

THE FUTURE OF THE US & AFRICA ENERGY PARTNERSHIP



POST-SUMMIT REPORT

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"It was a genuine pleasure to support an event that unites global leaders in driving energy innovation across the continent. Beyond the inspiring discussions, the summit opened doors to transformative partnerships and investment opportunities that have already accelerated our project pipeline and fueled significant growth for Sun Africa"

Adam Cortese, CEO, Sun Africa









Thank you from EnergyNet

Dear Colleagues,

The 10th anniversary of the Powering Africa Summit (PAS) took place in Washington DC from 6-7th March 2025 at the JW Marriott, under the new theme 'The Future of the US & Africa Energy Partnership'.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Sun Africa and Genesis Energy for their unwavering support for the summit, as well as Alliant Insurance Services and ATP for coming onboard too.

Over 350 international attendees were eager to hear from new US Energy Secretary Chris Wright on the new US administration's planned approach to the future US-Africa relationship, and he delivered an impassioned Keynote Address and then shared more detail during a Fireside Chat. Secretary Wright was joined at the summit by seniorlevel colleagues who also shared their views on the US-Africa energy partnership moving forward: Ambassador Fitrell, Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State; A/PDAS Harrington, Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State; and DAS Volz, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy. The sessions gave a valuable insight to all attendees on what to expect in the coming months.

We were delighted to have 11 Honourable Ministers (including one Vice President) represent their countries at the summit – including Nigeria, Egypt, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Eswatini and The Gambia. In addition, we welcomed senior-level Public Officials, Heads of Utilities and Regulators from the continent - including Morocco, South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Benin and Liberia. With this vast experience at the summit, the conversations were directional and will make a real impact on moving the African energy sector forward.

The agenda took a regional approach this year, focussing in turn on energy cooperation in the South, East, West and North of the continent, and the topics covered varied from Advancing Africa's Natural Resource Development to How Bitcoin Mining and Data Centres are Changing the Game, from Democratizing Clean Energy Financing and De-Risking Projects to Mission 300 through International Cooperation and many more.

The first night of the summit saw attendees celebrate International Women's Day and our 10th anniversary with an enjoyable Gala Drinks Reception. We heard from Genesis Energy, who had kindly sponsored the reception, and listened to an inspiring Keynote Address from H.E. Honourable Bogolo Kenewendo, Minister of Minerals & Energy, Botswana.

We would like to thank all our speakers and delegates for their commitment to the summit, and for sharing their thoughts and passion – these will continue to unite the sector to make change happen.

This year's summit played a vital role in building a new relationship between the US and Africa's energy sector and created a momentum to build positively for the future.



Gemma Gosling Producer **EnergyNet**







Thank You To Our Speakers

US Government Officials

U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright, U.S. Department of Energy

Ambassador Troy Fitrell, Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Kimberly Harrington, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State Joshua Volz, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Europe, Eurasia, Africa and the Middle East, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

William Stevens, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S Department of State

Stephen Banks, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Diplomacy, Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State

Lauren Stowe, Director of International Market Development, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

Honourable Vice Presidents and Ministers

- H.E. Honourable Jeremiah Kpan Koung, Vice President, Liberia
- H.E. Honourable Adebayo Adelabu, Minister of Power, Nigeria
- H.E. Honourable Karim Badawi, Minister of Petroleum & Mineral Resources, Egypt
- H.E. Honourable Bogolo Kenewendo, Minister of Minerals & Energy, Botswana
- H.E. Honourable July Moyo, Minister of Energy & Power Development, Zimbabwe
- H.E. Honourable Professor Mthuli Ncube, Minister of Finance, Economic Development & Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe
- His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince Lonkhokhela Dlamini, Minister of Natural Resources & Energy, Eswatini
- H.E. Honourable Nani Juwara, Minister of Petroleum & Energy, The Gambia
- H.E. Honourable Julius Daniel Mattai, Minister of Mines & Mineral Resources, Sierra Leone
- H.E. Honourable Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, Energy Sector Lead & Chairman, Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy & Food Security, Sierra Leone
- H.E. Honourable Biodun Ogunleye, Commissioner for Energy & Mineral Resources, Lagos State Government, Nigeria

