

POWERING FUTURES POWERING POSSIBILITIES

20-22 JULY 2026 | NAIROBI, KENYA

Join the leaders reshaping energy in
Africa and beyond



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POWERING FUTURES: POWERING POSSIBILITIES 2026 CONFERENCE

Africa's energy transition stands at a decisive inflection point, and so does the global market that surrounds it. As the world moves from net-zero pledges to real implementation, Africa is no longer a frontier of potential but a system actor whose choices will shape resilience, competitiveness and energy security around the world.

The *Powering Futures: Powering Possibilities 2026 Conference* creates a results-focused platform that brings together governments, energy leaders, financiers, innovators, and development partners to align renewable-first systems with the policy, capital, and partnerships needed to realize them.

Co-hosted by [oEsslin](#), Electricity Sector Association of Kenya (ESAK), and the [Energy Council of South Africa](#), the conference provides a collaborative space for designing an actionable agenda that connects energy access and equity with industrial competitiveness and global stability. The focus is on implementation, coordination, and system design, ensuring that ideas translate into real progress.

Our work in Nairobi will help establish the foundation of a continental platform for renewable and hydrogen cooperation and inform Africa's collective contribution to the World Energy Congress in Riyadh. It is a moment to shape solutions that elevate shared opportunity and expand the possibilities of a more secure and resilient global energy future

Why Attend the Powering Futures 2026 Conference?

- Shape real outcomes at a critical moment for energy transformation and implementation.
- Engage directly with global leaders across government, industry, finance, technology, and policy who are driving the next phase of the energy transition.
- Co-create an actionable agenda through high-level plenaries, interactive sessions, and collaborative working groups.
- Access emerging opportunities in renewable-focused systems, hydrogen development, and clean energy value chains.
- Build cross-continental partnerships that connect Africa's transition with global markets, supply chains, and investment flows.
- Gain early insight into ideas, investment directions, and innovation shaping the 2026 World Energy Congress.
- Expand your network through curated sessions, meaningful conversations, and partnership facilitation.
- Experience Nairobi's energy — a vibrant hub for innovation, culture, and global collaboration.

Conference Registration

Your registration grants you full access to the full three-day Powering Futures 2026 Conference experience. This includes:

- Pre-Conference Workshops: Participate in focused, expert-led sessions offering practical insights, emerging trends, and valuable preparation for the full conference experience.
- Full Access to All Sessions: Keynotes, plenaries, technical discussions, and interactive dialogues across all three days.
- Curated Networking Events: Dedicated networking sessions designed to help you connect with leaders, innovators, and partners across the energy ecosystem.
- Daily Conference Catering: Lunch each day, welcome reception (Feb 10), conference dinner (Feb 11), morning and afternoon tea/coffee breaks (no afternoon tea Feb 12)
- Exhibition & Innovation Showcase: Entry to the innovation hall, partner showcases, and solution demonstrations.

(CONTINUED) Conference Registration

- Shuttle Service: Convenient shuttle transfers will operate between the conference venue and designated partner hotels for registered participants.
- Conference Materials & Digital Resources: Program access, speaker briefs, and in-conference materials.
- Post-Conference Summary Reports: Access to consolidated summaries and key insights prepared after the event.
- Delegate Support Throughout: On-site assistance and access to the delegate help desk for the duration of the conference.'

Geothermal Site Visit (optional)

The geothermal site visit comes at a separate cost (\$125) and offers participants an immersive, behind-the-scenes look at one of the region's leading geothermal facilities. Registration for the visit covers:

- Round-trip transportation from the conference venue to the geothermal site
- Entrance to Hell's Gate National Park
- Guided access to operational areas, led by technical experts and facility managers
- On-site briefings and demonstrations, including Q&A with specialists
- Lunch at the site, provided for all participants
- Safety gear and orientation, where required

If you have any registration questions, please email us at registration@poweringfutures2026.com.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS (19 July) – *OPTIONAL*

The pre-conference workshops bring together energy sector leadership, regional partners, and technical experts for a full day of focused engagement ahead of the main conference. These sessions set the strategic and technical foundation for the discussions that follow.

The programme includes:

- World Energy Council governance and committee meetings
- Regional coordination sessions with African and global partners
- Technical roundtables on hydrogen, power grids, and energy finance

Participation offers early access to key stakeholders, in-depth discussion on priority topics, and the opportunity to shape conversations before the main conference begins.

