



AFRICA EXPRESS EXPEDITION



2012
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

CONTEXT

In 2000, only one third of the African population had access to electricity (OECD). Accessing sustainable energy is one of the 21st century's biggest challenges, but it is even more important for Africa: in the next 50 years, Africa's population will grow by 70% to 1.7 billion people (UNO).

Africa, however, has substantial renewable energy resources: hydropower, geothermal, biomass, solar energy and wind power but these are still largely untapped.

Using these technologies will play an increasingly important role in improving access to modern energy services, while strengthening the development of the energy sector in Africa.

AFRICA EXPRESS MISSION

In 2012, as part of the *International Year of Sustainable Energy for All*, **AFRICA EXPRESS** will study **20 green energy projects in the field in Africa.**

The **main objectives** include:

- **To identify technologies and key success factors**
- **To promote good practices and development possibilities of all renewable energies**
- **To attract national and international investors to follow and replicate the projects**

Tools that will be used to meet the challenge:

- **A White Paper** about sustainable energy projects in Africa, to specialists and professionals.
- **Lectures along the entire route** - and after the mission - that raise awareness about clean and renewable energy sources (in Universities, associations, communities, french network abroad...)
- **A 52-minute film**

At the same time, **AFRICA EXPRESS** will use the train as the main way of transportation across Africa. The objective is also **to promote a sustainable mobility.**



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METHODOLOGY

The methodology uses the categories of value-chains identified in the French Climate Initiative White Paper, Paris- Nairobi, April 2011. It has been chosen as it highlights the work of projects on different scales – from local initiatives to national programs.

The following categories can be used to identify projects:

- 1. Food for Life: sustainable cooking**
- 2. Powering rural development**
- 3. Powering economic development zones**
- 4. The provision of energy to sustainable cities: energy efficiency, transportation and buildings**
- 5. Regional and national power systems**

Examples include:

- Production of “green” charcoal in Senegal
- Community forest management and reforestation in Madagascar
- Developing geothermal power plants in Kenya
- ...

New objective criteria have been added to the projects by the **AFRICA EXPRESS** team to enrich the methodology.

- 1. Duplicability**
- 2. Compliance with the UN’s definition of sustainable energy**
- 3. No negative effects for the environment and local populations**
- 4. Projects sustainability**

A SUPPORT COMMITTEE

The selection of the 20 projects is ongoing. Until December, 31, holders of energy projects have the possibility to submit one or several projects.

In January 2012, a final selection of 20 projects will be done by the specialist support committee of the Africa Express association. **The support committee is composed of key figures such as energy and logistic specialists, explorers and financial partners. Among them: Yann Arthus-Bertrand, Christine Heuraux, Jean-Pierre Favennec, Matthieu Tiberghien, Sibylle d’Orgeval, Blandine Laurenty-Antoine...**

With the support of:



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