

# eMag of climate action in Africa

**#9 Access to Renewable  
Energy in Africa**

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# Press review

## Jean Marie Takoulev

**Afrik  
21**

**Jean Marie Takoulev, Editor in Chief for Afrik 21 offers a press review of the most recent news in the renewable energy sector in Africa.**



**What news caught your attention the most in the renewable energy and access to energy sector on the African continent ?**

- **First, on financing of solar-powered infrastructure:**

The European Investment Bank signed an agreement with Engie for a €10 million loan to provide 643,000 people with access to energy.

On another hand, in Central African Republic, the World Bank and the Green Climate Fund are providing \$138 million and \$30 million respectively for an electrification project based on autonomous solar systems.

The French start-up Baobab+ secured a \$5 million loan from the impact investment platform Symbiotics to deploy solar kits in six countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Senegal, Madagascar, Nigeria and the DRC

In Benin, GreenYellow and Egnon have secured the construction of 4 solar parks. In a nearby country, Burkina Faso, a 30 MW installation has been implemented and financed by the Casino group.

In Mozambique, Solarecentury, Resa and Checunda will build a 199 MWv solar photovoltaic plant in Chimuara.

A large installation with a 147MW wind farm has been commissioned in South Africa in July 2022.

- **Regarding productive facilities:**

In Gambia, an FAO initiative has installed 34 solar irrigation systems for 6,600 farmers to improve drought resilience.

- **Finally, on training :**

In Senegal, the German group Gauff Engineering is training 247 young people to install photovoltaic systems in order to accelerate the electrification of the country, which plans to have universal access to electricity by 2025.



# News:

# Observatory of Climate Action in Africa



**Méline Assè-Wassa Sama, Project Officer working on Climate Action in Africa at Climate Chance announced the launch of the Observatory of climate action in Africa.**



**Can you tell us more about Climate Chance's Africa Observatory project?**

The official launch took place during the COP of Cities in Abidjan on July 1st and 2nd, 2022.

**The Observatory for climate action in Africa is a research and publication structure as the Climate Chance Global Observatory, which has the particularity of focusing on the analysis of the African climate and biodiversity action.**

The Africa Observatory focuses on 4 main themes:

1. Energy
2. Forests
3. Cities
4. Adaptation

The financial partners are the International Association of French-speaking Mayors and Valorem.

**What are the next steps and what case studies are planned so far?**

The main objective is to work on developing the Africa Observatory through publications and complementary activities on the African continent. Next steps include:

- **Publications:**

Case studies on Africa, special studies on the four major research themes, a contribution to the Climate Chance Observatory's Global Synthesis Report, the preparation of an African Climate Action Report to be published annually.

- **Upcoming events:**

- A presentation of some key points during the Week for Sustainable Mobility and Climate 2022 in Dakar, Senegal in October.
  - A presentation of the publications during a side-event at the COP 27 in Sharm-el-Sheik in November.
  - A synthesis of the Africa analyses of the Sector-based Report that will take place at the end of 2022 in Paris.
- Finally, work on the mobilization of African expertise communities is underway and must continue.

# Decentralised cooperation: Training on Renewable Energy in Ouagadougou

**Dimitri Tientega, former Civic Service volunteer in Grenoble for the decentralized cooperation with the city of Ougadougou presents the project of creation of a training center on renewable energies in Ouagadougou.**

**What is the partnership context and which actors are involved in the cooperation ?**

The cooperation dates started in 1999 and deals with the issues of health, culture, environment and education on global citizenship. The project to build a renewable energy training center within a high school was born in 2018. It involves different actors from the cities of Ouagadougou and Grenoble: the company Schneider Electric, the NGO Energies Sans Frontières and the Ministry of Education of Burkina Faso. The project is funded by Schneider and Grenoble.

**What are the progresses of the creation of a training center in Ouagadougou project ?**

I participated in the preparation of the equipment in Grenoble in order to facilitate the training once the equipment was installed. I benefited from a training at the University of Grenoble in order to make the phase of transfer of skills in Ouagadougou. Currently we are going to start the construction of the center.

The returned volunteers, of which I am a part, are managing the electricity part. The training curriculum has been developed in collaboration with the actors and the high school that will recruit and welcome the students. The political instability has delayed the project but our mission as volunteers is to relaunch it.