Public Officials

Bangaly Maty, Adviser to the Prime Minister, Energy, Infrastructure & Water, Prime Minister's Office, Guinea Amina Benkhadra, Director General, Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines (ONHYM), Morocco Adedayo Olowoniyi, Chief Technical Adviser, Ministry of Power, Nigeria Johnson Akinnawo, Managing Director & CEO, Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading (NBET), Nigeria Elsa Strydom, Head of Infrastructure Finance, IPP Office, South Africa

Utilities, Transmission and Distribution Organisations

Fabrice Marcos, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Société Béninoise de Production d'Electricité (SBPE), Benin

Ernest Mkhonta, Managing Director, Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC), Eswatini

Hussaini Adams, Director, Southern Network Department, GRIDCo, Ghana

Peter Njenga, Managing Director & CEO, Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen), Kenya

Rosemary Oduor, General Manager, Commercial Services & Sales, Kenya Power & Lighting Company (KPLC), Kenya

Thomas Zailee Gonkerwon, Interim Managing Director, Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), Liberia

Rekhiat Momoh, CEO, Eko Electricity Distribution Company (EKEDC), Nigeria

Abubakar Yusuf, Managing Director & CEO, Kano Electricity Distribution Company (KEDCO), Nigeria









Thank You To Our Speakers

Utilities, Transmission and Distribution Organisations (cont'd)

Matthew Edevbie, Group Managing Director, Income Electrix Group, operator of Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution (PHED), Nigeria

Abubakar Sadiq Mohammed, Deputy Managing Director, Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company (KEDC), Nigeria Hussaini Sadiq, Chief Strategy & Performance Officer, Kano Electricity Distribution Company Plc (KEDCO), Nigeria Gissima Nyamo-Hanga, Managing Director, Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO), Tanzania Cletus Nyachowe, Director for International Business, ZESA Holdings, Zimbabwe

Regulators

Sandrine Mubenga, CEO, Autorite de Regulation du secteur de l'Electricite (ARE), Democratic Republic of the Congo Skhumbuzo Tsabedze, CEO, Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA), Eswatini Daniel Kiptoo Bargoria, Director General, Energy & Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), Kenya Edington Mazambani, CEO, Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (ZERA), Zimbabwe Simphiwe Khumalo, General Manager Regulation, Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA), Eswatini

Stakeholders

Adam Cortese, CEO, Sun Africa

Goran Rajsic, Founder, Sun Africa

Akinwole II Omoboriowo, Chairman, Genesis Energy

Woochong Um, CEO, Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP)

Fatih Birol, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA)

Andrew Herscowitz, CEO, Mission 300 Accelerator, RF Catalytic Capital

Catherine Pattillo, Deputy Director, African Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Kendra Gaither, President, U.S.-Africa Business Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Rachel Moré-Oshodi, CEO, ARM-Harith Infrastructure Investment

Valerie Levkov, Global Director, Energy & Mining, International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Stefano Marguccio, Deputy CEO, Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

Sarah Malm, Executive Director, GOGLA

William Amuna, Advisor, Millennium Development Authority (MiDA), Ghana

Munyaradzi Munodawafa, Chief Executive, Zambezi River Authority (ZRA)

Raza Hasnani, Chairman of the Board, Paix Data Centers & Investment Committee Member, Africa50 Infrastructure Acceleration Fund

Ben Holland, Coverage Banker: Resources & Energy, Absa Bank Rep Office New York

Conal Duffy, Vice President, Alliant Insurance Services

Craig O'Connor, Senior Director, International Business Development & Strategy, Nextracker

