

The Vital Role of Africa's Youth in Shaping the Continent's Energy Future: Global African Hydrogen Summit co-creates Youth Programme to empower the next generation for sustainable progress.

Windhoek, Namibia - According to the UN, African youth make up the world's fastest-growing youth population, with over 60% of the continent's population under 25 years old, presenting both a significant opportunity for growth and major challenges in unemployment and lack of opportunities. This young population possesses creativity and ambition but faces obstacles like insufficient job creation, leading to high rates of unemployment, particularly among young women.

The Africa Union's Youth Development outlook shares that with more than 400 million young people aged between 15 to 35, Africa has the youngest population in the world and calls for an increase of investment in economic and social development factors.

In parallel, Africa stands at a pivotal moment in its energy evolution, and it is essential that the continent's youth have a prominent voice at the table. Their perspective, innovation, and dynamism are critical to shaping policies and solutions that respond to the unique challenges and opportunities Africa faces.

Globally, the hydrogen sector is picking up serious momentum. More than 1,572 clean hydrogen projects are active worldwide, with \$75billion committed to projects that have reached Final Investment Decision (FID). Total announced investments through 2030 now exceed \$680 billion.

Africa, with Namibia, Egypt, Morocco, and Mauritania emerging as the continent's strategic hubs, is fast becoming a focal point of this revolution, with over 110 green hydrogen projects across the continent, according to the latest research findings from etasca (Energy Transition and Sustainable Chemicals Advisory).

Speaking on his inclusion at last year's inaugural Summit, Nairobi based Wilson Ngunjiri, who was a third-year student at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), advocated that "I had the incredible opportunity to attend the Global Africa Hydrogen Summit in Windhoek, Namibia. It was an experience that left me both inspired and excited for the future of green energy in Africa. The Summit was a melting pot of ideas, bringing together professionals from the hydrogen ecosystem—industry leaders, technologists, and investment bankers. I had the privilege of pitching

my hydrogen project to two investment bankers who expressed great interest in supporting it, giving me a renewed sense of confidence and excitement.”

Damian Howard, Senior Vice President at dmg events, the organisers of the sequel edition of the Global African Hydrogen Summit, reflected that “We are delighted to announce a new and highly impactful partnership that will enable us to host a dedicated Youth Programme as part of this year’s Summit.

The two-day Youth Programme conference is a critical forum that aims to provide 100 young industry leaders with a platform to shape the hydrogen and green industrialisation sectors across Africa and Namibia. The Youth Programme will provide the all-important voice at the table for the youth to contribute, empower and include them in the development of job creation, business opportunities and policy advocacy.

The partnership, for which we are grateful, comprises of the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL), the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGHP), the Namibia Youth Energy Forum (NYEF), the University of Namibia (UNAM), Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB).”

By engaging youth in dialogue about the energy market and future development, there is an opportunity to harness their creativity and ambition, ensuring that the next generation leads with resilience and vision. Empowering young Africans today is an investment in a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow for all. Their voices must not only be heard, they must drive change.

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Contact Details Roshan Jan-Mahomed, Head of Marketing – Africa

Email: info@gah2s.com

Web: www.globalafricanhydrogensummit.com

About The Global African Hydrogen Summit (GAH2S) 2025

Convening The Global Hydrogen Industry In Namibia

In its sequel edition, the pioneering three-day Global African Hydrogen Summit will once again convene heads of state, government agencies, industry business leaders, project developers, investors, thought leaders, technologists and end users from across Africa and around the globe to drive partnerships for and critical investments and financing into bankable green energy projects of strategic and national importance

across Africa, spanning the hydrogen, renewables, agriculture, mining, power, infrastructure, transportation, mobility and hard to abate sectors. As a pioneering and innovative investment platform, the Global African Hydrogen Summit will provide a variety of engagement opportunities including CPD accredited educative masterclasses, high level leadership dialogues, a world class strategic conference, project investment roundtables, and an international exhibition and innovation zone. Participation from across the global energy value chain will include and contribute to:

- **1 High-Level Ministerial Meeting**
- **2 Leadership Roundtables**
- **3 Heads of State**
- **7 Country Pavilions**
- **7 Global African Hydrogen Awards**
- **20 Deal & MoU Signings**
- **25 African & Global Ministers**
- **50 Bankable African Green Energy Projects**
- **45 Partners**
- **60 Countries Represented**
- **150 International Exhibitors**
- **100 Youth Participants**
- **125 Expert Industry Speakers**
- **700 Conference Delegates**
- **1,500 Attendees**

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