



Enlit Africa

POST EVENT REPORT

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KEYNOTE**



20-22 May 2025
CTICC, Cape Town South Africa

www.enlit-africa.com



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Thank you



DEAR VALUED TEAM, PARTNERS, AND STAKEHOLDERS,

As the Power, Energy and Water Portfolio Director for Enlit Africa, I extend my gratitude for your contributions to the success of Enlit Africa 2025. Your dedication made this event a pivotal moment, aligning with our mission to connect the African power, energy and water community and drive sustainable progress—our guiding “North Star.”

Enlit Africa 2025 convened over 7,234 delegates from 1692 organisations, 68 countries, 37 African nations and beyond across 3 days, fostering collaboration among policymakers, industry leaders, innovators, and investors. Against a backdrop of grid constraints, tariff reforms and climate challenges, the event delivered actionable solutions and forged partnerships to address energy access, sustainability and infrastructure development across the continent.

Key Insights

- **Policy and Leadership Insights:** The plenary session, opened by South Africa’s Minister of Electricity and Energy, Dr. Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, introduced an African “energy quadrilemma,” emphasizing energy access, security, sustainability and socio-economic development. Eskom CEO Dan Marokane outlined recovery strategies, highlighting nuclear investment and renewable scaling through unbundling. Discussions underscored Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) as a scalable solution for decentralized grids, with South Africa leading feasibility studies.
- **Technology and Innovation:** Our technology stages showcased smart grid advancements, including Eskom’s smart meter rollout to 7.2 million customers and Cape Town’s “Power Heroes” demand response programme, offsetting two stages of load shedding. Projects like Golden Arrow’s 120-vehicle electric bus fleet with 1.3 MWh battery integration and Vodacom’s 6.2 MW solar PV system demonstrated decarbonisation in transport and telecoms. Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) emerged as critical for grid stability, with South Africa deploying over 1.5 GWh.
- **Water Security Integration:** The co-located Water Security Africa event bridged the water-energy-food nexus, showcasing initiatives like the Kigali Water Treatment Plant and Coca-Cola’s \$20 million investment in water-scarce regions. George Municipality’s smart metering pilot reduced non-revenue water (NRW), while discussions on desalination and wastewater reuse positioned water as a strategic asset.
- **Project & Investment Network:** Enlit Africa launched the Project & Investment Network, a platform connecting project developers, financiers, and policymakers. This initiative facilitated roundtables discussions and meetings, unlocking potential investments in renewable energy, transmission, and water infrastructure, including blended finance for regional interconnectors like the Malawi-Mozambique line.

A circular inset image with a yellow border shows two men on a stage. The man on the left is speaking into a microphone, wearing a dark blue suit. The man on the right is looking at a tablet, wearing a dark suit and glasses. They are both wearing lanyards with badges.

WATER SECURITY AFRICA



MUNICIPAL FORUM



UTILITY CEO FORUM



PROJECT & INVESTMENT NETWORK



- **Municipal and Regional Focus:** The Municipal Forum discussed Electricity Distribution Industry (EDI) reforms, with 70,000 smart meters deployed in distressed municipalities and R350 million saved through Cape Town's energy efficiency projects.

Grid Insights

- **Regional interconnectors,** such as Mozambique's Temane Transmission Project (99% complete, creating 14,000 jobs), strengthened the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).
- **Skills and Just Transition:** Sessions emphasised workforce readiness, with Huawei's solar academy training over 1,000 engineers and calls for a Just Transition framework to reskill coal communities. Youth-led innovations, like AI-driven water management tools, highlighted the next generation's role.

Addressing Africa's Challenges

Enlit Africa 2025 tackled pressing issues, including Eskom's tariff hikes, grid bottlenecks, and the global push for renewables. Key outcomes included:

- Policy recommendations for harmonised SMR regulations and tariff reforms to support decentralized generation.
- Solutions for grid constraints, such as synchronous condensers and BESS, enabling renewable integration.
- Strategies to reduce NRW and enhance water resilience through smart metering and public-private partnerships (PPPs).
- Advocacy for regional collaboration via power pools and cross-border projects to balance energy supply.

A Collective Success

Our team executed a world-class event, our sponsors and partners enriched dialogues and participants drove impactful outcomes. The Project & Investment Network amplified our reach, ensuring projects move from vision to reality. Together, we've positioned Enlit Africa as a catalyst for sustainable progress in solar, nuclear, storage, water, and beyond.