Nicole Poindexter, CEO & Founder, Energicity

Katie Auth, Policy Director, Energy for Growth Hub

Mai Abdelhalim, President, Africa, GE Vernova

Anna Coby, Access to Energy Manager, Schneider Electric

Grant McCarty, Co-Executive Director, Bitcoin Policy Institute

Shaz Langha, Vice President, Newmarket Capital

Dan Kammen, Professor, University of California, Berkeley









Thank You To Our Speakers

Stakeholders (Cont'd)

Linda Habgood, Chief Financial Officer, Wright Energy Storage Technologies (WEST)

Kate Steel, CEO, Nithio

Kweku Awotwi, Co-Founder & Non-Executive Director, Cenpower Generation Company

Sherif El Gabaly, CEO, Enara

Erik Granskog, Managing Director, Sisu Advisors

John Smelcer, Interim Chief Development Officer, Globeleq

Dan Klinck, Founder & CEO, East African Power

Kimberly Heimert, CEO, Energy Transition Advisory Group

Mark Gammons, President, Synergy Sustainable Resources

James Head, Partner, Hunton Andrews Kurth

Mohamed Rali Badissy, Co-Director, Power Contract Transparency, Energy for Growth Hub

Gaspar Lino, CEO, Averi Finance

Nthato Minyuku, Vice President, Government Affairs, Middle East & Africa, Siemens Energy

Kwabena Osei-Sarpong, President & CEO, RIFE International

Melissa Fadzai Sikwila, Executive Vice President, Project Development & Investments, Genesis Energy

Dele Kuti, Global Head, Energy & Infrastructure, Standard Bank South Africa

Martin Menski, Partner, White & Case

Cornelius Matthes, CEO, Dii Desert Energy

Jacob Langenkamp, CEO, Bridger Solutions

Simon Gosling, Managing Director, EnergyNet

Bruce Anderson, Founder & CEO, 247Solar

Nasiru Braima, Capital Mobilization and Partnerships, Africa Finance Corporation

Brendan Cronin, Political Risk Insurance Broker, Alliant Insurance Services

Gabriel Lorenzi, Commercial VP, Galileo Technologies

Chaim Motzen, Managing Partner, Izuba Energy

Joseph Rodriguez, VP Finance, JCM Power

Eric Maxwell, Senior Project Manager, Manitoba Hydro International

Nicholas Allen, Vice President, NRECA International

Kingsley Okenyi, Director, SunBridge Power













Agenda at a glance

Day One: Thursday 6th March 2025

Powering Africa Summit – 10th Anniversary Welcoming Remarks: Powering the US-Africa Partnership – Innovation, Trade and Energy Access



General Sponsor Welcome Address: Goran Rajsic, Founder, Sun Africa

US-Africa Partnership

African Leadership - Ministerial Keynote Addresses

Investment Portfolio Presentations: Utility Leaders Present their Next Projects

10th Anniversary Gala Drinks Reception International Women's Day





"PAS was really great! Impressive, high-level group of participants along with great panels and sessions made for a very productive event."

Craig O'Connor, Sr.
Director, International
Business Development
and Strategy, Nextracker







Day Two: Friday 7 March 2025

Powering the US-Africa Partnership – Innovation, Trade and Energy Access Africa Welcome Address: H.E. Honourable Adebayo Adelabu, Minister of Power, Nigeria

General Sponsor Welcome Address: Adam Cortese, CEO, Sun Africa



Guest of Honour Keynote Speech: U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright, U.S. Department of Energy

Guest of Honour Fireside Chat: U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright, U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Cooperation: Southern Africa Financing Southern

Africa's Mining Transition to Clean Energy and Battery Storage

Energy Cooperation: East Africa

Mission 300

Energy Cooperation: West Africa

How Can Strategic Energy Partnerships Support West Africa's Growth?

