



September, 2026

NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL

REGIONAL POWER INTERCONNECTIONS GAIN MOMENTUM

Ethiopia plans to double its electricity exports to Kenya from 200 MW to 400 MW starting December 2026, pending grid-stability tests. Operational since 2022, the Ethiopia-Kenya interconnector can carry 2,000 MW, and Ethiopia already supplies a pilot 100 MW to Tanzania via Kenya. Uganda is implementing its interconnection with South Sudan, a EUR 240M project financed mainly by the African Development Bank (AfDB, EUR 174.7M) and the EU (EUR 50M). It includes a 300 km, 400 kV line and distribution networks in Juba and Nimule, enabling low-cost electricity imports. Sudan has raised its interconnection capacity with Egypt from 50 MW to 75 MW after talks in Cairo on 10 September, and a second 300 MW phase will be accelerated, eventually reaching 1,000 MW. This comes as the World Bank launched a USD 1.6B programme in June 2026 to accelerate regional power integration, notably through the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP).

PROPARCO INVESTS USD 1.5M IN E-MOBILITY START-UP ARC RIDE

On 8 September, Proparco announced a USD 1.5M equity investment in Arc Ride, which designs electric motorbikes for African cities, with a charging network and battery-swapping system. It holds around 30% of Nairobi's electric two-wheeler market and partners with Greenwheels, Uber's preferred fleet manager in Africa. The investment is part of a USD 33.3M raise, comprising USD 10M in debt and a USD 23M Series A led by Novastar Ventures and Norrsken22, with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), British International Investment (BII) and Proparco as co-investors. Funds will finance 5,000 e-motorbikes and charging infrastructure in Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania and Ghana. The project should create over 300 direct and nearly 2,900 indirect jobs, and avoid about 100,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

NUMBER OF THE MONTH

23%

The share of Ethiopia's electricity consumed by just 30 data-mining firms, which also generate 41% of the revenue of Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP).

DJIBOUTI, RWANDA AND MADAGASCAR AT THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE SUMMIT IN PARIS

Djibouti's President Ismaïl Omar Guelleh, Rwanda's President Paul Kagame and Madagascar's President Michaël Randrianirina attended the International Space Summit held in Paris on 9 and 10 September. Bringing together over 120 invited countries alongside public institutions and private players, the summit aimed to create a forum for multilateral dialogue on space issues. Discussions focused on four themes: securing exploration missions, the sector's economic opportunities, a regulated framework for multilateral cooperation, and scientific training for future generations. A round table on Africa highlighted the practical benefits of space technologies, including environmental and climate data collection, maritime security, precision agriculture, telecommunications and digital transformation.



RENEWABLE ENERGIES

ETHIOPIA

EL NIÑO DROUGHT FORCES ETHIOPIA TO RATION CRYPTO-MINING POWER

The effects of El Niño are starting to be felt in Ethiopia, with drought cutting water inflows to the country's 21 hydropower dams by around 20%. This threatens national power supply, prompting Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) to lower its 2026/27 generation target by 10%. To limit the impact on households, EEP plans to cut supply to the country's 30 data-mining companies, which consume 23% of national electricity output. These firms account for 41% of EEP's revenue, largely thanks to foreign-currency payments and high tariffs. The El Niño-driven drought could reduce EEP's revenue by 3% and its foreign-currency earnings by around 40%.

USD 50M FINANCING FOR THE AYSHA WIND PROJECT

The Aysha wind project, set to become Ethiopia's first private wind power producer, has secured a USD 50M loan from the Trade and Development Bank (TDB). This adds to the USD 110M approved by the African Development Bank (AfDB), which also plans to mobilise up to USD 381M more from other lenders, under a structure of up to 75% debt. Ethiopian Electric Power will buy the output under a 25-year take-or-pay contract, committing it to pay for an agreed volume of electricity even if not fully consumed or drawn. Ethiopian Investment Holdings is expected to acquire a 3% stake. Led by Emirati developer AMEA Power, the 300 MW project, with an estimated total cost of USD 508M, would help diversify Ethiopia's power mix, still heavily reliant on hydropower. It would also strengthen AMEA Power's foothold in the Horn of Africa, where the group is already developing the 25 MW Grand Bara solar project in Djibouti.