As we look ahead, I am confident Enlit Africa will continue to lead Africa's energy and water transformation. Thank you for your passion and partnership—I eagerly anticipate our next steps together.

With sincere appreciation,



Chanelle Hingston

Power, Energy, and Water Portfolio Director, Enlit Africa

2025 post event report data



ATTENDEES
7,234



US\$800 MILLION

PIPELINE ACROSS SITE AND
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, GRID
MANAGEMENT, GENERATION, WASTE
TO ENERGY FROM SOUTH AFRICA,
ZIMBABWE AND CAMEROON

HIGHLIGHT PROJECT:
CAPE WINELANDS AIRPORT
PLAN REQUIRING OVER

US\$400 MILLION



35

AFRICAN
UTILITY CEOs



260+

SPEAKERS



1692

TOTAL
COMPANIES



68

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED



262

MUNICIPAL
ATTENDEES



4

COUNTRY
PAVILIONS



250

SPONSORS AND
EXHIBITORS

TOP 10 AFRICAN COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



South Africa



Namibia



Zimbabwe



Nigeria



Malawi



Botswana



Kenya



Zambia



Mauritius



Mozambique

TOP 10 INTERNATIONAL COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



South Africa



China



Namibia



Zimbabwe



Nigeria



Germany



United States



UAE



Malawi



Botswana

"The event was informative and well organized in terms of the logistics, the app was useful and enhanced connection amongst the attendees. The Caliber of speakers and panel members was impeccable."

NOTHANDO MDLETSHI, SENIOR ENGINEER, ESKOM

2025 post event report data



AUDIENCE SENIORITY LEVEL

411

C-LEVEL ATTENDEES

↑ 18%
INCREASE ON 2023

1329

HODS, DIRECTORS, VPS,
AND FOUNDERS

↑ 31.5%
INCREASE ON 2023

2300

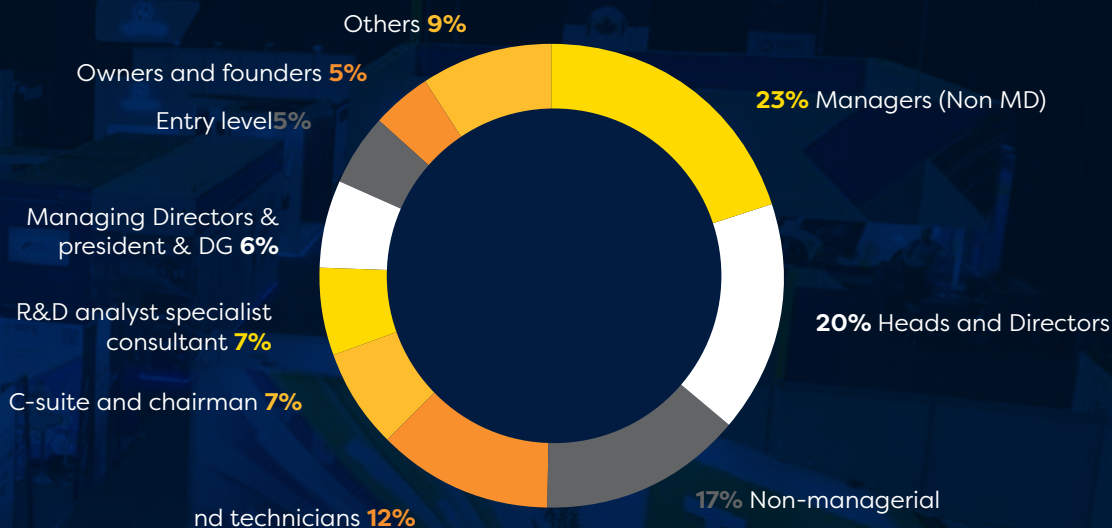
ENGINEERS, TECHNICIANS,
SPECIALISTS, SENIOR
MANAGERS

↑ 10%
INCREASE ON 2023

"I attended the Enlit Africa Energy Conference, which was exceptionally well organized and content rich. I had the privilege of engaging with various stakeholders in the exhibition area, its always a delight to have a chat"

**PRISCA MAYUMBELO, CHAIRPERSON,
CILT NAMIBIA**

BREAKDOWN OF JOB TITLES REPRESENTED:



"Engaging at Enlit Africa was a key priority for our team - and it didn't disappoint. We had the chance to showcase our latest innovations, all built with our customers at the heart of every solution. Even more rewarding was the opportunity to connect with attendees, that will help drive our next steps."

