

Ninth Africa Energy Indaba shows growth, pointing to the energy opportunity in Africa

28th February 2017

The ninth annual **Africa Energy Indaba** delivered a successful week of strategic engagements, an exhibition and networking functions. The debates and discussions provided opportunity to African and national energy players in attendance that were seeking new opportunities to unlock energy access across the continent.

“Despite the tough economic climate, quality content and delegate participation continues to drive the growth of the annual Africa Energy Indaba, resulting in real energy decision making taking place and energy deals being concluded. It is significant that EOH and Steag opted to sign their energy services partnership deal at the event and a number of other important partnerships were struck up,” said Managing Director of Africa Energy Indaba, Liz Hart.

The second annual **Africa Gas Forum** and the **Women in Energy** conferences both took place as official side events to the Africa Energy Indaba on Monday 20th February and were fully subscribed. Questions were raised about whether the region’s nascent gas sector will be the region’s new money-spinner and investors and stakeholders shared a sense of anticipation about next steps to the development of the sector. The Women in Energy conference, with its formidable list of sponsors, grew in stature as both women and men came together to support and collaborate for more equitable energy industries.

The **Africa Energy Indaba** main conference was fully subscribed and delegates from across the continent traversed every imaginable topic across the energy spectre from South Africa’s nuclear build programme, the regional IPP opportunities, African utilities, PIDA’s priority energy projects, financing African energy projects, developing an oil and gas industry in the region, skills development and regional power pools and interconnectors,

The **Africa Energy Indaba Exhibition** was a hive of activity over two days, with companies launching new products, the Mail & Guardian hosting a critical thinking forum and the first-ever African Youth Energy Innovator Showcase providing a much-needed platform for youth talent to showcase their important work.

“Africa Energy Indaba was pleased with the success of the first Africa Youth Energy Innovator Showcase this year. Africa needs to invest in and grow its next generations of energy leaders if its countries and the broader continent are to compete in the global arena. Africa Energy Indaba is committed to empowering talented young Africans by allowing them to be seen by the industry experts and energy decision makers,” said Deveena Subramony, Campaign Manager of the Africa Energy Indaba Exhibition.

The fourth annual IPP PPA Conference was immensely popular with those involved in IPP projects and funding emerging market projects coming together to discuss opportunities and challenges in increasingly volatile global economy.