



# Introducing Electric Vehicles to Southern Africa: An Opportunity for Deep Systemic Innovation towards a Green New Deal

Presented by the  
SAIIA Futures/Regional Observatory  
Thursday, 05 December 2019  
Johannesburg

## Background

The electrical vehicle is taking the world by storm. Following the Paris Agreement, one of the goals related to curbing carbon emissions is that by 2030, 20% of all road vehicles should be electric. China, Europe and North America dominate the market even though it is still small. South Africa is far behind, with fewer than 1,000 e-vehicles on the road. Earlier this year during the TICAD meeting in Japan, President Ramaphosa test drove a Nissan Leaf, which is an electric semi-autonomous vehicle to be made available in SA from 2020. But what will the large-scale adoption of the e-vehicle globally mean for Southern Africa?

This is the focus of SAIIA's new Futures/Regional Observatory study. The study explores which sectors will be affected most in the region, as well as the implications for the region's development trajectories, should the e-vehicle be adopted worldwide. Mining, energy and automobile manufacturing are likely to face the greatest impact, with a significant cross-sectoral impact on employment, skills development, tax revenues, technology and environment. The region needs to prepare by understanding the implications, and then taking bold and forward-looking decisions.

The findings aim to initiate a dialogue between government, industry groups, civil society, researchers and the general public on the adoption of e-vehicles across Southern Africa. The dialogue aims to identify potential blind spots in addressing the challenges of the e-mobility revolution. The findings introduce a large-scale vision for the "Green Economy" and its potential to spur regional integration across various industries and sectors. Southern Africa has an unprecedented opportunity to lead in the e-mobility space.

In preparing this study, SAIIA has used a political economy lens underpinned by systems innovation to anticipate major political, economic, technological, environmental and social disruptors facing the region over a 10 to 30-year horizon. By examining the potential impact of such disruptors through an interdisciplinary, complex systems scenario-building approach, the SAIIA Regional Observatory hopes to enable pro-active, anticipatory and collaborative public-private action across the region to key emerging challenges.

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| <b>09:00-09:20</b> | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b><br><br>Ms Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, CE, SAIIA<br>Mr Henning Suhr, Country Representative, KAS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>09:20-10:30</b> | <b>Opening Session: Overview and Drivers of Electrical Vehicle (EV) Adoption Policies in Key Global Markets: Working Towards a Climate-friendly, More Sustainable Future</b><br><br><b>Keynote speakers:</b><br><br>Dr Rüdiger Lotz, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy<br>Mr Brian Hastie, Director, NAAMSA<br>Dr Revin Panray Beeharry, CEO , Sustainable Resource management<br><br><b>Moderator:</b> Ms Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, SAIIA |
| <b>10.30-11:30</b> | <b>Session 1: Presentation of Key Findings: Electric Vehicles as Catalysts for Deep Systemic Innovation in Southern Africa</b><br><br><b>Speakers:</b><br>Dr Deon Cloete, Regional Observatory Senior Fellow, SAIIA/KAS<br>Neuma Grobbelaar, Research Director, SAIIA<br><br><b>Moderator:</b> Shanta Bloemen, Managing Director, Mobility for Africa                                                                                         |
| <b>11:30-11:45</b> | <b>Tea Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>11.45-13:30</b> | <b>Session 2: What are the Implications of the E-Mobility Revolution for Key Actors in the EV Value Chain and How Can It Support a More Sustainable Development Path in Southern Africa?</b><br><br><b>Speakers:</b><br><br>Mr Steve Chang, General Manager, BYD South Africa<br>Mr Patuxolo Nodada, CEO, Busmark<br>Ms Edem Foli, Programme Manager, Uyilo<br><br><b>Moderator:</b> Ms Ashanti Mogosetsi, UNIDO                              |
| <b>13.30-13:45</b> | <b>Concluding Remarks</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>13:45-15:00</b> | <b>Lunch and Networking</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |