



Etango

Namibia's Leading Renewable Energy & Green Hydrogen Magazine

MARCH - APRIL 2026

PRIVATE SECTOR BOOST FOR GH2



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Hyphen Enterprise & Supplier Development Program

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Date: 13 April 2026

The International Hydrogen R&D Programme (IHDP) is supporting environmental engagement in the ramping-up of hydrogen in the Global South and is a funding programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi).



N\$8 BILLION ENERGY PROJECTS TO CATAPULT GENERATION TO 900MW



NAMIBIA AND ANGOLA TO DEVELOP N\$941 MILLION POWER INTERCONNECTOR



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Could ANNA be a Regional Game-Changer?

The recent signing of the Joint Development Agreement for the Angola-Namibia Power Interconnector Project (ANNA) is more than just a technical milestone between Namibia and Angola, it is a blueprint for regional prosperity.

At its core, the N\$941 million ANNA project is a bridge. By constructing a 400 kV line between the Kunene and Cahama substations, Namibia and Angola are doing more than swapping electrons; they are merging their economic destinies.

For Namibia, a country navigating a path toward energy self-sufficiency, this interconnector is a vital safety net. It diversifies the energy mix, reduces the inherent risks of relying on limited supply sources, and ensures that as our industries grow, the lights stay on at an affordable rate.

By connecting Angola to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), the ANNA project transforms Angola from an isolated energy

giant into a core pillar of the regional grid.

This is a win-win in the truest sense. Angola gains a platform to monetise its natural resources through cross-border trade, while Namibia and the SADC region—long plagued by supply constraints and “load shedding” in various corners—gain access to a new, sustainable source of power.

The Namibian Cabinet’s endorsement of the National Energy Fund (NEF) to cover the country’s share of capital costs of the ANNA project underscores a commitment to energy access as a human right, not just an industrial luxury.

Strategically, the timing is also perfect for Namibia. It shifts the country’s narrative from “energy scarcity” to “resource optimisation.”

The challenge now, as echoed by Minister Modestus Amutse, is implementation. A project of this scale requires relentless coordination and strict adherence to the 2029 completion

timeline.

The ANNA project proves that when we stop looking at borders as barriers and start seeing them as points of connection, the entire region rises. It is a bold step toward an energised, integrated, and industrialised Southern Africa.

Read about this development inside this edition of *ETANGO*. We also look at the various energy projects, mainly renewable, that have been rolled out in Namibia are set to push the country’s power generation capacity from 759 megawatt currently to 903 MW by the end of the next financial year, ensuring energy independence. We revisit the issue of the transition of the Electricity Control Board (ECB) into a fully-fledged Energy Regulator.

Happy Reading!

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COVER PICTURE

BOOST FOR LOCAL PARTICIPATION IN GREEN HYDROGEN VALUE CHAIN ... Hyphen Hydrogen Energy, in partnership with Enertrag and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, has entered into a cooperation agreement under the International Hydrogen Ramp-up Programme (H2UPPP), aimed at strengthening Namibian supplier capacity and participation in the emerging green hydrogen sector. Photo: Christian Stiebach

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POWER STORAGE: The 51MW Omburu Battery Energy Storage System near Omaruru will be completed in August 2026.

N\$8 Billion Energy Projects to Catapult Local Generation to 900 MW By End of 2027

Various energy projects, mainly renewable, that have been rolled out in Namibia are set to push the country's power generation capacity from 759 megawatt currently to 903 MW by the end of the next financial year, ensuring energy independence.

In his motivation of the Ministry of Industries, Mines & Energy (MIME) budget for the 2026-27 Financial Year in the National Assembly, Minister Modestus Amutse said the power projects represent more than N\$8 billion in national energy investments, mobilised through strong international partnerships.

The projects that are currently under development include the 100MW Sores |Gaib Solar Power plant outside Rosh Pinah (due for completion in December 2026), the 44MW Diaz Wind Project in Lüderitz (June 2026), the 40MW Otjikoto Biomass project near Tsumeb (June 2027), and the 51MW Omburu Battery Energy Storage System near Omaruru (August 2026).

Other energy projects earmarked to be rolled out soon include the construction of six, 20MW solar plants by Independent Power Producers (IPPs), and the 45MW Lithops Battery Energy Storage System near Arandis, in the Erongo region, to commence in 2027.

"These projects will not only secure our energy supply but will also stimulate local industries, create new employment opportunities, support skills development, and strengthen our ability to integrate clean energy into the grid," Amutse told Parliament.

Several major transmission and substation projects have been completed, including the 132 kV Namib-Diaz transmission line (//

Karas Region) together with its associated substation expansion works, the 132 kV Sekelduin Substation (Erongo Region), and the upgraded Khomas 220/66 kV substations (Khomas Region).

The completion of the strategic 400-kilovolt Obib-Oranjemund transmission line further strengthens the southern network and positions Namibia as a key player in the evolving regional power market.

"These upgrades strengthen our national grid and will improve the reliability of electricity supply in the region," said Amutse, underlining that the progress that has been made in the energy sector reflects commitment to economic growth, regional development, and long-term energy independence.

Amutse said the investments being made in the energy sector are not only aimed at securing energy supply, but will also stimulate local industries, create new employment opportunities, support skills development, and strengthen Namibia's ability to integrate clean energy into the grid.

In addition, the Minister said Namibia would continue to pursue the cross-border 880-megawatt Baynes Hydropower Project together with Angola.

"Both the governments of Namibia and Angola remain committed to the long-term implementation of the Baynes Hydropower Project and hope to reach a Final Investment Decision on this project in 2026/27," said Amutse.

NUCLEAR POWER

Namibia is also pursuing plans for nuclear



Modestus Amutse, Minister of Industries, Mines & Energy

power generation, in line with the Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6). A high-level roadmap for the implementation of the nuclear program has been developed and finalised.

Cabinet has approved a proposal to adopt the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Milestone Approach. This phased methodology ensures that Namibia builds a safe, secure, and regulated "enabling environment" prior to the construction of its first nuclear power plant.

"To lead this transition, under the auspices of the Prime Minister's Office, we are establishing the Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing



LARGEST: NamPower's 100MW Sores |Gaib Solar Power plant outside Rosh Pinah, which is due for completion in December 2026, will be the largest in the country.

Organisation (NEPIO). Once fully operational, NEPIO will be the central body responsible for overseeing the completion of Milestone 1, which involves conducting the pre-feasibility studies and the comprehensive readiness assessment," said Amutse.

ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY

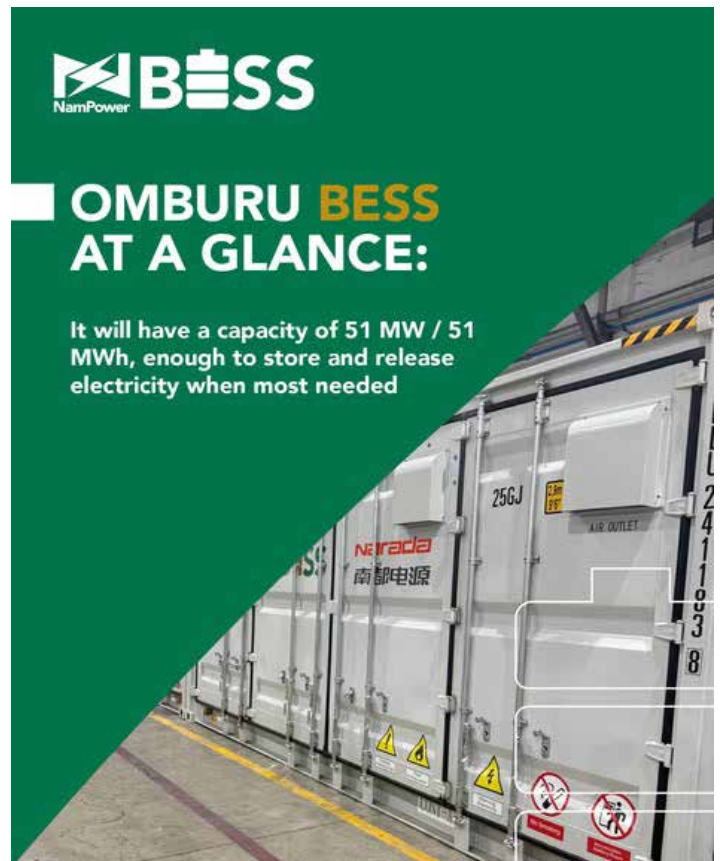
During the past financial year, MIME was allocated N\$251 million for electrification which was fully utilised to connect close to 8,000 peri-urban and rural households in all the regions. In addition, the National Energy Fund (NEF) contributed N\$30 million towards electrification, while Regional Electricity Distributors (REDs) and NamPower collectively mobilised over N\$120 million in co-financing, enabling the expansion of impact beyond household connections.

