

The programme “**Emerging African Innovation Leaders - G7 exchange & empowerment program for enabling innovation within the next production revolution**” (www.africanlead.net), jointly managed by Politecnico di Milano and Politecnico di Torino, was launched in April 2018 with the support of the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), as an output of the dedicated outreach session on Africa during the G7 Summit in Taormina, under the Italian Presidency.

The programme focuses on developing stable relationships between Italian companies in the **Green and Digital sectors and Innovation Leaders in 6 African countries**, in order to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in those countries.

TARGET COUNTRIES

ETHIOPIA
KENYA
MOZAMBIQUE
NIGER
NIGERIA
TUNISIA

TIMEFRAME

18 Months
(Apr 18 - Oct 19)



1ST GENERATION

21 Experts
selected selected
among over 450
candidates

2ND GENERATION

270 Experts
selected by the
1st generation



ETHIOPIA
SOLAR ENERGY FOR A SMART VILLAGE IN ETHIOPIA

EMERGING AFRICAN INNOVATION LEADERS
G7 exchange & empowerment program for enabling innovation
within the next production revolution
AID 11346



SOLAR ENERGY FOR A SMART VILLAGE IN ETHIOPIA

Issue addressed

- Food insecurity
- Poor access to energy
- Climate change

Description

The project aims at transforming a rural village into a smart village by using solar energy to pump groundwater to support agricultural irrigation, small-scale agricultural production processing and residential electric access.

Opportunities for Italian companies

Solar energy is the ideal solution in areas with no access to an electricity network, providing energy supply to agricultural irrigation

systems and enabling the use of smart technologies. It is possible to identify new business models combining off-grid generating plants with energy efficiency to reduce costs, redevelop the territory and involve industry and communities.

Strategic value

Access to energy increases sustainability in agri-food production by improving the agri-food life cycle and the food cold chain. In addition to that, the use of renewable sources and independent *mini-grids* helps to offset the risks of interruption to activities. More reliable energy services enable to increase productivity in the agricultural and local processing sectors. Energy cost reduction increases the availability of services for local development.

