

Obama's Power Africa initiative joins African Utility Week as country partner

The African Utility Week conference and expo will be held from 12-14 May 2015 at the Cape Town International Conference Centre.



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The conference and expo bring together utility professionals from across the globe to learn, share knowledge and debate the key topics that will secure the future development of Africa's power and water industries.

Power Africa, US President Barack Obama's initiative to improve access to power in sub-Saharan Africa, works with African governments, the private sector, and other partners to add more than 30,000 megawatts of cleaner, more efficient electricity generation capacity as well as increase electricity access by adding 60 million new home and business connections throughout all of sub-Saharan Africa.

The 15th African Utility Week and Clean Power Africa is expected to again attract more than 5,000 attendees and feature 250 exhibitors, 190 speakers, eight conferences, free technical workshops on the expo floor, three high-profile plenary sessions and the coveted industry awards gala dinner.

Discussing solutions

"President Obama launched Power Africa in Cape Town in late June 2013 and it is therefore fitting that we will gather and engage Africa in Cape Town in May, to talk about solutions and partnering with African utilities to connect Africa to the global grid," Andrew Herscowitz, coordinator for Power Africa, says.

"We are excited to participate and engage with thousands of power professionals from around the continent gathering at African Utility Week to discuss their shared challenges and how they can work together to improve the way Africans live and work. We look forward to continuing to be part of this on-going conversation and making a difference in the African

power sector."

African Utility Week event director, Evan Schiff, says African Utility Week is the right place for Power Africa to engage with stakeholders as there are strong synergies between our respective strategies on the continent.

"African utilities have been gathering at African Utility Week for 15 years, engaging with their peers to find African solutions to African challenges in the power sector. International partners have participated in this conversation and added best of breed technology and financial solutions. Long term strategic partnerships between initiatives and organisations like Power Africa and African Utility Week therefore are in Africa's interest," Schiff concludes.

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