Energy Cooperation: North Africa

Advancing Africa's Natural Resource Development through International Cooperation

US-Africa Ministerial Boardroom: The Future of the US & Africa Energy Partnership

Energy Cooperation: East Africa

Alternative Energy Users – How Bitcoin Mining and Data Centres are Changing the Game

Energy Cooperation: West Africa Investment Requirements &

Regulatory Reforms in West Africa's Electricity Sector

Energy Cooperation: North Africa

How Great is the Scale of Opportunities for Hydrogen/PPPs and IPPs in North Africa?

US-Africa Ministerial Boardroom: The Future of Private Sector Investment in Africa's Energy Sector

Energy Cooperation: Southern Africa

Financing Regional Transmission

Energy Cooperation: Regional African Markets

Energy Democratizing Clean Energy Financing and De-Risking Projects Hosted by:

Energy Cooperation: West Africa

The Game of RISK!

Closed Door Regulators Meeting: The Future of the US & Africa Energy Partnership

Closed Door Utilities Meeting: The Future of the US & Africa Energy Partnership

"The Powering Africa Summit is a great opportunity to share experiences in the energy supply environment in different jurisdictions. This way discussions on challenges and possible partnerships for resolving the same are reached."

Rosemary Oduor, General Manager, Commercial Services & Sales, Kenya **Power & Lighting Company** (KPLC), Kenya









Audience Highlights

Audience in Numbers





Total Registrations



84

Speakers



79

Ministry & Gov Officials



29

US Gov Representatives



27

Financial Institutions



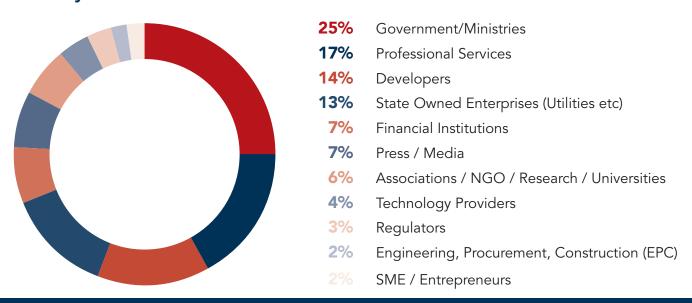
41

Developers

Breakdown of registration share by seniority



Industry Breakdown













Angola Argentina Austria **Belgium** Benin Botswana Canada Congo - Kinshasa Côte d'Ivoire Egypt **Eswatini**

Ethiopia France **Gambia** Germany Ghana Guinea **Hong Kong** India Italy Kenya Lebanon

Liberia Mauritius Morocco **Netherlands** Nigeria Norway Senegal Sierra Leone Somalia **South Africa Spain**

Switzerland Tanzania Uganda **United Arab Emirates United Kingdom United States** Zambia **Zimbabwe**

"Our sincere thanks for all you and the team did in arranging this year's event! Have been on the conference circuit for some years now, albeit less than some others ;), but what a fantastic event - probably one of the best, if not the, I've attended. WOW! Can't express enough gratitude to you and the entire EnergyNet team for everything done to pull together the 10th annual PAS. Am hoping to make it down to Cape Town for aef in June."

Brendan Cronin, **Political Risk Insurance** Broker, Alliant **Insurance Services**









General Sponsor Sun Africa sets ambitious tone at official opening in Washington D.C.



peaking to a room filled with government officials, investors, and policymakers, Rajišić announced that Sun Africa is close to finalising its first commercial agreement with the Government of Nigeria: a \$2.4 billion integrated energy project. He called it a pilot, but quickly made clear that it is only the beginning.

"We also signed a \$10 billion framework agreement with the government in the next year to electrify an additional 50 states," he told delegates, drawing attention to the scale of what lies ahead.

The announcement set a striking tone for the summit, which is designed to explore and strengthen U.S.-Africa ties in the energy sector. While panels and discussions touched on finance, policy, and technology, it was Sun Africa's presence that gave the opening session its spark.

Rajišić outlined projects soon to be unveiled in Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), along with a partnership involving the Government and King of Lesotho, a country he suggested would soon be better known to U.S. stakeholders through its energy ambitions.

