KEYNOTE

19 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION
AFRICA IN THE AI AGE
Ballroom, 1st Floor

Master of Ceremonies: *Enkromelle Andrew*

The digital renaissance in Africa's power sector is a rapid, technology-driven transformation aimed at addressing chronic energy access issues, high operational losses, and the need for sustainable energy integration. By utilizing smart grids, artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) sensors, and digital payment systems, African utilities are transitioning from traditional, centralised models to modern, efficient, and consumer-centric networks.

10:30-10:40	**WELCOME BY THE ORGANISERS** *Chanelle Hingston, Group Director, Power, Energy & Water, VUKA Group*
10:40-10:55	**MINISTERIAL ADDRESS** *Thabo Kekane, Acting Director General, Minister of Energy and Electricity, Ministry of Energy and Electricity*
10:55-11:10	**ADDRESS: EVOLUTION OF DIGITAL POWER: STORAGE, DIGITALISATION AND AI** *Jacky Wang, Vice President, Huawei Electric Power Digitalization BU*
11:10-11:50	**PANEL DISCUSSION: THE ROLE OF AI AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN AFRICA'S ENERGY EVOLUTION** This panel will unpack how AI and digital technologies are reshaping Africa's energy systems and where the risks sit beneath the hype. Panellists will explore real-world use cases across grid operations, customer management and infrastructure, while interrogating unintended consequences and unexplored benefits. **Discussion points:** • System value vs system risk • Trust, security and sovereignty • AI's own energy footprint **Panellists:** - *Angus Hay, Group Executive: Data Centres, Cassava Technologies* - *Jacky Wang, Vice President, Huawei Electric Power Digitalization BU* - *Carol Koech, VP, Africa, Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet, Kenya*
11:50-12:45	**IN CONVERSATION WITH...** • *James Mackay, CEO, Energy Council of South Africa* • *Nontokozo Hadebe,* ***Group Executive: Strategy and Sustainability,*** • *Subesh Pillay, Chief of Staff to the Minister, Department of Energy and Electricity*
12:45-14:00	**RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

STRATEGISE STAGE

19 MAY 2026

FINANCE & INVESTMENT IN CORE INFRASTRUCTURE
JOINT SESSION: STRATEGISE AND INNOVATE STAGES
TRANSMISSION BOTTLENECKS
ROOM 1.4, FIRST FLOOR

Moderator: *Wilson Masango, Chief Engineer: Markets, Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP), Swaziland*
This joint session tackles Africa's critical transmission bottleneck which is inadequate power lines blocking electricity evacuation from generation sites to demand centres, especially hindering private renewables.

09:30-09:35 **Scene setter:** *In your view, what is the single biggest barrier to rapidly expanding and modernising Africa's power transmission grid?*

09:35-10:30 **In conversation with: UNLOCKING THE GRID – STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS TO THE TRANSMISSION BOTTLENECK**
Building on the presentation's constraint analysis, this dynamic panel moves from diagnosis to solutions. Leaders from utilities, regulators, and private investment unpack financial, technological, and policy pathways to modernise and massively scale Africa's grid, defining actionable roadmaps beyond traditional approaches.
Key focus areas:
The three pillars of grid transformation

- Financial & regulatory strategies for investment
- Technology, flexibility & grid modernisation
- Policy & regional cooperation roadmaps

Speakers:

- *Jean Madzongwe, Programmes Manager, Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), South Africa*
- *Keith Katyora, Senior Manager: Grid Expansion & Energy Systems, Energy Council of South Africa*
- *Billy Onyango, County O&M Engineer, Kenya Power, Kenya*
- *Sameer Bagwandeen, Head: Energy & Infrastructure, Standard Bank, South Africa*
- *Ronald Marais, Senior Manager: Strategic Grid Planning, NTCSA, South Africa*

REFRESH AND CONNECT

KEYNOTE SESSION
BALLROOM, FIRST FLOOR

10:30-13:00 **AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING
ROOM 1.4, FIRST FLOOR

Moderator: *Matthew le Cordeur, Research manager: Infrastructure and just energy transition, Krutham, South Africa*

14:00-14:05 **Scene setter:**

14:05-14:20 **BRIDGING THE GAP CLIFF: NATIONAL ROADMAPS AND FISCAL INNOVATIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**
South Africa faces an imminent gas cliff by 2026 as legacy supply from Mozambique declines, threatening industrial stability and the broader energy transition. This session introduces the National Gas Roadmap for South Africa, a strategic blueprint designed to avert this crisis by establishing gas as a cornerstone of re-industrialisation and economic renewal.
Jaco Human, Executive Officer, Industrial Gas Users Association - Southern Africa

14:20-15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: SECURING CAPITAL FOR THE FULL VALUE CHAIN: GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION FINANCE**
The rapid growth of Africa's energy sector requires a massive, sustained capital injection across the entire value chain. While generation and transmission typically garner attention, distribution infrastructure is often neglected, creating a critical service bottleneck. This panel brings together financial and utility experts to debate sustainable financing models for all three pillars: generation, transmission, and distribution.

Speakers:

- *Robbie Louw, Director, Promethium Carbon, South Africa*
- *Dipak Patel, Senior,Deputy Chairperson, Presidential Climate Commission (PCC), South Africa*
- *Florent Eveille, Project Manager, GIZ, Kenya*
- *Brian Tahinduka, Head: Energy Sector, Africa Regions, Standard Bank, South Africa*
- *Rajen Naidoo, General Manager: Finance, Eskom, South Africa*

15:30-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

PRIVATE WIRES, PUBLIC GRID: UNLOCKING AFRICA'S TRANSMISSION WITH IPT
ROOM 1.4, FIRST FLOOR

Moderator: *Peter Attard Montalto, Managing Director, Krutham, United Kingdom*

16:15-16:20 **Scene setter**

16:25-17:30 **In conversation with: INDEPENDENT POWER TRANSMISSION (IPT): GLOBAL LESSONS FOR AFRICA'S GRID**
Independent Power Transmission (IPT), where private investors build and operate high-voltage lines, has proven vital for rapid, cost-effective grid growth globally. This Fireside Chat provides a practical understanding of the IPT model, dissecting the benefits, risks, and financing structures to accelerate grid expansion across Africa.

Speaker

- *Kipkemoi Kibias, CEO Ketraco [Virtual]*
- *Robert Mubiru, Project Manager, Ministry of Energy, Uganda [Virtual]*
- *Nicholas Msibi, Divisional CEO, ACTOM, South Africa*
- *Silas Zimu, Special Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, South Africa*
- *Mulenga Bwalya, Head Business Development and Power Trading, Copperbelt Energy Corporation, Zambia*

INNOVATE PROGRAMME

19 MAY 2026

FLEXIBLE GENERATION & SYSTEM RESILIENCE
JOINT SESSION: STRATEGISE AND INNOVATE STAGES
ROOM 1.4

Moderator: *Wilson Masango, Chief Engineer: Markets, Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP), Swaziland*
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- *Sameer Bagwandeen, Head: Energy & Infrastructure, Standard Bank, South Africa*
- *Ronald Marais, Senior Manager: Strategic Grid Planning, NTCSA, South Africa*

10:30-11:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

KEYNOTE SESSION

10:30-13:00 **AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

Moderator: *Isabel Fick, Group Head of Trading and Operations, Africa GreenCo, South Africa*

14:00-15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**
STORAGE: FROM BACKUP TO SYSTEM ENABLER (BATTERIES, PUMPED HYDRO, AND LDES TECHNOLOGIES)
This session gathers engineers to explore how energy storage has evolved from emergency backup to critical grid flexibility assets. The discussion examines technical specs, deployment realities, and strategic roles of key technologies:

- Batteries (BESS)
- Pumped Hydro
- LDES Technologies

Speakers:
- *Raj Pandaram Senior Integrated Power System Reliability Services, NTCSA, South Africa*
- *Tom Gebauer, CEO, Redoxone, Switzerland,*
- *Muhammed Ismail Seedat, Senior Solutions Manager, Huawei Digital Power, South Africa*
- *Marlyn Hendriks, City of Cape Town, South Africa*
- *Maudene van Rooyen, Specialist: Power & Sustainable Solutions, Standard Bank Business and Commercial Banking*

15:30-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

GRID RESILIENCE

Moderator: *Damola Omole, Director: Utility Innovation, GEAPP, Nigeria*

16:15-16:20 **SCENE SETTER**

16:20-16:30 **THE IMPACT OF VARIABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY (VRE) TO THE POWER SYSTEM STABILITY – THE RENAISSANCE OF SYNCHRONOUS CONDENSERS**
Due to the increasing share of wind and solar generation, battery energy storage systems and direct current network lines interconnected via inverters with transmission and sub-transmission systems the power system stability decreases. This paper explains what the impacts are and shows possible ways to mitigate them
Robert Neumann, Product Manager, Grid Solutions, Andritz Hydro

16:30-17:30 **IN CONVERSATION WITH: NAVIGATING MAJOR GRID DISRUPTIONS: TECH INVESTMENTS FOR REAL RESILIENCE**
This session will be an intimate discussion, exposing what works when Africa's grids face blackouts from storms, cyber-attacks, or total collapse. Experts will share battle-tested tools to limit damage, regain control fast, and restart without weeks of chaos.

Key tech focus:
- Grid hardening + self-healing automation (FLISR) to shrink outage scope
- PMUs + cyber-hardened monitoring for real-time operator visibility
- BESS for critical blackstart and islanded microgrid support
- Drone assessments + mutual aid logistics to speed physical recovery

Speakers:
- *Suleiman Babamanu, Programme Director, RMI, Nigeria*
- *Sinosi Maliano, Chief Operations Officer, Escom, Malawi*
- *Marco Rahner, Sales Director: Smart Infrastructure, Siemens South Africa*

PROJECT & INVESTMENT NETWORK

19 MAY 2026

PROJECT & INVESTMENT NETWORK BUSINESS BREAKFAST
Ballroom, 1st Floor

07:00-09:30 **BUSINESS BREAKFAST**

South Africa and the wider African power and utilities sector are at a genuine inflection point. This business breakfast explores how small, practical shifts in decisions and execution can deliver disproportionate gains in credibility, momentum and real-world outcomes. Central to the conversation is legitimate implementation and outcomes of projects, policies and regulation.

This session offers a practical framing of what the implementation looks like in real terms, where opportunity exists and the signals, behaviours and consistency that matter most. A fireside chat between Bruce and Goolam will translate these themes into an investment lens: what financiers are actually pricing, what evidence they need to believe delivery will happen and which actions measurably improve fundability. The session will include guided discussion, with room for audience debate.

07:00-07:30 **Arrival and getting settled**

07:30-08:30 **Formal programme starts**

Keynote: Small actions, outsized impact: Small actions building impact, trust and driving change

- *Bruce Whitfield, Business speaker, Journalist, and best-selling author*

Fireside chat:

- *Bruce Whitfield, Business speaker, Journalist, and best-selling author*
- *Goolam Ballim, Chief Economist and Head of Research, Standard Bank Group*

08:30-09:15 **Discussion and breakfast**

09:30-10:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

KEYNOTE SESSION

10:30-13:00	**AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**
13:00-14:00	**RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

JOINT SESSION – MINISTERIAL SPOTLIGHTS
ROOM 2.4, SECOND FLOOR

Moderator: *Rentia van Tonder, Head of Power, Client Coverage, Standard Bank Group*

Understanding Africa's energy investment priorities, utility challenges and ministerial paths to solutions. This Ministerial Dialogue brings together African energy ministries and senior government decision-makers to share their national investment priorities, address the pressing challenges utilities are facing and outline the policies and partnerships required to unlock stability, grid expansion and new power capacity. The session aims to provide clarity on where each country is heading, what support is needed, and how government and private sector collaboration can accelerate a reliable, affordable and secure electricity supply.

