



A Just Energy Transition in South Africa
Deploying and integrating Renewables at scale

Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel
Cape Town, South Africa

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DRAFT



Context

In the face of an imminent climate crisis and aided by rapidly advancing technological progress, a trend towards the large-scale development of renewables is observed around the world. A trend that holds many benefits also for South Africa. However, transforming South Africa's fossil fuel based energy system towards one based on renewable resources carries major socio-economic challenges that need to be addressed in a collaborative dialogue.

The South African energy system - heavily dependent on coal - is facing a period of instability and difficulties. In order to overtake the barriers that are forcing the load shedding in the country, new renewable energy projects need to be urgently developed.

About the event

In order to contribute to the national dialogue on an effective and just energy transition, RES4Africa would like to support South Africa with a program composed of several studies and key partnerships.

The aim of the event is to present highlights of the ongoing studies outlined below and to invite all relevant South African stakeholders to be part of the discussion that these will spark.

The RES4Africa Foundation is currently spearheading the *renewAfrica Initiative*, which is an industry-backed initiative that is dedicated to boosting European private investments in Africa's renewable energy.

Furthermore, the *Regulatory Review of the electricity sector in Africa*, which is carried out by the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the RES4Africa Foundation, will be presented during the event.

Furthermore, RES4Africa's South Africa Programme foresees the following contributions:

- **Just Energy Transition Study**
The RES4Africa Foundation has partnered with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in order to carry out a *"Just Energy Transition Study"*, which will explore ways to shift towards renewables while accounting for socio-economic consequences as a result from a reduced reliance on coal. This comprehensive analysis will also encompass best practices and lessons learned from around the world, as well as re-skilling strategies for the coal-sector labour force.
- **Decarbonisation Study**
RES4Africa Foundation will carry out a *"Decarbonisation Study"*, identifying 2030-2050 emission scenarios resulting from the 2019 IRP and consequent policy recommendations to achieve the objectives of the South Africa's NDCs.
- **Independent Transmission Company Study**
This study will analyse the restructuring of Transmission within the national utility as a separate entity to foster renewable energy deployment.
- **Localisation study of RES Sites Study**
The aim of this study is to analyse different locations for the scale up of RES, taking into consideration resource availability and grid connection constraints.

The RES4Africa Foundation would like to contribute and be part of this dialogue by officially kick-starting its activities in South Africa through partnerships with local stakeholders and the creation of knowledge that will support the country's decision making process and lead to a just energy transition for all.