**CONNIE OCHOLA-ISEME, STRATEGIC BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT LEADER | SALES STRATEGY &
MARKET EXPANSION EXPERT, LUCY ELECTRIC**



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Plenary Session



The Enlit Africa 2025 Keynote Stage set the tone for three days of cross-continental energy dialogue, bringing together Africa's most influential decision-makers, technologists and system operators. The session underscored Africa's urgent need to reframe its energy transition—placing equity, innovation and resilience at the centre of energy planning. Delegates were challenged to think beyond the trilemma of security, access and sustainability, and instead confront a fourth dimension: socio-economic development.

A packed auditorium engaged with ministerial insights, utility updates and industry perspectives spanning transmission, nuclear, hydrogen, AI and digitalisation. The conversation reflected a shared understanding that energy security is not only a technical outcome—it is a development imperative, which must be people-led, digitally enabled, and locally delivered.

2025 Speakers



Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa
Minister of Electricity and
Energy, South Africa



Eric Amoussouga
Commercial Director,
Power Transmission – SSA,
GE Vernova



Dan Marokane
Group Chief Executive,
Eskom



Kadri Nassiep
Executive Director of
Energy, City of Cape Town



Sengiphile Simelane
Group Executive, Power &
Industry, NECSA



Vusumuzi Dlamini
Chairman, Energy
Intensive Users Group



Godwin Afamefuna Aguiyi
Assistant General Manager,
Transmission Company of
Nigeria



Galebolae Otimile
General Manager of
ICT, Botswana Power
Corporation

Top Recommendations



Technology & Infrastructure

- Pilot digital grid technologies: Governments and utilities should prioritise smart metering, AI-based forecasting, battery integration and outage automation in target metros to demonstrate the real value of digitalisation.
- Scale SMR deployment: Small Modular Reactors emerged as a key opportunity for reliable baseload in decentralised settings. Harmonised regulation and feasibility pilots—particularly led by South Africa—can fast-track continental uptake.
- Harden urban infrastructure: Theft and vandalism remain a massive cost. Utilities must modernise with tamper-proof assets, drone-enabled surveillance, and real-time fault response systems.

Policy & Investment

- Accelerate regulatory reform: Licence processing must match the speed of innovation. Delegates called for storage incentives, clearer distributed generation frameworks and municipal procurement alignment to national strategies.
- Unlock private capital through blended finance: By leveraging credit guarantees and de-risking tools, governments can stimulate more private involvement in grid expansion, industrial off-take projects and renewables.

Human Capital & Utility Evolution

- Build a future-ready talent base: Youth training in nuclear, solar, automation and digital platforms is essential. A continental workforce strategy, supported by public-private training centres, is needed to avoid an expertise gap.
- Invest in customer-centric systems: Utilities must evolve from billers to service providers. Digital payment portals, SMS notifications and real-time dashboards will not only improve revenue collection but also rebuild trust.

“ENLIT remains the premier conferencing event as well as network opportunity for the energy sector in Africa. High calibre speakers with cutting edge solutions on exhibit makes this an outstanding and must attend event”

**KADRI NASSIEP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF ENERGY, CITY OF CAPE TOWN**

Food for Thought

“The promise of transition without the justness is going to be the fittest in its nature. We must transition jobs in the coal value chain.” — **Dan Marokane, Eskom**

“Africa holds 60% of the world’s best solar resources but only 1% of installed capacity. We must change that.” — **Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa**

“Municipalities have the right to generate power, but need strong balance sheets or partnerships to make it work.” — **Kadri Nassiep, City of Cape Town**

“If we can use AI to improve yields by 2.5% and cut energy consumption by 5%, imagine the impact across all African industries.” — **Vusumuzi Dlamini, EIUG**

This session revealed a core insight: Africa’s transition won’t be won by technology or finance alone. It will be won by mindsets that prioritise resilience, institutions that can implement change, and partnerships that are equitable, not extractive.

The time for ideas is over. Enlit Africa 2025 declared, with unity and clarity, that the time for implementation – bold, local, and inclusive – is now.