WORKSHOP – FinTech, Payments and Financial Systems for Scalable Energy Access

Hosted by Conference Partners (Energy–Finance–Digital Coalition)

Why This Workshop

Africa's energy transition will not be determined solely by how electricity is generated or transmitted, but by how power is financed, paid for and monetised across diverse economic realities. Across the continent, millions of households, micro-enterprises and small businesses already pay for energy but not through conventional billing systems. Mobile money, PAYGo models, usage-based tariffs, digital credit and embedded finance have become the de facto infrastructure enabling electricity access particularly in rural, peri-urban and informal urban contexts. Yet energy planning and financing discussions often treat payment systems as an afterthought disconnected from grid expansion, utility viability and investment decisions. This creates misalignment between system design, revenue reality and capital expectations. This executive workshop positions FinTech and digital financial systems as foundational energy infrastructure critical to affordability, access, revenue certainty and investor confidence.

Workshop Purpose

The workshop will examine how digital payments, financial platforms and data systems enable scalable energy access and system sustainability. It will focus on how FinTech bridges the gap between underserved consumers, utilities, developers and capital providers turning access into bankable, investable systems. Specifically, the workshop will explore:

- How households and micro-enterprises actually pay for electricity
- The role of mobile money, PAYGo and digital billing in reducing losses and improving collections
- Financing connections, appliances and productive-use equipment
- Integrating FinTech with utilities, mini-grid operators and regulators
- How payment data strengthens creditworthiness and lowers the cost of capital

Participants will leave with:

- A grounded understanding of payment realities at the base of Africa's energy systems
- Insight into how FinTech can underpin affordability and system viability
- Practical models for integrating energy infrastructure and financial platforms
- A shared view of how digital finance de-risks investment and accelerates scale

Who Should Attend

Senior stakeholders from utilities and regulators; mobile network operators; FinTech providers; DFIs and commercial investors; energy developers; appliance and productive-use providers; policy and planning institutions.

This workshop anchors Powering Futures: Powering Possibilities 2026 by ensuring that financing and payment systems are treated as first-order design choices, not downstream fixes. It will directly feed into Day One's focus on affordability and financing, and Day Two's focus on markets, ecosystems, and delivery at scale.

WORKSHOP – Energy Data, Modelling and System Decisions for Africa’s Power Transition

Hosted by the Energy Council of South Africa (EDMSA)

Africa’s energy transition is no longer constrained by ambition or technology. It is constrained by the quality of system decisions taken under uncertainty such as decisions about grid expansion, rural and urban access, affordability, reliability, financing and sequencing. As power systems integrate higher shares of renewables, extend service to underserved communities and respond to new forms of demand, credible transparent energy modelling has become essential to policy coherence, investment confidence and delivery at scale. Yet across much of the continent, planning and modelling remain fragmented, opaque and disconnected from financing decisions. This executive workshop, convened by the Energy Council of South Africa through Energy Data & Modelling South Africa (EDMSA), positions data and modelling as decision-making infrastructure, a practical bridge between system design, finance and implementation. The workshop will demonstrate how open, collaborative energy modelling platforms strengthen energy decisions by aligning technical planning with financial and policy realities. It will focus on how modelling supports:

- Integrated planning of grids, mini-grids, renewables, storage and transmission
- Least-cost access expansion across rural, peri-urban and urban contexts
- Affordability and tariff trajectories over time
- Investment appraisal, risk assessment and blended-finance structuring
- Shared evidence and transparency across stakeholders

Participants will leave with:

- A better understanding of how modelling informs real system and investment decisions
- Insight into how modelling reduces uncertainty and lowers the cost of capital
- A shared language between technical, policy, and finance actors
- Practical lessons from South Africa’s EDMSA experience applicable across Africa

Who Should Attend:

Senior and technical stakeholders involved in energy system decisions, including: Energy ministries and planners; utilities and system operators; regulators; DFIs and investors; developers; technology providers; academic and civil-society experts.

This workshop anchors Powering Futures: Powering Possibilities 2026 by strengthening the analytical foundation of Day One and Day Two. It reinforces the conference’s core logic: that credible systems, credible finance, and credible delivery start with credible evidence.

WORKSHOP – Bridging the Evidence-Policy Gap for Africa’s Energy Transformation

Hosted by the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)

Introduction

The transition to sustainable energy in Africa has reached a stage where success depends on moving beyond high-level pledges toward strategies rooted in contextualized and implementation evidence. As stakeholders gather for the Powering Futures 2026 Conference, the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) is convening a side event to showcase how to bridge the gap between practical experience and policy-level decision-making.

