

AFRICA ENERGY UPDATE



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1. Rwanda: Rwanda approves nuclear power pact with Russia

- The Rwandan Cabinet has approved an agreement with Russia to advance the use of nuclear energy for “peaceful purposes,” a move that is expected to bolster relations between the two countries and advance the latter’s interests in the region.
- This comes ahead of the first Russia-African Forum next week in the city of Sochi, which President Paul Kagame has confirmed attendance, accompanied by a delegation of senior government officials.
- The nuclear power deal was first signed in Moscow last December and will see Russian scientists set up a Centre for Nuclear Science and Technology in Kigali.

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2. Nigeria: FG Secures \$3bn World Bank Loan

- Minister of Finance, Mrs Zainab Ahmed says the Federal Government has secured a \$3bn loan from the World Bank.
- According to the Finance Minister, the loan is to be used for reforming the nation’s power sector.
- Mrs Ahmed who announced the approval of the loan at a news conference to wrap up the World Bank/IMF annual meetings in Washington DC explains that the loan is expected to improve power supply in the country.
- She said the loan would be disbursed in four tranches of \$750m each beginning from April 2020.
- The loan, according to her would cover the funding gap as well as the current tariff which investors in the sector had described as very low compared to what is obtainable in other countries.

<https://www.channelstv.com/>

3. Egypt: SES partners Egyptian government on 250MW solar project

- Smart Engineering Solutions, a company specialising in renewable energy and energy efficiency, is currently working in partnership with the Egyptian government. The objective is to implement a project to build five concentrated solar power plants with a combined capacity of 250 MW.
- Five concentrated solar power plants will soon be installed in Egypt. It is the objective of a partnership established between Smart Engineering Solutions, a company based in Cairo, and the Egyptian Ministry of Military Production. Amount of the operation: \$1.2 billion in Egypt.
- The money will first be used to set up a plant that will produce components for the construction of concentrated solar power plants.

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4. Sudan: Lack of regulations delay the inclusion of renewable energy in Sudan's energy mix

- In Sudan, renewable energy experts are calling for an acceleration of measures to integrate this type of energy into the national mix. They demand, among other things, the establishment of an institution responsible for the production of alternative energies. The country should also speed up the adoption of regulations removing the monopoly of power generation and distribution. They would allow the private sector to invest in renewable energy and strengthen the power of the national electricity grid.
- The Sudanese Chambers of Industries Association is one of the private investors eager to contribute to the improvement of electricity production. It has also launched an initiative to produce electricity from solar energy to power 3,000 households and small industries.

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5. Cameroon: 20% of connections to Cameroon's electricity grid are illegal – Eneo

- As part of its crusade against fraudsters connected to the Cameroonian electricity network, Eneo, the concessionaire of the public electricity service in the country, managed to bring back “ 18,700 illegal consumers ” in its customer portfolio, during the year 2018.
- This information revealed in the company's 2018 activity report, which has just been made public, partly explains the improvement observed in Eneo's sales performance last year (sales growth of 7 billion CFA).
- But internal sources at the firm controlled by the UK investment fund Actis argue that despite the migration of 18,700 former fraudsters to the operator's formal portfolio, last year, fraud remains a major obstacle to optimize the performance of Eneo.

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6. Ghana: Report on Ghana's nuclear power programme expected soon

- A comprehensive report on Ghana's nuclear power programme is in the offing, expected, to boost the country's energy production and drive industrialisation.
- The report, to be submitted to government next month, would inform its direction in making the needed commitments to develop the country's first nuclear power plant.
- It comes on the back of Ghana's conclusion of the initial phase of the Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR), in Accra, which assessed the national infrastructure for the introduction of nuclear power.

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7. Nigeria: Petrol subsidy rises by N58.6bn in one month

- The amount spent on fuel subsidy by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation increased by N58.6bn within one month, the latest figures released by the corporation on its financial report for July 2019 has

shown.

- According to the report, obtained on Tuesday, the corporation spent the additional sum in April this year.
- It showed that the national oil firm spent N89.2bn on petrol subsidy in April 2019, up from the N30.64bn which it incurred as subsidy in March this year.

<https://punchng.com/>

8. Growing energy consumption in Nigeria necessitates greater utilization of gas, others - Experts

- With the consumption rate of energy rising faster than the population growth rate, stakeholders in the energy sector have advocated renewed energy mix and transition from traditional energy supply to a more sustainable approach.
- According to the operators, 50 per cent of energy supply in Nigeria and other African countries is based in coal and oil, both of which are expensive and unclean.
- They projected that energy mix in the next few years will be driven by more of gas and renewable energy.

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9. Nigeria, others look towards Russia for new oil and gas interest

- Russia is looking to increase energy cooperation with African countries as it strives to play a more influential role in global energy markets.
- President Vladimir Putin will host the Russia-Africa Summit in Sochi this week as Russia looks to expand its footprint in Africa.
- Africa is already a major producer of key commodities, but with its population and economies growing steadily, the continent is also emerging as a major demand hub. This is why these sectors will be at the heart of Russia's push towards Africa.
- Already, Russia's Rosneft has also signed an agreement with Nigeria's Oronto on future cooperation in Africa on oil and gas production, refining, logistics and trading projects across Africa.

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