

# Digital Energy Program

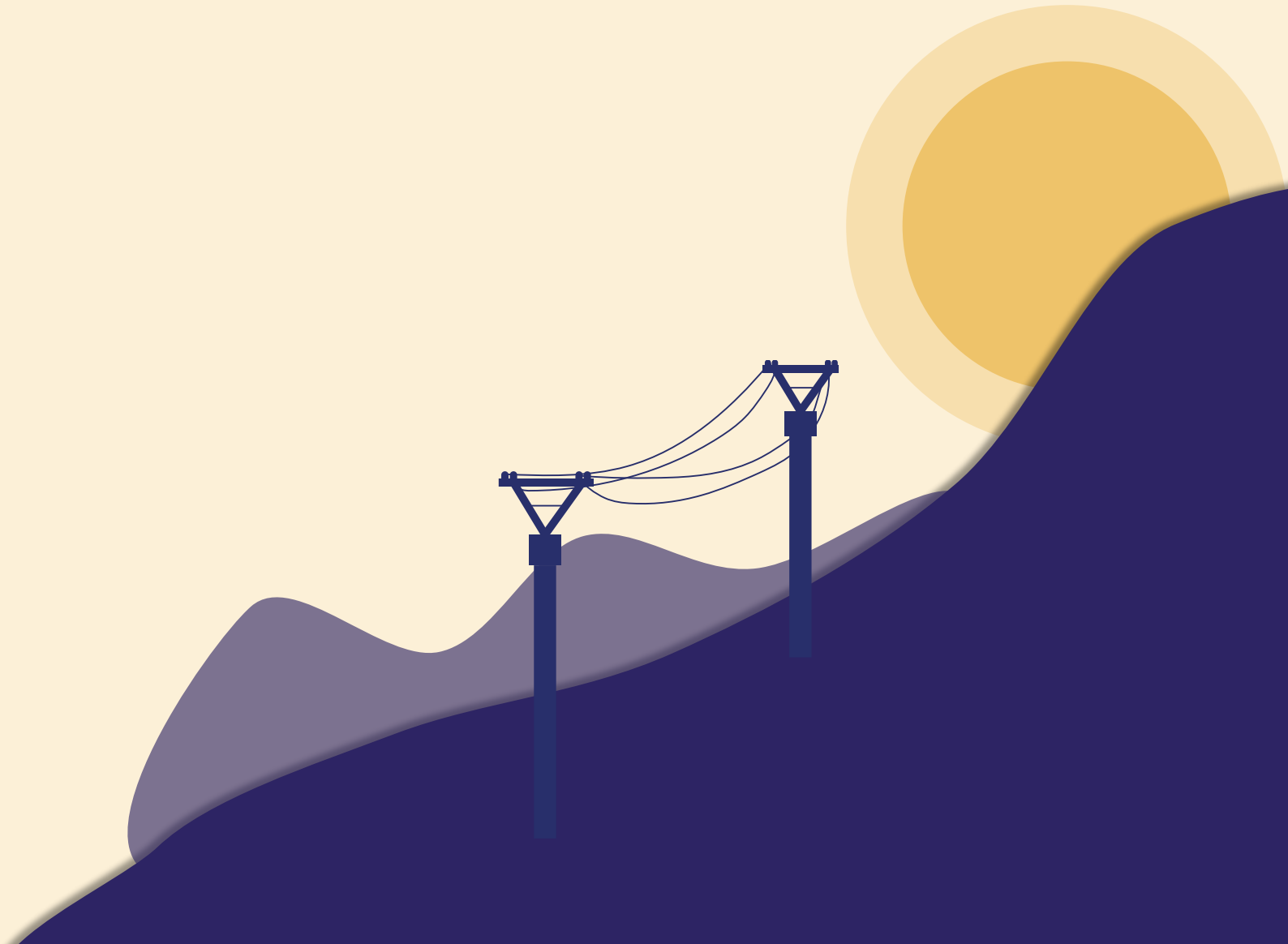


Accelerate energy transformation in Africa through digital innovation

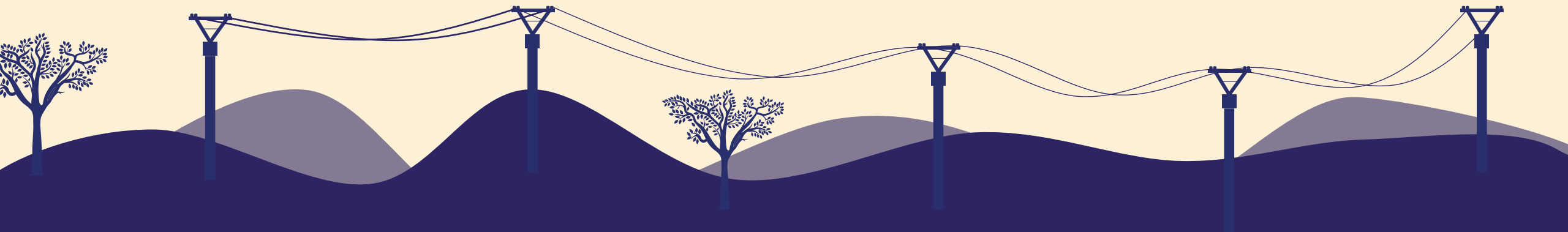


