

WEBVTT

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Hello, everyone, and welcome to Energy Security Cubed, one of the world's foremost energy security podcasts presented by the CGAI, or Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>I'm Kelly Ogle, Managing Director here at CGAI.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And I'm Joe Calnan, Vice President of Energy and Calgary Operations at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

00:00:34.256 --> 00:00:42.736

<v SPEAKER\_2>For today's podcast, we're featuring an interesting conversation with Magatte Wade about the on-the-ground consequences of energy poverty in Africa.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>You'll find it very, very interesting, very, very dynamic, woman.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>But before we dive into that, let's have a quick discussion with Joe about some of the news stories affecting global energy security this week.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>How are things with you, Joe?

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Oh, I'm doing well, Kelly.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>I'm really looking forward to next week, where we're going to be having...

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<v SPEAKER\_1>I'm in Ottawa, yeah.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Yes, I'll be in Ottawa for my Energy Security Forum conference.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Canada's next chapter in the Indo-Pacific is shaping up to be a fantastic event.

00:01:10.416 --> 00:01:14.616

<v SPEAKER\_1>And please do get your tickets before they run out, because we only have a few left.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, I'm really looking forward to seeing audience members of Energy Security Cubed there.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And right after that, I'll also be swinging through Toronto for the B7.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And then to cap off the week, we're also hosting Mick Ryan for a Speaker Dinner on October 30th.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, Mick Ryan, he's a...

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, here in Calgary.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>So, folks, if you're interested in talking to a former Lieutenant General, Lieutenant General in the Australian Air Force, please get in touch with Joe and get a ticket here in Calgary.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>We're going to fill that up real fast, too.

00:01:46.736 --> 00:01:47.856

<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, for sure.

00:01:47.856 --> 00:01:58.756

<v SPEAKER\_2>So, if you're interested in talking about geopolitical defence issues, more importantly, like related to Oceania, please step up.

00:01:58.756 --> 00:02:00.436

<v SPEAKER\_2>What do you got for today?

00:02:00.436 --> 00:02:09.276

<v SPEAKER\_1>Well, we're doing some rapid fire stories today, Kelly, because we have a very quite a long interview with Magatte, and I want to make sure that people have enough time for that.

00:02:09.276 --> 00:02:12.916

<v SPEAKER\_1>So, first up, an interesting story from Trinidad and Tobago.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, on Tuesday, Nutrien, which is a Canadian company headquartered here in Calgary, and one of the world's largest producers of fertilizer, said it was closing operations at its Trinidad nitrogen facility.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, the production of ammonia requires both nitrogen, as well as hydrogen, usually sourced from natural gas.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, Nutrien needs to maintain operations in places with a lot of natural gas, like Alberta or Trinidad and Tobago.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So, Nutrien is accusing Trinidad's national energy company of restricting access to the port, following an increase in port charges of 200%, retroactive to 2020.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Other fertilizer producers on the island are presumably phasing similar charges.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So this puts American fertilizer security into question.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So Trinidad and Tobago is a major source of imported fertilizer in the United States.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So there's some questions about food security here too.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, that's interesting.

00:03:10.616 --> 00:03:12.276

<v SPEAKER\_2>I didn't...

00:03:12.436 --> 00:03:13.016

<v SPEAKER\_2>What's the...

00:03:15.696 --> 00:03:18.956

<v SPEAKER\_2>What's Trinidad and Tobago trying to prove here?

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<v SPEAKER\_2>I would guess that nutrient would be a fairly large operator and employer in their economy.

00:03:25.616 --> 00:03:26.996

<v SPEAKER\_2>Like, it's not a very big country.

00:03:28.756 --> 00:03:30.516

<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, I wonder what's going on here.

00:03:30.516 --> 00:03:34.576

<v SPEAKER\_2>Like, I can't imagine why you'd piss nutrient off.

00:03:34.576 --> 00:03:36.076

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, I'm not sure, Kelly.

00:03:36.076 --> 00:03:41.296

<v SPEAKER\_1>And nutrient seems to be very adamant here in not trying to be pushed around.

00:03:41.556 --> 00:03:43.396

<v SPEAKER\_1>I'd have to look more into it.

00:03:43.396 --> 00:03:47.736

<v SPEAKER\_1>There's always a chance that Trinidad and Tobago has been taken for a ride.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>There's often cases where companies will say they'll only invest if they get absolutely like really sweet deals and then get a big holiday on taxes and stuff like that.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, but 200% increase in port fees, retroactive to 2020 does seem, the retroactive part especially, that seems onerous.

00:04:14.356 --> 00:04:16.516

<v SPEAKER\_1>So, yeah, something for-

00:04:16.516 --> 00:04:36.556

<v SPEAKER\_2>Let's keep an eye on that, Joe, because as we move through the next phases of energy, the whole energy paradigm globally and food security certainly is a question and especially for Canada, as we get more involved in LNG trade, that, you know, well, let's keep an eye on things like this.

00:04:36.556 --> 00:04:37.616

<v SPEAKER\_2>Good story.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Let's look next at a quick story about Japan's new leader.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>According to Bloomberg reporting, newly elected Prime Minister of Japan, Sane Takachi, may emphasize nuclear power

generation and slow the nation's deployment of solar panels.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>The concern in Japan is the energy security concerns of being too dependent on Chinese manufactured solar panels.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>The challenge is the slow pace of restarting Japan's fleet of dormant nuclear power plants after the Fukushima disaster of several years ago.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Interesting, Joe, I'd like to note too that Japan's new leader is a woman, which is the first time in their history that anyone at that level of power is of the other gender, which is interesting in itself.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>She's trying to put a stamp on things, maybe.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And of course, some people say that she's on the further right of the party in Japan.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>But I'd say that politics in Japan are very different from politics here.

00:05:41.156 --> 00:05:43.416

<v SPEAKER\_1>It's hard to have the same labels.

00:05:43.416 --> 00:05:53.036

<v SPEAKER\_1>But yeah, it's a very interesting shift in terms of what we can expect from Japan in the future here.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>You know, it's the third largest economy in the world, right?

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<v SPEAKER\_1>I'm not sure if it's the third largest anymore.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>It might be India now.

00:06:00.996 --> 00:06:03.456

<v SPEAKER\_2>Let me bring it up.

00:06:03.456 --> 00:06:09.256

<v SPEAKER\_1>So I think India, Japan and Germany are all kind of vying

for that position.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>You know, Joe, but what it brings up is always the question we talk about with energy security is optionality, right?

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<v SPEAKER\_2>And adaptability.

00:06:20.036 --> 00:06:22.896

<v SPEAKER\_2>And they had all those nuclear facilities.

00:06:22.936 --> 00:06:27.236

<v SPEAKER\_2>And I'm sure under given enough time, they can put them back to business.

00:06:27.236 --> 00:06:33.476

<v SPEAKER\_2>But, you know, they have to be careful about about cutting off your nose despite your face too.

00:06:33.476 --> 00:06:39.116

<v SPEAKER\_2>Like, I don't know that I have no idea what the solar capacity is in Japan.

00:06:39.116 --> 00:06:42.836

<v SPEAKER\_2>But, you know, she's keeping her options open here.

00:06:42.916 --> 00:06:44.256

<v SPEAKER\_1>Absolutely.

00:06:44.256 --> 00:06:50.796

<v SPEAKER\_1>Now, last story, turning to Canada, negative news book Canadian auto production has come down the pipeline.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And again today.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So General Motors announced its ending production of the Bright Drop electric delivery van in Ingersoll, Ontario.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>According to GM, the Bright Drop has managed just 7,500 total sales, so 7,500 units of the van, palling in comparison with the \$2 billion cost of converting the factory to electric vans in 2021.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And that includes a \$500 million in government subsidies from the government of Ontario and the federal government.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>1200 workers at the factory have been laid off since the spring, and that's when the plant was idled.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>This piles on top of the announcement from Stellantis that it is moving its Jeep Compass production down to the States with impacts on 3,000 jobs.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>You know, with US tariffs on Canadian-made autos, the news of Canadian plant closures will continue.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Access to the US market is what makes large facilities producing vehicles at scale in Canada possible.

00:07:51.356 --> 00:07:55.116

<v SPEAKER\_2>And I, you know, Joe, it's hard to feel sorry.

00:07:55.116 --> 00:07:58.496

<v SPEAKER\_2>I really feel sorry for these people that work in the plant.

00:07:58.496 --> 00:08:00.316

<v SPEAKER\_2>But I don't feel sorry for General Motors.

00:08:00.316 --> 00:08:08.776

<v SPEAKER\_2>And I certainly, you know, some of the risk here, the blame here falls completely on the government with this suicidal shift to electric vehicles.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Like, you know, Joe, just think about all these prime vehicles to drive around and drop off packages.

00:08:13.216 --> 00:08:15.096

<v SPEAKER\_2>Like there's thousands of them now, right?

00:08:15.096 --> 00:08:17.216

<v SPEAKER\_2>I haven't seen the electric one.

00:08:17.216 --> 00:08:18.836

<v SPEAKER\_2>Not one.

00:08:18.836 --> 00:08:25.876

<v SPEAKER\_2>Like, you know, it's 7,500 units of total sales and they put up \$2 billion into a plant.

00:08:25.936 --> 00:08:29.176

<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, like, just just just do the unit cost of that.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>That's like \$3 billion per unit.

00:08:31.776 --> 00:08:36.696

<v SPEAKER\_1>Well, \$3 million, \$3 million per unit.