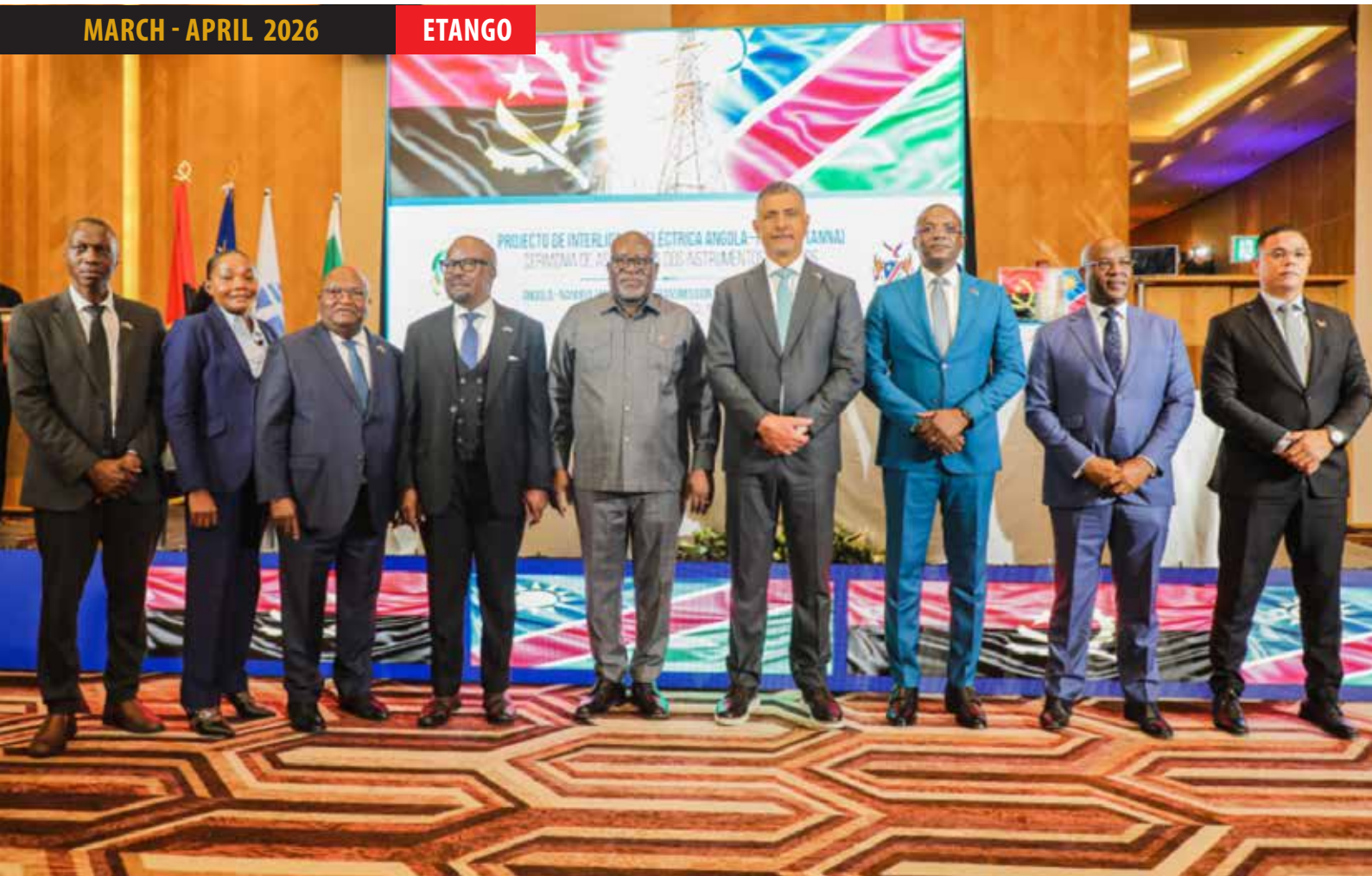
"Electrification remains one of the most powerful tools for inclusive development and poverty reduction. However, the scale of the task before us remains significant. Under NDP6, the 2026/27 target is 26,000 new connections, requiring an estimated N\$810 million, instead of the N\$251 million budgeted for. Against this backdrop, we must continue leveraging partnerships and external support to bridge the gap between available resources and the NDP6 national targets," said Amutse.

In this regard, government is pursuing grant funding with development funders, such as the German KfW Development Bank, to deliver an additional 4,000 to 5,000 connections under NORED.

"However, opportunities for grant funding remain limited and highly competitive. It is for this reason that Namibia has positioned itself within the Mission 300 initiative, a continent-wide platform led by African countries in partnership with the World Bank, aiming to connect 300 million people to electricity grids by 2030. This aligns closely with Namibia's own NDP6 target of connecting 200,000 households by 2030," the Energy Minister said.

Through the Mission 300 platform, Namibia intends to deepen collaboration with multilateral institutions and development finance partners to mobilise additional resources and technical support for electrification at scale.





SEALED: Senior officials from the two governments and the two utilities pose for a photo after the signing of the interconnector agreement.

Namibia, Angola Power Utilities Finalise Agreements to Develop Power Interconnector Project

NamPower and Angola's Rede Nacional de Transporte de Electricidade (RNT) have signed a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) for the development of the Angola-Namibia Power Interconnector Project (ANNA).

The two utilities also signed a bilateral Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), which establishes the technical, institutional, and commercial framework for the implementation of the ANNA Project.

The ANNA Interconnector Project is estimated to cost N\$941 million (about US\$52.3 million) to implement, and is scheduled for completion in 2029.

The Namibian Cabinet in February approved the development of the ANNA Project as a strategic infrastructure investment by the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME), through NamPower. The approval was followed by an Inter-Governmental Memorandum of Understanding (IGMoU) between MIME and its Angolan counterpart.

The development of the ANNA Project forms part of NamPower's strategic initiatives as part of its Integrated Strategy and Business Plan (2026 – 2030) and is in line with the National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP). Cabinet also endorsed the mobilisation of funding through the National Energy Fund

(NEF) to cover Namibia's share of capital costs, in line with the NEF mandate to support infrastructure that improves energy access and affordability.

POWERLINES

The project entails the construction of a 166 km (30 km in Namibia) 400 kV line between Kunene (Namibia) and Cahama (Angola) substations, including 400 kV line feeder bays, 400kV/330 kV transformation and an SVC at Kunene Substation.

It is further supported by the construction of a 270 km transmission line between Omatando and Otjikoto substations.



STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE: Namibian and Angolan Energy Ministers Modestus Amutse and João Baptista Borges witnessed the signing ceremony in Luanda by the two countries' power utilities.

