

FICCI Discusses Scope of India-Africa Cooperation to Achieve Energy & Climate Goals at COP 22

New Delhi, November 15, 2016 : FICCI in collaboration with TERI organized a Side Event on “Scope of India-Africa Cooperation to Achieve Energy & Climate Goals” at the COP 22 Africa Pavilion on 14 November. The side event explored synergies between India and Africa on decentralized renewable energy solutions and discussed how Indian and African private sector could collaborate to propel Africa’s climate smart growth.

Both India and Africa face the daunting task of defining right to power and ensuring energy access. India and Africa have huge potential of collaboration to address the challenge of economic and energy poverty through decentralized and off-grid energy clean energy solutions. It was highlighted how adoption of clean energy in Africa is hampered not by the absence of right policies but by the dearth of innovation systems.

Both India and Africa need market driven distributed architecture for clean energy production and consumption. It is important to make off-grid renewable energy solutions more affordable through economies of scale – as has been shown by the Indian example of massive uptake of LEDs and low-cost solar power from solar parks. There is huge scope for innovative business models in agro-forestry, waste management, solar pumps in the region. It is important to learn from successful models of financial inclusion such as m-pesa and m-kopa.

The FICCI Side Event, most importantly, highlighted that India-Africa partnership must be based on domestication of technology. India and Africa can explore collaborative partnerships in three areas for upscaling off-grid clean energy – first, in development and adoption of standard for off-grid products/systems; second, in skilling; and third, in building innovation, both in terms of technology and business models.

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