# SUMMARY

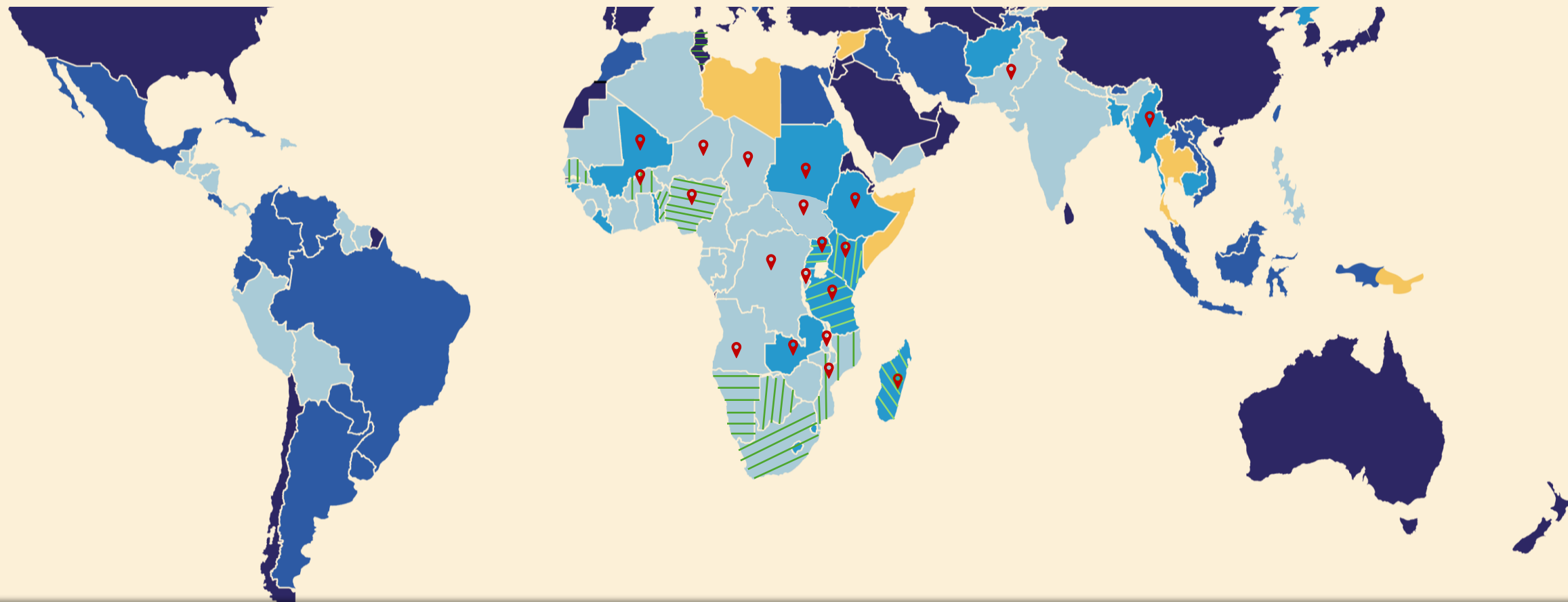
- 1 Context in which the program is set
- 2 Digital Energy, in brief
- 3 New direction: Digital Partnership
- 4 Making AI a key lever of energy innovation