The infrastructure expansion projects aim to facilitate the establishment of a transmission corridor between Angola and Namibia and connection of RNT-EP in Angola to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) grid to become an operating member.

NamPower Managing Director, Kahenge Haulofu, said the partnership represents the two utilities' shared commitment to regional integration, energy security, and sustainable economic development, in alignment with the strategic priorities of both governments.

As energy demand across the SADC region continues to rise, coupled with persistent supply constraints, Haulofu said the ANNA Project "creates an opportunity to optimise and share our respective energy resources more effectively, thereby supporting the evolving needs of SAPP and contributing to regional energy security."

ENERGY SECURITY

Namibia's Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy, Modestus Amutse, who graced the signing ceremony in Luanda, Angola on 14 April, said the implementation of the ANNA Project signifies the commitment by the two countries to the cooperation in the energy sector and to promote the common vision of regional integration, energy security, and sustainable development.

"The ANNA Project is not merely a transmission line; it is a strategic instrument that will connect our economies, strengthen our institutions, and improve the lives of our people. By linking Angola to the Southern African Power Pool, the project enhances regional connectivity and unlocks the full

potential of cross-border electricity trade," said Amutse.

The Minister said for Namibia, the project was of vital importance. "As a country with growing energy demand, securing reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity supply remains a national priority. The ANNA Project will play a key role in diversifying our energy mix, reducing supply risks, and supporting long-term economic development," he said.

MUTUAL BENEFIT

Amutse reiterated that the project also creates an opportunity for Angola to further leverage its significant generation capacity, particularly from renewable and hydro resources, for the benefit of the region, exemplifying the principles of mutual benefit and shared prosperity.

"Our focus must now move to implementation. I encourage all parties to maintain momentum, ensure effective coordination, and strictly follow the agreed timelines to successfully deliver this project. As governments, we remain fully committed to providing the necessary support and oversight to ensure that this strategic initiative is implemented efficiently and delivers tangible results," said the Namibian Energy Minister.

João Baptista Borges, Angola's Minister of Water and Energy, said it was important to highlight that the implementation of the ANNA Project was coordinated with the Huíla-Cunene Interconnection Project (PIHC), also authorised by the Angola Presidential Decree No. 96/26 of March 20.



JOINT EFFORT: Namibian and Angolan Energy Ministers Modestus Amutse and João Baptista Borges celebrate the signing of the Joint Development Agreement for the development of the Angola-Namibia Power Interconnector Project.

He said the PIHC aims to strengthen the electricity transmission network in southern Angola, serving as a condition precedent for the ANNA Project.

"This national project will allow for the expansion of electrification in the provinces of Huíla and Cunene, including the supply to the town of Xangongo and the reinforcement of the Ondjiva power system, ensuring that the benefits of the infrastructure translate directly into improved energy supply for the populations in the south of the country," said Borges.



HYRAIL: The pilot project will position Namibia as one of the pioneers in Africa to operate a hydrogen-powered heavy duty freight train.

TransNamib to Pilot *Hydrogen-Powered Locomotive*

TransNamib will launch a six-month trial of a prototype dual-fuel locomotive powered by locally produced green hydrogen and diesel, marking a significant step toward modernising Namibia's rail sector and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

The project, which is a partnership between CMB.Tech Namibia, TransNamib and Africa Global Logistics, will position Namibia as one of the pioneers in Africa to operate a hydrogen-powered heavy duty freight train.

The hydrogen-powered locomotive will operate between Walvis Bay and Windhoek during the trial period.

CMB.Tech said the locomotive was currently being assembled in South Africa and was aimed at modernising Namibia's rail sector while reducing carbon emissions.

"Namibia has a large fleet of idle locomotives that can be repowered with this cost-effective and future proof technology. By converting an operational locomotive, the initiative aims to show how hydrogen can be integrated into freight rail without the need for new rolling stock or major infrastructure changes," CMB.Tech said.

The hydrogen used for the project will be produced off-grid at CMB.Tech's Cleanergy Solutions Namibia hydrogen plant at Walvis Bay. Cleanergy has been driving the growth of Namibia's hydrogen economy while contributing to the global shift towards clean energy.

TransNamib said the pilot project will form part of its broader efforts to modernise rail operations.

"As a central player in the country's transport infrastructure, TransNamib is actively exploring modernisation pathways, including the repowering of its existing locomotive fleet through innovative technologies such as dual fuel hydrogen systems," the rail operator said in a statement.

The locomotive to be piloted will have a dual-fuel hydrogen engine, meaning it can operate on both diesel and green hydrogen. Hydrogen will be stored in a fuel tender behind the locomotive.

Each tender can carry two 20-foot hydrogen storage units, with up to 360kg of compressed hydrogen per unit.

According to the project partners, the locomotive can continue operating on diesel if the hydrogen system is unavailable.

The locomotive remains fully functional at all times. If hydrogen is not available, it automatically switches to diesel. This ensures service continuity and reliability.

TransNamib said the locomotive will be evaluated using a comprehensive performance matrix, including fuel consumption, reliability, operational efficiency, maintenance requirements and overall cost-effectiveness within Namibia's operating conditions. A decision on whether to expand the project will be made after the six-month evaluation period.

TransNamib Chief Executive Officer Desmond Van Jaarsveld said the trial will also assess safety protocols, staff training and operational procedures related to hydrogen storage, handling and refuelling.

The company's current fleet operates primarily on conventional diesel locomotives. However, depending on the trial's outcome, TransNamib may consider transitioning parts of its fleet to dual-fuel technology.

Hyphen and Enertrag Ink Agreement with GIZ to Boost *Namibian participation in Green Hydrogen Value Chain*

HypHEN Hydrogen Energy (Hyphen), in partnership with Enertrag and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), has entered into a cooperation agreement under the International Hydrogen Ramp-up Programme (H2UPPP), aimed at strengthening Namibian supplier capacity and participation in the emerging green hydrogen sector.

The agreement was formalised at a signing ceremony on 13 April, which brought together representatives from the Namibian Government, German cooperation partners, industry stakeholders, and development institutions.

Hyphen has secured grant funding of up to EUR 300,000 (about N\$5.8 million) from the H2UPPP programme, which will be matched by an additional EUR 300,000 from Hyphen. This co-funded Public-Private Partnership (PPP) will support the implementation of a targeted Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) programme designed to build the capability, competitiveness, and readiness of Namibian enterprises to participate in the green hydrogen value chain.

As the only green hydrogen project in Namibia structured as a PPP with direct GRN participation (24%), Hyphen is uniquely positioned to align project development with national industrialisation objectives. The ESD programme forms part of Hyphen's broader Socio-Economic Development (SED) commitments under the Feasibility and Implementation Agreement (FIA) and reflects a deliberate ecosystem development approach.

The funding secured through this partnership goes to the heart of that approach, supporting not only Hyphen's immediate supply chain needs but positioning the project as a catalyst for the broader Southern Corridor Development Initiative (SCDI) and the development of Namibia's green industrial sector as a whole.

The Hyphen project's scale and complexity will help accelerate a resilient, self-sustaining



PROMOTING LOCAL PARTICIPATION: Marco Raffinetti, CEO of Hyphen and Tobias Gerster, Country Director of GIZ Namibia, after the signing of the agreement aimed at strengthening Namibian supplier capacity and participation in the emerging green hydrogen sector.

local supply chain, enabling Namibian businesses to capture long-term value from the global energy transition.

Executive Director of the National Planning Commission (NPC), I-Ben Natangwe Nashandi, in remarks delivered on behalf of the Director General of the NPC, Dr Kaire Mbuende, said: "Green hydrogen is a strategic pillar for Namibia to drive industrialisation and lead in the global low-carbon economy. By prioritising local content and beneficiation, we are transforming from a commodity exporter into a value-driven industrial powerhouse, ensuring energy sovereignty and broad-based prosperity for all Namibians."

