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GEOHERMAL WORKSHOP 2026

20-21 July 2026
Fairmont the Norfolk Hotel
Nairobi, Kenya



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SPE AFRICA GEOTHERMAL **WORKSHOP 2026**

Organized by SPE Africa Region and SPE Geothermal
Technical Section (GTTS)
In Partnership with Africa Energy Leaders,
Researchers and Industry

WHY GEOTHERMAL IN AFRICA

- Africa's vast geothermal potential: >20 GW in East African Rift System.
- Reliable, clean, base-load renewable energy source.
- Vital for energy self-sufficiency & climate commitments.
- Direct socio-economic benefits for communities and industries.

Workshop Objectives

- Share knowledge and best practices in geothermal development.
- Showcase policy, finance, innovation and direct-use applications.
- Foster partnerships between governments, industry and academia.
- Develop a shared roadmap for Africa's geothermal future.

Opening & Keynote

-  Welcome participants from across Africa and beyond.
-  Framing geothermal as a cornerstone for Africa's clean energy mix.
-  Inspiring examples from Kenya's >950 MW capacity.
-  Setting goals for workshop impact and collaboration.





Workshop Structure

In the rapidly evolving global landscape, Africa stands at the cusp of transformative change, driven by a blend of innovative technologies, evolving financial markets, and policies aimed at tackling socio-economic challenges. The two-day workshop titled "The Future of Policy, Finance, and Technology in Africa" seeks to explore the intricate connections between these forces and their combined potential to shape the continent's future.



The workshop is designed to provide both regional and global perspectives, delving into the unique challenges and opportunities that Africa faces in its journey toward sustainable development and technological advancement. The program will consist of keynote addresses, panel discussions, technical sessions, and networking opportunities, each meticulously designed to foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration.



Policy and Market Enablers

- Government and Regional body leadership commitments.
- Cross-border cooperation for resource sharing.
- Policy frameworks for accelerating geothermal investments.
- Role of African Union and African Development Bank in enabling growth.

Workforce Development & Local Value Chains



Finance and Market Development

-  Successful financing examples from Kenya and Ethiopia.
-  East African Power Pool integration opportunities.
-  Risk mitigation: Insurance, guarantees, and exploration funding support.
-  Attracting private investors and creating bankable projects.

Socio-Economic and Direct-Use impacts

- Geothermal powering agriculture: irrigation, greenhouses, cold storage.
- Rural electrification and income generation.
- Aquaculture and district cooling as value-added industries.
- Driving local economic diversification and resilience.



Advances in Exploration

- Rift-system specific exploration challenges and opportunities.
- Geophysical, geo-chemical and satellite tools in African contexts.
- Conducting exploration in volcanic vs sedimentary environments.
- Integrating community engagement and environmental safeguards.



Reservoir and Drilling Innovations

- ☆ Understanding reservoir types in African fields.
- 🔧 Cutting drilling costs; slim holes, cluster drilling, multi-lateral strategies.
- 🔄 Improving well performance, scaling management and long-term productivity.
- 👥 Technical collaboration between local and global experts.



Future Technologies and Digital Innovation

- EGS potential in Africa's geothermal provinces.
- Digital Twins, IoT and AI for real-time monitoring.
- Superhot rock geothermal as a frontier opportunity.
- Using data science for predictive maintenance and reservoir optimization.

Closing Panel and Roadmap 2030

- Summarizing policy, finance and technical outcomes.
- Setting measurable targets for geothermal capacity additions.
- Commitment from stakeholders for sustained development.
- Expanding partnerships regionally and globally.



Expected Outcomes

- Clear recommendations for enabling policy frameworks.
- Roadmap for financing and investor engagement.
- Strategies for workforce development and local manufacturing.
- Strengthened regional cooperation and project acceleration plans.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Day 1

08:30 – 09:00 : Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 – 09:05 : **Opening Remarks**

Dr. Riverson Oppong (SPEI, Africa Regional Director)

09:05 – 09:15 : **Keynote Address**

Jennifer Miskimins (2026 SPE International President)

09:15 – 09:30 : **Guest of Honor**

Hon. Opiyo Wandayi (Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum- Kenya)



Session 1 – Policy & Market Enablers

09:30 – 10:30 – Panel: Government & Regional Leadership for Geothermal.