COMOROS

INAUGURATION OF THREE SOLAR PV PLANTS

On 5 September 2026, the President of the Union of the Comoros inaugurated three solar PV plants across the islands of Grande Comore (12.9 MW), Anjouan (4.1 MW,

in Ouani) and Mohéli (3.1 MW), with a combined capacity of around 20 MW. The project was delivered by Emirati company Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar), with nearly USD 23M in financing from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD), and will be operated by another Emirati firm, Global South Utilities. It will benefit 17,500 households.

KENYA

USD 5.9M TO STRENGTHEN THE POWER GRID IN KWALE AND KILIFI

On 7 September, Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), the national electricity distributor, announced the construction of two substations in Kwale and Kilifi counties, worth around USD 5.9M. The 132/33 kV Bomani substation in Kilifi (USD 3.5M), nearing completion, will serve Kikambala, Vipingo, Kanamai and Mtwapa, where commercial and industrial activity is spreading from Mombasa and the Kilifi and Bamburi substations are reaching capacity. In Kwale, a 33/11 kV substation (USD 2.4M) with four outgoing feeders will relieve the Diani substation and supply the county headquarters as well as Kinango, Tiwi and Kombani. In the financial year ending June 2026, KPLC connected 411,710 new customers, bringing its base to 10.4 million.

MADAGASCAR

MOU SIGNED ON THE VOLOBE HYDROPOWER DAM

On 30 September, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Madagascar's Ministry of Energy and Hydrocarbons (MEH) and the Compagnie Générale d'Hydroélectricité de Volohe (CGHV), whose shareholders are AXIAN (37.5%), EDF (37.5%) and Africa50 (25%), in the presence of the President of the Refoundation and the French and European Union ambassadors. The MoU covers the Malagasy State's 20% stake in CGHV, tax provisions, CGHV's procurement commitments, and the project's financing and associated infrastructure. It follows a round table from 23 to 28 August. With a planned capacity of 127 MW, the plant is expected to supply 60 MW to the Toamasina grid and 60 MW to the Antananarivo interconnected grid (RIA), via the PRIITEM grid reinforcement and interconnection project, which is financed by the European Union.



SOMALIA

A DIGITAL SYSTEM TO EASE MINI-GRID FINANCING

Somalia has launched a digital monitoring system to improve the management of renewable energy mini-grids and ease their financing. Developed by the government with the United Nations Development Programme and support from the Global Environment Facility, the system centralises data on installation performance. It provides real-time information on power generation, grid load, financial flows and system reliability. Banks and investors will gain better visibility, helping them assess viability and risks. The system should support the shift from diesel-powered mini-grids to hybrid solar systems. The project offers a model that could be replicated in other fragile countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

SOUTH SUDAN

FULA DAM PROJECT GAINS MOMENTUM

South Sudan's Minister of Energy and Dams, Agok Makur, said the government is ready to move ahead with plans to build the Fula dam. He noted that the project is one of 34 approved by the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI). The Grand Fula hydroelectric plant, in Magwi near the Ugandan border, has a planned capacity of 1,080 MW but is seeking financing. In April 2026, a joint mission including the European Union and South Sudan's Ministry of Energy visited the area to assess progress on the EU-cofinanced 400 kV South Sudan-Uganda interconnection and inspect the dam site. Egypt's Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Hani Sewilam, announced that Egypt had approved the dam.

SUSTAINABLE CITY

COMOROS

LAUNCH OF THE RESISLANDS REGIONAL CLIMATE PROJECT

On 10 September 2026, the Comoros hosted the national launch of RESIslands, a USD 4.9M, 30-month regional

project implemented by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the project covers nine countries: Cabo Verde, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mauritius, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles and Tanzania (Zanzibar). It aims to strengthen climate risk assessment, early warning systems and the preparation of projects eligible for international climate finance.

KENYA

REVISED ELECTRICITY TARIFF FOR E-MOBILITY

Kenya's Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) has revised electricity tariffs for electric vehicle (EV) charging, according to a notice published in the [Kenya Gazette](#) on 18 September 2026. E-mobility users supplied by Kenya Power at 240 or 415 volts will pay KES 16/kWh (USD 0.12), and half that during off-peak hours, at KES 8/kWh (USD 0.06). Large consumers also benefit: electricity used beyond a set monthly threshold is billed at the Time-of-Use rate, and operators running continuously at full capacity can obtain an additional 5% discount on the off-peak price. The measure comes as EV adoption accelerates. Kenya had 35,661 registered EVs in January 2026, 94% of them motorbikes, and electricity consumed for charging jumped 188% to 8.43 GWh in 2025.