Marco Raffinetti, Hyphen CEO, said the partnership with GIZ reflects commitment by the parties to ensure that Namibian businesses are not only included, but are meaningfully positioned to participate in and benefit from the green hydrogen economy.

"We are deliberately building an ecosystem that extends beyond our project, to support long-term industrial growth in Namibia," he said.

Country Director of GIZ Namibia, Tobias Gerster, said through the H2UPPP, GIZ was supporting practical partnerships that translate Namibia's green hydrogen ambition into tangible economic opportunities.

"This initiative demonstrates how targeted collaboration between public and private partners can strengthen local capabilities and contribute to sustainable industrial development," he said.

The agreement underscores the continued collaboration between Namibia and Germany in advancing green hydrogen development and highlights the importance of aligning public and private sector efforts to unlock inclusive economic opportunities at scale.



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ECB Still Awaits Transition to NERA

Plans to transition the Electricity Control Board of Namibia (ECB) into a fully-fledged Namibia Energy Regulatory Authority (NERA) are progressing at a snail's pace.

Currently, the ECB's mandate is limited to regulating electricity generation, transmission, distribution, supply, and import and export in Namibia.

Transitioning to an energy regulator would give the ECB a broader mandate to oversee the multi-energy sector, including the oil, gas and green hydrogen sectors. A NERA Bill has been drafted and pending finalisation before being tabled in Parliament.

Recently, the ECB approved its Integrated Strategic Business Plan (ISBP) covering a five-year period from 2026–2031, which also serves as a blueprint to transition the control board into a fully-fledged energy regulator.

NERA will regulate hydrocarbons, which is oil and gas, and the infrastructure to be used, while the new Electricity Bill will see the introduction of the licensing for the storage of electricity, the system operator, and the market operator.

ECB Chief Executive Officer Robert Kahimise confirmed to *ETANGO* that both the Electricity Bill and the NERA Bill had been drafted, however, he pointed out that there were a few issues still needing finalisation, such as matters pertaining to the establishment of an Energy Tribunal.

KEY ASPECTS OF ECB TO NERA TRANSITION

Expanded Mandate: NERA will regulate not only electricity but also downstream gas, downstream petroleum, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

Multi-Year Tariffs: The regulator is moving from single-year to multi-year tariff reviews to improve sector performance and investor confidence.

Legislative Process: The transformation is facilitated by the NERA Bill and the new Electricity Bill, designed to enhance regulatory oversight.

Grid Stability & Expansion: The transition focuses on increasing national electrification from 59.3% (2024) to 70%

(2030) and upgrading grid infrastructure for renewable energy integration.

Sector Challenges: The new entity will address high electricity import dependency, affordability, and the need for reliable energy supply.

The transition aims to create a more integrated and efficient energy sector in Namibia, moving beyond a single-sector focus to manage a broader, multi-energy landscape.



ECB CEO Robert Kahimise

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A World First By InnoVent: *An Innovative Wind Turbine “Under-Stacking” Installation Method at Lüderitz Wind Farm*



NEXT GEN: The innovative wind turbine “under-stacking” technology has enabled InnoVent to install wind turbines in extremely windy locations, such as Lüderitz in Namibia. Photos: InnoVent

On its construction site at Diaz, outside Lüderitz, InnoVent assembled two tower sections, the nacelle, the 6 MW generator, the rotor, and two of the three 82-meter blades using only a 500-ton crane, at a height of just 35 meters.

The innovation lies in the next step: lifting the entire assembly and sliding additional tower sections underneath it, one by one,

until reaching the final height of 100 meters.

This system could even allow additional sections to be added, reaching heights of up to 180 meters if required.

The goal is to enable wind turbine installation in extremely windy locations using 500-ton cranes, standard, widely available equipment, instead of relying on 900-ton (or larger) cranes, which are

far more expensive and much harder to source.

A concept that is simple in principle, yet opens new possibilities for wind turbine installation in challenging environments.

Construction is going full speed at InnoVent’s 44MW Diaz Wind Farm just outside Lüderitz, with the plant earmarked to be commissioned in August 2026.





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Seven turbines with a capacity of 6 MW each are currently being assembled. In total the Diaz Wind Farm will have a rated capacity of 50MW, which will represent over 200GWh/year, equivalent to the consumption of 40,000 households. This represents about 6% of Namibia’s current electricity consumption.

The wind farm is located in the Tsau //Khaeb National Park (formerly Sperrgebiet).

Diaz will be the largest single wind plant built by InnoVent so far. The group has built more than 500MW of wind turbines throughout the world to date. Its largest wind farms are those at Buire-le-Sec in France, with a capacity of 36 MW, and the largest built by InnoVent in Africa is the one in Morocco, with a capacity of 35.6 MW. This wind farm in Morocco also boasts the tallest wind turbine in Africa. The Diaz Wind Farm has been described as a “next generation” wind farm.

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Windhoek Central Hospital Hot Water Finally Restored After 10 Years

The Ministry of Works and Transport has successfully completed the restoration of hot water to the Windhoek Central Hospital at a cost of about N\$6.5 million.

The hot water restoration project ensures the return of reliable hot water supply to one of the country's healthcare facilities after nearly a decade of system failure.

The hospital, one of the country's key public medical facilities, had been without consistent hot water for approximately ten years due to the deterioration and poor maintenance of the original electric boiler system. This resulted in significant operational challenges, affecting both patient care and daily hospital functions.

The project, implemented by a Namibian-owned company NEC Energy, commenced on 12 August 2025 and reached practical completion on 13 January 2026. The works focused on the full restoration and replacement of the hospital's hot water generation infrastructure, ensuring a reliable and robust system aligned with current operational demands.

The restoration involved the installation of new high-capacity electric boiler units across key service floors within the hospital. A total of three 1200-litre electric boilers were installed on each of the primary service floors.

These systems were fully integrated into the hospital's existing hot water reticulation network, allowing for seamless distribution across the facility.



REVAMP: The Maternity Ward received a revamp to the existing boiler system including pump replacements and control board repairs

In addition to the main service floors, targeted interventions were carried out in critical areas of the hospital. At the maternity ward, four existing boiler units were repaired and restored to full operational capacity, ensuring uninterrupted access to hot water in a department where hygiene and patient care are of paramount importance.

Further installations include two electric boiler units serving the kitchen and theatre facilities, supporting essential hospital operations.

The system design adopts a direct heating approach, with each boiler unit featuring a 1200-litre capacity, eliminating the need for separate hot water storage tanks. This configuration enhances system simplicity

and reliability while reducing potential points of failure associated with auxiliary storage systems.

The Ministry Works stated that the project was executed following strict site protocols and quality control measures to ensure transparency, accountability, and adherence to engineering standards throughout the implementation phase.

The approach prioritised reliability and long-term functionality, addressing the shortcomings of the previous system.

The restoration project marks a significant improvement in service delivery at Windhoek Central Hospital, where the absence of hot water posed ongoing challenges for both staff and patients. With the newly installed system, the hospital is now equipped to provide consistent and dependable hot water across its core service areas.

Particular emphasis has been placed on the maternity ward, where access to hot water is critical for patient care during pregnancy, childbirth, and postnatal recovery. The restored system ensures that healthcare professionals can operate under improved conditions, ultimately enhancing patient safety and comfort.

The Windhoek Central Hospital hot water restoration project stands as a key infrastructure upgrade, reinforcing the government's commitment to maintaining essential healthcare services through reliable and well-engineered utility systems.

