

AEF – COP27, Sharm el Sheikh Egypt (7-16 November)

AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION (AEF) ENGAGEMENT AT COP27

COP27 represents a significant milestone in which to break new ground towards Africa and Europe shared future. Being the first African climate COP since 2016 in Morocco and the first one to gather Ministers to assess pre-2030 ambition in the wake of the COP26 Glasgow announcements, stakes and expectations are high for fast-tracking the implementation of the Paris rulebook, accelerating climate action and closing the finance gap.

At COP27, the Africa-Europe Foundation together with its partners, will facilitate open and frank dialogues on key, potentially contentious, issues between our two continents, demonstrating the true value of partnership which can be enhanced in favour of climate action.

The programme in Sharm is timed to take place following the inception phase of the Africa-Europe Foundation (2021-2022), and the current geopolitical context which is having serious implications for the Africa-Europe partnership, following the 6th AU-EU Summit.

The main aim is to occupy the space as AEF, drive the conversation on our climate-related work as aligned with our work on AU-EU monitoring. It will also be an opportunity to take stock of what is discussed at COP27 to feed into AU-EU Commission-to-Commission meeting, and future AEF programming for the climate portfolio.

COP27 is a key platform for AEF to profile its work, advocate for key recommendations aligned with the Africa-Europe partnership priorities and engage in person with relevant organizations, from institutional partners to global philanthropies to ensure that collaboration is inclusive, efficient and impactful.

COP27 PROGRAMMING

The Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF) will leverage the opportunity to address key issues aligned with the Africa-Europe partnership, the follow-up of the AU-EU summit commitments, and the Global Gateway investment package, while pinpointing progress and key recommendations on:

ENERGY: Access & Transition - with a focus on the implementation of the Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative (AEGEI), one of the key flagships of the Global Gateway Africa–Europe Investment Package – in partnership with DG INTPA at the EU Pavilion; and a joint SEforALL-AEF high-level EU-Africa ministerial meeting on energy cooperation on ‘Energy Day’ at the SDG7 Pavilion, to be co-chaired by Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) and Mary Robinson, Honorary co-president of the Africa-Europe Foundation.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION: Scale & Access - with a focus on removing capacity constraints of African economies to access international climate adaptation finance, and enhancing the Africa-Europe adaptation partnership by turning pledges into real funding opportunities for Africa - in partnership with AUDA-NEPAD and the African Climate Foundation (ACF) at the Africa Pavilion; and the upcoming Launch of a Team Europe Initiative on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience in Africa – in partnership with the European Commission (DG INTPA), and several EU member states, including of France, Germany and Denmark at the EU Pavilion.

Ocean & Blue Economy – The AEF and the European Commission Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) will team up to facilitate an open dialogue on key, potentially contentious, issues between our two continents, demonstrating that cooperation on ocean governance can contribute to climate action. There will be a focus on fostering Africa-Europe ocean-climate action and the official launch of an

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Africa-EU Strategy Group on Ocean Governance, including Blue Economy - in partnership with the European Commission (DG MARE) at the EU Pavilion.

YOUTH: Agency & leadership - with a focus on cross-continental cooperation between youth from Africa and Europe, and the promotion of youth agency and leadership to accelerate the overall Africa-EU green transition – in partnership with different actors including DG INTPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, the British Council, and ONE.

AGENDA

8th November (World Leaders Summit)

- ⦿ 11:00- 12:00 (EGY TIME) - EU Pavilion
High-level side event on Africa Day – ‘Rolling out the Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative (AEGEI): Accelerating its implementation’
Jointly organised by AEF and the European Commission DG INTPA

9th November (Finance Day)

- ⦿ 16:00-17:00 (EGY TIME) – Africa Pavilion
High-level side event on ‘Unlocking access to adaptation finance: Addressing capacity constraints and enhancing the Africa-Europe adaptation partnership’
Jointly organised by AEF with AUDA-NEPAD and the African Climate Foundation (ACF)

10th November (Youth Day)

- ⦿ 11:30-12:30 (EGY TIME) – Climate Mobility Pavilion
Panel discussion entitled ‘Build The Future: Voices of the Next Generation’,
Hosted by UNOPS and joined by the AEF youth delegate who will speak at this side-event

- ⦿ 12:15-13:00 (EGY TIME) – UK Pavilion
Panel discussion entitled ‘Stronger together for the climate’
Hosted by the British Council and joined by the AEF youth delegate who will speak at this side-event

- ⦿ 15:00-16:00 (EGY TIME) – Climate Mobility Pavilion
Empowering youth mobility in the face of climate change: A focus on Africa and Europe
Hosted by the Climate Mobility Pavilion and joined by the AEF youth delegate who will speak at this side-event

14th November (Water and Gender Day)

- ⦿ 19:00-20:00 (EGY TIME) – EU Pavilion
Spotlight on Youth Climate Action with European Commission Executive Vice President for the Green Deal, Frans Timmermans
Hosted by DG CLIMA, with the support of the AEF youth network

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15th November (Energy and ACE Day)

14:30- 15:30 (EGY TIME) - EU Pavilion

High-level side-event on 'Building a stronger Africa-Europe cooperation on ocean-climate action'

Jointly organised by the AEF and the European Commission DG MARE

17:00- 18:30 (EGY TIME) – SDG7 Pavilion

High-level closed door 'Africa-EU ministerial meeting on energy cooperation'

Jointly organised by the AEF and SEforAll

16th November (Loss and Damage Day)

17:30- 18:30 (EGY TIME) - EU Pavilion

High-level side event - Launch of the Team Europe Initiative on 'Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience in Africa'

Jointly organised by the AEF, the European Commission DG INPTA, and EU Members States including France, Germany, and Denmark.

