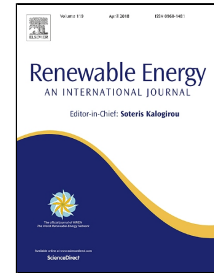


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Business models and innovativeness of potential renewable energy projects in Africa



Wojciech M. Budzianowski, Irene Nantongo, Cleus Bamutura, Michel Rwema, Martin Lyambai, Colette Abimana, Eric O. Akumu, Yunus Alokore, Samuel O. Babalola, Amon K.K. Gachuri, Mahmoud S. Hefney Diab, Gemma Ituze, Hillary Kiprono, Gnamien C. Kouakou, Tonny Kukeera, Waffo B. Megne, Rolex Muceka, Andrew Mugumya, Jean d'Amour Mwongereza, Ogechi V. Nwadiaru, Salif Sow

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1 Business models and innovativeness of potential renewable energy projects 2 in Africa

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5 Wojciech M. Budzianowski^{a,b,*}, Irene Nantongo^b, Cleus Bamutura^b, Michel Rwema^b, Martin
6 Lyambai^b, Colette Abimana^b, Eric O. Akumu^b, Yunus Alokore^b, Samuel O. Babalola^b, Amon
7 K.K. Gachuri^b, Mahmoud S. Hefney Diab^b, Gemma Ituze^b, Hillary Kiprono^b, Gnamien C.
8 Kouakou^b, Tonny Kukeera^b, Waffo B. Megne^b, Rolex Muceka^b, Andrew Mugumya^b, Jean
9 d'Amour Mwongereza^b, Ogechi V. Nwadiaru^b, Salif Sow^b

10
11 ^aWojciech Budzianowski Consulting Services, Poleska 11/37, 51-354 Wrocław, Poland

12 ^bPan African University, B.P. 119, Pôle Chetouane, Tlemcen 13000, Algeria

13 14 15 Abstract

16 This study provides an overview of potential renewable energy (RE) projects for Africa. Pan
17 African University master students were asked by their lecturer to characterize African
18 projects they had in minds in uniform tables. Items of the project investment plan include
19 project synopsis, the sponsors, market analysis and strategy, project scope, regulation and
20 environmental information, project costs, financial projections, business model, and project
21 innovativeness. Students' RE projects are assessed with emphasis put on employed business
22 models and project innovativeness. Criticalities for the implementation of these projects are
23 discussed in African contexts providing outlook for future investment opportunities in the
24 African continent. The work provides insights from the local students' perspective for the
25 various stakeholders interested in RE project investments in Africa. Useful suggestions
26 formulated directly by young Africans are presented which may contribute to improved risks
27 management when these or other potential RE projects will be deployed. Inputs from local
28 people on how they understand the process of implementing RE projects in Africa might be
29 interesting for investors seeking information about suitable ways for RE project deployment.
30 Students characterize local contexts and identify numerous barriers for deployment of RE
31 systems in Africa. Overall, this study explains the potential lying in renewable energy
32 harvesting in Africa, seeks to emphasize major barriers for implementation of RE projects as
33 well as investigates investment opportunities to implement economically feasible RE projects
34 for cleaner and climate friendly energy future of this continent.

35 36 226 Keywords

227 Project; renewable energy; business model; innovativeness; Africa; investment opportunity;
228 local student perspective

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