But beyond the figures, it was Rajišić's personal connection to Africa that seemed to resonate in the room.

The 10th Powering Africa Summit opened in Washington, D.C., with a sense of momentum and high expectations. At the centre of it was Sun Africa, the event's general sponsor, whose founder, Goran Rajišić, used the stage to lay out a bold vision for energy partnerships between Africa and the United States.

"We are not visitors to Africa," he said. "My wife is Angolan. I have 200 family members in Africa."

It was a reminder that Sun Africa's positioning is not only commercial but also relational, grounded in a sense of belonging on the continent. That mix of personal narrative and large-scale investment strategy positioned the company as more than just another player in the African energy space — but as a bridge in the evolving U.S.-Africa partnership.

As the summit continues, Rajišić's opening words are likely to frame much of the discussion: Africa's energy future is not only a matter of policy and finance, but also of trust, continuity, and vision. And Sun Africa, at least this week, made sure it was seen as carrying all three.









U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright outlines new administration approach to energy development in Africa

U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright outlined the Trump administration's approach to energy development in Africa. The United States will embrace energy from a diversity of sources – from coal to natural gas to nuclear power to solar energy – to increase access across Africa, said U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright on Friday.

uring the Powering Africa Summit, Wright said the new U.S. administration would partner with African governments and businesses, allowing them to drive their own energy agenda to increase economic growth and prosperity around the continent. "The only goal of energy is to expand human opportunity. Make us live longer. Healthier. More opportunities for us and our kids. Increase food security. Increase heating security. It's foundational," Wright said.

African needs massively more energy. Africans will do that. Africans will deliver that. The United States is thrilled to partner with you in that endeavour." The U.S. will not put limits on the type of energy projects it will finance, Wright said, noting that "there's no technology I don't like." "How can we harness that entrepreneurial spirit with some technology assistance, lower-cost capital from the United States, to make things happen? We don't have a top-down grand plan," Wright said. "We're not going to decide what you want. You decide what you want. Your citizens, your people, decide what they want. We want to be your technology partners and provide capital and partner in any way we can to pursue that goal."

Nigerian Minister of Power Adebayo Adelabu credited Powering Africa Summit with fostering critical discussions and catalysing partnerships to transform Africa's energy landscape, which includes mobilising investments, making policy reforms, and expanding access to stable, functional, and reliable electricity on the continent.

"In Nigeria, Power Africa has played a pivotal role in supporting our approach of policy reforms, infrastructure development programs, leveraging bilateral funding to derisk investments, sector commercialisation, and strategic partnership with the investment community," Adelabu said. "The presence of strong U.S.-Africa collaboration has not only improved infrastructure, it has also stimulated growth and job creation." "Energy poverty isn't solved by wishful thinking. It's solved by power plants that come online as quickly as possible. The focus must be on large-scale projects, reducing the lengthy and bureaucratic processes that hinder progress. And by unleashing U.S. private enterprise by eliminating hurdles contrary to achieving our goals," said Sun Africa Chief Executive Officer Adam Cortese.

"The administration's all-in-one energy strategy is the backbone of this vision. A practical, no-nonsense plan that embraces every tool in the toolbox to deliver results."

Together, the speakers underscored the urgency, partnership, and scale needed to expand reliable energy access across Africa.









African Ministers Stress Partnerships to Drive Energy Expansion



iberia's Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung reported a 31% increase in access, credited to Power Africa, and highlighted plans to grow hydro, solar, and wind while advancing regional trade. Nigeria's Minister of Power, Adebayo Adelabu, presented a \$32.8 billion investment plan to achieve universal access by 2030, focusing on metering, grid reliability, and stronger coordination with partners such as the World Bank and DARE programs.

