

SEED Africa Symposium 2016 - PDCI break out session on “Boosting Private Sector Action for the Paris Climate Agreement”

From **28 – 29 September 2016**, the SEED Africa Symposium took place in Kenya, Nairobi. Around 450 entrepreneurs, researchers, practitioners, investors, policy makers and representatives of civil society gathered in Nairobi and discussed this year's topic “**From Innovation to Imitation**”: How to utilize the replication of business models in order to successfully contribute to green growth and sustainable development in Africa.

The **SEED Africa Symposium** is an annual international forum for sharing knowledge and experience, establishing partnerships, and developing solutions to stimulate the growth of social and eco-entrepreneurship across the African continent.

Enabling Replication: Boosting Private Sector Action for the Paris Climate Agreement

29 September | 09:00 – 12:00h

On 29 September, the Practitioners' Dialogue on Climate Investments ([PDCI](#)) enrolled in the SEED Symposium and organized a session on “**Enabling Replication Boosting Private Sector Action for the Paris Climate Agreement**”. The workshop's objective was to enable replication for private sector action with regards to the Paris Agreement, which was adopted in December 2015 by 195 countries.

In the Paris Agreement, countries pledged to take action to avert climate change and to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius. The agreement is based on national commitments, the “intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs)” which shall now be implemented and will have a tremendous effect on the business and financial sector as they will play a crucial role when turning national climate commitments into practice.

During the workshop, moderator Rainer Agster (SEED) together with a group of 20 experts examined how such (I)NDCs can be turned into concrete action by drawing on experience and expertise from local experts. Three practitioners from the PDCI presented prototype solutions tackling private sector challenges in order to leverage climate investments. They developed and fine-tuned prototype solutions within the PDCI process in 2016 and shared their experiences in this session in order to discuss how such approaches can be replicated in similar scenarios:

Peter Nyeko, the CEO and Co-Founder of Mandulis Energy Limited from Uganda presented his business and prototype solution “Renewable Energy to Power Agriculture & Rural Livelihood Enhancement ([REPARLE](#))” and discussed how key elements of his Biomass-Gasification business model could be replicated elsewhere.

Biomass gasification can meet both electricity and cooking fuel needs. Peter's prototype for rural electrification can deliver reliable, affordable and **productive** energy numerous farmers as well as powering rural industries and businesses, across dozens of farming communities. Affordable and productive electricity is critical to economic development at base of the pyramid e.g. access to agro-processing for farmers, and cheaper energy costs of agro-processors.

George Kosimbei, Senior Lecturer and Director of Chandaria Business Innovation and Incubation Centre from Kenya introduced his prototype solution, "[Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation in Africa](#)" and illustrated replication potential for the specific region.

In a following fishbowl format participants discussed the potential for private sector action in mitigation and adaptation in their respective country and talked about how particular prototypes ideas could stimulate such action. **Mbaari Kĩnya**, Managing Director of Women in Energy & Environmental Technology (WEET) Enterprise Ltd from Kenya talked about her prototype solution on "[Adaptation of Effective Clean Cooking Energy Technology Through Capacity Building for Mitigation of Climate Change](#)". The practitioners jointly outlined typical potential gaps in support and came up with recommendations on how to successfully fill such gaps.