



**Reinforcing the Africa-Europe Climate Alliance: Looking Ahead to COP26 and onto COP27**  
5 November 2021 | Time 16:00 pm to 17:30 pm (BST) (HYBRID)

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**COP26 SIDE EVENT**

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COP 26 is a make-or-break milestone for global climate action and cooperation. Europe will use its influence to push partners towards net-zero emissions and the provision of climate positive investments. Africa will ensure that long standing issues such as the gap in climate finance, loss and damage and adaptation are debated and addressed. As we move from COP 26 in the UK to COP 27 in Africa, the focus must shift from climate alone to encompass human and economic development. Both continents have a unique opportunity to reinforce their presence on the international scene and act as unique partners to solve their respective challenges. Addressing each other's needs means re-calibrating the partnership and ensuring both voices are listened to for present and future climate negotiations, and beyond.

Questions will include:

- How can both continents strengthen their partnership in the context of COP 26 in the UK and towards COP 27 in Africa?
- What are the biggest bottlenecks between the two continents and can they be addressed?
- What forms of 'radical collaboration', opportunities and hopes can revitalise the partnership and contribute to solving the climate, human and economic challenges of the two continents?

This debate will offer a platform to civil society, business, governments and emerging young leaders to exchange a number of ideas and start working together to drive climate action and ensure human and economic development are encompassed on our road to COP27 in Africa.

Speakers:

- **Kandeh Yumkella**, Co-Chair of the Africa-Europe Foundation Strategy Group on Energy, and former CEO of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll)
- **Saliem Fakir**, Executive Director of the African Climate Foundation
- **Ayakha Melithafa**, Youth Commissioner for the Presidential Climate Change Committee, South Africa
- **Dymphna Van der Lans**, Chief Executive Officer at the Clean Cooking Alliance
- **Glenn Pierce-Oroz**, Director of International Relations and Special Projects at Sustainable Energy for All
- **Vera Songwe**, Executive Secretary of the United National Economic Commission for Africa (TBC)
- **Mary Robsinson**, Co-honorary President of the Africa-Europe Foundation, and Chair of the Elders (TBC)

Moderator:

- **Camilla Toulmin**, Senior Fellow at the Africa-Europe Foundation

