

# CASE STUDY

## UMOYA ENERGY WIND FARM

125km north of Cape Town is Umoya Energy Wind Farm, the first utility scale wind farm in South Africa to have achieved commercial operation. It did so on 1 February 2014, just over a year after construction started.

### UMOYA BY NUMBERS

37 Vestas V100 1.8 MW wind turbines

A capacity of 67 MW

Spanning about 900 hectares

Supplies approximately 176 600 MWh of clean renewable energy to the national grid every year.

Enough green electricity to supply approximately 49 000 low-income or 22 000 medium-income South African homes.

To produce the same amount of electricity, a South African coal-fired power station would emit approximately 183 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year = equivalent to taking over 37 000 cars off the road.



### THE ROLE PLAYED BY INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM), part of Old Mutual Alternative Investments and Africa's largest and most experienced infrastructure equity fund manager, identified the strong investment opportunity presented by the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) – a government initiative to increase the country's renewable energy production, and channel private investment and expertise into the sector. The South African government launched REIPPPP in 2012 with the first bidding round of a planned 7 000 MW programme.

AllIM's managed funds represent one of the largest investors in the programme, with more than R1 billion committed across 28 projects.

Having been an active investor in the infrastructure sector since 2000, the AllIM funds entered the Umoya project at an early stage of the development, managing the project to financial close.

AllIM oversaw the establishment of the project company with the inclusion of best practice environmental, social and governance (ESG) structures with the development of an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) in compliance with the internationally recognised Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards.

## A POWER FOR GOOD

Beyond its contribution to sustainable and environmentally friendly power generation, Umoya is focused on supporting the socio-economic development of the communities within which it operates. It achieves this through beneficiary programmes that address local skills gaps, such as the Hopefield Home Improvement Project.

This project was designed to improve the energy efficiency of low-cost homes as well as the lives of their residents.



During Phase 1 of this project, from 2014 – 2016, 19 previously unemployed residents of Hopefield were trained in plumbing, electrics or carpentry and employed to make improvements to more than 600 homes in Hopefield. The second phase of the project, which started in 2017, includes the upgrade of 351 more homes over a three-year period. The three local contractors identified for Phase 2 were selected from the pool of 19 artisans who were originally involved in Phase 1.

In addition to training, the programme also includes business mentoring and coaching. Umoya's ultimate objective for the project is to create sustainable contracting businesses that are able to service the local community for years to come. 🌱