The Fueling MAGAZINE
Energy on the Move
1ST HALF 2024 - ISSUE 3 VOLUME 3

Is E-Mobility finally taking shape in Africa?

COVER STORY

E-MOBILITY PROGRESS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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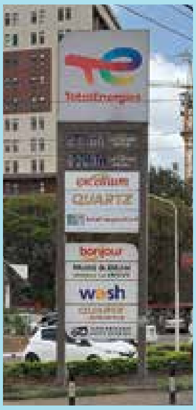
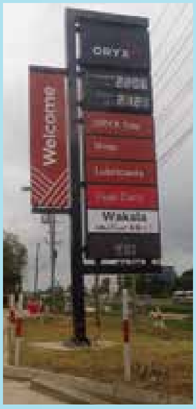
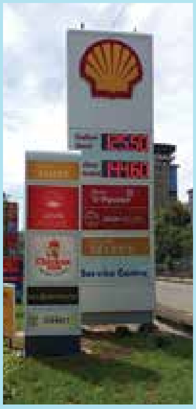





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In 2013, we expanded to East Africa, establishing branches in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania to bridge the technological gap in the industry. Our advanced automation systems facilitate easier station management, reduce losses, and enhance profitability. Additionally, our modern car service center equipment helps station owners attract more customers and increase revenue. For comprehensive equipment solutions and exceptional onsite service, contact **AUTOMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.**

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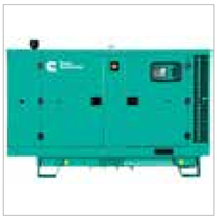

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Leading national oil companies and emerging fuel retail groups from across the African Continent will converge in South Africa for the 2024 edition of ReFuel Forum Africa.

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2-4 SEPTEMBER, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

Note from the PUBLISHER

If you live, work or are invested in Sub-Saharan Africa, it's time to smile! Yes, we can afford a smile!

According to the World Bank's latest assessment, the region's economies will rebound in 2024, rising from a low of 2.6 percent in 2023 to 3.4 percent in 2024 and 3.8 percent in 2025! This is the news we have awaited since 2020 when COVID-19 wreaked havoc globally and was followed by other supply chains interruptions such as the Russian Ukraine invasion, among others.

Inflation is cooling across most economies, falling from a median of 7.1 to 5.1 percent in 2024, private consumption is growing and public debt is slowing, the report dubbed; Africa's Pulse, points out. Of course there are risks. Most countries face external liquidity problems, unsustainable debt burdens and inequality is second highest globally, only surpassed by Latin America and the Caribbean.

Africa's Pulse calls for several policy actions to foster stronger and more equitable growth. These include restoring macro-economic stability, promoting inter-generational mobility, supporting market access and ensuring that fiscal policies do not overburden the poor. Fueling Magazine agrees with the action points 100 percent!

Another opportunity for an accelerated economic buzz seems to be within the region's grasp. We should seize and run with it. No apologies. To paraphrase a recent statement by Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni, Africa does not need sustainable underdevelopment; Africa needs socio-economic transformation. Anything or anyone stifling the continent's transformation should be dealt with swiftly.

Inflation is cooling across most economies, falling from a median of 7.1 to 5.1 percent in 2024, private consumption is growing and public debt is slowing, the report dubbed; Africa's Pulse, points out. Of course there are risks.

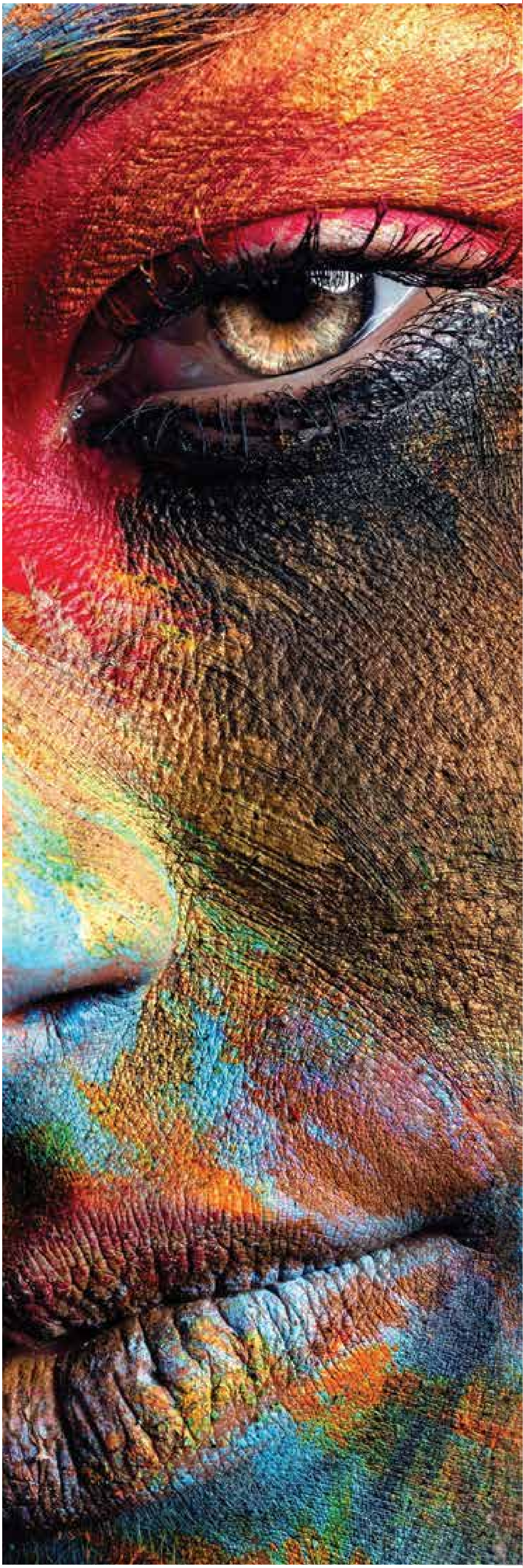
The African energy landscape is evolving in line with the global shift. In Kenya, taxis, especially those subscribing to online applications are increasingly converting their engines from petrol to consume Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) or Autogas. There are now over 50 Autogas stations in Kenya and the numbers are rising rapidly. Proto Energy the leading autogas company in Kenya is keen to partner with landowners along strategic roads who are willing to convert their spaces into Autogas stations. Tanzania is also encouraging consumption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) with TAQA Dalbit already in the process of building CNG stations with a target of 12 by 2027.

In this edition, we have covered the 2nd Annual Kenya Power E-Mobility Conference which showcases progress on the nascent E-Mobility ecosystem. Adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in Kenya is gaining with a 108% increase in sales in the year 2022-2023, according to data from the National Transport and Safety Authority. The increase represents about 8.3% of all new vehicle sold over the period.

Kenya Power, the leading electricity distributor in Eastern Africa launched two electric charging stations in Nairobi in April 2024 and committed KES258 Million by 2026 towards putting up electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across Kenya and purchasing electric vehicles and motorcycles.

From the Fueling Magazine desk, we wish all players in the nascent E-Mobility industry all the best as a shift to clean fuels can transition the African continent's mobility away from the conventional fossil fuels with accruing environmental and health benefits.

Florence Wanjiru
Board Chairperson
Alison & Davis Group



Construction of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) has begun in Uganda and Tanzania, with a target to complete the 1,443km pipeline within 24 months. The project is expected to create around 10,000 jobs, with 4,000 personnel currently working on it in various roles. EACOP received a construction licence in January 2024 and construction began in the first quarter of 2024, led by the China Petroleum Pipeline Engineering Company. The total cost estimate for the project is $5 billion, with financing coming from Total Energies, Uganda National Oil Company, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation, and China National Offshore Oil Corporation. Pictured are media representatives on a tour of the projects in April 2024.

Hass Group joined forces with Mama Ibado Charity to provide essential healthcare to senior persons in need. Amb. Dr. Amina Mohamed received the cheque donation of KES 1,140,000 from Hass Group CEO, Mr. Mohamud Salat. The donation is to support the Charity to expand support to 100 deserving seniors in the community. It covers the seniors' annual National Hospital Insurance premiums, enable weekly medical consultations and ensure access to essential healthcare services.