Discussing:

- National energy investment priorities for the next 3–5 years
- The financial, operational and technical challenges utilities are currently facing
- Key areas where private sector, finance institutions and development partners can support implementation
- Urgent regulatory or policy reforms underway

14:00-14:10 **SCENE SETTER**

- Challenges
- Priorities

14:10-14:25 **SOUTH AFRICA'S PRIORITY POWER PROJECTS**
Silas Zimu, Special advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, South Africa

14:25-14:35 **SIERRA LEONE IN THE SPOTLIGHT**
Hon. Edmond Nonie, Deputy Minister of Energy, Government of Sierra Leone

14:25-14:50 **UGANDA'S PRIORITY POWER PROJECTS**
Hon Sidronius Opolot Okaasai, Minister of State for Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Uganda

14:50-15:30 **UNLOCKING THE BOTTLENECKS AFFECTING INVESTMENTS IN AFRICA'S POWER PROJECTS**

- *Shuko Zyambo, Principal Investment Officer, OPPPI, Ministry of Energy, Zambia*
- *Dr Gloria Magombo, Permanent Secretary, Minister of Energy and Power Development, Zimbabwe*
- *Engr. SA Owolbi, Ministerial Director, Electrification, Federal Ministry of Power, Nigeria*

15:30-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MOBILISING INFRASTRUCTURE DEBT: HOW CREDIT GUARANTEES DRIVE BANKABILITY
ROOM 2.4, SECOND FLOOR

Moderator: *Megan Sager, Director, Consulting for Sustainable Solutions*

Africa's infrastructure financing landscape is evolving as traditional bank-led lending models face balance sheet and tenor constraints. While DFIs remain central to infrastructure debt provision, the predominance of hard-currency financing continues to expose projects to foreign exchange risk. At the same time, institutional investors – particularly pension funds and insurance companies – hold significant pools of long-term capital but have historically been constrained by risk perceptions and limited access to viable infrastructure debt opportunities.

16:15-16:20 **SCENE SETTER**

16:20-17:30 This session explores the emergence of credit enhancement and guarantee vehicles in bridging the gap to mobilising infrastructure debt.
Points of discussion:

- How guarantee structures work in practice
- Insights into how credit enhancement vehicles unlock institutional capital
- Explore how guarantees mitigate FX risk, extend debt tenors, and improve bankability
- Showcase practical applications in energy and power infrastructure projects

Speakers:

- *Christopher Olobo, CEO, Dhamana Guarantee Company, Kenya*
- *Ojuru Adeniji, VP, Origination & Structuring, InfraCredit, Nigeria*

MUNICIPAL FORUM

19 MAY 2026

MUNICIPAL FORUM TECHNICAL FISHBOWL
Municipal Forum Hub, Hall 1, Exhibition floor

Session Chair: *Eliphas Kahorere, Engineer: Treatment, Department of Infrastructure Water Technical Services; City of Windhoek, Namibia*

THE TECHNOCRATS: BUILDING THE TECHNICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR RESILIENT MUNICIPAL ENERGY SYSTEMS

Municipalities are entering a period of rapid structural change. Liberalised power markets, new tariff regimes, decentralised procurement models and the rise of municipal wheeling are reshaping how distribution networks must function. At the same time, ageing infrastructure and weak grid reliability and uneven technical capacity limit municipalities' ability to participate effectively. This session equips municipal leaders, engineers, planners and procurement specialists with the practical building blocks needed to strengthen system performance, manage market participation and prepare their networks for resilient, flexible energy delivery.

Format: *Fishbowl discussion (interactive, rotating speaker format)*

How the fishbowl will work: At the start, four seats are placed in the "fishbowl" at the Centre of the room. Three seats are taken by the invited panellists, and one seat is left open. Participants in the audience may enter the fishbowl at any time by taking the open seat, instead of waiting to participate in question-and-answer segment at the end. Once the audience member steps in, one of the existing speakers to voluntarily step out. At least one seat must always remain open to ensure continuous audience-driven contribution.

09:30-09:35 **WELCOME TO CAPE TOWN**
Cllr Zimkhitha Suelo, Portfolio Committee Chair for Energy, City of Cape Town

09:35-09:40 **SCENE SETTER:**
Eliphas Kahorere, Engineer: Treatment, Department of Infrastructure Water Technical Services; City of Windhoek, Namibia

09:40-09:50 **METERING FRAMEWORKS FOR WHEELING AND EMBEDDED GENERATION**
Unpacking key technical implications of wheeling: losses, billing and how to prepare distribution networks for multi-seller, multi-buyer flows.
- *Laneil Padayachee, Product Architect, Conlog*
- *Frans Brandow, Manager: Energy Department, Revenue Services, Metering and tariffs, City of Ekurhuleni*

09:50-10:00 **DEMAND RESPONSE (DR) PROCUREMENT AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS**
Developing operational and procurement structures that allow flexibility resources to participate in the market as grid assets with measurable system value.
Nwabisa Njoli, Network Optimisation Manager, Eskom Holdings

10:00-10:10 **MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL SKILL AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT**
Enhancing planning and build internal capacity for market participation in an increasingly complex distribution networks with embedded generation and customer-side services.
Alessandro Masi, Head: Grid Software for Middle East and Africa, Siemens

10:10-10:45 **REFLECTIONS AND FINAL DELIBERATIONS, QUESTION AND ANSWER**
- *Frans Brandow, Manager: Energy Department, Revenue Services, Metering and tariffs, City of Ekurhuleni*
- *Nwabisa Njoli, Network Optimisation Manager, Eskom Holdings*
- *Laneil Padayachee, Product Architect, Conlog*

KEYNOTE SESSION
STREAMED TO POWER HUB

10:30-13:00 **AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES IN THE SAWEM ERA
MUNICIPAL FORUM HUB, HALL 1, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Session Chair: *Kay Walsh, Managing Director, Nova Economics*

As the South African Wholesale Electricity Market (SAWEM) begins to take shape with a soft launch, municipalities face a defining moment. This session unpacks what market liberalisation means in practice, from trading participation to operational readiness and explores how municipalities can position themselves for a sustainable and competitive future.

THE FUTURE ROLE OF MUNICIPAL ENERGY UTILITIES IN A COMPETITIVE TRADING ENVIRONMENT

14:00-14:15 **SCENE SETTER:** A short overview of SAWEM, the trading rules coming into force and why municipal readiness from a technical and regulatory is essential for a functional market.

14:15-15:15 **PANEL DISCUSSION – THE FUTURE ROLE OF MUNICIPAL ENERGY UTILITIES**

This interactive discussion explores:
- How municipalities can participate in the wholesale electricity market
- The evolving role of municipal utilities in a liberalised trading environment
- Key distribution challenges and system constraints at municipal level
- The implications of SAWEM for municipal revenue models and sustainability
- Policy, regulatory and operational barriers and how to overcome them

Panellists:
- *Mutenda Tshipala, Acting General Manager, Eskom Distribution Energy Trader*
- *Muzi Mkhize, Regulator Member: National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)*
- *Lebogang Mojanaga, Director: Monitoring and Evaluation, Department of Electricity and Energy*
- *Gordon Dindi, Manager: Distribution System Operator, City of Cape Town*

15:15-15:30 **Closing Reflections and Key Outcomes**
A crystallisation of the discussion and translation of insights into clear takeaways:
- Priority actions municipalities must take to prepare for SAWEM

15:30-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

REFORM ACTION PLAN
MUNICIPAL FORUM HUB, HALL 1, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Session Chair: *Dr Mpho Mahahle, Technical Advisor: Energy Efficiency, South African - German Energy Programme (SAGEN), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*

Three rapid updates unpacking the broader reforms reshaping South Africa's distribution sector beyond market trading and what they mean for municipalities.

16:15-16:30 **OPERATION VULINDLELA**: An update on national reform milestones, the EDI reform roadmap, and expected timelines for structural changes affecting municipal distribution functions.
Rudi Dicks, Head of the Project Management Office in the Private Office of the President, Operation Vulindlela

16:30-16:45	**THE PRESIDENCY QUICKTAKE: HOW JET PMU AND EMERGING DISTRIBUTION RESTRUCTURING MODELS ARE RESHAPING MUNICIPAL REFORMS.** *Khwezikazi Windvoel, Portfolio Lead: Municipalities, Just Energy Transition Projects Management Unit (JET PMU), The Presidency, South Africa*
16:30-16:45	**INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE ON UNBUNDLING DISTRIBUTION FROM RETAIL TRADING FUNCTIONS IN ELECTRICITY MARKETS: IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICAN MUNICIPALITIES.** *Chris Ahlfeldt, Strategic Advisory: Acceleration of Energy Transition, Bluehorizon Energy*
17:00-17:30	**PANEL DISCUSSION: ALIGNING REFORM AGENDAS FOR A FUNCTIONAL MARKET** **Moderator:** *Dr. Mpho Mahahle, Technical Advisor: Energy Efficiency, South African - German Energy Programme (SAGEN), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH* **Panellists:** • *Khwezikazi Windvoel, Portfolio Lead: Municipalities, Just Energy Transition Projects Management Unit (JET PMU), The Presidency, South Africa* • *Rudi Dicks, Head of the Project Management Office in the Private Office of the President, Operation Vulindlela* • *Prof Vally Padayachee, Strategic Advisor, Association of Municipal Electricity Utilities (AMEU)* • *Chris Ahlfeldt, Strategic Advisory: Acceleration of Energy Transition, Bluehorizon Energy*
17:30	**End of day one**

RENEWABLE ENERGY & STORAGE

19 MAY 2026

PREPARING NATIONAL GRIDS FOR VARIABLE RE
HALL 4, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Dr Jeffrey Ken. Baiden, Regional Technical Advisor for Sub Sahara Africa, DC LAfrique Limited*
As power systems transition away from conventional synchronous generation, utilities are increasingly confronted with a growing system inertia deficit, posing risks to grid stability, frequency control, and fault response.

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER**

09:35-10:30 **THE UTILITY STRUGGLE: MANAGING SYSTEM INERTIA**
This session will provide a technical deep dive into the emerging "inertia gap", examining how the rapid integration of inverter-based renewable energy is reshaping grid dynamics across Africa and globally.

Panellists will explore:

- The operational implications of reduced synchronous inertia on grid stability and resilience
- The comparative role of synchronous condensers versus grid-forming inverters in providing synthetic and physical inertia
- Deployment considerations, cost trade-offs, and system integration challenges
- Lessons from markets already managing high renewable penetration
- The evolving role of utilities, system operators, and regulators in maintaining grid reliability

- **Speakers:***Joseph Nkrumah, Assistant Manager: PD Renewables, BUI Power Authority, Ghana*
- *Rivoningo Mnisi, Group Executive, Eskom Renewables*
- *Pitso Sekhoto, Middle Manager, National Transmission Company of South Africa*
- *Boyd Kanchela, Chief Executive Officer, Kariba North Bank Extension Power Corporation, Zambia*

KEYNOTE SESSION	
10:30-13:00	**AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**
13:00-13:30	**RECHARGE AND CONNECT**
	RESILIENCE BY DESIGN
13:30-13:50	**WIND, HAIL AND EXTREME WEATHER: DESIGNING FOR RESILIENCE** *Gerrit Cronselaar, Engineering Project Manager, GameChange Solar*

THE REGULATORY SWITCHBOARD
HALL 4, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Mbiko Banda, Electrical Engineer and Research Lead, Africa GreenCo, Zambia*
Market liberalisation through Open Access is gaining traction across Africa, requiring robust regulatory frameworks to ensure fair market access, grid stability, and long-term energy security. This session will examine lessons learned from early adopters, focusing on regulatory enablers such as wheeling tariffs, grid code reforms, licensing structures, and system operator roles.

