

# Green People's Energy for Africa

## Background

Commissioned by	BMZ
Implementation	GIZ
Region	Sub-Saharan Africa
Budget	€ 19,400,000
Period	10/2018 – 09/2022

620 million people in sub-Saharan Africa still have no access to modern energy technologies and services. Above all, the electricity supply cannot cover the demand. With the technologies available locally, energy production is costly, inefficient and causes harmful side-effects to human health. The energy demand in Africa will continue to rise disproportionately due to high population growth as well as dynamic economic growth and a higher standard of living in some areas. Africa's demand for energy is expected to increase by 80% until 2030. Meeting this demand is a challenge for all of us because sustainable economic development and the achievement of **SDG 7** (Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all) is only possible if sufficient energy is available. Due to the increasing urgency of avoiding climate change, the Paris Climate Agreement and **SDG 13** "Action to combat climate change and its impacts" requires that growth in Africa be powered by renewable energy. The most challenging part of this agenda will be the significant improvement of access to **modern, renewable energy in rural areas**. The initiative "Green People's Energy for Africa", launched by **Federal Minister Gerd Müller** in June 2017, is designed to support these goals. As part of the "Marshall Plan with Africa," the initiative supports the development of decentralised renewable energy systems in rural regions of Africa with the **involvement of citizens, municipal structures, cooperatives and companies**.

## Project example: school electrification

26% of the schools in sub-Saharan Africa do not have any energy supply, although, electricity access greatly improves and expands learning opportunities. For this reason, education in Uganda will be supported through



"Green People's Energy for Africa" project by supplying PV solar systems for schools. The new possibilities offered by electrification are manifold: light in dark rooms, evening classes, technical equipment such as laptops and printers. Schoolchildren in connected boarding schools will also benefit from lighting that makes evening learning safer, easier and more environmentally friendly.

## Training of Trainers



In 2019, three training modules ("training-of-trainers") in the field of vocational education are planned by the education provider BFZ in cooperation with the municipality of Wildpoldsried. Basics of energy technology, deepened knowledge of photovoltaics and didactic skills will be included in the curricula. As part of a learning project, a so-called "solar energy suitcase" will also be constructed. Participants of the first course will be from Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal (which are pilot countries) as well as Burundi, Rwanda, and Togo.

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Special attention is paid to the **promotion of local value creation through the supply of energy** for businesses and social institutions such as **schools or health centers** and the **promotion of framework conditions for investments**.

## Objectives

Green People's Energy for Africa aims to improve the conditions for decentralised energy supply in selected sub-Saharan African countries with the participation of citizens and companies. Activities will focus on Ethiopia, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Zambia, Senegal and Uganda. In addition to country-specific measures, the initiative promotes renewable energy projects of common benefit across countries and strengthens partnerships between actors in Europe and Africa.

## Special Representatives for Energy in Africa

The BMZ special representatives for energy in Africa, the two former members of the German *Bundestag*, Bärbel Höhn and Josef Göppel, play a central role in implementing the initiative "Green People's Energy for Africa". They provide voluntary support in the design and promotion of the initiative and contribute their political experience and networks to its implementation. The two special representatives for energy have already visited all eight focus countries as part of their activities. The initiative was presented at various events. This contributes to the development of partnerships between different groups of actors and thus to the core objectives of the initiative.



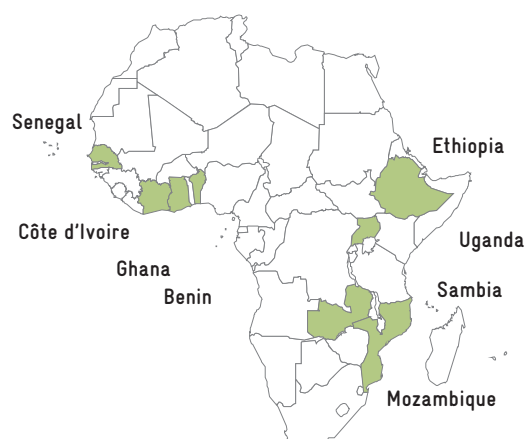
**Bärbel Höhn, BMZ Special Representative for Energy in Africa, MdB/MdL/Landesministerin a. D.**

"The Initiative Green People's Energy is intended to provide people in rural areas in eight African countries with access to electricity with the help of renewable energies and thus create new income, jobs and prospects, e.g. through the processing of fruit, cooling, mills, welding or forging work and much more."



**Josef Göppel, BMZ Special Representative for Energy in Africa, Vors. Dt. Verb. für Landschaftspflege, MdB a. D.**

"The Initiative 'Green People's Energy for Africa' will be particularly successful in bringing modern energy services to rural areas if it draws on the good approaches that already exist. The training of young Africans in renewable energies is particularly important to me because they can make an effective contribution to sustainable development as qualified specialists in their home countries."



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