Strategise Stage



Top Speakers:

Isabel Fick, General Manager: System Operator, NTCSA, **Dipak Patel**, Senior Advisor: Climate Finance and Innovation, Presidential Climate Commission, **Ronald Marais**, Strategic Grid Planning Manager, NTCSA, **Robert Mubiru**, Project Manager, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Uganda, **Thabang Audat**, Chief Director: Policy & Planning, Department of Electricity and Energy, SA, **Mziyanda Mbuseli**, Market Surveillance Manager, SAPP, **Billy Onyango**, County Engineer, Kenya Power, **Tumisang Moleke**, Head: PPP Unit, National Treasury, **Manessah Alagbaoso**, Sustainability Executive Head, Standard Bank, **Ryan Collyer**, CEO, Rosatom C&S Africa, **Velaphi Ntule**, Chief Nuclear Officer, Eskom, **Rethabile Melamu**, CEO, SAPVIA, **Malcolm Van Harte**, GM: Strategy & NBD, Eskom, **James MacKay**, CEO, Energy Council of SA



The STRATEGISE Stage brought together power sector experts, policymakers, financiers and innovators to explore the structural, financial and human capital reforms required to futureproof Africa's energy systems. Key themes included integrated planning, market liberalisation, climate finance, infrastructure development, regional power trading, nuclear readiness and inclusive skills pipelines. Discussions reflected both urgency and realism, with a focus on unlocking investment, building trust and ensuring equity in energy access and opportunity.

Recommendations:

1. Planning & Market Structures:

Grid codes and regulatory frameworks must evolve to support decentralised planning, transparency and regional coordination. Prioritise grid infrastructure as an enabler of market integration and investment.

2. Financing Models: Reframe climate finance and transmission infrastructure as commercially viable. Pool smaller projects, reduce reliance on sovereign guarantees and prioritise localised funding ecosystems.

3. Partnerships & Nuclear Readiness: Expand PPPs beyond generation; incorporate floating nuclear units via regulatory reclassification invest in public awareness to build trust.

4. Skills Development: Align training to industry needs, adopt modular learning, and embed equity in programme design. Target early pipeline exposure and industry-academic co-creation.

5. Efficiency & Gas: Establish fiscal frameworks to support midstream gas infrastructure. Treat energy efficiency as a national strategy, not a technical add-on.

6. Regional Trade: Invest in the bankability of interconnectors and standardise regulatory and technical systems. Build institutional resilience to overcome political cycles.



Food for Thought:

- Are we planning for the energy systems we want, or entrenching those we inherited?
- Is climate finance truly serving African priorities, or moulding them to fit global metrics?
- Can Africa afford to treat skills development and transmission as side issues when they are, in fact, the backbone of just energy transitions?
- What does it take to reframe risk and trust as the central currencies of Africa's energy future?
- Are we brave enough to move beyond perfect conditions and start implementing at scale – today?

Renewable Energy and Storage Hub



The Renewable Energy and Storage Hub brought together leading voices from government, industry and civil society to unpack some of the most pressing energy transition challenges across Africa. The programme, the conference explored grid constraints, decentralisation, investment hurdles, policy reform, productive use of energy and the emerging EV ecosystem. Delegates engaged with real-world case studies and gained actionable insights into how innovation, finance, and regulation can work in concert to drive inclusive and resilient energy systems.

Recommendations:

- 1. Fix the Grid First:** Grid transmission, not generation, is the continent's biggest barrier. Investment must prioritise interconnectors and tariff reform to unlock renewable potential and improve regional integration.
- 2. Decentralise for Access and Resilience:** Support localised solutions such as mini-grids, microgrids and off-grid storage through policy frameworks that reflect geographic diversity and local realities.
- 3. Reform Finance:** Develop African-led, fit-for-purpose financing mechanisms that support early-stage projects, de-risk private capital and align funding with project maturity.
- 4. Embed ESG Early:** Integrate ESG considerations from project conception, not post-approval. This minimises risk, accelerates approvals, and builds public trust—especially for EV infrastructure and distributed assets.
- 5. Productive Use of Energy (PUE):** Design mini-grids with productive use from the outset—agro-processing, refrigeration and commercial appliances—to ensure economic value and project sustainability.
- 6. Make Storage Mandatory:** For stability, countries like Kenya are now requiring storage in all new renewable installations. This must be scaled continent-wide.