14:00-14:05 **SCENE SETTER**
Bryan Maytham, Project Lead – Energy Advisory, Engage Energy + Engineering

14:05-14:25 **UNLOCKING INVESTMENT THROUGH MARKET REFORM**
JP van der Merwe, Chief Foreign Direct Investment Officer, Wesgro

14:25-15:45 **OPEN ACCESS: REGULATORY LESSONS, MARKET REFORM AND FUTURE DIRECTION**
Discussions will explore how policymakers and regulators can strike the right balance between competition, investment attraction, and system reliability, while defining the future direction of Open Access frameworks in emerging African power markets.
Speakers:

- *David Mvura, Technical Director and Partner, MATTLA Engineering, South Africa*
- *Kandali Iyambo, Executive: Modified Single Buyer, NamPower*
- *Billy Onyango, County O&M Engineer, Kenya Power*
- *Joshua Dippenaar, New Markets, Mulilo, South Africa*

15:45-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MODELLING AND MANAGING VARIABLE GENERATION
HALL 4, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Chairperson: *Bryan Maytham, Project Lead, Engage Energy + Engineering*

16:15-16:35 **Eastern Seaboard Development Programme - Mapatane Kgomo**

16:35-17:00 **STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF COMMON-USER INFRASTRUCTURE CONFIGURATIONS FOR POWER-TO-X IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA**
The thesis presents a strategic and economic evaluation of common-user infrastructure (CUI) configurations for Power-to-X (PtX) deployment in the Western Corridor of South Africa and Namibia, focusing on green hydrogen (Green H_2). The thesis addresses the spatial mismatch between world-class renewable energy (RE) resources, distant demand centres and significant grid constraints, necessitating additional long-distance and high-capacity energy transmission infrastructure.
Paul Mangold, Manager, Municipal Concessions & Grid Access, Netze BW [Virtual]

POWER HUB

19 MAY 2026

BUILDING RESILIENT FOUNDATIONS FOR GRID AND DIGITAL GROWTH

09:30-09:50 **GENERATION FLEXIBILITY AND SUPPORTING RENEWABLE-RICH POWER SYSTEMS**
Warwick Ham, Boiler Process Group Leader, Steinmüller Africa

10:00-10:20 **SADM ENHANCED ADMS: CYBER-SECURING AND AUTOMATING MODERN DISTRIBUTION GRIDS**
Ken Poloway, Business Development Manager, SUBNET Solutions

10:25-10:55 **RENEWABLE FUEL SOURCES FOR UTILITY PLANTS AND INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS**
Christof Kotze, Welding and Manufacturing Engineer, John Thompson, a Division of Actom

DIGITAL RESILIENCE IN SMART ENERGY SYSTEMS

11:30-11:50 **POWERING DIGITAL UTILITIES: AN END-TO-END SMART METERING & ENERGY MANAGEMENT ECOSYSTEM**
William Liu, Vice President of Technology & Dean of the INHE Electrical Power Institute

12:10-12:30 **INTEROPERABILITY IN SMART METERING: SECURING LONG TERM GRID INVESTMENTS**
Leon Vergeer, General Secretary, G3-Alliance

12:30-12:50 **DIGITAL TWIN TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT UPSKILLING RELAY PROTECTION ENGINEERS**
Mauro Borrielli, Senior Protection Specialist, Megger

12:50-13:10 **ENHANCING RELIABILITY THROUGH DIGITAL ASSET MONITORING**
Giovanni Govoni, System Business Development Manager, Doble

13:15-13:35 **ARE YOU APPROVING FAULTY CT's?**
Niclas Wetterstrand, Global Industry Director for Utilities-Power Protection, Megger

13:40-14:00 **TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT FRAUD DETECTION IN POWER GRID SMART METERING WITH EXPLAINABLE AI**
Ihab Mokhles, Head of Sales, Cuculus GmBh

14:05-14:25 **FROM SMART HOMES TO SMARTER GRIDS**
Peter Smaill, Head of Solutions, Plentify

14:30-14:50 **ASSET MANAGEMENT**
Dr. Reinaldo de Veiga, Chief Design Engineer, Eskom Rotek Industries
Bongani Mosimanga, Senior Strategist Business Development, Eskom Rotek Industries

14:55-15:15 **THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGY IN RURAL COMMUNITIES**
Nelson Khumalo, Researcher, Academic Research Institute, South Africa

15:20-15:40 **APPLIED AI AND INNOVATION DRIVING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: HARNESSING AI INNOVATIONS FOR INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATIONS**
Gift Lubele, AI and Data Analytics Expert

17:30 **NETWORKING FUNCTION**

DATA CENTRES

19 MAY 2026

THE DIGITAL GOLD RUSH — FROM DATA EXPORT TO DATA OWNERSHIP

10:30-10:35 **Scene setter**

Africa's data centre market is expanding rapidly, yet the continent still exports a significant portion of its data value. This session examines how data sovereignty is shifting from policy ambition to infrastructure demand, and what it takes to build domestic digital capacity. The focus is on moving beyond "data pass-through" towards local value creation, compute capacity and digital independence.

10:30-11:10 **FIRSIDE CHAT : THE DIGITAL GOLD RUSH — FROM DATA EXPORT TO DATA OWNERSHIP**

- Data localisation as a demand signal: when sovereignty drives infrastructure investment
- Africa's capacity gap: implications for competitiveness and digital industrialisation
- From raw data to value chains: avoiding the extractive digital economy model
- Defining national success: capacity, ecosystems, and local service development
- Regional data hubs: which markets are emerging and why

Moderator: *Dominic Wilhelm. Executive Director, The Global Trust Project*

Speakers:
- Shaun Versfeld, Associate Director, Atana
- Nauman Afsar, Head of Sales, Oracle Utilities

COOLING THE CLOUD — WATER, EFFICIENCY AND THE HIDDEN CONSTRAINT

While energy dominates the conversation, water is emerging as a critical constraint in data centre development, particularly in water-stressed regions. This session explores the real water footprint of digital infrastructure and the technologies reshaping cooling systems. It connects engineering innovation with ESG expectations and investment decision-making.

11:15-11:45 **FIRESIDE CHAT: COOLING THE CLOUD — WATER, EFFICIENCY AND THE HIDDEN CONSTRAINT COMPETITIVENESS**

- The true water footprint of data centres in African markets
- Cooling innovation: closed-loop, dry cooling, hybrid systems
- Using non-potable and recycled water in high-performance facilities
- ESG scrutiny: how water intensity affects financing decisions
- Designing for water-stressed environments without compromising uptime

Speakers:
- Shaun Versfeld, Associate Director, Atana
- Nazeem Holmes, Senior Solutions Architect, Open Access Data Centres

11:50-12:30 **SOVEREIGNTY BY DESIGN — POLICY, REGULATION AND MARKET REALITY**

A discussion exploring how regulatory environments shape data centre investment, including data localisation, cross-border flows, and policy alignment across African markets.

Points of discussion include:

- Data localisation: When it strengthens vs constraints market developments
- Cross-border data flows
- Power permitting and policy sequencing investment conditions.

In conversation with:
- Sandile Nzima, Sector Specialist (ICT) | Financing Operations, Development Bank of Southern Africa
- Kwena Seema, Senior Manager OT, Eskom Distribution

12:30-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

POWERING THE CLOUD — ENERGY SECURITY, SCALE AND 24/7 DEMAND

Data centres are continuous, high-load energy consumers, placing new pressure on already constrained power systems. This session explores how energy infrastructure must evolve to support digital growth, from grid readiness to private generation and renewable integration. It positions data centres as catalysts for new generation capacity and energy innovation.

14:15-15:00 **PANEL: POWERING THE CLOUD — ENERGY SECURITY, SCALE AND 24/7 DEMAND**

- Data centres as anchor loads: implications for national grids
- Renewable integration: PPAs, wheeling and hybrid systems
- Baseload vs flexibility: managing 24/7 uptime requirements
- Battery storage and microgrid opportunities
- Waste heat recovery and industrial energy integration

Facilitator: *Ihab Mokhles, Head of Sales, Cuculus GmbH*

Speakers:
- Keenan George, CEO, Smart View Technology
- Gugulethu Dumakude, Acting General Manager Edx Edge, Eskom
- Nick Searra, Strategic Business Development- Data Centres, MasterPower Technologies

MASTERCLASS: FINANCING THE DIGITAL BACKBONE — CAPITAL, RISK AND BANKABILITY

Facilitator: *Luyanda Matlala, Client Coverage: Energy, Environment and ICT, Development Bank of Southern Africa*

Despite strong demand, data centre investment in Africa remains constrained by infrastructure risk, power uncertainty and regulatory complexity. This session focuses on how projects move from concept to financial close, and what investors require to deploy capital at scale. It brings together developers, financiers and operators to define bankable models.

15:05-15:30 **AN INVESTOR-GRADE DEEP DIVE INTO WHAT MAKES A DATA CENTRE PROJECT FINANCEABLE IN AFRICAN MARKETS.**

Key learnings

- Capital diversity and investor expectations
- Managing the “occupancy gap” through phased development
- Hyperscalers: tenant vs investor dynamics
- Power and connectivity as non-negotiable conditions
- Structuring resilient, ESG-aligned financing models

Discussion points

- Blended finance: DFIs, private equity and commercial capital alignment
- Risk allocation: power, policy and infrastructure readiness
- Hyperscaler-led vs developer-led models
- Long-term contracts and revenue certainty
- Scaling beyond flagship projects into ecosystems

KEYNOTE

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION
How a coordinated energy/water plan could change African resilience

Ballroom, 1st Floor

Master of Ceremonies: *Enkromelle Andrew*

Coordinated approaches to the water-energy nexus involve managing water resources and energy production together to maximize efficiency, reduce consumption and lower environmental impacts. During this session, we will explore why climate finance isn't being extended to developing joint projects, how technology can support water and energy sustainability goals and lower emissions and where coordinated energy and water policies are driving positive change.

09:30-09:45 **RECAP OF DAY 1**
Enkromelle Andrew, Master of Ceremonies

09:45-10:00 **WHY ADDRESSING THE WATER/ENERGY NEXUS IS NO LONGER OPTIONAL**
Sabine Dall'Omo, CEO, Siemens South Africa

10:00-10:10 **ADDRESS FROM INDUSTRY**
Ramateu Monyokolo, Chairperson Association of Water and Sanitation Institutions of South Africa and Chairperson, Rand Water

10:10-11:00 **IN CONVERSATION: THE WATER-ENERGY NEXUS – TAKING COORDINATION BEYOND THEORY**
Africa's energy transition and water security crises are interlinked, yet institutional responses remain siloed. This session examines the structural barriers preventing integrated planning and financing and how these approaches can set the framework for development and sustainability.

Discussion points:

- Moving beyond policy and planning silos
- Technology leaps and bounds
- Finance and investment
- In it for the long term

Panellists:

- *Sabine Dall'Omo, CEO, Siemens South Africa*
- *Darshana Myronidis, Global Sustainability Leader, UK*
- *Deerosh Maharaj, Executive Head: Energy, Infrastructure & Mining, Standard Bank Business & Commercial Banking*
- *JP van der Merwe, Chief Foreign Direct Investment Officer, Wesgro*
- *Ramateu Monyokolo, Chairperson Association of Water and Sanitation Institutions of South Africa and Chairperson, Rand Water*

11:10-12:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

STRATEGISE STAGE

20 MAY 2026

MARKET DESIGN AND REGULATORY REFORM
KEYNOTE SESSION
BALLROOM, 1ST FLOOR

09:30-11:00 **HOW A COORDINATED ENERGY/WATER PLAN COULD CHANGE AFRICAN RESILIENCE**

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MARKET REFORM
ROOM 1.6, 1ST FLOOR

Moderator: *Prof Vally Padayachee, AMEU Strategic Advisor, South Africa*

11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER**

11:50-12:05 CATALYSING CHANGE: HOW THE INTEGRATION OF RENEWABLES IS RESHAPING SOUTH AFRICA'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY
Jessica Kiln, Consultant, Nova Economics

11:45-13:00 **UNBUNDLING AND RE-MERGING: DRIVERS, OUTCOMES, AND CHALLENGES ACROSS AFRICA**
Utility reform, specifically the process of unbundling and, in some cases, subsequent re-merging, is a major policy shift in Africa's power sector. This comprehensive panel discussion will provide a critical analysis of the real-world drivers, outcomes, and implementation challenges of these structural reforms across various African nations.
Speakers:
- *Robert Mubiru, Project Manager, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of Uganda*
- *Terry Njuguna,Corporate Specialist, pricing and Energy Policy, Eskom, South Africa*
- *Willibrod Majola, FT Regulator, NERSA, South Africa*
- *Vasanie Pather, Senior Manager: Project Delivery, Energy Council, South Africa*
- *Sharon Rodah, Advocate of the High court, Kenya*

13:00-14:30 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

PROSUMER REVOLUTION
ROOM 1.6, 1ST FLOOR

Moderator: *Malcolm van Harte, General Manager - Strategy & New Business Development (Acting), Eskom distribution*

14:30-14:35 **SCENE SETTER**

14:35-14:50 CASE STUDY: MICROGRIDS: A STRATEGIC ASSET FOR SOUTH AFRICAN ENERGY RESILIENCE
As South Africa accelerates its transition toward sustainable energy, this session explores whether microgrids are a threat to traditional utility models or a vital opportunity to unlock innovation. Using the award-winning Hartenbos Wastewater Treatment Works as a strategic benchmark, this presentation will demonstrate how municipal microgrids can achieve grid parity and create shared value by exporting excess power back into the local network. challenges into economic benefits for municipalities and businesses alike.
DeVilliers Botha, Chief Commercial Officer, Solareff

14:35-15:45 **PANEL DISCUSSION: THE PROSUMER REVOLUTION: REDESIGNING THE SYSTEM TO ACCOMMODATE BI-DIRECTIONAL ENERGY**
Key focus areas:
- Fair tariff and compensation models
- Technical and operational integration
- Policy and regulatory certainty

Speakers:
- *Dr Dalal Helmi, Head Sector for Electricity Market and Cross-Border Interconnection, Egyptian Electricity Holding Company (EEHC), Egypt [Virtual]*
- *Babatunde Osadare, Chief Legal Officer, Ikeja Electric, Nigeria*
- *Peter Chamfya, Chief Technical Officer, Zesco, Zambia*
- *Elijah Sichone, Director General, Energy Regulation Board (ERB), Zambia*
- *Dr Silas Mulaudzi, Energy Specialist, South African Local Government Association (SALGA), South Africa*

15:45-16:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

CROSS-BORDER TRADE: UNLOCKING AFRICA'S ECONOMIC POTENTIAL
ROOM 1.6, 1ST FLOOR

Moderator: *Mziyanda Mbuseli, Market Surveillance Manager, Southern African Power Pool, Zimbabwe*

Session overview
The efficient exchange of electricity across national borders is critical for Africa's economic ambitions, enabling countries to access reliable, low-cost power and accelerate industrialisation. However, major regulatory, commercial, and financial hurdles often block the development of crucial cross-border infrastructure.

