



## 69<sup>TH</sup> AMEU CONVENTION



1 – 4 October 2023

**CSIR International Convention Centre** 

Confronting South Africa's Electricity Crisis in the context of a 'Balanced Just Energy Transition' (BJET) and the need for a reliable and resilient national electricity grid

Grids of the Future – holding the key to faster Energy Transition.



**Presented by Taru Madangombe** 

Middle East & Africa Vice President - Power & Grid Segment

**Schneider Electric** 



## "..Africa, and South Africa in particular is currently facing **TWO**Simultaneous and Significant challenges"











#### We are facing an unprecedented Energy Crisis





Minister of Electricity Kgosientsho Ramokgopa said 650,000 jobs were lost in the South African economy is 2022 because of the energy crisis - and the figure might rise to more than 850,000.

South Africa Power Outages May Have Reduced Growth by 3.2 Percentage Points

South Africa's energy crisis may have reduced the nation's economic growth rate by as much as 3.2 percentage points last year and is likely...

04 Jul 2023

B Bloomberg.com

South Africa's power crisis will continue until 2025 - and blackouts will take 5 years to phase out

South Africa is in the middle of a severe electricity crisis, with enforced power cuts that have worsened every year.

NEWS & COMMENTARY Y RESOURCES Y WEBINARS MAGAZINE Y ELITES EVENTS

Home + Business and markets + Loadshedding hurting small business in townships and rural communities

| Business and markets | Coadshedding hurting small business in Business in Business in Business in Business and markets | Coadshedding hurting small business in townships and rural communities

'Food production in South Africa is in crisis because of loadshedding'

The Conversation

South Africa's power crisis: going off the grid works for the wealthy -- but could deepen injustice for the poor

South Africa's current electricity crisis has been described as "a perfect storm". A number of factors have converged to reach this point:...



The Conversation

Cost of Living Crisis: Load shedding's stranglehold on food prices

South Africans are grappling with the dual blow of <u>load</u> shedding and escalating food prices, a new report by Competition Commission's Essential Food Price Monitoring Report has revealed.



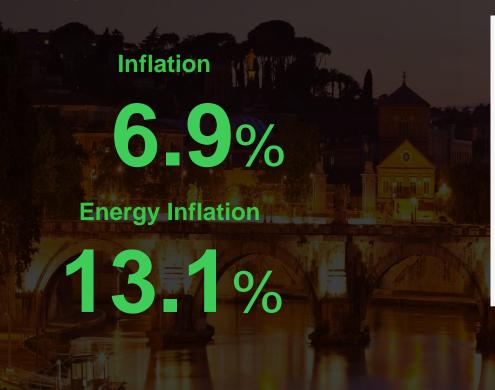
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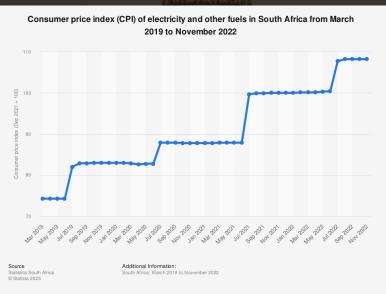


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In the short term, energy costs across South Africa have exploded







In parallel, Global energy crisis is accelerating the energy transition...

Compounding many disruptions...



Utilities and Electricity Companies Are Accelerating Their Digital Journeys Creating Great Opportunities!

#### ...and the Grid at the center of the Energy Transition

Prosumer revolution Industries, buildings, homes, mobility

Grid

The strategic asset for energy transition and security

Green power Generation

Hour-by-hour uncertainty

Each stakeholder has a role to play

- Regulators enable flexibility
- Accelerate Grid Operators Digitization
- Prosumers Engage with DER

- Approx >66GW of RE projects shovel ready
- 1500km of Tx lines/yr required
- Currently 300km/yr

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Loadshedding forcing

end-users to be more

Massive PV adoption in

housing, CIB, Mining at

self-reliant

scale

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#### ...Key Bottlenecks

".. Our grid infrastructure is not ready to take on the planned increase in generation capacity..."

"...lack of funding and private sector investment is a serious challenge - >R250Bn required..."





## ...PLUS severe CLIMATE related INCIDENTS...















#### The Climate Issue is an Energy Issue.

Annual energy-related CO2 emissions from power gen + demand side

Sources: OECD/IEA (2020), World Energy Outlook, Climate Watch (2020), Historical GHG emissions. Schneider Electric Research

Total Global Annual CO2 emissions

Sources: Climate Watch (2020), Historical GHG emissions, Schneider Electric Research

global CO2 emissions come from the production and consumption of energy



# Nobody Doubts the Case for Change. The Climate Issue is an Energy Issue...

But questions are still being asked?



Africa contributes just 4 percent of global carbon emissions despite being the continent that will suffer the most from climate change.

The Conversation

South Africa's power crisis will continue until 2025 - and blackouts will take 5 years to phase out

South Africa is in the middle of a severe electricity crisis, with enforced power cuts that have worsened every year.







