

Renewable electricity lobamba

Africa-Press – Eswatini. The Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) has partnered with Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) for the electricity generation in the country through geothermal generation.

Early this month, EEC officially launched phase two of the geothermal steam project, which seeks to explore the potential for generating clean, renewable energy using geothermal steam, marking a pivotal step towards energy security and economic sustainability for the Kingdom of Eswatini through a feasibility study. Speaking at the project's official launch, EEC Managing Director Ernest Mkhonta expressed his enthusiasm about the collaboration, emphasising that the project represents a critical step in Eswatini's pursuit of renewable energy sources.

He noted that this partnership with KenGen, Africa's leader in geothermal development, would bring invaluable experience and expertise to Eswatini's geothermal exploration.

"This initiative seeks to unlock a powerful and sustainable energy source: Geothermal steam. Our aim is to generate base load power using renewable energy, ensuring a cleaner and more reliable electricity supply for the nation. This project aligns with EEC's commitment to sustainability and energy security," said Mkhonta. The project will focus on three key areas identified during a reconnaissance survey earlier this year: Mvutshini in the Lobamba area, Mkhoba near Piggs Peak, and the Lubombo Plateau around Magadzavane.

Detailed geoscientific surveys will now be conducted in these areas, and if sufficient geothermal steam is confirmed, exploratory drilling will follow, marking the next phase of development.

KenGen's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Peter Waweru Njenga, expressed his company's excitement to collaborate with EEC on this venture. Drawing on decades of experience in geothermal energy, KenGen has committed to providing technical support and knowledge sharing throughout the project. "We began our geothermal journey in the 1950s, and today, KenGen is one of the world's leading geothermal developers. We are proud to share this expertise with Eswatini as you explore your own geothermal potential," said Njenga.

QCOSTARICA — The global energy transition is one of the central themes on the agenda of the G20 summit and COP30, which will also be hosted by Brazil in 2025.

The recent study Green Energy in Latin America, carried out by Broadminded, the Research Center of Sherlock Communications, a multi-award-winning communication agency, highlights the great potential of Latin America to lead this transition, gathering information and perspectives from multidisciplinary experts on the advancement of green energy in the region.

According to the analysis that collects data from the International Energy Agency (IEA), 60% of Latin America's electricity is generated from renewable energy, which positions it as one of the cleanest electricity networks in the world. Countries such as Chile, Mexico and Brazil are leading the way, with the latter responsible for 58% of Latin America's new renewable energy capacity by 2030.

In Central America, the expansion of renewable energy generation is a fundamental pillar for regional sustainability. According to the Regional Operating Entity (EOR) of the Central American Electricity Market for the period 2024-2038, 181 candidate projects have been identified totaling 10,200 MW of installed capacity, of which 32.6% corresponds to solar energy and 19.89% to wind energy.

Panama leads the region with 73 projects totaling 4,393 MW, followed by Guatemala with 49 projects and Costa Rica with 18. These efforts highlight the commitment of Central American countries to diversify their energy matrix and move towards greater regional energy self-sufficiency.

Most countries still rely on a predominantly hydroelectric energy matrix, but the region has shown significant progress in the diversification of its clean energy sources, especially wind and solar.

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