



Department
for International
Development



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWSLETTER #32 – 24th November 2015

This Newsletter is produced regularly by the DFID Sustainable Energy Team. It highlights new **funding opportunities, events and research** surrounding renewable energy, resource efficiency and low carbon development.

If you would like to (un)subscribe or have any questions, comments or ideas, please contact Nicky Cassidy (N-Cassidy@dfid.gov.uk).

CLIMATESCOPE 2015 LAUNCH AND HIGHLIGHTS

Climatescope, the clean energy country competitiveness index, interactive report, and online tool supported by the UK government, US government, and the Inter-American Development Bank Group offers a compelling portrait of clean energy activity in 55 emerging markets in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. The group includes major developing nations China, India, Pakistan, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa, as well as dozens of others.

Developing nations eclipsed the world's wealthiest countries in 2014, attracting more clean energy investment and building more wind, solar, and other renewable power generation than ever before, according to the Climatescope 2015 Report. The 2015 study shows that the majority of 2014 clean energy investment, activity occurred in 55 developing nations.

Climatescope's key findings include:

- For the first time ever, over half of all new annual investment into clean energy power generating projects globally went toward projects in emerging markets, rather than toward wealthier countries.
- New investment in renewables soared in 2014 in the 55 Climatescope countries assessed to hit a record annual high of \$126bn – up \$35.5bn, or 39%, from 2013 levels.
- The results were substantially bolstered by the remarkable growth in China, which added 35GW of new renewable power generating capacity all on its own – more than the 2014 clean energy build in the US, UK, and France combined.
- Meanwhile, “South-South” investment (funds deployed in Climatescope nations from banks or other financial institutions based in those countries) surged to \$79bn in 2014 from \$53bn the year prior.

- Continuing declines in clean energy costs appear to be driving growth. Costs associated with solar photovoltaic power have ticked down 15% year-on-year globally. Solar is particularly competitive in emerging markets which often suffer from very high power prices from fossil generation while also enjoying very sunny conditions.
- A total of 50.4 gigawatts (GW) of new clean capacity was built in Climatescope countries, marking a 21% uptick from the prior year. In another first, renewables capacity deployed in emerging markets topped that in wealthier Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations.
- On a percentage basis, clean energy capacity is growing twice as quickly in Climatescope nations compared to OECD ones. For further information please see <http://global-climatescope.org/en/>

ENERGY AFRICA

The UK's Energy Africa access campaign, which was [launched on 22 October](#) by International Development Minister Grant Shapps, will help Africa to achieve universal energy access by 2030. A reliable electricity supply is one of the most powerful tools for lifting people out of poverty and ending dependency on aid.

Energy Africa will take on the inefficient markets, policy barriers and under-investment which mean that Africans pay as much as 66 times more for their electricity than someone in the UK. It will do this by:

- boosting the market – the heart of the Energy Africa campaign is about removing policy and regulatory barriers to market expansion, and better co-ordinating donor support to the sector as a whole
- agreeing partnerships with key African nations – 14 target countries have been identified for agreements that will set out policy actions, particular to each country, to improve market conditions alongside the co-ordinated support needed to deliver on these, and
- increasing support to the sector – a series of DFID programmes have helped the household solar market get to where it is today, including the Renewable Energy and Adaptation to Climate Technologies (REACT) window of the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund. Further financial support to the sector will build on this.

The campaign will support and amplify a series of ongoing shifts in the household solar market, including:

- the dramatically decreasing cost of solar photovoltaic panels
- improvements in battery technology – thanks to the development of Lithium batteries
- improvements in the efficiency of appliances (for instance an LED 6 watt produces light equivalent to an Edison bulb on 60 watts) and
- the spread of mobile payment systems enabling access through micro pay-as-you-go.

For further information please see the second attachment to this email and the below links.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-africa-campaign>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/solar-boost-to-release-africas-untapped-energy-potential>

FUNDING

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is now welcoming applications for a fourth round of funding to support renewable energy projects in developing countries. The USD 50 million now available is part of a USD 350 million commitment by the UAE to provide concessional loans to projects endorsed by IRENA over seven funding cycles, through the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD).

