African Energy Efficiency Alliance Conference

Advancing Africa's Energy Efficiency Agenda through Strategic Partnerships

Concept Note and Draft Agenda

Date: 10-11 December 2025
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ORGANIZER

African Energy Commission (AFREC)

Partners

<To be updated>

A. Background

1. Energy is a critical component of sustainable development. Despite its role in enhancing overall socio-economic productivity and providing public services such as education and health, access to energy services remains a major challenge in Africa. Approximately 600 million people lack access to electricity, and close to 1 billion people do not have access to clean cooking services. This calls for an urgent response to address the energy deficits and meet the expected energy demand growth due to growing population, urbanization in Africa, and industrialization. The energy challenge is further exacerbated by the urgent need for global action on climate change, limiting the available resources for bridging the energy supply gap.

2. Energy efficiency has the potential to contribute towards the transformation of the global energy system, boosting the clean energy transition and reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) whist delivering quality energy services for all. It is in view of this that during the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) held in Dubai, 133 countries including several African countries signed the Global Commitment on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, committing to triple global installed capacity of renewable energy and double the global average annual rate of improvements in energy efficiency by 2030 as part of COP28's global stock take (GST) negotiated outcome.
3. Clear leadership that is ambitious and collaborative is required in achieving the set energy efficiency targets. This leadership must come from government-backed specialized agencies supported by non-state entities (that is, "non-Party stakeholders" or NPS). Engaging businesses and other non-state entities is paramount for project implementation, building capacity on the ground and providing the financial means needed to complement public and multilateral sources of funding.
4. For a coordinated and holistic approach to advancing energy efficiency in Africa, the African Ministers responsible for Energy through the 3rd Extra Ordinary Session of the Specialised Technical Committee on Transport and Energy (STC-TE) held on December 3 -5, 2024, validated the African Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan (AfEES). The AfEES was then adopted by the 46th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa held on February 12-13, 2025. AfEES outlines over 100 actions at the national, regional and continental level to optimize energy use in the power, industry, buildings, transport, agriculture and appliances subsectors. The Ministers also called for the operationalization of the African Energy Efficiency Alliance. These actions are intended to accelerate progress towards the African Union's commitment to improve energy productivity by 50% by 2050 and 70% by 2063 which is in line with the global target of doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

5. The African Energy Efficiency Alliance is a collaborative platform for energy efficiency that was launched by the African Union Commission at COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The Alliance aims to bring together regional renewable energy and energy efficiency centers, regional economic communities, governments, development partners, the business community, NGOs, research institutions, and other stakeholders to champion energy efficiency knowledge and experience sharing; advance advocacy and awareness; conduct research and development; facilitate technology transfer; and attract funding and investment for energy efficiency programmes.
6. It is in this context that the African Energy Commission (AFREC) is hosting the "**Inaugural African Energy Alliance Conference**" between ***December 10-11, 2025***.
7. The objectives of the High-Level Conference include: -

   Take stock of the progress in implementing energy efficiency initiatives in Africa and identify gaps and opportunities for scaling up successful programmes.

To facilitate knowledge and experience sharing among the African Union Member States and partners to align national energy efficiency strategies with continental and global commitments.

Showcase some of the best practices and technologies in implementing energy efficiency programmes with a focus on technology transfer and investment opportunities.

To mobilize financing and investment by engaging with development banks, ESCOs, and private investors and exploring financing models that can drive energy efficiency initiatives across Africa.

B. Pre-conference Training: December 08-09, 2025

The main conference will be preceded by a partner sponsored trainings targeting **energy efficiency policymakers**, **industry players**, **academia** and **NGOs**. This is focusing on:-

- Energy efficiency in buildings;
- Development and Implementation of Minimum Energy Performance Standards for Electrical Appliances and Equipment;
- Energy Efficiency in Industrial including Energy Auditing and Financing;
- Energy Efficiency in electricity supply system, transport, Clean Cooking, Agriculture; and
- Monitoring and Implementation of Energy Efficiency Policy Instruments among others.

The African Energy Efficiency Handbook on Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and the African Energy Efficiency Handbook on Distribution Grid Losses Determination and Action Plan Development will also be reviewed and validated by experts during this session. This is to contribute towards the African Energy Efficiency Alliance objective on capacity building.