16:30-16:35 **SCENE SETTER**

16:35-16:50 **The Net Zero Competitiveness Race in Southern Africa: Which SAPP Country Will Decarbonise Fastest and What This Means for Growth, Electrification and Regional Power Markets**

Keith Katyora, Senior Manager: Grid Expansion & Energy Systems, Energy Council of South Africa

16:35-17:30 **CROSS-BORDER TRADE: UNLOCKING AFRICA'S ECONOMIC POTENTIAL**
Key focus areas: Funding and facilitating regional trade
- Financing regional interconnectors
- Harmonising regulatory and commercial frameworks
- Trade as an industrial leader

Speakers:
- *Wilson Masango, Chief Engineer: Markets, Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP), Swaziland*
- *Mark Sims, Head of Power Trading, Solar Century, South Africa*
- *Santego Govender, CEO, Enerweb*
- *Luthando Vuba, Executive Head: Trade Development, Africa China Banking, Standard Bank, South Africa*

INNOVATE PROGRAMME

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION
BALLROOM, 1ST FLOOR

09:30-11:00 **HOW A COORDINATED ENERGY/WATER PLAN COULD CHANGE AFRICAN RESILIENCE**

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

DIGILISATION
Room 1.4

Moderator: *Pitso Sekhoto, Middle Manager, National Transmission Company of South Africa*

This session, focused on digital grids and the data deluge, will explore how modern utilities are leveraging the massive amounts of data generated by technologies like smart metering and the Internet of Things (IoT) to dramatically enhance operational efficiency. Through real-world case studies, the discussion will demonstrate how this digitisation improves system visibility and dispatchability with a specific deep dive into how artificial intelligence (AI) is the critical tool used to process this data flood to technically improve the speed and accuracy of forecasting energy demand and supply.

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11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER**

11:50–12:05 **CASE STUDY**
Shannon Nair, Platform Architect, Conlog

11:50-13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**
DIGITAL GRIDS UNLEASHED: SMART METERING, AI FORECASTING AND REAL VISIBILITY IN AFRICAN UTILITIES
This high-impact panel dives straight into deployment realities of smart metering and digitisation across Africa. Experts will be sharing case studies on rolling out AMI, handling massive data streams, securing it, and using AI to turn data into actionable visibility, accurate demand/supply forecasting, and flexible grid control.
Speaker

- *Cleophas Ogutu, Project Manager: GIS Data Clean and Loss Reduction Project, Kenya Power*
- *Zama Mkhize, Group ESG Manager, Dischem, South Africa*
- *Herman Mare, General Manager, Protection and Control, ACTOM, South Africa*
- *Al'Louise Van Deventer, General Manager, Engineering and Technology, Eskom*

13:00-14:30 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

GENERATION MASTERCLASS
Room 1.4

The transition to a diversified energy mix requires more than just policy, it requires technical mastery. This session breaks away from traditional presentations into four high-impact masterclass roundtables. Participants will rotate or select a specialised table led by industry titans to dissect the engineering, safety, and commercial realities of the four pillars of African base load power.

14:30-15:45

GAS-TO-POWER	HYDRO POWER	NUCLEAR	COAL GENERATION AND LIFECYCLE	HYDROGEN
• *Bryan Maytham, Project Lead, ENGAGE* • *Paul Eardley-Taylor, Gas Sector Lead, Standard Bank Group* • *Warwick Hayes, Technical Lead, ENGAGE*	• *Bheki Nxumalo, GE: Generation, Eskom* • *Nad Moodley, Eskom*	• *Nomawethu Mtwebana, Senior Manager Nuclear Oversight, South Africa* • *Bheki Nxumalo, GE: Generation, Eskom*	In-depth discussion on coal lifecycle, logistics, fuel security and waste management for those interested in exploring coal generation. • *Bheki Nxumalo, GE: Generation, Eskom* • *Vishal Magan, General Manager: Bulk Material Services*	• *Mfundo Verby, Eskom RT&D*

15:45-16:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

16:00 – 18:00 **BOLSTERING THE GRID: BETTER, FASTER CONNECTIONS WITH AN INTEGRATED ENERGY APPROACH (by invitation only)**
Room 1.4

This session is only open to utilities – if you are a utility representative and would be interested in attending this session, please reach out to Claire.volkwyn@wearevuka.com for vetting.

Africa's cities and towns are expanding at unprecedented speed, and with them the geography of energy access gaps is shifting. New geospatial analysis, using a 30-category spatial framework across sub-Saharan Africa, reveals that millions of households without electricity are no longer concentrated in remote, rural areas. Instead, they are clustered in peri-urban zones, secondary cities, and grid-proximate communities.

Reaching populations at the urban edge requires moving beyond the old binary of "grid vs. off grid" and developing approaches that integrate urban growth, attract investment, and shape policy for new geographies of demand. With the right frameworks, these areas could become the front line of progress toward universal access.

An integrated energy approach, combining centralized grid infrastructure with decentralized technologies, offers faster, lower-cost, and more reliable service delivery. Utilities partnering with DRE providers can accelerate connections, reduce capital burdens, and build stronger customer bases that make eventual grid interconnection more viable.

This convening will present the research findings and open dialogue with policymakers, utilities and financiers on how evidence from the urban edge can reshape national electrification plans and investment strategies.

PROJECT & INVESTMENT NETWORK

20 MAY 2026

RAPID FIRE PROJECT BRIEFINGS
ROOT TERRACE, SECOND FLOOR

Chairperson: *Jacques Moulot, Chief Operating Officer, African Group for Energy, Water and Environment (A3E)*

This session brings project developers directly in front of investors who are actively seeking new, high-potential opportunities. In a fast-paced format, developers will pitch their projects, showcase their readiness and attract the interest needed to move from concept to implementation.

09:30-09:50 **650MW DALMADA SOLAR PV 1**
Melusi Tshabalala, CEO, Mesama Energy, South Africa

09:50-10:10 **200MW MAMBOANESU ENERGY SOLAR PROJECT**
Rumbi Chirumbwana, CEO, MamboAnesu Africa, Zimbabwe

10:10-10:30 **VIRTUAL POWER PLANT (VPP)**
Desire Masunda, COO & Co-Founder, NeedEnergy, Zimbabwe

10:30-10:50 **600MW GAS-TO-POWER PROJECT**
Shepherd Nkosi, Group Business Development Manager, SLG

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – INVEST SA

10:50-11:10 *Rashmee Ragaven, Senior Manager, Advanced Manufacturing Investment and Spatial Industrial Development, Department of Trade, Industry and Competition*

11:10-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

IN CONVERSATION WITH... ATTRACTING LONG-TERM CAPITAL – THE INVESTOR PERSPECTIVE ON RISK AND RETURN
ROOF TERRACE, SECOND FLOOR

Moderator: *Jacques Moulot, Chief Operating Officer, African Group for Energy, Water and Environment (A3E)*

This session will explore how investors assess opportunities in Africa's evolving energy landscape, particularly when state-owned enterprises (SOEs) face creditworthiness challenges as off-takers. Through a candid discussion, industry leaders will share insights on balancing risk and reward, and the critical role of policy and regulatory reforms in building investor confidence and unlocking long-term capital for sustainable energy projects.

11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER**

11:50-13:00 Discussion points:

- Assessing the impact of SOE creditworthiness on project bankability
- Strategies investors use to balance risk and reward in emerging markets
- The role of policy and regulatory reform in de-risking investment
- Innovative financial instruments and partnerships driving long-term capital flow

Speakers:

- *Maxoli Njoli, Principal Deal Originator, Energy Environment & ICT, Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)*
- *Patrick Kouame, Investment Director, African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM)*
- *Belinda Carreira, Chief Executive Officer, SustainableDNA [Virtual]*
- *Petrus Matji, Executive Chairman, Morwakoma Matji Investment Holdings*

13:00-14:30 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

INSIDE THE DEAL
ROOF TERRACE, SECOND FLOOR

Chairperson: *Dr Jeffrey Ken. Baiden, Regional Technical Advisor for Sub Sahara Africa, DC LAfrique Limited*

This session is anchored in the practical realities of structuring energy deals, offering a grounded, case-driven perspective on how transactions are negotiated and brought to financial close. Speakers will examine deal structuring through five core pillars that consistently shape project outcomes:

- Securities and guarantees
- Commercial and financial considerations
- Technical aspects, including technology selection and performance risk
- Policy and regulatory environment
- Structuring and legal frameworks

14:35-15:45 **Speakers:**

- *Boyd Kanchela, Chief Executive Officer, Kariba North Bank Extension Power Corporation, Zambia*
- *Sameer Bagwandeen, Head: Energy & Infrastructure, Standard Bank, South Africa*

15:45-16:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MASTERCLASS SESSIONS
ROOF TERRACE, SECOND FLOOR

Moderator: *TBC*

Led by seasoned subject-matter experts, these masterclass sessions offer a focused deep dive into key industry topics. Each session explores core concepts, emerging challenges, and practical real-world examples. Designed to be informal and highly interactive, the format creates a safe space for participants to ask questions they might not feel comfortable raising in a traditional panel discussion.

This session will unpack:

- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS): Technology fundamentals, deployment models, and market opportunities.
- The evolving role of energy intermediaries: How aggregators, traders, and service providers enable smoother market operations and project success.
- Despite strong investor appetite for generation assets, transmission infrastructure remains underfunded due to structural, regulatory, and risk allocation challenges. This masterclass provides a focused, practical examination of how to unlock capital for transmission projects by aligning policy, financial structures, and stakeholder incentives.
- Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) as enablers to infrastructure development: Explore how PPPs can accelerate the development of critical infrastructure by mobilising private capital, expertise, and innovation alongside public-sector priorities.

16:30-16:35 **Scene setter**

16:35-17:30

TABLE 1: BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

Theo Fischer, Board Director, South African Energy Storage Association (SAESA)

TABLE 2: ENERGY INTERMEDIARIES

- *Stephen Dihwa, Coordination Centre Executive Director, Southern African Power Pool*
- *Cathy Oxby, Co-Founder and Chief Commercial Officer, Africa GreenCo*

TABLE 3: UNLOCKING INVESTMENT FOR TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

- *Monde Bala, CEO, National Transmission Company of South Africa*
- *Senior representative, DEE*

TABLE 4: PPPS AS ENABLERS TO INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT 1

- *Petrus Matji, Executive Chairman, Morwakoma Matji Investment Holdings*

NUCLEAR IN AFRICA

20 MAY 2026

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09:30-09:35 **OPENING ADDRESS BY ORGANISERS**

09:35–10:00 **MINISTERIAL ADDRESS**
Zizamele Mbambo, Deputy Director-General: Nuclear Energy, Department of Electricity and Energy, South Africa

A TWO-PART AFRICAN NUCLEAR ROADMAP
FROM VISION TO EXECUTION
PART ONE
POWER SPRINTS
Nuclear in motion
Facilitator: Katse Maphoto, Chief Director: Nuclear Technology and Safety, The Department of Energy and Electricity

10:00-10:15 **THE OPERATING AND EXPANDING PHASE: SOUTH AFRICA**
Navigating the newly promulgated IRP 2025, which mandates 5.2 GW of new nuclear capacity by 2039. The discussion will be centering on the government's non-negotiables such as strict timelines, protected funding, and transparent vendor selection to avoid past procurement failures and ensure long-term energy security.
4
Lukhanyo Ndube, General Manager: Nuclear Build, Eskom, South Africa

10:15 – 10:30 **Part two: THE OPERATING AND EXPANDING PHASE: SOUTH AFRICA**
Sengiphile Simelane, Group Executive: Power and Industry, NECSA

10:30-10:45 **THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE: EGYPT**
Lessons from Africa's most advanced project, the Gen III+ El Dabaa site, where four 1.2 GW units are currently under active build. This session provides a replicable blueprint for the continent, focusing on fast-track intergovernmental procurement, pragmatic localisation, and integrated project management to keep costs and timelines under control.
Ryan Collyer, CEO, ROSATOM, South Africa

10:45-11:00 **THE NEW ENTRANT & SMR PHASE: KENYA**
A status report on the continent's SMR frontrunners. Kenya is currently entering vendor pre-qualification. This presentation will be interrogating timelines for "first concrete" and the international collaborations needed, from regulatory harmonisation to fuel-supply guarantees, to reach financial close this decade.
Prof. Lawrence Gumbe, Chairman, Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA), Kenya

11:00 - 11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

PART TWO
THE CRITICAL INTERROGATION
Moderator: Katse Maphoto, Chief Director: Nuclear Safety and Technology, Department of Energy and Electricity

11:45-13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION: THE CRITICAL INTERROGATION**
Following the statements, the speakers will engage in a moderated panel discussion to enable critical interrogation of their plans.

