



## THE NREIF COMMUNIQUÉ

Nigeria Renewable Energy Innovation Forum (NREIF), 2025

Implementing the Nigeria First Policy, Facilitating Local Content Development and Manufacturing in the Renewable Energy Ecosystem

14-15 October 2025 | Transcorp Hilton, Abuja









### **Preamble**

The Nigeria Renewable Energy Innovation Forum (NREIF) 2025 convened government leaders, private sector executives, investors, researchers, and development partners under the leadership of the Rural Electrification Agency (REA).

The Forum's purpose was to drive practical implementation of the Nigeria First Policy — a national commitment to develop local content, expand manufacturing, and strengthen the industrial base that underpins Nigeria's clean energy transition.

The event provided a multi-stakeholder platform for knowledge exchange, partnership building, and investment mobilization to accelerate renewable energy deployment through homegrown innovation, financing, and technology.

#### **Global & National Context**

Global investment in the low-carbon energy transition reached a record USD 2.1 trillion in 2024, illustrating the scale of capital flowing into clean technologies worldwide. Yet Africa continues to capture a small share of those flows — roughly 2% of global clean-energy investment — highlighting a major financing and industrial opportunity for the continent and for Nigeria.

Nigeria's resource and market fundamentals strengthen its case for local industrialization: officially reported reserves stand at ~37.28 billion barrels of oil and ~210.54 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of gas, while the country's solar and hydropower potential and emerging deposits of critical minerals create the feedstock for a domestic renewable manufacturing value chain.

At the same time, national policy milestones — including the Electricity Act 2023 and the Federal Executive Council approval of the National Integrated Electricity Policy & Strategic Implementation Plan (NIEP-SIP) — provide an enabling legal and strategic framework for decentralised markets, State participation, and industrial policy alignment.

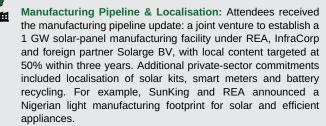
## Forum Highlights & Announcements

High-Level Endorsement: The Forum was chaired by His Excellency Senator Kashim Shettima, Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, who called for a rapid shift from import dependence to domestic manufacturing of renewable energy equipment and solutions to capitalise on the \$410Billion investment opportunity in the energy transition.

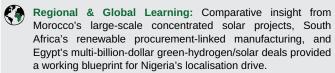


Investment Commitments & MoUs: The Deal Room sessions concluded with USD 435 million in investment commitments and the signing of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), six State Governments — Lagos, Ogun, Akwa Ibom, Kano, Bayelsa, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) — and leading private-sector partners.

These partnerships aim to deliver an initial 4,000 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy manufacturing capacity to catalyse value-chain development across participating states.



Knowledge, Capacity & Inclusion: The Forum featured thematic sessions on manufacturing & industrialisation; battery storage & lithium value-chain; inclusive energy transitions (with a focus on women and youth); skills development and harmonised standards; and the nexus of energy, digital infrastructure and industrial competitiveness.



Programmatic Anchors for Scale: The Forum reaffirmed the role of national programmes such as the National Public Sector Solarization Initiative (NPSSI) and the DARES (Distributed Access through Renewable Energy Scale-up) project — both critical demand-anchor mechanisms to catalyse manufacturing and access

## **Collective Resolution**

Forum participants agreed on the following actions and commitments to fast-track Nigeria's renewable energy industrialization:

- Prioritise local content obligations in all federal and state renewable programmes; set clear, time-bound targets for solar, battery, balance-of-system components and other renewable energy technologies.
- 2. Strengthen an inter-agency implementation architecture comprising the Federal Ministry of Power (MoP), the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI), the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI), the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), and the Budget Office of the Federation (BOF) to ensure coordinated alignment of industrial policy, trade measures, fiscal incentives, and budgetary support with national renewable energy and local manufacturing objectives.
- Scale blended finance instruments, green bonds and guarantee mechanisms to crowd in pension and institutional capital; leverage carbon markets to improve project bankability.
- 4. Operationalise the REA Harmonized Technical Standards, fast-track certification via SON/NEMSA and expand vocational/apprenticeship programmes linked to manufacturing clusters.
- Institutionalise digital platforms and interoperable data-systems to enhance planning, procurement and investor transparency; under REA's Technology-First approach.
- Pursue regional sourcing and export strategies; position Nigeria as a supplier of renewable-energy components within ECOWAS and beyond, supported by trade facilitation and export incentives.

# Implementation, Governance & Next Steps

- Technical Policy Advisory Working Group (TPAWG): A
  multi-stakeholder Technical Policy Advisory Working Group has
  been established to consolidate forum outcomes into concrete
  policy and implementation recommendations. The TPAWG will
  develop an actionable Renewable Manufacturing Roadmap
  (2025–2030) and present its findings and recommended
  measures to the Honourable Minister of Power in Q1 2026 for
  adoption and cabinet consideration. The composition of the
  working group is as follows:
  - Federal Ministry of Power (Chair) providing overall policy direction, ensuring alignment with national electrification strategy, and coordinating Federal Executive Council interface.
  - B. Rural Electrification Agency (Secretariat) coordinating workstreams, consolidating outputs from the Forum, and aligning with ongoing programmes such as DARES, NPSSI, and NESIP.
  - C. National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI) – leading on technology localization, component manufacturing, and applied R&D in renewable systems.
  - D. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI)
     aligning industrial policy, local content regulation, and fiscal incentives for renewable energy manufacturing.
  - E. Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) facilitating investor engagement, policy advocacy, and investment pipeline tracking for renewable manufacturing ventures.
  - F. Solar Energy Manufactuers and Assemblers Association (SEMA) – representing private sector stakeholders, local manufacturers, EPCs, and developers across the renewable value chain.
  - G. Africa Policy Research Institute (APRI) represented by Najim Animashaun, providing policy analysis, data-driven insights, and evidence-based recommendations on industrial and workforce development.
  - H. Hinckley Recycling Limited representing the circular economy and e-waste management segment, ensuring integration of end-of-life processing, recycling, and materials recovery into Nigeria's renewable energy industrial policy.
  - Advisory Members: Erabor Okogun, KPMG and Anthony Feyitimi, Barton Heyman Limited offering fiscal, governance, and policy advisory support for investment frameworks...
- NREIF 2.0 & Progress Tracking: NREIF 2.0 is scheduled provisionally for August 2026. An annual NREIF Progress Report, to be coordinated by REA, will track commitments against defined KPIs (investment mobilized, MW deployed, manufacturing jobs created, local content percentage, and REC issuance).
- Developer & Investor Roundtables: REA will host a series of sectoral roundtables (manufacturing, storage, off-grid) in Q4 2025–Q2 2026 to convert MoUs into financed, shovel-ready projects and to refine demand aggregation for manufacturers.

#### **Call to Action**

Participants emphasized that the transition from pilot projects to industrial scale requires urgency, coordination, and measurable commitments. They called on all stakeholders — federal and state governments, development partners, financiers, OEMs, and local manufacturers — to convert the Forum's momentum into durable pipelines of projects, factories, skills, and exports.

Issued by: Rural Electrification Agency (REA), Federal Republic of Nigeria