00:08:36.696 --> 00:08:37.876

<v SPEAKER\_3>Right?

00:08:37.876 --> 00:08:38.836

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, not quite.

00:08:38.836 --> 00:08:41.216

<v SPEAKER\_2>I think I think there'll be there's a \$300,000 per unit.

00:08:41.216 --> 00:08:42.896

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, \$300,000 per unit.

00:08:42.916 --> 00:08:44.196

<v SPEAKER\_2>It's a lot around that.

00:08:44.196 --> 00:08:45.436

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, no, it's not.

00:08:45.436 --> 00:08:46.676

<v SPEAKER\_1>No, it's not good.

00:08:46.676 --> 00:08:47.136

<v SPEAKER\_1>It's not good.

00:08:47.196 --> 00:08:50.176

<v SPEAKER\_2>It's a \$100,000 unit, like.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, it's I wish that we had a more coherent strategy and we thought a little bit more through like the cost per job here, you know?

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Right.

00:09:00.296 --> 00:09:11.176

<v SPEAKER\_1>So like, let's think about cost per job in terms of federal government, you know, federal government \$500 million for 1,200 workers.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>You know, that's got to be that's around \$500,000 or

\$400,000 per worker in government subsidies.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Like, is that really, is that really doesn't really make any sense?

00:09:21.156 --> 00:09:22.276

<v SPEAKER\_1>So I don't know.

00:09:22.276 --> 00:09:23.436

<v SPEAKER\_2>Bear with you, you bring it up.

00:09:23.616 --> 00:09:29.956

<v SPEAKER\_2>And it really, when you put that starkness to the number, it really is, it's suicidal.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>It's not sustainable.

00:09:31.356 --> 00:09:32.136

<v SPEAKER\_2>None of these things are.

00:09:33.836 --> 00:09:48.736

<v SPEAKER\_1>So like, you know, if we're going to be trying to fight de-industrialization with subsidies here, like, I think, I think we need a more, we need to be more aware of the limits of these subsidies and aware of, of who's paying these subsidies.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Like if we're expecting everybody else in Canada, I mean, I'm, maybe I, I don't want to be trite here, but, but there's, there's other, there's, we need a better strategy overall, rather than, rather than just following the same pathway that obviously isn't working.

00:10:07.816 --> 00:10:08.636

<v SPEAKER\_2>Right on.

00:10:08.636 --> 00:10:09.616

<v SPEAKER\_2>Good stories, Joe.

00:10:09.616 --> 00:10:11.656

<v SPEAKER\_2>Thanks for bringing those out for us.

00:10:11.656 --> 00:10:12.816

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, not a problem, Kelly.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And to our listeners again, you can find registration for the conference happening on Tuesday, October 28th in Ottawa on our website.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>You can also find information on our McRyan Speaker Dinner.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>So please do visit our website, look at our upcoming events, tons of stuff going on that we're always doing.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>And looking forward to seeing you there.

00:10:35.636 --> 00:10:36.496

<v SPEAKER\_2>Okay, great, Joe.

00:10:36.496 --> 00:10:40.896

<v SPEAKER\_2>Let's go and talk to Magatte about energy poverty in Africa.

00:10:42.716 --> 00:10:46.396

<v SPEAKER\_3>Hi, I'm Dave Perry, the President and CEO of The Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

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<v SPEAKER\_3>I hope you're enjoying Energy Security Cubed, Canada's leading podcast on energy issues.

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00:11:00.476 --> 00:11:06.116

<v SPEAKER\_3>Reach out to us at contact at cgai.ca for options and pricing.

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<v SPEAKER\_3>That's contact at cgai.ca.

00:11:10.516 --> 00:11:21.656

<v SPEAKER\_2>For today's interview, which we recorded October 15th, 2025, we discussed energy access in Africa and perspectives on the importance of energy for basic quality of life.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>With us to talk about this is Magatte Wade.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Magatte is an entrepreneur and development thinker from

Senegal, Director of the Center for African Prosperity at Atlas Network and Advocate for African Prosperity.

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<v SPEAKER\_1>Alongside many roles, she's also the Champion of Prosperity Not Poverty, which recently produced a documentary In The Dark, Senegal As A Case Study In Energy Poverty.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Delighted to have you on the podcast, Magatte.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>Delighted to be here, Kelly and Joseph.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>Thanks for having me.

00:11:51.396 --> 00:11:53.016

<v SPEAKER\_2>Let's get started.

00:11:53.016 --> 00:11:56.456

<v SPEAKER\_2>We're really interested in the story behind this documentary.

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<v SPEAKER\_2>Could you provide our listeners with some details of on why this documentary was made and how you became involved?

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<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes.

00:12:03.616 --> 00:12:13.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>So I think there is a growing number of us out there who have been very concerned about the rhetoric around climate alarmism.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>So basically over a few years ago started what I can only call this trend around climate alarmism, people being freaked out that the planet Earth as we know it is going to blow up within the next decade.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>Some people think we only have 12 years left.

00:12:30.156 --> 00:12:34.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>Some people think we back in the Al Gore time, he thought when he had 20 years, I think.

00:12:34.616 --> 00:12:39.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>But so many people are freaked out.

00:12:39.876 --> 00:12:44.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>Some of them very genuinely freaked out and some of them riding this wave.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>But what that has produced, whether it's from a conscious or unconscious place, whether it's genuine concern or fabricated concern, what the result of this is, is people are coming up with this solution, so-called solution of net zero.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>Net zero will be the solution.

00:13:02.216 --> 00:13:05.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>No more carbon emission.

00:13:05.276 --> 00:13:07.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>We have to get to a point where it's neutral.

00:13:07.336 --> 00:13:10.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>If we put something out, we have to put it back.

00:13:10.496 --> 00:13:12.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>We have to neutralize it somehow.

00:13:12.116 --> 00:13:18.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>But at the end of the day, what that truly means is we end and stop the use of fossil fuels right now.

00:13:18.996 --> 00:13:29.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>Except that it's just not a viable possibility, because for energy to be viable, it has to be affordable, reliable and abundant.

00:13:29.776 --> 00:13:32.636

<v SPEAKER\_4>All those three qualities at the same time.

00:13:33.536 --> 00:13:49.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>Right now, the only energy sources that have those three components, besides nuclear, which is not available so readily around the world for multiple reasons, but the ones that's left are usually fossil fuels based.

00:13:49.816 --> 00:13:53.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, what you're saying is, we have to stop all of that.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, in the West, while we talk this talk, there is

still, meanwhile, they're using the fossil fuels, right?

00:14:02.416 --> 00:14:05.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>They're using the fossil fuels, they keep doing what they need to do.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>They asked the Chinese and the Indians, when I say they, the West, because these ideas are primarily coming from the West.

00:14:13.236 --> 00:14:19.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, they made up, they have a climate alarmism, and then they say, we need to do net zero, no more fossil fuels.

00:14:19.676 --> 00:14:21.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>They don't take their own advice.

00:14:21.516 --> 00:14:23.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>They're still using fossil fuels all over the place.

00:14:23.916 --> 00:14:25.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>They have their infrastructure.

00:14:25.976 --> 00:14:28.936

<v SPEAKER\_4>The Chinese and the Indians are saying, you guys are crazy, we're not doing this.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>But it's easy for them to say, because they have economies that allow them to push back on the nonsense of the West.

00:14:35.756 --> 00:14:38.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, who is left having to obey?

00:14:38.176 --> 00:14:39.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>The Africans.

00:14:39.336 --> 00:14:42.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>And the Africans are in a terrible, we are in a terrible position.

00:14:42.996 --> 00:14:58.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, if this nonsense keeps going, and if the anti-fossil fuels, if the anti-fossil fuel zealots win this game, it means millions of Africans will continue dying every single year.

00:14:58.656 --> 00:15:01.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>And also African economies will never grow.

00:15:01.676 --> 00:15:07.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>And at some point, we're really talking about African deaths and poverty.

00:15:08.176 --> 00:15:12.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, this is just not a viable option.

00:15:12.816 --> 00:15:22.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, for me, that's what has gotten me to pay attention to the issue of energy poverty.

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<v SPEAKER\_4>And then, obviously, people who worry about the same things have a very interesting way of finding each other.

00:15:32.076 --> 00:15:34.016

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, we have been finding each other.

00:15:34.016 --> 00:15:37.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>And Julie is somebody that I have met.

00:15:37.256 --> 00:15:42.596

<v SPEAKER\_4>Julie Goudreau, and she's the Executive Director for Prosperity, Not Poverty.

00:15:42.596 --> 00:15:48.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, we connected a couple of years ago, I believe it was.

00:15:48.736 --> 00:15:51.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>And we realized that this was very dear to our hearts.

00:15:51.696 --> 00:16:17.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>And what Julie and I had in common is the fact that the way I'm seeing this climate alarmism being fought against by people who know that the rhetoric is dangerous, it's wrong, the way they usually go about making their case is this very intellectual argument, fighting almost at the intellectual level.

00:16:17.316 --> 00:16:24.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>And Julie and I believe that at the end of the day, most people are good people, including some of these climate alarmist people.

00:16:25.016 --> 00:16:27.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>They're genuinely worried, many of them are.

00:16:27.696 --> 00:16:41.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>And we believe that the best way to sometimes have a conversation about a hot issue is to maybe perhaps remove all the arguments and just go into let me share my story with you.

00:16:41.836 --> 00:16:44.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>Let me share my lived experience with you.