Key Probing Questions:
- Safety & Proven Tech: How are you ensuring these designs are "proven" and not just "on paper"?
- Regulatory De-risking: How are you engaging regulators early to handle First-of-a-Kind (FOAK) SMR licensing?
- Public Trust
- Sovereignty: How will Africa's uranium resources (Namibia/Nigeria) be integrated into these national decarbonisation strategies?
- What is the specific vendor "experience requirements" to ensure delivery on time and on budget?

Speakers:
- *Sengiphile Simelane, Group Executive: Power and Industry, NECSA*
- *Lukhanyo Ndube, General Manager Nuclear New Build, Eskom, South Africa*
- *Ryan Collyer, CEO, ROSATOM, South Africa*
- *Prof. Lawrence Gumbe, Chairman, Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA), Kenya*

13:00-14:00 **Recharge and connect**

14:00-14:15 **THE 2026 LANDSCAPE: A GLOBAL AND REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF THE "NUCLEAR RENAISSANCE."**
Key data: Update on the 15 GW continent-wide target by 2035 and the status of the $100bn+ market opportunity. Engineering Focus: The rise of SMR simulators in Africa and the technical readiness of "New Entrant" grids.
Ben Alex, Nuclear Specialist, Hatch, Canada

14:15-14:30 **THE INTEGRATED ENERGY BALANCE: OPTIMISING LARGE REACTORS & SMRS FOR AFRICAN GRIDS**
This high-level strategic debate tackles the single most important question facing African energy planners: what is the optimal nuclear mix for the continent's wildly different grids, industrial needs and decarbonisation deadlines? With roughly 50 GW of coal capacity retiring by 2038 and most African nations unable to wait for full SMR commercialisation (expected only 2034–2035), the session confronts three critical issues head-on.

- First, how to match technology choice to actual grid capacity: when does a 1 000–1 200 MW large reactor make sense, when is a fleet of SMRs the only viable path, and how do we rigorously decide?
- Second, the regional power-pool opportunity: can the Eastern, Western and Southern African Power Pools enable smaller or land-locked countries to benefit from large baseload reactors through cross-border offtake agreements without each having to host a multi-gigawatt plant?
- Third, the brutal timeline trade-off: given accelerating coal phase-out pressures, can Africa afford to bet everything on still-maturing SMRs, or must credible large Gen-III+ projects be advanced in parallel as a "no-regrets" bridge to keep the lights on and industrial

growth alive? Expect a sharp, evidence-driven exchange that moves the continent beyond slogans toward practical, bankable deployment pathways.

Ama-tabu Mozagba, Senior Manager: Project Management, NECSA

14:30 -15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: FINANCING AFRICA'S NUCLEAR RENAISSANCE: UNLOCKING PRIVATE CAPITAL**

Moderator: *Zukile Zibi, Director: Nuclear Policy, Department of Energy and Electricty, South Africa*

This session goes straight to the biggest roadblock: how to get private money to flow into African nuclear projects before 2039. Nuclear plants cost a lot upfront and only make money after 30–40 years, but most investors want their money back in 5–7 years. Many banks still say "no" to nuclear because of old rules.

The discussions will focus on four simples, must-solve questions:

- How to make the first projects feel safe? What promises and laws must governments give so investors stop seeing huge risk?
- How to bring local banks on board? How do we get big African banks to say "yes" and use their own money?
- How can development banks help? What low-cost loans or guarantees must AfDB, World Bank and others offer to pull in private investors?
- How to promise steady income? How do we write long-term electricity sale contracts (with power companies, mines, data centres or hydrogen plants) that banks can trust for 20–30 years?

Speakers:

- *Francis Agar, Director, Nuclear Power and Energy Agency, Kenya*
- *Onur Koray Yenigürbüz, Vice President, Nuclear Industry Association of Turkey [Virtual]*
- *Fabienne Peheut, Nuclear Economics Consulting Group, France [Virtual]*

15:30–16:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

Masterclasses

ACTION-ORIENTED SOLUTIONS: MOBILISING THE AFRICAN NUCLEAR SUPPLY CHAIN

16:00 – 17:00 **INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES**

- **LOCALISATION & SUPPLY CHAIN READINESS:** What must industry do before 2030? How can African companies make pipes, pumps, steel, cables and provide services so that 30–50 % of the money spent on new nuclear plants stays in Africa and creates local jobs? What factories, standards and training must be ready by 2030?

  Senior representative, EWSETA

- **FINANCING & BANKABLE PROJECTS:** How to get the first 3–5 projects built in the next 8 years (This 5th table is normally part of the rotation) Money is available, but projects must be prepared properly. What exact steps do governments, banks and companies need to take so that the first new reactors in Africa can start construction before 2030?

  Francis Agar, Director, Nuclear Power and Energy Agency, Kenya

- **FUEL CYCLE & SUPPLY SECURITY.** Discussion focuses on **f**uel security, including the impact of anticipated HALEU fuel shortages (for SMRs), strategies for developing domestic or regional uranium processing capabilities, and ensuring long-term supply agreements that avoid political volatility.

  Noxolo Kunene, Senior Manager Licensing & Regulatory Management, NECSA

- **SAFE WASTE DISPOSAL & DECOMMISSIONING:** Combating the largest source of negative public perception (nuclear waste). Focus on establishing international best practices for final disposal, planning for decommissioning costs upfront, and the crucial role of the National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute (NRWDI).

  Riedewaan Bakardien, CEO, National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute

17:00 **End of day**

MUNICIPAL FORUM

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION
BALLROOM, 1ST FLOOR

09:30-11:00 **HOW A COORDINATED ENERGY/WATER PLAN COULD CHANGE AFRICAN RESILIENCE**

11:00-11:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

BUILDING AND FINANCING RESILIENCE
MUNICIPAL FORUM HUB, HALL 1, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Session Chair: *Punkie Majola, Chief Engineer: Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management, City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality*
Municipalities hold significant untapped earnings potential and are positioned to enable local energy resilience if they can build projects that financiers trust. This session brings together leading development finance institutions and EDI reform experts to unpack how municipalities can develop bankable projects, attract private capital, use innovative de-risking models and participate meaningfully in the energy transition.

11:30-11:35 **Scene setter:** *Punkie Majola, Chief Engineer: Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management, City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality*

11:35-12:05 **BUILDING BANKABLE MUNICIPAL ENERGY TRANSITION PROJECTS: Unlocking Scalable Public–Private Investment and Tokenised Energy Settlement for Affordable, Greener Power Delivery**
Frank Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Enerset (Pty) Ltd

12:05-13:00 **THE INVESTMENT PLAN PANEL: UNLOCKING CAPITAL FLOW FOR MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT**
Unpacking:
- Long-term capital for municipal infrastructure
- Unlocking earnings potential
- Financing for distribution upgrades, metering and water-energy facilities
- Strong project preparation support
- Risk-sharing structures suited for financially constrained municipalities

Panellists:
- *Bernhard Teuteberg, Deputy Director (Energy), Department of Infrastructure, Western Cape Government*
- *Lindy Mthembu, Chief Electrical Engineer: MV/LV Construction Planning, eThekwini Municipality*
- *Ben Peters, Director: Corporate Project Programme and Portfolio Management, City of Cape Town*
- *Damian Padachi, CEO, Ontec*

13:00-14:30 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

TARIFFS, AFFORDABILITY & MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY
MUNICIPAL FORUM HUB, HALL 1, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Session Chair: *Onicah Rantwane, Middle Manager: Electricity Trading Compliance, Eskom*
This session examines the increasingly difficult balance between cost-reflective tariffs and electricity affordability as rising costs intensify pressure on households and businesses. The discussion unpacks the implications of Section 15 market pricing, explores the future of municipal tariff structures, and assesses the broader financial consequences of market reform on municipal sustainability.

14:30-14:35 **SCENE SETTER:** *Onicah Rantwane, Middle Manager: Electricity Trading Compliance, Eskom*

14:35-15:00 **THE FUTURE OF ELECTRICITY PRICES: SECTION 15, MARKET SIGNALS & MUNICIPAL SUSTAINABILITY**
Section 15 and Market-Driven Pricing
- How market formation shifts the role of NERSA in price setting
- What a market-linked price environment means for municipal distributors

Frank Hinda, Senior Manager: Pricing & Tariffs at City Power, City Power

15:00-15:45 **MARKET REFORM AND TARIFF CONSEQUENCES: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF ELECTRICITY PRICING AND MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL STABILITY**
Discussing:
- Aligning tariff structures to new procurement and market participation options
- Managing the financial impact of low consumption growth and self-generation
- How SAWEM and market trading will reshape municipal tariff strategies

Panellists:
- *Muzi Mkhize, Regulator Member: National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)*
- *Terry Njuguna, Corporate Specialist: Pricing and Energy Policy, Eskom*
- *Prof Prathaban Moodley, General Manager: Applied Energy R&D and Innovation, South African National Energy Development Institute*
- *Gary Michael Ross, Head: Pricing and Regulation, City of Cape Town*

15:45-16:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MASTERING COST OF SUPPLY STUDIES
MUNICIPAL FORUM HUB, HALL 1, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Facilitators: *Megan Euston-Brown, Director & Project Manager, Sustainable Energy Africa, Nick Sims, Project Coordinator, Sustainable Energy Africa*
This session provides a practical and in-depth exploration of Cost of Supply (CoS) studies, equipping municipalities with the knowledge and tools needed to accurately assess, calculate and allocate electricity supply costs to inform tariff design.

16:30-16:35 **Scene setter**: *Nick Sims, Project Coordinator, Sustainable Energy Africa*

16:35-17:30 **WORKSHOP: SMART TARIFF DESIGN THROUGH EFFECTIVE COS STUDIES**
By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Understand the purpose, components, and regulatory requirements of Cost of Supply (CoS) studies.
- Interpret and analyse CoS data to identify cost drivers and allocate costs accurately across customer categories.
- Apply practical methodologies to conduct or review CoS studies using real-world scenarios.

RENEWABLE ENERGY & STORAGE

20 MAY 2026

STORAGE, HYBRIDS & BATTERY MANAGEMENT
HYBRID GENERATION AND STORAGE
HALL 3, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Janice Foster, Managing Director: Energy, Zutari*
As power systems across Africa and globally integrate higher shares of variable renewable energy such as solar PV and wind, maintaining grid stability and reliability is becoming increasingly complex. The intermittency and unpredictability of these resources place new demands on system operators to ensure continuous supply, frequency control, and reserve capacity.

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER**
Warwick Hayes, Technical Lead, Engage Energy + Engineering

09:35-09:50 **THE POWER OF PUMPED STORAGE – ENABLING SOUTH AFRICA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE**
Dr Nad Moodley, Asset Lifecycle Manager, Eskom

09:50-10:05 **CASE STUDY: DELIVERING INDUSTRIAL RESILIENCE THROUGH HYBRID SOLAR-PLUS-STORAGE**
As BESS becomes more commercially viable, hybrid energy systems are reshaping industrial energy strategy across Africa. This session explores the shift beyond backup power toward operational optimisation, tariff management and long-term energy resilience, drawing on real-world experience from a large industrial manufacturing operation in South Africa.
Claude Peters, Managing Director, RenEnergy

10:05-11:00 **PUMPED STORAGE AND SYSTEM FLEXIBILITY**
The panel will explore the role of pumped storage hydropower within the broader discussion on system flexibility in power systems with increasing shares of variable renewable energy. The discussion will bring together policymakers, industry representatives and technical experts to exchange perspectives on the contribution of long-duration storage technologies to power system stability and reliability.