C. Draft Agenda of the 1st African Energy Efficiency Conference

Date	Planned Activity
December 08-09, 2025	Pre-conference Trainings focussing on • Energy efficiency in buildings; • Development and Implementation of Minimum Energy Performance Standards for Electrical Appliances and Equipment; • Energy Efficiency in Industrial including Energy Auditing and Financing; • Energy Efficiency in electricity supply system, transport, Clean Cooking, Agriculture; and • Monitoring and Implementation of Energy Efficiency Policy Instruments among others. (Partner organized trainings for selected participants)
Tuesday, December 09, 2025	Arrival and Registration for the Conference
Wednesday, December 10, 2025	• High Level Opening • Ministerial Engagements • Showcasing of Energy Efficiency Programmes • Dinner
Thursday, December 11, 2025	• Thematic Sessions • Closing Meetings

D. DRAFT DETAILED PROGRAMME FOR THE CONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

0800-0900 hours	Registration	
09:00 – 10:00	**High Level Opening Session** **<u>Welcome Remarks</u>** Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission Minister of Water and Energy for Ethiopia (TBC)	
	<u>Opening Panel</u> • VP of the African Development Bank (TBC) • Executive Director, International Energy Agency (TBC) • Minister responsible for Climate, Energy and Utilities, Denmark (TBC) • European Union Commissioner for Energy (TBC) • Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) • G20 South Africa(TBC) • UN Special Representative for SEforALL (TBC) **Moderator:** Commissioner of Energy and Infrastructure	
10:00 – 10:50	**Ministerial Panel: Energy Efficiency as the first fuel for African development - perspectives from African Member states** **Moderator:** UN Special Representative for SEforALL **Speakers:** African Energy Ministers **Summary of the panel:** The Ministerial panel will bring together African Ministers to share experience on ongoing interventions and their outcomes on energy efficiency programmes across Africa.	
10:50 – 11:00	**Launch of the African Energy Efficiency Alliance**	
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break + Group Photo + media interviews	
11:30 – 12:15	**Accelerating investment and action to drive efficiency progress towards achieving AfEES Targets** **Presenter and Moderator**: African Development Bank/Mission 300 Speakers ▪ AEEP ▪ AFREC ▪ EIB ▪ European Union ▪ Denmark ▪ Private sector ▪ EIB	**Ministerial Roundtable on Advancing Energy Efficiency as a priority for Africa** **Closed-door session for Ministers** < African Energy Commission >
12:15 – 13:00	**Panel Discussion:** International cooperation: Doubling energy efficiency globally by 2030 achieved by achieving AFEES target in Africa	

	Moderator: AEEP Speakers: ▪ IEA ▪ SEforALL ▪ IRENA ▪ Denmark ▪ EU ▪ UNEP -U4E ▪ EACREEE ▪ EELA ▪ CLASP ▪ PEEB	
13:00 – 14:00	Networking Lunch	
14:00-15:00	**Inter-Regional Energy Meeting** **Closed session** <ASEAN Center for Energy (ACE), OLADE, SAAR Center for Energy (SEC) and AFREC>	***Reserved to partners*** **Debate on Energy Efficiency Data in Africa (AFREC, ECREEE, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa)**
15:00-15:45	**Smart Buildings and Efficiency** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <GIZ, Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB), World Building Council, and UNHABITAT>	**ESCOs and Financing of Energy Efficiency Programmes** • Presentation • Panel Discussions < SEforALL and Mission Efficiency >
15:45-16:15	**Coffee and Networking**	
16:15-17:00	**Efficiency in the Transmission and Distribution Networks** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <AUDA-NEPAD and APUA>	**High Energy Performing Appliances and Equipment** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <EELA, UNEP and CLASP>
18:00 – onwards	Networking Dinner	

Thursday, December 11, 2025

09:00-10:30	**Spotlight on the African Energy Efficiency Programme Outcomes** • Senegal • Madagascar • Burundi • Zimbabwe <AFREC>	**Meeting of the High-Level Decision Makers Forum on Energy** **Closed-door session** (Targeting the Permanent Secretaries for Energy) <AFREC>
10:30-11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30-13:00	**Showcasing of Energy Efficiency Programmes within the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency countries** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <RCREEE, Member States and partners>	**Showcasing of Energy Efficiency Programmes within the Southern African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency countries** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <SACREEE, Member States and partners>
13:00-14:00	Networking Lunch	
14:00-15:00	**Industrial Energy Efficiency and Productivity** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <SANEDI>	**Enabling Policy and Regulatory Frameworks on Energy Efficiency** <Energy and Infrastructure Department (AfSEM) and IEA>
15:15-15:30	Coffee and Networking	
15:30-16:30	**Showcasing of Energy Efficiency Programmes within the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency countries** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <ECREEE, Member States and partners>	**Showcasing of Energy Efficiency Programmes within the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE), countries** • Presentation • Panel Discussions <EACREEE and partners>
16:30-17:30	Closing Session	

E. Languages

The presentations and interventions shall be made in either English or French, with simultaneous interpretations in other language.

F. Information

For further information on the programme please contact

CONTACT PERSONS		
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