



# Digital Energy FACILITY

Support the digitalisation and modernisation of the energy sector



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Co-funded by the European Union



**AFD**  
AGENCE FRANÇAISE  
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

## TARGETS

**Up to 50**  
companies and public  
utilities supported by  
the facility.

**100MW**  
of additional capacity  
from renewable  
energy sources.




**1 million**  
**People**  
with an improved  
access to electricity.

**100 000t**  
**CO<sub>2</sub>eq**  
GHG emissions avoided  
equivalent to 100 000  
return trips by plane  
from Paris to New-York.

## WHAT IS DEF?

The **Digital Energy Facility (DEF)** is a programme funded by the European Union and implemented by Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

Thanks to the financing of **digital innovation projects and products**, the facility aims to:

-  Support the integration of renewable energy sources into the grid.
-  Increase energy access.
-  Improve the performance of power utilities and reduce technical and commercial losses.

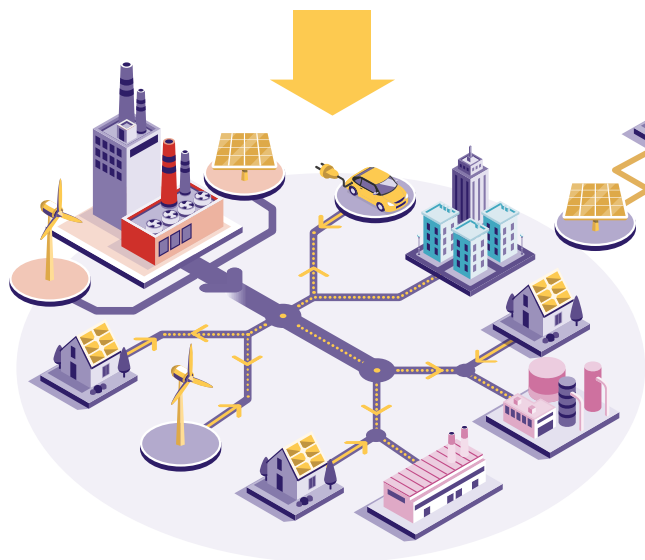


## Why do we need it?

The energy sector is facing key changes which have disrupted the structure of the network:



- Mono-directional
- Centralised
- Analog
- Carbon-intensive
- Production-centered



- Multi-directional ✓
- Decentralised ✓
- Digital** ✓
- Decarbonized ✓
- Consumer-centric ✓

# The facility has **4 components** and levers of action

## 1 Digitalisation of utilities **€6,7M**

- Technical assistance projects to support the digitalisation of utilities such as performance diagnosis, digitalisation roadmap. 10 projects targeted. (€5,7M).
  - Capacity building projects such as webinars, workshops (€1M).
- **Targets: public utilities / national energy companies.**

## 2 Fostering innovation **€7,2M**

€1,2M for the calls' organisation  
€6M for the support to winners

- Organisation of an annual call for projects aiming at promoting partnerships between power utilities and innovative private companies.
  - Technical and financial support for the selected projects.
- **Targets: utilities and startups developing innovative digital solutions for the energy sector.**

## 3 Creation of a Digital Energy Community **€1,8M**

- Online platform providing resources (data gathering and analysis, studies) and giving networking opportunities (online workshops, B2B events, etc.).
  - A website, social networks, newsletter.
- **Targets: all actors of the energy sector.**

## 4 Seed financing for innovative energy companies **€4,8M (debt)**

- Seed financing (between 300k€ and 400k€) for start-ups to experiment and scale up innovative solutions for access to energy.
- **Targets: at least 10 startups.**

## HOW IS DEF SUPPORTING ENERGY ACTORS?

DEF offers a variety of complementary instruments to support energy actors in their digitalisation process and eventually build partnerships between utilities and private sector.