# But How do we compromise between Decarbonization and Energy Security during this Energy Transition...?

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If we all collaborate to address these challenges, we can move our industry forward

Let's ride this wave together

...starting with the low hanging fruits

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#### In the short term, less energy is available

"South Africa may delay shutting down many of its highly polluting coal-fired power stations to stem the crisis of daily electricity blackouts"

Cyril Ramaphosa
President of South Africa



"...The utility has been unable to increase the energy availability factor to 60%. The current EAF is 54.11%...."

M&G

XXX

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Schneider & Electric



#### There is no shortage of energy

#### There is too much energy waste



For short term crisis, grids should help address the issue

by addressing

**>\$2.5** B

annual T&D losses in South Africa

Source: Heliyon & Schneider Electric

by leveraging digitalization



to integrate more renewables



## If the grid is critical for the short term, it's even more important for the mid and long term, orchestrating supply and demand

Prosumer revolution Industries, buildings, mobility Grid
The backbone of SA energy transition & security

Green power
Generation
Hour-by-hour
uncertainty

Catalyzed by grid flexibility & digitalization

Grid stability/ resilience, VPP balancing, DRM, grid digitization

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#### Digital Grid delivers core values to Utilities

#### **Sustainability**

Reliability & Resilience

Mitigate power disruptions

Operational Efficiency

Optimize resources & operations

Energy Efficiency

Minimize ecological footprint

**Flexibility** 

Maximize grid adaptability

Utilities are under pressure to operate more efficiently while modernizing the grid & delivering improved service





36.8 Gt
The new record high.

2.5°C
Our current trajectory.

2022 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy combustion and industrial processes.

Source: IEA Global Energy Review 2023

That's saving 4Gt CO<sub>2</sub> per year, when we need to be saving 10-15Gt per year until 2030 to stay under 1.5°.

"Africa is already facing more severe climate change than most other parts of the world, despite bearing the least responsibility for the problem..." (IEA report 2022)

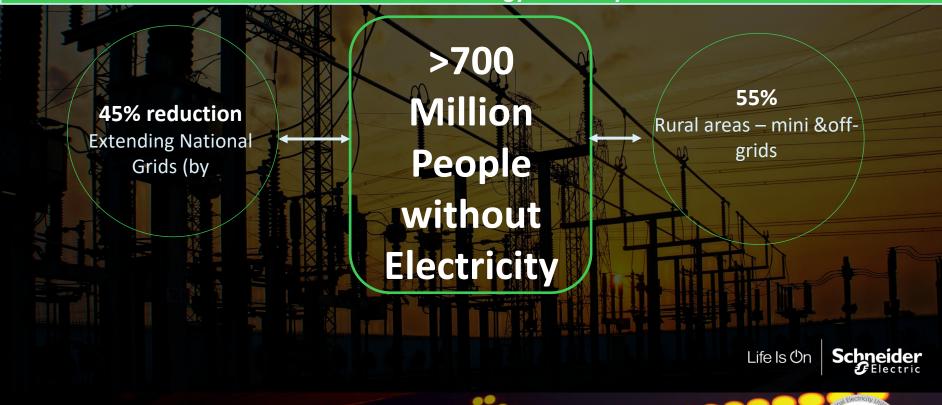
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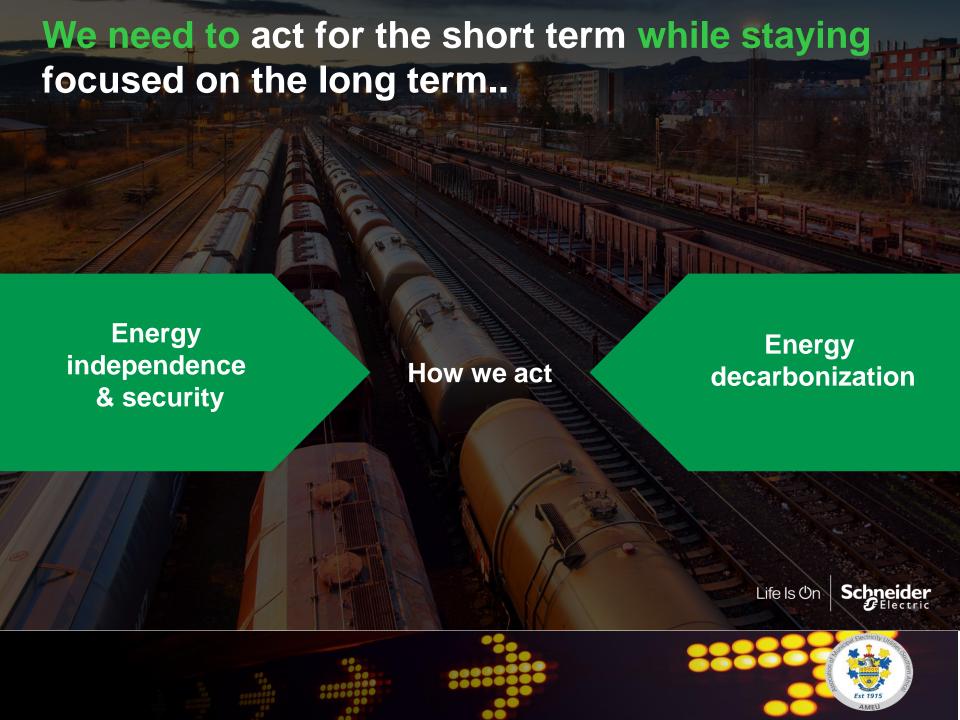




