



PRESS RELEASE

SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UN ENVIRONMENT) AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS CENTER FOR AFRICA (SDGC/A)

Kigali, 31 October 2018 – Today, the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MOU was signed by Dr. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo, Director and Regional Representative of the UN Environment Africa Office and Dr. Belay Begashaw, Director General of the SDGC/A, during the 7th African Rift Geothermal Conference in Kigali, Rwanda. Also in attendance was Honorable Amb. Claver Gatete, Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Rwanda and Mr. Rashid Ali Abdallah, Head of Energy Division in the Department of Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission.

The MoU is a framework of cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration between UN Environment and SDGC/A to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa through enhanced environmental sustainability of energy projects by promoting equitable, safe, efficient and affordable access to energy and promote collaboration on the implementation of joint initiatives in the renewable energy sector.

The UN Environment is the leading organization within the United Nations system in the field of environment and has as a major area of focus of its global mandate, the conservation, protection, enhancement and support of nature and natural resources, including biological diversity, worldwide. Through its Africa Office, UN Environment has the mandate to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples in Africa to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

The SDGC/A is an autonomous not-for-profit international organization that supports governments, civil society, businesses and academic institutions in achieving the SDGs in Africa and was established by African leaders to ensure they act together in pursuit of a shared African development vision and that Africa is well-positioned in the global forum with all other actors responsible for the global conversation and actions related to the SDGs.

With a joint interest in developing and promoting economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy under the framework of affordable and clean



energy, UN Environment and SDGC/A will commit to continuing the efforts as declared by the SDGs Agenda 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063. Through the MoU, the organizations will further their shared goals and objectives in the areas of cooperation, including in regard to the project on African Women Energy Entrepreneurs framework and promoting and encouraging African countries (member states) to support initiatives aimed at improving access to sustainable energy and mainstreaming energy efficiency and sustainable energy systems. In addition, the MoU will promote cooperation in tracking progress towards the SDG targets with reference to SDG 7 “Affordable and clean energy,” as well as other SDGs to be achieved through the collaboration.

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For more information about SDGC/A and its work visit: www.sdgcfrica.org

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