SADC Sustainable Energy Week Underscores Need to Harmonise Regulations and Policies



NAMIBIAN REPRESENTATION: A Namibian delegation consisting of government officials, representatives of academic institutions, energy sector and GIZ, participated in the 2026 SADC Sustainable Energy Week (SEW), held from 23–27 February in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has acknowledged persistent challenges in availability, accessibility and affordability of energy, especially in rural areas, and fragmented policy environments that constrain cross-border trade.

During the 2026 SADC Sustainable Energy Week (SEW), held from 23–27 February in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, the regional body undertook to set out a comprehensive action agenda to increase access to energy.

The SADC SEW attracted more than 800 participants, including regional energy ministers, regulators, development finance institutions, private sector leaders, technical experts and civil society, under the theme “Driving Regional Economic Growth through Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency.” The gathering underscored its significance as a major platform for dialogue, networking and knowledge exchange in the sustainable energy sector. Participants were drawn from a diverse range of countries across Africa, Europe, Asia

and North America, reflecting both strong regional ownership and growing international interest in sustainable energy cooperation.

DECISIVE ACTION

Zimbabwe’s Vice President General (Rtd) Constantino Chiwenga, who officially opened the 2026 SADC SEW, urged SADC to move decisively from discussion to implementation and to leverage its abundant resources to shift from energy deficit to surplus.

Regional priorities identified include fast-tracking key interconnectors, accelerating universal access by 2030 via grid and off-grid solutions, harmonising policies and regulations to attract private investment across the value chain, scaling solar thermal, advancing energy efficiency standards and productive use of energy, and leveraging critical minerals, green hydrogen and emerging technologies to drive a just, diversified energy transition.

The SADC SEW stressed that commitments made by member states during the summit

need to be converted into time-bound, trackable actions, supported by strong regional cooperation, private-sector engagement and community-level impact.

SADC member states have also been urged to increase their national budget allocations towards energy and strengthen the roles for regional implementing agencies.

The summit renewed a sense of urgency and optimism about the region’s clean energy transition, emphasising the importance of partnerships and commitments to accelerate investment, strengthen regional power cooperation and expand access to sustainable energy.

POLICY SYNERGIES

Ministerial high-level policy deliberations examined how to drive policy synergies for a sustainable energy transition, framed by SADC’s Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan.

Ministers and heads of delegations from across the region discussed targets for electricity access, renewable integration, transmission expansion, gas corridors, local manufacturing of clean-energy components and the development of regional regulatory authorities.

The host of the 2026 SADC SEW, Zimbabwe's Minister of Energy and Power Development, July G. Moyo, stressed the importance of clean energy and energy efficiency as catalysts for economic growth, while calling for deeper regional integration, stronger public-private collaboration and harmonised legislation.

The 9th Southern African Solar Thermal Training & Demonstration Initiative (SOLTRAIN) Conference, held during the SADC SEW, showcased Southern Africa's progress in solar thermal technologies, from policy and standards to demonstration projects and vocational training.

Subsequent sessions examined pathways to sustainable heating and cooling innovations, gender diversity management and youth inclusion, highlighting the need for harmonised standards, installer certification and targeted capacity building so that solar thermal can play a larger role in the energy transition.

CLEAN COOKING

Parallel sessions on clean cooking, convened by the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), positioned clean cooking as a core pillar of universal access, stressing integrated policy frameworks, blended finance and gender-responsive

approaches.

The SADC SEW also examined regional policy frameworks for energy security and on redefining power sovereignty in a high-renewables future, underscoring that regional power trade, strong institutions and grid investment are now central to energy security and economic development.

Minister Moyo underscored energy efficiency as a strategic priority for development and climate resilience, urging that policy be translated into binding legislation, supported by robust data and institutional capacity.

Per Lindgärde, Ambassador of Sweden, framed efficiency as the "first fuel" and a cornerstone of resilience and economic transformation, stressing that progress should be measured by how efficiently energy is used.

Energy efficiency offers the fastest, lowest-cost route to lowering emissions, cutting costs and strengthening competitiveness, but requires stronger enforcement of standards, regional testing infrastructure and better access to finance.

Parallel sessions explored infrastructure financing for an energy-secure region, with development banks, pension funds and commercial financiers discussing blended finance, risk-mitigation tools and regional project pipelines to crowd in private capital.

ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY

The SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) led discussions on advancing energy efficiency,

highlighting continental initiatives to boost energy productivity and called for prioritising efficiency investments before new generation.

The SADC SEW also focused on the productive use of energy in agriculture and rural economies, demonstrating how agrivoltaics, solar mini-grids and off-grid solutions can power irrigation, agro-processing and rural enterprises, thereby creating jobs and strengthening resilience.

The gender and youth track, led by Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET) and SACREEE, emphasised mentorship, standardised skills, targeted financing and stronger representation of women and youth in technical and leadership roles, including the launch of the "African Power Girls Rising" campaign.

SADC Executive Secretary, Elias M. Magosi, in his presentation on the regional energy status said most member states had completed their national energy compacts, rising electricity access to about 56% and advancing regional masterplans and interconnectors, alongside persistent challenges such as a coal and hydro-dominated mix, financing gaps and power shortages.

Magosi said energy is about people and livelihoods, calling for diversified, resilient and integrated systems.

With the SADC SEW platform continuing to gain traction as a catalyst for policy dialogue and innovation, the baton was passed to the Kingdom of Eswatini, which will host the 2027 edition and build on the momentum generated in Zimbabwe.



ATTENTIVE: The SADC SEW attracted more than 800 participants, including regional energy ministers, regulators, development finance institutions, private sector leaders, technical experts and civil society, under the theme "Driving Regional Economic Growth through Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency."



Incoming RERA Chairperson *Sets Three Pillars of Action*

Deepening regional integration, championing the just energy transition and building institutional capacity, will be the key focus areas for the new Chairperson of the Regional Energy Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA).

Dr. Paulo António da Graça, Executive Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of the Energy Regulatory Authority (ARENE) of Mozambique, succeeds the outgoing RERA Chairperson, Skhumbuzo Tsabedze, CEO of the Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA).

Speaking in Windhoek during the handover ceremony at the beginning of March, Da Graça said RERA has seen progress in the harmonisation of regulatory frameworks and the development of the RERA Strategic Plan 2025-2029.

However, he said although the region was blessed with abundant energy resources—from the hydro potential of the Congo and Zambezi rivers to the solar irradiance of the Kalahari and the gas discoveries in the north and south—it still faced the persistent challenge of energy poverty.

“Millions in our communities still lack access to modern energy. Our industries are sometimes constrained by supply security. The global transition towards decarbonisation adds a layer of complexity, demanding that we leapfrog technologies and reimagine our grids. This is our mandate. RERA exists to bridge the gap between policy ambition and on-the-ground reality. We are the guardians

of the market; we ensure that as we build new generation capacity, we build it on principles of fairness, transparency, and sustainability,” said Da Graça.

He said his tenure will focus on “three pillars of action”.

First: Deepening Regional Integration

“We cannot speak of a SADC Power Pool without robust regulatory frameworks. My priority will be to accelerate the implementation of the RERA model rules. We must work to remove regulatory bottlenecks that hinder cross-border trade. Energy must flow across our borders as freely as our people do, ensuring that a power plant in one country can light a home in another,” said the incoming Chairperson.

Second: Championing the Just Energy Transition

Da Graça said while energy transition is inevitable, it must be just. “It must not leave our miners unemployed or make electricity unaffordable for the poor. As regulators, we must innovate. We need to develop regulatory sandboxes that allow for battery storage, mini-grids, and renewable energy to integrate into our national mixes while maintaining grid stability and consumer protection”.

