

ELIDZ PRIMARY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

RE: Primary Stakeholder Engagement on Sustainable Energy Systems for Urban-Industrial Development (SESID) in South Africa at East London Industrial Development Zone (ELIDZ), Eastern Cape

Executive Summary

On December 6, 2024, the NCPC-SA and UNIDO representatives hosted a primary stakeholder engagement at East London Industrial Development Zone (ELIDZ) in Eastern Cape, where affected parties contributed and consulted the project team, ensuring an inclusive process and relevant outcomes. The aim was to provide guidance to IP management and tenant companies on establishing energy strategies that are sustainable and foster social inclusion. This report summarizes the key findings and outcomes of stakeholder engagement.

1. Introduction

The East London Industrial Development Zone was one of the first IDZs in South Africa to be awarded a provision operator's licence in September 2002. The zone has come a long way since that very first milestone. Not only has it overcome various institutional and programme challenges to be where it is today, but it has, as the first operational IDZ in South Africa, helped to inform the South African government's Special Economic Zones (SEZ) programme make up and policy framework.

The Project aims to reduce GHG emissions and accelerate the decarbonization of industrial parks through providing support to IP managements, tenants, municipalities, and other core stakeholders. Through the project intervention the Government and local authorities will be enabled to ensure a conducive IP-associated policy and regulatory environment, especially regarding energy generation and consumption is established (long-term outcome).

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Municipalities, IPs and industrial establishments will have sufficient information basis for individual strategies and investment decisions. This and low-carbon and sustainable energy demonstration projects for dissemination of experiences will allow IP managements and manufacturing businesses to gain confidence and sufficient evidence of the technical, economic, social and environmental viability of sustainable energy solutions for industrial production in the urban-industrial-energy nexus.

2. Purpose of the primary stakeholder engagement

The purpose of the regular stakeholder engagement was to create an enabling environment by working with local authorities to encourage a policy and regulatory environment that supports sustainable energy generation and consumption at the parks.

The following primary stakeholders attended and participated:

- Local Municipality representative – Energy supply and infrastructure
- Local Municipality LED representative
- District Municipality – Energy (demand and supply)
- Provincial Department of Energy representative
- Eskom – Distribution, Demand Management within the Region
- Park Representatives (Energy, Business Development and Sustainability portfolios)
- Community representative (ward councilor).

3. Presentation and Discussion

During the stakeholder engagement session, the SESID team provided a comprehensive presentation on the new energy project. The presentation covered the following key points:

- Project goals and objectives.
- SESID project components:
    - Fostering the coordination towards sustainable energy transformation of IPs by creating a conducive enabling environment under consideration of social equity
    - Demonstration of low-carbon and sustainable energy through IP pilots
    - De-risking scheme for upscaling and replication of sustainable energy solutions in IPs
    - Monitoring and Evaluation; establishing and implementing effective project monitoring and evaluation mechanisms as well as capturing progress and lessons learnt.
- Technical specifications and capabilities of the energy project.
- Environmental and sustainability considerations.

- Potential sharing of information and collaboration with peers in the sector to economically and socially benefit the region.

The ELIDZ representative provided an overview of the industrial park and perspective from the tenant level. Following the presentations, there were productive discussions with various stakeholders in attendance. They expressed a keen interest in exploring collaboration opportunities and were particularly interested in how the SESID project could benefit the local investors and industries within the East London Industrial Economic Zone. Refer to annexure A for agenda, attendance register and images.

4. Conclusion

It was anticipated that the next stakeholder engagement will be hosted virtually with every stakeholder in attendance eager to disseminate invitation to the larger and relevant audience/stakeholders around the Eastern Cape region.

Yours Sincerely,

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Lindelani Mkhize - Project Manager, NCPC-SA

Annexures: A (Agenda, Attendance Register & Images)

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UNIDO

Sustainable Energy Systems for Industrial Development Project

AGENDA

Meeting: Extended Stakeholder Engagement – **SESID Project**

Date: 06 December 2024 at 10h00 – 13:00

Venue: East London Industrial Development Zone (ELIDZ), Lower Chester Road, Sunnyridge, East London, 5201, South Africa

No.	Item	Presenter	Time
1.	Attendance Registration/Tea	All	10:00 – 10:30
2.	Welcome and Opening Remarks	NCPC/ELIDZ	10:30 – 10:35
3.	Introduction: NCPC-SA	NCPC	10:35 – 10:55
4.	Introduction: SESID Project	NCPC	10:55 – 11:15
5.	Tea Break	All	11:15 – 11:45
6.	ELIDZ Overview	ELIDZ	11:45 – 12:05
7.	UNIDO Remarks	UNIDO	12:05 – 12:25
8.	Questions & Answers Session	All	12:25 – 13:00
9.	Closing remarks	NCPC/UNIDO	13:00 – 13:10
10.	Light Lunch	All	

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ATTENDANCE REGISTER

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