Food for Thought:

Africa's energy story is no longer about whether the technology exists – it does. The challenge now is aligning systems, financing, and governance fast enough to unlock it. Grid modernisation, decentralised access, and productive use are not side issues—they are central to energy justice. Moreover, Africa must lead its own transition through context-driven policy, inclusive finance and strong public-private partnerships. As the Golden Arrow and Vodacom projects show, pioneers exist. But pioneers cannot scale without enabling ecosystems. This is not just a technical shift. It is strategic, political and cultural. Energy access that empowers must be more than connection—it must be transformation.

Top Speakers:

Melusi Tshabalala, CEO, Mesama Energy, **Beth O'Connor**, Senior Project Development Manager, Juwi Renewable Energies, **Godwin Afamefuna Aguiyi**, Assistant General Manager, Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), **Warwick Hayes**, Technical Lead, Engage Engineering, **Gideon Neethling**, Company Engineer, Golden Arrows, **Dr Justin Dargin**, Senior Fellow, Middle East Council on Global Affairs, **Zama Mkhize**, Group Sustainability Manager, Clicks Group, **Sharon Rodah**, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, **Patrick Mwesiga**, Managing Director, Kanara Solutions, **Sarah Malm**, Executive Director, GOGLA



Water Security Africa



Top Speakers:

Hon. David Mahlobo, Deputy Minister, Department of Water & Sanitation, South Africa, **Darshana Myronidis**, Group Director of Sustainability, Virgin Group Head Office, UK, **Diana Sibanda**, Group Head of Sustainability, Coca-Cola Beverages Africa, South Africa, **Juzer Jangbarwala**, Chief Technology Officer: Renewables & Water, Endeavour, USA, **Sherif Kafafi**, CEO & Managing Partner, Alsharif Group Holding (ASG), Saudi Arabia, **Douglas Anthony**, Former VP & Finance Director, American Water Enterprise, USA, **Bothwell Manikai**, Principal – Infrastructure Financing, DBSA, South Africa, **Natasha Ramikirpal**, Group Lead: Water Security, Coca-Cola Beverages Africa, South Africa, **Peter Thompson**, Managing Director, Umgeni Water Services, South Africa, **Alvino Wildschutt-Prins**, Programme Manager, Infrastructure SA, South Africa

Over three days, Water Security Africa brought together public and private sector leaders, engineers, financiers, and innovators to unpack the future of water resilience across the continent. Discussions spanned governance reform, technological innovation, blended finance, catchment-level planning, and cultural transformation. Through honest dialogue and evidence-based recommendations, the event underscored that water is no longer a peripheral concern—it is central to Africa's development, business continuity and climate adaptation.

Recommendations:

- 1. Finance & Infrastructure:** Blend concessional, DFI and private funds; co-develop bankable pipelines; incentivise decentralised and reuse systems through performance-based models.
- 2. Governance:** Align ministries around catchment-level ESG goals; prioritise SDG 6 with integrated planning; structure PPPs with community input.
- 3. Technology & Innovation:** Expand smart metering and digital leak detection; deploy AI for predictive maintenance; develop water reuse intermediaries.
- 4. Behaviour & Culture:** Promote water education and green skills; embed stewardship in corporate strategy; include youth and marginal voices in planning.
- 5. Private Sector:** Shift from compliance to co-leadership; collaborate with utilities during crises; frame water as a strategic risk and business enabler.

Food for Thought:

- Water resilience isn't built in boardrooms—it starts in catchments, classrooms, and communities.
- Finance follows structure. Are we designing projects to be investable, or just fundable?
- If your project ignores the energy and food systems it affects, it's not resilient.
- Don't wait for perfect conditions—leadership, trust, and bold partnerships can shape the market.
- Smart water management isn't a tech issue—it's a mindset and visibility issue.

The event delivered more than dialogue—it catalysed alignment. Across every session, the message was clear: water security is our collective legacy, and the time to act is now.



The three-day Forum explored the future of municipal energy, governance and service delivery in South Africa. From financial distress to illegal connections, energy inefficiency and governance failures, the sessions unpacked structural barriers undermining municipal performance. Yet, examples of local innovation, backed by technical tools, community-led models and targeted reforms offered a blueprint for resilience. The overarching message: municipalities can't do it alone, but they must be empowered to lead.