Rubis Energy Country Manager for Uganda, Mr Olivier Gatera speaks duringb the announcement of a collaboration between the company and AutoXpress on May 15, 2024. AutoXpress opened a service centre at Rubis Bombo Road in Kampala.

Isuzu East Africa MD Rita Kavashe with Patrick Nyaga, Group CEO CIC Group PLC (left) and William Ndumia, Director Retail and Business Banking Co-op Bank Kenya while formalizing a partnership that will see businesses get access to flexible financing terms and insurance for Isuzu Vehicles in Nairobi in March 2024.

Oryx Gas Tanzania partnered with Euro Gas.to open a shop in Namanga near the Tanzania - Kenya border on May 22 2024. The initiative supports the distribution of clean cooking energy across Tanzania, aligning with the national goal of making clean energy accessible to all citizens.

Texo Energies executives with the first batch of the Wanika Levo promotion campaign winners. The promotion is to encourage bike riders in Uganda to keep swiping the Texboda Card for chances to win.

Total Energies Kenya MD Eric Fancini (Centre) with Adele Tura (Left) and Jackson Ongubo both senior executives at Total Energies Kenya during the launch of the fourth edition of Startupper of the Year Challenge by TotalEnergies. This year, the company will reward 100 entrepreneurs across 32 African countries to celebrate 100 years of TotalEnergies.

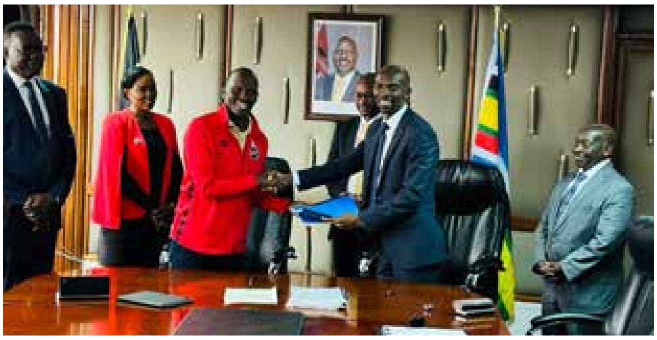
A City Oil Uganda service station executive presents a flower to a customer on May 08 2024 to commemorate International Women's Day in Kampala.

Hass Petroleum CEO, Mohamud Salat, presented a batch of date packs to Brigadier (Rtd) John Kebaso Warioba, CBS, the Commissioner General of the Prisons Service, to be distributed to prisoners during this year's Ramadan.

Mombasa Walk Movement led by founder Idris Abdirahman received a cheque of 500,000 Kenya Shillings from the Kenya Ports Authority for this year's Bonje 2nd Edition Valentine Challenge at Premium Energy Mombasa, Kenya. The sponsorship was presented by Dave Buchere, the Acting. Manager, Corporate Communications at Kenya Ports Authority.

Vivo Energy Uganda MD, Johan Grobbelaar hosted a heartwarming Iftar for Muslim staff at Kampala Sheraton. He expressed his hope that the period of fasting brought spiritual growth and closeness to Allah, extending heartfelt Eid Mubarak wishes to all. Prayers marked the breaking of the fast, followed by a delightful buffet dinner filled with engaging conversations about faith and unity.

Vivo Energy Tanzania rewarded lady customers on March 08 to mark International Women's Day. Engen Kinondoni. A Vivo Energy representative is pictured presenting a gift to a customer.



Kenya Pipeline Company recently executed a Transportation and Storage Agreement (TSA) with Uganda National Oil Company Limited (UNOC). This was a culmination of long negotiations between the parties after Uganda took Kenya to the East Africa Court of Justice over the right to use KPC petroleum infrastructure to import products through UNOC. Ministry of Energy, Kenya Cabinet Secretary Mr Davis Chirchir was present at the signing. This is a major milestone for KPC as the company solidifies its efforts to secure regional markets as part of KPC's growth and expansion strategy.

On March 16, 2024, Stabex Uganda partnered with Raising Hope International Friends in the 2024 Sickle Cell Awareness Run. A point-of-care machine for sickle cell screening was installed at at Whispers Children's Hospital, Jinja. This initiative aims to facilitate newborn screening, early diagnosis, and enhance healthcare for individuals affected by sickle cell disease in Uganda.

Vivo Energy sponsored Pauline Sheghu and her navigator Linet Ayuko, and Tinashe Gatimu co-driven by Caroline Gatimu a remarkable mother-daughter duo. The ladies' teams, pictured with Vivo Energy Kenya MD, Peter Murungi proudly flew the Shell flag at this year's Safari Rally.

Shifting Tides: Is it Time to Bid Farewell to Petroleum?

The world is witnessing a significant shift towards sustainable alternatives in various sectors, and transportation is at the forefront of this movement. As concerns about climate change grow, petroleum's dominance as the primary source of fuel is being challenged.

Electric mobility, led by innovative companies like Roam, is paving the way for a future where petroleum may no longer hold sway.

Roam is an electric mobility company headquartered in Nairobi that designs, develops and deploys electric buses and electric motorcycles here in Kenya. They are on a quest for a more sustainable transportation system focusing on local production, therefore, reshaping the landscape of urban mobility.

The company currently designs their products 100% in-house and manufactures 35% of its electric mobility products in-house. They have an ambitious goal to manufacture and assemble as much as 70% of their electric motorcycle locally over the next five to ten years.

The Rise of Electric Mobility

Electric vehicles have emerged as a compelling solution to combat climate change and reduce our dependency on fossil fuels. With zero emissions, reduced carbon footprint, and lower operating costs, electric vehicles are gaining traction as a viable transportation option.

Why is a paradigm shift imminent? The rapid rise of electric mobility signifies that the era of petroleum dominance is nearing its end. To put it in context, 50-70% of motorcycles sold in Africa are expected to be electric by 2030. Currently, there are 844 electric motorcycles, 184 electric 3-wheelers and 20 electric buses on Kenyan roads.

Several factors contribute to this paradigm shift, below are a few of these reasons:

1 Environmental Imperative

The detrimental environmental impact of petroleum and fossil fuels cannot be ignored. The combustion of petroleum fuels releases significant amounts of greenhouse gases, contributing to climate change and air pollution. In response to these challenges, governments, industries, and consumers are embracing electric mobility as a viable and sustainable solution.

2 Technological Advancements

Advancements in battery technology have been instrumental in propelling the electric mobility revolution. Lithium-ion batteries have become more affordable and practical, with increasing energy density and declining costs. Electric vehicles now offer greater range capabilities, improved charging infrastructure, and reduced charging times. These advancements are rapidly closing the gap with petroleum-powered vehicles, eroding their once-dominant advantages.

3 Government Support and Regulations

Governments worldwide are recognizing the importance of transitioning to electric mobility and implementing supportive policies and regulations. Many African countries, including Kenya, have set ambitious targets to phase out internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles and incentivize electric vehicle adoption through subsidies and tax benefits such as the recent e-mobility tariff proposed at KES 17 and an even lower tariff for off-peak periods. Investments in charging infrastructure are also being made, providing a clear signal that the future lies in electric mobility.

4 Global Shift in Transportation Paradigm

Public transportation systems, delivery fleets, and shared mobility services are transitioning towards electric alternatives. Electric buses and motorcycle taxis are being introduced in major cities, reducing air pollution and improving urban livability. The convenience, efficiency, and sustainability advantages of electric vehicles are reshaping the entire transportation landscape.

5 Disruptive Potential and Market Dynamics

The rise of electric mobility represents a disruptive force that will reshape the transportation ecosystem. As electric vehicles become more prevalent, the demand for petroleum is projected to decline, leading to a fundamental shift in market dynamics. Oil companies are recognizing the need to adapt and diversify their portfolios, investing in renewable energy sources, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and battery technologies to stay relevant.

Range anxiety is the number one concern when it comes to electric mobility but it presents a new opportunity to rethink service station models.

Reimagining Service Stations

To support the unique needs of electric vehicles, charging infrastructure and service requirements must be addressed. Companies like Roam are revolutionizing the concept of service stations.