Panellists:
- *Theo Fischer, Board Director, South Africa Energy Storage Association*
- *Ronald Marais, Senior Manager, Strategic Grid Planning, National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA)*
- *Josef Lumetzberger, Senior Director Africa, Andritz Hydro*
- *Mike Muller, Visiting Adjunct Professor, Wits University (former DG, DWS, National Planning Commission)*
- *Paul Davel, Acting National Control Manager, Chief Engineer, National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA)*
- *Senior representative, UKPact*

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION FOR MULTI-MEGAWATT C&I PROJECTS
HALL 3, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Chairman: Marco Rahner, Sales Director: Smart Infrastructure, Siemens South Africa

11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER**

11:50-12:10 **TERACO, 120MW SOLAR PV PLANT**
Teraco is developing a landmark 120MW solar PV facility that will significantly boost clean energy supply for commercial and industrial offtakers. Positioned as one of the largest private renewable energy undertakings in South Africa, the project underscores the critical role of corporate actors in advancing the energy transition beyond the traditional utility framework. As a large-scale initiative, it reflects the potential of data centre operators and technology leaders to catalyse investment and innovation in renewables.

The presentation will focus on:
- **The business case:** How the project enhances corporate energy security, resilience, and competitiveness.
- **Financing:** Capital deployment, risk allocation, and innovative investment models for C&I renewables at scale.
- **Regulatory hurdles:** Key permitting, wheeling, and policy challenges encountered, and how they were addressed.

Bryce Allan, Head of Sustainability, Teraco

12:10-12:30 **HEINEKEN SEDIBENG BREWERY SOLAR POWER PLANT**
Heineken South Africa has unveiled a 6.5 MW solar power plant at its Sedibeng brewery in Midvaal, developed in partnership with renewable energy specialists SOLA Group. As part of Heineken's global "Brew a Better World" initiative, the project aims to support the company's goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2030. The plant, which spans 19 hectares and features 14,000 photovoltaic panels with single axis tracking technology, supplies approximately 30% of the brewery's electricity needs, generating 17 000 MWh annually. It is managed under a 15-year power purchase agreement with SOLA Group, who owns and operates the facility.

The system is Wi-Fi enabled and controlled via SCADA for real-time performance monitoring and fault detection. While currently grid-tied, efforts are underway to allow the plant to complement diesel generation during outages. This installation marks a major step in Heineken's broader renewable energy transition, with further solutions being explored to meet the remaining 70% of the brewery's power demand

Molatelo Motau, Sustainability Project Manager, Heineken Beverages

12:30-12:50 **CITY OF CAPE TOWN SOLAR PLANT AT ATLANTIS**
Marlyn Hendricks, Senior Professional Officer, City of Cape Town

13:00-14:30 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

CLEAN ENERGY ADOPTION IN THE C&I MARKET
HALL 3, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Olivia Rumble, Director, Climate Legal*
As South Africa advances its decarbonisation agenda, the voluntary carbon market (VCM) is emerging as a critical mechanism linking policy, corporate strategy and economic value. This session explores how evolving carbon tax timelines, regulatory frameworks and international pressures are reshaping the market landscape.

14:30-14:35 **SCENE SETTER**

14:35-15:25 **IN CONVERSATION WITH: THE EVOLVING VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKET: NAVIGATING CHANGE, POLICY AND OPPORTUNITY**
In this fireside chat, experts will unpack the concept of environmental attributes and the implications of bundled versus unbundled renewable energy transactions, highlighting how these distinctions impact corporate reporting, emissions claims and contractual structures.

Speakers:

- *Robbie Louw, Director, Promethium Carbon*
- *Kumesh Naidoo, Programmatic Infrastructure Specialist, Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) [Virtual]*

15:25-15:45 **CARBON CAPTURE – FROM AIR QUALITY CONTROL POINT OF VIEW: STATE OF THE ART AND NEXT CHALLENGES**
Matteo Tritella, Sales Manager, Termokimik Corporation

MOBILITY
HALL 3, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Dr. Goitsione Emily Olifant, Lecturer, Wits Business School – African Energy Leadership Centre*
As commercial and industrial (C&I) players accelerate the adoption of electric vehicle (EV) fleets, energy management is becoming a critical operational and cost consideration –particularly in regions facing grid constraints and reliability challenges.

16:00-16:05 **SCENE SETTER**

16:05-17:05 **MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE FLEETS FOR C&I: OPTIMISING ENERGY IN A CONSTRAINED GRID**
This session explores how businesses can strategically integrate EV charging into their energy ecosystems without compromising productivity or grid stability.

Discussing:
- How EV fleet charging reshapes load profiles in C&I environments
- Centralised vs decentralised charging management platforms
- Business case for co-locating EV infrastructure with renewable assets
- Using BESS for peak shaving and charging optimisation
- Monetisation opportunities (e.g. demand savings, carbon credits, wheeling)
- Grid connection constraints and permitting challenges

Speakers:
- *Aletta Mashao, Senior Manager Engineering, Eskom*
- *Ndia Magadagela, CEO, Everlectric*
- *Hiten Parmar, Executive Director, Electric Mission*
- *Mary Haw, Manager: Sustainable Energy Facilitation, City of Cape Town*

MARKET INTELLIGENCE REPORT LAUNCH – GREENCAPE
HALL 3, EXHIBITION FLOOR

17:05-17:30 **LAUNCH OF THE GREENCAPE MARKET INTELLIGENCE REPORTS: RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MOBILITY (In partnership with UK Pact)** Investment insights in RE and Electric Mobility from the *2026 Market Intelligence Reports* developed by GreenCape, in partnership with UK Pact.

- *Deney Van Rooyen, Technical Advisor, UK PACT*
- *Ulrich Terblanche, Senior Analyst: Energy, GreenCape*
- *Rita Naude, Senior Analyst: Energy, GreenCape*

17:30 **NETWORKING FUNCTION**

MOBILITY

20 MAY 2026

ADVANCING PUBLIC TRANSPORT ELECTRIFICATION

09:30-09:35 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Tshepo Kgobe, Chief Executive Officer, Gautrain

09:35-10:35 **OPENING PLENARY: PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS THE BACKBONE OF AFRICA'S EMOBILITY TRANSITION**

- South Africa's EV policy momentum and grid readiness
- Public transport electrification as a just transition lever
- The role of cities like Johannesburg and Cape Town as innovation hubs
- Linking eMobility to climate, air quality, and economic growth
- Why public transport delivers the fastest scale impact

Moderator: *Tshepo Kgobe, Chief Executive Officer, Gautrain*

Panellists:

- *Mogamat Joseph, Manager: Industry Transition, City of Cape Town*
- *Vuyi Majola, Head of Integrated Public Transport Networks, CityCon Africa*
  Jared Gray, Executive Manager: Business Planning, Gautrain Management Agency

10:35 –11:15 **SMART CITIES & INTEGRATED MOBILITY SYSTEMS**

- Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) in African cities
- Data-driven transport planning
- Integration of land use, housing, and mobility
- Digital infrastructure for transport systems

Moderator: *Vuyi Majola, Head of Integrated Public Transport Networks, CityCon Africa*

Panellists:

- *Nicholas Brooks, NEV Texhnical Assistance Coordinator, IDC*
- *Jamie Wyngaard, Co-Founder and Chief Experience Officer, Loop*
- *Thierry Lassus, Head of Mobility Segment, Hitachi Ltd*

11:15 – 11:35 **LEVERAGING RAIL FOR URBAN GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY**

- Gautrain as a catalyst for economic development
- Integrating rail with buses, taxis, and non-motorised transport
- Smart ticketing and integrated mobility systems
- Rail-led urban development and densification

Jared Gray, Executive Manager: Business Planning, Gautrain Management Agency

11:35 – 11:55 **ELECTRIFYING BRT SYSTEMS**

- Transition strategies: diesel → electric fleets
- Charging models: depot vs opportunity
- Cost, financing, and operational realities

Thierry Lassus, Head of Mobility Segment, Hitachi Ltd

11:55 – 12:10 **AFRICA'S INFORMAL MOBILITY FUTURE**

Imtiyaaz Riley, Chief Executive Officer, Loop

12:10 – 12:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

NEW ENERGY VEHICLES (NEVS) & PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILITY

12:30 – 13:15 **AFRICA'S EV MARKET: UNLOCKING GROWTH & INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITY**

- EV market maturity and adoption trajectories across South Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa
- Policy frameworks, regulatory enablers, and incentive gaps
- Local manufacturing and supply chain localisation
- Financing the transition: development finance, blended capital, and green funds
- Africa's positioning within global EV value chains: critical minerals, battery ecosystems, and industrial opportunity
- Global perspectives on what accelerates and what stalls market development

Moderator: *Nathan Fredericks, Programme Director for New Energy Vehicles, IDC*

Panellists:

- *Anton Smalberger, Senior Manager: New Energy Business Development, Toyota South Africa Motors*
- *Hiten Parmar, Executive Director, Electric Mission*
- *Bothwell Manikai, Head: Coverage – Transport, Logistics & Bulk Water; and Principal – Infrastructure Financing, South Africa & International, Investment Division, Development Bank of South Africa*

13:15 – 13:35 **AFRICA'S EV INDUSTRIALISATION: UNLOCKING LOCAL MANUFACTURING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Market outlook for EV adoption in South Africa and across Africa
- Policy environment and incentives shaping EV growth
- Building local manufacturing capacity: components, assembly, and supply chains
- Investment opportunities and partnerships to scale domestic production

Sithobile Khoza, GreenCape Analyst: Energy, GreenCape

13:35 – 13:55 **WHISTLESTOP STOP TOUR OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY - HOW CAN SOUTH AFRICA LEAPFROG INTO A LEADING EV POSITION FOR AFRICA**

- *Janine George, Programme Director - EV Collective South Africa, Founder, JaKaL Labs*
- *Nathan Fredericks, Programme Director for New Energy Vehicles, IDC*

13:55 – 14:10 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

NEW ENERGY VEHICLES (NEVS) & PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILITY

14:10 – 14:55 **CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE: BUILDING THE EV ECOSYSTEM**

- Public vs private charging networks
- Utility and IPP roles
- Interoperability and standards

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Moderator: Tenele Patiant Ndlovu, Project Manager, Zero Emission Buses, C40Cities

Panellists:

- *Gareth Burley, Acting CEO, Microcare Solar*
- *Winston Jordaan, Founder & Managing Director, Gridcars*
- *Thierry Lassus, Head of Mobility Segment, Hitachi Ltd*
- *Aletta Mashao, Senior Manager Engineering, New Business Development, Eskom*

14:55 – 15:40 **FLEET ELECTRIFICATION: LOGISTICS, MINING & CORPORATE MOBILITY**

- Electrifying delivery and logistics fleets
- EVs in mining and heavy industry
- ESG and cost drivers for corporates

Moderator: *Dr Brandon Davoren, NEV workstream integration specialist, IDC*

Panellists:

- *Jonathan Mphake, National Fleet Manager, SBV*
- *Paul Plummer, Chief Operating Officer, Everlectric*
- *Rita Naude, GreenCape Senior Analyst: Energy), GreenCape*

15:40 – 16:00 **THE CONVERGENCE ENERGY AND MOBILITY: EV INFRASTRUCTURE AS A STRATEGIC ASSET**

Winston Jordaan, Founder & Managing Director, Gridcars

16:00 – 16:20 **BEYOND EVS: HYDROGEN & ALTERNATIVE FUELS**

- Green hydrogen mobility in South Africa
- Heavy-duty and long-haul applications
- Infrastructure and investment readiness

Anton Smalberger, Senior Manager: New Energy Business Development, Toyota South Africa Motors

16:20 – 16:40 **SOUTH AFRICA'S HYDROGEN ECONOMY AGENDA: SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A HYDROGEN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM SUPPORTED BY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

- South African Value Proposition
- Policies, Programmes, Initiatives supporting the advancement of green hydrogen mobility in South Africa
- Research, development and innovation related to green hydrogen mobility

Mandy Mlilo, Acting Chief Director: Hydrogen and Energy, Department of Science, Technology and Innovation

16:40 – 17:00 **EV CHARGING BUILT FOR AFRICAN REALITIES: LOCAL MANUFACTURING AND DC-TO-DC INNOVATION**

Gareth Burley, Acting CEO, Microcare Solar

17:00 – 17:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

WOMENIN ENERGY, WATER & MOBILITY

20 MAY 2026

WOMEN IN ENERGY, WATER AND MOBILITY
Ballroom, 1st Floor

Master of Ceremonies:

12:00-12:05 **WELCOME BY THE ORGANISERS**

12:05-12:20 **LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: BUILDING HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAMS**

Discussion points include:

- Culture and clarity
- Decision making
- Feedback and accountability
- Talent development and advocacy
- Resilience under pressure
- Leading without permission

Portia Mngomezulu, Group Executive: Corporate Services, Eskom

12:20-13:00 **EQUITY IN PRACTICE**
REVIEW OF EQUITY POLICIES ACROSS ENERGY, WATER AND MOBILITY

Moderator: *Marilyn Maduka, Sustainability Director, AB-InBev*
Panellists:

- *Ntombizanele Mary Billa-Mupariwa, Provincial Head for the Western Cape, Department of Water and Sanitation*
- *Tenele Patiant Ndlovu, Project Manager, Zero Emission Buses, C40Cities*
- *Bravance Mashele, General Manager, Koeberg Nuclear Power Station*

13:00-13:30 **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS: EQUITY IN ACTION**
Structured discussion:
General discussion:

Discussion points:

- What intervention moved the needle most: hiring, sponsorship, mentorship, pay equity reviews, flexible work design, safe reporting channels, leadership training, procurement requirements, pipeline programmes?
- What did you stop doing because it was performative or ineffective?
- Where did diverse perspectives prevent a costly mistake or improve delivery?