Third: Building Institutional Capacity

Da Graça said RERA is only as strong as its members, therefore, he will push for enhanced peer-to-peer learning and capacity

building. “Many of our member authorities face similar challenges; we must create platforms to share solutions. We will engage more deeply with our stakeholders—utilities, IPPs (independent power producers), and consumer bodies—to ensure that regulation is not a barrier, but an enabler”.

He said SADC regulators will need to pool their technical expertise to tackle issues like cybersecurity in the grid and the regulation of emerging technologies like green hydrogen.

Outgoing Chairperson Tsabedze, on his part, cited the finalisation of the RERA Strategic Plan 2025-2029, the appointment of a substantive RERA Executive Director, the establishment of a substantive Information, Communication, Technology Artificial Intelligence Subcommittee (ICTAIS), the development of national grid codes under the SADC Regional Grid Code for the Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) and the Strategy on Illegal Petroleum Products and Cross Border Trade, as some of the highlights of his tenure.

MODERNISING THE GRID

“We have strengthened our regional cooperation, sharing best practices on integrating renewable energy, modernising the grid, and protecting consumers during volatile market shifts. We have built bridges between our diverse regulatory frameworks, proving that while our local contexts may differ, our commitment to fairness, transparency, and innovation is a common thread that binds us,” said the Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority CEO.

The CEO of the Electricity Control Board of Namibia (ECB), Robert Kahimise, lauded RERA for playing a vital role in promoting regulatory excellence and cooperation in the energy sector across Southern Africa and that Namibia looks forward to working closely with the new leadership to drive regional integration and sustainable energy development.

“The ECB is proud to be part of RERA and contribute to its objectives. We believe regional collaboration is key to addressing energy challenges and unlocking economic growth in our SADC region. As we embark on this new chapter, let’s remember that energy is the spark that ignites progress. Let’s work together to keep the lights on and the momentum going,” said Kahimise.

RERA Executive Director, Francois Robinson, said looking ahead the regional regulator’s work will be guided by its 2025–2029 Strategic Plan, which is anchored on key strategic pillars - fostering regional collaboration for sustainable energy regulation; enhancing regional energy trade; strengthening institutional capacity through specialised training and knowledge transfer; ensuring financial sustainability



NEW CHAPTER: Incoming RERA Chairperson, Dr. Paulo António da Graça, Executive Chairman & CEO of the Energy Regulatory Authority of Mozambique (left), with the outgoing RERA Chairperson, Skhumbuzo Tsabedze, CEO of the Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority, during the handover at the ECB head office in Windhoek.

and diversified funding; strengthening RERA’s brand, thought leadership, and communications; advocating for consumer

protection; and supporting an inclusive, low-carbon energy transition that enhances regional resilience.



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GRID PROCUREMENT & CONSTRUCTION •
GRID RESILIENCE, QUALITY & STABILITY •

• GRID TESTING, MAINTENANCE & MONITORING
• RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION



DRIVING SOLAR GROWTH: In preparation for the launch of the Windhoek Solar Hub, the City of Windhoek hosted a 'Training of Trainers' workshop for capacity development.

City of Windhoek Establishes Solar Center

The City of Windhoek is launching the Windhoek Solar Centre, a new knowledge hub aimed at promoting the adoption of solar technologies throughout the city.

The establishment of the solar centre is funded by a €212,750 (approximately N\$4.3 million) grant from Engagement Global GmbH through its "Nakopa – Sustainable Community Development through Partnership Projects" program. Engagement Global is a German non-profit organisation that serves as a central point of contact for development policy work, promoting fair global cooperation.

The Windhoek Solar Centre will provide product-neutral consultations, training, and awareness programs for residents, institutions,

and communities to help them make informed decisions about solar technologies.

The Windhoek Solar Centre is a collaboration between the City of Windhoek and the City of Berlin, and is modelled on the highly successful Berlin Solar Centre. It will serve as an independent information and knowledge hub aimed at promoting the adoption of solar energy throughout the city.

City of Windhoek officials recently embarked on a familiarisation tour to the Berlin Solar Centre. Engagements have also held with the Renewable Energy Industry Association of Namibia (REIAoN) to explore collaboration possibilities.

The Windhoek Solar Centre will provide impartial, product-neutral consultations, as

well as customized training and awareness programs focused on solar technologies, tailored to meet the needs and interests of residents, including those in informal settlements.

The initiative also aims to educate and empower residents, institutions, and community stakeholders by showcasing the benefits and potential of solar energy.

"By facilitating informed decision-making, the centre is expected to contribute significantly to the widespread adoption of renewable energy solutions throughout Windhoek. This project marks a significant step forward in strengthening the city's energy infrastructure and reinforces Windhoek's ongoing commitment to sustainable and resilient urban development," the City of Windhoek said.

NamPower Lists N\$5 billion Domestic Medium Term Note Programme on NSX

The Namibia Power Corporation (NamPower), in partnership with Cirrus Securities and Nedbank Namibia, successfully listed its N\$5 billion Domestic Medium Term Note (DMTN) Programme on the Namibia Securities Exchange (NSX) on 16 April.

A Domestic Medium Term Note Programme allows an issuer to raise debt capital in a flexible and efficient manner over an extended period. Once listed on the NSX, the issuer can issue multiple tranches of notes (with varying tenors, currencies, and interest rates) under a single approved programme without the need to seek fresh approvals for each issuance. This structure enhances liquidity, transparency, and investor confidence in Namibia's fixed-income market.

The listing was officially celebrated with a traditional bell-ringing ceremony at the 2026 Cirrus Investor Conference in Swakopmund, attended by senior representatives from NamPower, the co-lead arrangers, the NSX, and key stakeholders.

The N\$5 billion medium-term note programme has been prepared to allow for a range of notes to be issued under it, including green notes and sustainable notes, to ensure that NamPower can access the most suitable debt on the best terms, aligning with the planned projects in respect of which funds will be applied.

The establishment and listing of the DMTN Programme involved extensive preparation, including the preparation of the Programme Memorandum, legal and regulatory approvals, and collaboration with the NSX. Over the past two years, the Cirrus and Nedbank teams successfully completed the structuring and documentation processes, culminating in today's listing.

While Cirrus drove the preparation of the documents for the listing, the Nedbank team worked closely with NamPower to craft a new sustainable finance framework, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and other international benchmarks.

This framework was approved by way of a Second Party Opinion obtained from S&P Global. This listing marks a significant milestone in NamPower's financing journey.

NamPower's Managing Director, Kahenge Simson Haulofu, said: "We are delighted to list our Domestic Medium Term Note Programme on the NSX. This platform provides us with flexible and cost-effective access to domestic capital markets and reinforces our commitment to contribute to the development of Namibia's financial sector. We look forward to utilising the programme to support our strategic growth objectives while offering investors attractive debt instruments."

Romé Mostert, Director of Cirrus Securities, commented: "We are proud to have partnered with Nedbank Namibia as co-lead arranger on this landmark transaction. The successful listing of the DMTN Programme demonstrates and confirms the sophistication of Namibia's debt capital markets and provides institutional investors with diversified investment opportunities."



BELL RINGING: The listing was officially celebrated with a traditional bell-ringing ceremony at the 2026 Cirrus Investor Conference in Swakopmund, attended by senior representatives from NamPower, the co-lead arrangers, the NSX, and key stakeholders.

NAC Airports Get Favourable Airport Carbon Accreditation



CARBON TRAINING: The NAC conducted an Airport Carbon Accreditation Training.

The Namibia Airports Company (NAC) has achieved a significant milestone in its sustainability journey, with the Hosea Kutako International Airport (HKIA) and Walvis Bay International Airport (WBIA) attaining Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Level 1.

The NAC received the ACA Level 1 certificates from Airports Council International (ACI) Africa.