Recommendations:

- 1. Structural Reform:** Rethink the number, scale, and responsibilities of municipalities—many are too small or under-resourced to operate effectively.
- 2. Cost Reflective Tariffs:** Conduct cost-of-supply studies and unbundle tariffs transparently.
- 3. Alternative Service Delivery (ASD):** Embrace decentralised and community-led models for informal settlements, supported by portable subsidies and reformulated procurement.
- 4. Governance and Accountability:** Link clean audits to funding eligibility; separate political and administrative roles; and reward performance with incentive-based grants.
- 5. Revenue Diversification:** Explore fibre, rooftop solar, wheeling and microgrid opportunities to boost municipal income.
- 6. Capacity Development:** Build local expertise through peer learning, embedded experts, and agile staffing models.
- 7. Community Engagement:** Empower citizens in oversight, service design, and budgeting to build trust and responsiveness.

Food for Thought:

- Is South Africa's current municipal structure compatible with delivering modern energy services—or are deeper systemic changes overdue?
- How do we redesign procurement, policy and regulation to allow new service models to thrive in informal areas?
- Can governance reforms outpace political inertia—and who takes the lead when leadership is the problem?
- What practical blend of tech,



Conlog: Smart
metering for water and
electricity



PLAY

Top Speakers:

Dr. Silas Mulaudzi, Energy Expert: EDI, SALGA; **Lebogang Mojanaga**, Director: IPP (Monitoring and Evaluation), Department of Energy and Electricity, **Tshegofatso Neeuwfan**, Manager: Utility Innovation, GEAPP, Siculo Xulu, Chairperson of the Board, SANEDI, **Lerato Phasha**, Portfolio Head for Municipal Finance, SALGA, **Veer Ramnarain**, President, SAIEE; Acting Head, eThekweni Electricity, **Qhakazile Mathebula**, Senior Manager, City Power, **Lomile Modiselle**, Director: Energy and Electricity Technical, City of Tshwane, **Leon Laing**, Senior Manager, Drakenstein Municipality, **Muzi Mkhize**, Regulator Member, NERSA, **Refilwe Mokgosi**, Chief Engineer, City of Ekurhuleni, **Mpho Mahahle**, Technical Advisor, SAGEN, **Trevor Govender**, Acting Manager, City of Cape Town, **Onicah Rantwane**, Chief Advisor Electricity Pricing, Eskom, **Kay Walsh**, Managing Director, Nova Economics, **Timothy Matlala & Annette van Schalkwyk**, Standard Bank, **Blessing Thokozani Mncube**, Manager, uMngeni-uThukela Water, **Kelebogile Mokomane**, Senior Advisor, GIZ, **Carly Wise**, Analyst, GreenCape



The Utility CEO Forum brought together leaders from across Africa's power sector to tackle two urgent priorities: doing more with less and stabilising utility finances. Through four in-depth sessions, the forum unpacked how data-driven decision-making, smarter maintenance, customer engagement, legal reform and regional collaboration can help utilities navigate liquidity crises, technical losses and grid reliability challenges. From the impact of AI in predictive maintenance to the consequences of non-cost-reflective tariffs, the sessions revealed that many solutions already exist what's needed now is courageous leadership and system-wide alignment.

Focus area:

1. **Tariffs & Revenue:** Adopt cost-reflective tariffs that include O&M and future resilience planning.
2. **Loss Reduction:** Prioritise smart meters, enforce anti-theft laws and launch behavioural change campaigns.
3. **Predictive Maintenance:** Move from reactive to risk-based maintenance models with proper budget lines.
4. **Digital Transformation:** Leverage existing utility data with AI tools; invest in staff skills to interpret insights.
5. **Governance & Transparency:** Develop clear service standards and performance-linked regulation to rebuild customer trust.
6. **Customer-Centric Operations:** Engage end-users as partners, not just consumers—trust and education drive payment behaviour.
7. **Private Sector Participation:** Structure investment models to suit local realities; encourage Independent Power Transmission (IPT).
8. **Regional Coordination:** Fast-track power pool integration, cross-border interconnectors, and standardised regulation.
9. **Legal & Regulatory Foundations:** Reform sovereign guarantees and PPAs to manage fiscal exposure while attracting capital.
10. **Human Capital Development:** Build sector-specific training centres to close critical skills gaps, especially in renewables.

