



SAVE THE DATE

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Linking Science and Industry:  
Renewable Energy Research, Innovation  
and Higher Education in Africa

15 & 16 December 2021

Online Conference

## Conference background

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Due to the abundance of renewable energy resources in Africa, the demand on the Kenyan labour market for qualified professionals in this field has been increasing for years. What is needed are qualified specialists in the field of renewable energy with practice-oriented degrees. To address this, higher education systems need to incorporate elements of application-oriented teaching, applied research, and closer collaboration between universities and key industry players. German universities of applied sciences have already implemented these features of practical orientation for many years.

Within the framework of the project "HAW Kenya - Network of Excellence for Universities of Applied Sciences" (HAW Kenya), funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt (THI) - Institute of new Energy Systems (InES) familiarizes interested Kenyan universities, scientists, and junior staff with teaching practice at universities of applied sciences in the field of renewable energies.

## Conference aims

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This conference is organized within the scope of the HAW Kenya project for the promotion of practice orientation of teaching, research and knowledge and technology transfer at Kenyan universities. In this sense, Kenyan university teachers, junior scientists and administrative staff are to be informed about the model of German universities of applied sciences and qualified for the independent implementation and dissemination of application orientation.

The main objective of the conference is to strengthen the established network of excellence for universities of applied sciences within the HAW Kenya project and to serve as a final meeting point for higher education knowledge transfer in the field of renewable energy technologies.

Main conference aims include:

- Exchange of knowledge and experiences about challenges and opportunities of renewable energies in Kenya / Africa
- Exchange of successful projects/practices on EU-Africa cooperation in research and innovation
- Discuss challenges and opportunities for higher education capacity building in Kenya / Africa
- Discuss points of research and innovation in renewable energy for:
  - Commercial and industrial sector
  - Transport and mobility
  - Rural electrification
  - Domestic energy consumption.

## Target groups

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The target group of this conference comprises:

- Professors and young academics in the field of renewable energies
- Scientists, researchers and administrative staff from higher education institutes in the field of renewable energies
- Private business sector, industry players and project developers in the field of renewable energies
- Senior technical staff and energy sector practitioners in public authorities (Ministries, regulators, rural electrification agencies, energy utilities)
- Energy advisors, energy regulators, electrification engineers, officials from relevant standards authorities
- Local renewable energy business associations
- Development partners.

## Conference organisation

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### Inviting Organisation:

**Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt**  
**Institute of new Energy Systems (InES)**

Contact:

Mr. Stefan Arlt, [stefan.arlt@thi.de](mailto:stefan.arlt@thi.de)



### Event Organisation:

#### WIP Renewable Energies

Organisers:

Rainer Janssen, Dominik Rutz,  
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Denis Schultz, Sonja Wilhelm

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15-16 December 2021 | online conference

# Linking Science and Industry: Renewable Energy Research, Innovation and Higher Education in Africa

Inviting organisation:



Technische Hochschule  
Ingolstadt  
Institute of  
new Energy Systems

Event organisation:



Financing organisation:



formal invitation  
to follow

## Draft agenda

Day #1 : 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2021

CET	EAT		
09:00	11:00	Welcome session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wilfried Zörner, TH Ingolstadt</li><li>• Prof. Fredrick Gravinir, Kenyatta University (TBC)</li><li>• Dr. Rainer Janssen/Dominik Rutz, WIP Renewable Energies</li></ul>
09:20	11:20	Official opening	Maj. Gen Dr. Gordon .O. Kihlangwa, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Kenya (TBC)
09:30	11:30	Setting the scene: Renewable energy in Africa – Status quo, challenges and opportunities	Keynote speech: Roberto Vigotti, Res4Africa Foundation  Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stefan Haffner, Internationales Büro, DLR</li><li>• Rocio A. Diaz-Chavez, Stockholm Environment Institute Africa</li><li>• Representative from Kenya (TBD)</li></ul>
10:45	12:45	Coffee break and Poster visit	
11:00	13:00	Good practice EU-Africa R&I cooperation	Moderator: WIP Renewable Energies  Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Renewable Energy-based E-Mobility in Higher Education (Project REMO)</i> Philine Ginsberg, Institute of new Energy Systems, TH Ingolstadt</li></ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Africa-EU cooperation on biogas: The DiBiCoo Project</i> Sinshaw Alemu, ICEADDIS, Ethiopia</li> <li>• <i>Pathway to Renewable Off-Grid Community Energy for Development (Project PROCEED)</i> Carina Fromm, Institute of new Energy Systems, TH Ingolstadt</li> <li>• <i>Dual degree studies in civil engineering at TH Cologne (DAAD-Project Presentation)</i> Prof. Dr.- Ing. Rudolf Hoscheid, TH Köln</li> </ul>
12:00	14:00	<b>University/Research Round Table: Challenges and opportunities for higher education capacity building</b>	<p>Moderator: WIP Renewable Energies</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Richard Blanchard, Loughborough University, UK</li> <li>• Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wilfried Zörner, TH Ingolstadt, Germany</li> <li>• Dr. Samuel John, NUST, Namibia</li> <li>• Prof. Eng. Alex Muumbo, Technical University of Kenya (TBC)</li> </ul>
13:00	15:00	<b>Coffee break and Poster visit</b>	
13:15	15:15	<b>Break-out sessions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RE R&amp;I for commercial and industrial sector</li> <li>2. RE R&amp;I for transport and mobility</li> <li>3. RE R&amp;I on rural electrification</li> <li>4. RE R&amp;I on household energy</li> </ol>
14:00	16:00	<b>Closing session</b>	Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wilfried Zörner, TH Ingolstadt
14:15	16:15	<b>End of Day #1</b>	

## Day #2 : 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2021

CET	EAT		
09:00	11:00	<b>Welcome session</b>	Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wilfried Zörner, TH Ingolstadt
09:10	11:10	<b>Reports by Rapporteurs of Break-out Sessions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RE R&amp;I for commercial and industrial sector</li> <li>2. RE R&amp;I for transport and mobility</li> <li>3. RE R&amp;I on rural electrification</li> <li>4. RE R&amp;I on household energy</li> </ol>
09:30	11:30	<b>Guided Virtual Tour to THI Research Facilities</b>	
10:00	12:00	<b>Coffee break and Poster visit</b>	
10:15	12:15	<b>Renewable Energy pilot and demonstration projects in Africa</b>	<p>Moderator: WIP Renewable Energies</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Charcoal and biogas production in Africa</i></li> </ul>

			<p>Walter Danner, Snow Leopard, Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Solar cooling solutions for Kenyan farmers</i></li> </ul> <p>Tobias Zwirner, Phaesun, Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>500 solar thermal systems thanks to a training program in cooperation with universities in southern Africa</i></li> </ul> <p>Werner Weiß, Austrian research institute – Institute for Sustainable Technologies (AEE INTEC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>
11:15	13:15	<b>Industry Round Table: Renewable Energy Research &amp; Innovation in Africa</b>	<p>Moderator: WIP Renewable Energies</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tobias Zwirner, Phaesun</li> <li>• Joseph Kenfack, SOLARHYDROWATT, Cameroon</li> <li>• Dwight Rosslee, Selectra, South Africa (TBC)</li> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>
12:15	14:15	<b>Closing session</b>	Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wilfried Zörner, TH Ingolstadt
12:30	14:30	<b>End of Day #2</b>	