This session provides a focused, policy-centered dialogue grounded in real-world energy transition to renewable sources experiences. By highlighting initiatives that prioritize gender equality and socio-economic transformation, with Kenya and Uganda as a primary reference points, the event will demonstrate how cross-sectoral evidence can shape effective policy and strategic investment.

ACTS serves as a leading intergovernmental pioneer in harnessing applications of science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development in Africa. Our approach focuses on bringing multidisciplinary implementation experience into the policy space to ensure that energy transitions are inclusive and technically sound.

The guiding question for this session is: How is current evidence from multi-sectoral energy initiatives shaping real policy and investment decisions—and where are the critical bottlenecks preventing multi-level scale?

Session Objectives

The primary aim is to strengthen evidence-informed decision-making by connecting implementation with the actors who map, design policy, programs and financing. Specifically, the session will:

- Synthesize sectoral evidence: present practical findings from a range of energy and community representative initiatives to illustrate what is working on the ground.
- Inform policy and regulation: identify how this evidence can improve energy policies, frameworks and regulations, in the short-to-medium term.
- Prioritize transformation: emphasize transitions that put gender equality and socio-economic impact at the heart of the "powering futures" agenda.
- Drive accountability: move from dialogue to action by inviting participants to articulate commitment statements linked to their institutional roles.

Link to Conference theme

In direct alignment with the conference theme of Powering Futures: Powering Possibilities, this session focuses on the "how" of implementation. Using Kenya and Uganda as illustrative cases, the event highlights how Africa’s evolving policy landscapes can transform renewable energy potential into inclusive, scalable energy systems across the continent.

Who Should Attend:

- Energy policymakers and regulators with decision-making or advisory roles
- Project leads and implementers from active energy initiatives
- Development partners and those focused on programme design or capital scaling
- Research and policy institutions generating the data that constitutes the evidence.

Delivery

The event is designed as a facilitated, high-impact dialogue rather than a series of static presentations:

- Keynote insights from industry leaders and representatives from knowledge think tanks including ACTS.
- High-impact summaries of lessons learned from current implementation across various projects within ACTS.
- Moderated plenary focused on how emerging energy transitions shape regulatory frameworks, programme design choices, and financing models across the energy system.
- The Call to Action: A concluding segment where participants provide institutional commitment statements to ensure a shift from talk to responsibility.

The ACTS team will provide real-time documentation of the session. Post-event, these outputs will be consolidated into a policy brief and shared with the wider WEC delegation, ensuring that the evidence showcased informs the broader continental energy agenda.

Expected outcomes

- A concise policy brief synthesizing implementation data and evidence-based recommendations to inform regulators and policymakers.
- Documented Calls to Action from key stakeholders, clearly linking institutional mandates to specific transition and delivery goals.
- Strengthened coordination among project implementers, financiers, and decision-makers, enabling the scaling of proven and high-impact initiatives.
- Practical insights into how gender-responsive and socio-economically transformative evidence can enhance programme design and delivery.
- A clear shift from dialogue to documented responsibility, establishing a baseline for post-conference follow-up and impact tracking.

WORKSHOP – Democratic Integrity, Governance Accountability & Political Stability in Africa’s Energy Transition.

Hosted by the Electoral Law and Governance Institute in Africa (ELGIA)

Introduction

The Electoral Law and Governance Institute in Africa (ELGIA) is a continental democracy development and electoral governance expert NGO headquartered in Kenya. ELGIA works to strengthen democratic governance, advance constitutionalism and the rule of law, strength electoral processes, support to Judiciary on access to justice and dispute resolution, environmental governance and climate justice, and provide institutional support to governance and electoral institutions, collaborating with national and grassroots Civil Society organizations (CSOs), regional organisations like the African Union and African Court of Justice and national electoral management bodies, Judiciaries and Parliaments. Strengthening electoral institutions, empowering citizen agency, promoting democratic participation and peacebuilding programming in complex contexts has been a consistent feature of ELGIA’s work, focusing on fostering electoral integrity, enhancing accountability, and safeguarding fundamental civic freedoms.

Guiding Rationale

Africa’s energy transition is not only a technical and financial undertaking—it is a governance, legitimacy and political stability challenge. The success of reforms in electricity, renewables, hydrogen, regional power markets, and energy access depends on the credibility of institutions, the trust of citizens, and the stability of political systems. At the same time, electoral outcomes in major economies (US, EU, UK) directly influence Africa’s just transition trajectory—shaping climate finance, technology partnerships, industrial policy, and global climate ambition.

ELGIA is uniquely positioned to analyse these dynamics through its core strengths in democratic governance, institutional accountability, and electoral systems, offering insights often missing from technical energy discussions.