13:30-14:00 **FEEDBACK AND CLOSING REMARKS**

STRATEGISE STAGE

21 MAY 2026

ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TASKFORCE 2.0

ROOM 1.6, 1ST FLOOR

Moderator: *Deerosh Maharaj, Executive Head: Energy, Infrastructure and Mining, Standard Bank, South Africa*

Building on the foundation laid at Enlit Africa 2025, Standard Bank facilitates this high-impact workshop designed to bridge the technical and financial gaps in the energy sector.

09:30-11:00 **SCENE SETTER**

Panel Discussion

Speakers:

- *Dr Rethabile Melamu, CEO, SAPVIA, South Africa*
- *Sheena Ramsamy, Manager, Sustainability Academy, Standard Bank, South Africa*
- *Stacey-Lee Bolon, Co-founder & CEO, STiiNT*
- *Dr Kirston Greenop, Head Corporate Citizenship, Standard Bank, South Africa*
- *Khetsiwe Dlamini, Energy Sector Manager, EWSETA*

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

MASTERCLASS

TECHNOLOGY, DATA, AI AND DIGITAL TWINS

ROOM 1.6, 1ST FLOOR

11:45-13:00

AI INTERVENTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL POWER FLOWS

This roundtable will be exploring the commercial opportunities within the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) by using AI to manage complex regional power flows. Discussions will focus on how machine learning can automate the integration of private power producers into the national grid while maintaining "open access" regulatory guardrails. By leveraging AI to analyse "energy shifting" patterns and market mechanisms, commercial entities can maximize their revenue per kilowatt and ensure long-term financial sustainability in a competitive landscape.

Navneet Gupta, Director: DUET, Country Delivery, Global Energy Alliance, India

DIGITAL TWINS & AI-DRIVEN GRID SECURITY

In this session, experts discuss how AI interventions can protect the "bankability" of large-scale renewable projects through advanced technical due diligence. The roundtable will examine the use of AI in monitoring Battery Management Systems (BMS) and thermal management algorithms to extend the life of energy storage assets. By using AI to predict grid responses and detect digital intrusions across thousands of IoT-enabled inverters, companies can safeguard their investments and maintain high safety standards against growing cyber threats.

Bain Viljoen, CEO, Lithium Batteries, South Africa.

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

CLOSING SESSION

14:00-14:30 **CLOSING KEYNOTE**

Speaker to be announced

14:30-15:00 **STAND AWARDS**

INNOVATE PROGRAMME

21 MAY 2026

JOINT SESSION: PROJECT OVERVIEWS: LESSONS FROM FINANCING AND DELIVERING LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS
ROOM 1.4

09:30–11:00 **Moderator:** *Tshegofatso Neeuwfan, Country Manager for the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP), South Africa*
This session brings together developers, financiers and delivery partners to unpack what it takes to move large-scale infrastructure projects from concept to commissioning. Rather than theory, the discussion focuses on projects momentum that have reached financial close, are nearing commissioning, or have already been delivered, providing a grounded view of execution realities across the region. The conversation will draw on live examples including the Temane Project and CCT Mozambique, the Malawi BESS project, the Mozambique–Malawi Interconnector, as well as milestone-driven developments such as the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project and the Huambo–Lubango transmission project. These cases provide a cross-section of technologies, markets and financing structures. The session will distil practical insights on what drives bankability and delivery success, where projects tend to stall, and how risk is being reallocated across stakeholders. It will also explore emerging financing and delivery models shaping the next wave of infrastructure across Africa, alongside the persistent structural and regulatory challenges that continue to impact project timelines and investor **confidence. ,**

SCENE SETTER
PANEL DISCUSSION: LESSONS FROM FINANCING AND DELIVERING LARGE-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
Speakers
Mirlan Aldayarov, The World Bank, United States
Adriano Jonas, Project Director, EDM, Mozambique
Alex Kaitane, Director of Projects and Development, Escom Malawi
Closing poll

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

NUCLEAR IN AFRICA:
THE LEGAL CORE OF AFRICA'S NUCLEAR FUTURE
ROOM 1.4

Moderator: *Teslim Yusuf, Executive, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, EWSETA, South Africa*
As the African energy landscape undergoes a seismic shift, the conversation is moving beyond turbines and grids to the very foundation of the industry: Nuclear Law, Policy, and Legislative Frameworks. This session explores why robust legal infrastructure is no longer a "nice-to-have" but a prerequisite for continental sovereignty and energy security. Experts in this session will dissect the current barriers and map out a self-sufficient legal ecosystem tailored to the African context.

11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER**
11:50-13:00 **DEEP DIVE:**
NUCLEAR LAW POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS
The four pillars:

- Framework audit: A critical review of existing African legislative models to identify what drives progress and what creates bottlenecks.
- Educational sovereignty: Addressing the gap in local expertise by moving beyond short-term international consultancies to establish dedicated nuclear law specializations within African universities.
- Myth busting: Overcoming the legal and safety misconceptions that frequently stall projects at the policy level before they begin.
- A Pan-African Ecosystem: Building a collaborative, harmonized regulatory network to streamline standards and safety across the continent.

Speakers

- *Noxolo Kunene, Senior Manager Licensing & Regulatory Management, NECSA, South Africa*
- *Zukile Zibi, Director: Nuclear Policy, Department of Energy and Electricty, South Africa*
- *Elizna Viljoen Senior Manager Strategy and Regulation, Eskom*
- *Khetsiwe Dlamini, Energy Sector Manager, EWSETA*

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

NUCLEAR IN AFRICA
THE HOT SEAT DEBATE
ROOM 1.4

Moderator: Francis Agar, Director, NuPea, Kenya
In 2025, the conversation was about "The Dream", targets of 15 GW and the promise of a Nuclear Renaissance. In 2026, the reality has set in. With South Africa's Koeberg units successfully extended to 2045 and site approvals finalised for new builds in Ghana and South Africa, the continent has entered a high-stakes execution phase. However, execution brings friction. This session is designed as a constructive debate to address the "elephant in the room": How do African nations manage the massive financial risks, technical complexities, and geopolitical "marriages" that come with nuclear power without derailing their broader energy transitions?

14:00:14:05 **SCENE SETTER**
14:05-15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**
NUCLEAR IN AFRICA
As Africa's nuclear ambitions move from planning to implementation, the debate is shifting from aspiration to practical delivery. With Koeberg's life extension secured, Ghana advancing vendor evaluations and regional power pools exploring nuclear capacity, the continent must confront difficult trade-offs around cost, sovereignty, grid readiness and financing.
Key focus areas

- The opportunity cost of life extension
- The 60-year marriage
- The grid, nuclear paradox
- Financing Africa's nuclear ambition

Speakers

- *Lukhanyo Ndube, General Manager Nuclear New Build, Eskom, South Africa*
- *Robert Sogbadji, Deputy Director, Power: Nuclear and Alternative Energy Program, Ministry of Energy, Ghana [Virtual]*
- *Prof Jo-Ansie Van Wyk, Research Professor, UNISA [Virtual]*

PROJECT & INVESTMENT NETWORK

21 MAY 2026

ADVANCING REGIONAL POWER INTEGRATION IN AFRICA
ROOM 2.4, SECOND FLOOR

Moderator: – *Keith Katyora, Senior Manager: Grid Expansion & Energy Systems, Energy Council of South Africa*

Across Africa, electricity demand is growing rapidly as economies expand, urbanisation accelerates, and digital infrastructure develops. At the same time, many countries are investing in renewable energy generation and seeking to improve energy security.

Regional electricity integration offers a significant opportunity to optimise generation resources, strengthen system reliability, and enable cross-border electricity trade. However, achieving deeper integration requires coordinated progress across two critical dimensions:

- **Infrastructure integration**: Expansion of generation capacity, transmission networks, and cross-border interconnectors that allow electricity to move efficiently between countries.
- **Market integration**: Development of harmonised electricity markets that enable transparent price signals, efficient power trading, and participation by utilities, traders, and investors.

This side event will bring together sector leaders to examine how grid expansion and electricity market development can be aligned to accelerate regional power integration across Africa.

09:00-09:10 **WELCOME REMARKS**
James Mackay — CEO, Energy Council of South Africa

09:10-09:35 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Subesh Pillay — Chief of Staff, Department of Electricity and Energy, Republic of South Africa

09:35-09:45 **PROGRAMME OVERVIEW**
Keith Katyora, Senior Manager: Grid Expansion & Energy Systems, Energy Council of South Africa

09:45-10:45 **GRID EXPANSION AND REGIONAL TRANSMISSION INTEGRATION**
This session will examine how generation expansion and transmission infrastructure development can enable deeper regional electricity integration.

The discussion will explore:

- regional generation expansion outlook
- transmission network expansion and interconnectors
- coordinated regional transmission planning
- financing grid infrastructure development

Speakers:

- *Monde Bala — CEO, NTCSA*
- *Wilson Masango — Chief Engineer, Southern African Power Pool*
- *Alberto Gambacorta — General Manager and Executive Vice President, Scatec*
- *Cathy Oxby—Chief Commercial Officer, Africa GreenCo*

Moderator:

- *Vasanie Pather — Senior Manager: Project Delivery, Energy Council of South Africa*

10:45-11:10 **EXECUTIVE FIRESIDE CHAT: SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, LOCALISATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION**

This executive dialogue will explore how energy infrastructure development can drive inclusive economic growth, localisation, and industrial development across Africa.

The discussion will examine how governments, development partners, and project developers can align infrastructure delivery with broader socio-economic objectives.

Speakers:

- *Dr Kubeshnie Bhugwandin — DDG: State Owned Entities, Energy Policy and Planning, Department of Electricity and Energy, Republic of South Africa (DEE)*
- *Precious Edward — Head of Independent Power Producer Office (IPPO)*
- *Sandiswa Tshaka — Senior Technical Advisor, GIZ*

11:10-11:25 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

11:25-12:25 **SHARED INFRASTRUCTURE AND INNOVATIVE TRANSMISSION DELIVERY MODELS**
This discussion will explore how shared infrastructure models and public–private partnerships can accelerate the delivery of grid infrastructure.

The discussion will examine emerging models that allow governments, utilities, and private investors to collaborate in developing transmission infrastructure, particularly where large-scale grid expansion is required to support renewable energy deployment and cross-border power flows.

Speakers:

- *Mpho Mokwele — Group Executive, DBSA*
- *Kieren Whyte — Senior Legal Consultant, Pinsent Masons*
- *Keith Webb — Co-Chair, Energy Council Standing Committee 3 (GRID)*
- *Vincenzia Leitich — Executive, Energy and Infrastructure, Standard Bank Group*

Moderator:

- *James Mackay — CEO, Energy Council of South Africa*

12:30-13:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

13:30-14:30 **REGIONAL ELECTRICITY MARKETS AND POWER TRADING**

While regional interconnectors and electricity markets are critical to Africa's long-term growth, sustainable integration can only be achieved where national power systems are strong, reliable and investment-ready.

Many African countries are simultaneously facing rising electricity demand, ageing infrastructure, renewable energy integration requirements, industrialisation pressures and the need for cross-border coordination. Strengthening domestic grids therefore remains the foundation for deeper regional power trade and future market development.

This strategic roundtable will bring together leaders from utilities, power pools and global energy institutions to explore how Africa can move from fragmented national systems toward more coordinated regional power networks.

The discussion will focus on:

- strengthening national transmission and distribution systems as the basis for regional trade
- priority interconnectors and regional transmission corridors
- the role of utilities in enabling industrial growth and economic competitiveness
- balancing national energy security with regional market participation
- coordinated planning between governments, utilities and regional institutions
- investment priorities for resilient cross-border infrastructure
- lessons from international markets on integrated power system development

Speakers:

- *Steve Dihwa — Executive Director, SAPP*
- *Titus Mwandemena — COO, Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC)*
- *Andrew Tipping — Technical Director, Economic Consulting Associates (ECA)*
- *Silas Zimu – Special Advisor to the Minister, DEE*

Moderator:

- *Kesh Mudaly — Partner & MD, BCG*

14:30-14:55 **SAWEM AND THE EVOLUTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ELECTRICITY MARKET**

South Africa is entering a defining phase of electricity sector reform through the development of the Southern African Wholesale Electricity Market (SAWEM), which is expected to introduce new trading mechanisms, improved dispatch efficiency and broader market participation. The successful implementation of SAWEM has implications not only for South Africa, but also for the wider Southern African region, where stronger domestic market structures can support deeper regional integration and more efficient cross-border trade.