Egypt's Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Karim Badawi reaffirmed a 42% renewables target by 2030. Botswana's Minister of Minerals and Energy, Bogolo Kenewendo, stressed the importance of innovative financing and technology transfer to deliver nationwide connectivity. Zimbabwe emphasised legal reforms and incentives for hydro, solar, and gas projects, including the



At the Powering Africa Summit, ministers and senior officials from across the continent outlined strategies to expand electricity access, strengthen regional cooperation, and attract investment into the energy sector. The session was moderated by Kendra Gaither, President of the U.S.-Africa Business Centre at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.



Batoka Gorge initiative. Eswatini set a goal of generating 70% of its own power, while The Gambia laid out plans for universal access by 2026 through grid expansion and a 150 MW solar plant.

Sierra Leone showcased a \$412 million gas-to-power project and Millennium Challenge Corporation compact that has doubled capacity and aims for 80% electrification by 2028.

Closing the session, Dr. Kandeh Yumkella emphasised the importance of regional collaboration, linking energy to industrialisation and climate resilience, and fostering inclusive partnerships.

The session ended with a clear call: increase investment, deepen cooperation, and accelerate Africa's energy progress.









Mission 300: Powering 300 million Africans by 2030

Access to electricity remains one of Africa's most significant challenges, with nearly 600 million people—half the continent's population—still living without it. The continent accounts for 83% of the global electricity access deficit, highlighting the scale of the problem.

o address this, the World Bank Group and the African Development Bank Group, alongside international and regional partners, launched Mission 300, an ambitious initiative to bring electricity to 300 million Africans by 2030.

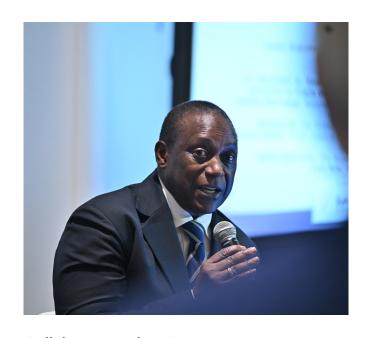
Momentum and Commitments

In Dar es Salaam earlier this year, 30 countries endorsed the Dar es Salaam Declaration, committing to policy reform, regional integration, and universal access to electricity and clean cooking. Twelve countries presented National Energy Compacts with clear targets for expanding renewables, electrification, and transforming utilities.

Financial backing is significant: the World Bank has pledged \$30 billion, the AfDB \$18.2 billion, with further support from the Islamic Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the OPEC Fund, and others.

Clean Cooking at the Core

Mission 300 goes beyond electricity. Access to clean cooking is a priority, with Tanzania planning to distribute 2.4 million e-cooking stoves by 2034 and Sierra Leone aiming for 80% electrification and up to 40% clean cooking access. Leaders emphasised that energy access and clean cooking must advance in tandem to improve lives and health outcomes.



Collaboration that Sets Mission 300 Apart

At a recent gathering in Washington, D.C., stakeholders emphasised the initiative's unique collaborative model. Valerie Levkov of IFC highlighted new financial instruments—such as local currency facilities and longterm working capital—that are helping to overcome affordability barriers, particularly in rural areas.

Woochong Um, CEO of GEAPP, underlined the role of philanthropy in de-risking projects and catalysing investment. At the same time, Sierra Leone's H.E. Dr. Kandeh Yumkella emphasised the importance of national ownership and political will.

Together, these elements—political leadership, private sector investment, development finance, and philanthropy—are what make Mission 300 a truly transformative effort. If successful, it will bring lifechanging electricity access to millions and mark a turning point in Africa's energy future.