Session Objective

To provide a high-level platform examining how democratic integrity, institutional resilience, citizen legitimacy, and political cycles—within Africa and in the Global North—shape Africa’s ability to achieve a just, equitable, and stable energy transition.

Core Themes

- **Institutional Integrity & Rule of Law in the Energy Sector** Strong, independent, and transparent institutions underpin credible tariffs, procurement, licensing, and long-term planning. Weak oversight and political capture undermine reforms and investor confidence.
- **Citizen Legitimacy, Public Trust & The Just Transition** Energy transitions succeed only when citizens feel included, fairly treated, and protected from unequal burdens. Public trust directly affects acceptance of reforms, pricing, land-use decisions, and community–project relations.
- **Electoral Cycles, Political Stability & Global Political Shocks** African elections heavily influence subsidy policies, tariff freezes, contract stability, and policy continuity. Meanwhile, shifts in US/EU/UK politics directly shape climate finance, carbon border regimes, technology transfer, and Africa’s energy justice prospects.

Format

- Opening Keynote: Democratic integrity & political volatility as determinants of Africa's transition
- Panel 1: Institutional integrity & rule of law
- Panel 2: Citizen legitimacy & just transition fairness
- Panel 3: Electoral cycles—Africa & Global North—and their transition impacts
- Interactive Dialogue & Closing Summary.

Expected Outcomes

- Practical governance recommendations to strengthen political resilience of national energy reforms
- Insights on democratising the just transition and enhancing public legitimacy
- Frameworks for stabilising long-term energy strategies across electoral cycles
- Recognition of external political risks and their implications for Africa's transition trajectory
- Foundation for ELGIA's Energy Democracy & Just Transition Initiative.

Value to WEC Africa

This session brings a distinct, governance-centred lens—positioning ELGIA as the leading voice on how democratic systems, political accountability, and global electoral trends shape Africa's energy equity and transition success.

DAY ONE (20 July) – TECHNICAL, SYSTEMS & FINANCING WORKING DAY

Building Power Systems That Deliver: Access, Affordability, Reliability and Investability

Day One is designed as a systems and financing working day that grounds Powering Futures: Powering Possibilities 2026 in the lived realities of Africa's energy transition. It will establish that Africa's renewable-first future depends not only on infrastructure but also on who is connected, how power is paid for, how systems are financed and how electricity translates into livelihoods and economic activity. It will treat grids, mini-grids, distributed energy, financing models, payment systems and productive use as interdependent components of a single ecosystem. Centralised grids and decentralised systems are framed as complementary; public finance, private capital and household payments are addressed together; and access is considered across urban, peri-urban and rural contexts.

08:00–09:00 – Registration & Arrival Networking

Arrival, registration and structured networking among utilities, regulators, system planners, DFIs, investors, developers, fintech providers, mobile operators, technology firms, and policy leaders.

09:00–09:50 – Opening Plenary: Power Systems That Deliver Financing Access, Affordability and Scale

Session Objective: To set the tone for the entire conference by establishing that Africa's energy transition is fundamentally about designing and financing power systems that people can afford, institutions can sustain and investors can support – across rural and urban economies alike.

Session Focus:

- Grid and mini-grid expansion as a development and affordability imperative, not a cost burden
- Financing models as a core system design choice shaping who gets connected and how fast
- Rural, peri-urban and informal urban access as central to system planning
- How underserved households and micro-enterprises actually pay for electricity
- The role of mobile money, PAYGo models and digital finance in expanding access
- Regional transmission and interconnection as mechanisms to lower system costs and reduce risk
- Aligning domestic affordability with long-term system bankability and global investment confidence

This plenary will establish why access, affordability and investability must be solved together and not sequentially.

09:50–10:15 – Keynotes: From Energy Access to Financial Sustainability

Short keynote reflections on how credible financing and payment models underpin successful grid and mini-grid expansion at scale.

SESSION BLOCK I 10:15–11:45 – Designing Integrated Power Systems for Urban and Rural Africa

Focus: System architecture that serves diverse demand profiles while remaining affordable and financeable.

Discussion Areas:

- Integrated planning of transmission, distribution, mini-grids and stand-alone systems
- Rural electrification pathways that avoid stranded assets
- Designing mini-grids for interoperability and future grid integration
- Aligning least-cost planning with social and geographic realities
- Regional interconnection and power pools as resilience and cost-reduction tools

Intended Outcome: Shared principles for integrated system design that accelerates access across rural and urban Africa without fragmenting power systems.