The company's Roam Hub stations provide high-speed charging capabilities for their motorcycle batteries at only Kes 150, allowing riders to recharge.

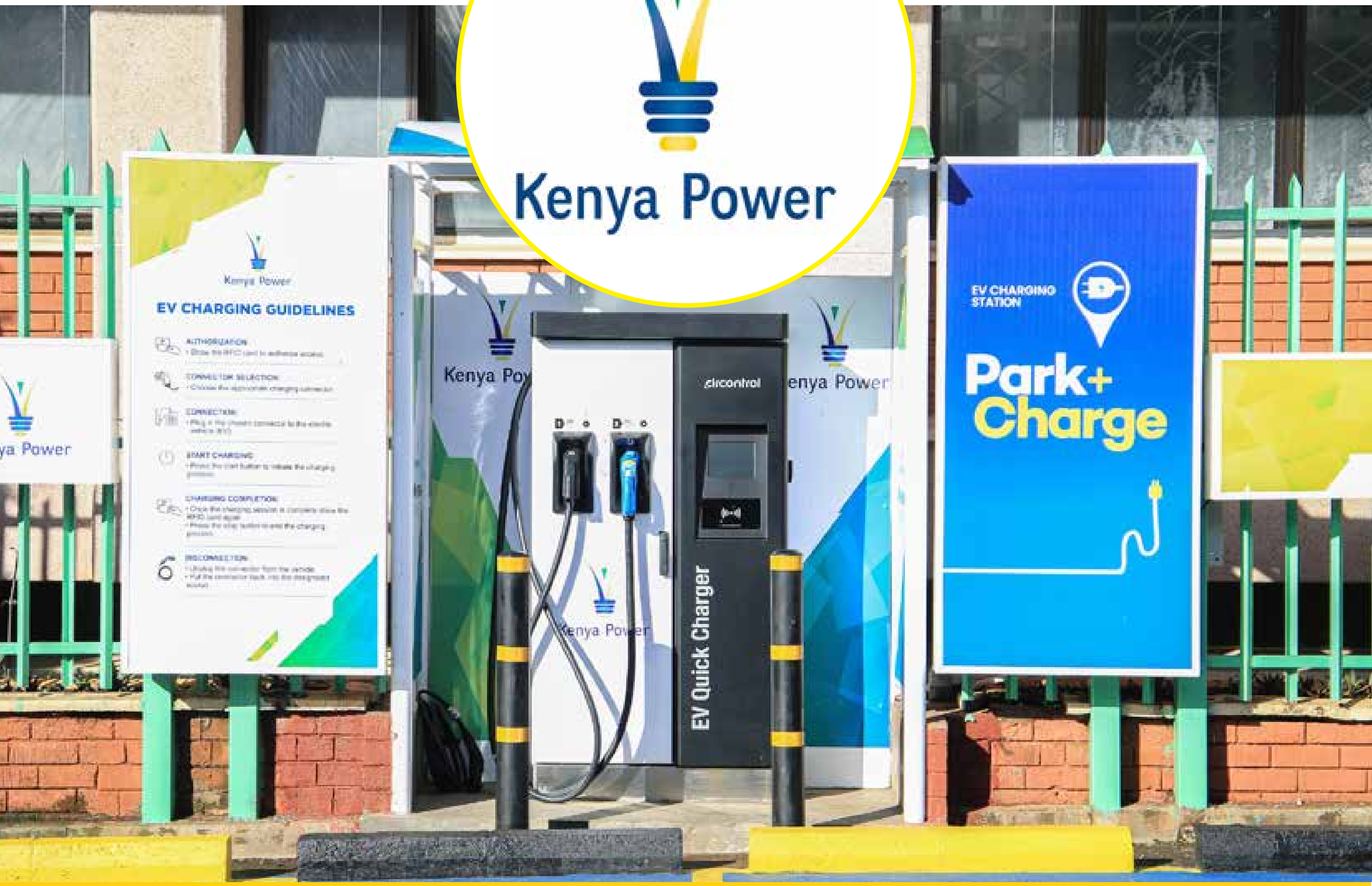
Roam is establishing a vast network of these conveniently located charging stations. They have them at 3 locations, at Total Energies Waiyaki Way, Lusaka Road and Ngong Road, alleviating range anxiety.

These stations, partly powered by solar energy, are designed to service not only Roam's vehicles but also those of their partners. They provide comprehensive services, including battery rental, charging, and after-sales support, catering to the variable needs of riders.

Roam's electric mass transit bus known as the Roam Rapid

Conclusion:

The time has come to shift our reliance on petroleum to electric mobility as it offers a path to a more sustainable and resilient future. As companies like Roam continue to innovate and advocate for change, we can look forward to a world where the roaring engines of petroleum-powered vehicles are replaced by the silent, efficient, and emission-free hum of electric mobility.



Kenya Power commits to lead the E-Mobility transition

The Kenya Power and Lighting Company (Kenya Power) has affirmed its unwavering commitment to play a leading role in Kenya's Electric Mobility transition.

Kenya Power launched two electric charging stations in Nairobi's Stima Plaza and Ruaraka area in April 2024 and committed KES258 Million by 2026 towards putting up electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across Kenya and purchasing electric vehicles and motorcycles.

According to Kenya Power's Managing Director & CEO, Dr Joseph Siror, the utility will spend KES20 Million annually to set up EV charging stations in different parts of Kenya. Kenya Power has already acquired two heavy-duty electric vehicles for routine operations at a cost of KES18 Million. The Company intends to scale the number of electric vehicles in its fleet through the purchase of an additional 9 electric vehicles (heavy and light duty) and 25 electric motorcycles by the end of December 2024.

"The future of transport is electric and as a Company, we are very excited to be leading the conversations around E-mobility. Alongside our need to charge our electric vehicles, we intend to use our EV charging stations to collect data that will inform the next steps of our support to the growing E-Mobility industry," Dr Siror says.

In 2021, Kenya Power completed the pilot of 13 electric motorcycles in its fleet in partnership with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), an exercise that offered invaluable lessons on E-mobility. Before this exercise, the Company piloted the use of electric-powered forklifts and pallet stackers at its warehouses for two years between 2016 and 2018.

The Company is now implementing the E-mobility tariff that was approved by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority during a recent electricity tariff review as part of initiatives to drive the uptake of electric vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles in Kenya. To further accelerate the uptake of E-mobility, Kenya Power holds the annual E-mobility Conference that brings together players in the industry to deliberate on a framework that will promote the sector's growth.

The 2nd Kenya Power E-mobility Conference - 23 & 24 April 2024

Joy Brenda Masinde
Chairman, Kenya Power

Below are excerpts from the speech by Kenya Power's Chairman, Joy Brenda Masinde

Ladies and gentlemen,
Good morning and a warm welcome to the 2nd Kenya Power E-Mobility Conference. It's truly a pleasure to see so many esteemed guests as we gather to explore the exciting opportunities and developments in Kenya's E-Mobility sector.

Since our conference last year, we've witnessed a remarkable surge in interest from both local and international stakeholders, all eager to invest in and develop Kenya's E-Mobility sector. This growing enthusiasm holds immense promise for our nation, positioning us to become a frontrunner in research, innovation, and access to E-Mobility solutions across the continent.

With the right approach and commitment, Kenya has the potential to lead the way in offering high quality, cost-effective E-Mobility products and services. Ladies and gentlemen...At Kenya Power, we appreciate the significant opportunity presented by the burgeoning E-mobility sector. We are cognizant of the role it plays in bolstering our economy by reducing transportation costs for the Kenyan populace and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change through the reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Recognising the pivotal role of E-Mobility in our nation's development, the Board of Directors of Kenya Power is committed to supporting its growth and fostering the development of robust infrastructure to sustain its expansion. We are doing this as part of our longstanding commitment to power and support our nation's aspirations.

Through increased electricity generation, primarily sourced from renewable sources, and substantial investments in transmission and distribution networks nationwide, we've achieved remarkable progress, with over 75% electricity access achieved. This growth in essence, means that the country's grid is more than capable of handling the expected pressures of the growing e-mobility sector.

