

SOLAR POWER AFRICA

7-9 February 2024

Cape Town International
Convention Centre
South Africa

THE LEADING SOLAR & ENERGY STORAGE
EVENT IN AFRICA

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

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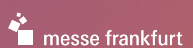
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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Theme: Empowering Africa's Energy Future: Solar and Storage Solutions for Sustainable Development

Keynote Address 1			
Time:	09h20 - 10h00		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Keynote Address	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy		
Plenary Session 1			
Time:	10h00 - 11h00		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Theme:	Fostering Public-Private Partnerships for Large-Scale Solar Projects in Africa		
Theme Description:	Addressing the significance of public-private partnerships (PPPs), this session will focus on accelerating large-scale solar projects across Africa. Deliberating on successful PPP models, policy frameworks, and investment opportunities, the discussions aim to foster collaboration between governments and private sectors. The spotlight will be on leveraging synergies, risk-sharing mechanisms, and regulatory support to drive sustainable solar energy growth.		
11h00 - 11h30 Tea Break			
Plenary Session 2			
Time:	11h30 - 12h30		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Theme:	Pioneering the Green Hydrogen Economy: Transforming South Africa's Energy Landscape		
Theme Description:	Amidst growing global demands for sustainable energy solutions, the energy summit will focus on South Africa's proactive approach in embracing the green hydrogen revolution. Emphasizing the groundbreaking implementation of the Green Hydrogen Commercialisation Strategy (GHCS), the plenary will delve into the strategic roadmap established since 2007. With a vision to become a prominent global green hydrogen exporter, the discussions will revolve around fostering a robust investment environment, sustainable job creation, and augmenting renewable energy capabilities, projecting a significant GDP boost and an optimistic job market outlook by 2050.		
12h30 - 14h00 Lunch & Exhibition			
	Breakaway Session 1: Solar and Storage: The Future Hub	Breakaway Session 2: Sustainable Development	Breakaway Session 3: Investment and Collaboration
Time:	14h00 - 15h00		
Venue:	Hall 8.1	Hall 8.2	Hall 8.3
Theme:	Enhancing Solar Storage Technologies: Overcoming Energy Accessibility Challenges in Africa	Developing industry-relevant skills for the new energy economy	Unlocking Sustainable Growth: Innovative Financing for Africa's Renewable Energy Revolution

Theme Description:	Highlighting the critical role of solar storage, this session aims to address the energy accessibility gap in Africa through advanced storage solutions. From battery innovations to grid integration strategies, the panel will delve into optimizing storage capabilities, ensuring reliable power supply, and mitigating intermittency issues, emphasizing the transformative potential of efficient storage systems in bolstering energy security across the continent.	South Africa's energy economy is evolving. This is driven by the planned decommissioning of more than 10GW of coal fired power stations up to 2030, the increasing penetration of renewable energy, and the associated nationally defined contribution to reducing our energy system's contribution to climate change. Skills that are relevant to the new energy economy need to be urgently developed. The discussion is on the ongoing skills programmes to respond to the changes and whether these are appropriate for industry needs.	This segment focuses on the critical role of innovative financing in propelling Africa's renewable energy sector forward. Acknowledging the intricate challenges such as limited infrastructure and regulatory complexities, the discussions will delve into the significance of diverse funding models. From government initiatives and public-private partnerships to embracing international funding sources, the panel will discuss the necessity of integrating evolving financial strategies to foster the continent's renewable energy potential through strategic and inclusive financial innovation.
15h00 - 15h30 REFRESHMENT BREAK			
	Breakaway Session 4: Solar and Storage: The Future Hub	Breakaway Session 5: Sustainable Development	Breakaway Session 6: Investment and Collaboration
Time:	15h30 - 16h30		
Venue:	Hall 8.1	Hall 8.2	Hall 8.3
Theme:	Energy Storage and Mining: Powering the Resource Industry	Revolutionizing Off-Grid Solar Solutions: Empowering Rural Communities in Africa	Empowering Sustainable Growth Through Solar Wheeling: Cape Town's Success Stories
Theme Description:	Exploring the role of advanced energy storage systems in supporting mining operations across Africa. Energy storage solutions in the mining sector, emphasizing cost savings, reduced environmental impact, and grid stability to provide sustainable power to mining sites.	Shining a spotlight on off-grid solar solutions, this session centers on the transformative impact of decentralised solar energy in underserved rural communities. Exploring case studies and impactful initiatives, the dialogue will revolve around addressing infrastructural challenges, scaling up off-grid solar adoption, and leveraging community engagement for inclusive development and improved living standards.	Exploring the impact of solar wheeling, this session sheds light on Cape Town's successful integration of this innovative approach, aiming to add one gigawatt of independent power to alleviate load-shedding. With a focus on successful case studies, the discussion will delve into the transformative power of solar wheeling, expected to contribute up to 350MW to the grid over time, fostering reliable power transmission, optimizing energy utilization, and driving socio-economic growth in the region
16h30 Closing of Conference Day			
18h30 GALA DINNER			

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Theme: Empowering Africa’s Energy Future: Solar and Storage Solutions for Sustainable Development