SESSION BLOCK II 12:00–13:30 – Affordability, Utility Viability and Financing Models

Session focus: The financial architecture of power systems from generation to the last mile.

Discussion Areas:

- Tariff design that protects low-income consumers while ensuring cost recovery
- Utility governance, balance sheets and creditworthiness
- Financing models for grids, mini-grids and last-mile connections
- Blended finance, guarantees, concessional capital and currency risk
- Aligning public finance, DFIs and private capital in a coherent system

Intended Outcome: Clear articulation of financing models that expand access without undermining affordability or fiscal stability.

13:30–14:30 Lunch & Peer Exchange

SESSION BLOCK III 14:30–16:00 – Productive Use Ecosystems: Turning Electricity into Livelihoods

Focus: Ensuring that access to electricity translates into income, jobs and economic resilience.

Discussion Areas:

- Productive use in rural and peri-urban economies: agriculture, cold chains, MSMEs
- Powering informal and micro-enterprises in urban contexts
- Anchor loads and demand aggregation for mini-grid viability
- Financing productive-use equipment and services
- Integrating energy, finance and market access for micro-economies

Intended Outcome: A practical understanding of productive-use ecosystems that strengthen demand, improve affordability and enhance system sustainability.

SESSION BLOCK IV 16:15–17:30 – Paying for Power: Digital Finance, PAYGo and System Sustainability

Focus: How electricity is paid for by households and enterprises at the base of the energy system.

Discussion Areas:

- Mobile money, PAYGo and digital billing models
- Reducing non-technical losses through smart metering and digital payments
- Financing connections and appliances for low-income consumers
- Integrating fintech, utilities and regulators
- Data, transparency and trust in customer payment systems

Intended Outcome: A grounded view of how payment innovation underpins affordability, revenue stability and investor confidence.

17:30–18:00 – Day One Synthesis: Systems That Work for People, Finance and the Future

A structured synthesis consolidating:

- Core principles for grid and mini-grid expansion
- Non-negotiables on rural inclusion, affordability and payment models
- Priority financing and governance reforms
- Inputs shaping Day Two strategic dialogues and Africa's contribution to Riyadh 2026

Outcome of Day One

By the end of Day One, participants will have established a shared, credible foundation for Africa's energy transition, one that recognises:

- Access across rural, peri-urban and urban contexts as central
- Financing and payment models as system-defining
- Productive use as an ecosystem and not a side benefit
- Digital finance and PAYGo as critical enablers of scale
- Power systems as the backbone of industrial growth, hydrogen readiness and global energy resilience

DAY TWO (21 July) – STRATEGY, MARKETS, SYSTEMS & DELIVERY DAY

From Power Systems to Integrated Energy Markets: Finance, Technology and Delivery at Scale

Day Two deliberations are intended to translate the system foundations established on Day One into scalable markets, delivery pathways and investable ecosystems. It will focus on how Africa can align energy infrastructure, financial systems, digital platforms and demand growth to accelerate access, affordability and economic transformation while positioning the continent as a credible contributor to global energy resilience and decarbonisation. The day will treat FinTech, digital payments, data systems and market platforms as core infrastructure of the energy transition, recognising that how power is financed, paid for, measured and managed is as critical as how it is generated.

08:30–09:15 – Arrival & Strategic Networking

Targeted networking amongst governments, utilities, DFIs, investors, mobile operators, FinTech firms, technology providers, large energy users and development partners.

09:15–10:15 – Strategic Plenary: Energy as a System of Systems: Power, Finance, Data, and Markets

Focus: To frame Africa's energy transition as the integration of power systems, financial systems and digital platforms rather than as standalone infrastructure exercise.

Discussion Areas:

- Power systems and financial systems as mutually reinforcing infrastructures
- FinTech, mobile money and PAYGo as enablers of access, affordability and revenue certainty
- Data, transparency and digital platforms as foundations of bankability
- Aligning public policy, private capital and digital innovation around delivery
- Africa's opportunity to leapfrog into integrated energy-finance ecosystems

This plenary establishes FinTech and systems integration as central to scaling Africa's energy markets.

SESSION BLOCK I 10:30–12:00 – Scaling Investment Through Integrated Financing Platforms

Focus: Moving from fragmented projects to coordinated investment pipelines.

Discussion Areas:

- Structuring portfolios that combine grids, mini-grids, storage and distributed systems
- Digital platforms for pipeline development, risk assessment and capital mobilisation
- Blended finance models supported by data-driven transparency
- Currency risk, payment risk and the role of digital financial infrastructure
- Coordinating DFIs, commercial banks, institutional investors, and local finance

Intended Outcome: Clear pathways for scaling investment through platform-based financing models, not one-off deals.

