



U.S. AFRICA
ENERGY FORUM

2 0 2 1

EVALUATION REPORT

9-10
DECEMBER
2021

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The Agenda



Taking place in the energy capital of the world, the first-ever U.S.-Africa Energy Forum (USAEF) 2021 brought together government representatives and high-level delegations from 11 African countries, as well as U.S. and African public and private sector executives and financiers, for two days of engagement and dialogue in Houston. Serving to cement the U.S. as the primary partner of choice for African energy developers, the agenda emphasized trade and investment opportunities to enhance U.S. penetration in Africa, while accelerating multi-sector developments across the continent.

With Africa repositioned as the preferred investment destination in 2022 and beyond – owing to improved regulation and implementation of investor-friendly policies - USAEF 2021 highlighted the role and value of U.S. stakeholders and organizations in fast-tracking African energy progress. Sizeable oil and gas discoveries, abundant renewable resources and opportunities within the strategic minerals and rare earth elements space has heightened U.S. interest in Africa, with USAEF 2021 driving associated discussion points.

Collaborative panel discussions, investor roundtables and comprehensive presentations centered on unpacking the role of the U.S. in Africa and its vision for global energy investment; leveling the playing field between Africa and the rest of the world regarding investment in energy, natural gas utilization and power access; removing barriers to trade, commerce and deal-making; and catalyzing manufacturing, industry, infrastructure and energy as drivers of growth across the continent.

Organized by Energy Capital & Power and the African Energy Chamber's U.S.-Africa Committee, in partnership with the Texas-West Africa Chamber of Commerce and Kanfloons, USAEF 2021 represented the start of renewed engagement between Africa and the U.S. As the continent rises to the forefront of the U.S. investment agenda, USAEF 2021 rendered critical insights into new and existing opportunities across African energy and related sectors, ushering in a new wave of investment and driving long-term, sustainable energy growth.



African Energy Chamber

With thanks to

US-Africa Committee



US-Africa Energy Forum opens in Houston: asserting the significance of US-Africa relationships for the future of the global energy industry



The US-Africa Energy Forum opened on Dec. 9 at the C. Baldwin Hotel in downtown Houston, Texas. Sylvester Turner (Mayor, City of Houston), Rep. Ron Reynolds (Representative, State of Texas), Jude Kearney (Chair of the US-Africa Committee, African Energy Chamber), and Posso Ganame (President, Texas West African Chamber of Commerce) opened the conference by asserting the significance of US-Africa partnerships within the rapidly evolving energy industry.

Energy Capital & Power, the African Energy Chamber and the TWACC were jointly presented with a proclamation from Texas State Representative Ron Reynolds, commending efforts to build bridges of collaboration between US and African energy players. Rep. Ron Reynolds stated during his presentation, "The relationships between US and Africa energy producers are paramount for all future generations and this forum is highly valuable for building necessary collaboration."

The US-Africa relationship is receiving new focus as corporates and global investors are beginning to recognize the potential and opportunity for collaboration, not just in the energy sector, but also in industries like technology, manufacturing, and agriculture. The global focus on Africa's energy sector continues to grow as COP27 was recently announced to take place in Egypt next November.

Key themes of the US-Africa energy relationship are actively addressing items such as building Africa into a clean energy hub, procurement of strategic minerals, solving the issue of energy security, and the assertion of natural gas as a vital fuel for energy transition and development.

The Mayor of Houston, Sylvester Turner, opened the summit by stating, "We understand the value of the African energy industry. With advancements in carbon capture, green energy, and carbon neutral technologies in Africa, we are excited as the City of Houston to welcome you and we look forward to working with you!"

"There is a rumbling in Africa's energy sector to play a greater role on the global stage and to provide enhanced value to all African citizens. What is Africa going to do with its endowed resources? How do we utilize these resources to give value to our children and grandchildren in order that they can grow up in an Africa where they can thrive? This is what we have all joined here in Houston to discuss," shared Jude Kearney, Chairman of the U.S. Africa Committee for the African Energy Chamber in his opening address.

Day One of US- Africa Energy Forum answers 'Why Africa & Why Now' question



After a strong start to the US-Africa Energy Forum, ministers and executives dove into the age-old investment proposition, 'Why Africa and why now?'

If one thing became clear from the first day's keynotes and panel discussions, it is that 'Africa is open for business!' Recent changes in regulation and the restructuring of the industry across the continent is accelerating African energy for the better.

H.E. Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima, the Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons for Equatorial Guinea, emphasized the work that the nation has been doing to emerge as an energy leader in Africa. Equatorial Guinea is perhaps one of the best examples of US cooperation in African energy development. His Excellency stressed the importance of US-Africa energy collaboration as he announced that the country has signed a deal with Chevron and will soon be signing another deal with Marathon Oil. During his presentation His Excellency the Minister launched the new publication produced by ECP titled Energy Futures: Equatorial Guinea 2021.

Hon. Abdirashid Mohamed Ahmed, the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Somalia, discussed the petroleum law signed in 2020 that, "emphasizes principles of equality, openness, accountability and transparency." The petroleum law was put in place to help align Somalia's energy regulation with the desires of foreign investors and the country is excited to see the launch of hydrocarbon exploration.

