

Energy transition gaborone

Ushering MSGBC Oil, Gas & Power 2022 (<https://bit.ly/3a4fuRb>) to a triumphant close, the final Ministerial panel of the conference convened under the theme, "The Future of Africa's Energy: COP27 and the Road Ahead," presenting a unified African position on energy autonomy and security ahead of the UNFCCC's 27th Conference of Parties in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt at the end of the year.

During the ministerial panel, speakers emphasized that up until now, climate change policies have largely been dictated by western and environmental organizations, organizations which have failed to consider Africa's energy crisis.

"There is nothing different from a just transition other than what is already in the Paris Agreement. There is a principle about equity and the ability of countries to transition in the agreement. The developed countries eventually agreed to it. They didn't like it, but they agreed to it. Let's talk about what we can do. What we are saying is that we must not be forced to do what will destroy our future and our children. We need energy to sustain our future generation. Those who are responsible for the mess we see today, should be responsible for change," said H.E. Dr. Ibrahim.

"When somebody is sick, you need to diagnose what is wrong. If you do a bad diagnosis, you will never cure it. I believe that the Paris Agreement was not a good diagnosis," H.E. Minister Lima expressed, adding that, "I am not pro fossil fuel; I am pro fossil fuel for Africa. Developed nations enjoyed the resource, they contaminated the world, they should be the ones who change their lifestyle. To tell Africa to stop fossil fuels is unfair. I am pro fossil fuels for Africa so that we can develop."

According to Hon. Alweendo, "Namibia is developing green hydrogen simply because we have the natural resources to be able to harness it. Green hydrogen is not likely to be the source for electricity. This is mostly for hard to abate industries, the manufacturing and mining. It is more for movement and transportation and not so much for giving electricity to the people. Therefore, gas to power remains part of the solution."

The crucial importance of aligning African narratives on matters of energy and climate was underlined following yesterday's Dakar Declaration joint statement endorsed by the ministers, now set to be taken forward to the G7 and G20 summits before finally arriving at COP27.

"People talk about energy transition, but before you talk about it, you need to have energy. The voice of Africa should be heard. We must exploit our resources. Yes, we must think of protecting the planet but we must think of humankind on this continent. Gas has the opportunity to provide fertilizer to feed Africa, should we say no to it? We have to work hand in hand so as to exploit our resources. For COP27, the voice of Africa should be heard. Where decisions are made, Africa must be there," stated H.E. Gladima.



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Ogone Madisa, chief executive officer of the Botswana National Development Bank, speaks during the launch ceremony of the Green Energy Transition for Sustainable Agriculture project in Gaborone, Botswana on June 15, 2023. (Photo by Tshekiso Tebalo/Xinhua)

GABORONE, June 16 (Xinhua) -- The Botswana National Development Bank (NDB), in collaboration with Germany and Deutsche Gesellschaft for Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the main German development agency, launched the Green Energy Transition for Sustainable Agriculture project Thursday in Gaborone, Botswana, to confront and overcome global environmental concerns.

"The carbon footprint estimates indicate that net global greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, forestry, and other land use are about 24 percent of total global greenhouse gas emissions, with 25 percent attributable to electricity and heat production," said Ogone Madisa, NDB chief executive officer, at the launch ceremony.

She stated that data demonstrates that the world must confront the climate change challenge with far greater ambition and climate finance is critical for mitigating and adapting to the negative impacts and lowering the effects of a changing climate.

The initiative seeks to provide subsidies to small and medium-sized off-grid farmers and horticulture producers in Botswana in order to increase agricultural and horticultural production through green technology and smart farming, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and farming sustainably.

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Web: <https://www.hollanddutch tours.nl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

