

# Press Release

Brussels and Dakar, 18 November 2021

## ARE & COPERES Sign MoU to Boost Renewable Electrification in Senegal

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Business Council of Renewable Energies of Senegal (COPERES) and the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE). The MoU sets out the shared goals of the two organisations to address the existing obstacles which hinder the optimal use of the various renewable energies for electrification and the potential for energy efficiency in Senegal. Both organisations agreed to promote social and economic development by increasing the share of renewable energies in the energy mix in West Africa and particularly Senegal.

The associations will work together on a number of activities, including joint advocacy for renewable energy policies in Senegal to create a conducive market environment for decentralised renewable energy (DRE) actors, accompanying and contributing to the government's efforts to achieve renewable energy targets as well as targeted business development and market intelligence support for DRE companies.

In this regard, the associations aim to develop the capacity of renewable energy stakeholders in Senegal to create local jobs and secure more financing for renewable energy projects and businesses. This will, for example, be achieved by spearheading "DRE Investment Academies" or similar trainings for Senegalese and international DRE developers and other stakeholders, with the aim to attract additional fundraising and technical support.

Finally, the MoU states that the partners will offer business development services for renewable energy actors working in Senegal, to address electrification, energy security and climate change challenges, as well as conduct applied research to foster the market for renewable energy technologies.

**David Lecoque, CEO of ARE** said: *"This MoU exemplifies ARE's ambition to work in tandem with national counterparts to boost renewable electrification at the country level. The cooperation with COPERES empowers efforts to drive and expand clean and affordable electrification across rural Senegal."*

**Karim NDIAYE, President of COPERES** said: *"COPERES is very pleased with this partnership, which fits well with our missions. We need a strong and innovative private sector in renewable energy. We look forward to a fruitful cooperation with ARE."*

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**Note to the editor**

The Alliance for Rural Electrification ([ARE](#)) is an international business association with the aim to promote a sustainable decentralised renewable energy industry for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, activating markets for affordable energy services, and creating local jobs and inclusive economies. ARE enables improved energy access through business development support for more than 185 Members along the whole value chain for off-grid technologies.

The Business Council of Renewable Energies of Senegal ([COPERES](#)) defends the economic interests of the member companies and all the professionals of renewable energies. The association originates from the National Associations of Renewable Energy Professionals which brings together Senegalese law entrepreneurs, independent producers, installers, rural concession managers, consultants and other Senegalese law private renewable energy services. It aims to contribute to the promotion of companies operating at more than 65% in the renewable energy sector in Senegal.

