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SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

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<https://imbewu.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Monthly-SHE-leg-update-July2024.pdf>

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<https://imbewu.co.za/publications/>

NATIONAL

LANDMARK CLIMATE CHANGE ACT PASSED IN SOUTH AFRICA – On Monday, 23 July 2024, President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the Climate Change Bill into Law marking the first time that South Africa has enacted legislation aimed at addressing Climate Change. The Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 (CCA) establishes a comprehensive national response that include both mitigation and adaption measures, ensured in conformity with South Africa's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement. The CCA aims to strengthen coordination between national sector departments and to establish a strong policy and decision-making framework to meet South Africa's commitments under its NDCs. Some of the notable features of the CCA include the allocation

of carbon budgets, which requires high emitting companies to limit their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions within set limits, aligned with South Africa's national GHG emissions reduction trajectory. Emissions targets will be established for high-emitting sectors like agriculture, transport, and industry, with relevant Ministers responsible for implementing measures to meet these targets. The CCA also provides for the creation of institutional bodies to manage climate change mitigation including Provincial and Municipal forums, which are expected to coordinate climate change mitigation measures in their provinces or municipalities; the Presidential Climate Commission which will be expected to oversee government's efforts on GHG reduction and the creation of a climate-resilient economy and society, as well as to advise the government on its climate change policies and the prevention of climate change effects. The CCA also grants the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment significant authority to influence energy policies and sectorial emissions targets requiring policy adjustments within a year of the CCA coming into operation to achieve these targets. The CCA marks a significant step for South Africa in addressing Climate Change and safeguarding the environmental rights enshrined in section 24 of the Constitution, while fulfilling its responsibilities under the UNFCCC.

Source: [Daily Maverick dated 23 July 2024](#) and [Climate Change Act 22 of 2024](#)

RENEWABLE ENERGY: PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA'S VISION FOR SOUTH AFRICA – President Cyril Ramaphosa delivered the Opening of Parliament Address at the Cape Town City Hall on Thursday, 18 July 2024. In his address, he emphasised the potential of renewable energy to drive inclusive growth over the next five years. Highlighting South Africa's abundant solar and wind resources, President Ramaphosa outlined plans for a green manufacturing sector focused on the export of green hydrogen, electric vehicles, and renewable energy components. He noted that the Northern Cape has already attracted billions of rands in renewable energy investments and he highlighted that work is underway to establish a Special Economic Zone in Boegoebaai to further drive green hydrogen energy projects. South Africa boasts a pipeline of renewable energy projects representing over 22,500 MW of new generating capacity and approximately R400 billion in private investment, promising significant job creation. President Ramaphosa also mentioned the recent connection of the largest-ever private energy project to the grid near Lichtenburg Northwest, adding 256 MW from over 390,000 solar panels. The President emphasised that more such projects will materialize across the country, creating jobs and fostering economic growth. The Just Energy Transition Investment Plan outlines an oath to invest more than R1.5 trillion in a just transition, including support for workers and communities in coal-producing regions like Mpumalanga. South Africa is on the verge of a renewable energy revolution, which promises to be a key driver of growth and job creation for the coming decade and beyond.

Source: [Gov.za dated 18 July 2024](#)

LG'S NATIONWIDE ELECTRONIC WASTE (E-WASTE) RECYCLING INITIATIVE – LG Electronics has launched a nationwide, free E-Waste Recycling Service in South Africa, in partnership with Circular Energy NPC. Recognising the growing environmental crisis posed by E-Waste, this initiative aims to address the low recycling rates of E-Waste, which often end up in landfills. By offering free collection of old LG products from homes and businesses, LG is promoting a circular economy and contributing to a sustainable future. The rapid advancement of technology has led to an increase in E-Waste, with the United Nation's Global E-waste Monitor reporting 62 billion kg generated in 2022. Unfortunately, only 22.3% of this was properly collected and recycled. Proper recycling not only prevents hazardous materials from polluting the environment, but it also recovers valuable resources like copper, gold and iron. By reducing the need for raw material exaction, recycling conserves natural resources and helps combat climate change. LG's initiative underscores the economic and environmental benefits of proper E-Waste management.

Source: [IOL dated 18 July](#)

INTERNATIONAL

AFRICAN NATIONS SHARE ENERGY TRANSITION STRATEGIES AT FORUM – Government officials from across Africa shared their insights and strategies for energy transition at the Continental Energy Investment Forum, held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). Representatives from Nigeria, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Sierra Leone discussed their unique challenges and approaches to building energy security and sustainable development. Labode Sowunmi from Nigeria highlighted the country's reliance on fossil fuels and their strategy to use gas as a transition bridge.

focusing on projects like the Ajaokuta–Kaduna–Kano (AKK) pipeline. Charles Milupi representing Zambia emphasised the country's shift to solar energy to address shortage worsened by droughts. He highlighted that this shift is supported by incentives for public sector participation. Marco Muya the representative from DRC discussed modernising energy infrastructure and exploring export opportunities, while Dr Kandeh Yumkella from Sierra Leone talked about integrating solar and hydro to attract investment. These leaders agreed that despite the challenges, Africa has significant opportunities to achieve energy security and sustainability by leveraging its diverse energy sources and improving infrastructure.

Source: [Biz Community dated 19 July 2024](#)

RENEWABLE ENERGY ADVANCES IN CHINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM – Countries worldwide are making significant progress in renewable energy to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and to address climate change. Notably, China and the UK are among the countries leading these efforts. Research from the Global Energy Monitor reveals that China has 339GW of wind and solar power under construction, nearly double the rest of the world combined. Driven by President Xi Jinping, China aims to reach 1,200GW of installed capacity by 2024, well ahead of its target, although more capacity is needed to meet its carbon reduction goals. In the UK, Essar Energy Transition (EET) hydrogen power is developing Europe's first 100% hydrogen-ready combined heat and power plant at the Stanlow refinery. This project, set to be operational by 2027, will supply low carbon power and steam to the refinery and other industrial users, aiding the UK's decarbonisation efforts. The plant aims to deliver 125MW of power and significantly reduce carbon emissions by replacing hydrocarbons with hydrogen.

Source: [Carbon Pulse dated 12 July 2024](#) and [The Gurdian dated 11 July 2024](#)

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For more information contact admin@imbewu.co.za or visit <https://imbewu.co.za/she-electronic-legal-registers/>



World Water Week: 25 – 29 August 2024

<https://www.worldwaterweek.org/>

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