# Financing Renewable Energy in BRICS: A Comparison of South Africa, China and India

Mr Krish Chetty 24 October 2022 University of Sao Paulo - VI BRICS Conference



# Economic Development Opportunities





Promoting local industrialisation and manufacturing is key to create jobs

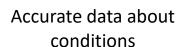
Opportunity to locate distributed Biomass Energy Generation facilities at the municipal level



Must promote Energy Storage – battery manufacturing

### Reducing Investor Risk







Expertise in construction and manufacturing



Influence perceptions of

finance sector

investors and international

Conducive Policy Environment



Skilled workers for Operations



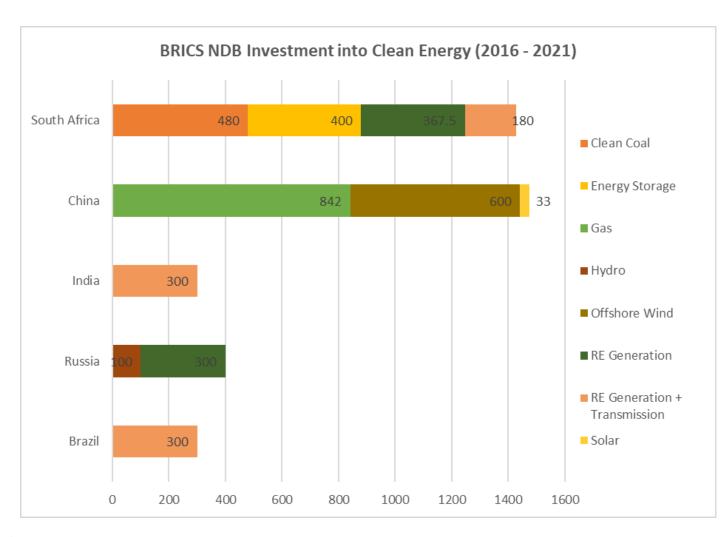
Accessing Dollar denominated loans







### BRICS New Development Bank Financing



Approved 14 projects in 'Clean Energy' valued at US\$4 billion

China – US\$ 1.47 billion

South Africa – US\$ 1.43 billion







# The South African Experience

- Renewable Energy Rollout in SA has been slow
- Considerable Market Uncertainty
- Difficulties securing an Independent Power Producer License
- Need for a broad Climate Change Policy
- Must produce 2.8 GW of new power costing US\$ 2.4 billion annually to reach goal of 60.7GW by 2040
- However, IDC calculated US\$ 484 billion to meet its NDC, annual investment of US\$ 32 billion from 2015 to 2030





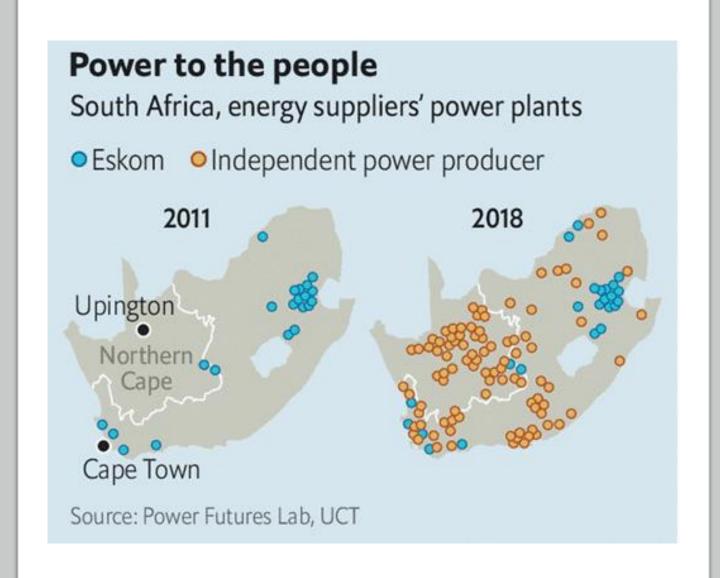
REIPPPP BIDDING WINDOW	YEAR ANNOUNCED	POWER PROCURED
1	2011	1425MW
2	2012	1040MW
3	2013	1657MW
4	2015	2205MW
5	2021	2583MW
6	2022*	5200MW

