



# Ecco Chamber

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**Chamber's Note**  
**Narducci: Applications are now open!**  
**Webinar**





# Chamber's Note

## We must act now!

South Africa's updated Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) forecasts a major change in South Africa's energy mix by the year 2030. Over 21 000 MW of new renewable energy is planned to be added to the grid by then. In the same period 8600 MW of coal power is planned to be decommissioned. This will decrease coal's contribution to South Africa's energy mix in terms of annual usage to 59% (down from 75% now) and increase renewable's contribution to about 32% (currently only 11%).

However, the plan needs to be bolder. The country needs 6000 MW of new electricity ASAP and the only way to achieve this is with renewables. Coal, which is becoming increasingly costly (from a monetary, health and environmental point of view) must be more aggressively phased out of the South African economy.

South Africa's economy has for too long relied on a mineral-energy complex, which has restrained the diversification of economic activities that would provide employment and use the country's labour to its full capacity. Previously, cheap coal was the engine of the South African economy. Now that its costs are ramping up, it is time to look for a modern alternative that offers South Africans affordable energy.

Opportunities for collaboration with EU and Italian companies are abundant and a just transition to renewable energy presents an opportunity for South Africa to strengthen its relations with its biggest trading partner. This won't be a walk in the park. South Africa's coal pits run deep and the vested interests in the industry are powerful. There will be a need to organize a just energy transition so that employment grows and doesn't shrink from this change.

The Italian Chamber runs a working group dedicated to creating and identifying opportunities in the sector of energy. The group includes energy experts who sit on the Chamber's board. Anyone interested in joining the working group can email [desk@italcham.co.za](mailto:desk@italcham.co.za)

*Italcham!*





# International Award Alessandro Narducci

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# **WEBINAR**

## **INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS - SUCCESS STORIES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**October 2nd, 2020 | 10:00am- 12:00 pm**

**Aimed at promoting business and investment opportunities, indicating challenges and weaknesses and clarify the government's policy direction regarding renewables.**



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