



**CABEF**  
BEYOND  
BORDERS



**CENTRAL AFRICA  
BUSINESS ENERGY  
FORUM**

THEME  
**“ UNLOCKING AFRICA  
– A NEW ERA OF ENERGY  
& OPPORTUNITIES ”**

**PROGRAM**

HOUSTON - TEXAS





## PROGRAM

**Date: May 8, 2025**

**Location:** Houston, Texas

**Time:** 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

### Program Schedule

**8:30 AM – 9:00 AM**

#### Registration & Networking Breakfast

Attendees check in and receive event materials.

Light breakfast and coffee served.

**9:00 AM – 9:30 AM**

#### Opening Ceremony

**Welcome Remarks** by Master of Ceremonies

**America National Anthem**

**Traditional African Cultural Performance:** Drum ensemble and dance showcase.

**9:30 AM – 9:40AM**

**Welcome speech by Hon. Martha Castex Tatum, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Houston**

**Topic:** "Houston as a Global Energy Hub: Bridging Opportunities for Africa"

**9:40 AM – 10:10 AM**

#### Keynote Address by CABEF Chairwoman

**Topic:** "Driving Africa's Energy Transformation Beyond Borders"

**10:10 AM – 10:20 AM**

#### Address by APPO Secretary General

**Topic:** "Regional Collaboration in Advancing Africa's Energy Agenda"

**10:20 AM – 10:30 AM**

#### Address of President of Central Africa Development Bank

**Topic:** "Empowering Central Africa: Advancing Energy Projects through Strategic Foreign Investment "

**10:30 AM – 10:45 AM**

#### Sponsor Presentation

### Morning Panels

**10:45 AM – 11:15 PM**

#### Panel 1 – Driving Africa's Energy Transformation Beyond Borders

**Moderator:** Mr. Chijioke Emole - Managing Partner and Chief Consultant at Legalytica

#### Panelists:

1. H.E. Ndolenodji Alixe Naimbaye – Minister of Hydrocarbons, Mines and Geology, Chad
2. H.E. Gaston Eloundou Essomba – Minister of Energy and Water, Cameroon
2. Hon. Sen. Heineken Lokpobiri PhD, Minister of State Petroleum Resources (Oil) Nigeria
4. Mr. Juan Cruz – President, SBM Offshore
3. Mr. Pablo N. EISNER - Executive Vice President of New Horizon Oil and Gas



## Key Discussion Points:

- Overview of current exploration activities and upcoming licensing rounds
- Strategies for attracting foreign direct investment to the African energy sector
- USA perspective on the untapped potential and investment climate in African countries
  - Regulatory reforms and fiscal incentives to boost exploration activities
  - Frontier Exploration Success Stories in West Africa
- U.S investments in Africa: How the U.S. can support cross-border energy projects

**11:15 PM – 11:45 PM**

## Keynote Address

**Keynote Speaker:** H.E Gabriel Obiang Lima, Chairman CAPS committee on partnership and funding

**Topic:** “Presentation of CAPS Investment opportunities.”

**11:45 PM – 12:00 PM**

**Lunch served surprise performance**

**12:PM – 12:45 PM**

## Panel 2 – Financing Hydrocarbon Projects, Financing Africa’s Energy Future: Bridging the Investment Gap

**Objective:** Explore innovative financing solutions to address Africa’s energy sector investment challenges, focusing on public-private partnerships, export credit, and blended finance models.

**Moderator:** Mr. Tabenyang Etchu - CEO of the African Island Business Council (AiBC),  
Energy Governance and policy Advisory Expert

## Panelists & Focus Areas

1. **H.E Gabriel OBIANG LIMA** - President of the strategic partnership and funding committee of the Central Africa pipeline system CAPS
2. **Mr. David Roux** - CEO, GEOSPIZA
3. **Mr. Denis Pone** - President & CEO at P1 ENERGY

## Key Discussion Points:

1. Blended Finance Models: Combining public and private capital to fund large-scale energy projects while mitigating risks for investors.
2. U.S. investments in Africa: How the U.S. can support cross-border energy projects.
3. Gas-to-Power Investments: The role of hydrocarbon revenues in funding infrastructure that supports industrialization and regional energy security.
4. How to facilitate American investments in Africa’s oil and gas infrastructure.
5. U.S legislation “ Central African exploitation and manipulation of American Act” impact.