UGANDA

USD 31M FROM THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND FOR REDUCED DEFORESTATION

Uganda has secured USD 31M (UGX 113B) from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as payment for reducing its CO₂ emissions by around 8 Mt between 2016 and 2017. The funding was granted following an assessment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). According to the Minister of State for Environment, Beatrice Atim Anywar, it is the first such payment to an African country and the first to a Least Developed Country (LDC).



TANZANIA

FEASIBILITY STUDY LAUNCHED FOR A MONORAIL PROJECT IN DAR ES SALAAM

Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) has launched a feasibility study for a monorail project in Dar es Salaam. The study has been awarded to French engineering group Systra and covers the project's technical, financial, environmental and operational aspects. It should identify the route, construction methods, projected costs and implementation model before any decision on launching works. The project is part of the Tanzanian authorities' efforts to develop urban transport infrastructure and meet growing mobility demand in Dar es Salaam, whose population could reach around 10 million by 2030, according to TRC. TRC Director General Machibya Shiwa said the study should provide a technical basis for determining how to implement an urban transport system suited to the city's evolving needs.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CABLE CAR TRANSPORT

The Director General of Tanzania's Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA), Habibu Suluo, said the country is moving closer to establishing a regulatory framework for cable car transport. LATRA has set up a dedicated unit to oversee this new mode of transport, which will become operational once the regulations are approved by the Ministry of Transport. The process had been delayed by an institutional reorganisation, although draft regulations were prepared by the ministry and shared with stakeholders in December 2024. LATRA has identified eight regions with potential for cable car projects: Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Dar es Salaam, Pwani, Morogoro, Iringa and Mbeya. The framework could improve access to tourist sites, diversify mobility options and open up new investment opportunities. Several foreign and local investors have already expressed interest in the sector.



TENDERS

Comoros – AFD

MARITIME INTER-ISLAND TRANSPORT SERVICE DELEGATION

AFD finances 10.5 M EUR project for inter-island maritime transport. Call for operators to manage MASSIWA vessel services between Moroni and Mutsamudu, including maintenance, commercialization, and public service continuity.

Deadline: October 23, 2026 - 16:00 (local time)

[For more information](#)

Burundi– World Bank

CONSTRUCTION OF A LAKE TANGANYIKA WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The *Régie de Production et de Distribution d'Eau et d'Électricité (REGIDESO)* calls for international bids to design, supply and install a treatment plant drawing raw water from Lake Tanganyika. Financed under the Drinking Water and Sanitation Access Project (PAEPA). Execution and commissioning within 18 months, plus a 12-month warranty period.

Deadline: October 29, 2026-15:00 (local time)

[For more information](#)

Ethiopia - AFD / EU

CHANGE MANAGEMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR ETHIOPIAN ELECTRIC POWER

Under the RISED programme, EEP seeks expressions of interest for a change management needs assessment and capacity building to transform its organisational systems, workforce, culture and leadership.

Deadline: November 11, 2026 - 4:00 pm (Addis Ababa time)

[For more information](#)

Mauritius – European Union

CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Expertise France calls for project proposals to strengthen circular economy in construction across Mauritius and Rodrigues. Eligible organisations may apply for grants between €50,000 and €110,000 to support waste diversion, reuse and recycling practices, and inclusive entrepreneurship. Minimum 20 % co-financing required.

Deadline: 13 November 2026, 23:59 (Paris time).

[For more information](#)

Tanzania - AFD / AfDB / EU

38.6 KM 220 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM KAKONO HYDROPOWER PLANT TO KYAKA SUBSTATION (LOT 1)

TANESCO calls for international bids for the design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of a double circuit line under the Kakono Hydropower Project.

Deadline: November 20, 2026 - 10:00 (local time)

[For more information](#)

Kenya - World Bank / AfDB / EIB / EBRD / European Commission

KENYA URBAN MOBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Kenya Railways plans to upgrade the 57 km Nairobi Central-Thika commuter line into a modern urban rail system (US\$1.5 billion), with consultant services required.