To further support the E-mobility agenda, we've moved forward with our resolutions from our 1st E-mobility Conference. The Board of Directors keenly supports the implementation of these resolutions as carried out by the Company's E-Mobility Steering Committee tasked with developing strategies to propel the success of this emerging industry. The initiatives include the establishment of a comprehensive charging station network which I am glad to report has kicked off with two charging EV stations in Ruaraka and Stima Plaza.

We intend to expand this to a network of 33 charging stations throughout the country by the end of June 2026 as we work to diversify our business. Distinguished guests, we are also continuing with our push to transition most of our 2,000 plus strong fleet to electric.

Additionally, our Institute of Energy Studies and Research (IESR) stands ready to serve as the premier training and research center for E-Mobility, welcoming partnerships with investors and collaborators interested in advancing research and development in this field. We also commend the Government for its efforts to promote E-Mobility, including the establishment of the Taskforce on the Development of National Electric Mobility Policy, Strategy, and Regulations in 2023.

Our Institute of Energy Studies and Research (IESR) stands ready to serve as the Premier Training and Research Center for E-Mobility, welcoming partnerships with investors and collaborators interested in advancing research and development in this field.

As we embrace the diversification of our interests, E-Mobility emerges as one of the most promising and exhilarating opportunities to propel our business forward. We remain steadfast in our commitment to adapt to evolving market dynamics, identifying potential opportunities, and embracing innovation to ensure our transformation into a sustainable company.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our distinguished guests, partners, and stakeholders for their invaluable participation in this conference. Let us join hands and work collaboratively towards unlocking the full potential of E-Mobility, shaping a sustainable future for generations to come.

The 2nd Kenya Power E-mobility Conference - 23 & 24 April 2024

Dr. (Eng) Joseph Siror
Kenya Power's Managing Director & CEO

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning all, I am excited to welcome you to the 2nd Kenya Power E-Mobility Conference! This is the second time we are gathering for an event of this kind, to share ideas that will catalyse and support the growth of the e-mobility industry in Kenya and the region.

As you know, electricity plays a key role in driving the country's social and economic development. With a footprint in every corner of Kenya, we pride ourselves as providers of the energy that drives this growth. Electric mobility is one of our sustainable business growth areas that will define our contribution to the global Climate Action agenda, and as part of our sales growth strategy.

Ladies and gentlemen, It's encouraging to see that the Adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in Kenya is gaining momentum as demonstrated by a remarkable 108% increase in sales in the year 2022-2023, according to data from the National Transport and Safety Authority. This translates to about 8.3% market share in new vehicle sales over the period.

Despite this growth, the adoption of EVs in Kenya remains underexplored with local data indicating that presently, there are only slightly less than 5,000 EVs in the country. With our expanding network capacity - supported by strategic grid investments, and a favourable energy mix, which comprise over 90% renewable energy, Kenya Power is undoubtedly at the forefront in championing the e-mobility transition.

Towards this, we have been advocating for favourable policies with various stakeholders, including policymakers, investors, financiers, regulatory authorities, and other interest groups. Ladies and gentlemen, As a testament to this, we held a successful e-mobility conference in February last year, the first of its kind in the country.

The two-day conference brought together stakeholders to help understand the current sector status, help the Company adopt E-Mobility as a key driver of growth and develop strategies for creating an enabling environment for the E-mobility sector. The inaugural forum brought together more than 500 participants and 16 exhibitors during the two-day event. Several gains have been accrued a year down the line; the outcomes of which form part of the basis of this second e-mobility conference, and the highlights of my panel discussion.

Distinguished guests, Our roadmap towards entrenching E-mobility is very clear. We are investing approximately KES260 million in the next three years to install EV chargers at our offices across the country, and in purchasing light and heavy duty electric vehicles and electric motorbikes to support our business operations.

And... by end of June this year, we will have installed 11 EV chargers in various locations including Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Mtito Andei, Kisumu and Eldoret. Indeed, we launched one of these chargers at our company headquarters yesterday. By the end of June next, year we will install additional chargers in Naivasha, Narok, Kisii, Kericho, Thika, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nanyuki, Meru, Embu and Machakos. And by June 2026, will have installed the same in Muranga, Kajiado, Bungoma, Busia, Siaya, Kitale, Voi, Mwingi, Garissa, and Kakamega.

By end of this year, we will have a total of 11 EVs and 38 e-bikes. To conclude, Kenya Power and GIZ are excited to host this second emobility conference to take stock of our gains and chart a way forward to a win-win and an exciting future together, in line with our conference theme; 'Accelerating the Adoption of Electric Mobility in Kenya.' *Asanteni na karibuni sana*. May God bless you.

Davis Chirchir, Cabinet Secretary, Energy & Petroleum

Dr Juma Mukhwana, Principal Secretary Ministry of Investments, Trade & Industry

"Our roadmap towards entrenching E-mobility is very clear. We are investing approximately KES260 million in the next three years to install EV chargers at our offices across the country, and in purchasing light and heavy-duty electric vehicles and electric motorbikes to support our business operations."

The Second Kenya Power E-mobility Conference - 23&24 April 2024

A section of participants during the Second Kenya Power E-mobility Conference held on 23 & 24 April 2024 at Kenyatta International Convention Centre, Nairobi.

From Left; Kenya Power MD & CEO Dr Joseph Siror, Joy Brenda Masinde Chairman, Kenya Power and Cabinet Secretary, MoEP, Davis Chirchir and Eng David Mugambi, Manager, Transport Services, Kenya Power at one of the exhibition booths.

Energy CS Davis Chirchir took a test drive in one of the electric vehicles.

Energy CS Davis Chirchir, Ministry of Investment Trade & Industry PS, Juma Mukhwana, KPLC MD, Dr Joseph Siror & KPLC's David Mugambi during the conference.

Alex Wachira, Principal Secretary, Energy addressing the media on the sidelines of the Second Kenya Power E-mobility Conference.

E-Mobility a New Opportunity for Fuel Stations

Imagine a future where the streets are quiet, where walking on the streets brings fresh air rather than suffocating fumes. That sounds like a relief for everyone, especially those of us who have to deal with that every day during peak hours while rushing to or from work or running personal errands. This is the future that Electric Vehicles (EVs) presenting to us.

The number of EVs is rapidly increasing in the African continent and Kenya has made key strides in embracing EVs. Fuel retailers are now caught up in the middle of the transition, and some have already begun to partner with charging and swapping companies to tap into the growing market. Basigo and Roam Electric have been on the forefront in the electric mobility journey in Kenya and KPLC (Kenya Power) has also joined in. KPLC's entry into the EVs market is a game changer since it is the government parastatal that controls electricity distribution.

Recently, Kenya Power announced its plan to invest KES258 Million in advancing e-mobility in Kenya. Additionally, the utility has opened an EV charging station at Stima Plaza, costing Sh6.5 million to set up. Two chargers are included in the charging station: a 50 kW DC charger that takes one hour to charge and a 22 kW AC charger that takes two hours to charge. Another charging station is also at Kenya Power's Ruaraka yard.

According to AfEMA's database, Kenya has at least 40 companies dealing with electric vehicles and at least 158 charging and swapping stations spread across the country with more than 3,500 electric two, three, four-wheelers and buses on the road. This number is set to increase significantly since the government has imposed tax incentives on importation, local assembly or marketing of electric vehicles. These tax incentives have created a favorable environment for local EV assembly, supporting jobs, knowledge transfer and ultimately a more sustainable transportation industry in the country.

Petrol and diesel will still be needed over the next decades. But for them to participate in the transition to a green economy and increased self-reliance, fuel retailers need to evolve and adopt the new changes that come with the increasing number of EVs as a sustainable mobility transition gaining traction globally. Electric vehicle sales in Kenya have begun accelerating, more than doubling in the second half of 2023.

According to the Paris Declaration on Electro-Mobility and Climate Change, at least 20 percent of all road transport vehicles globally will be electric by 2030. Fueling companies have a significant role to play in the transition to electric vehicles (EVs). They can leverage their existing networks to set up EV charging and service stations, contributing significantly to sustainable transportation infrastructure.

