

AFRICA RENEWABLE ENERGY INITIATIVE



Summary from the Technical meeting on AREI contributions, 2-3 March, 2017

AREI core principles, precepts and visions

- AREI, launched at COP 21 within a climate context, is an overriding framework with sustainable development at the core.
- Recognition of AREI's unprecedented endorsement at highest political level both in Africa and beyond.
- African ownership is key, with African governments being pro-active.
- AREI is much more than funding projects: it's about creating a vision for the continent, creating transformative enabling environments and policies, enhancing cooperation, collaboration, and integration.
- The work during the Establishment phase and Phase I (2017-2020) will set the ground for the Phase II (2020-2030) final objective of universal access and 300 GW.

Reflections on operationalisation and process

- The initiative operational with Board, IDU and Trust Fund set up.
- The sense of urgency must be a driver for accelerating the implementation of AREI.
- Pending the establishment of the formal process for screening and recommending projects, the EU presented to the meeting a list of 14 projects for their submission to the AREI Board.

Independent Delivery Unit

- Recognition of the achievements of the IDU in relation to all the substantive work done during the establishment phase, including the formulation of action plan, work plan, budget and all board documents.
- Independence of the IDU is key.
- Immediate priority for IDU to accelerate exchange, outreach, communication and mobilization of the African countries on AREI.
- Mapping very key (participatory, inclusive, transparent, proactive), to be coordinated by the IDU through wider participation for the common good.

Trust fund status

- The trust fund has been agreed and established at the bank, after unanimous approval of the Bank's Boards of Directors and Governors.
- Partners present in the meeting indicated they are, at least for the moment, not intending to channel resources through the Trust Fund (except support for the IDU).
- In line with the AREI Framework, the Trust Fund is one of several central components of AREI.

AREI informing partners

- AREI Criteria and guiding principles are already enhancing formulation of good projects by partners.
- Some partners have already initiated explicit process towards alignment of climate, energy and development cooperation on AREI in line with AREI vision, principles and overall approach.

Process of attribution of projects

- Projects to be attributed to AREI need to be screened by IDU against AREI Criteria, in accordance with AREI Framework.
- Screened projects shall be submitted to the AREI Board for consideration.
- There must be agreement with AREI on what can be claimed as AREI, before any public announcements.

Coordination and tracking to ensure additionality towards AREI targets

- AREI needs to establish clear monitoring system to keep track of commitments and their delivery.
- Further clarity required regarding the USD 10 bn commitment by international partners.
- Coordination and tracking should ensure transparency and accountability in appropriation of funds or resources committed to AREI.
- Additionality must be ensured and double counting avoided.

Next steps

- Necessity to maintain the positive dynamic that has been initiated.
- Dialogue between Africans and partners is very important and should be instituted on a periodic basis.
- Widened partner involvement (including Southern partners).