**You are very involved in this issue in Burkina Faso and in West Africa. What activities have you carry out?**

I initiated an activity to raise awareness on best practices and the need to move towards renewable energy in the context of climate crisis. It also aims to interest young people in energy policy. In 2019, my association launched debates on the energy transition. We have trained 2,500 young people who are now ambassadors of renewable energy throughout Burkina Faso. We have also trained 127,300. We are in the process of setting up in other West African countries such as Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Niger. Since September 2021, I have also created my own company which operates in the entire value chain of solar energy. Thanks to these activities, I was appointed Young Minister of Energy and to be in regular contact with the Minister. I often propose activities to include youth in public energy policies.



# Best practice: CASELEC project of rural electrification

**Jérémy Ankri, Project Coordinator for the Fondation des Energies pour le Monde (Foundation of Energy for the World) comments a presentation video of the CASELEC project (Rural Community and Energy Access in Casamance) in Senegal.**



**Click here to watch the presentation video of the CASELEC projet (French version)**

## **What is the CASELEC project ?**

The project is implemented in Basse Casamance, a region weakened by conflicts where only 42% of the population has access to energy. The objective is to revitalize the area thanks to renewable energies through :

1. Installation of individual solar systems and their appropriation by the inhabitants

2. Establishment of an operating scheme involving the local private sector,
3. Support for the development of sustainable productive uses,
4. The implementation of a management system of equipment at the end of its life.

## **What are the recent advances of the project?**

The project has made good progress since 2020. On the energy access part, we have identified the companies that will supply the equipment. We are waiting for the delivery and installation of the 300 kits at end of July.

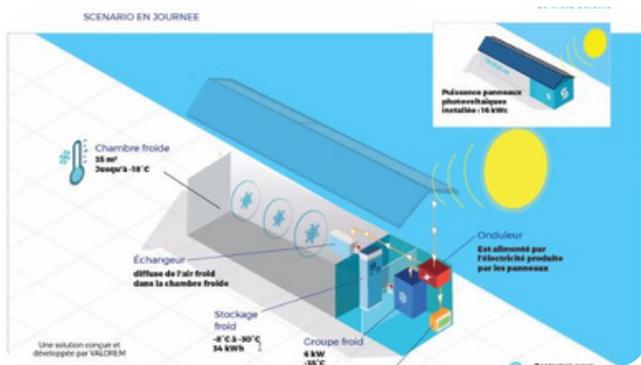
In terms of the productive use of energy, the CASELEC project also includes an economic development phase with the final objective of supporting about fifteen IGAs to initiate economic development in a remote area. The process has begun. We received about 150 project proposals, particularly for market gardening. In addition, future activities will be set up with local partners, especially awareness-raising activities to involve more women so that half of the projects supported will come from women entrepreneurship.

**Visit the CASELEC project on the [Cartography for action!](#)**



# Best practice: Cryosolar project of solar- powered cold room

**Pierre Olivier-Veysset, Cryosolar Project Officer for Valorem presents Cryosolar, a solution for producing cold and electricity from renewable energy in Africa.**



## What is Cryosolar and what are the objectives ?

Valorem is first and foremost a producer of renewable energies and in addition, the company is developing a research and development program: Cryosolar. It is a solar refrigeration container designed for isolated areas allowing people to benefit from reliable, renewable and autonomous cold storage conditions. The 40 feet format is an all-in-one container where we find both the cold production and storage mechanisms as well as the electrical management and the cold room which has a capacity of 35m<sup>2</sup>. It is installed in 3 locations: in Mbour and Fass Boye in Senegal as well as in La Désirade in Guadeloupe.

## What are the project's results and news?

We have just completed the demonstration phase, which aimed to test the system in real conditions of use. Today, the containers have excellent results with 95% of the system operating autonomously. Now we want to make CryoSolar a commercial success by diversifying its uses and addressing the entire African market and even other regions with constraints on access to the electricity. The idea is to be able to diversify the uses and address the agri-food sector such as market gardening but also the medical sector. We also want to be able to diversify the format with smaller containers connected to existing cold rooms for example. Finally, we have a partnership with a subsidiary of Frigo, which supports us as an expert to provide the best possible cold rooms.

## Valorem will organise a visit of CryoSolar during the Week for Sustainable Mobility and Climate, can you tell us more about it ?

We are organizing a visit of the Mbour site on the first day of the event on October 3rd. To know more about the visit [click here](#).

Visit Cryosolar project on the [cartography for action!](#)



# Next events



Next in-person event:  
**Week for Sustainable  
Mobility and Climate**  
from October 3 to 7, 2022  
in Dakar, Senegal.



in partnership with

