

## Energy storage policy updates swaziland

On September 26, 2023, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) held a bimonthly strategic and policy issues dialogue the status of its Energy Security in the country Kingdom of Eswatini. The dialogue, held at the UN House in Mbabane, focused on the challenges and opportunities facing Eswatini in its efforts to achieve reliable and sustainable electricity supply. The inaugural dialogue was hosted and led by UNDP

TEA-LP partner and founding leader of the Energy Research Centre at the National University of Lesotho, Prof. Moeketsi Mpholo, represented TEA-LP at the 2nd EU Green Power Transformation Forum in Eswatini last month. The forum attracted over 150 energy stakeholders from the business sector, funding bodies, as well as government and regulatory institutions. The forum established a dialogue on renewable energy technologies and solutions in Eswatini. It also explored ways to unlock finance and enhance the development of local skills to drive the energy transition in Eswatini.

Eswatini currently relies on South Africa and Mozambique for 80 percent of its power supply, which puts them in a particularly vulnerable position given regular power shortages. As such, Eswatini has issued a Renewable Energy and Independent Power Producer Policy to attract investment and drive a shift to independent renewable energy.

Prince Lonkokhela, the minister of Natural Resources and Energy, announced at the event that Eswatini is set to increase its electricity generation capacity by 241 megawatts as of July 2026 in an ambitious goal for universal, affordable, reliable and modern energy by 2030. As highlighted during the forum, this presents excellent opportunities to promote biomass, solar, and hydropower as part of the country's energy mix.

Prof. Mpholo's takeaways from the forum include the significant funding that is being made available to support the energy transition in Eswatini. Several funding institutions, including GET vest and ElectriFi presented how to access their funding channels, and highlighted funds that are specifically earmarked for the region. Policy makers and regulatory bodies shared insights on how they are creating an enabling environment for the transition. Together, this paints an exciting picture for renewable energy in Eswatini.

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