THE FUTURE OF THE US & AFRICA ENERGY PARTNERSHIP



For more information on how to get involved, please contact Events@EnergyNet.co.uk



FIND OUT MORE





In the Press

Media attendees

23















534

points of coverage



398

Newspaper in total/articles



270

Total Unique Media/ Journalist Views



3,178

Total Unique Views



















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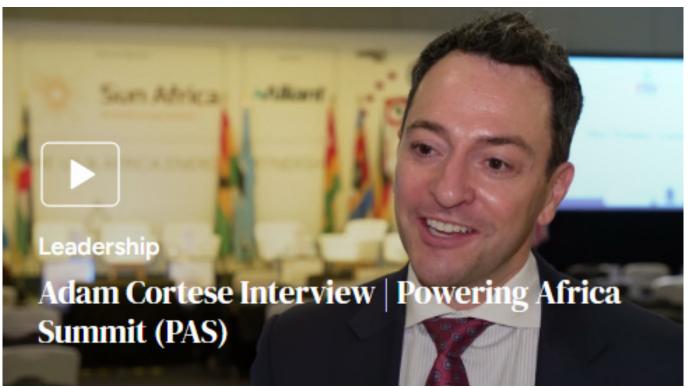


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Interview Highlights

















Captured Moments

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Captured Moments

CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL GALLERY









































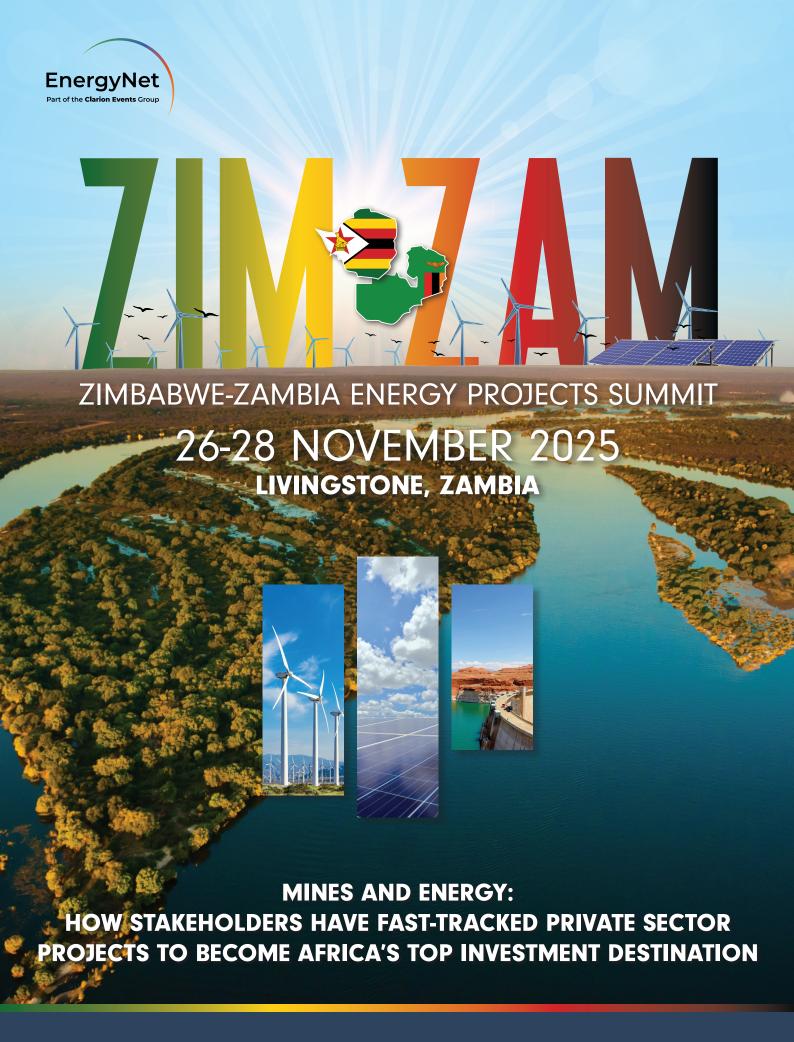
"With the urgent and persistent need for power in Africa, and with shifting political landscapes, nothing is more impactful and important than bringing many key players, from the spectrum of stakeholders, together to discuss, consider, plan, and decide the way forward."

Mark Gammons, President, Synergy Sustainable Resources





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For more information on how to get involved, please contact Abdoulaye@EnergyNet.co.uk