# Context in which the program is set



# Africa: epicenter of the global electricity access deficit



Not applicable

Universal access achieved between 2010 and 2022



The 20 main countries with access deficits



Countries benefiting from projects funded by Digital Energy

Annual access growth rate:

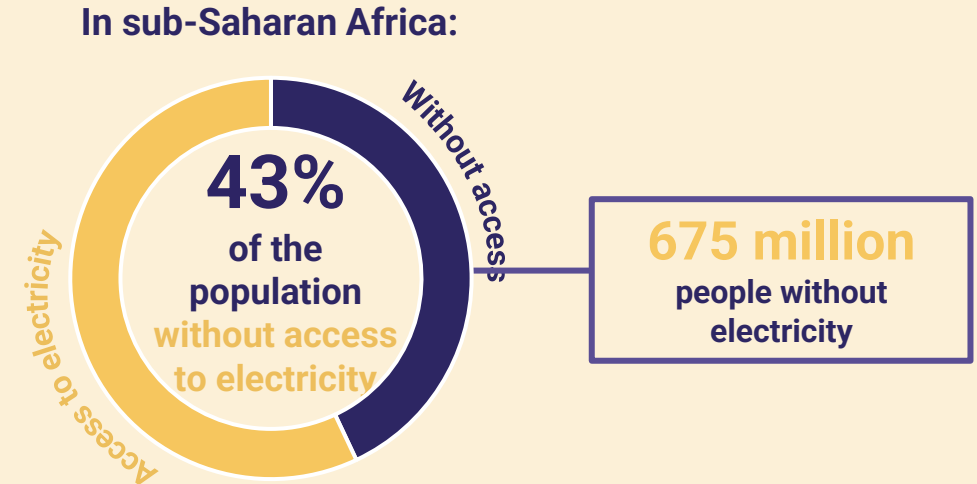
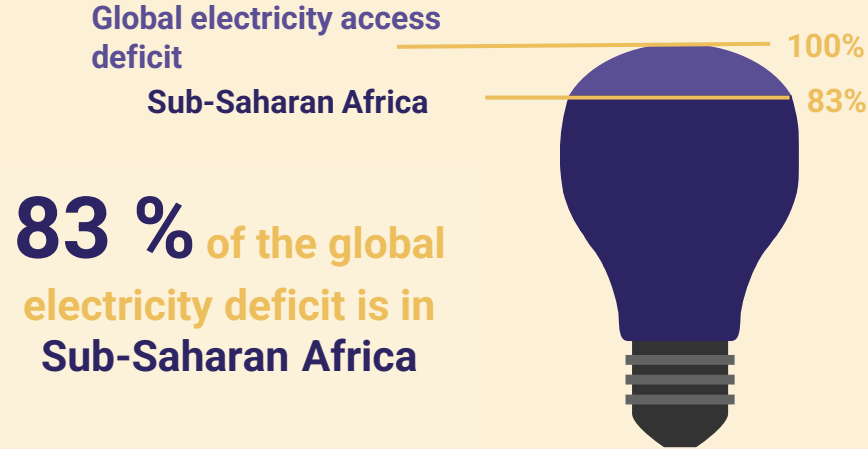
above 2%

