# **Decentralised Energy Solutions The CSIR Energy Autonomous Campus** Presentation at POWER-GEN & DistribuTECH Africa 2017

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## The CSIR is South Africa's multidisciplinary research council





#### **Global Context**

**Implications for Africa** 

**Case Study: Microgrid Design in South Africa** 



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### What is different today as compared to just a few years ago?

#### Renewables are now cost competitive to alternative new-build options in large parts of Africa

- Renewables became cost competitive to conventionals during the last decade (PV: last 2-3 years)
- Subsidy-driven market creation in first-mover renewables regions (US, Europe, Japan) led to technology improvements and mass manufacturing

#### In matured markets, renewables are a substitution in a volume-wise stagnating energy system

- Renewables compete with an existing, steady-state energy system  $\rightarrow$  fuel savers for the existing fleet
- Major incumbents with business models based on "large, central" suffer in terms of market share

#### In emerging markets, this is different: renewables can be at the core of the energy-system expansion

- Renewables compete with alternative new-built options / future scenarios for the energy structure
- More than just fuel savers, they change the entire paradigm on which energy systems were traditionally planned, designed, built and operated (large, central → small, distributed)



## World: In 2016, 124 GW of new wind and solar PV capacity installed globally



This is all very new: Roughly 80% of the globally existing solar PV capacity was installed during the last five years

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## World: Significant cost reductions materialised in the last 5-8 years



### Actual tariffs: new wind/solar PV 40% cheaper than new coal in RSA

Results of Department of Energy's RE IPP Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) and Coal IPP Proc. Programme

... have made new solar PV & wind power 40%

cheaper than new coal in South Africa today



#### Significant reductions in <u>actual</u> tariffs ...

Notes: Exchange rate of 14 USD/ZAR assumed Sources: <a href="http://www.energy.gov.za/files/renewable-energy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy-betweenergy-status-report/Market-Overview-and-Current-Levels-of-Renewable-Energy-betweenergy

### What is different with a high share of renewables?



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### Customer demand is always scattered across more or less wide areas











In future, because of cost-competitiveness of distributed renewables, the system architecture can be based on interconnected microgrids



### Solar PV (roof & ground-mounted) will be installed literally everywhere



### Wind turbines will complement where economically viable



Flexible, dispatchable generators (biogas, biomass, diesel, natural gas, hydro, storage, etc.) will complement the local microgrid



### Each microgrid can in principle run on its own...



### ... but higher reliability & lower costs are achieved by interconnecting



Opportunity for Africa: leapfrog large-scale, central power system architecture directly towards distributed, renewables-based system



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**Global Context** 

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## **Energy-Autonomous Campus Programme**

Real-world research platform for future energy systems and utility business models





#### Background

- Future energy systems will largely be based on Distributed Energy Resources (DER) – a combination of VRE, storage and demand response technologies
- Technology and systems innovations are required to design, build and operate such energy systems in an optimal manner
- The business model of utilities will also be affected

#### **Response: Energy-Autonomous Campus Programme**

The CSIR started a programme where it implements in the real world its research findings as a test bed for future energy systems

- Demonstrate how to cost-efficiently design and operate an energy system based on distributed, VRE technologies
- Implementation across all CSIR campuses, potentially further integration of other research campuses
- Integration of energy storage in form of batteries & hydrogen
- Energy savings and demand response opportunities
- Key outcomes: System design/operations, technology demonstration, future utility business model

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## **Energy-Autonomous Campus Programme**

The Pretoria Campus load



## **Energy-Autonomous Campus Programme**

Potential future campus energy mix

#### Demand and consumption

20% reduction through energy efficiency (30 GWh) $\rightarrow$ 24GWh) per year					
Through Demand Response (DR) measures including Electric Vehicles					
All CSIR rooftops, 1-2 ground-mounted plants Total of 8 MWp → 13 GWh/yr					
3-4 MW-class wind turbines Total of 3 MW → 7 GWh/yr					
Municipal/organic waste from surrounding supermarkets/restaurants 4-5 MW @ 800-1,000 hrs/yr → 4 GWh/yr					
Trading with Tshwane municipality (import and export) based on pure economics					
For long-term storage of excess renewables					
For short-term peak shaving					

Heat storage: For flattening of heat/cold demand



### **Current activities**

#### Wind Turbine:

Wind Assessments & Feasibility studies

#### **Biogas plant:**

Feed stock analysis, Site selection, Environmental Impact Assessment, etc

#### Demand side management:

Campus energy audit & street light energy audit

#### Storage:

Technology selection process, procurement of electric vehicles for the campus





## Over 1 MW of Solar PV installed to date

Project	Size	Commissioned	Investment	Savings in 2016
1. Solar PV plant (1-axis)	558 kW	August 2015	\$770,000	\$80,000
2. Solar PV plant (2-axes)	200 kW	November 2016	\$500,000	Start-up
3. Solar PV plant (rooftop)	250 kW	March 2017	\$320,000	N/A

CSIR electricity demand in MW



Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday







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## **Real world platform for researchers**

#### **CSIR's Energy-Autonomous Campus**

Platform for CSIR researchers and partners (companies and universities) to optimally design, implement
and operate microgrids and to demonstrate new energy technologies in a real-world environment

#### **Typical Services and Solutions on the Energy-Autonomous Campus**

- Installation and operational guidelines for renewable power
- Procurement guidelines for renewable plants
- Smart and Micro Grid design and operation guidelines
- Installation and operational guidelines for battery storage systems in micro grids
- Test bench for new renewable technologies

#### Additional CSIR Energy Systems research work

- Development of Integrated Resource Plans for cities, regions, countries
- Development of operational guidelines and procedures for high-RE power systems



#### Re a leboha

Ha Khensa

Siyathokoza

Thank you

Enkosi

Re a leboga

Ro livhuha

Siyabonga

Dankie



29 Note: "Thank you" in all official languages of the Republic of South Africa