Airport Carbon Accreditation is a globally recognised programme that independently assesses and recognises airports for their efforts to manage and reduce carbon emissions.

Achieving Level 1 indicates that the airports

have successfully measured and compiled their carbon footprint, thereby establishing a foundation for long-term carbon management strategies. Furthermore, it signifies that the NAC has taken a critical first step towards implementing targeted carbon reduction initiatives and enhancing operational efficiency.

This milestone underscores the NAC's commitment to aligning its operations with international environmental standards and best practices. It also reflects the organisation's broader vision of becoming a world-class airport operator that balances growth with sustainability, while positioning Namibia on the global map of environmentally responsible aviation.

In pursuit of this vision, the NAC continues to integrate environmental considerations into airport management, infrastructure development and stakeholder engagement. The NAC is now well-positioned to progress through higher levels of accreditation, which include carbon reduction, optimisation, and ultimately achieving and maintaining Net Zero Emissions by 2050.

Globally, there are 648 accredited airports, with 47 of these located across 19 African countries. The inclusion of Hosea Kutako International Airport and Walvis Bay International Airport contributes to the growing number of accredited airports on the continent, thereby reinforcing Africa's role in advancing sustainable aviation practices.





SUN POWER: Workers fit solar panels onto frames at South Africa's first municipally owned solar plant, June 5, 2025, in Atlantis, about 40km from Cape Town.

China Partnership Boosts SADC's *Transition to Renewable Energy*

As Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states seek to bolster energy security, forging partnerships with China, a global leader in green energy deployment, remains crucial, senior officials have said.

SADC Executive Secretary Elias Magosi noted the region's energy deficiency, saying energy security and universal access remain fundamental enablers of regional integration, industrialisation, and sustainable economic growth.

Magosi said coal-fired plants still dominate the region's installed electricity capacity, accounting for 59% of generation, while hydropower contributes 24%.

With about 56% of the population having access to electricity, Magosi stressed the need to explore a broad range of technologies to boost energy security and sustainability.

Kudakwashe Ndhlokula, executive director of the SADC Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, told Xinhua that Chinese entities, with advanced renewable energy technologies, play a pivotal role in driving the region's green energy transition through investment.

He added the energy-insecure region should leverage China's extensive expertise, technology, and financing to accelerate its clean energy transition.

Madagascar's Minister of Energy and Hydrocarbons Ny Ando Ralitera said the country is learning from China to promote the sustainable adoption of solar energy. He added that China's industrial scale helps lower the cost of solar technologies, thereby encouraging wider uptake of renewable energy.

"One of the advantages of China is that it is a direct manufacturer. We can have a product

of the latest tech generation at an affordable price. In terms of electricity and power generation, we are working closely with China," he noted.

In Zimbabwe, the adoption of renewable energy is taking center stage, driven by the need to bridge an electricity supply gap.

Victor Utedzi, Chief Executive Officer of Centragrid, a Zimbabwean independent power producer that operates a photovoltaic power plant in Mashonaland West Province, noted that China continues to be an important partner to Zimbabwe in plugging the energy shortfall.

"All that large scale projects in the renewable space, particularly solar, we have got Chinese partners in equipment supplies, financing, and construction. So we continue to count on our Chinese partners to support us in the development of these large-scale solar power projects," Utedzi said. — *Xinhua*

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WHY SOLAR COOKING?

1. Solar cooking is Free

- Once you have the solar stove itself, all you need is **SUNLIGHT** to cook.
- You reduce spending money on gas for cooking, firewood or electricity.
- Imagine how much longer your gas bottles would last when you're not using them every day?

2. Solar Cooking is quick and easy.

- The Solar Stove is a slower cooker; however, food preparation is quick and simple.
- Season your meat/veggies the way you want, place it in the solar oven, let it cook while you do other things-
- No constant monitoring



3. Food cooked with a solar cooker is healthy.

- When cooking food with low heat, vitamins and other nutrients don't break down.
- Solar cooked food is tasty because less or no water is required when cooking, except in dried food such as rice, beans...

4. Cooking with sunshine is good for the environment

- No use of fuel, firewood or electricity — No Smoke
- It's the greenest cooking option that helps reduce greenhouse emission saving the planet.



5. What you can cook ?

- **Almost everything:** Meat stews, baking, boil, grill meat, pizza or pasta – **No Frying**

Temperature:

- The stove can reach and maintain temperatures between **150 - 170 degrees (250 - 350 Fahrenheit).**
- Keeping the heat adjusted only requires keeping the cooker focused into the sun.
- Solar cooking generally requires less water to cook because the water does not boil away taking valuable nutrients with it.
- Food cooked solar becomes more tender and moist.
- Foods with a high sugar content such as cookies will eventually burn, but even that has a long flexible cooking window.

Cooking Techniques

- Do not overload your stove
- Black pots or bowls are recommended
- Pre-heat the oven esp. when baking
- Use little water when preparing the dough

Cooking Recipes

- plenty can be found in the internet:





GRID STABILITY: Many nations, including Namibia, are focusing on building stronger grids, adding storage capacity, and improving regional connections to ensure a reliable electricity supply.

Africa Accelerates Grid Modernisation

Africa's energy sector is seeing steady progress as several countries move ahead with large projects to improve power systems and increase the use of renewable energy.

Many nations are focusing on building stronger grids, adding storage capacity, and improving regional connections to ensure a reliable electricity supply.

In West Africa, Nigeria is working on a major upgrade of its transmission network through a billion-dollar program supported by international funding.

This effort is expected to make the national grid more stable and improve electricity distribution across the country. At the same time, Senegal has achieved an important financial step for a renewable energy project and is also developing a battery energy storage plant.

Such storage systems are becoming

important as they help manage electricity generated from solar and wind sources.

In Southern Africa, countries are focusing on connecting their power systems. Studies are being carried out to build interconnectors between Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and South Africa.

Angola and Namibia have already signed agreements to link their electricity networks, showing a growing trend of regional cooperation. The Southern African Power Pool is also planning for the future by inviting experts to create a strategy for battery storage so that the grid can handle higher renewable energy capacity.

Other developments include the launch of new solar power plants in South Africa and Madagascar. In Egypt, international organizations are showing interest in supporting independent power projects, especially those related to battery storage.

The Africa Finance Corporation is also working on using green bond models to raise funds for energy projects in Côte d'Ivoire and other countries.

However, the sector still faces challenges. While there is strong investment in renewable energy, some experts believe coal will still play a role in certain areas to support jobs and provide steady power, especially for mining activities. In East Africa, countries like Kenya and Uganda are exploring private investment options to improve their aging transmission systems.

Overall, Africa's energy sector is at an important stage. The focus on cross-border projects, modern grid systems, and storage technology is helping to build a more reliable and connected electricity network. These steps are also expected to attract private investment and support the continent's growing energy demand in the coming years.

– *Solar Quarter*



GREEN JOBS: The share of green jobs has increased gradually over time from 12.4% in 2022 to 14.8% in 2024, suggesting that the transition to a greener economy is underway.

South Africa's Move to Greener Energy Creating New Jobs, But Benefits Aren't Evenly Spread

South Africa's economy has historically been heavily reliant on coal. Around 70% of its energy is generated from coal. This makes it one of the world's most carbon-intensive economies.

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and modernise the energy system, the government is advancing a transition towards renewable energy, improved energy efficiency, and the development of low-carbon industries. This shift forms part of South Africa's commitment to a just energy transition, supported by international partners through the Just Energy Transition Partnership.

The transition is unfolding in a context of persistently high unemployment. The official rate is 30%. Youth unemployment is particularly severe. In response, policymakers and international organisations have promoted green industrial development and investment in renewable energy as potential drivers of job creation and inclusive growth. But the extent to which these opportunities will be equitably distributed remains an open

question.