A Drive Electric charging station in Karen on the outskirts of Nairobi.

With fluctuating market prices for petroleum products, consumers are now leaning towards alternative fuels including the adoption of EVs. Retailers should take advantage of this and set up more charging stations for electric vehicles. Elsewhere, fueling stations have taken advantage of the longer times needed to charge cars and buses and diversified into service stations with cafes, restaurants and shops, expanding their revenue streams. There is an additional opportunity to add maintenance services, training mechanics on electric vehicles and getting ahead of the traditional mechanic system.

To embrace the future, fuel retailers should start partnerships with electricity suppliers and set up EV charging stations. The e-mobility tariff can incentive this move. Fueling stations can be destinations and not just pit stops; they can design a comfortable place for EV drivers to rest while having a drink as they await their vehicles to recharge since it may take 30 minutes to 1 hour so the stations should be designed differently from the normal stopovers. They can also offer DC fast charging stations at a premium rate for drivers' convenience too. EV charging stations are no longer optional but a necessity in a world beyond traditional fuels.

The devastating floods of last month in Kenya, which took the lives of over 270 people according the Ministry of Interior, remind us once again that climate change is on our doorstep, wrecking our homes. The threat of climate change, shifting public attitudes, and increased government support are all contributing to growth in the EVs ecosystem.

The transition to e-mobility presents fuel retailers with the opportunity to use their networks and footprint for better. Those who have already embraced partnerships and pilots should be commended. Diving into the EV infrastructure sector will enable fuel retailers to plan for the future while leading all of us to a brighter, greener future.

Article Courtesy of; The Africa E-Mobility Alliance (AFEMA)

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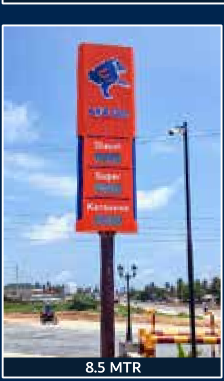

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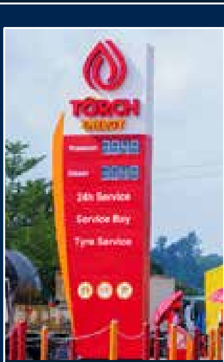

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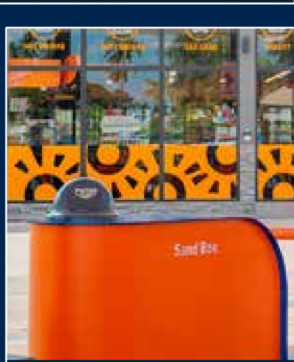

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FRANCIS OCHIENG
Economist & Business Editor

Eastern Africa petroleum sector's growth steady

By FRANCIS OCHIENG

The African continent is steadily becoming the new frontier for global growth and investments. With a huge population of about 1.2 billion, this translates to a vibrant ready market, with increased consumption and demand for several products and services including petroleum.

Indeed, most African countries, including the Eastern Africa region have reported positive economic growth and increased domestic and foreign direct investments. This growth comes with increased demand for petroleum - used in both transportation and industries.

African countries have increased petroleum consumption by 4.76 percent from 4.2 million barrels per day in 2021 to 4.4 million barrels per day in 2022, with the trend also replicated in Eastern Africa where an estimated petroleum consumption of 200,000 barrels per day was recorded.

However, in Kenya – the largest economy in East Africa, petroleum consumption declined slightly in 2023. According to the Quarter 1 2023 State of the Petroleum Industry Report by the Petroleum Institute of East Africa (PIEA), petroleum consumption declined in Kenya by 4 percent due to a decrease in demand for petrol, diesel and kerosene. The decline was driven by a steep increase in petroleum products as a result of currencies devaluation against the US dollar and domestic taxes.

"The reduced consumption of petroleum products was specifically driven by a decrease of 3.7 percent of PMS (petrol) and 4 percent in AGO (diesel) consumption with the biggest margin drop of 44 percent recorded in kerosene consumption," the PIEA report says.

The huge drop in kerosene consumption is seen positively as a shift from domestic use of kerosene to the cleaner and modern Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). LPG demand bounced back from the 13 percent drop witnessed in 2022 recording an 8 percent increase in demand in 2023. At the same time, Jet A1 demand also notably remained resilient with a 12 percent growth.

In Kenya, retail outlets, resellers and civil aviation segments continued to dominate petroleum products consumption with the top 18 companies having a combined overall market share of 76.92 percent in 2023. Furthermore, retail and resellers segments controlled 52.2 percent and 19.2 percent of total petroleum products consumption respectively.

In 2023, there was a marked increase in the number of retail service stations network in East Africa. Top gainers in the 2023 Retail Market segment were Rubis Energy, Galana Energies, Lexo Energy and Lakeoil Group.

The Recent handover of the New Kipevu Oil Terminal to Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) and the additional storage capacity at KPC derived from the defunct Kenya Petroleum Refineries storage tanks has significantly expanded petroleum products throughput capacity via the Port of Mombasa. These developments have played a major role in reducing the cost of demurrage and subsequently, petroleum retail prices.

The Kipevu Terminal II constructed by Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) was handed over to KPC under a Service Level Agreement . The terminal whose construction began in 2019 has a total length of 770 Metres with; 4 berths, 3 of them fitted with Marine Loading Arms, Central platform housing the control room and Subsea and Onshore oil pipelines for five products.

Other key terminal structures are Offshore Beach Valve Station (BVS), a Common User Manifold (CUM) and a Workboat Jetty for operations and supply. The terminal is currently evacuating PMS (Petrol),AGO (Diesel) and DPK (Kerosene).

The terminal is capable of discharging and backloading hydrocarbon products simultaneously. Other products to be discharged at the terminal are, Heavy Fuel Oil and Liquefied Petroleum Gas. In addition, the Kisumu Oil Jetty (KOJ) is another strategic investment critical for the development of the Lake Victoria petroleum products transport ecosystem. Products transported through Kenya to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Eastern DRC and South Sudan totaled 3.01 million cubic metres in the Financial Year 2022/23.

Out of this figure, total product evacuated to Uganda in the Financial Year 2022/2023 was 1.82 million cubic metres nearly half of the total exports, most of which were transported by road from KPC's Western Kenya depots.

The Ugandan petroleum sector continues to record immense growth. The country seeks to start its own production in Lake Albert under the Tilenga oil project. First Oil is expected in the first half of 2025, according to government projections. The project is operated by French energy giant Total Energies in partnership with China National Offshore Oil Corporation and the Uganda National Oil Company.

In Tanzania, the production and consumption of natural gas and imported petroleum products both increased over the past few years. Tanzania's natural gas reserves are ranked fifth-largest recoverable reserves in Africa.

The government recently entered into an agreement with Norwegian company Equinor and British company Shell to operate the gasfields and an LNG plant. The LNG will be exported to Asia and Europe while some will be used locally. Tanzania's petroleum prices increased drastically over the course of 2023 by 17 percent due to a shortage of US dollars.

The writer is an economist and former newspaper business editor based in Nairobi. Email; ochiengf@gmail.com

EA Petroleum Sector Performance 2023

A Case Study on The Petroleum Industry in East Africa Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania

Background Study

- Oil demand was forecasted to grow globally in the second half of 2023 by 2.4 million barrels per day as of July according to an audit by Opec.
- East Africans are experiencing a fresh spike in fuel prices during this second half of 2023, as Saudi Arabia opted to cut petroleum supply by one million barrels per day in July.
- The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries(OPEC) agreed to extend its previous oil supply cuts of 3.6 million barrels per day to the end of 2024.
- From 4.2 million barrels per day in 2021 to 4.4 million barrels per day in 2022, there was an increase in oil consumption in Africa of 4.76 percent.
- The most recent changes in the global petroleum outlook market put more pressure on regional oil prices, which are already under a lot of strain from local taxation.
- This outlook explores the growth and performance of the petroleum industry in the 2022/2023 fiscal year in East Africa. (KENYA, UGANDA AND TANZANIA) It will thoroughly analyze the consumption, pricing, overall sales and market share

Kenya Petroleum Outlook 2022/2023

The upstream, midstream, and downstream components make up Kenya's petroleum subsector. Exploration, development and production of crude oil and natural gas are included in the upstream section. The mid-stream section now consists of the storage and transportation of crude oil, but it has the potential to be expanded to include crude oil refinery. The supply, distribution and marketing of petroleum products are all part of the downstream segment.