An example of state-owned enterprise driving

energy transition is the work that SNEL is doing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to provide renewable energy solutions in a country with one of the world's lowest accesses to electricity. Earlier this year, SNEL announced a deal to build two solar facilities both with 100 MW of capacity.

One of the points stressed by several panelists throughout the day was the need for a local approach to every step of the energy value-chain. Scot Evans, CEO of ReconAfrica, used his company's work exploring the Kavango Basin in Namibia as an example; hiring a local workforce and training local talent is not only better enabling the communities ReconAfrica is working in, but it is also giving back to the community.

Stephen Hightower, CEO of Hightowers Petroleum, asserted that another means to a local approach is through the implementation and development of mini-refineries with a capacity between 50-500 barrels each day. These mini-refineries will allow more rural and disconnected communities to access much needed diesel and solving for several different pain points in the distribution of power-generating resources.

The American Petroleum Institute (API) hosted the final panel at USAEF2021 day one, highlighting global standards and best practices for energy investment. Global Standards Strategy Associate at API, Bryan Allen, highlighted the need for more free trade agreements between the US and Africa to ease the process of energy licensing and stressed the significance of a 'Africa collaborating' over 'Africa competing' narrative.

Building for the future of Africa's energy industry takes the spotlight on Day Two of the US-Africa Energy Forum

Day two of the US-Africa Energy Forum in Houston, Texas concluded on Dec. 10. Balancing the need for energy security with the global trend toward sustainable energy sources was the day's big topic of conversation.

Much of Africa remains excluded from energy access and those who do have access continue to struggle with lack of consistent energy security. While addressing climate change is paramount to building a sustainable future, the realities of renewable energy costs and technical expertise create a barrier to addressing the issue of energy security across Africa.

Reginal Spiller, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Azimuth Energy Investments, asserted this reality of energy access in Africa by stating, "Relying solely on renewables will greatly lengthen the timeline to solving energy poverty, because of this it would be wise to use a blended approach intermixing renewables with traditional oil and gas resources."

The theme of US-Africa collaboration continued as the pairing of US capital and technological expertise with African minerals and innovative flexibility will play a big role in solving both energy security and working toward global sustainability goals.

C. Derek Campbell, the Executive Chairman of AlphaSierra Advisory Group, discussed the significance of US-Africa relationships to best utilize the continent's strategic minerals. Campbell highlighted that Africa is in a unique position to be a global leader in energy transition through the collaborative mining and refinement of the many rare earth metals and minerals necessary for components found in technology such as solar panels and lithium-ion batteries.

Dr. Jovita Nsoh, the Director of Cyberrisk, Intelligence and Compliance at Microsoft, affirmed that there is no 'one-size, fits-all' model to energy. While traditional forms of energy are going to continue to be utilized in Africa, energy security is being addressed through diversification of

sources and further enabling the global transition to renewables with the use of hydro, solar, geothermal, and natural gas.

Mr. Paul Eardley-Taylor (Oil and Gas Coverage, Southern Africa, Standard Bank) focused much of his discussion on the potential of Africa's natural gas endeavors as a solution to energy security and as a clean energy export increasingly desired in countries like India and China who currently rely heavily on traditional coal-fired plants for energy.

'Africa is open for business' was again a call-to-action at the USAEF as domestic and international innovation will play an ever-increasing role in African energy.

Nii Ahele Nunoo, a Senior Associate at KPMG working in the Strategy & Energy Core Operations Division brought the topic of financial technology (fintech) advancements as a local solution to better encourage foreign energy investment. The increased transparency that comes from using fintech applications in energy will have a direct impact in providing more data and more accurate understanding of investment risk in African energy.

Earl Patton, the Managing Director of Cyphr Ventures, represented DRC company Sonahydroc in a presentation session. He then reiterated the need for technological advancement in African energy. Mr. Patton stated, "Making crucial technology investments in all stages of the energy value-chain will be more productive in the long-term than simply focusing on money in, money out types of energy investment."

Moving forward, it has become clear that there is no single energy source or investment that will solve the issue of energy security while also addressing climate change in Africa. What is clear is that diversified investments across energy sources and various steps in the value-chain will all contribute to solving energy security in Africa and building for the future trajectory of the global energy industry.

Official Launch

Energy Futures: Equatorial Guinea 2021

publication launched by His Excellency the Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons of Equatorial Guinea, Gabriel Mbagha Obiang Lima.



Investor Breakfast

Trinity Energy sponsored a Republic of South Sudan investor breakfast on Dec. 10, led by the Ministry of Petroleum official delegation.