Keynote Address 2			
Time:	09h00 - 10h00		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Keynote Address	South Africa Energy Storage Association		
Plenary Session 3			
Time:	10h00 - 11h00		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Theme:	Shining a light on Africa. The Way forward for the renewable sector in Africa		
11h00 - 11h30 Tea Break			
Plenary Session 4			
Time:	11h30 - 12h30		
Venue:	Hall 8		
Theme:	Enabling Rapid Deployment of LDES in Africa		
Theme Description:	<p>Long-duration energy storage (LDES) is a game-changer in Africa, offering much-needed flexibility and resilience to the energy grid. As the LDES market gains momentum, it is crucial to support projects of all sizes and foster its growth across the continent. During this session, participants will gain insights from companies that have conceived and implemented groundbreaking LDES projects in various African regions. These projects range from empowering a tribal fire station to sustaining a local convenience store. Discover how LDES technologies effectively manage solar power for these initiatives, ensuring reliable backup energy during times of strain and maintaining the essential balance, flexibility, and stability required to sustain continuous operations. Given the diversity of LDES technologies, each with unique characteristics, they can be tailored to suit a wide range of applications. Scaling up LDES in Africa over the coming decade is vital for achieving decarbonization goals, and this transformation can begin at the grassroots level.</p>		
12h30 - 14h00 Lunch & Exhibition			
	Breakaway Session 7: Solar and Storage: The Future Hub	Breakaway Session 8: Sustainable Development	Breakaway Session 9: Investment and Collaboration
Time:	14h00 - 15h00		
Venue:	Hall 8.1	Hall 8.2	Hall 8.3
Theme:	Batteries, Act Two: Second Life Energy Storage	Lessons Learned from the Upper Blinkwater Minigrid Implementation	DEIA - Paving the Way for Systemic Change: Creating a Clean Energy Future for Everyone

Theme Description:	As renewable energy sources continue to proliferate, the need for efficient and cost-effective energy storage solutions becomes critical. Second life energy storage - the practice of repurposing retired electric vehicle (EV) batteries for stationary energy storage applications - not only extends the lifespan of EV batteries but also addresses this growing demand for energy storage systems while providing reliable grid resiliency. This section highlights emerging technologies and crucial standards in second life energy storage.	This session will be a presentation of the planning, engineering, procurement, construction and operation of the Upper Blinkwater Minigrid. The mini-grid was implemented with technical support from the CSIR and both the province/ municipality and the CSIR will contribute their perspectives on the development and operation of the grid. The enablers and barriers will be explored as well as the downstream impacts (impact on lives)	Embedding diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in our culture is our collective responsibility. To foster an equitable clean energy economy, the industry must prioritize the inclusion of communities and stakeholders that have been previously excluded. This session will feature panelists who have implemented solutions related to workforce development, operationalizing equity into business processes and more. Come learn more about best practices for centering equity in the clean energy transition.
15h00- 15h30 REFRESHMENT BREAK			
	Breakaway Session 10: Solar and Storage: The Future Hub	Breakaway Session 11: Sustainable Development	
Time:	15h30 - 16h30		
Venue:	Hall 8.1	Hall 8.2	
Theme:	Electric Vehicle Solutions for a Sustainable Africa: Policy vs Policy adoption and Implementation	The Importance of a Circular Economy	
Theme Description:	Highlighting the growth of electric vehicles (EVs) in Africa and the development of EV infrastructure, including charging networks. The session will discuss the impact of EV adoption on reducing carbon emissions, urban air quality, and the transportation sector in Africa. The session will address how solar and storage work together to enhance the adoption of EV's in the public transport, micro-mobility, and private passenger vehicle segments. The panel will address Policy and Policy adoption and implementation.	Exploring the concept of a circular economy in the context of solar and energy storage technologies, including recycling and reusing components. The panel will discuss successful sustainability initiatives within the industry and their impact on local communities and ecosystems and the positive impact of EPR after two years of Implementation.	
16h30 Closing of Conference Day			
17h00 - 19h00 Networking Function			

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Theme: Empowering Africa's Energy Future: Solar and Storage Solutions for Sustainable Development

Keynote Address 3	
Time:	09h00 - 10h00
Venue:	Hall 8
Keynote Address	
09h45 - 10h00 Break	
Breakaway Session 13 Sustainable Development	
Time:	10h00 - 11h00
Venue:	Hall 8
Theme:	Equitable Transition: Building Local Expertise for Sustainable Development in South Africa's Renewable Energy Sector. Localisation VS International Investment.
Theme Description:	Amidst the transformative shift towards renewable energy, this theme emphasizes the critical role of comprehensive skills development in ensuring a just transition in South Africa. Focusing on initiatives such as the Just Transition Investment Plan, the discussions will highlight the urgent need to allocate resources to local skills development, mitigating the risks associated with an influx of international funders and skills. Highlighting the potential socio-economic benefits, the panel will discuss the significance of investing in new technologies to foster a sustainable and inclusive renewable energy sector.
11h00 - 11h30 Tea Break	
Breakaway Session 14: Solar and Storage: The Future Hub	
Time:	11h30 - 12h30
Venue:	Hall 8
Theme:	Securing the Grid
Theme Description:	As Africa's electrical system undergoes increasing decentralization and relies on various smart technologies, it becomes imperative to integrate cybersecurity measures into emerging devices, systems, and infrastructure. This approach, known as "security by design," must be a fundamental element in these systems. How can clean energy companies and asset owners contribute to this effort? This session will provide a discussion around Africa's cyber capabilities on a country-by-country basis, specific threats to the future clean energy grid, the resilience advantages offered by clean energy generation, storage, and distributed energy resources, and a discussion of programs aimed at enhancing both physical and cyber security in the energy sector.
12h30 Lunch and Exhibition	
16h30 Closing of Event	