

## NEW RELEASE

The report title **Renewable Energy Opportunities for the DBSA in SADC** is available on the intranet.

### ABSTRACT

This paper will provide an analytical report on the state of renewable energy initiatives in the SADC region, together with a country-by-country audit of energy provision and an outline of opportunities for exploration by the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The value to the bank would be to provide a track record of renewable energy projects that will act as a baseline for partnering and investing.

### MAIN FINDINGS:

The bank needs a dedicated focus if it is to pursue renewable energy technologies. That focus should include a policy statement with set targets and an implementation arm that focuses solely on renewable energy projects. It should be noted that most renewable projects are in early stage development and are in need of project preparation funding. Furthermore, most countries lack the capacity to run or even implement a renewable energy programme – project preparation could change its scope and be broader to include capacity building. SADC individual country grids are relatively small; therefore, the penetration of renewables may be limited due to grid instability caused by renewables. For a successful renewables arm, collaboration between utilities, regulators, IPPs and government is essential in ensuring programmes that are well-structured ensuring a high probability of success when implemented.