Nairobi energy storage for resilience

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Kenya has the largest, most diversified economy in East Africa with agriculture being the backbone of the economy and also central to the country’s development strategy. More than 75 percent of Kenyans make some part of their living in agriculture, and the sector accounts for more than a fourth of Kenya’s gross domestic product (GDP).

The project creates a large number of skilled employment for youth and women but also brings in unskilled labour. One of the fascinating features of this project is that it highly values plastic waste, rubber tyres, oil and other high calorific material that is normally a major problem in disposal sites. One of our first acts will be to engage youth to bring in all the plastic they can find- from drainages, illegal dumpsites

Africa has the world’s largest reserve for renewable energy- solar, wind, hydro, biomass; the highest potential for food production, whose importance only rises as climate change, led by sea-level rise, engulfs large agricultural areas in Europe, Asia and Latin America; as well as enormous freshwater resources over 90% of which lie unutilised.

Resilience Centre has incorporated drones with the aim of revolutionizing traditional practices across renewable energy, water management, and small-scale farming. In small-scale farming, resilience utilization of drones empower farmers with precision agriculture services, crop monitoring, and livestock management, driving efficiency and sustainability throughout the agricultural value chain.

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The Resilience Centre, Nairobi seeks to leverage private sector finance and knowledge to catalyse investment in the energy, food and water nexus, working simultaneously with national government institutions and local authorities, to strengthen economic and social capital formation, while improving skills, creating efficient work and delivering essential services.

Our team of surface and groundwater engineers, hydrologists and geologistists provide industrial, municipal and agricultural customers with a wide range of integrated water supply services including resource investigation and development and construction of water supply facilities, pumping houses and pump stations.

By Rapid Transition Alliance Staff, originally published by Rapid Transition Alliance

In 2021, 81% of Kenya"s electricity generation came from the low carbon sources of geothermal, hydro, wind, and solar power. Over half of this low carbon electricity came from geothermal energy, which Kenya has in

abundance. So much in fact, that excess geothermal energy is released during the night when electricity demand is low. Installed geothermal capacity in Kenya could be increased by at least eightfold, which could open opportunities for scaling up green manufacturing capacity or exporting excess electricity to neighbouring countries.

Renewable rollouts have substantially improved energy access. In 2013, around 28% of Kenyans had access to electricity. By 2020, this had risen to over 71%. This was achieved as the population grew by over seven million over the same period, while the rate of urbanisation continued to gather pace. According to the World Bank, barely one million Kenyans had electricity in 1990.

Ruto"s words, and Kenya"s actions, are timely due to the backdrop they are made against. Amid Russia"s invasion of Ukraine, and the vacuum created in global energy markets, European leaders and multinational fossil fuel firms have launched a "dash for gas" across Africa, where a raft of new oil and gas projects, as well as old ones, are being given the green light. At COP27, Ruto kicked back against the dash for gas, stating that "we [Kenya] have taken a position that as a country we are going green and we are well on course".

If these fossil fuel projects go ahead, they will lock Africa into a high-carbon, high-cost, and high-pollution energy system that will wreak havoc on communities, natural systems (the long known "resource curse"), and the climate. Given what"s at stake, both for Africa and the rest of humanity, exploring Kenya"s ascendancy to a clean energy superpower is vital.