Deadline : February 15, 2027

[For more information](#)



PRESENTATION OF CLUB MEMBERS :

DISTRIBUTED POWER AFRICA KENYA LIMITED (DPAK)

Thank you for presenting your company in the newsletter ! Could you please introduce your companies' activities, your sectors of operation, and your collaboration?

- ✓ DPA Kenya Limited (DPAK), an affiliate of EDF (Électricité de France) Power Solutions, is a leading commercial and industrial (C&I) renewable energy platform delivering solar photovoltaic (PV) solutions to businesses across Kenya, serving customers across a diverse range of sectors including environmental services, manufacturing, healthcare, financial services, private utilities, commercial and urban property development, hospitality, among others.
- ✓ Backed by EDF, DPAK develops, finances, builds and operates on-site solar assets that enable commercial and industrial customers to reduce electricity costs, strengthen energy resilience and accelerate their decarbonisation journey.
- ✓ Our work covers the full project lifecycle, from technical and commercial development and engineering through EPC delivery, commissioning, and long-term operations and maintenance.
- ✓ We work closely with customers, EPC contractors, equipment suppliers (OEMs), utilities and technical consultants to deliver reliable, safe and bankable renewable energy solutions.

Could you talk about the projects you currently have underway in the region?

- ✓ A key project in DPA Kenya's portfolio is the Two Rivers Phase III solar project at Two Rivers Mall in Nairobi.
- ✓ The project comprises 1.23 MWp of carport solar PV capacity, including a 1.02 MWp phase that was installed and commissioned in August 2026, with a further 209 kWp phase targeted for completion by the end of 2026.
- ✓ Two Rivers is a particularly interesting project, demonstrating the scale and complexity of integrating distributed solar within a major commercial development. The project has involved MV infrastructure and grid-interconnection modifications, commissioning and performance testing, monitoring and metering integration, as well as close coordination between the client, EPC contractor, utility and specialist technical teams.
- ✓ Beyond Two Rivers, DPAK continues to manage and optimise a growing C&I solar portfolio across Kenya, spanning multiple sectors and applications. Our focus extends beyond the deployment of solar capacity to ensuring strong operational performance, data visibility, regulatory compliance and long-term asset value.



Do you have any advice to give to other club members, or any information you would like to share?

- ✓ For organisations developing renewable energy projects in East Africa, our experience is that successful delivery depends as much on early coordination and strong project governance as it does on the technology itself.
- ✓ In complex C&I projects, grid-interconnection requirements, permitting, site constraints, customer operations and equipment lead times can significantly impact programmes if not identified and managed early. Early stakeholder engagement is therefore critical to anticipating constraints and maintaining delivery momentum.
- ✓ We encourage project teams to establish clear responsibilities and acceptance criteria from the outset, with strong risk visibility throughout construction and commissioning. Equally important is the post-commissioning phase, where robust monitoring, preventive maintenance and active performance management are essential to sustaining long-term asset value.
- ✓ We see significant opportunities for collaboration across East Africa, combining international expertise with local knowledge to accelerate the transition towards more resilient, sustainable and energy-efficient cities.



UPCOMING EVENTS



From **October 19th to 24th, 2026, Moroni (Comoros) will host the 11th African Rift Geothermal Conference (ARGeo-C11)**, the continent's leading platform for advancing geothermal development through research, innovation, policy and investment. Held under the theme *"Unlocking Africa's Geothermal Resource Potential: A Pathway to Sustainable Development"*, the conference is organised in collaboration with the **African Geothermal Association (AGA)**, the **African Union Commission (AUC)** and the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA).

The previous edition, held in Dar es Salaam, brought together participants from 14 member countries of the African Geothermal Federation as well as 12 other countries, including New Zealand, Iceland and Germany.

Agenda :

- **October 19th – 20th:** *Pre-conference short courses.*
- **October 21st – 23rd: Main conference.** Sessions will cover the full spectrum of geothermal project development, including geosciences and drilling, power generation and direct use, innovative financing and de-risking, cross-border collaboration, and environmental and social issues. The African Geothermal Association's annual meeting will take place on October 21st.
- **October 24th:** *Field trip to Mount Karthala*, the site of the Comoros' geothermal exploration project.