SESSION BLOCK II 12:00–13:15 – FinTech, Payments and Revenue Systems for Energy Access

Focus: How electricity is paid for and why this determines system sustainability.

Discussion Areas:

- Mobile money, PAYGo and usage-based payment models
- Financing connections, appliances and productive-use equipment
- Reducing non-technical losses through digital metering and billing
- Integrating utilities, mini-grid operators and FinTech providers
- Regulatory frameworks for digital payments and consumer protection

Intended Outcome: A shared understanding of payment innovation as a pillar of affordability, utility viability and investor confidence.

Lunch & Market Exchanges 13:15–14:15

Informal exchange among developers, financiers, mobile operators, FinTech firms, and policymakers.

SESSION BLOCK III 14:15–15:45 – Productive Use Ecosystems and Micro-Economic Growth

Focus: Ensuring electricity access translates into income, jobs and demand growth.

Discussion Areas:

- Productive-use ecosystems in rural, peri-urban and informal urban economies
- Linking energy access with finance, equipment, markets and services
- Digital finance as an enabler of MSME growth and energy demand
- Anchor loads, demand aggregation and ecosystem financing
- Measuring economic impact beyond connection numbers

Intended Outcome: Practical models for turning access into sustained economic activity and system revenue.

SESSION BLOCK IV 16:00–17:15 – Hydrogen, Digital Demand and New Energy Value Chains

Focus: Positioning new value chains within an integrated system-first transition.

Discussion Areas:

- Hydrogen as an extension of renewable power systems and storage
- Financing hydrogen without undermining domestic access and affordability
- Digital demand: data centres, AI and hyperscalers as new load centres
- Power–data–finance convergence and long-term offtake models
- Aligning new demand with grid stability and investment planning

Intended Outcome: A disciplined framework for sequencing hydrogen and digital demand within Africa’s system and market realities.

Day Two Closing Plenary 17:15–18:00: From Systems to Scale: Building Africa’s Integrated Energy Economy

Session objective: To consolidate insights from both days into a clear strategic direction that aligns systems, markets, finance and technology.

Session Focus:

- Signals to investors, innovators and policymakers
- Priorities for coordinated follow-up and platform development
- Areas for regional and continental alignment
- Commitments to sustained collaboration and delivery

Outcome of Day Two

By the close of Day Two, participants will have:

- Positioned FinTech and digital systems as core enablers of energy scale
- Clarified how energy, finance and data ecosystems converge
- Identified pathways from access to markets and investment pipelines
- Established credible frameworks for new value chains without extractive models
- Reinforced Africa’s role in global energy resilience through integrated systems

DAY THREE (22 July) – AFRICA, THE WORLD ENERGY CONGRESS & GLOBAL POSITIONING

Africa’s Coordinated Path to the World Energy Congress 2026 – From Systems to Global Influence *(Half Day Concludes with Lunch at 13:00)*

Day Three is designed as a strategic convergence and mandate-setting day. It translates the system, financing, market and ecosystem insights of Days One and Two into a clear African positioning within the global energy sphere, with a specific focus on Africa’s contribution to, and leadership within, the World Energy Congress 2026. The emphasis is not on debate but on alignment, clarity and authority: what Africa will take to the Congress, how it will engage and what narrative it will advance, grounded in access, affordability, delivery and investability

Session I 09:00–10:45 – Africa at the World Energy Congress 2026 - Shaping Africa’s Contribution to the Global Energy Dialogue

Session Objective: To define Africa’s priorities, propositions and leadership role at the World Energy Congress 2026 ensuring that the continent arrives as a coherent system actor, not a collection of disconnected perspectives.

Session Focus:

- Africa’s core narrative: power systems that deliver access, affordability and reliability
- Financing and payment models as defining features of Africa’s transition pathway
- Integrated grids, mini-grids and digital systems as Africa’s competitive advantage
- Productive use, micro-economies and inclusive growth as central to Africa’s proposition
- Hydrogen and emerging value chains positioned within a renewable-first, system-led transition
- Africa’s role in global energy resilience, security and decarbonisation

Format:

High-level, facilitated dialogue led by African Member Committees, with participation from:

- World Energy Congress Organiser, Council leadership and Secretariat
- Selected international Member Committees
- Senior representatives from industry, finance, and technology

Primary Output: Alignment on Africa’s priority themes, messages and areas of leadership to be reflected in Congress sessions, interventions and partnerships.

