



Dear Colleagues,

We would like to bring to your kind attention a webinar series organized by the African Energy Commission (AFREC) of the African Union, the South Centre, and the Clean Energy Innovation Partnership (CEIP), “Energy for sustainable development in Africa in the post-COVID-19 world – looking for the New Normal”.

Webinar 1

“COVID-19 impact actions across Africa. First-hand information from policymakers and leading experts”

Thursday, 16 July 2020

13:00-14:30 GMT

(14:00-15:30 Algiers; 15:00-16:30 CET; 16:00-17:30 Addis Ababa)

Note: To participate in the Zoom webinar, please register no later than **15 July 2020** under this [link](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LF4OrllcRPyoBfzV66r1Zw) (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LF4OrllcRPyoBfzV66r1Zw). Webinar access details will be provided after registration has been confirmed. For those not able to connect with Zoom, the webinar will also be livestreamed on YouTube under the following [link](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEFBDe-RcX9RbRwgRNpojVg) (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEFBDe-RcX9RbRwgRNpojVg>). YouTube viewers can send their questions directly to info.ceipartnership@gmail.com.

Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, has generally low levels of socio-economic development and energy usage. The COVID-19 outbreak and its consequent economic downturn present additional challenges and pose questions requiring urgent answers. Success of the pandemic measures depend upon, among other elements, on a **strategic vision** reflecting current situation and future uncertainties; and aligning interests of all stakeholders. In order to build such strategic vision, we have invited leading experts in our webinars to facilitate information gathering and to generate ideas for further work on strategies development and stakeholders’ engagement necessary for the continent’s energy transition in the post-COVID-19 world.

The first webinar “COVID-19 impact actions across Africa. First-hand information from policymakers and leading experts” will reveal data and information on the multifaceted effects of COVID-19 in several regions of sub-Saharan Africa and responses considered there. Particular attention will be paid to identifying impacts on various stakeholders’ groups.

We are delighted to have the following speakers in the first webinar:

- **H.E. Amani Abou-Zeid**, African Union Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy
- **Ms. Sheila Oparaocha**, International Coordinator and Programme Manager, ENERGIA International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA)
- **Mr. Stephen Dihwa**, Executive Director, Coordination Centre, Southern African Power Pool
- **Dr. Noureddine Yassaa**, Commissioner for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Algeria
- **Mr. Wale Shonibare**, Director, Energy Financial Solutions, Policy & Regulations Power, Energy, Climate & Green Growth Complex, African Development Bank
- **Dr. Abderrezak Benyoucef**, Head, Energy Studies Department, OPEC

Moderators: **Dr. Rashid Ali-Abdallah**, Executive Director, African Energy Commission, African Union

Prof. Youba Sokona, Senior Adviser on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, South Centre; Vice-Chair, IPCC

Webinar Host: **Dmitry Kalinin**, Partner, Clean Energy Innovations Partnership, Switzerland