between 0% and 2%

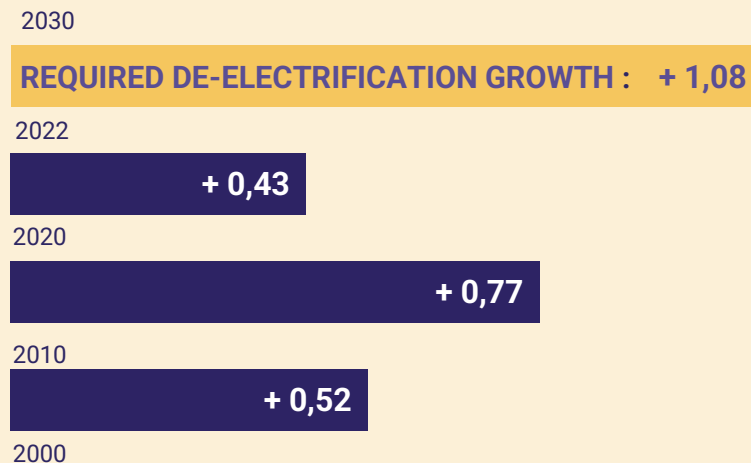
decreasing



# Universal access to electricity in Africa: time to act, and fast !



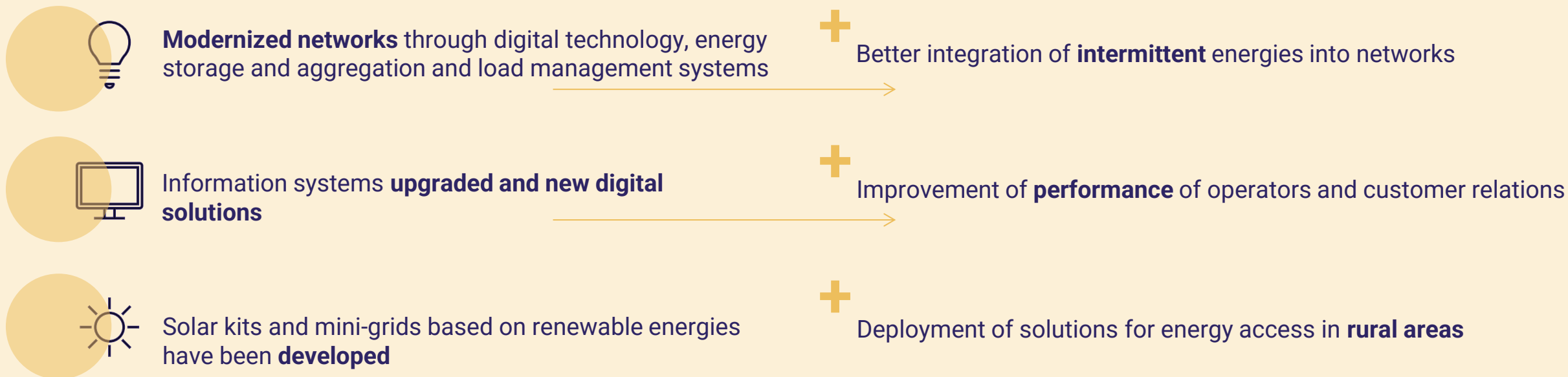
**Universal access:**  
the urgency to  
accelerate electrification of Africa



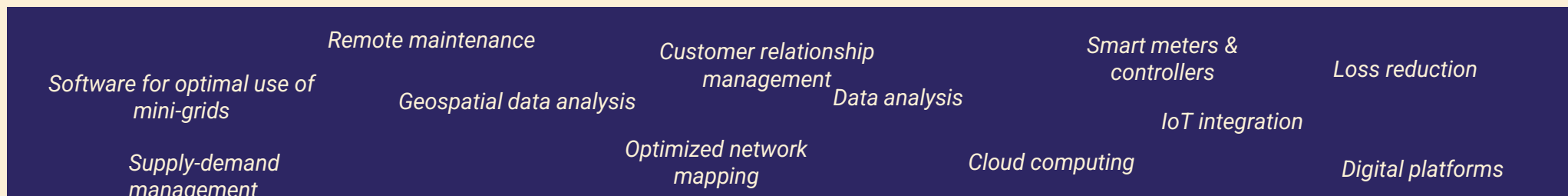
**FOR  
UNIVERSAL  
ACCESS TO  
ELECTRICITY  
BY 2030**