Projects include off-grid, mini-grid and/or on-grid using wind, solar, hydro, geothermal and biomass. The results of the third funding cycle will be announced in January 2016. Applications for this fourth of seven funding cycles will be accepted until 15 February 2016 at 17:00 GST.



*MW hydro project in Tigreurco, Ecuador, Payagua River, first cycle.
Photo credit: Ecuador Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy*

For more information, please visit www.irena.org/adfd

The Argidius - ANDE Talent Challenge

To promote successful talent engagement strategies, ANDE and The Argidius Foundation are pleased to launch the Argidius-ANDE Talent Challenge. The challenge seeks to identify highly promising solutions to human capital constraints, provide funding to experiment with these models, and ultimately scale the best ideas.

The challenge is open to all organisations (or teams of organisations) working to help small and growing businesses in specific emerging market geographies to recruit, develop and/or retain talent at the middle and upper level management levels. The challenge is open to non-profit or for-profit institutions, including financial institutions.

Funds will be disbursed in two rounds of funding. In the first phase, we plan to disburse grants of up to €200,000 to up to five pilot programs in April 2016. It is expected that the pilot programs will run for up to three years. However, the final timing will be determined based on the pilots selected. Based upon an evaluation of the pilot programs, we plan to

award a grand prize of up to €1 million to the pilot program deemed most impactful and most likely to scale.

For further information please see <http://www.andeglobal.org/?page=AATC>

COMPETITION

Supporting sustainable solutions: from ideas to implementation

The India Youth Climate Network (IYCN), the UK Youth Climate Coalition (UKYCC) and the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) have come together to work on the Sustainable Solutions Challenge. The British High Commission, New Delhi supports us in this endeavour.


The goal is to identify the most innovative and climate smart solutions generated by the youth in India and the UK and communicate and celebrate them with a global audience.



The winners will be announced at COP 21 and be partnered with organisations who can develop their idea further.

The closing date is 25th November 2015. For further information please see <http://iycn.in/contest/>

RESEARCH

Moving Energy Initiative- New Research

On Tuesday 17 November new evidence was published by the  [Moving Energy Initiative](#) on the energy needs of refugees and displaced people worldwide.

In a ground-breaking global analysis of the issue, Chatham House co-ordinated the  [Heat Light and Power for Refugees: Saving Lives, Reducing Costs](#) report which highlights the energy needs of refugees and displaced people, and presents the first ever estimates of the volume and costs of what they use. The study is funded by DFID's Research and Evidence Division, through the [Humanitarian Innovation and Evidence Programme](#) and has received coverage from the  [BBC](#).

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

OpenIDEO is thrilled to announce the launch of Accelerate – our new program supporting innovation for a more sustainable future. We believe design thinking and collaboration can create real-world impact – scaling existing solutions and developing new innovations that protect our planet.

Accelerate will enable people everywhere to get involved through OpenIDEO challenges, events, partnerships and more.

We're kicking things off with [Climate Innovator Stories](#) where we will share inspiring examples of game-changing people and projects. If you are a climate innovator yourself, are inspired by someone else, or simply want to lend your storytelling talents to this effort, we want to hear from you!

Throughout the challenge, we'll support participants in a variety of ways – promoting strong submissions to our global community of more than 100 thousand people, providing opportunities for funding, offering IDEO design support, hosting workshops and granting scholarships to an IDEO U storytelling course (more information below).

[Jump in today](#) and get started! As always, we hope you'll share this challenge with your friends, colleagues and communities.

Are you working on off-grid energy in Tanzania?

We (DFID, UKTI and FCO) are building a stakeholder database of businesses active in the energy sector in Tanzania, with a particular focus on distributed energy solutions providers (off-grid and mini-grid). To be added to this list, please email Leanne Jones (leanne-jones@dfid.gov.uk) detailing key contact in Tanzania, location, overview of your business/work and country of origin of your company.

DFID's current support for distributed energy in Tanzania includes funding opportunities under the African Enterprise Challenge Fund's Renewable Energy and Adaptation to Climate Technologies window, and a programme to support Green Mini-Grids working alongside Tanzania's Rural Energy Agency. We are keen to understand what barriers and challenges continue to constrain scale of off-grid solutions in Tanzania, and will use this database to consult with or update interested stakeholders on our work in this area.