Session II 10:45–11:45 – Organising Africa’s Engagement at the Congress From Position to Presence: How Africa Shows Up in Riyadh

Session Objective: To move from narrative to practical engagement, clarifying how African Member Committees and partners will participate, coordinate, and lead at the World Energy Congress.

Session Focus:

- Coordinated African participation across Congress programme pillars
- Roles of African Member Committees in panels, workshops and leadership dialogues
- Aligning national, regional and continental representation
- Strategic engagement with global partners, investors and technology leaders
- Using the Congress as a platform to advance African priorities and partnerships

Primary Output: A clear engagement framework for Africa’s participation at the World Energy Congress 2026 including coordination mechanisms and follow-up actions.

Closing Plenary 11:45–12:45 – From Nairobi to Riyadh to South Africa: Continuity, Leadership and Delivery

Session Objective: To formally conclude the forum by connecting Nairobi’s outcomes to the next phases of global and continental engagement and to signal continuity beyond the Congress.

Session Focus:

- What Africa has aligned on in Nairobi
- How this alignment will shape Africa's contribution at the World Energy Congress 2026
- The role of ongoing coordination across the WEC network
- Positioning South Africa 2027 as the next continental moment to review progress, deepen delivery and advance implementation

This plenary reinforces that Powering Futures is a structured process, not a one-off event.

Formal Close 12:45–13:00 – Closing remarks and transition to lunch.

13:00 | Networking Lunch & Departures

DAY 4 *OPTIONAL* (23 July) – GEOTHERMAL SITE VISIT

This optional geothermal site visit offers participants a practical, first-hand view of a leading geothermal facility in operation. The visit is designed to complement conference discussions with real-world exposure to geothermal infrastructure, operations, and management.

The site visit package includes:

- Round-trip transportation from the conference venue
- Entrance to Hell's Gate National Park
- Guided access to operational areas, led by technical experts and facility managers
- On-site briefings and demonstrations, with time for questions
- Lunch provided at the site
- Required safety gear and orientation

Event Venue: The Edge Convention Centre

Set within the renowned, [Safari Park Hotel](#) offers a world-class setting for collaboration, connection, and creativity.

Surrounded by beautiful landscapes and complemented by warm African hospitality, Safari Park Hotel provides the perfect atmosphere for productive sessions, meaningful networking, and truly memorable conference experiences.

Where to Stay

This accommodation briefing provides delegates with curated lodging options across Nairobi, grouped by proximity, comfort category, travel convenience, and suitability for different types of delegations. Distances and travel times are estimated relative to Safari Park Hotel (Kiambu area,Thika Road).

Hotels Closest to Safari Park Hotel (Premium Convenience)

Ideal for delegates prioritising proximity and minimal travel time.

- Sports View Hotel — Distance: 2 km · Travel Time: 5–8 minutes · Convenient and affordable accommodation with quick access to Safari Park Hotel.
- Hotel La Mada — Distance: 3 km · Travel Time: 8–10 minutes · Tranquil hotel setting near Karura Forest offering a relaxed stay experience.
- Windsor Golf Hotel & Country Club — Distance: 4 km · Travel Time: 10–12 minutes · Luxury country-style hotel featuring golf facilities, spacious grounds and premium amenities.
- Glee Nairobi — Distance: 6 km · Travel Time: 12–15 minutes · Modern upscale hotel with contemporary rooms, dining and wellness facilities.
- Pax Manor Muthaiga — Distance: 7 km · Travel Time: 15–18 minutes · Boutique-style accommodation in the serene Muthaiga neighbourhood.

Upper Hill, Westlands & Surrounding Business Districts closest to Safari Park Hotel (Business-Class Hotels)

Ideal for delegations wanting corporate facilities, stronger nightlife and dining, and proximity to Nairobi's administrative heart.

- Radisson Blu Upper Hill — Distance: 15 km · Travel Time: 30-40 minutes · High-end business hotel with extensive meeting rooms.
- Pullman Hotel (formerly Crowne Plaza) — Distance: 14 km · Travel Time: 28-38 minutes · Modern business environment with strong corporate facilities.
- Best Western Upper Hill — Distance: 15 km · Travel Time: 30-40 minutes · Reliable mid-range option for cost-conscious delegates.
- DoubleTree by Hilton, Ngong Road — Distance: 18 km · Travel Time: 35-45 minutes · Hilton-branded reliability with modern amenities.
- Four Points by Sheraton, Hurlingham — Distance: 14 km · Travel Time: 35-50 minutes · Popular with corporate travellers; rooftop bar and quality dining.
- Radisson Blu Arboretum — Distance: 16 km · Travel Time: 30-45 minutes · Calm setting beside Arboretum forest.
- Sarova Panafric — Distance: 15 km · Travel Time: 30-40 minutes · Nairobi classic, recently renovated.
- Laico Regency — Distance: 13 km · Travel Time: 25-35 minutes · Central location with large rooms and classic styling.