Key theme:

Perspectives on scaling policy support.

Moderator: Eng. Elizabeth Rogo, CEO of TSAVO Oilfield Services

Fireside Chat:

- **Goel Karen Masila**, Assistant Director-Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, State Department for Energy, Geothermal Division
- **Jennifer Miskimins**, 2026 President- SPE International

Sponsors Remarks

10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 – Finance & Market Development. **(Technical Presentations)**

Key Themes:

- Financing geothermal in Africa Risk mitigation, de-risking tools and attracting private capital.
- Regional integration: Geothermal and the East African Power Pool.
- Lessons learned: Geothermal in Kenya.

12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch Time

Session 2 – Future Technologies & Digital Innovation

13:30 – 15:00 – Emerging Technologies for Africa. **(Technical Presentations)**

Key themes:

- EGS & AGS: Africa's potential and limitations.
- Superhot rock geothermal: pushing global frontiers for the future of geothermal.
- Digital twins & AI – the future of geothermal energy.

15:00 – 15:30 – Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:30 – **Panel:** Africa's Geothermal Roadmap 2030 and beyond linking policy, finance, innovation, and partnerships.

Moderator: Mr. Kana Galma, CEO Geothermal Africa.

Panelists:

- **Karl Street**, Area Technical Lead- Baker Hughes
- **Benjamin Pontier**, Manager Downhole - SubSaharan Africa, NOV
- **Dr. Stephen Onacha**, Director of Resource Development- Akiira Geothermal Limited
- **Gabriel Bujulu**, Consultant- EnergyCards

16:30 – 18:30 – Evening Networking Cocktail.



Day 2

09:00 – 09:05 : Opening remarks – Reza Khastoo, (2025 SPE International Geothermal Technical Section Chair)

09:05 – 09:15 : Keynote Address
Eng. Stephen Busieney, (Ag. Managing Director & CEO of GDC).

09:15 – 09:30 : Guest of Honor- Eng. Peter Njenga (CEO of KenGen).



Session 3 – Subsurface Science & Exploration

09:30 – 10:30 – Panel: Advances in Exploration for Africa's Geothermal Potential.

Key theme:

- Covering geophysics, surface geochemistry, and community engagement.

Moderator: Cesar Patino, **Chairman EOR Technology Collaboration, IEA TCP**

Panelists:

- **Eng. Mangi Peketsa**, General Manager- Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen)
- **Sarah Kern**, SPE International Drilling Technical Director
- **Eng. Reuben Ngosi**, General Manager Drilling and Infrastructure - Geothermal Development Company (GDC)

10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 – Technical Presentations

Key themes:

- Reservoir characterization: volcanic vs. sedimentary systems in Africa.
- Geophysical methods in geothermal exploration.
- Geothermal Drilling innovation: from technology to economics.

12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch Time

Session 4 – Socio-Economic & Direct-Use Impacts

13:30 – 15:00 – Geothermal Beyond Power. (**Technical Presentation**)

Key themes:

- Shallow geothermal for agriculture & cold storage.
- Direct-use applications: greenhouses, aquaculture, district cooling.
- Industrial heat uses– Co-production CRM, Oil and gas synergies.

15:00 – 15:30 – Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:30 – **Panel** : Building Africa's Geothermal Workforce & Local Value Chains.

Key theme:

- Focus on manufacturing, skills transfer, universities, and public-private collaboration.

Moderator: Jackson Grimes, Director of Global Engagement, Project InnerSpace

Panelist:

- **Rebecca Nadupoi Supeyo**, Communication and Stakeholder Strategist
- **Eng. Phyllis Gathoni Mathenge**, Drilling Engineer- Geothermal Development Company (GDC)
- **Kennedy Yugi**, General Manager, Lakeford Oilfield Services.

16:30 – 16:45: **Closing Remarks** – Dr. Riverson Oppong (SPEI, Africa Regional Director)

16:45 – 18:00 – Evening Networking Cocktail.



Day 3

Geothermal Site Visit ***** (Optional)



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