



pas

powering africa summit
19-20 MARCH 2026 • WASHINGTON DC



POWERING THE US-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP
Energy Infrastructure • Critical Minerals • Investment Strategies



AGENDA

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Powering Africa Summit Agenda

Day One – Thursday 19 March 2026

NB: Topics, times and speakers may be subject to change as the agenda develops.

08:30

Capitol Ballroom Salon D

08:30 – 09:30 Registration & Networking Breakfast

09:30

Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F

09:30 – 10:00 **11th Powering Africa Summit Welcoming Remarks: Powering the US-Africa Partnership: Energy Infrastructure, Critical Minerals & Investment Strategies**

Speakers



Fatih Birol
Executive Director,
International Energy
Agency (IEA)



Sidi Ould Tah
President, African
Development Bank (AfDB)

Hosted by



10:00

Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F

10:00 – 11:15 **Powering the Future of the US-Africa Energy Partnership: What Has Been Achieved Since PAS 2025?**

With US foreign policy transforming under the current administration, we look at how US stakeholders have adopted a more profit-driven approach through ‘investment-led commercial diplomacy’, targeting reciprocal global investments and partnerships since PAS 2025.

- What has been achieved to date, what have been the priorities and successes since PAS 2025?
- What are the strategic objectives over the next four years for the US administration in Africa?
- What is the current US administration's position on advancing electricity in Africa?
- How reciprocal agreements can advance critical minerals development and increase trade between the US and Africa. With Africa’s critical minerals sitting at the centre of a global gold rush, why is the US is offering a more compelling investment case?

Moderator



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

Speakers



Thomas Hardy
Deputy Director & COO,
U.S. Trade and
Development
Agency (USTDA)

11:15

Capitol Ballroom Salon D

11:15 – 11:45 **Coffee & Chat**














11:45

Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F

11:45 – 13:00 **Helping Investors Understand a Results-Oriented Approach to Africa’s Industrial & Infrastructure Opportunities**

The African energy sector is working to create favourable commercial environments to better engage US investors. Here we learn from African stakeholders where and how you can participate in these bankable opportunities.

- How Africa’s abundant resources offer profitable investment opportunities for US companies who are not yet working in Africa.

13:00	Capitol Ballroom Salon D	
	13:00 – 14:30 PAS Power Lunch	
	14:30	
14:30	Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F	Capitol Ballroom Salon H
	14:30 – 15:45 Large-Scale Infrastructure Investment	14:30 – 15:45 Closed Door Utilities Roundtable
	<div>Large infrastructure projects like the Lobito Corridor remain high on the US administration's priority list. What environment is required to increase the number of large-scale infrastructure projects over the next five years?</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">With returns from the continent far exceeding elsewhere in the world, why are big investment houses starting to look more at Latin America and Asia for deploying capital?Large-scale infrastructure is necessary to meet the global demands for critical minerals. What is required to fast track projects?What opportunities does the Lobito project offer in Angola, Zambia, and the DRC in the core sectors of transportation, energy, and digital infrastructure?What other large-scale projects are making progress, including SMRs/nuclear, mining and transport infrastructure?</div> <div>Speakers<div><div></div><div>Heather Lanigan Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)</div></div><div><div></div><div>Anand Naidoo Managing Executive, Client Coverage, Absa</div></div></div>	<div>Invitation Only</div> <div>Speakers<div><div></div><div>Moumini Soilahouddine Director General, Société Nationale d'électricité des Comores (SONELEC), Comoros</div></div><div><div></div><div>Mark Awuah Baah Chief Executive, GRIDCo, Ghana</div></div><div><div></div><div>William Amuna Chairman, Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), Ghana</div></div><div><div></div><div>Jabesh Amissah-Arthur Chairman, Volta River Authority (VRA), Ghana</div></div><div><div></div><div>Joseph Siror Managing Director & CEO, Kenya Power & Lighting Company, Kenya</div></div><div><div></div><div>Tarik Hamane CEO, Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau Potable (ONEE), Morocco</div></div><div><div></div><div>William Liabunya CEO, Electricity Generation Company (EGENCO), Malawi</div></div><div><div></div><div>Richard Matsiko Acting CEO, Uganda Electricity Transmission Company (UETCL), Uganda</div></div><div><div></div><div>Nobert Matarutse Acting MD, Zimbabwe Power Company (ZPC), Zimbabwe</div></div><div><div></div><div>Stephen Dihwa Coordination Centre Executive Director, Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)</div></div></div>
15:45	Capitol Ballroom Salon D	
	15:45 – 16:15 Coffee & Chat	
16:15	Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F	Capitol Ballroom Salon H
	16:15 – 17:30 <div>Meeting the Moment – How Billions of Investment into Universal Energy Access and Clean Cooking Is Transforming the Continent's Future</div> <div>With programmes like M300 increasing connections in the millions, how are communities increasing economic output to avoid the build up of unsustainable debt.</div> <div>Scene Setter</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Where are we with universal energy access and clean cooking targets?</div> <div>Discussion Topics</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">What opportunities is this creating for technology companies looking to tap into Africa's huge population?</div>	16:15 – 17:30 Closed Door Regulators Roundtable <div>Invitation Only</div> <div>Moderator<div><div></div><div>Mohamed Rali Badissy Co-Director, Power Contract Transparency, Energy for Growth Hub; Affiliate Professor of Law, Penn State Dickinson Law; Senior Advisor for Energy & Finance, Commercial Law Development Program, U.S. Department of Commerce</div></div><div>Speakers</div></div>

- How can supporting clean cooking initiatives help to foster greater economic independence, empowerment and improved health?
- Can data centres, AI and bitcoin mining increase the bankability of projects, supporting wider energy access for communities?
- What will be the impact of 300 million new connections on Africa's agricultural sector?
- Job creation is an important factor in building Africa's resilience and a more stable investment environment.