00:16:45.356 --> 00:16:54.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>Let me walk you through my shoes so you can see what it is that what you're proposing does.

00:16:54.836 --> 00:16:57.636

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's not will do, it's already doing right now.

00:16:58.336 --> 00:17:02.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so I think there are very few of us who tackle it from that angle.

00:17:02.736 --> 00:17:04.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so we found each other.

00:17:04.736 --> 00:17:15.956

<v SPEAKER\_4>And the next natural thing to do from that standpoint is, if you want to tell somebody, help them walk a mile in your shoes, you can, of course, if you're a great storyteller, just tell them the story.

00:17:15.956 --> 00:17:17.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>And of course, we do that.

00:17:17.436 --> 00:17:20.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>But most importantly, show don't tell.

00:17:20.156 --> 00:17:23.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>And that's where the documentaries really come in.

00:17:23.316 --> 00:17:47.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so we decided we would do a documentary that would take people straight somewhere in Africa and just walk, take them with us literally, and they would watch with us and see for themselves what poverty energy truly means for people, women, children, dying and frying their lungs literally.

00:17:47.556 --> 00:17:55.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>What it means for small and medium sized businesses not being able to operate, and people being really at the mercy of this poverty energy.

00:17:55.676 --> 00:18:05.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then at the end of the day, the poverty that it creates and then people having to leave their countries and having to migrate away to other nations in search for a better life.

00:18:05.036 --> 00:18:11.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so I think many people don't connect all of these things and they don't get to understand what the trade-offs are.

00:18:11.976 --> 00:18:17.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>So when you have a documentary like the one we did, that's the main goal.

00:18:17.496 --> 00:18:30.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's show don't tell and of course we did it in Senegal because it happens to be my home country and sadly we've got plenty of poverty energy like most many African nations right now.

00:18:30.896 --> 00:18:32.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's how it all came about.

00:18:32.736 --> 00:18:41.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>And John Robson is a great, he obviously has been somebody who's devoted his life, a lot of his life to these issues around energy as well.

00:18:42.516 --> 00:18:58.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>He really, I love how it was a natural collaboration with John because he too is one of those people who doesn't give into the, you know, the little short sound bites of, you know, like, which team am I on and we got to win.

00:18:58.436 --> 00:18:59.216

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's not about that.

00:18:59.536 --> 00:19:07.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>So John also fits very well this pattern of, let us try to see if we can get people and help people walk a mile in our shoes.

00:19:07.496 --> 00:19:10.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so it's been a wonderful collaboration.

00:19:10.236 --> 00:19:12.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's how it all came about.

00:19:12.436 --> 00:19:13.716

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, fantastic, fantastic.

00:19:13.716 --> 00:19:28.536

<v SPEAKER\_1>And you were saying that, you know, one of the big strengths of a documentary is being able to really see what's going on and kind of peel back the layers, you know, get beyond kind of the sound bites that we were used to nowadays in this modern world.

00:19:28.536 --> 00:19:37.636

<v SPEAKER\_1>And the documentary has some very powerful scenes of poverty and the ties of this poverty to this lack of energy access that you're talking about here.

00:19:38.396 --> 00:19:50.736

<v SPEAKER\_1>But I think for a lot of people, the tie between poverty and lack of energy access, although it might be obvious for people who are in the energy space, it might not be as obvious for some other people.

00:19:50.736 --> 00:19:55.576

<v SPEAKER\_1>And even for people, maybe even in your home country of Senegal.

00:19:55.576 --> 00:20:05.776

<v SPEAKER\_1>So what experiences cause you to start engaging with the problem of energy access in your birth country, Senegal, and more broadly throughout Africa as well?

00:20:06.976 --> 00:20:16.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, I think many people, when people think of energy, for the most part, we think about the energy that we see.

00:20:16.176 --> 00:20:25.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>I think when people know that they don't have a light bulb or they don't have the light coming on, they know it's due to electricity.

00:20:25.116 --> 00:20:37.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>They know that if they can't plug their fridge or that basically the power is coming on and off, I think that's when people think about energy.

00:20:37.116 --> 00:20:48.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>But people don't think about energy, even when they, when even like this simple act of putting oil in your car.

00:20:48.636 --> 00:20:53.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>I would argue that many people don't even understand how all of that works, right?

00:20:53.816 --> 00:20:56.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>They, all of a sudden, it's almost like it's this other thing.

00:20:56.256 --> 00:20:57.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's not part of energy.

00:20:58.176 --> 00:20:59.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>I would really argue that.

00:20:59.516 --> 00:21:00.896  
<v SPEAKER\_4>It's not part of energy.

00:21:00.896 --> 00:21:09.416  
<v SPEAKER\_4>When people are thinking about, in our case, all of these villages that don't have running water and rely on having a well.

00:21:09.416 --> 00:21:11.936  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, oftentimes, the well needs a pump, right?

00:21:11.936 --> 00:21:18.956  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Because this physical, the gravity and all that, the water needs to go up and have this pressure that you need.

00:21:18.956 --> 00:21:26.096  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Very few people think about the concept of energy to help that happen, right?

00:21:26.096 --> 00:21:47.456  
<v SPEAKER\_4>And when they're seeing a building being made, I think very few people understand the involvement of energy itself in getting that whole building together from all the little components, you know, how you extract them, how you transform them, and then you come and put them together.

00:21:47.456 --> 00:21:55.656  
<v SPEAKER\_4>The only time people think of energy in a building, when they see a building, is, oh, am I able to put my AC on or am I able to put my heat on?

00:21:55.656 --> 00:21:57.636  
<v SPEAKER\_4>That part, they think energy.

00:21:57.636 --> 00:22:00.776  
<v SPEAKER\_4>But when they think about their clothes, they don't think energy.

00:22:01.236 --> 00:22:14.716  
<v SPEAKER\_4>When they think food that we eat and the fact that fertilizers have actually allowed so many of us to be able to be fed, we could not do it on organics alone or just like a real item oven.

00:22:14.716 --> 00:22:17.796  
<v SPEAKER\_4>No, they don't think of energy when it comes to their food.

00:22:17.796 --> 00:22:22.056  
<v SPEAKER\_4>The glasses that you wear, they don't think about the energy that came into that.

00:22:22.056 --> 00:22:24.296

<v SPEAKER\_4>Even these solar panels that they talk about.

00:22:24.296 --> 00:22:35.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>I mean, solar panels, yeah, you love to say old renewable solar panels, but the solar panels themselves have to rely on fossil fuels right now to be made.

00:22:35.256 --> 00:22:43.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>I think at the end of the day, there's such a misunderstanding of how the world works and what does what.

00:22:43.156 --> 00:22:59.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>Because if you then understand that everything that surrounds us is here, these curtains behind me, these things that I'm wearing here, maybe this plastic cord, it's energy that helped us mix it from the rubber that it came up from naturally to this.

00:22:59.116 --> 00:23:03.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so I think people don't understand how energy goes all around us.

00:23:03.376 --> 00:23:05.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>You know, yes, you get to play and you understand that part.

00:23:05.996 --> 00:23:10.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>But so I think this is where we have gone so wrong.

00:23:10.776 --> 00:23:18.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>People don't understand because when I'm looking at a human being standing in front of me, being like, energy is to death with fossil fuels and anything.

00:23:18.876 --> 00:23:21.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>These are from people holding an iPhone most of the time.

00:23:21.996 --> 00:23:26.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>Most of these people have phones and they're clothed and some of them have glasses and all of that.

00:23:26.776 --> 00:23:30.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'm like, I would love to be able to tell them, oh, you're against fossil fuels?

00:23:30.616 --> 00:23:31.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>And they say, yeah.

00:23:31.476 --> 00:23:32.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'd be like, give me your glasses.

00:23:32.576 --> 00:23:34.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Okay, I put it in my bag.

00:23:34.456 --> 00:23:36.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'm like, give me your shirt, put it in my bag.

00:23:36.456 --> 00:23:37.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>Give me everything.

00:23:37.276 --> 00:23:39.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>At the end of the day, they'll be naked, naked.

00:23:39.876 --> 00:23:40.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I don't think they get that.

00:23:41.236 --> 00:23:44.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so I think this is the biggest problem we have.

00:23:44.716 --> 00:23:53.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>Energy is just one of those things that it's embedded in our civilization and in our modern life, and people don't see it.

00:23:53.796 --> 00:23:56.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>So they think they can share it, pick.

00:23:56.116 --> 00:24:00.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>They can share it, pick how to take it out of our lives.

00:24:00.856 --> 00:24:07.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>When not understanding that if you really want to go there, if you want to go to net zero, you're asking us to go back to cave time.

00:24:07.516 --> 00:24:10.196

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so for me, that's really what's at stake here.

00:24:10.616 --> 00:24:17.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>And whether it's people from the west or people in developing nations, almost no one understands that.

00:24:17.536 --> 00:24:19.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>And people in...

00:24:20.696 --> 00:24:21.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>So no one understands that.

00:24:21.676 --> 00:24:24.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's how I would...

00:24:24.576 --> 00:24:26.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's what I would say about that.

00:24:26.256 --> 00:24:27.876

<v SPEAKER\_2>Well, that pretty much cuts to the chase.

00:24:27.996 --> 00:24:31.576

<v SPEAKER\_2>And the intellectual...

00:24:32.796 --> 00:24:34.196

<v SPEAKER\_2>Sorry, I don't know.