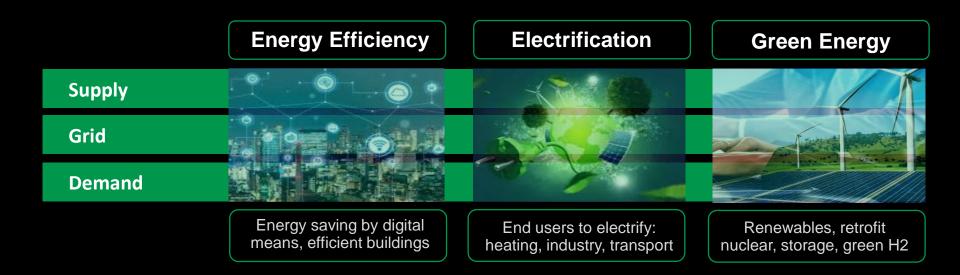
## Reliable + Affordable + Sustainable energy for all Africans is the immediate and absolute priority.....







## We see 3 fundamental approaches to overcome short- and long-term energy challenges across the ecosystem





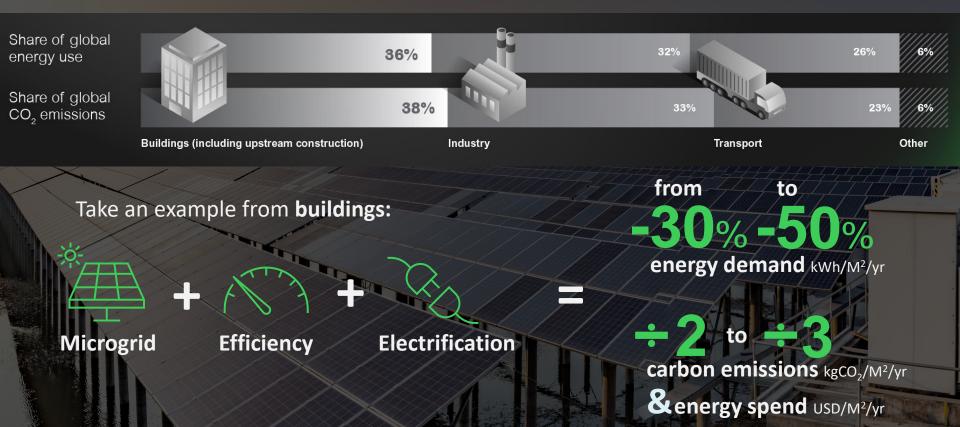
## We can only deploy these approaches in the proper environment



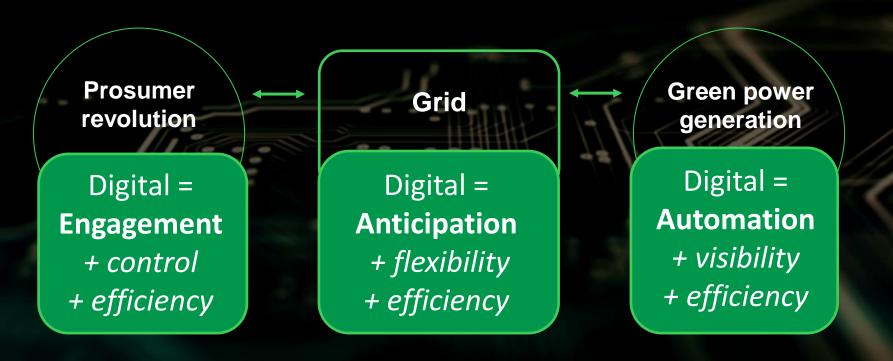
"Increased flexibility will be key to adapt our electricity system further towards variable and distributed renewable electricity generation" while avoiding a costly expansion of Africa's electricity grid...."



## On the demand side, prosumers can act now for the short and long term



## Digitalization is the best choice today because it addresses short- and long-term challenges...







#### We know what we should do. But we're not doing it.

- We need to be pragmatic in our approach...
- Recipe for Energy Security & Climate Change challenges NOT the same for every country (ingredients the same)
- Energy choices NOW must address both Short-term & Long-term
- Digitalize and electrify with technologies that fit the institutional and economic landscapes of Africa and beyond.

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### Thank you!