Luxury Hotels for VIP Delegations (High-Level)

Ideal for ministers, CEOs, international foundations, DFIs and keynote speakers.

- Fairmont The Norfolk — Distance: 13 km · Travel Time: 25–35 minutes : Historic landmark hotel with colonial architecture and premium service.
- Nairobi Serena Hotel — Distance: 14 km · Travel Time: 28-38 minutes: One of Nairobi’s most prestigious hotels; preferred by diplomatic delegations.
- Villa Rosa Kempinski — Distance: 14 km · Travel Time: 30-40 minutes: Five-star luxury hotel often used by diplomatic and state delegations.
- JW Marriott Nairobi — Distance: 15 km · Travel Time: 30-42 minutes: Nairobi’s newest luxury hotel with top-tier security and amenities.
- Sankara Nairobi (Autograph Collection) — Distance: 16 km · Travel Time: 32-45 minutes: Upscale boutique-style hotel in the Westlands business district.
- Mövenpick Hotel & Residences — Distance: 17 km · Travel Time: 35-45 minutes: Large rooms, suites and extended-stay residences ideal for long-stay delegations.

Shuttle Service & Movement Around Nairobi

Morning and evening shuttle services will operate between all listed hotels and Safari Park Hotel. A detailed timetable will be shared with registered participants. Ride-hailing services such as Uber and Bolt are also widely available.

- Morning shuttles: (Hotel → Safari Park) Covering all listed hotels.
- Evening shuttles: (Safari Park → Hotel) Departing after conference sessions and evening events.
- VIP transport available on request: for keynote speakers, CEOs, foundation executives, and senior international delegations

Contact Us

If you have any questions about logistics, including travel and accommodation, please contact us at eventmanagement@poweringfutures2026.com.

Explore Kenya

Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is a dynamic city where modern innovation meets rich cultural heritage. As East Africa’s commercial and diplomatic hub, Nairobi offers visitors an exciting mix of world-class dining, contemporary art, and lively markets within a rapidly evolving urban landscape.

Just minutes from the centre, Nairobi National Park offers the rare chance to encounter wildlife against the backdrop of the city skyline. Beyond the city, attendees can explore nearby nature reserves, artisan collectives, and historic sites that reveal the region’s depth and diversity.

Suggested places for travel, leisure, and dining will be shared with registered participants, highlighting experiences that showcase Kenya’s vibrancy, culture, and natural beauty.

VISA - SPONSORSHIP

Visa Information for Powering Futures 2026 Conference

International participants travelling to Kenya for the Powering Futures 2026 Conference may require a visa. We strongly encourage all delegates to review visa requirements and begin the application process as early as possible.

Visa Requirements

To confirm whether you need a visa to travel to Kenya, please consult the official website of the Embassy of Kenya or your nearest Kenyan diplomatic mission. If you require an official invitation letter to support your application, please reach out to the conference team.

Official visa information and applications can be accessed via the Government of Kenya portal:

[Kenya eVisa / eCitizen Portal](#)

Steps for Visa Application

1. Determine whether you require a visa for entry into Kenya.
2. Check the required documents and passport photograph guidelines.
3. Submit your visa application through the official online portal or the relevant embassy or consulate.
4. Allow sufficient processing time and retain copies of all submitted documents.

Additional Notes

- Ensure your passport is valid for at least six (6) months beyond your intended travel dates.
- Check whether transit visas are required if you are travelling via another country.
- Keep both digital and printed copies of your visa approval and invitation letter (if applicable).

Need Help?

For assistance or questions regarding your visa application, please contact the Powering Futures 2026 support team at travel@poweringfutures2026.com.

Sponsorship

The Powering Futures 2026 Conference offers tailored sponsorship opportunities for organisations that share a commitment to equitable, secure, and sustainable energy transitions.

Sponsors gain visibility among senior decision-makers, engage in curated sessions and side events, and help shape a results-focused agenda at the intersection of policy, finance, technology, and community impact.

Sponsorship packages can include:

- Brand visibility across conference materials and spaces
- Speaking roles in key sessions, where appropriate
- Curated roundtables with government and industry leaders
- Exhibition and demonstration spaces
- Side events and networking receptions

For more information on sponsorship tiers and benefits, please contact the conference team at information@poweringfutures2026.com.