00:24:34.196 --> 00:24:35.956

<v SPEAKER\_2>Tyranny is the wrong word to use.

00:24:35.996 --> 00:24:44.096

<v SPEAKER\_2>But the intellectual, you know, above the fray discussion that just sort of disregards all of the actualities that you talked about.

00:24:44.096 --> 00:24:50.536

<v SPEAKER\_2>I think a lot of that comes from a lack of good institutional structure.

00:24:50.536 --> 00:24:57.316

<v SPEAKER\_2>And one of the points you make is that these weak institutional structures in some African countries, such as Senegal, are making this...

00:24:57.316 --> 00:24:59.416

<v SPEAKER\_2>You know, it makes the problem worse rather than better.

00:24:59.416 --> 00:25:04.636

<v SPEAKER\_2>And you make the point that the structuring of Western aid has also exacerbated these problems.

00:25:06.096 --> 00:25:10.996

<v SPEAKER\_2>What role do you think that Western aid agencies have had first?

00:25:10.996 --> 00:25:13.676

<v SPEAKER\_2>And how can we change that?

00:25:13.676 --> 00:25:18.936

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, they certainly did not have the effect that was supposedly intended.

00:25:18.976 --> 00:25:40.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I believe that the effect that the aid complex and

industry, that the aid, foreign aid, this phenomenon of government-to-government aid and other NGOs, I would believe that if you asked them, they would have told you that their goal is basically to alleviate poverty.

00:25:40.676 --> 00:25:42.296

<v SPEAKER\_4>Their goal is to help people live better.

00:25:42.296 --> 00:25:42.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>All of that.

00:25:43.036 --> 00:25:45.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>I believe that that is what they would state.

00:25:45.856 --> 00:25:48.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>Now, when you look at the reality, what has truly happened?

00:25:48.936 --> 00:26:00.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>At the end of the day, what has happened is aid has masked the real problem and has distracted us from adopting the right solutions.

00:26:00.676 --> 00:26:19.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's, and honestly, I would blame aid for a lot of misery, poverty, death that has been happening in poor nations over the past few decades, at least in Africa since the 1960s, when most African nations started having their own independences.

00:26:19.756 --> 00:26:22.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>That doesn't mean that our countries are not responsible.

00:26:22.496 --> 00:26:32.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>I mean, at the end of the day, we are responsible for our own, we are responsible right now, because we have so-called sovereign nations and we're not making the right decisions.

00:26:32.676 --> 00:26:40.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>If somebody else is coming out and offering you goods that corrupt you, at the end of the day, you're still the one who accepted the good, right?

00:26:40.036 --> 00:26:42.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so don't tell me, oh, he corrupted me.

00:26:42.416 --> 00:26:43.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>It takes two to tangle.

00:26:43.796 --> 00:26:45.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>So in this case, it's a situation like that.

00:26:45.436 --> 00:26:46.616  
<v SPEAKER\_4>It takes two to tangle.

00:26:46.616 --> 00:27:24.536  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So what happened is, so if you ask me what is the effect of aid, aid has, like I said, masked the problem, distracted us in adopting the solution earlier, and also corrupted mindsets, created a sense of dependency mentality, you know, where if all you see is yourself always being a recipient of different forms of welfare, at some point you forget that you have agency, at some point you stop relying on yourself, and you turn to the easy fix, which is give me, give me, give me.

00:27:24.536 --> 00:27:32.076  
<v SPEAKER\_4>But we all know that if I give you, I can feed you for a day, but if I teach you how to fish, you'll be able to feed yourself for life.

00:27:32.076 --> 00:27:34.936  
<v SPEAKER\_4>And so that's just simply what aid has not done.

00:27:34.936 --> 00:27:53.696  
<v SPEAKER\_4>And in addition to that, what aid also has done, which I think is very pervasive, is basically get these leaders, the leaders in these nations, it gave them a pass on doing what it would take for the nations to thrive.

00:27:54.156 --> 00:28:06.636  
<v SPEAKER\_4>If our nations had remained desperately poor, with no one coming to our rescue, people do what they always do everywhere in situations like that, they start to get to act together.

00:28:06.636 --> 00:28:14.936  
<v SPEAKER\_4>We have never gotten our act together because of the meddling through aid of Western nations.

00:28:14.936 --> 00:28:28.936  
<v SPEAKER\_4>That's what aid has done at least to us, and then what happens for the Western nations, but conversely aid has done really well for Western nations, for a few actors on the Western side, on the donor side.

00:28:28.936 --> 00:28:46.616  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So American, Canadian taxpayers, taxpayers from rich nations, pool their money together, give it to their government, that's what they call, that's that foreign aid, then that government turns around and sends it abroad to these nations that need help.

00:28:46.616 --> 00:28:49.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>So when they do that, two things happen.

00:28:49.776 --> 00:28:57.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>A little chunk of the money goes straight into the pocket of that leader to do whatever they want to do, corruption right there, the money doesn't go to the people.

00:28:57.976 --> 00:29:04.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>A big chunk goes straight back to the donor nation through all of these agencies.

00:29:05.996 --> 00:29:10.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>So the workers at USAID make a very good living out of aid.

00:29:10.376 --> 00:29:14.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>The workers at UNICEF, all of these people make a very good living.

00:29:14.096 --> 00:29:25.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>Meanwhile, the people who were intended to be the recipients of this, the poor people of these nations, not the elites or the leaders of this nation, the poor people of these nations, they get crumbs.

00:29:25.776 --> 00:29:37.636

<v SPEAKER\_4>And there is no incentives for this to stop, because if this stops, we're talking about trillions of dollars that have been spent, at least in Africa, since the early 60s, with nothing to show for.

00:29:37.636 --> 00:29:39.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>But this money went somewhere, all right?

00:29:39.656 --> 00:29:40.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>It did.

00:29:40.376 --> 00:29:43.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>So yeah, that's what AID has done so far.

00:29:43.136 --> 00:30:06.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's basically just allowed our leaders who normally should be the ones who should have put in place the right institutions for wealth building, prosperity building, we're talking about, you know, clear transferable property rights, we're talking about rule of law, we're talking about great economic freedom, this, you know, we're talking about all of those things.

00:30:06.896 --> 00:30:11.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's what needs to be in place for prosperity to be

able to be built by entrepreneurs.

00:30:11.496 --> 00:30:21.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>And as long as the aid keeps flowing in, you give our leaders no incentives to put those things in place, which is by the way, only them who can put it in place.

00:30:21.616 --> 00:30:27.596

<v SPEAKER\_4>As a regular citizen, I can't just come in and say, okay, rule of law here, property rights here, I can't.

00:30:27.596 --> 00:30:28.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's them who have to do this.

00:30:29.356 --> 00:30:31.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>But they have no incentives of doing that.

00:30:31.056 --> 00:30:41.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>So not only do they have no incentives of doing this, but on top of that, if they do that, they lose access to all of this money coming in.

00:30:41.856 --> 00:30:51.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>So this is why when people, and it was interesting for me to see that folks in the West were shocked when USID got stopped the way it got stopped.

00:30:51.236 --> 00:31:02.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>But us Africans for the most part, many of us were rejoicing because we always have known that our leaders are not doing what they're supposed to do because they get the cover from aid.

00:31:02.316 --> 00:31:05.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so right now that cover has been blown away.

00:31:05.376 --> 00:31:09.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>And now it's anybody's guess to see what's going to happen.

00:31:09.116 --> 00:31:15.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>Now, I am not very confident at this point because the way it was done left a huge vacuum behind.

00:31:15.776 --> 00:31:20.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I believe that, and sadly, that vacuum will be filled by other actors.

00:31:21.776 --> 00:31:26.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>Look towards the Middle East, look towards China and Russia have their own problems right now.

00:31:26.556 --> 00:31:29.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>So they're retrenching a little bit away from Africa.

00:31:29.476 --> 00:31:33.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>But you do have some other actors who are moving in.

00:31:33.556 --> 00:31:36.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I'm just, yeah.

00:31:36.336 --> 00:31:40.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>So we have a lot of work ahead of us.

00:31:40.816 --> 00:31:41.896

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, absolutely.

00:31:41.896 --> 00:31:57.996

<v SPEAKER\_1>And yeah, I think that considering the ways that international organizations are shifting in recent years, that there might actually be some room for some improvement in the way that they approach the way they operate in places like Africa.

00:31:57.996 --> 00:32:06.236

<v SPEAKER\_1>But just to get into the meat of some of how energy access improves lives.

00:32:06.336 --> 00:32:10.616

<v SPEAKER\_1>You said something that I found very interesting at an event associated with this documentary.

00:32:12.076 --> 00:32:17.056

<v SPEAKER\_1>You quoted Li-Kuan Yu, who's the founding father of post-independent Singapore.

00:32:17.496 --> 00:32:26.076

<v SPEAKER\_1>You said famously that air conditioning was the most important invention of the 20th century, because it allowed people to be very productive in hot climates.

00:32:26.576 --> 00:32:43.456

<v SPEAKER\_1>You said that this is one of the things that you think is holding people in Africa back, is this lack of access to the air conditioning that would allow them to work at high levels of productivity indoors in conditions that right now are not ideal for productivity.

00:32:43.456 --> 00:32:51.076

<v SPEAKER\_1>I think that there's other examples of this, like for example, health impacts from cooking smoke, or the need to carry water.

00:32:51.076 --> 00:33:00.136

<v SPEAKER\_1>All of these things really combine to undermine the productivity and the economic ability of Africans to improve their lives.