South Africa's move towards a greener economy is often presented by policymakers, international development institutions and energy transition strategies as achieving two objectives: lower carbon emissions and more jobs.

But does the data support this claim?

A recent research paper produced by economists working on labour markets, structural change and the just energy transition, set about answering the question. The study combined South Africa's labour force survey data with occupational information that identifies environmentally related work activities – green occupations. This allowed the tracking of green employment trends over time and to examine which sectors and workers benefit most from the transition.

The research findings show that green employment is indeed growing. However, the benefits are uneven. Some sectors and groups

of workers are gaining ground. Others risk being left behind.

South Africa's commitment to a just energy transition implies that workers and communities affected by structural change should not bear disproportionate costs. But justice is not only about protecting workers in declining sectors. It is also about ensuring that new opportunities are broadly accessible.

Where jobs are being created, and where they're not

What counts as a "green job"?

One of the first challenges is defining what a green job is. According to the International Labour Organisation, green jobs are decent jobs that contribute to preserve or restore the environment. They can be in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and construction. Or they can be in new emerging green sectors such as renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The research developed a method to classify green employment in South Africa, by combining occupational classification system, which groups jobs according to tasks and skills, with international data linking specific work activities to environmental sustainability.

These jobs include work directly connected to renewable energy, energy efficiency, environmental management, waste reduction and sustainable finance.

This approach allowed the researchers to move beyond broad assumptions and measure where green employment is actually happening in the labour market.

Findings showed that the share of green jobs has increased gradually over time from 12.4% in 2022 to 14.8% in 2024. That suggests the transition to a greener economy is underway. But it's not happening evenly across the economy.

Green jobs are concentrated in a handful of sectors:

Utilities, particularly electricity and water
Mining, including environmental rehabilitation and renewable energy components
Construction, especially green buildings and energy-efficient infrastructure
Finance. Here jobs are being created through sustainability reporting and environmental, social and governance investment activities.

These patterns reflect where regulation, investment and policy signals have been strongest. Government-led initiatives act as major catalysts. Examples include:

Renewable energy procurement

Environmental compliance requirements – including stricter environmental governance – force firms to invest in greener technologies and compliance measures. This creates a direct demand for environmental, technical, and engineering roles.

Sustainable finance initiatives. These are shaping labour demand.

Other sectors show far less green penetration. The demographic profile of green employment also reveals important patterns. Green jobs are more likely to be:

Held by younger workers

Located in the formal sector; informal workers are underrepresented
Associated with moderate levels of education (including post-secondary or technical qualifications rather than highly specialised professional degrees)
Dominated by men. Gender disparities are noticeable.



This suggests that green growth does not automatically translate into inclusive growth. Without deliberate policy intervention, existing inequalities may simply be reproduced within new sectors.

What needs to be done

The research findings highlight four policy implications.

Firstly, skills policy is central.

Many green jobs require specific technical or regulatory competencies. These range from renewable energy engineering and environmental auditing to sustainable finance and compliance expertise.

If the education and training system does not respond quickly enough, skill shortages could limit job creation. At the same time, workers without access to training may be excluded. Active labour market policies, vocational training reforms and targeted upskilling programmes are therefore critical.

Secondly, the transition needs sectoral depth. Green employment is concentrated in a few industries. Expanding the transition into manufacturing, services and small-scale enterprises could broaden employment effects.

This requires coordinated industrial, energy and trade policy. Localisation strategies in renewable energy value chains, for example, could deepen job creation beyond installation and maintenance.

Thirdly, informal workers must not be ignored. South Africa's informal economy employs millions of people. Yet green employment, as currently structured, is largely formal.

Waste pickers, small-scale recyclers and informal repair services already contribute to environmental sustainability. Integrating

and supporting these workers through policy and municipal systems could strengthen both environmental and social outcomes.

Fourthly, measurement matters.

Green transitions are often discussed in aspirational terms. But policy making requires evidence.

Developing robust methods to identify and track green employment allows government and stakeholders to monitor progress, assess distributional impacts and adjust policy accordingly. Without data, the idea of a just transition remains rhetorical.

A green economy can support employment – with the right choices.

South Africa's statistical system could also improve measurement of green employment. Statistics South Africa could incorporate questions in the labour force survey that capture environmentally related work tasks, skills and training. It could also develop a national classification of green occupations and industries aligned with international standards. Better data would allow policymakers to monitor the employment effects of the transition more accurately.

The findings do not undermine the case for green growth. On the contrary, they show that the transition is already reshaping South Africa's labour market. But the process is uneven and path-dependent. It reflects where incentives exist, where investment flows and where regulatory frameworks create demand. If policymakers want the green transition to reduce unemployment and inequality, design matters. A greener economy will not automatically be a fairer one. Ensuring that it is requires deliberate, coordinated action. –

The Conversation



ENERGY DEFICIT: Mozambique has significantly increased access to electricity, including more than 400,000 new electricity connections in 2025, but the country still faces a marked deficit in rural areas.

Mozambique Launches Work on *Solar Project for Rural Areas*

Like several African countries, Mozambique wants to achieve universal access to electricity by the end of the decade. The promotion of decentralised solutions is considered a preferred avenue to achieve this.

In Mozambique, the government has initiated the construction of a solar power plant in the Chifunde district of Tete province. According to the Agência de Informação de Moçambique (AIM), this photovoltaic infrastructure aims to provide electricity to more than 1,200 households located in this locality.

Named “Nkantha”, the initiative is implemented by the Mozambique Energy Fund (FUNAE), a public body responsible for rural electrification. Work is expected to extend over approximately eight months. Once completed, the facility will have a capacity of 750 peak kilowatts (kWp) at an estimated cost of US\$12 million.

Its funding is provided by South Korea through its Institute for the Promotion of

Industrial Technology. This project is part of a bilateral cooperation agreement concluded between Maputo and Seoul in February 2026.

Beyond supplying households and supporting local economic activities in this part of the province of Tete, the infrastructure aims to expand access to electricity in this area which still remains poorly served by the national electricity network.

In recent years, Mozambique has significantly increased access to electricity, including more than 400,000 new electricity connections in 2025. But the country remains faced with a marked deficit in rural areas.

A World Bank report published in September 2025 as part of the “Energy for All” program indicates that the national access rate reached around 60% at the end of 2024, compared to 31% in 2018.

This progression is based in particular on the ProEnergia program, supported by the institution, which made it possible to

accelerate connections to the network. However, territorial disparities remain significant. According to World Bank data in 2023, 8.9% of the rural population has access to electricity.

Around 70% of the population lives in rural areas, where low density increases the cost of expanding the network, according to the Country Climate and Development Report published by the World Bank in 2025.

In its review of Mozambique’s energy policies, updated in 2025, the International Energy Agency indicates that electricity production remains dominated by hydroelectricity, exposed to climatic hazards, notably droughts and floods.

Faced with these constraints, the authorities are banking on a diversification of solutions. The “National Energy Compact” Mozambique, published in 2025, sets a goal of universal access to electricity by 2030, combining grid expansion and decentralised solutions.



Who:

- Installers
- Suppliers
- Consultants
- Contractors
- IPPs
- Financiers
- Trainers
- Students

What:

- Solar PV
- Wind
- Biomass
- Electric Mobility
- Green Hydrogen



Mission: To provide a forum for Namibian businesses in the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency sector to set technical and ethical standards and to be a voice of the Renewable Energy private sector at large.

Vision: To assist Namibia in becoming an Energy sufficient hub, with an adequate supply of green energy from trustworthy and reliable organizations.



“Drive the future with
Tesla Energy Solutions,
Namibia’s pioneering
choice for green,
sustainable EV charging.”

A better tomorrow,
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