Kenya Domestic Petroleum Consumption

- With the exception of the Covid-19 epidemic period, fuel consumption declined to its lowest levels in more than five years between January and June due to high pump costs that suppressed demand and encouraged the middle class to leave their cars at home.
- As of October 2023, use of super fuel declined by 5% to 1.01 billion litres from 1.075 billion litres in 2022, while usage of diesel fell by 4% to 1.31 billion litres from 1.36 billion during the same time.

2020-2023 Fuel Consumption (In billions)

YEAR	DIESEL	SUPER
2020	1.168	0.869
2021	1.337	1.026
2022	1.365	1.075
2023	1.310	1.016

Kenya-Petroleum Prices 2023 (Crude Oil)

Month	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23
Crude Oil Prices(US$/Barrel)	104.48	109.68	117.53	105.96	98.06	92.45	93.53	90.90	80.11	82.63	83.36	79.55
Mean Exchange Rates (Kshs/US$)	118.53	119.92	120.64	123.88	124.06	124.20	128.58	130.64	133.98	139.61	138.96	141.39

Kenya- Petroleum Prices (Pump Prices) June 2023-September 2023 *Nairobi

Product	June	July	August	September
Super petrol (PMS)(Ks hs/l)	182.04	194.68	194.68	211.64
Diesel (AGO) (Kshs/l)	167.28	179.67	179.67	200.99
Kerosene (IK)	161.48	169.48	169.48	202.61

Kenya-Petroleum Subsector Competition Analysis 2023

OMC	% Share
Vivo Energy Kenya	23.8
Total Energies	17.3
Rubis	10
OLA Energy Kenya	6.8
Oryx Energies Kenya	4.2
Be Energy	3.3
Tosha Petroleum	2.6
Galana Oil	2.4
Hass Petroleum	2.1
Gapco Kenya	2
Fossil Supplies	1.9
Gulf Energy	1.5
Lake Oil	1.4

Uganda Petroleum Outlook 2022/2023

- The Ugandan petroleum sector continues to grow immensely. The pearl of Africa seeks to start its own production in Lake Albert under the Tilenga oil project. This will be in the first half of 2025.
- The project is operated by French energy giant Total Energies in partnership with China National OffshoreOil Corporation and the Uganda National Oil Company.

Uganda- Fuel Consumption 2023

- The petroleum market in Uganda is liberalized, according to market dynamics and prices are set by supply and demand under the guidance of the Petroleum Supply Act 2003 and accompanying regulations. Since it is a net importer, the price of its fuel is influenced by changes in the global market.
- In the second half of 2023, the local pump prices have increased from 182 to 216.33 for petrol and 171 to 206.41 for diesel. This has been illustrated below;

Uganda- Petroleum Pump Prices 2023

MONTH	JUL-23	AUG-23	SEPT-23	OCT-23
PETROL (KSH/L)	182	202.46	197.49	216.33
DIESEL (KSH/L)	171	198.45	189.4	206.41

Uganda-Annual Petroleum Imports

YEAR	BMS	BIK	AGO	JET	TOTAL
2017	894,072,306	56,526,813	945,083,916	125,962	1,895,683,036
2018	930,541,768	57,658,460	982,220,283	133,518,534	1,970,420,511
2019	1,006,824,202	53,466,003	1,030,057,910	131,099,506	2,090,348,115
2020	939,529,043	45,871,200	992,229,532	69,607,710	1,977,629,774
2021	1,073,231,791	53,620,231	1,067,935,867	103,340,693	2,298,128,589

Uganda-Petroleum Market Share 2023

OMC	% MARKET SHARE	SQUARES OF MARKET SHARE
Vivo Energy	16.86	286.6249
Total M&S UG	13.31	234.7024
Nile Energy	5.6	30.9136
Gasline Petroleum	4.5	19.8916
Stabex International	3.7	13.3956
Hass Petroleum	2.8	8.0089
Rubis Energy Ltd.	2.0	3.8809
OTHERS	51.23	72.7621
TOTAL	100	670.18

Uganda-Petroleum Market Share 2023

2023

As of 2023, Vivo Energy Uganda Ltd and Total Uganda Limited held the majority of the market share for oil, with Vivo Energy holding 16.86% and Total claiming 13.31% respectively.

2025

Uganda hopes to start production and exportation of its own oil as of 2025 under the Tilenga oil project.

Tanzania Petroleum Outlook 2022/2023

- The production of natural gas and the consumption of natural gas and petroleum products have both increased in Tanzania over the past few years. Tanzania generates enough natural gas to meet domestic consumption and has the fifth-largest recoverable natural gas reserves in Africa.
- The Tanzanian government recently hosted a government agreement in February with Norwegian company Equinor and British company Shell to operate the gasfields and LNG plant. The LNG will be exported to Asia and Europe while some will be used locally for power generation.
- Below is the petroleum outlook for 2022/2023 in Tanzania.

Tanzania-Fuel Consumption 2023

- Tanzania's petrol prices have increased drastically over the course of 2023 by 17% as a result of the present shortage of US dollars, making it necessary for drivers to make even greater financial sacrifices.
- According to the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority, the price of importing petrol has increased, as have cap prices for petroleum products. This has contributed to the reduction in consumption of fuel.

Tanzania- Domestic Petroleum Pump Prices 2023 (Tshs/L)-Dar-Es-Salaam

MONTH	PETROL	DIESEL
JANUARY	2,819	3,295
FEBRUARY	2,819	3,105
MARCH	2,968	3,130
APRIL	2,781	2,847
MAY	2,871	2,871
JUNE	2,873	2,662
JULY	2,736	2,544
AUGUST	3,199	2,935
SEPTEMBER	3,213	3,259

Tanzania-Petroleum Prices International

- In comparison to the average crude oil price of 43.34 USD/BBL in the year 2020, which increased by 63% the price of crude oil in 2021 was 70.76 USD/BBL.
- The price of refined goods also increased as a result of the rise in crude oil prices. Petrol, gasoline, kerosene and Jet A-1 FOB prices climbed by 58%, 43% and 49% respectively, in 2021 compared to 2020.

YEAR	USD/BBL
2020	43.34
2021	70.76

Tanzania-Petroleum Prices: FOB (USD/MT)

YEAR	PETROL	DIESEL	JET A-1/ KEROSENE
2020	426	403	390
2021	671	575	580

Tanzania-Petroleum Market Share 2023

OMC	% MARKET SHARE	SQUARES OF MARKET SHARE
PUMA	14.0	579,070,070
TOTAL Energies	13.1	541,372,442
GBP	8.5	350,487,290
MOIL	8.5	349,139.649
ORYX	7.5	308,568,376
OILCOM	5.9	244,916.175
CAMEL OIL	5.2	215,600,330
ACER	4.3	178,324,700
MT MERU	4.3	178,795,400
LAKEOIL	4.8	199,140,227
OTHERS	23.9	986,146,301
TOTAL	100	4,131,560,960

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Revolutionizing Cylinder Tracking with Ceramic Tags:
A Game-Changer in the LPG business

By Steve Musyoki

The advancement of technology continues to reshape industries and redefine the way businesses operate. Tag based cylinder tracking is a transformative tool for asset tracking and management. Within the realm of data codes, ceramic tags have emerged as a game-changer, offering durability, versatility, and reliability across various sectors. In this article, we will delve into how data enabled ceramic tags are revolutionizing asset tracking and their impact on the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) industry.

The Power of data capturing Ceramic Tags

Ceramic tags stand out due to their robust construction and durability. Crafted from high-quality ceramic materials, these tags are built to withstand harsh environmental conditions, including extreme temperatures, moisture, and chemicals. This durability ensures that the tags remain intact and functional even in challenging settings, making them an ideal choice for asset tracking applications.

