



by Clinton Prophecy Ankutakpuie

# Sustainable Energy – The answer to Africa's Energy crises and Sustenance

Africa, a vast continent of about 1.3+ billion people according to estimates from the United Nations is not devoid of a myriad of challenges. Central to the plethora of challenges that plagues our continent is the one with energy because, it serves as the backbone of our economic system. Energy poverty thus means “economic poverty”.

It is estimated that, about 759 million people lack electricity worldwide and that by 2030, 660 million people will still lack access to electricity. This is according to data from the world bank. The International Energy Agency says that about 75% of people lacking access to electricity are from Africa. It is no news that Africa although resource rich, is often tipped as the poorest continent on Earth. With about 1.3+ billion people, having a population of more than 600 million people lacking electricity automatically translates to energy poverty.

As it stands now, Africa is heavily powered by fossil fuels. About 80% of the world's energy is supplied from fossil fuels. Inherent to its use has been the build-up of greenhouse gasses as they are released into the atmosphere when fossil fuels are burnt. This has led to drastic climate changes worldwide and a decrease the quality of air we breathe. Respiratory diseases like pneumonia, bronchitis among others have been on the surge to this effect.

To mitigate the effects of fossil fuel use and ensure perpetuity, Africa is in a phase of energy transition. This transition is one centred on renewable energy, a subset of sustainable energy. To build a robust economy, woo in investors, promote economic empowerment, industrialize, reduce air pollution etc, Africa needs power that is clean, cheap, readily

available, and sustainable. Sustainable energy is one that comes from sources that don't need to be replenished as such sources cannot be depleted so long as our planet is in existence. Examples include solar, wind and tidal energy. Africa is blessed with resources in their regard and must harness it for sustenance. It is imperative that Africa doesn't remain oblivious of the fact that change is at hand and that we must embrace it. Failure to do so will only mean setting back global efforts. It's very unrealistic that we move away from fossils almost immediately, but we must not relent in taking steps to achieve the goal, the goal of phasing out fossil fuels in due time.

Sustainable Energy is now, the future, and beyond in space! Governments across Africa should create a conducive atmosphere for sustainable energy companies/projects and be receptive of them. Investors should pay more attention to the sustainable energy market on the continent because it offers a lot of good investment opportunities. Investments will also go a long way to reduce pollution, reduce greenhouse emissions, help solve the current energy crisis being faced by the continent, create jobs amidst others.

We (Mr. Clinton Prophecy Ankutakpuie, Mr. Christopher Kuntz and Mr. Akubiah Reagan {Togbe Tsatsu Agbe V}), Co-Founders of Ghanadian Power Incorporated (GPI) are taking proactive steps to contribute our quota towards ensuring that Africa is not left behind during this transitional phase. We have 500 MW pipeline for the next 5 years, 90% Solar and 10% wind. 2022 is all about 100MW Solar ready to build (RTB) in Ghana!