and Brands Management, Access Bank
Moderator:
Kenneth Amaeshi, Professor, School of Transnational Governance, EUI
- 13.15 – 14.45 GMT** **Networking Lunch**

14:45 – 16.00 GMT **Panel 3: What's next – Voices of Next Generation: Reflections and actions on sustainability from young leaders and actors of change in West Africa**

Speakers:

Bradley Poku-Amankwah, Senior Specialist, Sustainable Energy for All

Doris Odei, ME&L Officer, Youth Advocates Ghana

Chibeze Ezekiel, Executive Coordinator, Strategic Youth Network for Development

Confidence Coffie, Manager, Lady Volta Green Tech Academy

Facilitators:

Stephanie Schandorf, YALP alumna & Associate Director, Gulf of Guinea Maritime Institute

Esther Aba Eshun, YALP alumna & Young Expert, AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub

Panel 3 is open for [hybrid participation](#).

16.00 – 16.15 GMT **Closing Remarks**

Speaker:

Kenneth Amaeshi, Professor, School of Transnational Governance, EUI

APPENDIX – PRESENTATIONS OF CONFERENCE PANELS

Panel 1: Meaning of and vision for the sustainable energy transition in Africa

To integrate the energy transition thinking from a just transition perspective, it will be necessary for governments and businesses in Africa to understand what is expected of them, particularly as it relates to their energy transition plans. But to do this, there is a need first to articulate what a just and sustainable energy transition means or should look like from where many Africans sit. It is also essential to understand the role of governments, civil society organisations, and the private sector in realising the sustainable energy transition vision in Africa, particularly in the ECOWAS region rich in oil and gas.

Panel 2: Financing sustainable energy transitions in Africa – pitfalls, potentials, and paradoxes

Africa's widening energy access gap creates a unique opportunity for the region to leapfrog fossil fuel technologies and pursue a climate-friendly, needs-oriented power strategy aligned with the Paris Agreement and low-carbon growth. The emergence of decentralised solutions, technology developments and falling costs for renewable energies are opening new opportunities and making a real business case for renewables. With abundant indigenous resources, Africa is well-placed to leverage this potential. However, Africa receives less than two percent of all investments in renewable energy. One of the reasons we do not see the scale-up of assets in the green transition in Africa is the lack of bankable projects that can attract or access adequate financing in the continent. In this panel, experts and key stakeholders will identify and discuss financing gaps and opportunities to guide stakeholders to access, allocate and mobilise climate finance effectively.

Panel 3: What's next – Voices of Next Generation: Reflections and actions on sustainability from young leaders and actors of change in West Africa

When contemplating the future, it is crucial to consider the perspectives of upcoming generations, especially when focusing on the continent with the world's youngest population. This panel will be led by alumni of the Young African Leaders Programme (YALP), funded by the European Union and implemented by the EUI's School of Transnational Governance in Florence. In the panel, Alumni will engage in a discussion on the aspirations and concerns of future leaders in achieving a just and sustainable energy transition together with some representatives of civil society.

By emphasizing the importance of intergenerational dialogue and collaboration, the panel aims to bridge the gap between established leaders and the voices of young people. By sharing existing good practices in Ghana and other West Countries, the panel will help exploring the significant role of civil society and social entrepreneurship play in empowering

youth-led initiatives in the areas of sustainable development, climate change and green transition. Furthermore, the panel will also engage the panellists in identifying strategies and resources to include youth in governance of the natural resources and formulation, implementation and review of existing environmental sector policies, programmes, and projects from local to national to international levels.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

In July 2023, the European University Institute (EUI) organises a conference and executive training course in Ghana, focusing on climate financing for the sustainable energy transition in West Africa.

In order to organise this [academic event](#), which includes the high-level conference and an executive training, the EUI partners with the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF, the African Union's specialised agency for capacity development), the University of Ghana's Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research ([ISSER](#)) and the African School of Regulation ([ASR](#)).

The conference will explore the meaning of, as well as a vision for, sustainable energy transition from Africa's perspective and the roles critical stakeholders (e.g., governments, civil society organisations, businesses, international organisations, et cetera) can play to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable energy sector.

The conference will also explore the financing options and sources available for this transition. It will be an open session with three moderated panel discussions and a networking lunch.

TEACHING AND LEARNING TEAM

Scientific Coordinator and Lead Instructor

Kenneth AMAESHI | Professor of Sustainable Finance and Governance at the School of Transnational Governance

Contacts:

Tristan ROEVEN | Project Associate, School of Transnational Governance, EUI, tristan.roeven@eui.eu