# Changing the game with innovative digital solutions

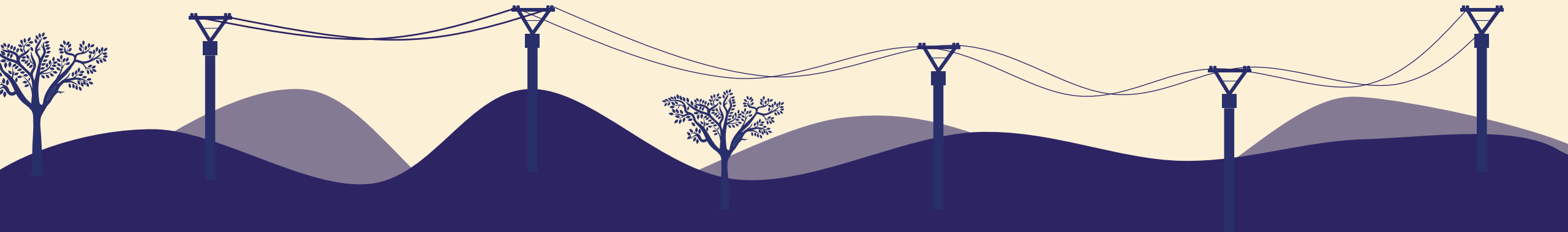
## Energy transition: concrete innovation levers to activate now



## Some examples of improvement levers for public electricity stakeholders



# The Digital Energy program, in brief



# Digital Energy: a dedicated program to catalyze Africa's energy transition through digital innovation



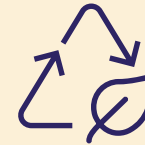
Our mission: **support public-private collaborations and promote innovation for:**



**Accelerate**  
**access to energy**



**Improve operational**  
**efficiency of stakeholders**



**Reduce dependence on**  
**fossil fuels**

**A co-financed program at the heart of major initiatives** **co-financé au cœur d'initiatives d'envergure**

**Serve the ambition of Mission 300**

- A flagship program of the AFD Group in support of **Mission 300** aimed at electrifying 300 million people in Africa by 2030.
- Partnership with [SEforAll](#)

**Supported by:**



- Part of the [Digital & Green Innovation Action](#)



# From 2019 to 2025: 2 complementary action levers

## 1 Catalyze public/private partnerships to digitize energy operators

**Our target:** Public electricity operators

**Our priority :** Strengthen their capacity to integrate digital innovation into their operations and co-develop concrete solutions with the private sector.

### Our scope of action

- Creation of tailor-made partnerships within a secure institutional framework
- Financing of innovative projects in connection with technology providers up to 500,000 euros
- Project visibility & networking

## 2 Finance and support start-ups that innovate for energy access

**Our target:** Start-ups and innovative companies

**Our priority:** Support local digital solutions that sustainably transform energy access in Africa.

### Our scope of action

- Financing of innovative solutions up to 150,000 €
- Technical and strategic support for solution deployment
- Project visibility & networking

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**Our added value : accelerate high-impact projects**

*Achievements since 2019*

**6.5 M€**

allocated to projects

**39**

projects funded

**+ 15**

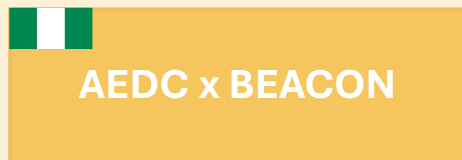
beneficiary  
countries

**10**

projects  
completed

# Words from the Digital Energy Challenge winners

They are transforming energy access Discover their project:



Cartographie du réseau et détection des coupures

Meilleure continuité de service

*Project*



Automatisation des mini-réseaux en zone rurale

Gain d'efficacité & réduction des coûts logistiques grâce à la digitalisation

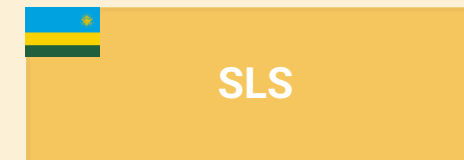
*Interview*



Plateforme IoT pour connecter appareils et mini-réseaux

Accès facilité aux équipements énergétiques et renforcement de la demande électrique

*Interview*



Stockage d'énergie pour tours télécom via batteries réutilisées

Solution IoT cloud pour optimiser la seconde vie des batteries

*Interview*



# Focus on the Digital Energy Community: 400 members committed to transforming energy in Africa



By joining the Digital Energy community, you get access to:

**400 members**    **39 projects carried**  
**4 bootcamps**

## Exchange of practices & knowledge

Create spaces for dialogue and experience feedback between peers to promote learning.