00:33:01.176 --> 00:33:11.276

<v SPEAKER\_1>I'm just interested, how does this observation, the observation about this energy access that's associated with the air conditions and the technology, how does this translate into Africa's context?

00:33:12.156 --> 00:33:19.136

<v SPEAKER\_1>What sort of economic limits, on economic opportunity do you see as downstream from energy access?

00:33:19.136 --> 00:33:26.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, well, let's start that arc from and following the arc of a human life.

00:33:27.796 --> 00:33:38.216

<v SPEAKER\_4>When you're born, many people, I think, are getting being born at the hospital, and sometimes operations need to happen on a premie or something like that.

00:33:38.216 --> 00:33:47.636

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, when you're in poverty, when you're in energy poor nations, right there at that stage, many problems start to happen.

00:33:47.636 --> 00:34:02.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>Anywhere from the birth going terribly wrong, in situation where it could have gone just fine, because the hospital is equipped with everything that it needs, including proper, reliable, affordable and abundant access to energy.

00:34:02.336 --> 00:34:11.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>So keeping the machines on, keeping all of that stuff on and not having to switch back to a diesel backup generator.

00:34:11.516 --> 00:34:19.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>Often oftentimes, even if you have a hospital that even has a backup diesel generator, oftentimes that fuel is not there.

00:34:19.796 --> 00:34:20.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>Why?

00:34:20.056 --> 00:34:21.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Because they're poor.

00:34:21.456 --> 00:34:29.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>So in this case, a lot of complications that happen that normally should not happen just because things are defective.

00:34:29.656 --> 00:34:38.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>So right there, at the beginning of your life, we do know that some kids are not getting a good start in life simply because of the conditions of their birth.

00:34:38.696 --> 00:34:46.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>Some operation needed to take place right when they were born with some issues, but it didn't happen right at that moment.

00:34:46.316 --> 00:34:47.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>Some die.

00:34:47.316 --> 00:34:48.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>Many die.

00:34:48.336 --> 00:34:50.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>Many just flat out die, right?

00:34:50.556 --> 00:34:59.636

<v SPEAKER\_4>Die because they were born with some issues, but the type of operations that's needed, no one really performs over there.

00:34:59.636 --> 00:35:10.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>This is, so then you, let's say this kid made it past that age five, which is critical, you know, like maternal, what do you call it?

00:35:10.036 --> 00:35:12.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's infant mortality.

00:35:12.476 --> 00:35:18.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's, you know, everybody worries about it, but if you usually pass age five, you know that most of the time you're going to be in the clear.

00:35:18.456 --> 00:35:21.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>So let's say you made it through age zero to five.

00:35:21.476 --> 00:35:24.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>We're like, yeah, yeah, yeah, chances are you'll be fine now.

00:35:24.456 --> 00:35:27.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>So now you're five and now you're starting to go to school.

00:35:27.396 --> 00:35:31.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, most of these schools don't have AC in them.

00:35:31.076 --> 00:35:51.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>In places where the temperature are oftentimes 100, 110, something like that, I would argue how many people here, how many kids, how many human being could actually function and be focused working on math problems, working on concentration problems, things like that under conditions like that.

00:35:51.396 --> 00:35:56.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>I know you couldn't, I know Kelly couldn't, and we all have to be honest, we couldn't.

00:35:56.356 --> 00:36:22.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>So if that is your situation day in and day out, then you tell me after a few months, years of that type of being educated under those circumstances, I put you next to a kid who in opposition, you know, lives in Vegas, and I use Vegas because Vegas, we all know Las Vegas is a place where no one could live in if there was no AC.

00:36:22.056 --> 00:36:26.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>Dubai, Dubai, no one could live there if there was not no AC.

00:36:26.236 --> 00:36:38.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I know that some Bedouins still live in the tents, in the desert, but you know, it's even them are going back to, when you look at those tents, they found ways to make it cooler and all of that stuff.

00:36:38.656 --> 00:36:49.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>But my point is if you take places where life and normal life could not be there if we don't have AC, and so this is the situation we have.

00:36:49.756 --> 00:36:57.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>So kids are not being able to learn properly, and then the world turns around and says, oh, look, they have low IQ.

00:36:57.356 --> 00:37:01.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>You know, low IQ because they can't pass the test, they can't do this, they can't do that.

00:37:01.316 --> 00:37:05.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>But by the way, for me IQ is about a whole other thing, but I digress.

00:37:05.156 --> 00:37:12.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>But my point is regardless of what you want to call it, you have people who were not able to learn under the best conditions.

00:37:12.176 --> 00:37:16.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>On top of that, they don't have the proteins that they need, which we know feeds the brain.

00:37:16.576 --> 00:37:18.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>So all of these things.

00:37:18.736 --> 00:37:23.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>So when you have AC in really hot climates, it just allows you to exist.

00:37:23.816 --> 00:37:28.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>It just allows you to be able to go on about your life and lead a productive life.

00:37:28.476 --> 00:37:32.596

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's at the education level, which is critical.

00:37:32.596 --> 00:37:38.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>Then you look at mom cooking or dad cooking, but in these places oftentimes mom cooking.

00:37:39.456 --> 00:37:42.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>Usually, the child is around helping.

00:37:42.236 --> 00:37:50.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, poverty energy in this case means you don't have access to propane or to LNG.

00:37:50.576 --> 00:37:58.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>You don't have access to electric stoves or anything like that, because there's no infrastructure for any of those things.

00:37:58.156 --> 00:38:07.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>Even if there was, people would don't oftentimes have the means to buy the appliance, whether it's the stove or the fridge or whatever.

00:38:08.296 --> 00:38:28.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, what it means in this situation to live in energy poverty is you have women, primarily women, cooking using biomass, like charcoal, wood that they just walked from the nearby forest, and cow dung, things like that.

00:38:28.716 --> 00:38:32.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>The problem with these things is they're highly, highly, highly polluting.

00:38:32.776 --> 00:38:42.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>The particles that they release are pretty huge, and literally what you're doing is you're coating, you're frying your lungs and coating them with this.

00:38:42.576 --> 00:38:48.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>I mean, and you see it, you see it in the walls of these places they call kitchen.

00:38:48.696 --> 00:39:00.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>In the movie, you see it on the outside, you can see what the natural color of the wall was, and it's like almost like this beige sweater of mine.

00:39:00.176 --> 00:39:10.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>But then you go inside, my god, the walls look like, you know, charcoal, black coal.

00:39:10.236 --> 00:39:15.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>But what you're seeing there is probably the same state, their lungs are in the same state.

00:39:15.036 --> 00:39:20.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>So these women are slowly killing themselves, and the kids who are with them, same thing.

00:39:20.796 --> 00:39:30.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so we know that millions of women are dying every single year of indoor air pollution, and a few hundred thousand kids also are dying every year due to indoor air pollution.

00:39:30.856 --> 00:39:31.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>I think it's 400,000.

00:39:32.236 --> 00:39:33.596

<v SPEAKER\_4>I mean, these numbers are staggering.

00:39:33.596 --> 00:39:34.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>They're huge.

00:39:34.656 --> 00:39:36.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so that's under indoor air pollution.

00:39:36.996 --> 00:39:38.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>But then think about it.

00:39:38.236 --> 00:39:48.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>Many people don't have a fridge because even if they could manage to buy a fridge, then they don't have the electricity system that allows for the fridge to stay on at the way it should be.

00:39:48.536 --> 00:39:50.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>So we don't have a fridge.

00:39:50.356 --> 00:39:54.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>What that means is food is not kept properly.

00:39:54.356 --> 00:39:57.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>There's oftentimes food poisoning.

00:39:57.096 --> 00:39:59.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I'm sure many people die from food poisoning.

00:39:59.576 --> 00:40:01.956

<v SPEAKER\_4>They just don't know it was food poisoning.

00:40:01.956 --> 00:40:04.936

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so you have that issue as well.

00:40:04.936 --> 00:40:08.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then the other thing is businesses.

00:40:08.416 --> 00:40:12.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>All of these people ideally are trying to make money somehow.

00:40:12.476 --> 00:40:21.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>And oftentimes, even if it's in the informal sector, people are out there being painters, being art tailors, being...

00:40:21.996 --> 00:40:26.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>you know, but little printing shop.

00:40:26.796 --> 00:40:30.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>People are just out trying to build activity.

00:40:30.696 --> 00:40:36.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, oftentimes, you take the print shop or even the tailor, because all of our clothes are customary.

00:40:36.116 --> 00:40:45.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>You go buy a piece of cloth, and then you take it to your tailor, who then cuts it to your size and puts it together.

00:40:45.576 --> 00:40:48.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>Many, it's a huge activity in Senegal.

00:40:48.536 --> 00:40:51.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>But these guys, oftentimes, you go in and you see them waiting around.

00:40:51.716 --> 00:40:52.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>Why?

00:40:52.376 --> 00:40:54.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>Because the power has gone.

00:40:54.336 --> 00:40:56.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>They don't know if it's gone for five minutes.

00:40:56.456 --> 00:40:57.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>They don't know if it's gone for an hour.

00:40:57.976 --> 00:40:59.956

<v SPEAKER\_4>They don't know if it's gone for the whole day.

00:40:59.956 --> 00:41:03.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>But the thing is, they don't want to go home, because if they go home...

00:41:03.556 --> 00:41:05.356

<v SPEAKER\_2>The power could come back on.

00:41:05.396 --> 00:41:06.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>Exactly.

