

## Partners for renewable and sustainable energy

Although energy access rates in South Africa have increased, sustainable and reliable energy delivery is becoming more challenging with the increasing demand and an ageing infrastructure. While coal remains South Africa's primary source of electricity, the country has excellent potential for the implementation of renewable technologies.

There is ongoing collaboration between the EU and the South African government and private stakeholders on renewable energy with a focus on opportunities in Green Hydrogen. There are also regulatory dialogues with the National Energy Regulator of South Africa ([NERSA](#)) on market liberalisation, energy transition and market design, which add to the rich exchanges in the energy sector. See:

- [SA-EU Partners for Growth: Powerfuels and Green Hydrogen](#)
- [SA-EU Partners for Growth: Powerfuels 2: Stimulating domestic hydrogen consumption opportunities in South Africa](#)

European businesses are actively invested in South Africa's globally recognised Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme ([REIPPPP](#)) that contributes to the share of renewables in South Africa's energy mix in line with the Integrated Resource Plan 2019.

South Africa is a [signatory](#) to the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) Agreement, which provides for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. South Africa signed the intergovernmental agreement with EURATOM in 2013. On 5 December 2018, Cabinet approved the Agreement between the EURATOM and the South African government.

The primary purpose of the cooperation agreement is to further expand and deepen the mutually beneficial economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between South Africa and the EU. These benefits include:

- Research and development in the field of nuclear;
- Use of nuclear materials and technologies such as applications in health and agriculture;
- Transfer of nuclear materials and equipment;
- Nuclear safeguards; nuclear safety, radioactive waste and spent fuel management, decommissioning, radiation protection including emergency preparedness and response.

Previous dialogues with the department of mineral resources and energy and the South African National Energy Development Institute have focused on:

- Smart grids that aim to contribute to South Africa's National Smart Grids vision;
- Integration of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies in government buildings and infrastructure.