**19 countries impacted**

## Understanding local needs

Better grasp field realities, operators' priorities, and intervention contexts to adapt innovations.



## Qualified network of actors united around the same ambition

Meet public actors, start-ups, donors, experts engaged in the digital transformation of energy.

**1 collaborative digital platform**

**1 LinkedIn exchange group**



## Unprecedented resources

Access tools, studies, benchmarks, and exclusive content to support project development.

**100 available resources**

**2 collaborative studies**

**1 bimonthly newsletter**

## Meetings at dedicated events

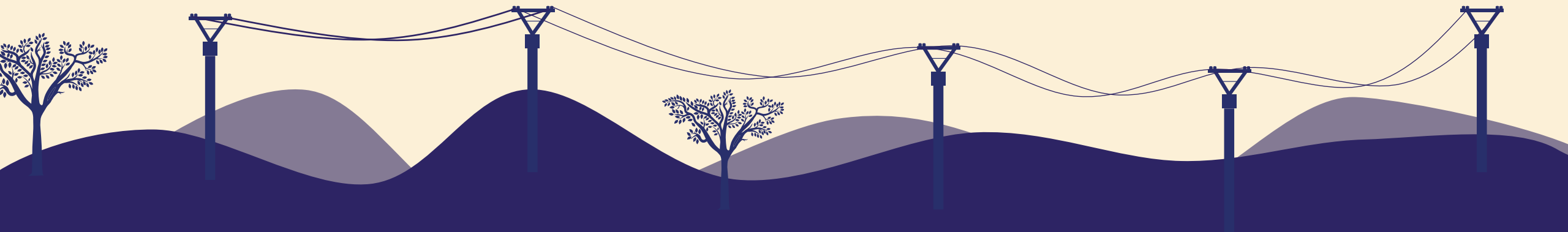
Participate in meetings to exchange, create synergies, build skills, and collaborate.

**12 webinars**

**Physical events**



# New course: the Digital Partnership



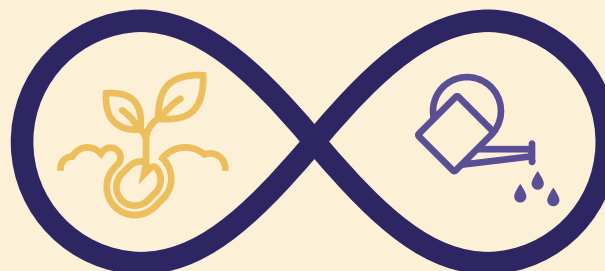
# From 2026: a focus on Digital Partnership

## Pillar 1: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION & FUNDING

*Finance and support the development of customized technological solutions*

- Partnerships with local public services
- Open innovation challenge
- Hackathons & design sprints
- Innovation labs with operators and local ecosystems
- Acceleration funds for collaborative projects
- Technical support and tailored financing

## Digital Partnership



**Create fertile ground for innovation between committed local public actors for universal access and private companies offering innovative solutions.**

## Pillar 2: CAPACITY BUILDING

*Support the scaling up of actors on their key topics*

- Animation of a dedicated community to promote collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Tools to identify the needs, assess the maturity of solutions and finance projects
- Targeted webinars, kit tools, bootcamps, learning expeditions