00:41:06.256 --> 00:41:09.016

<v SPEAKER\_4>So you can have people waiting all day like that.

00:41:09.016 --> 00:41:10.596

<v SPEAKER\_4>How productive is this?

00:41:10.596 --> 00:41:11.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>How productive?

00:41:11.796 --> 00:41:14.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so this is like that for everybody.

00:41:14.676 --> 00:41:16.016

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then you have another woman.

00:41:16.016 --> 00:41:19.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>Her business is to maintain a freezer.

00:41:19.836 --> 00:41:27.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>So people would bring their goods and each of them have a corner in the freezer and people pay a little portion for that ability.

00:41:27.896 --> 00:41:40.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, when you have a power that goes on, off, on, off,

on, off 20 million times a day every month, that freezer or that fridge or whatever appliance you have plugged to the system is usually going to be burned.

00:41:41.056 --> 00:41:43.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>It burns, you know, like when things go like that.

00:41:43.376 --> 00:41:46.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so then you have to go and replace these things.

00:41:46.276 --> 00:41:48.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>It was capital for you in the first place.

00:41:48.076 --> 00:41:55.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>You tried to even cobble up the capital to buy these few appliances that are going to be your business, you know, foundation.

00:41:55.916 --> 00:41:59.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>But now you have to put it back together a few months later and go buy again.

00:41:59.736 --> 00:42:03.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>So you're starting to see it's just like everywhere you turn, it's nonsense.

00:42:03.416 --> 00:42:05.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I won't even go into the industry.

00:42:05.176 --> 00:42:19.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>Industry for them, the energy cost, it's the cost of energy is insane, which means that an energy is an input into what you produce.

00:42:19.096 --> 00:42:20.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's going to have to come out somewhere.

00:42:20.616 --> 00:42:28.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>So which means we're not being very as, as competitive as we should be or could be.

00:42:28.436 --> 00:42:35.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so you see how every aspect of our life is, is, is, is, is affected.

00:42:35.916 --> 00:42:48.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I didn't even talk about women who have to walk miles back and forth to go fetch the biomass, whether it's especially wood in the, in the, in the forest and or water.

00:42:48.536 --> 00:43:02.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then when you come back home, the time it takes to get the coal, the stove of coal going and the time it takes to just cook anything compared to if this was happening on a gas stove or an electric stove.

00:43:02.816 --> 00:43:14.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>So basically all of our, most of these people's lives are spent on mundane things, doing things that we take for granted, spending 45 minutes to an hour to get your shower ready.

00:43:14.556 --> 00:43:23.196

<v SPEAKER\_4>Basically, you know, heating that water, getting the coal going, heating that water, putting it in a bucket, dragging it somewhere.

00:43:23.196 --> 00:43:24.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>Everything is cumbersome.

00:43:24.776 --> 00:43:33.196

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I look at this, and I think we should all look at this and realize that at the end of the day, we humans are hurting ourselves.

00:43:33.196 --> 00:43:56.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Not because, it's not just those humans who have to do that, who are hurting themselves, but it is you, Joseph, it is you, Kelly, it is me, Magatte, who happens to have access to the West and get to enjoy everything that energy prosperity has to offer like we have in the West.

00:43:56.456 --> 00:44:10.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>But we are all losing because every single day, somebody is wasting their productive time going to fetch water or wood or getting a stove of coal going.

00:44:10.396 --> 00:44:14.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>That is not a productive way to lead that life.

00:44:14.656 --> 00:44:29.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>Instead, if that person could just have turned something, and within a few seconds it's there like it is for us here, and the rest of that hour is devoted to productive activity, talking about somebody who is designing a new idea that's going to benefit all of us.

00:44:29.996 --> 00:44:34.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Somebody who is doing some research on cancer, that's going to benefit all of us.

00:44:34.456 --> 00:44:40.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>Somebody who is working on new education alternatives, that's going to benefit all of us.

00:44:40.376 --> 00:44:42.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>This is what we're all lacking on.

00:44:42.716 --> 00:45:03.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>When you have millions, billions of people trapped in energy poverty, you are delaying human progress, not only for themselves, but for what they would have contributed to the world, had they been able to join the productive peoples of the world.

00:45:03.436 --> 00:45:09.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's at its core, at its bottom also, what energy means.

00:45:11.336 --> 00:45:14.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>It runs so deep and it runs so wide.

00:45:14.556 --> 00:45:18.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>And, you know, it's just, it's heartbreaking.

00:45:20.276 --> 00:45:21.056

<v SPEAKER\_2>It really is.

00:45:21.056 --> 00:45:28.956

<v SPEAKER\_2>It's just, and it's hard to, you know, I think that, you know, you've pulled the bandage off here.

00:45:28.956 --> 00:45:39.416

<v SPEAKER\_2>And I'd like to circle back to the existential geopolitical impacts and or interdependence.

00:45:39.416 --> 00:45:48.056

<v SPEAKER\_2>And it seems that, you know, like you've woken me up again this morning to the real crux of the matter.

00:45:48.196 --> 00:45:55.756

<v SPEAKER\_2>And in the West, people think about assisting African development.

00:45:55.836 --> 00:45:58.196

<v SPEAKER\_2>You know, it's a large, difficult to engage with.

00:45:58.196 --> 00:46:00.056

<v SPEAKER\_2>But that's interesting.

00:46:00.056 --> 00:46:01.116

<v SPEAKER\_2>But we have to do it.

00:46:01.236 --> 00:46:07.716  
<v SPEAKER\_2>And it seems that your message is mainly to help people in Africa help themselves.

00:46:07.816 --> 00:46:15.676  
<v SPEAKER\_2>Nevertheless, we in the West need to take part in this and take responsibility, too.

00:46:15.676 --> 00:46:20.896  
<v SPEAKER\_2>As you say, what I'm saying is there's enough money.

00:46:20.896 --> 00:46:23.136  
<v SPEAKER\_2>There is enough money.

00:46:23.136 --> 00:46:26.956  
<v SPEAKER\_2>And what needs to change?

00:46:26.956 --> 00:46:30.816  
<v SPEAKER\_2>What can we change in the West to help this current situation?

00:46:30.856 --> 00:46:34.796  
<v SPEAKER\_2>Please, you're very frank, and we really appreciate that.

00:46:35.076 --> 00:46:38.416  
<v SPEAKER\_2>I think people are going to hear this message.

00:46:38.416 --> 00:46:40.376  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, no, I think you're right, Kelly.

00:46:40.376 --> 00:46:41.956  
<v SPEAKER\_4>There's plenty of money.

00:46:41.956 --> 00:46:47.576  
<v SPEAKER\_4>But I think people just don't understand how then that money needs to be deployed.

00:46:47.576 --> 00:46:57.116  
<v SPEAKER\_4>I think people need to understand there's plenty of money, and we need to use that money to make more money because money is a resource, right?

00:46:57.116 --> 00:46:58.256  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Money is just a resource.

00:46:58.836 --> 00:47:04.276  
<v SPEAKER\_4>And so I think the way they're thinking about there's plenty of money, they think there's plenty of money.

00:47:04.276 --> 00:47:06.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>Therefore, let me give some of mine away.

00:47:06.656 --> 00:47:09.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's not money being productive.

00:47:09.116 --> 00:47:10.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's not.

00:47:10.276 --> 00:47:12.296

<v SPEAKER\_4>But they should be thinking there's plenty of money.

00:47:12.296 --> 00:47:21.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>How can I use that plenty of money to create more money for others, to help others create more money for themselves as well?

00:47:21.836 --> 00:47:25.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>So if we think about it that way, then we think about this money in a very different way.

00:47:25.616 --> 00:47:33.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then at that point also, try to refrain from thinking that you should do everything for others.

00:47:33.176 --> 00:47:52.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I think you should look at it, think about the developing world the same way you think about people you love, whether it's your child or your sister, your brother, your husband, your wife, your mom, your best friend, when any of them are in a crisis of poverty.

00:47:52.236 --> 00:48:01.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>Your first thing is not going to be to, your goal in life is not going to be so you work, make money so that you can buy them all the things that they making money would have allowed them to buy.

00:48:01.736 --> 00:48:09.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Your goal, I bet you, I promise you, anytime is going to be, how can I give you the tools so that tomorrow you can provide for yourself?

00:48:09.456 --> 00:48:23.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>So when you're talking about your child, your plan is not going to be, I know that your plan for your child is not, don't you worry baby, I'm going to be here forever and the money I make, you're just going to use that to buy your own home, to buy your food, to buy all of these things, you're going to leave my house.

00:48:23.336 --> 00:48:38.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>You're not thinking that way, you're thinking I am going to give you the best tools that are possible to equip you so that when

comes the time when you are now an adult and need to take care of yourself, keyword, take care of yourself, you can do that.

00:48:38.616 --> 00:48:44.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>You can become an independent human being, productive member of society.

00:48:44.096 --> 00:48:45.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's what you're thinking for about your child.

00:48:45.856 --> 00:48:48.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>You're not thinking, oh, I'm going to give.

00:48:49.656 --> 00:48:58.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>Your best friend, your best friend has a struck of bad luck, fell down, lost their home, lost everything, maybe.

00:48:58.436 --> 00:49:01.956

<v SPEAKER\_4>I know your plan is not going to be come leave me in my house forever.

00:49:01.956 --> 00:49:02.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>Whatever.

00:49:02.276 --> 00:49:07.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>I know what you're thinking is, let me help you get your foot back on the saddle.