### UTILITIES

Technical assistance  
COMPONENT 1

Call for projects  
COMPONENT 2

Networking  
COMPONENT 2 3



### STARTUPS & SMES

Networking  
COMPONENT 2 3

Call for projects  
COMPONENT 2

Seed or pre-seed financing  
COMPONENT 4

# SCOPE OF THE FACILITY

## DURATION

**START:** December 2019

**IMPLEMENTATION  
PERIOD:**

**between 4  
and 7 years**  
depending on the  
components.



## LOCATION

**OECD DAC  
countries**

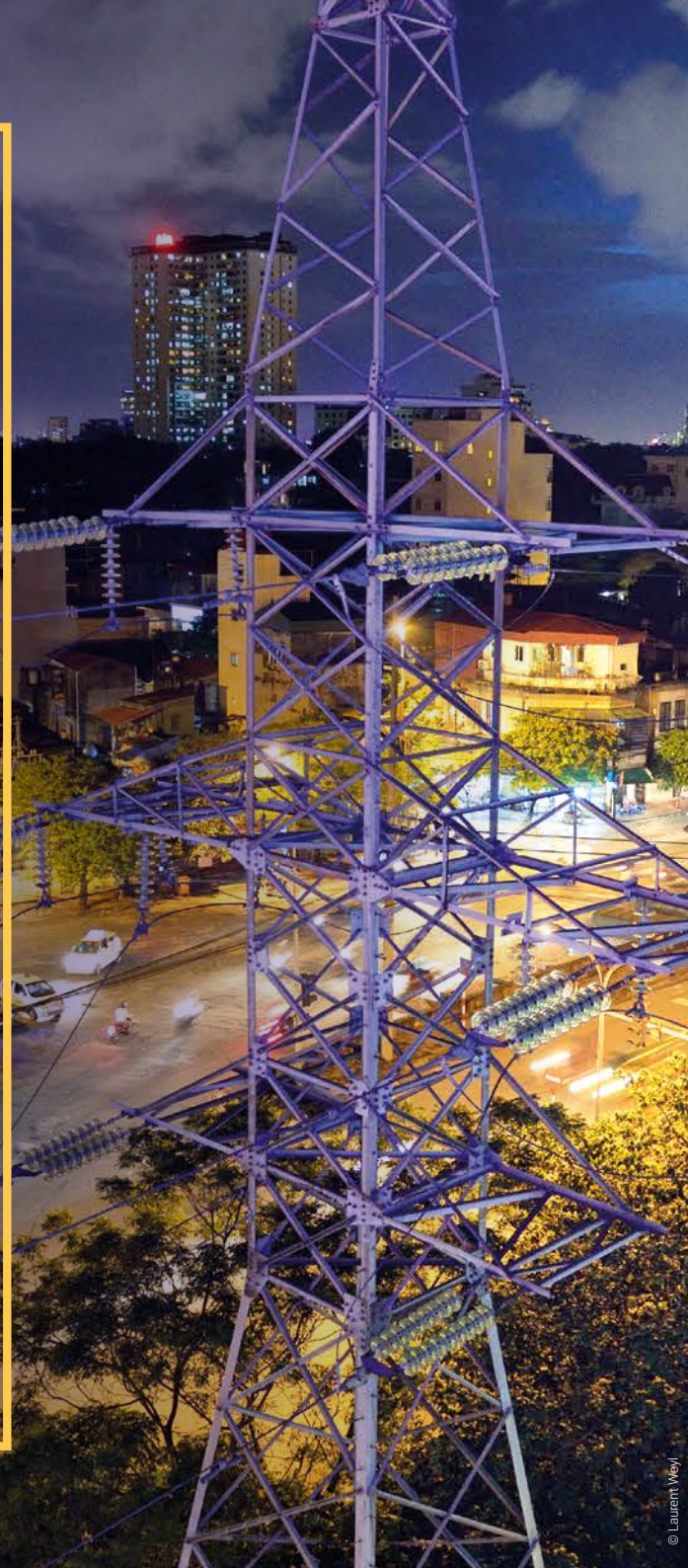
are eligible, except EU  
pre-accession countries.  
Focus on sub-Saharan  
Africa.



## BUDGET

**€23,5M**

funded by the European  
Union. Should lead to  
€300M of loans for  
investment in the  
digitalisation of utilities by  
AFD and other International  
Financial Institutions.





Agence Française de Développement Group (AFD Group) implements France's policy in the areas of development and international solidarity. It finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a more coherent and resilient world. Comprised of AFD, which finances the public sector and NGOs; Proparco, which finances the private sector; and soon, Expertise France for technical cooperation, the Group finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a more resilient and sustainable world.

With our partners, we are building shared solutions with and for the people of the Global South. Our teams are active in more than 4,000 projects in the field – in overseas France, in some 115 countries and in crisis areas, working to promote the “common goods” that are climate, biodiversity, peace, gender equality, education and health. It's our way of contributing to the commitment France and the French people have made to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Towards a world in common.

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