



## AU-EU Research and Innovation Partnership on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy

### Towards a new R&I partnership for environmental sustainability

Following the launch of the EU-Africa R&I Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture in April 2016, the AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation identified Climate Change and Sustainable Energy as the second priority area for cooperation. A joint effort of the European and African Union Commission services, AU and EU Member States, supported by the Horizon 2020-funded Research and Innovation Network for Europe and Africa (RINEA) and thematic experts, leads to the drafting of the Roadmap for a jointly funded AU-EU Research & Innovation Partnership on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (CCSE). This roadmap was adopted by the HLPD Senior Officials Meeting of October 2017. The partnership was officially launched by the Abidjan Summit of November 2017, thus receiving recognition at the highest level.

### Areas of focus and importance

This jointly developed and owned Partnership will mainly focus on climate action for adaptation and mitigation, renewable energy and energy efficiency. It will aim to deliver on internal and global political commitments undertaken by both continents and address the Sustainable Development Goals in supporting a transition to low-carbon and climate resilient economies. It will contribute to building resilient and sustainable energy systems to support economic growth demands in Africa and to harness the great potential of a growing youth generation, in line also with the Joint Declaration of the 2017 AU-EU Summit in Abidjan.

### First stages of implementation

The first actions for the implementation of the Partnership will be supported by Horizon 2020 (estimated EUR 16 million for 2018-2020) with call topics targeted to African countries. A support action started in July 2018 to prepare a Joint Programme on Renewable Energy Technologies expected to start in 2020 (estimated European Commission and country contributions of about EUR 30 million for five years).

### What's next?

Based on the CCSE roadmap, the HLPD has set the objective of preparing a flexible action plan for the successful long-term implementation of the partnership. This will include suggestions for focal areas for the future together with a governance scheme of the partnership. In this context, additional channels of EU and AU funding will be sought as well as synergies with actions that could be developed in the context of the Communication on Accelerating Clean Energy Innovation (ACEI).

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