

**SAWEA**  
South African Wind Energy Association

# SAWEA ENERGY DRIVE ROADSHOW REPORT 2023

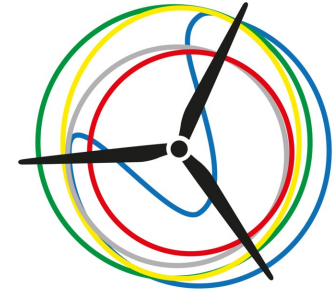


# ABOUT SAWEA

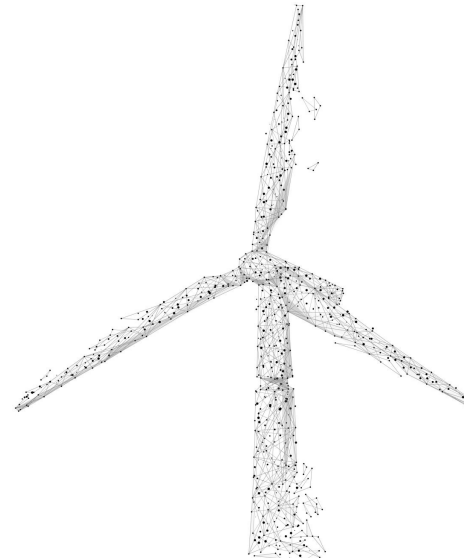
The South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA) represents the interests of its members who are invested in the South African wind power value chain.

*SAWEA activities are focused on:*

- Advocacy for investment in wind power.
- Promotion of socio-economic development and transformation through wind power.
- Excellent operational practice in the generation of wind power.
- Provision of pertinent information on the SA wind power market.
- Promotion of renewable power in large and small-scale applications.
- Promotion of wind and renewable power investment in Africa



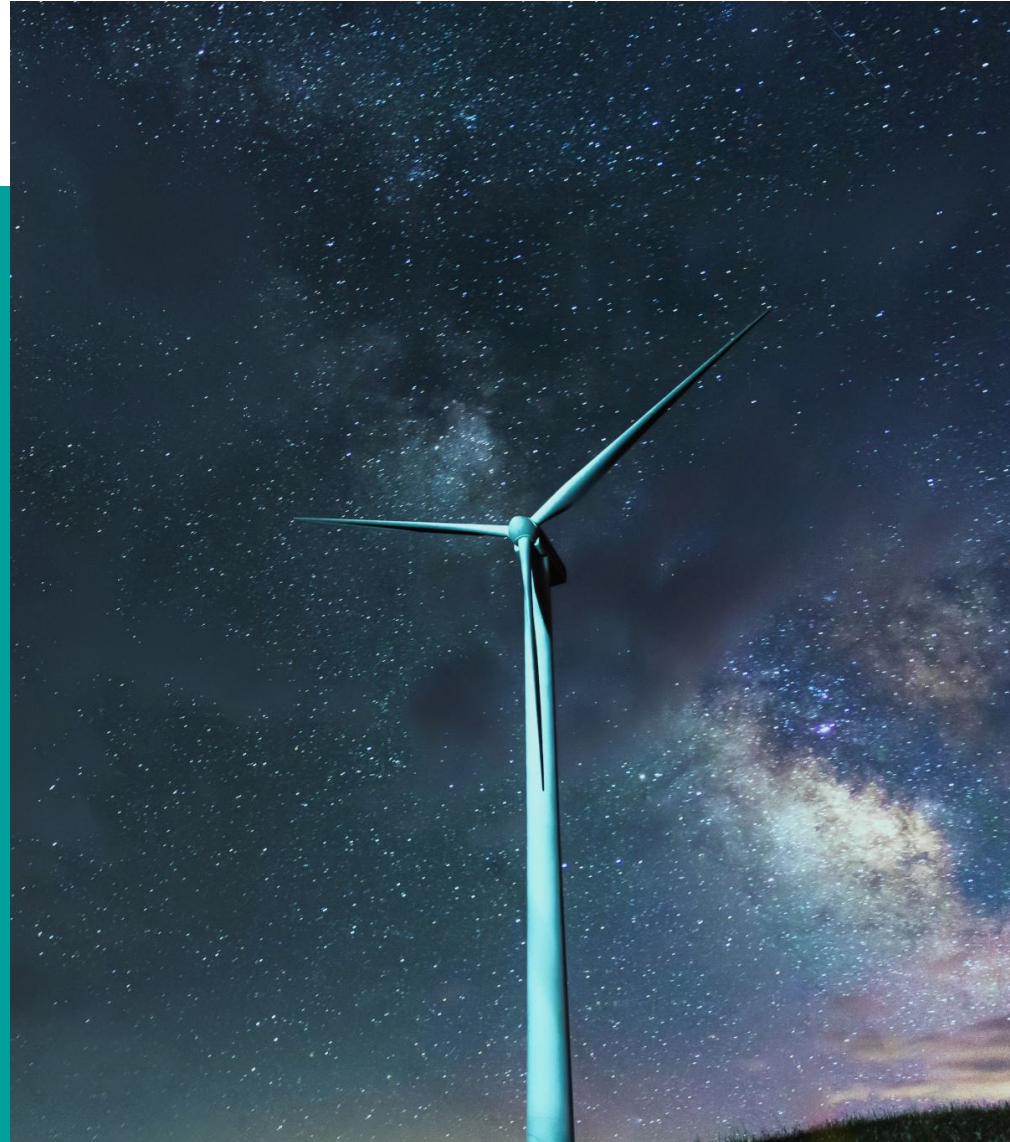
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## Vision