Food for Thought:

The central message from all sessions was clear: African utilities are not infrastructure-poor, they are under-leveraging the resources, data and people they already have. The issue is not a lack of technology or tools, but the absence of systemic cohesion and bold leadership. "If I had money, I wouldn't invest upstream," one speaker noted. "I'd go straight to distribution. That's where the cash flows." It's time to reframe Africa's power sector as an ecosystem of opportunities—starting where it matters most: closer to the customer, and deeper within the system.

Project & Investment Network



The Project & Investment Network (P&IN) convened leading financiers, developers, policymakers and infrastructure champions to unpack the challenges and unlock the opportunities shaping Africa's energy investment landscape. Through a series of deep-dive discussions, the sessions spotlighted the evolving roles of blended finance, regional power pools and private-sector transmission models in accelerating project development and ensuring just, resilient transitions.

Speakers from DBSA, Standard Bank, IFC, NTCSA, EAPP, SAPP, and climate finance institutions reflected on Africa's unique position—rich in renewable potential but constrained by capital bottlenecks, fragmented regulation, and under-developed transmission infrastructure.

Cross-Cutting Themes

- The Energy-Water Nexus is gaining traction, with integrated project models now common in mining and municipal contexts.
- Regulatory certainty is the backbone of investor confidence. Clear market codes and transparent rules are essential for IPP participation.
- Political will and Institutional alignment remain make-or-break factors, especially for interconnection projects and regional market harmonisation.
- Data transparency is not just a technical issue—it's a strategic imperative for planning, benchmarking, and attracting finance.

Strategic Recommendations

Policy & Governance	Finance & Investment	Infrastructure Delivery	Community Engagement	Transparency & Data
Harmonise regional regulations	Operationalise RTIFF & CGV	Accelerate cross-border lines	Embed local content requirements	Publish & disseminate market rules
Finalise ITP framework	Scale blended finance pipelines	Integrate water planning	Support inclusive energy models	Strengthen EAPP-SAPP coordination
Embed water in energy policy	Advance carbon credit standards	Streamline permitting processes	Foster community co-ownership	Develop investor-friendly IPP roadmaps



Key insights:

Geopolitical Funding Shifts: With Western capital retrenching, Africa must strategically engage Gulf states, Chinese DFIs, and domestic pension funds. Mobilising this capital requires a compelling African investment narrative that centres on resilience, returns, and inclusive growth.

Blended Finance as a Bridge: Vehicles such as RTIFF and the PeReC Fund demonstrate the power of blending concessional and commercial finance to unlock projects in fragile states and underdeveloped markets. Standard Bank's \$250 million IFC deal was cited as a blueprint.

Reforming Regional Markets: South Africa's multi-market model (launching in 2026) and EAPP's upcoming 2025 launch are pivotal. However, full integration—such as SAPP-EAPP coupling via Zambia-Tanzania—still faces technical and policy coordination hurdles.

Private Sector Role in Transmission: Public-private partnerships are emerging as crucial for closing the \$45 billion transmission gap. South Africa's NTCSA progress and the O'Okiep hybrid energy model underscore the value of community-linked, investor-ready projects.

Carbon & Green Markets: New standards like Carbon Clear and VM52 offer scalable carbon revenue for small renewables, while value chain decarbonisation opens pathways for water-intensive sectors like mining and agriculture.

Community Participation is Non-Negotiable: From just transition to long-term viability, empowering communities as co-investors, skills holders, and beneficiaries is no longer optional—it's fundamental.

Power Hub Technical Sessions



Next steps

1. **Technology Deployment:** Launch pilot projects for SMRs, hybrid power systems, and ammonia-based hydrogen.
2. **Policy & Market Design:** Update IRP to reflect DERs, fixed-tilt solar, hydrogen exports. Simplify SMR licensing.
3. **Capacity Building:** Scale training for metering, predictive maintenance, and satellite-linked monitoring.
4. **Collaboration:** Form task forces with municipalities, BRICS allies, and industry to align procurement, digital infrastructure, and export standards.

The Power Hub technical session brought together experts, technology providers and energy leaders to explore cutting-edge innovations supporting South Africa's energy transition. With technical presentations spanning micro steam turbines, hybrid solar systems, smart metering, green hydrogen derivatives, SMRs, and predictive maintenance, the programme offered practical insights into technology deployment and regulatory readiness. The event underscored the urgent need for grid modernisation, digital resilience and a balanced energy mix combining renewables with dispatchable power.

Outcomes

Technology Readiness:

- Micro steam turbines, hybrid systems, DERs, and predictive maintenance are deployable now.
- SMRs and green hydrogen derivatives are progressing toward commercial viability, with clear pathways emerging.