Enhancing Asset Visibility and Accuracy

In industries where assets are spread across diverse locations, maintaining accurate visibility can be a challenge. Ceramic tags address this challenge by providing a reliable and accurate method of tracking assets. These tags can be attached to a wide range of cylinders. With the ability to withstand harsh environments, ceramic tags ensure that cylinder assets are always traceable and visible, leading to improved asset management and reduced loss.

Application in Refilling and Warehousing

Cylinder filling and warehousing environments demand efficient asset tracking for streamlined operations. Ceramic tags excel in these settings, offering the durability required for assets that are frequently moved, stacked, or exposed to various conditions. These tags can be used to monitor the movement of empty cylinders, work-in-progress and finished goods, enabling marketing companies to optimize production processes and minimize inventory discrepancies.

Ceramic tags are reshaping the landscape of asset tracking across various industries. From manufacturing to logistics and beyond, ceramic tags are proving to be a game-changer, revolutionizing the way businesses manage their valuable assets and contributing to enhanced operational efficiency and success.

The writer is the Technical Director, Sniffer Tech Ltd. Email; Smusyoki@sniffer-tech.com

Comparison of available solutions

Item	Metal Ceramic tag	RFID	GPS Tracker
Lifetime	30 years	2-5 years	Transmit once a day. Upto 8-10 years battery life
Temp. resistance	-40°c to 800°c	-20°c to 200°c	0°c to 80°c
Reading speed	One by one	Batch read, not stable	One by one
Cost(approximate)	€1.10	€1.30	€200€300
Reader	PDAor mobile	Special reader	Different reporting modes
Revalidation process	No need to remove	Must be removed	Must be removed
Weight	5grams	2grams	0.82 kgs

Ceramic tags are reshaping the landscape of asset tracking across various industries. From manufacturing to logistics and beyond, ceramic tags are proving to be a game-changer, revolutionizing the way businesses manage their valuable assets and contributing to enhanced operational efficiency and success.

Tanzania to host East African Petroleum Conference 2025 in March

The stage is set for the 11th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2025 (EAPCE'25), scheduled to take place from 5th – 7th March, 2025 in Dar es Salaam. Organized by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and the EAC Partner States. The event anticipates attracting over 1,000 participants.

Under the theme "Unlocking Investment in Future Energy: The Role of Petroleum Resources in the Energy Mix for Sustainable Development in East Africa", the 2025 edition aims to highlight the region's petroleum potential and investment opportunities.

The Regional Steering Committee for EAPCE'25 comprised of experts from the EAC Partner States, convened in Zanzibar, Tanzania for a pivotal meeting marking the official commencement of preparations. The Chairperson of the Regional Steering Committee, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy Tanzania, Dr. James Mataragio emphasized the conference's significance, noting its evolution into the region's premier petroleum event.

"The United Republic of Tanzania is not only ready but excited to host the Petroleum Conference in 2025, and we call upon all Partner States to join hands with Tanzania in the planning to ensure we have a successful Conference," Dr. Mataragio said.

Acknowledging the success of the previous conference hosted by Uganda in 2023, Mr. Jean Baptiste Havugimana, EAC Director of Productive Sectors, thanked Uganda and all partner states for their commitment. He noted that the success of the regional event reaffirms the region's dedication to regional integration.

Over the past two decades, the rotational conferences among EAC member states have served as crucial platforms for dialogue among governments and industry players. Aligned with the EAC's Vision 2050 for economic, social, and political integration, the 2025 edition aims to bolster the region's competitiveness through increased production, trade, integration and investment in the oil and gas sector.

Looking ahead to 2050, the EAC envisions a sustainable, affordable, and secure energy mix to meet the region's needs. With a focus on access, capacity, efficiency, and sustainability, the region aims to transform its energy landscape, ensuring efficient distribution of petroleum products and strategic reserves.

The 16th Sectoral Council on Energy of the East African Community (EAC) (pictured) convened in Arusha approved Tanzania to host the 11th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition scheduled for 7th-9th March 2025

Oryx Energies pledges to convert 6M Tanzanian households to clean cooking

Oryx Energies has pledged to convert 6 million Tanzanian households towards clean cooking in 10 years and displayed strong ambitions for its other sub-Saharan subsidiaries.

The pledge to advance clean cooking initiatives was made during the IEA Summit on Clean Cooking for Africa held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, co-chaired by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, on 14 May 2024.

As a leading company in the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) market in sub-Saharan Africa, Oryx Energies has committed to converting the 6 million Tanzanian households from charcoal and firewood to LPG by the year 2034.

A similar proactive approach to clean cooking initiatives will also be developed in the nine other sub-Saharan Oryx Gas affiliates.

Speaking at the Summit panel session titled "How to Advance the Clean Cooking Agenda in Industries", Benoît Araman, Managing Director of Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited (OGTL), stated: "Since 2015, Oryx Energies has invested approximately $100 million in the Tanzanian LPG market through our local affiliate OGTL, and we pioneered and implemented the clean cooking programme here since 2021. Our pledge implies that OGTL will continue to invest in the necessary infrastructure to reach this goal."

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan chats with Benoît Araman, Managing Director of Oryx Gas Tanzania during the International Energy Agency (IEA) Summit on Clean Cooking for Africa in Paris on May 14 2024.

Vincent Fleury, Business Line Manager of LPG at Oryx Energies, said: "Oryx Energies' continued investment in LPG capabilities reflects its unwavering commitment to advancing clean cooking solutions across sub-Saharan Africa. The company remains dedicated to expanding its LPG distribution network, ensuring access to clean energy even in the most remote regions. Continued strategic investments and community engagement can significantly impact the transition towards cleaner energy."

Oryx Energies has also endorsed the Clean Cooking Declaration, a commitment to making 2024 a pivotal year for clean cooking.

Kenya Launch Green Hydrogen Guidelines

The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) on May 10 launched Kenya's Guidelines on Green Hydrogen and its Derivative in Nairobi providing a guide on the sustainability criteria for green hydrogen in Kenya, relevant statutory requirements, standards and a monitoring mechanism for projects under development.

EPRA assured investors, developers and users of green hydrogen and its derivatives of a level playing field and certainty in the regulatory environment. Additionally, the guidelines are a milestone under the Green hydrogen strategy and roadmap for Kenya that defines the country's short and medium-term goals towards a green hydrogen economy.

"These guidelines will help us promote the production and safe handling of green hydrogen and its derivatives. This could be a major boost for renewable energy in the country, because green hydrogen can be used to store and transport clean energy, potentially creating jobs, driving economic growth, and sparking innovation." EPRA Director General, Daniel Kiptoo said at the launch.

EPRA Director-General, Daniel Kiptoo (Centre) Energy Cabinet Secretary, Davis Chirchir (2nd Right) and Energy Principal Secretary, Alex Wachira (Right) with guests during the launch in Nairobi.

Puma Energy Reaffirms Commitment to Clean Cooking Solutions

Puma Energy reaffirmed its commitment to enabling access to energy and clean cooking solutions during the International Energy Agency (IEA)'s Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa in Paris.

Alongside governments, private sector companies, international organizations and civil society who attended the Summit in Paris on 14 May, Puma Energy joined the Clean Cooking Declaration, which is committed to making 2024 the pivotal year for clean cooking.

By participating in the declaration, Puma Energy has pledged to "take concrete steps towards advancing the clean cooking agenda, through action on the ground, raising awareness, and fostering greater collaboration among the key stakeholders."

"We are proud to support and advance clean cooking solutions in the communities in which we operate," said Puma Energy's Head of Africa Fadi Mitri. "We believe that LPG for clean cooking is a critical solution to Africa's energy transition – offering healthier and cleaner cooking alternatives that benefit both people and the environment."

According to IEA estimates, approximately 970 million people lack access to clean cooking fuels and technologies in Sub-Saharan Africa. Many households rely on solid fuels such as wood and charcoal, or kerosene, leading to environmental and health hazards.

Puma Energy provides safe, reliable and affordable energy solutions across sub-Saharan African Africa, and is encouraging the transition to cleaner, healthier cooking fuels through its Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) offering. This bottled gas is cleaner, safer and portable, and can reach both urban and remote communities.