This fireside discussion will examine how the market is being developed, the institutional role of the market operator, and how South Africa's reforms may shape the next phase of electricity market evolution in the region.

The discussion will focus on:

- the implementation pathway for SAWEM
- the role of the market operator and system operator
- congestion management and pricing signals
- participation of generators, traders and customers
- interaction between SAWEM and the Southern African Power Pool
- milestones required for successful market launch

Speakers:

- *Mutenda Tshipala — Acting General Manager: Distribution Energy Trader, Eskom*
- *Naniki Nzuza – Independent Advisor*
- *Mziyanda Mbuseli — Market Surveillance Manager, SAPP*

14:55-15:35 **STRENGTHENING NATIONAL GRIDS FOR GROWTH, SECURITY AND RELIABILITY**

Across Africa, the need for stronger national grids has never been more urgent. Economic growth, urbanisation, electrification, digital infrastructure and renewable integration are all increasing pressure on transmission and distribution systems.

This session will examine how utilities, technology providers and engineering leaders are modernising networks to improve reliability, increase hosting capacity and prepare power systems for future demand growth.

The discussion will focus on:

- strengthening transmission and distribution infrastructure
- utility readiness for data centres, mining and industrial demand growth
- modernising ageing grid assets
- digital substations, automation and smart grid technologies
- improving operational visibility and system control
- resilience planning against outages and system shocks
- the role of technology partnerships in accelerating grid modernisation

Moderator:

Deon Very, Technical Director, Zutari

Speakers:

- *Desire Masunda — Co-Founder & COO, NeedEnergy*
- *Thabo Molekoa — CEO, Siemens Energy*
- *Pitso Sekhoto – Middle Manager, NTCSA*
- *Kovilan Naicker – Country Director, Hitachi*

15:35-15:50 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

15:50-16:40 **GRID FLEXIBILITY AND RESILIENCE FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION**

As renewable penetration increases, system flexibility is becoming a core requirement for secure and efficient power system operations. Storage, demand response, grid-forming technologies, network automation and smarter operating practices are increasingly central to future grid design.

This session will explore the practical tools and strategies that utilities and system operators can deploy to create more adaptive, resilient and market-ready power systems.

The discussion will focus on:

- battery storage deployment and commercial models
- grid-forming inverters and advanced power electronics
- demand response and flexible industrial loads
- network automation and smart system controls
- system balancing in high-renewable environments
- curtailment management frameworks
- strengthening resilience in distribution networks

Moderator:
Dr Clinton Carter-Brown, Head of Technical, Enertrag

Speakers:

- *Rabagolo Melesi — Managing Director, Raba Energy*
- *Phemelo Mitchell — Senior Business Developer, Pele Green*
- *Jo Dean — Chief Executive Director, Enerj Holdings*
- *Mpeli Rampokanyo – Managing Director, Rampox Energy*

16:40-17:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**
James Mackay, CEO, Energy Council of South Africa

MUNICIPAL FORUM

21 MAY 2026

DEBT MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY STRATEGIES

MUNICIPAL HUB, HALL 1

Moderator: *Judy Gunther, Managing Director, IA Professionals (Risk Management, Governance & IT Governance, Business Advisory)*

The session will examine the financial challenges that arise from non-technical losses, the difficulties municipalities face in securing funding and the need for more resilient and diversified revenue models. We explore insights into practical mechanisms to strengthen collection systems, improve financial planning, safeguard revenue streams and build operational and fiscal resilience.

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER:** *Judy Gunther, Managing Director, IA Professionals (Risk Management, Governance & IT Governance, Business Advisory)*

09:35-09:50 **THE UNDER-ESTIMATED VALUE OF TRUST**
Dominic Wilhelm, Managing Director, Global Trust Project

09:50-11:00 **GOVERNANCE: STRENGTHENING MUNICIPAL DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY**

- Strategies and mechanisms to increase access to finance for municipal electricity services
- Exploring new and alternative revenue models to complement traditional billing systems
- Understanding the financial impacts of non-technical losses and how they contribute to growing municipal debt

Panellists:

- *Andries Louw, Chief Director: Transversal Audit and Risk Management, Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury*
- *Lerato Phasha, Portfolio Head Municipal Finance & Fiscal Policy, South African Local Government Association (SALGA)*
- *Annette van Schalkwyk, Head: Public Sector Lending, Standard Bank Business and Commercial Banking*
- *Dominic Wilhelm, Managing Director, Global Trust Project*

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

ELECTRIFYING THE ELECTRIFIABLE

MUNICIPAL HUB, HALL 1

Moderator: *Qhakazile Mathebula, Acting GM for Business Development, City Power*

This session explores one of the most pressing challenges in the distribution landscape: the rise of informal settlement and the need to electrify them. We focus on practical interventions, emerging technologies and implementation strategies that municipalities can adopt to reduce losses, enhance network reliability

11:45-11:50 **SCENE SETTER:** *Qhakazile Mathebula, Acting GM for Business Development, City Power*

11:50-12:45 **INNOVATIVE WAYS TO ELECTRIFY INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS: ADDRESSING THE TECHNICAL ISSUES SURROUNDING THE ELECTRIFICATION OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS**
Discussing a case of Cape Town, City of Johannesburg and eThekwini

Panellists:

- *Lomile Modiselle, Director: Energy and Electricity Technical, City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality*
- *Sindisiwe Shozi, Chief Engineer, eThekwini Municipality*
- *Charles Maboko, Project Coordinator (Acting) and Clerk of Works, City Power*
- *Alex Densmore, Managing Director, Zonke Energy*
- *Imran Chotia, Principal Professional Officer, City of Cape Town*

12:45-13:00 **MUNICIPAL LIGHT BULB MOMENT: REMOTELY PILOTING THE FUTURE OF SITE AND ASSET PROTECTION**
How UAVs can protect and inspect your sites with safer and clearer remote imaging.
Philip Smerkovitz, Managing Director, GoThermal

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

CLOSING SESSION

14:00-14:30 **CLOSING KEYNOTE**
Speaker to be announced

14:30-15:00 **STAND AWARDS**

RENEWABLE ENERGY & STORAGE

21 MAY 2026

RESILIENCE, MINIGRIDS & ENERGY SECURITY
MINI GRIDS AND GRID RESILIENCE
HALL 4, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Sumaya Mahomed, Technical Consultant, CLASP*

Africa's cities and towns are expanding fast, reshaping where the energy access gap is concentrated. New geospatial analysis, using a 30-category spatial framework across sub-Saharan Africa, reveals that millions of households without reliable electricity are clustered not in remote, rural areas, but in peri-urban, secondary city, and grid-proximate areas. This changing landscape has profound implications. Reaching these growing, unelectrified populations within urban and peri-urban networks calls for new strategies for electrification, investment, and policy. Rather than a binary of "grid vs. off-grid," the research highlights a spectrum of pathways shaped by geography, settlement patterns, and proximity.

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER**

09:35-10:10 **PRESENTATION: GEOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH RESULTS AND U.2.0 RESULTS**

Present new geospatial evidence on electrification gaps, typologies of settlement and access, and the implications for planning and investment across peri-urban, secondary city, and grid-proximate contexts. Using U.2.0 results as a practical illustration of how this can accelerate access and build demand.

Speakers

- *Dr Jessica Kersey, Researcher, University of California, Berkeley*
- *Sumaya Mahomed, Technical Consultant, CLASP*

10:10-11:00 **RETHINKING THE ELECTRIFICATION GAP IN URBANIZING AFRICA: GEOSPATIAL INSIGHTS FROM THE URBAN EDGE**

This panel session aims to explore the implications from a regulatory, finance and energy planning perspective. This session will bring together researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers to:

- Present the latest geospatial evidence on electrification gaps and
- Explore how urbanization and spatial proximity are changing the energy access narrative
- Discuss implications for policy, finance, and technology choices
- Open dialogue on reframing electrification strategies to match the realities on the ground

Panellists:

- *Alba Topulli, Senior Director of Clean Energy Access, CLASP*
- *Emmanuel Aziebor, Senior Director Africa, CLASP*
- *Benjamin Curnier, Principal Green Mini-Grids Officer, Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA)*
- *Aaron Leopold, Consultant, Productive Uses of Energy and Market Building Specialist, World Bank*
- *Dr Jessica Kersey, Researcher, University of California, Berkeley*
- *James Manda, Technical Manager, African Forum for Utility Regulators (AFUR)*
- *Jaafar Dikko, Senior Advisor: Power, Rural Electrification Agency (REA) [Virtual]*

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

RENEWABLE SUBSTATIONS, MINIGRIDS & BESS
HALL 4, EXHIBITION FLOOR

Moderator: *Melusi Tshabalala, CEO, Mesama Energy, South Africa*

11:45-12:10 **INVERTER BASED RENEWABLE POWER GENERATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR GRID STABILITY IN AFRICA**

The rapid expansion of renewable energy is transforming power systems worldwide, particularly in regions with abundant solar and wind resources such as Africa. This paper analyses the implications of this trend for maintaining grid stability across the region. The April 2025 blackout in Spain is evaluated as a critical case study of the operational and stability challenges that can emerge in electricity systems with high penetration of inverter-based renewable generation. The event, driven primarily by voltage instability rather than traditional frequency collapse, highlights how reduced system inertia, insufficient reactive power support, outdated grid codes, and limited fast-response flexibility can undermine reliability in renewable-intensive grids.

Ignacio Pinedo, Senior Technical Sales Manager SSA, GE Vernova

12:10-12:35 **BLACK START & ISLANDING CAPABILITIES: how decentralised minigrids and BESS can provide the "spark" needed for grid recovery during total blackout events.**

Azwimbavhi Mamanyuha, GM: Engineering Innovation, Eskom

12:35-12:55 **POWERING ELECTRICAL COMPONENT MANUFACTURING IN SOUTH AFRICA – BATTERY MANUFACTURING AS A FLYWHEEL FOR ELECTRICITY INDUSTRIALISATION**

The global lithium-ion battery cell market is one of the major growth markets of our time. Globally, it is a 1.6 TWh market today (2024) growing to a 4.9 TWh market in 2034 (12% CAGR). Key growth drivers are the increasing adaptation of electric vehicles and the increasing use of battery electric energy storage (BESS). As per the 2025 IRP (Integrated Resources Plan) draft, released by Department of Electricity and Energy in Africa, it has been projected that South Africa will add more than 105 GW of new generation capacity by 2039. BESS is the key growth driver in this region.

Vhuhwavho Munyai, Middle Manager: Engineering, Eskom

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

POWER HUB

21 May 2026

FOCUS ON SUPPLY CHAINS AND SYSTEM FLEXIBILITY

10:00-10:20	**HYBRID POWER SOLUTIONS (HPS)** *Gareth Standford, Transformer & Generator Sales Specialist, WEG Africa*
10:25-10:45	**"WHY SHOULD I" A WIN-WIN VIRTUAL POWER PLANT APPROACH TO HARNESSING THE UNTAPPED VALUE OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY SYSTEMS** *Francis Jackson, Founder & CEO, Enerchy*
10:50-11:10	**EVOLUTION OF CIRCUIT BREAKER TESTING** *David Bavin, Senior Application Manager, Megger Africa*
11:15-11:35	**AUTONOMOUS ONLINE PARTIAL DISCHARGE MONITORING FOR REAL-TIME ASSET HEALTH** *Chenal Palhad, Technical Application Engineer, Doble*
11:40-12:00	**MODERNISING TRANSMISSION GRID OPERATIONS** Implementing secure remote access and automated data collection with NTCSA's engineering and data concentrator solutions *Ken Poloway, Business Development Manager, SUBNET Solutions*
12:05-12:25	**EXPLANATION OF CERTIFICATION** *Igor Djurdjevic, Director, Conformity International*
12:30-13:00	**REFRESH & CONNECT**
	GENERATION
13:05-13:25	**RESILIENCE, EFFICIENCY AND BANKABILITY: DECARBONIZING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS** *Sibusisiwe Khuzwayo, Technical Advisor – Project Development Programme, GIZ*
13:30-13:50	**GRID REFORM IN PRACTICE: FROM IRP STRATEGY TO REAL-WORLD GRID ACCESS** *Beth O'Connor, Deputy Head of Project Development, Juwi Renewable Energy*