



IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE
THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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FOREWORD

The objective of the Regional Strategy for Scaling Up Access to Modern Energy Services is to enable at least half of the East African population to access modern energy services by 2015. Its focus is achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and poverty reduction. Such specific focus allows it to have demonstrable results that touch on the daily lives of the majority of East Africans.

The Strategy is built on the following four simple and achievable targets :

1. Access to modern cooking practices for 50% of traditional biomass users;
2. Access to reliable modern energy services for all urban and peri-urban poor;
3. Access to electricity for all schools, clinics, hospitals and community centres; and
4. Access to mechanical power within the community for all productive services

The Strategy has the support of the East African Community (EAC), local stakeholders, government, energy organizations and development partners. This multi-stakeholder ownership is important because the goals of the Strategy are also aligned with them and in particular those of many development partners as well the aspirations of the international community generally. The set of targets are consistent with the commitments under the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) and the African Union Forum of Energy Ministers of Africa (FEMA).


This report on the EAC Strategy provides a concise guide that outlines the current energy access situation and planned direction to the target date of 2015. It also specifies the issues that need to be addressed to achieve the four targets. The report further highlights the existing gaps in the provision of modern energy services and draws our attention to the enormous

task that lies before us if the majority of East Africans are to have a realistic chance of meeting the MDGs.

Four regional service lines have been identified as key to the realization of increased access to modern energy services. Briefly these are: Policy harmonization; Capacity building of public and private sectors; Formulation of support formulas; and Strategic coordination and project management. They are in line with the mandate of the EAC as outlined in the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community. The EAC Secretariat is committed to achieving the targets set which are expected to trigger huge multiple activities for scaling up of existing services as well as introduction of new business models.

Clearly, achievement of the targets of the Strategy requires the involvement of all stakeholders including the private sector. It requires innovative, high impact, low cost and scalable technologies and business models. It is particularly crucial that all Partner States of the EAC give greater priority to implementing the Strategy in rural, peri-urban and slum areas in a multi-sectoral process that reflects the multidisciplinary nature of energy.

On behalf of the EAC Secretariat, I wish to express our gratitude to the Partner States, development partners and the consultants. I commend this Report, which serves as an invaluable reference for promoting accelerated provision of modern energy services in our region which have a critical impact in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and overall poverty reduction.



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