The company has scaled up its LPG solutions in the past years, starting with the launch of an LPG business in Tanzania, where Puma Energy uses technology to make access to LPG easier to both consumers and distributors and can track data to help reduce cylinder losses and improve circulation.

The company further expanded its LPG business in 2023 with the acquisition of Ogaz which supplies 18 percent of the LPG market in Zambia. Additionally in partnership with Zambia's largest bank Zanaco, Puma Energy launched a microfinancing initiative to offer solutions for potential LPG consumers unable to afford the upfront cost of purchasing the basic required equipment.

Lake Group assists flood victims in Rufiji

The Tanzanian government has congratulated the security and safety committees and disaster committees in all areas affected by the flood disasters earlier in the year for the way they managed the rescue exercise and coordinated aid provided to victims.

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice President Union and Environment, Dr. Selemani Jafo has congratulated Rufiji District, when he witnessed the Commissioner of Coastal Province Alhaj Abubakar Kunenge receiving a donation of 20 tonnes of food and gas cylinders and 300 stoves donated by Lake Oil Company.

Dr. Jafo said that the aid is an example of stakeholders and investors in the country positively responding to the call of the President of the Union Republic of Tanzania Hon. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan who led in contributing aid for Tanzanians in various areas that were faced by the challenge of floods following heavy rains in the country.

Former Project Manager of Lake Group Ltd Nassoro Abubakari while handing over the support said the company has been touched by the impact of the floods and saw the importance of connecting with other stakeholders especially on food needs and clean energy cooking.

Vivo Energy UG partners with Absa

Vivo Energy Uganda, the distributor and marketer of Shell-branded fuels and lubricants in Uganda in March 2024 announced its sponsorship of the second edition of the ABSA KH3 - 7 Hills Run, organised by ABSA Bank Uganda and Kampala Hash House Harriers (KH3) as a community-focused event aimed at promoting health and wellness while raising awareness about the importance of girl child education.

Despite high levels of enrolment, recent data shows that only 53% of Ugandan girls aged 6–12 complete the required seven years of primary education, and merely 22.5% of the female Ugandan population enrols in secondary education. This can be due to a variety of challenges that girls encounter, including poverty, cultural barriers, early marriages, unplanned pregnancy and difficulties managing menstrual hygiene.

The Run, held on Sunday 17th March attracted over 5,000 participants and included 5km and 21km races covering the seven iconic hills of Kampala. It started and ended at Kololo Independence Grounds. It was officially flagged off by Thomas Tayebwa, the Deputy Speaker of Parliament, who noted that the initiative was in line with the government's agenda to promote girl child education.

Proceeds from the Run will benefit projects aimed at returning girls who have dropped out of school prematurely to school, as well as giving urgent menstrual sanitation assistance to disadvantaged school girls who frequently drop out due to the prohibitively high cost of sanitary goods.

With a generous contribution of USh20 Million, Vivo Energy underscored its commitment to supporting initiatives that positively impact the community and align with its corporate social responsibility objectives, with a focus on education.

Mumba Kalifungwa, Managing Director of ABSA Bank Uganda, said, "I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate all our partners and the runners who participated today. Last year, we had over 2,500 participants, and the funds raised were used to support over 2,750 girls with menstrual hygiene management, support teenage mothers to return to school with fully paid school fees, and skill others to become self-sustainable with culinary skills, tailoring, knitting, and making liquid soap. We shall continue to support such initiatives that support girls to leverage their potential to become contributing members in their communities."

Johan Grobbelaar, Managing Director of Vivo Energy Uganda emphasized the significance of the sponsorship, stating, "At Vivo Energy Uganda, we recognize the pivotal role that education plays in empowering individuals and communities to thrive. Our sponsorship of the ABSA KH3 - 7 Hills Run reflects our commitment to promoting education as a catalyst for sustainable development. By supporting initiatives that promote wellness and education, we contribute to building a brighter future for generations to come."

This sponsorship aligns with Vivo Energy Uganda's overarching goal of promoting education and supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, and Goal 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Through strategic partnerships and initiatives like the ABSA KH3 - 7 Hills Run, Vivo Energy remains steadfast in its mission to drive positive social impact and create lasting value for the communities in which it operates.

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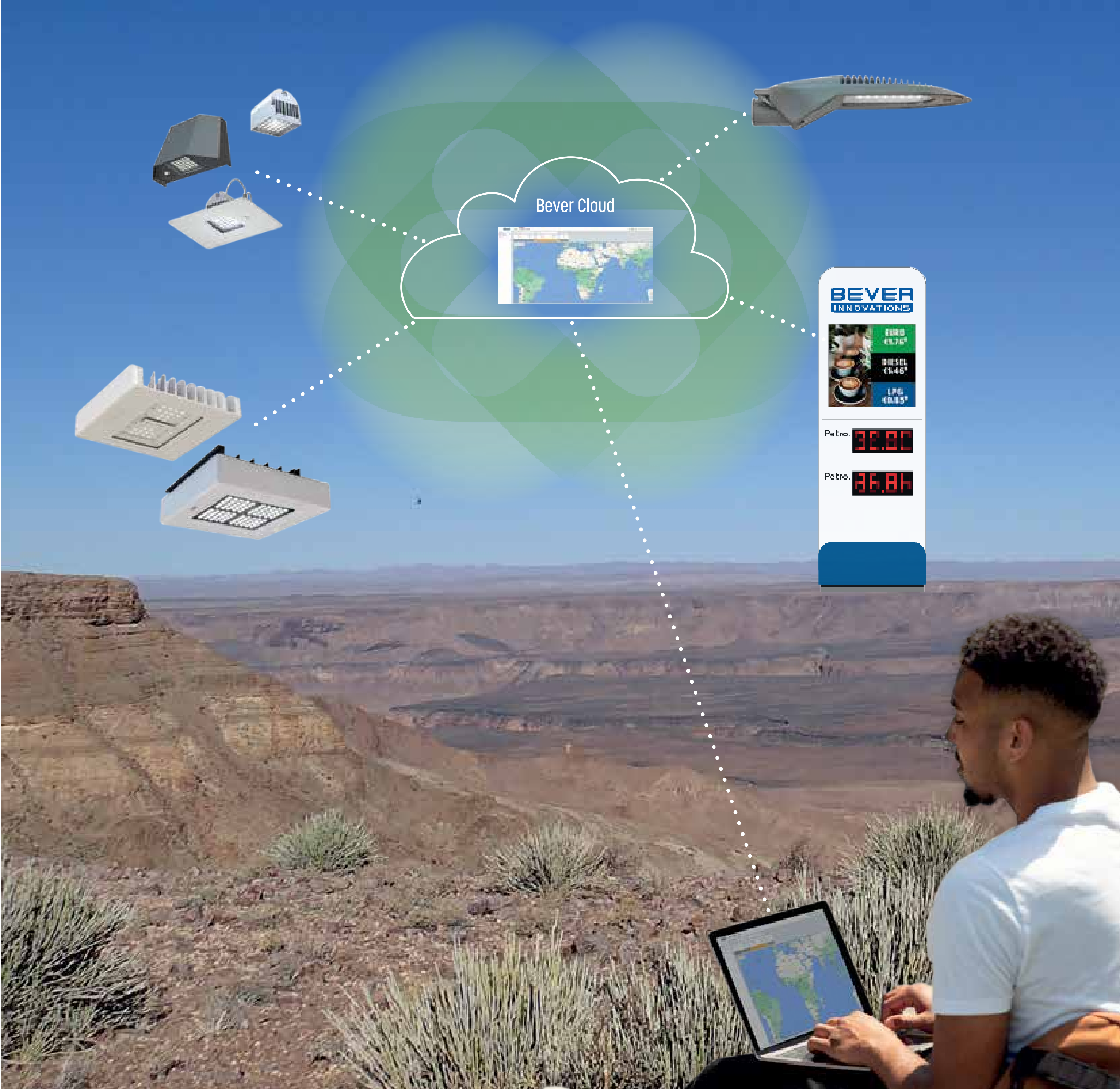

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