By the Numbers

CEOs, Presidents and VPs

53

Delegates (In-person + Online)

260

Networking, Exhibition, Panel Discussions & Keynotes

2 days

Speakers & Panelists

7

Moderators

42

Delegations & VIP Guests

Elected Officials

Mayor of Houston Sylvester Turner
Texas State Representative Ron Reynolds
Council Member Edward Pollard

Ministers, NOCs and Ambassadors

Equatorial Guinea, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, Guinea,
Namibia, Sierra Leone, Chad, Sonangol and
National Oil Corporation of Kenya

Exclusive Reception

Marathon Oil and SNEL sponsored an invite-only USAEF reception on Dec. 9 at the Art of the World Gallery, organized by Kanflorens.



Media

Energy Capital & Power

US-Africa Energy Forum opens in Houston, Texas asserting

(Pictured Above: Mayor of Houston, Sylvester Turner). HOUSTON, USA: The US-Africa Energy Forum is off to a strong start at the C. Baldwin...

1 week ago



African Business

Building for the future of Africa's energy industry takes the ...

Building for the future of Africa's energy industry takes the spotlight on Day Two of the US-Africa Energy Forum. December 11th 2021.

2 days ago



BusinessGhana

US-Africa Energy Forum opens in Houston

Mayor Sylvester Turner, Mayor of Houston. The US-Africa Energy Forum is off to a strong start at the C. Baldwin Hotel in downtown...

2 days ago

ZAWYA

Day One of US-Africa Energy Forum answers 'Why Africa Why Now' question

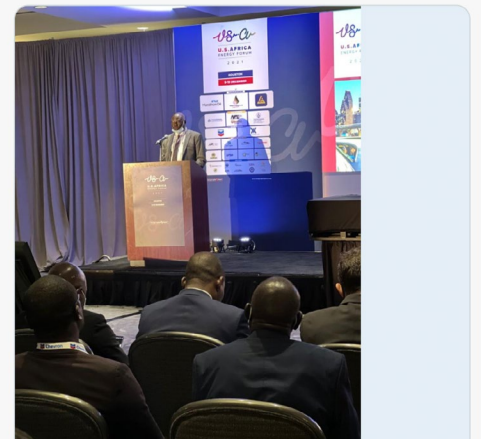
The American Petroleum Institute (API) hosted the final panel at USAEF2021 day one highlighting global standards and best practices for energy...

3 days ago



Trinity Energy @TEL_Africa · Dec 10

Hon Mohamed Lino the technical advisor to the Minister of Petroleum South Sudan makes his remarks during the US Africa Energy Forum. He welcomed US investors to come and invest in the growing petroleum and energy sector of the country #usaef2021



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10

LIVE: "The US needs to move away from the narrative that 'Africa needs aid!' #Africa is an equal and valuable partner for the US and true advancement can not be made until this 'aid' mentality changes." Earl Patton, MD #CyphrVentures #USAEF2021



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10

Day One of US-Africa Energy Forum answers 'Why Africa & Why Now' question #USAEF2021



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Day One of US-Africa Energy Forum answers 'Why Africa & Why Now'... Ministers and executives from across Africa's energy industry emphasize that, 'Africa is open for business' as the future of the ...

Media



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 11 ...
LIVE: "One of the biggest benefits of [#solar](#) is that it is easy to implement and converts [#electricity](#) at the point-of-collection making it extremely valuable in a local context." Jonelle Minefee, Managing Partner [#SolarTymeUSA](#) [#USAEF2021](#)



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10 ...
US-Africa Energy Forum opens in Houston, Texas asserting the significance of US-Africa relationships for the future of the global energy industry [#USAEF2021](#)



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US-Africa Energy Forum opens in Houston, Texas asserting the signifi...
The US-Africa Energy Forum just opened in Texas with opening statements focusing on the importance of fostering relationships ...



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10 ...
LIVE: "Egypt is a good example of strong [#energy](#) sector development. This advancement is much to the credit of the private sector – without the private sector in energy, little to no productive advancement can be made." [#AnnNorman](#) President [#SaqaraEnergy](#) [#USAEF2021](#)



Trinity Energy @TEL_Africa · Dec 14 ...
Trinity Energy and the Ministry of Petroleum held a breakfast session with potential financiers and investors at the recently concluded US – Africa Energy Forum. The aim of the session was to share available opportunities for investors in South Sudan. [#USAEF2021](#)



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10 ...
LIVE: "[#Africa](#) is at point where it can lead the globe in [#energytransition](#) and [#mineral](#) production, but African [#leaders](#) must first come together to build a unified game plan for global [#leadership](#) in the industry." C. Derek Campbell, Executive Chairman [#AlphaSierra](#) [#USAEF2021](#)



Energy Capital & Power @EnergyCapPower · Dec 10 ...
LIVE: "Addressing [#energypoverty](#) is an immediate need in Africa... but we should also take the opportunity to leapfrog where we can be more sustainable, affordable, and on a scale that is actually impactful." [#UdayTuraga](#) Founder & CEO [#ADIAAnalytics](#) [#USAEF2021](#)



Media



APO Group English @APO_source · Dec 11
Building for the future of Africa's energy industry takes the spotlight on Day Two of the US-Africa Energy Forum @EnergyCapPower #ECPNews #ECPEvents #Africa #Energy #UAEF #Investment #Economy
Read more: bit.ly/3lInFzo





Event Highlights











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