

## The role for women in the African energy sector

**Cape Town, South Africa – 13 November 2023** – The African energy sector is experiencing a transformative shift with a growing recognition of the essential role women play in driving sustainable energy solutions, innovation, and economic development. The annual Africa Energy Indaba, a leading advocate for diversity and inclusion in the energy industry, is proud to support and champion the vital role of women in shaping the future of Africa's energy landscape.

Despite the traditionally male-dominated nature of the energy sector, African women have increasingly been breaking barriers, making significant contributions, and leading positive change in various aspects of the industry. The roles for women in the African energy sector are as diverse as they are impactful, including:

- **Leadership and Innovation:** African women are taking on leadership positions in energy companies, government agencies, and organisations, driving innovation and advancing clean energy solutions. Their expertise in areas like renewable energy, sustainability, and energy policy is instrumental in shaping a more sustainable and inclusive energy future.
- **Community Engagement:** Women play a crucial role in engaging and empowering local communities to embrace clean energy solutions, promoting awareness, education, and local participation in energy projects. This community-focused approach ensures the successful implementation of energy initiatives while supporting grassroots development.
- **Entrepreneurship:** African women are increasingly becoming entrepreneurs in the energy sector, establishing and leading their own clean energy businesses, including solar, wind, and bioenergy projects. Their entrepreneurial endeavours not only contribute to economic growth but also provide solutions to energy access challenges in underserved areas.
- **Research and Development:** Women are actively involved in energy research and development, pioneering technologies and practices that contribute to energy efficiency, environmental sustainability, and energy security in Africa.

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The [Africa Energy Indaba](#) recognises the importance of gender diversity and is committed to fostering an inclusive work environment, promoting equal opportunities, and encouraging women to pursue careers in the energy sector. The event provides a platform for women to engage, learn, explore business opportunities and partnerships aimed at empowering women to take on leadership roles in energy. Further supporting women in the African Energy Sector, a formal business breakfast will be hosted on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to provide key industry insights to women keen to access the African energy opportunity.

Liz Hart, Managing Director of the Africa Energy Indaba, commented on the significance of women in the African energy sector, stating, "The African energy landscape is undergoing a profound transformation, and women are at the forefront of this positive change. Their contributions are essential in achieving sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy solutions across the continent. We are proud to support and amplify their voices in the industry."

By empowering women in the African energy sector, the [Africa Energy Indaba](#) is helping to address critical energy challenges while simultaneously advancing gender equality and driving economic development.

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