

# RE4Agri

# Renewable Energy for Zimbabwe's

# Agricultural Value Chain

7-9 September 2026

Rainbow Towers Hotel, Harare, Zimbabwe

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## 1 Motivation

Agriculture is at the heart of the Zimbabwean economy and of EU engagement with Zimbabwe, as it provides employment for approximately 52% of the population and contributes about 17% of Zimbabwe's GDP. Energy is essential in agricultural production and the transportation of commodities. Examples are irrigation, heating, cooling and processing. Unfortunately, the agricultural sector experiences energy related challenges due to unpredictable and unreliable grid power, and resorts to reliance on diesel generation, which is costly and undermines profitability.

Zimbabwe has abundant renewable energy potential. It has hydropower resources and strong solar potential. Agricultural waste streams create possibilities for energy production such as biogas biomass, etc. The falling costs of renewable energy and the increasing demand for energy is creating a time-sensitive opportunity to support how Zimbabwe's agricultural value chain is powered.

The energy-food nexus is growing in relevance internationally and gaining support in multifaceted fronts:

- The European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is raising the bar for decarbonisation across traded supply chains, which is creating compliance pressure and competitive advantage for agricultural exporters who transition to renewable energy.
- Governments across Africa and the world, such as Egypt and India, are developing national frameworks that formally integrate energy and agriculture policy, reflecting a global shift toward energy-smart food systems.
- IRENA and the FAO jointly published a [report on renewables for agri-food systems](#) and released a [Zimbabwe-specific report on decentralised renewable energy for agriculture](#) in April 2025.
- Multilateral organisations including SEforALL and REN21 are increasingly positioning distributed renewable energy as the primary pathway to rural energy access and productive use in agriculture across Sub-Saharan Africa.

## 2 Concept

[RE4Agri](#) is an international conference that will be hosted from 7-9 September 2026 at Rainbow Towers in Harare, Zimbabwe. The conference days will be from 8-9 September and will be preceded by curated site visits on Day 0. The conference will convene approximately 200 to 250 delegates and exhibitors drawn from the renewable energy sector, the agricultural value chain, government, development finance institutions and the private sector. RE4Agri will serve as a flagship convening platform for [GET.invest Zimbabwe](#) as a country window of the European programme which was established in May 2025 with funding from the European Union and Germany. The country window builds on the services of the broader GET.invest programme to unlock financing for clean energy projects and businesses, and tailors them to the Zimbabwean context. The conference will feature a main plenary auditorium and three dedicated breakaway rooms to enable focused technical, policy and investment conversations in parallel tracks. An exhibition hall will give technology providers, financiers and solution developers a platform to engage directly with potential clients and partners.

RE4Agri is jointly convened by the [European Union Delegation to Zimbabwe](#), [GET.invest Zimbabwe](#) and the [Renewable Energy Association of Zimbabwe \(REAZ\)](#) and will be free of charge.

## 3 Outcomes

[RE4Agri](#) is designed to generate tangible outputs for all participants and to create value:

- A direct pathway for local renewable energy developers and agri-businesses to access investment facilitation services, project preparation support and a network of financiers, with bankable projects identified through structured matchmaking to accelerate financial close.
- Deepened partnerships between European and Zimbabwean actors in renewable energy and agriculture that open pathways for technology transfer, investment and knowledge exchange.
- Structured business matchmaking connections between energy developers, agri-businesses, financiers and offtakers to lay the groundwork for commercial partnerships and procurement agreements.

- A platform for European and African companies operating at the intersection of agriculture and renewable energy to present their technologies, investment appetite and expertise to Zimbabwean counterparts.
- A more connected network of stakeholders across the energy-agriculture interface in Zimbabwe that will enable coordinated action beyond the conference.

## 4 Participation

Delegates will receive access to the full programme which will consist of plenary sessions, breakaway discussions, the exhibition hall and the structured matchmaking platform connecting energy developers, agri-businesses and financiers.

Matchmaking will run across two conference days and will facilitate introductions between energy developers, agri-businesses and financiers. Participants can register their matchmaking profiles in advance on the [registration platform](#) and secure pre-scheduled meetings with counterparts relevant to their business objectives.

Exhibitors will have dedicated floor space in the exhibition hall to showcase their products, services or projects to all attendees from the energy and agricultural sectors.

All forms of participation are available free of charge. To attend, applicants must complete the online [application form](#). Submission of an application does not constitute confirmation of attendance, and the organisers reserve the right to accept or decline any application at their discretion.

## 5 Annex A: Draft Program

7 September 2026 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME: DAY 0	
11h00 – 15h00	Site Visits

8 September 2026 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME: DAY 1			
08h00-09h00	Registration Opens		
09h00 – 10h20	Opening Session and Keynote speeches Plenary: Zimbabwe's Agricultural Future and the Role of Energy as an Enabler to Growth and Renewal Venue: Main auditorium		
10h20 – 11h00	Tea/Networking and Matchmaking Registration and Support		
11h00 – 12h30	Breakaway Session 1: Powering Commercial Agriculture through Reliable and Affordable Grid Solutions for Large Scale Farming in Zimbabwe Venue: Diamond	Breakaway Session 2: From Waste to Energy through Biogas and Clean Cooking Solutions for Zimbabwe's Agricultural Communities Venue: Sapphire	Breakaway Session 3: Beyond Compliance by Decarbonising the Agri Value Chain to Strengthen Zimbabwe's Export Competitiveness Venue: Ruby A
12h30 – 13h30	Lunch		
13h30 – 15h30	Breakaway Session 4: Renewable Energy Solutions for the Maize and Aquaculture Value Chains Venue: Diamond	Breakaway Session 5: Moving Rural Zimbabwe Forward through Electric Mobility and the Financing Models That Make It Work Venue: Sapphire	Breakaway Session 6: Agri-voltaics and Minigrids for Farmers and Rural Communities Venue: Ruby A
15h30 – 17h30	Matchmaking Session 1		
17h30 – 18h00	Plenary Report back by Rapporteurs and Wrap up Day 1 Venue: Main auditorium		
18h00-21h00	Welcome Cocktail		

9 September 2026 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME: DAY 2			
08h00-09h00	Registration Opens		
09h00 - 11h00	Plenary Topic: Mobilising Capital for Zimbabwe's Renewable Energy Future to Drive Agricultural and Economic Growth Venue: Main auditorium		
11h20 - 13h00	Tea/ Networking: Matchmaking Session 2		
11h30 - 13h00	Breakaway Session 7 Topic: Financing Embedded Generation at Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Sites Venue: Diamond	Breakaway Session 8 Topic: Improving Agricultural Productivity through Renewable Energy with Case Studies on Irrigation, Cooling and Processing Venue: Sapphire	Breakaway Session 9 Topic: Curing the Energy Problem through Renewable Energy and Technology Solutions for Zimbabwe's Tobacco Sector Venue: Ruby A
13h00 - 14h30	Lunch		
14h30 - 15h30	Matchmaking Session 3		
14h30 - 16h00	Plenary Report back by Rapporteurs for day 2 Topic: Forging the Road Ahead through International and Zimbabwean Perspectives on Agriculture and Renewable Energy Venue: Main auditorium		
16h00 - 17h00	Closing session and Matchmaking Award Giving Session Venue: Main auditorium		