## The Digital Energy Challenge: how does it work in practice?

Identification of priority topics with national companies

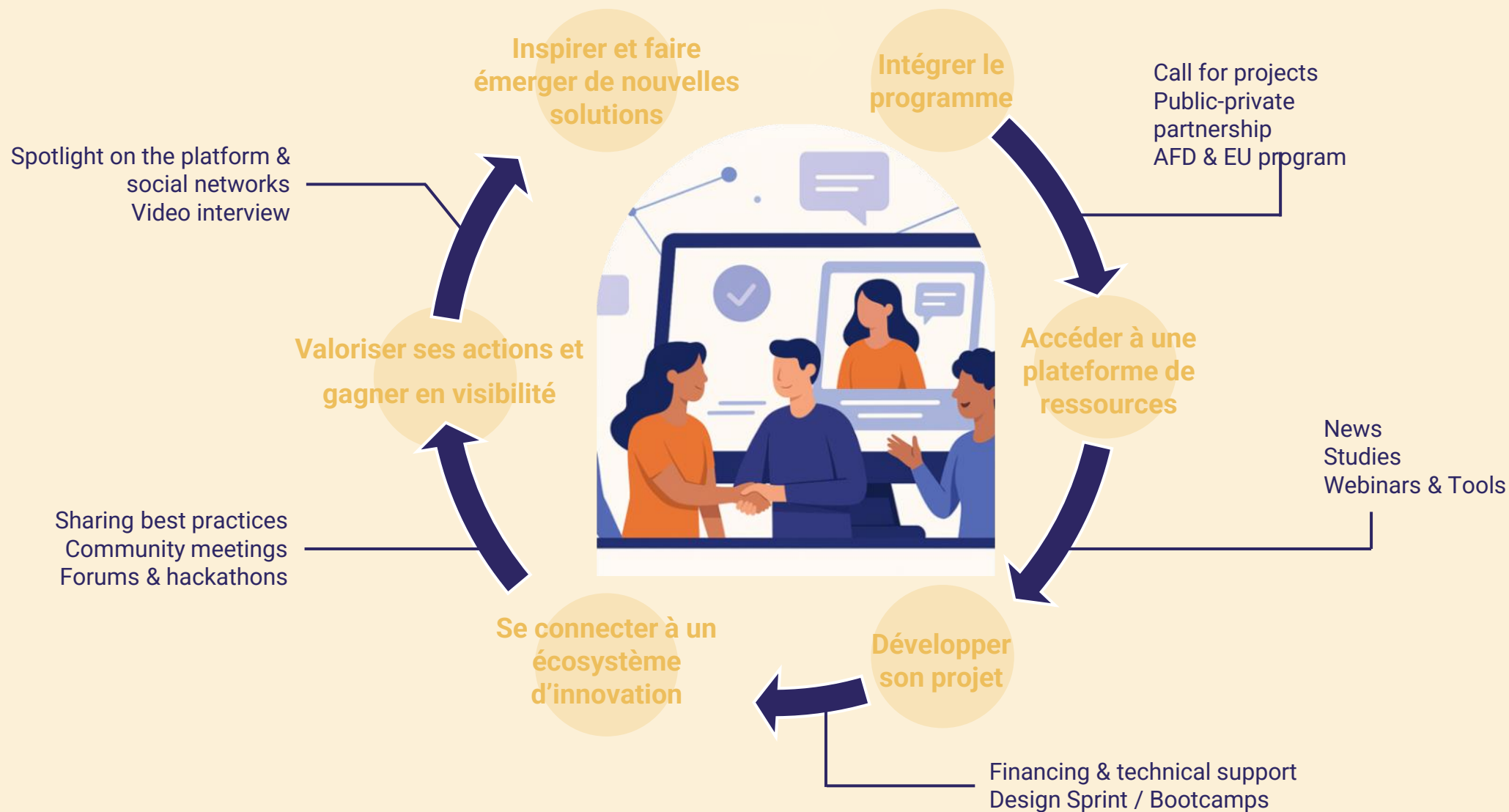
Support for project identification throughout the year (technical & financial viability)

Open innovation challenge  
Selection of 3 or 4 solutions from the private sector

Hackathon & Sandbox from real datasets

Final selection by an ad-hoc committee with veto rights

# A virtuous ecosystem at the service of digital innovation



# Digital Energy

For all information:

[www.digital-energy.eu](http://www.digital-energy.eu)



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