00:49:07.256 --> 00:49:07.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>Whatever it is.

00:49:07.916 --> 00:49:34.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>So basically, when you're doing that, even if you're giving her your friend, maybe a nice pair, a nice suit so that she can go to this interview and present well, feel confident about herself, you are basically helping her, giving her tools so that she can be effective at getting into a position where she can now take care of herself, make money for herself and decide for herself.

00:49:34.076 --> 00:49:37.216

<v SPEAKER\_4>Same thing with your parents, with your brother, your sister.

00:49:37.216 --> 00:49:42.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's how we think of people in need, of when people are in a position of need.

00:49:43.036 --> 00:49:46.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>But when it comes to the global poor, it's all gone.

00:49:46.876 --> 00:49:48.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>We don't think that way anymore.

00:49:48.476 --> 00:49:49.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>We don't.

00:49:49.276 --> 00:49:53.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's almost as if you're not dealing with people that you recognize have an agency.

00:49:53.256 --> 00:50:04.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>What is different about them than your child, your brother, your sister, your mother, your best friend that you're trying to support and help them get back on track.

00:50:04.076 --> 00:50:05.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's all it is.

00:50:05.236 --> 00:50:12.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>In this case, instead of thinking we're going to give, give, give, give, give, which by the way, the more you give people and the more you rob them of their sense of agency.

00:50:12.876 --> 00:50:26.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>Eventually, at the end, all you would have done is create a mindset of dependency in this mind, which is the absolute contrary mindset that's needed for anybody to actually leave a productive, happy, healthy life.

00:50:26.316 --> 00:50:27.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>So you're robbing them.

00:50:27.996 --> 00:50:34.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>You know that when it comes to your friends, when it comes to people that you respect and you love, you know that that is not what to do.

00:50:34.816 --> 00:50:36.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>But with us, you do the opposite.

00:50:36.376 --> 00:50:46.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>Here, let us get back into that same mindset of the best way I can help you, is to see how can I help you become productive.

00:50:46.356 --> 00:50:53.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>If my support is helping you become productive, then you know that whatever you're doing, how are you doing it, is actually the right way.

00:50:53.656 --> 00:51:17.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>So in this case, I would argue that we need to think about this surplus of money that we have been able to create because we happen to be in systems that allow us to do that where we have economic freedom and we have energy and because we have those, we were able to produce prosperity and extra prosperity that we then want to turn around and support others, then you have to think about that money as money that enables others to become productive.

00:51:17.856 --> 00:51:23.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>So in this case, I would say it is investing in African businesses.

00:51:23.436 --> 00:51:28.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>It is investing in education in Africa.

00:51:28.116 --> 00:51:32.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>When you say education in Africa, we also there need to become very serious.

00:51:32.236 --> 00:51:39.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>We should not be like when it comes to your child, you're the first one to think about, wow, how is my kid going to be facing a world of AI?

00:51:39.356 --> 00:51:47.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>How is my kid going to be facing a world of, like all of these new technologies that exist?

00:51:47.056 --> 00:51:56.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>You're thinking about some top education for your child, because you know what it's going to take for this kid to be able to fight for their space in the world coming up.

00:51:56.776 --> 00:52:03.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>But when it comes to education in Africa, then all of a sudden you have a problem with, how come they each have a computer?

00:52:03.536 --> 00:52:15.196

<v SPEAKER\_4>How come all of a sudden all of the things that you know are necessary for your child, all of a sudden it looks like it's luxuries that you're not even willing to donate, to fund?

00:52:15.196 --> 00:52:21.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>What you want to fund is, with my \$100, I need to be able to educate 100 kids.

00:52:21.476 --> 00:52:26.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>You would never say that for your own children and their friends.

00:52:26.116 --> 00:52:29.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>For your own children and friends, you're looking at, is this going to prepare them the right way?

00:52:29.236 --> 00:52:39.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>So today everybody loves to finance education in Africa, and we have this problem right now, because we are trying to train our kids in a way that we know is going to equip them the right way.

00:52:39.136 --> 00:52:40.936

<v SPEAKER\_4>But of course, it does cost money.

00:52:41.216 --> 00:52:44.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>Of course, you come to our classroom, everything looks neat, everything looks clean.

00:52:44.576 --> 00:52:55.056

<v SPEAKER\_4>We have two teachers for every 15 kids, one guide and assistant guide, this is Montessori style, up to 18 kids per class.

00:52:55.156 --> 00:52:56.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>Then people look at that.

00:52:56.976 --> 00:52:59.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>When it's in the US, they're like, oh, this is great and it's awesome.

00:53:00.096 --> 00:53:03.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>But when it's in Africa, it's like, wait, what?

00:53:03.876 --> 00:53:05.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>Isn't this a waste of money?

00:53:05.396 --> 00:53:08.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>You see, even at that level, that's how people think.

00:53:10.416 --> 00:53:12.236

<v SPEAKER\_4>When you say, what can we do to help?

00:53:12.236 --> 00:53:13.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>Is think about your money.

00:53:13.396 --> 00:53:16.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>Your money has to go and help make somebody productive.

00:53:16.656 --> 00:53:32.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>If it's not doing that, if you're only giving somebody a fish to eat, unless you're telling me that it's just because a hurricane hit or something hit, or this person is going to die if you don't do that now, then I don't want to hear you telling me my money

is just out there to give fish.

00:53:32.376 --> 00:53:33.136  
<v SPEAKER\_4>You're not helping.

00:53:33.136 --> 00:53:34.576  
<v SPEAKER\_4>You're actually causing problems.

00:53:34.576 --> 00:53:37.476  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So, unless we're talking about a humanitarian crisis.

00:53:38.036 --> 00:53:40.596  
<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, that's a different situation.

00:53:40.596 --> 00:53:42.476  
<v SPEAKER\_4>That's a different situation.

00:53:42.476 --> 00:53:45.156  
<v SPEAKER\_4>But most of the situation we're seeing in Africa is not a humanitarian crisis.

00:53:45.156 --> 00:53:46.396  
<v SPEAKER\_2>It's just every day to day.

00:53:46.396 --> 00:53:47.176  
<v SPEAKER\_4>This is chronic.

00:53:47.176 --> 00:53:47.596  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Exactly.

00:53:47.596 --> 00:53:48.316  
<v SPEAKER\_4>This is chronic.

00:53:48.316 --> 00:53:49.296  
<v SPEAKER\_4>And it has to stop.

00:53:49.296 --> 00:54:01.976  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So, the way a well-enlightened, well-meaning Western person who is like, listen, I really want to see African Africans do as well as us.

00:54:01.976 --> 00:54:11.616  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So, for that, there, your mindset again, flip it and say, my money has to support somebody becoming productive.

00:54:11.616 --> 00:54:17.636  
<v SPEAKER\_4>So, then you're starting to think, okay, that money can go into education, but be very picky about the type of education you're financing.

00:54:17.636 --> 00:54:20.396

<v SPEAKER\_4>Not education that just teaches people how to read and write.

00:54:20.396 --> 00:54:24.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>That's not going to be enough for the 21st century, for that person to be productive.

00:54:24.976 --> 00:54:27.616

<v SPEAKER\_4>Remember, go back, productivity.

00:54:27.616 --> 00:54:30.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>Think, invest in African businesses.

00:54:30.736 --> 00:54:47.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>There are many African companies now that have products that are available in the US, whether it's the skincare products that we sell called Skinny Skin, or other people having shoes called Orliberté, or there are many products that are really well done, superbly designed, that are available in the US.

00:54:47.476 --> 00:54:51.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>If you run into those and you need those products, we don't ask for pity.

00:54:51.976 --> 00:55:00.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>I said if you need those products, you can buy those because when you buy the products from those, you support those companies and those jobs behind it.

00:55:01.036 --> 00:55:05.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>As for me, energy is a big part of what I'm going to be involved in.

00:55:05.816 --> 00:55:10.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>Up till now, I've been advocating about the need for energy prosperity in Africa.

00:55:10.716 --> 00:55:19.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, now, I'm going to be focused on the actual establishment of energy companies in Africa.

00:55:21.916 --> 00:55:52.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>Then, I would encourage, at that point, people, we're going to try to open new avenues of investment for people from the West, especially given that, due to the climate alarmism, we do know that, and also the mandates of the IFC, of the World Bank, and because of ESG rules, African nations are having the hardest time getting fossil fuel, infrastructure-based projects being financed by any of us.

00:55:52.796 --> 00:56:00.456

<v SPEAKER\_2>Well, I think we're at a kind of a linchpin turning point in that, some of that, Magatte.

00:56:00.456 --> 00:56:04.696

<v SPEAKER\_2>There's a lot of pushback against that because of the very reasons you say.

00:56:05.316 --> 00:56:09.076

<v SPEAKER\_2>It just kills productivity or the ability to get to the next level.

00:56:09.396 --> 00:56:16.076

<v SPEAKER\_2>I think that, you know, hopefully, you know, things like this podcast can get the message out there, that there are ways to get there.

00:56:16.076 --> 00:56:20.156

<v SPEAKER\_2>All of the expertise is in the West to take these things to the next level.

00:56:21.336 --> 00:56:32.636

<v SPEAKER\_2>Institutional, academic know-how, information technology, and the, you know, let's build some utilities in these countries.

00:56:32.696 --> 00:56:34.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>Exactly, exactly, exactly.

00:56:34.756 --> 00:56:37.956

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's why I think I'm excited for the future.