# The South African Experience

- Policy Uncertainty amplifies investor risk perceptions
- Access to market depends on Transmission Infrastructure – need a Smart Grid with distribution of Substations in areas
- Need greater coordination between MDBs, DFIs and Commercial Banks
- Low skills base









# The Indian Experience

#### **Challenges**

- Size contributes to coordination challenges
- Attempted to promote local solar manufacturing by imposing tariffs on Chinese imports – costs transferred to Power Producers and Consumers – slowed growth
- Debt financing is more expensive repayments are locked in with USD exchange rate volatility

#### **Successes**

- Green Masala Bonds
- Access more international climate finance than other developing countries.

# The Chinese Experience

#### **Challenges**

- Struggles to secure International Climate Finance
- Smaller companies struggled to access Green Bonds

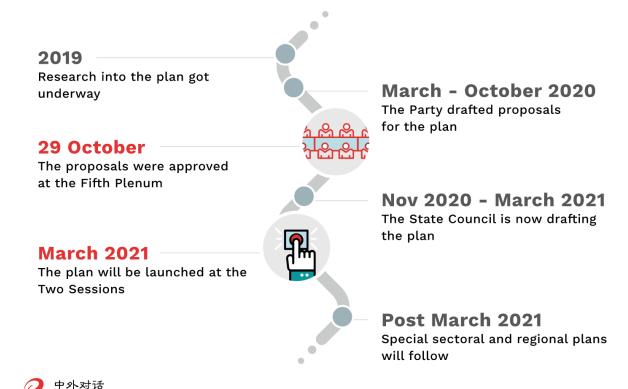
#### **Successes**

- Policy environment is stable and well coordinated
- Feed-in Tariff Guarantee / Subsidies promotes growth in young market
- Green Bond Market has boomed
- Green Panda Bonds
- Including incubators in Economic
   Development Zones built skills and expertise





#### Creating the 14th Five Year Plan



China Dialogue



### Background

- 2 Wind Farms established in De Aar after 2 successful bids to the REIPPP
  - De Aar 1 Produces 96.4MW Runs 67 Turbines – REIPPP Bidding Window 1
  - De Aar 2 Produces 140 MW– Runs 96 Turbines – REIPPP Bidding Window 3
- Opportunity arose from local electricity substation in De Aar
- First Chinese supported Wind Farm in Africa
- Acts as a model of China-Africa Energy cooperation





# International Partnership with Longyuan Power China

- Guodian Group in China 1 of 5 largest power
   producers in China interested in African Market in 2009
- Guodian approached its subsidiary Longyuan China to investigate opportunities for Wind Energy
- Partnership Structure 60% Longyuan, 20% Mulilo + 20% Consortium of Black Businesses
- Challenges
  - Configuring the Capital Contribution Shares
  - Understanding REIPPP BBBEE requirements
  - Language De Aar Community didn't speak English
- Took 8 years from 2009 visit to get plant to operations state
- Longyuan praised in China for 1<sup>st</sup> successful development in Africa

### Gaining Financial Support

- Initially planned to source a USD loan from China Development via China-Africa Fund
  - However, the 40% South African ownership clause made it difficult to source an international loan
  - USD to ZAR Volatility –loan repayments fluctuating was a major risk
- Opted to source a local ZAR-based loan from Nedbank and the Industrial Development Corporation
- Essential to install equipment on designated sites to measure wind strength to model Wind Farm profitability
- With withdrawal of China Africa Fund, Longyuan needed to build a consortium of local partners to coinvest in the project





### Contribution to Socio-Economic Development

- Job Creation
  - 700 Construction Jobs
  - 100 Long term Operations and Maintenance Jobs
  - Provides internships to top-performing students from De Aar
- Longyuan provides training to local recruits
  - Subsidise studies of 40 university students
- Fund and Operate 4 ECD Centres
  - Support > 320 children
- Donates R1million to nursing homes annually
- Invested R28 million in social welfare
- Established the "Red line of Defence" Project providing R4 million in COVID protection equipment
- Operate a Medical Bus in the community providing COVID testing and other medical support







## Thank you

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