



# **pas**

**powering africa summit**  
19-20 MARCH 2026 • WASHINGTON DC

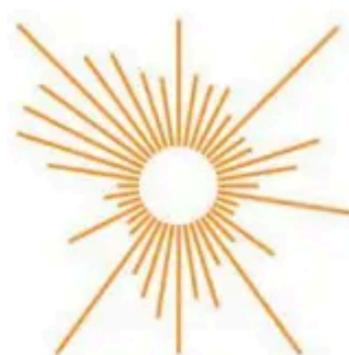


**POWERING THE US-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP**  
Energy Infrastructure • Critical Minerals • Investment Strategies



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## 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 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.

- Is the Lobito Corridor project creating opportunities for new US investment into Africa?
- How technology will increase the bankability for investors looking at Africa's energy sector.
- How countries are implementing better governance frameworks to support ROI for international investors.
- How blended and innovative financing mechanisms increase the efficiency and reduce the perceived risk of investing in Africa's energy sector.

13:00

**Capitol Ballroom Salon D**

13:00 – 14:30 PAS Power Lunch

14:30

**Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F**

**14:30 – 15:45 Large-Scale Infrastructure Investment**

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?

- 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?

**Speakers**



**Heather Lanigan**

Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)



**Anand Naidoo**

Managing Executive, Client Coverage, Absa

**Capitol Ballroom Salon H**

**14:30 – 15:45 Closed Door Utilities Roundtable**

*Invitation Only*

**Speakers**



**Moumini Soilahouddine**

Director General, Société Nationale d'électricité des Comores (SONELEC), Comoros



**Mark Awuah Baah**

Chief Executive, GRIDCo, Ghana



**William Amuna**

Chairman, Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), Ghana



**Jabesh Amissah-Arthur**

Chairman, Volta River Authority (VRA), Ghana



**Joseph Siror**

Managing Director & CEO, Kenya Power & Lighting Company, Kenya



**Tarik Hamane**

CEO, Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau Potable (ONEE), Morocco



**William Liabunya**

CEO, Electricity Generation Company (EGENCO), Malawi



**Richard Matsiko**

Acting CEO, Uganda Electricity Transmission Company (UETCL), Uganda



**Nobert Matarutse**

Acting MD, Zimbabwe Power Company (ZPC), Zimbabwe



**Stephen Dihwa**

Coordination Centre Executive Director, Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)

15:45

**Capitol Ballroom Salon D**

15:45 – 16:15 Coffee & Chat

16:15

**Capitol Ballroom Salon E & F**

16:15 – 17:30

**Meeting the Moment – How Billions of Investment into Universal Energy Access and Clean Cooking Is Transforming the Continent's Future**

With programmes like M300 increasing connections in the millions, how are communities increasing economic output to avoid the build up of unsustainable debt.

Scene Setter

- Where are we with universal energy access and clean cooking targets?

Discussion Topics

- What opportunities is this creating for technology companies looking to tap into Africa's huge population?

**Capitol Ballroom Salon H**

**16:15 – 17:30 Closed Door Regulators Roundtable**

*Invitation Only*

**Moderator**



**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

**Speakers**

- 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

#### Speakers



**Thomas Hardy**

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

09:00 – 10:15 **Hosted Boardroom**

09:00 – 10:15

**Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle**

US-Southern Africa

*Invitation Only*



**H.E. Honourable Professor Mthuli Ncube**  
Minister of Finance, Economic Development &  
Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe

10:15

**Capitol Ballroom Salon D**

10:15 – 10:45 **Coffee & Chat**

10:45

**Capitol Ballroom Salon E**

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?

- 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**



**H.E. Honourable Dr. Eng Caleb Makwiranzou**  
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Mines & Mining Development,  
Zimbabwe



**Gracelin Baskaran**  
Director, Critical Minerals Security Program, Center for  
Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

**Capitol Ballroom Salon F**

10:45 – 12:00 **Hosted Boardroom**

**Capitol Ballroom Salon H**

10:45 – 12:00

**Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle**

US-East Africa

*Invitation Only*

12:00

**Session Switchover**

12:00 – 12:15 **Session Switchover**

12:15

**Capitol Ballroom Salon E**

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?

- 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.

**Capitol Ballroom Salon F**

12:15 – 13:30 **Hosted Boardroom**

**Capitol Ballroom Salon H**

12:15 – 13:30

**Closed Door Boardrooms: Country Huddle**

US-West Africa

*Invitation Only*

**Speakers**



**H.E. Honourable Jeremiah Kpan Koung**  
Vice President, Liberia



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

**Speakers**



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



**Laura Spector**  
Country Manager, Energy, U.S. Trade and Development  
Agency (USTDA)

13:30

Capitol Ballroom Salon D

13:30 – 14:30 **Closing Lunch**

Thank you PAS 2026!