

BOOSTING DIGITAL INNOVATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR IN AFRICA

Call for Projects 2023
1st March – 15th May 2023

Are you a start-up looking to scale up your digital innovation or transformation project in the energy sector?

Are you a public energy utility or organisation looking to implement a digital innovation project?

Why a Digital Energy Challenge?

The digital revolution is key for the energy transition in developing countries. In sub-Saharan Africa, more than 50% of inhabitants still do not have access to electricity. Public electricity companies and innovative start-ups will both contribute to better energy access and decarbonization of electrical systems through the implementation of innovative technologies and new business models.

The Digital Energy Challenge with an **annual Call for Projects** was launched in 2021 by the [Digital Energy Facility](#), a European Union financed programme, implemented by the Agence française de développement (AFD).

Watch the 2022 edition video [here](#)!

Themes

- Universal electricity access and mini-grids
- Efficient grid management
- Resilience and decarbonation of power systems



Benefits for project winners

An annual budget of 1.8 million euros will enable a dozen awardees to benefit from:

- Grant-based funding of up to **150K€** for Start-ups and up to **500K€** for Utilities, including technical assistance
- A bootcamp to foster new ideas and synergies
- Increased visibility through social media campaigns



Who can apply?

- **Start-ups** in early-stage activities, looking to scale up their digital innovations or digital transformation projects
- **Public utilities in partnership with innovative technology or service providers**, looking to implement innovative digital projects



All projects must be:

- **DIGITAL** i.e. have telecom, computer or cloud-based technology as a central element of the project
- **INNOVATIVE** either intrinsically or in relation to the local market/country
- **LOCAL** with management activities in the African country where the project is based

Apply online [here](#) from 1st March 2023!

For more information or to be added to the Challenge mailing list please contact us:
contact@afddigitalenergychallenge.com