A thriving commercial wind power industry in South Africa, part of a growing domestic and international renewable power industry that is recognised as a major contributor to social, environmental, and economic security.



## Purpose

SAWEA's purpose is to perform to its highest ability the unique role that a member-driven association can play in enabling this vision to be realised.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



## Overview

The EnergyDRIVE is a project that was launched by the Durban University of Technology and its partners in 2016. In the form of roadshows hosted over three weeks, the EnergyDRIVE is targeted at Primary and High School learners in the Karoo (Northern Cape; Eastern Cape; Western Cape).

The initiative aims to raise awareness of climate change and renewable energy. The EnergyDRIVE promotes renewables as alternative sources of energy to fossil fuels.

The interactive nature of the mobile truck is used to demonstrate to the learners how natural renewable energy technologies are used on the truck and to highlight the advantages of renewable energy to get children interested in the energy space and to promote skills training courses in green energy.

### ***School EnergyDRIVE & Wind Farm Visits:***

- **18 October – 24 October 2023:** Northern Cape (Springbok; De Aar; Prieska; Sutherland)
- **26 October – 01 November 2023:** Eastern Cape (Golden Valley; Cookhouse; Sterkstroom; Molteno; Oyster Bay)
- **02 November – 03 November 2023:** Western Cape (Ceres; Laignsburg)



## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback and provide an overview of the EnergyDRIVE Roadshow that were hosted in three provinces in the Karoo.



## Objectives

The main objective of the roadshow was to educate learners within the Karoo regions on different types of renewable energies, the importance of the renewables, as well as role they play in the environment. Additionally, learners were capacitated on different green and energy careers.

# ACTIVITIES

SAWEA in collaboration with Green Youth Network, the DUT EnergyDRIVE Truck, SANEDI and other stakeholders embarked on a 3-week long programme educating learners from the three Karoo Provinces, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape on different types of renewable energy.

The school visits included an interactive demonstration of the EnergyDRIVE truck, where learners were allowed to see how the truck operates, and different modes of alternative energy units.

The programme included visits to wind farms and solar farms in Loeriesfontein, Khobab, Noblesfontein and Dorper Wind Farm, where learners were educated on wind turbines and the importance of power station operations.

## This programme was sponsored by:

- BTE Renewables
- Enel Green Power
- Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa
- Globeleq
- Noblesfontein

## MILESTONES

- 22 Schools Visited
- Reached 4815 Learners
- Covered 3 Provinces
- Visited 3 Wind Farms

## OBSTACLES/CHALLENGES

- Miscommunication between participating organisations, coordinators, and schools. The programme was extended to the 6th of November 2023, due to an unfortunate miscommunication which had the team not being able to visit one school.
- Misaligned timelines which did not accommodate the speed level of the Energy Truck and the required travel distance.
- Visiting high schools during exam time causes limited learner participation and interaction.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the roadshow be hosted in other areas outside of the Karoo so that more young people are exposed to renewable energy as well as the importance of wind farms. Although these learners may not be exposed to the actual wind farms due to the distance between their locations and the wind farms, it would be beneficial for them to be exposed to other forms of energy and their importance.

### We further recommend the following:

- Hosting the programme earlier in the year, to help high school learners make the right subject choices and career choices.
- Implementation of teachers' workshops on wind energy for greater impact and exposure, more so for educators based on the outskirts of wind farms.



## CONCLUSION

Learners, teachers, school leaders, partners, as well as sponsors made the programme a celebrated success.

Learners will be able to use the information, career guide booklets received to further guide them in making informed career choices and again how different renewable energies work, their importance to the environment and climate change.