

Smart Energy Solutions for Africa Launches Online Capacity Building Programme to Bridge the Knowledge Gap on Renewable Energy Technologies

Brussels, 14th March 2023 - SESA, Smart Energy Solutions for Africa, the European commission funded initiative has announced the launch of its Capacity Building Programme, aimed at closing the knowledge gap on renewable and smart energy solution technologies. The programme is designed to help participants understand the available alternative technologies and how they work.

The online programme is open to all participants who want to enter the world of sustainable energy and seek alternatives to traditional energy sources for sustainable development in both urban and rural contexts. The foundation of the course is made up of case studies and examples relevant to the African context, but it is open to all.

The first course in the programme, Solar Energy, is now available through the NUA Campus platform, the capacity building platform of the Urban Living Labs Centre for the transformation of urban mobility, energy, and resource sectors. The course covers the basics of electricity and energy produced through solar irradiation, current technological options available, and key elements to consider when planning and setting up a solar energy installation.

Participants will have access to eight lessons, informative videos, additional readings, and a webinar to discuss with experts. Upon completion of the course, a quiz will test the understanding of the material, and a certificate will be awarded.

The self-paced course allows participants to go through each lesson at a schedule that best fits their needs. The subsequent courses will cover a range of technologies covered within the scope of the SESA project, including clean cooking, waste to energy, electric mobility, second-life EV batteries, smart microgrid and system integration, and rural internet access. These courses will be added to the programme over the next six months.

"The Capacity Building Programme has been designed with the insight from technical experts within the SESA project with the objective to fill the knowledge gaps identified with local representatives in the partner countries. Through the opportunity to explore different technologies at their own pace, test their understanding, and get clarifications by experts, participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how such technologies work, how they can be implemented and, most importantly, how their deployment can benefit their communities," notes Silvia Assalini, Officer for Sustainable Resources, Climate, and Resilience at ICLEI Europe.

To learn more and register for the programme, visit [SESA's Capacity Building Programme](#) on the NUA Campus platform.

About SESA

SESA is a collaborative project between the European Union and nine African countries (Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Nigeria) that aims at providing energy access technologies and business models that are easily replicable and generate local opportunities for economic development and social cohesion in Africa.

Through a series of local living labs, the project will facilitate the co-development of scalable and replicable energy access innovations, to be tested, validated, and later replicated throughout the African



continent. These solutions will include decentralised renewables (solar photovoltaics), innovative energy storage systems including the use of second-life electric vehicle batteries, smart microgrids, waste-to-energy systems (biomass to biogas), climate-proofing, resilience and adaptation, and rural internet access.

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