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# Opportunities for bioenergy development in Africa



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# African Bioenergy Development Platform

- Initiative born in Rio+20
- Goal: aggregate knowledge of bioenergy in Africa and disseminate positive experiences
  - Reduce poverty, create development opportunities through improved energy access.
  - Stimulate investments, production and trade in bioenergy products and services.





- **Rio+20 Biofuels event - interest in Africa**
- **March 2013**
  - **European Parliament (Brussels) / World Biofuel Markets (Rotterdam) - discussions on proposed changes in EU biofuels policy (5% cap for 1st generation biofuels)**
    - **Impacts on bioenergy investments in Africa**
  - **Biofuels event at UN / Geneva - raise the importance of clear rules and stable policy frameworks to allow for bioenergy development in developing countries and LDCs.**



## **Activities to date (2)**

- **May 2013**
  - North-South training workshop in Stockholm
  - African researchers from Zambia, Mozambique and Malawi were invited for visits to bioenergy plants in Sweden, academic discussions and to liaise with Swedish institutions/NGOs working with bioenergy in Africa
- **June 2013**
  - Published study on costs related to biofuel sustainability certification (Energy Policy 59)

## Continuous work is needed

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- To keep the importance of bioenergy development in political agendas, ultimately seeking low-carbon development paths for Africa
- Constantly monitor and innovate sustainability aspects of bioenergy
- Facilitate north-south dialogue (e.g. with EU commission, US EPA, traders/CSR practitioners)
- Foster mobility of researchers and prospective investors
- Deliver studies on key areas (e.g. agroecological maps of countries, targeted policy studies, national bioenergy policy reviews)
- Currently seeking partners and funding to upscale activities.



# The African Bioenergy Platform is...

- An effort to promote low-carbon development in Africa via affordable and technologically feasible bioenergy systems.
- A venue for discussions and experience-sharing (North-South and South-South)
- A collaboration between various institutions
  - KTH, Lilongwe University, SEI, IME (Brazil), Eduardo Mondlane University, Zambia Biofuels Association, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNEP, SSEESS and many others.
- **Join us!**

**Thank you**  
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