Location : Palais du Peuple, Moroni

More details on the [ARGeo-C11 website](#) or in the [online program](#)



Uganda-UE Business Forum: Financing Renewable Energy Projects in Uganda - Instruments, Structures and Opportunities



Kampala, Uganda, 20th – 21st October 2026

The European Union (EU) Delegation to Uganda hosts a flagship business forum at the Kampala Serena Hotel, targeting renewable energy investments in hydropower, geothermal and wind. Held under the Global Gateway initiative, the forum convenes European and Ugandan companies, investors, development partners and government authorities to facilitate B2B, B2G and B2F partnerships and to move concrete investment projects forward.

The forum runs alongside [Uganda's Renewable Energy Conference](#) and EXPO, organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and the National Renewable Energy Platform, held at the same venue from 19 to 22 October. Exhibition space is available to companies, with stands hosted by the EU-Uganda Business Hub, and is open to renewable technologies beyond the three priority segments. For European firms, it offers an early view of Uganda's investment pipeline and direct access to project sponsors.

A preparatory webinar addresses financing structures and instruments available through Team Europe and partner institutions, covering equity, debt, guarantees and blended finance. Participants include project developers, independent power producers (IPPs), development finance institutions and commercial banks. The forum offers targeted matchmaking, pitching sessions and Deal Room access to advance projects toward financial close.

Learn more : [Uganda-EU Business Forum 2026](#)



On November 3rd and 4th, 2026, the French Chamber of Commerce in Kenya (FCCK) will host the 4th edition of French Week in Nairobi, followed by site visits on November 5th. Six months after the Africa Forward Summit brought the French-Kenyan business community together on an unprecedented scale, this edition aims to turn that momentum into concrete opportunities through high-level roundtables, hands-on workshops and dedicated networking.

Last year's edition brought together nearly 600 participants, 6 public officials and 85 speakers. This year's event will be officially opened by H.E. Wadid Benaabou, Ambassador of France to Kenya.

Agenda:

- **Day 1 – November 3rd: Connect & Power: Kenya's Infrastructure Backbone (Ports, Trade Corridors, Energy & Digital).** Roundtables on French companies' role in East Africa's infrastructure pipeline, the future of energy and the grid in Kenya, the AI-readiness of Kenya's fibre backbone, and Kenya's electric vehicle market. The afternoon features workshops on navigating Kenyan institutions and cybersecurity (masterclass with Caspera.Lab), followed by the Mistral Accelerator Bootcamp Demo Day showcasing 6 startups (French Tech, Mistral, Qhala and Aedib).
- **Day 2 – November 4th: Build & Scale: Value Creation through Manufacturing, Agriculture and Rural Markets.** Roundtables on whether Kenya is capturing the value it should, success stories of industrial transformation, the investment climate ahead of the 2027 elections, and carbon credits under the new rulebook. Afternoon workshops cover scenario analysis ahead of the election cycle and rural markets as a lever for growth.
- **Day 3 – November 5th:** Site visits.

Location: Novotel Nairobi Westlands

More details on the [FCCK website](#) or in the [online programme](#)



France, Paris, 24th and 25th November 2026

Held under the high patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, and supported by the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry, as well as the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the **2026 edition of Ambition Africa will bring together over 1,500 French and African participants**, both in person and online, representing up to 43 African countries.

On November 24th & 25th, 2026, the forum returns to the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry in Paris for its eighth edition. Now a key annual event for Franco-African economic and trade relations, it gathers ministers, ambassadors, prominent speakers and business delegations from across the African continent for two days of high-level dialogue and partnership.

Ambition Africa 2026 will feature:

- Official plenary sessions with French and African officials
- Sectoral and transversal workshops on agriculture, health, energy sovereignty, water and waste, cybersecurity, urban development, finance and creative industries
- An innovation contest and awards ceremony
- Personalized B2B meetings between French and African companies
- Networking cocktails and a closing dinner concert

Location: Paris, France

Learn more: [Accueil - Ambition Africa](#)



CONTACT

The French Club for Renewable Energies is an informal group bringing together French private and institutional actors to highlight French expertise on these themes and promote collaboration to offer an integrated development offer.

Follow us on our [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#) accounts !

For more information or registration to the newsletter:

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