Policy & Strategy Alignment

- IRP revision could unlock R258 billion/year in system savings.
- Regulatory clarity is needed for smart metering, DER incentives and municipal PPA frameworks for SMRs.

Practical Implementation

- LoRaWAN and LEO satellite solutions boost infrastructure security.
- Namibia, Egypt, and Congo case studies show real-world deployment of hybrid power and smart metering.
- Predictive maintenance can extend coal boiler life by 20–30 years, easing transition pressures.



Utilities and Municipalities



Besides CEOs the event attracts representatives from a large number of utilities and municipalities. Some of the attendees this year included Heads and Executives for operations and maintenance, Strategy Managers, Senior and Principal Engineers, System Specialists and Executive Directors from the following public sector organisations:

Municipalities represented



Utilities represented



Networking at Enlit Africa



- Engage networking event sponsored by Actom - Cabo Beach Club
- Project & Investment Networking Dinner sponsored by Rosatom
- Standard Bank Dinner
- Utility CEO Networking Dinner



**EXPERIENCE
THE POWER AND
PEOPLE OF ENLIT
AFRICA 2025 – SEE
THE MOMENTS
THAT MOVED US.**



Site visits



The site visits on 23 May 2025 offered hands-on experiences across generation, distribution, water and hybrid energy projects. From Koeberg's nuclear insights to Robben Island's solar innovation, attendees witnessed real-world applications of Enlit's themes, reinforcing practical transformation.



Robben Island Tour

Delegates embarked on an exclusive tour of Robben Island, combining a look at its fascinating history with a glimpse into its sustainable future. The tour included a private visit to the Robben Island prison, offering a powerful and moving experience that explored the island's complex political history and its significance in the struggle against apartheid. Following the prison tour, attendees explored a groundbreaking solar PV project commissioned by the Department of Tourism. This innovative system, designed by SOLA, combines a solar PV farm with a lithium-ion battery storage facility and smart controllers, generating nearly 1 million kWh of electricity annually.



Cape Town Water Tour

This tour took place at the Zandvliet Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW) in Khayelitsha, and The Water Hub in Franschhoek. Zandvliet WWTW's recent R2 billion upgrade, completed in 2023, increased the plant's capacity from 72 to 90 million litres per day to meet the needs of the city's growing population. Utilising state of the art membrane technology, the upgraded WWTW treats wastewater to a very high standard, minimising environmental impact. The Water Hub is a living research and innovation lab dedicated to sustainable water treatment and environmental restoration. Originally a decommissioned wastewater treatment plant, the site has been repurposed to demonstrate nature-based solutions for treating polluted water and promoting sustainable agriculture. Developed in partnership with the University of Cape Town's Future Water Institute and international collaborators, it serves as a model for integrated water, energy and food management.



Transmission and Distribution Tour

Eskom's ongoing electrification projects in the Western Cape formed part of this tour, which also included a visit to the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the Hex Substation. These electrification projects involve upgrading infrastructure with new electricity lines, transformers, and prepaid meters, ensuring a stable power supply, improving the quality of life for residents by enabling the use of essential appliances and providing safer lighting. The Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the Hex provides crucial ancillary support, enhancing frequency control, reactive power support, and improving supply quality near renewable energy plants. Delegates learned about Eskom's large-scale battery energy storage project, aimed at lowering electricity costs, increasing grid reliability, integrating more renewable energy, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.



Generation Tour

This site visit included a visit to Koeberg Nuclear Power station, a must-visit experience that perfectly complements Enlit's programme on nuclear energy. As Africa's only operational nuclear power plant, Koeberg plays a crucial role in South Africa's energy mix, providing reliable and low-carbon electricity. This tour offered attendees a unique opportunity to gain deeper insights into nuclear power generation, safety protocols, and the future of nuclear energy in Africa. This was followed by a tour of the Ankerlig Power Station, a large gas turbine plant which plays a crucial role in the nation's electricity supply. The tour includes a guided walkthrough of the facility, explaining the operation of gas turbines, generators, and transformers.

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SPEAKER ENQUIRIES:

✉ claire.volkwyn@wearevuka.com ☎ +27 82 859 1753

EXHIBITOR ENQUIRIES:

✉ marcel.dutoit@wearevuka.com ☎ +27 72 643 5524

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