Speakers



Nicole Poindexter
CEO & Founder, Energicity



Sandrine Mubenga
CEO, Electricity Regulatory Authority (ARE), Democratic Republic of the Congo



Skhumbuzo Tsabedze
CEO, Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA), Eswatini



Emeafa Hardcastle
Acting CEO, Petroleum Commission, Ghana



John Gatsi
Chairman, Energy Commission, Ghana



Honourable Moses Asaga
Chairman, Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC), Ghana



Daniel Kiptoo Bargoria
Director General, Energy & Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), Kenya



Festus Kallay
Director General, Sierra Leone Electricity & Water Regulatory Commission (SLEWRC), Sierra Leone



Thembani Bukula
Chairperson, National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA), South Africa



Nomfundo Maseti
Full-Time Regulator Member responsible for Electricity & Gas Regulation, National Energy
Regulator of South Africa (NERSA), South Africa



Marco Kuyu
Deputy CEO, Electricity Regulatory Authority (ARE), Democratic Republic of the Congo

17:30

Capitol Ballroom Salon D

17:30 – 20:00 Gala Drinks Reception

Day Two – Friday 20 March 2026

NB: Topics, times and speakers may be subject to change as the agenda develops.

08:00

Capitol Ballroom Salon D

08:00 – 09:00 Registration & Networking Breakfast

09:00

Capitol Ballroom Salon E

Capitol Ballroom Salon F

Capitol Ballroom Salon H

09:00 – 10:15 Guarantees & Financing

During last year's PAS, we discussed challenges around financing and guarantees. What are the perceived barriers to deeper bilateral investment and partnerships?

- Regional energy trade is reducing risk by being a financial back stop, what impact is this having on investor confidence?
- With the appetite for local currency financing increasing, and volatility in international markets, what do investors need to consider when structuring deals?
- Can vehicles like Zafiri address Africa's toughest energy-financing gaps, like clean cooking?
- Can Africa afford a nuclear-powered future?

Speakers

09:00 – 10:15 Hosted Boardroom

09:00 – 10:15

Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle








US-Southern Africa

Invitation Only

Speakers



Thomas Hardy
Deputy Director & COO, U.S. Trade and Development
Agency (USTDA)

10:15	<div><div></div><div><div>H.E. Honourable Professor Mthuli Ncube</div><div>Minister of Finance, Economic Development & Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe</div></div></div>		
10:45	Capitol Ballroom Salon D		
	10:15 – 10:45 Coffee & Chat		
	Capitol Ballroom Salon E	Capitol Ballroom Salon F	Capitol Ballroom Salon H
12:00	10:45 – 12:00 Critical Minerals in Africa: Meeting Global Demand Africa holds 30% of the world’s mineral reserves. To meet expected rise in global demand, production will need to increase by nearly 500% by 2050.* In addition to the Lobito Corridor, what else should stakeholders do to meet this opportunity? <ul style="list-style-type: none">How can the US further develop supply chains with Africa for the critical minerals that it relies on?Delivering clean water and energy to mining communities to increase productivity, health and wealth.The future of Africa’s refining sector to produce value-added products.How can the US and Africa work jointly to create stable pricing for Africa’s critical minerals? * Africa’s critical minerals, Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 2022 Speakers <div><div></div><div><div>H.E. Honourable Dr. Eng Caleb Makwiranzou</div><div>Deputy Minister, Ministry of Mines & Mining Development, Zimbabwe</div></div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>Gracelin Baskaran</div><div>Director, Critical Minerals Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)</div></div></div>	10:45 – 12:00 Hosted Boardroom	10:45 – 12:00 Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle US-East Africa <i>Invitation Only</i>
	Session Switchover		
	12:00 – 12:15 Session Switchover		
12:15	Capitol Ballroom Salon E	Capitol Ballroom Salon F	Capitol Ballroom Salon H
	12:15 – 13:30 How Gas Strategies between the US and Africa are Increasing Energy Security and Bilateral Trade The critical role of gas to industrialise and power economic growth in Africa and the US has never been more urgent. However, with deals taking up to ten years to complete, what should investors be doing to increase the pace of investment in these critical resources? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Why does the US consider Africa a Strategic Energy Partner and what does this mean?How gas offers Africa a diversified industrial future, bringing in US technology and new industrial partners.How the US is supporting Africa’s energy baseload needs through gas development and industrialisation. Speakers <div><div></div><div><div>Nomfundo Maseti</div><div>Full-Time Regulator Member responsible for Electricity & Gas Regulation, National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA), South Africa</div></div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>Laura Spector</div><div>Country Manager, Energy, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)</div></div></div>	12:15 – 13:30 Hosted Boardroom	12:15 – 13:30 Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle US-West Africa <i>Invitation Only</i> Speakers <div><div></div><div><div>H.E. Honourable Jeremiah Kpan KOUNG</div><div>Vice President, Liberia</div></div></div> <div><div></div><div><div>Thomas Hardy</div><div>Deputy Director & COO, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)</div></div></div>

13:30	Capitol Ballroom Salon D		
	13:30 – 14:30 Closing Lunch		
	Thank you PAS 2026!		