

4JET Africa

JUST & EQUITABLE ENERGY TRANSITION FOR AFRICA

Unveils

AETW

AFRICAN ENERGY TRANSITION WEEK



...people & planet; not planet over people

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ICE THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ENERGY

AFRICAN ENERGY TRANSITION WEEK (AETW): AN OVERVIEW

With over half of Africa's 1.2 billion people lacking access to electricity, and the Caribbean Islands facing the greatest vulnerability to climate change due largely to rising sea levels, stronger storms, and worsening drought, the case for coordinated action by the two regions and other developing economies has never been clearer. Bearing the greatest exposure to climate challenges and the deepest dearth in structural and economic access, these regions share a common imperative to find strength in the unity of a collective voice, and center their interests more firmly within the global energy transition discourse. The African Energy Transition Week ("AETW") is the advocacy platform of the Just & Equitable Energy Transition for Africa ("JET4Africa") Initiative led by the International Centre for Energy ("ICE") towards driving global engagement on energy transition, climate resilience, and sustainable infrastructure across Africa and the Caribbean.

In this critical decade leading up to 2030 when the world aims to achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ICE is committed to ensuring that Africa is not left behind. Through collaboration, innovation, and advocacy, ICE is leading the charge for a just and equitable energy transition that benefits all people. The guiding principle is simple but consequential: *"people & planet"* as against *"planet over people"*. While the shift from carbon-heavy economies to carbon-neutral agenda by 2050 is understandable, this scale of change, though daunting, presents massive opportunities for profound growth and lasting change and the decisions to be made over the next few years are crucial, as they will determine whether our existence on Earth, as we know it, will continue, or collapse because of human activity. African and Caribbean nations must chart their own course towards a successful energy transition narrative, one that is honest about their development realities and unapologetic about their people's right to grow. The way forward is clear. Charting a ground breaking route to socio-economic development with green, renewable energy is unavoidable – but it must be with far more than pacts and pledges, but rather, with an accurate map that displays African and Caribbean development priorities, one that tells their unique story of abundance: *Africa possessing 60 percent of the world's solar resource, one that engages local intellect, attracts private sector investment, fosters enabling environments, and drives real implementation across both government and industry.*

As a landmark advocacy platform under the Just & Equitable Energy Transition for Africa ("JET4Africa") initiative, the overarching objective of AETW is to drive policy reforms that prioritize energy access, development and sustainability, while fostering public and private sector collaboration to unlock investment in renewable energy. This means not only leveraging Africa's abundant natural resources, including solar, wind, and hydropower, but building the infrastructure and human capital required to sustain long-term growth. Through the all-important AETW conference which is scheduled to take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in 2027, delegates would be afforded a critical opportunity of direct interaction with policymakers, industry leaders, investors, and development partners from across Africa, the Caribbean, Europe,

Asia, and the Middle East to shape a practical, inclusive, and forward-looking pathway towards energy transition which accommodates the realities of the African and Caribbean transition pathways; the reality that the African continent contributes minimally to global emissions and grapples with widespread energy poverty, the reality that there exists a persistent gap between the capital demands of the energy sector and the actual levels of financing being deployed to meet those demands, and the reality that the demand for a universal zero emission timeline is not just unrealistic, it is unethical.

AETW will move beyond high level commitments and focus on implementation, on building financial structures that unlock capital for bankable project pipelines through blended finance, public-private partnerships, and risk-sharing instruments that accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, while supporting stable development. Recognizing that financing solutions and a reimagined financial architecture are central to the success of Africa's energy transition, AETW will convene financial institutions, development finance organizations, and private investors to drive practical engagement. The platform will showcase bankable energy projects, explore innovative financing models, and directly address the risk perceptions that continue to constrain investment flows into African markets. AETW will bring the conversation full circle by complementing capital mobilization with targeted policy dialogue and regulatory engagement, engaging policymakers, regulators, and other public sector stakeholders to reinforce the importance of stable, transparent, and predictable frameworks that strengthen investor confidence and enable long term energy infrastructure development.

Participation, Presence and Partnership on AETW is beyond a demonstration of commitment to change; it is recognition of the change that is upon us all and the imperative of inclusive action. While the gathering will afford governments and regulatory bodies the opportunity for investments and meaningful social impact legislative changes, AETW would serve ultimately as the nexus where energy transition projects meet the financing and investments required for change.