

# Renewable Lesotho

Renewable Lesotho harnesses the Mountain Kingdom's solar, hydro and wind energy potential to maximise generation, achieve energy security and improve access to reliable and affordable clean energy.



A joint initiative to increase clean energy generation and energy efficiency in the Mountain Kingdom, **Renewable Lesotho** promotes reliable and equitable access to energy, while improving energy sector leadership and capacity.

Launched in 2023, **Renewable Lesotho** is part of the **Global Gateway**, Europe's strategy to boost smart, clean and secure connections in digital, energy and transport sectors, and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.

## WHY RENEWABLE LESOTHO?



**Access to energy** / Recognising the diverse energy usage and service needs, renewable energy can bring reliable, equitable and affordable access to clean energy to uplift communities.



**Energy independence** / Lesotho can meet its own energy needs and potentially become an exporter of clean energy, setting an example for the entire region, and reducing its current energy import bill.



**Climate action** / Lesotho is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change thus the need to invest in clean, accessible, affordable and sustainable energy alternatives.



**Jobs and skills** / Energy transition can unlock opportunities, create new jobs, develop new skills, and promote prosperity and sustainable growth.

## HOW?

*Renewable Lesotho brings together a toolbox of instruments, including:*



**Capacity development:** enhancing the knowledge and skills of individuals, organisations, companies, academic and vocational training actors, and institutions;



**Policy & regulatory advice:** supporting strategic planning and the development of policies and regulations on renewable energy and energy efficiency;



**Stakeholder engagement:** creating awareness and encouraging participation of various partners including government, private sector, civil society, academia, and communities in Lesotho's renewable energy transition;



**Financial support:** providing and facilitating different sources and modalities of financing to unlock investments in the renewable energy sector, ranging from results-based grants, equity, loans, and potentially guarantees under **EFSD+**;



**Infrastructure development:** supporting a pipeline of projects ranging from off-grid solutions, mini-grids, solar home systems, to potential larger investments in hydro-, solar, including floating solar, wind energy, and transmission.

## For more about all energy-related initiatives:

**GET.transform** provides technical assistance to the public sector working on energy transformation

**GET.invest** mobilises private investment in renewable energy

**ElectriFI** supports private developer 1PWR to build 11 minigrids in rural areas

**Erasmus+ / LETSEMA** promotes quality education on sustainable energy

**Support to Reforms in the Energy Sector** provided technical assistance to the Department of Energy

## BACKGROUND

**Renewable Lesotho** is a joint effort between the Government of Lesotho and its relevant Ministries, the European Union Delegation to Lesotho, the **European Investment Bank (EIB)**, European multi-donor platforms **GET.transform** and **GET.invest**, the **Association of Bilateral European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI)**, the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**, **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

**Renewable Lesotho** is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** as well as the Government of Lesotho's **National Strategic Development Plan II (NSDP II)**, the **EU-Lesotho cooperation strategy for 2021-2027** and **Team Europe Initiative – Green Deal**.

The EU contribution is EUR 25 million (LSL 500 million) open to additional contributions from other partners. The action is co-funded by the German government to the tune of EUR 860,000 as well as the Irish government with a contribution of EUR 100,000.