AEF REPRESENTATIVES AT COP27

Paul Walton, Executive Director of AEF

Kandeh Yumkella, former CEO of Sustainable Energy for All and Chair of UN Energy, Co-Chair of the AEF Strategy group

Vhalinavho (Vhali) Khavhagali, Senior Fellow for Adaptation for the AEF

Raphael Danglade, Senior Programme Manager for Energy & Agri Food Systems for the AEF

Chahaiya Pilkington, Manager for Outreach and Advocacy for the AEF

AEF YOUTH DELEGATION

Olumide Idowu

Olumide is a co-founder of the International Climate Change Development Initiative, a non-governmental organisation that aims to produce climate-smart generations throughout Africa while also tackling development disparities. He also serves as the UNDP Small Grants Program's Youth Focal Point in Nigeria, as well as the Youth Lead Author of the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO6) and the Executive Coordinator of the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change. He is a former Atlas Corps Fellow and an alumnus of the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) in the United States.

Juliet Grace Luwedde

Juliet is an environmental enthusiast and climate activist currently gearing towards the development of a career as an accomplished Environmentalist. She is drawn to policy design, framing and implementation that focuses on conservation of our natural resources and land restoration with a soft spot for tourism because she loves the outdoors. Juliet Grace has extensive knowledge working with communities while promoting Sustainable Urban Agriculture for food security, ecosystems protection, and conservation of Natural Resources. Over her career she has contributed to institutional program designing, research, and capacity

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training at the national level as a junior consultant with the Ministry of Water and Environment and the National Environment Management Authority. The newly elected Global Coordinator of the Youth Constituency of UNCCD (Global Youth Caucus), she is also Eastern Africa Regional Coordinator for the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change, Advisory Board member for the Gender, Generation and Climate Change (GENERATE) Project, Léo Africa Institute Huduma Fellow class of 2021 and a contributing author to the GEO-6 for Youth Africa.

Damilola Oguntade

Damilola is a new-generation global impact leader pioneering the Next Gen. Global Frontier (NGGF), an initiative positioning youth from the international law and development space to collaborate with other emerging and established sustainability stakeholders to bridge the implementation gaps in high-level sustainability agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact. He is currently a University of Glasgow-led Erasmus Mundus Masters scholar in International Law of Global Security, Peace and Development with a specialization pathway in International Economics, Sustainability and Governance at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Germany. Prior to this, Damilola has equally contributed to the European Union (EU)-Africa Partnership with sectoral focus on raw materials, agriculture and the automotive industry at a summit organized where he advocated for a people-oriented and youth-centred Europe-Africa partnership on development cooperation and climate action. Currently a member and a youth leader at the United Europe e.V, he works on policy projects surrounding energy, climate, and sustainability within the context of the EU-Africa Partnership with established professionals and stakeholders within the organization. He is also Alumni Alliance Delegate to the 2022 Mediterranean Youth Academy in Alexandria, Egypt with a particular focus on advancing climate action through youth-led initiatives ahead of COP27.

KEY RESOURCES

2022 High-Level Group of Personalities' [annual report assessing the state of play of the commitments of the Africa-Europe partnership](#)

Charter of the Africa-Europe Foundation- [AEF Charter Choosing a common future 36db506168.pdf \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

AEF Clean Cooking Manifesto- [AEF Clean Cooking Manife 1c949e18db.pdf \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

Statement from the AEF Women Leaders Network at the SEforALL Forum in Kigali- [AEF Women Leaders Network S Efor ALL Forum Final statement da6df818c3.pdf \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

Africa-Europe Strategic Declaration on Climate Adaptation- https://back.africaeuropefoundation.org/uploads/Africa_Europe_Strategic_Declaration_on_Climate_Adaptation_c885e4374a.pdf

Debates

[High-Level Talking Africa-Europe Debate on Addressing the Vaccine Challenge for a Renewed Africa-Europe partnership | Africa-Europe Foundation \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

[High-Level Talking Africa-Europe Debate on Migration and Mobility in the Africa-Europe partnership | Africa-Europe Foundation \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

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[High-Level Talking Africa-Europe Debate on Climate and Energy in the Africa-Europe partnership: Leading the way to the AU-EU summit | Africa-Europe Foundation \(africaeuropefoundation.org\)](#)

MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACT POINT FOR COP27

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ABOUT THE AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION

The Africa-Europe Foundation is co-founded by Friends of Europe and the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, in partnership with the African Climate Foundation and the ONE Campaign. The purpose of the Africa-Europe Foundation is to strengthen Africa-Europe relations by facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue, catalysing partnerships and unlocking new opportunities.

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Website - <http://africaeuropefoundation.org/>

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