

After Post-G7 festivities, some disturbing questions remain...

...and are raised by Sixbert Mwanga (Climate Action Network Tanzania)



The G 7 summit was concluded in Bavaria on 8th June 2015 with a statement covering a lot of good things that developing countries – and African countries in particular – wanted to hear. Thus most of people were happy with the outcomes. Indeed, if it is a matter of hearing and reading good things and statements given by G7 leaders, I have no doubt that they have managed to satisfy many.

However, coming from Africa, we are used to leaders mentioning good things that reflect communities' problems directly. Leaders know community problems, causes and even ways to solve them.

So, dear G7 leaders:

To avoid misinterpretation on your good statements and leadership, please let us know the differences between good things and promises we have been hearing from you and African leaders in the past and your recent good statements.

Are you sure you want to accelerate access renewable energy in Africa with a view to reducing energy poverty? What kinds of renewable energy are you referring to? Is it wind, hydropower, solar or geothermal? Does it include nuclear energy?

Our people will perish!

Are you thinking to promote national grids? Then there will be no acceleration. This would not reduce energy poverty at all in Africa, as the poor will have to pay the cost for the rich ones!

At what speed and through which means do you want to support us? Through business models or top down approaches? I hope you are well informed that these approaches are already causing a lot pains to communities and promote more chances for corruption.



Or are you going to promote funding for bottom-up, decentralised and off-grid solutions? You would never regret this. You would achieve our common goals quickly. See the photo above on how it works. It brings friendly solutions.

By the way, when should we expect all this to happen?

You see, there is still a bit of confusion. We have evidence that many of the companies supported by your governments are doing research to build new fossil fuel and nuclear power plants in Africa. *Will you also address this quickly as well?* Please do it and tell them to not misuse your tax payers' money.

It is our hope that you will always work closely with targeted majority rural communities and people who work on grassroots. Please also ensure technology and capacity building for us people. This is the basis for the sustainability of your efforts.