**1:PM – 1:15 PM**

## Colorado School of MINES

Presentation by **Mr. John Bradford**, Vice President for Global initiatives

**Topic:** Building Expertise and Workforce in Energy and Mining: A Global Perspective for Africa

**1: 15 PM – 2:00 PM**

## Panel 3 – Gas Commercialization: Driving Industrial Growth in Africa

**Objective:** Highlight the role of natural gas in powering industrial growth, reducing energy poverty, and driving economic transformation in Africa

**Moderator: Ms. Mervin Azeta** - Global flexible work and culture manager at SLB

**Panelists:**

1. **Dr. Riverson OPPONG** - PhD, Member Board of Directors at Society of Petroleum Engineers International
2. **Ms. Judith Adjobah Blay** - CEO of Ghana Gas
3. **Mrs. Veronique Moapea Mbio** – Managing Director, SCDP (Société Camerounaise des Dépôts Pétroliers)
4. **Dr. César Abeigner** Independent Consultant Ceasar Resources LLC

**Topic :**

- **Gas-to-Power:** Ongoing Projects in Africa
- **Gas for Mining**
- **US Expertise in Gas Monetization:** Lessons for Africa
- **Catalyzing Universal Clean Energy Access in Sub-Saharan Africa** – A Collaborative Path Forward

**2:00 PM – 2:45 PM**

**Panel 4** – Optimizing Africa's Oil & Gas Production: Technology, Strategy, and Sustainability

**Moderator: Mr. Henry Kepeden**, Energy Economist & Industry Strategist

**Objective:** Explore cutting-edge technologies and operational innovations to maximize production efficiency, reduce costs, and extend field lifecycles across Africa's hydrocarbon sector.

**Panelists**

1. **Mr. Yannick Mouamba** – Country Managing Director Schlumberger Congo and Gabon and DRC and Sao Tome
2. **Mr. Arthur Ename** - Vice President, Global Accounts. NOV Africa
3. **Mr. Brice Asopjio** - Managing Director at Malega Energie Service
4. **Mr. Josh Lefebvre** - Founder & CEO of TechVora
5. **Mr. Michel Mouba Diarra** - Deputy Manager of PIZOLUB S.A & Petroleum Expert Consultant

**Key Discussion Points:**

- Local Field Optimization & Partnerships, Strategies to revitalize mature fields through technology adoption and joint ventures.
- Advanced Drilling & Completion Technologies, AI-powered directional drilling systems improving recovery rates by 15–20% in complex reservoirs (e.g., Nigeria's deepwater fields).  
Real-time data analytics for reducing non-productive time (NPT) by up to 30%.”
- Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) in Mature Basins, CO2 injection, and hydraulic fracturing techniques extending field life by 5–7 years (Algeria/Saharan applications).  
Cost-sharing models for EOR projects with African NOCs to mitigate financial risks.”
- Next-Gen Rig Technologies for African Operations, Automated drilling systems reducing operational costs by 25% in remote locations (e.g., Chad's Doba Basin).  
Modular rig designs enabling faster deployment in offshore and onshore environments.”
- Opportunities for US companies to invest in exploration, production, and infrastructure.
  - The impact of hydrocarbon revenues on Africa's economic transformation

**2:45 PM – 3:00 PM**

Presentation: **SPONSOR COMPANY**

**3:00 PM -3:45 PM**

**Panel 5** - Powering Communities: Ensuring Sustainable and Equitable Access to Clean Energy.

**Objective:** To examine the importance of community engagement, local capacity building, and equitable distribution in ensuring the long-term sustainability and social impact of clean energy projects in Africa. The discussion will focus on strategies to empower local communities, promote inclusive development, and ensure that the benefits of clean energy and access to clean cooking reach the most vulnerable populations.



**Moderator: Ms. Lady Be Bless** - Co-Chair at African & Caribbean Energy network.

**Panelists:**

- 1. Ms. Ileana Ferber** - Colibri Business Development LLC– Local Content Expert USA
- 2. Ms. Yolanda Asumu** - CEO of iCUBEFARM and the Founder of the Africa HR Forum
- 3. Mr. Madingue Djasro** - CEO of Tawara Energy Canada
- 3. Mr. Jean-Paul Beleshay** - Founder and CEO of Great Heart Global

**Key Discussion Points:**

- How can clean energy projects be designed and implemented in a way that empowers local communities and fosters a sense of ownership? (e.g., community-owned cooperatives, participatory decision-making processes)
- What are the key considerations for ensuring that clean energy access is equitable and reaches marginalized or underserved populations, such as women, rural communities, and low-income households?
  - How can local capacity building and skills development programs be integrated into clean energy projects to create sustainable jobs, enhance local expertise, and ensure long-term operation and maintenance of systems?
- How can the social, cultural, and environmental impacts of clean energy projects be carefully assessed and managed to ensure that they contribute to sustainable and inclusive development?

**3:45 PM – 4:15 PM**

Closing Remarks by:

- Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Houston
  - Secretary General of APPO
    - Minister of CHAD
  - Minister of Cameroon
    - Minister of Nigeria
- Chairwoman of CABEF

**4:15 PM - 5 PM**

**NETWORKING**



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