

# Development of the 2025-2030 Strategy for the Improvement and Harmonization of Energy Statistics in Africa

*Strengthening National Energy Information Systems in Africa*

*Joint AFREC-IEA webinar on National Energy Statistics Strategies*

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By Salome Maheya, Senior Policy Officer  
Energy Statistics, AFREC



# Outline of the Presentation

- Need for the Strategy
- Approach
- Timeline
- Emerging findings

# Why Africa needs the Strategy

# Current energy statistics in Africa

- Africa faces many challenges linked to Energy:
  - Just over half of the African population have access to electricity
  - Around three quarters lack access to clean cooking
  - Oil and gas are produced, exported and re-imported as refined petroleum products
  - Very limited interconnectivity between countries
  - Biofuels represents >75% of total supply in many countries and collecting these data needs a specific approach to energy statistics.

# Current energy statistics in Africa

- Addressing these and other challenges is complex and needs good information
- Yet of the 55 member states, only 31 countries can provide an adequate energy balance to AFREC
- Only about 5 countries provide the other questionnaires (i.e Energy Efficiency, Power Plants, Prices and taxes).
- African energy statistics needs to be improved

# Approach to creating the strategy

# Outreach

- Improving energy statistics in Africa needs coordinated action from all stakeholders involved
- Vital that all relevant stakeholders feed into the strategy
- **Statisticians:** Survey of focal points, completed by 48 countries (87% return rate) plus benchmark survey of Europe and SE Asian countries.
- **Users:** User survey, completed by users in Africa and worldwide
- **Influencers:** Detailed interviews with leaders in AFREC, RECs and wider, including the Energy Minister of Malawi

# Timeline



# Timeline

- August 2024 – Inception
- September – Mid October: Outreach and research
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half October early Nov – Drafting strategy and actions
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half Nov (tbc) – AFREC hosts workshop to discuss Strategy and Action Plan
- Mid December – Finalization of Strategy and Action Plan

# Emerging findings

# Goals

- Long-term goal is for all African member states to produce an energy balance and key statistics (e.g. SDG 7 data)
- To increase the number and create a path for all countries to be reporting balances to AFREC on the harmonised AESQ by 2030
- AFREC is the custodian of and go to place for higher quality and more comprehensive African Energy Statistics
- African energy statistics are used in policy planning and monitoring in countries

# Key issues

- African energy statistics is improving, but still very varied across all countries
- Energy statistics has a lower priority in Member States as compared to statistics on economy, agriculture, health
- Often, there is no institution clearly tasked to prepare energy statistics.
- Improved coordination in countries needed to maximise use of all data
- Energy Statistics teams are small and can suffer from movement of key people
- Countries still need technical support and practical assistance in developing framework
- Users value quality (accuracy) of data the most

# Emerging ideas

- AU/AFREC needs to promote the importance of energy statistics and show case good examples: create demand
- Report progress on statistics at annual AFREC meeting of Permanent Secretaries and other high-level platforms
- Users need to be proactive to seek improved energy data
- Support to ensure estimation, where needed, is done in countries
- AFREC creates an access only area on website to share information, surveys etc to support Focal Points
- AFREC to split SDG 7 questions from EE questionnaire
- AFREC to work more actively with donors ensuring support to MS thus providing sustainable improvements in statistics and not time-limited IT solutions

# Role of Member States

- The diversity of Africa means no single solution
- Range of next step options depending on starting point
- Vital that budget line is provided for energy statistics
- Formalise framework and roles of MoE and NSI (and other relevant stakeholders)
- Processes need to become more robust – documentation, file storage, etc
- Support for countries, where needed, focused on building a sustainable process
- Leading statisticians offer support other countries – “Ask an expert” list

# Participate in the survey

So, if you have an interest in energy statistics for Africa, it would be helpful if you can spare a few minutes to complete the survey below.

**English** <https://forms.gle/L8MEaiMx2RtoF3sw9>

**French** <https://forms.gle/Nr5iQdUPC xvNZSRf7>

# Thank You!