00:56:37.956 --> 00:56:46.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>And what excites me about that too, and as you said, Kelly, there is a, it seems like things are turning around a little bit.

00:56:46.136 --> 00:56:56.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>What excites me about that too is that it means to me that hopefully a window, a door is being opened in people's minds.

00:56:56.916 --> 00:57:02.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>And that I'm hoping that opening of this door is gonna come straight back and serve the West.

00:57:02.396 --> 00:57:09.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>Because if the West continues on this path that is on for net zero, it literally is gonna be committing economic suicide.

00:57:09.856 --> 00:57:11.976

<v SPEAKER\_4>And with that, all types of suicides.

00:57:11.976 --> 00:57:15.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, and there are many people right now who need help.

00:57:15.916 --> 00:57:28.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>Whether it's in Canada or it's in the UK, especially among the elderly, it breaks my heart to know about how many of them are literally dying every single winter, harsh winters.

00:57:28.856 --> 00:57:38.776

<v SPEAKER\_4>We all know that elderly people are very sensitive to the cold weather, but many of them have to choose between putting food on the table or turning the heater on.

00:57:38.776 --> 00:57:48.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>And many of them have to put food on the table first, but then it means their health is going to deteriorate because they're living in these apartments that basically are cold as hell.

00:57:48.896 --> 00:57:50.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>And so, but no one talks about them.

00:57:50.836 --> 00:57:52.656

<v SPEAKER\_4>No one talks about them.

00:57:52.656 --> 00:58:12.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>When you're in Canada, I know, we know with the First Nations, many of the First Nations, you know, communities, you have crazies who have been out there protesting the building of pipelines and things that could actually make them all of a sudden energy prosperous.

00:58:12.356 --> 00:58:20.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>But it's not happening because you have all of these crazy people out there, you know, being against it and making sure that those infrastructure doesn't happen.

00:58:20.556 --> 00:58:31.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>So I am just thinking that once I think that the Africa, the situation of Africa being so dire and so clear, you can't miss the signal.

00:58:31.076 --> 00:58:32.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>You can't miss the signal.

00:58:32.136 --> 00:58:38.096

<v SPEAKER\_4>Here in the West, it's all confused, people don't know really what's going on and what's causing what, and therefore, whatever, we can get away with things.

00:58:38.096 --> 00:58:49.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>But with us, it is so in your face, and I have yet to see somebody saying, oh no, we don't think that Africans should have access to fossil, but Africans should be able to develop even if it means the use of fossil fuels.

00:58:49.576 --> 00:58:53.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>But the minute somebody is willing to go there, it's a door of no return.

00:58:53.916 --> 00:58:58.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>They're going to keep on connecting the dots, and eventually will connect it for back in the West.

00:58:58.896 --> 00:59:03.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>So I'm hoping that we have started to take the turn.

00:59:03.456 --> 00:59:05.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>Some folks are not so sure.

00:59:05.256 --> 00:59:27.216

<v SPEAKER\_4>They say we started to take a turn just because the climate alarmism nonsense, they took a beating recently, but people think that they're out there regrouping and coming back for more, which personally I believe, because it's not like I'm seeing some of these actors waking up to reality.

00:59:27.216 --> 00:59:30.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'm worried about what they might be doing right now.

00:59:30.476 --> 00:59:32.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>But in the meantime, it's OK.

00:59:32.536 --> 00:59:36.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>We keep opening as many hearts and minds as possible.

00:59:36.176 --> 00:59:39.116

<v SPEAKER\_4>I believe that most people are good people.

00:59:39.116 --> 00:59:43.256

<v SPEAKER\_4>And even if some of us are misguided, it's OK.

00:59:43.256 --> 00:59:49.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's the job of some others of us to tell them the other side of the story, then let people make up their mind.

00:59:49.576 --> 00:59:50.876

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'm not here to convince anybody.

00:59:50.876 --> 00:59:59.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>I'm just here to tell you my side of the story, so that you can add it to whatever it is that you have as your side of the story, and then compare things.

00:59:59.696 --> 01:00:05.296

<v SPEAKER\_4>And I trust that most of the time, people are able to see where the reality lies and more.

01:00:05.296 --> 01:00:09.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>And almost oftentimes, people also realize there is no black and white situation.

01:00:09.756 --> 01:00:11.176

<v SPEAKER\_4>There is only trade-offs.

01:00:11.176 --> 01:00:15.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>And then we have to be clear about which trade-offs we're willing to take.

01:00:15.156 --> 01:00:29.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>And if the trade-off you're willing to take is to let African people die today so you can tomorrow, maybe, maybe not save the planet, then I guess it's very clear what you're telling me.

01:00:29.336 --> 01:00:31.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>And if that's what you're telling me, we can't be friends.

01:00:31.856 --> 01:00:37.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>And if that's what you're telling me, you really lack the most moral decency, if that's what you're telling me.

01:00:37.916 --> 01:00:50.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>Because the first order, the first order of being a decent human being is to preserve the life of another human being as much as possible.

01:00:50.476 --> 01:01:03.756

<v SPEAKER\_4>But if you're telling me that you're okay for some people to surely die, surely die today for a hypothetical wellness of a planet tomorrow, you've told me everything I need to know.

01:01:03.756 --> 01:01:04.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>You've told me everything I need to know.

01:01:04.896 --> 01:01:06.496

<v SPEAKER\_4>And yeah, that's it.

01:01:06.796 --> 01:01:12.416

<v SPEAKER\_4>But the good news is I have yet to have met people who to my face at least say that that is what they believe.

01:01:12.416 --> 01:01:14.856

<v SPEAKER\_4>No one, no one is willing to go on record saying something like that.

01:01:15.336 --> 01:01:20.356

<v SPEAKER\_4>And but if you can't go on record saying something like that, you can't also say, then we cannot do anything.

01:01:20.356 --> 01:01:24.316

<v SPEAKER\_4>Then you have to say, OK, then we need to do something about this.

01:01:24.316 --> 01:01:30.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>So that's the attitude that I take on this issue.

01:01:30.036 --> 01:01:31.736

<v SPEAKER\_4>To me, it's...

01:01:31.736 --> 01:01:32.676

<v SPEAKER\_4>I love it.

01:01:32.676 --> 01:01:33.056

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah.

01:01:33.056 --> 01:01:33.356

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah.

01:01:33.416 --> 01:01:36.336

<v SPEAKER\_1>And yeah, I'd wonder where it comes to the...

01:01:36.336 --> 01:02:02.216

<v SPEAKER\_1>You know, it's kind of having that grim ledger of people having these ideas about future deaths caused by climate change versus, you know, the present real harms that we know are happening, from lack of access to clean cooking fuels, from lack of access to electricity, like you said, child mortality is looped in with the lack of access to energy for that hospitals have, you know, these are all real things that are happening right now.

01:02:02.216 --> 01:02:04.956

<v SPEAKER\_1>So we should be frank about that.

01:02:04.956 --> 01:02:07.516

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, thank you so much for coming on the podcast, Magatte.

01:02:07.516 --> 01:02:18.656

<v SPEAKER\_2>This is very enlightening and it pumps us up a bit about continuing to the way we message things about the three A's, accessible, abundant, affordable.

01:02:18.656 --> 01:02:20.116  
<v SPEAKER\_2>We have what we have it.

01:02:20.116 --> 01:02:20.696  
<v SPEAKER\_2>It's right there.

01:02:21.776 --> 01:02:23.456  
<v SPEAKER\_2>Get it on the people that need it.

01:02:23.456 --> 01:02:24.276  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Exactly.

01:02:24.276 --> 01:02:25.116  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Exactly.

01:02:25.116 --> 01:02:25.296  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah.

01:02:25.296 --> 01:02:26.496  
<v SPEAKER\_4>No, it's been great.

01:02:26.596 --> 01:02:29.176  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Thank you so much for having me, to both of you.

01:02:29.176 --> 01:02:30.136  
<v SPEAKER\_1>Absolutely.

01:02:30.136 --> 01:02:32.696  
<v SPEAKER\_1>We always have one last question for all of our guests.

01:02:32.696 --> 01:02:35.576  
<v SPEAKER\_1>This is something that everybody's always interested in hearing.

01:02:35.576 --> 01:02:36.956  
<v SPEAKER\_1>What are you reading these days?

01:02:36.956 --> 01:02:42.096  
<v SPEAKER\_1>Ideally for pleasure, but we get to hear a more business-oriented book as well.

01:02:44.156 --> 01:02:52.116  
<v SPEAKER\_4>Well, actually, I'm reading two of them, but the one I'm reading, why don't I have a title here?

01:02:52.916 --> 01:03:00.716

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's about, although I'm a person of faith, I'm reading a book these days about paganism.

01:03:02.116 --> 01:03:04.896

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, yes, yes, yes, paganism.

01:03:04.976 --> 01:03:07.076

<v SPEAKER\_4>You'll think that maybe I'm in a weird state right now.

01:03:07.076 --> 01:03:10.296

<v SPEAKER\_4>Paganism, and then another one is the demonologist.

01:03:10.296 --> 01:03:11.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's called the demonologist.

01:03:11.576 --> 01:03:14.916

<v SPEAKER\_4>Maybe you're seeing things there.

01:03:15.016 --> 01:03:16.516

<v SPEAKER\_4>It tells you.

01:03:16.516 --> 01:03:34.276

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, so when I'm not reading these economics books and being very monomaniacal about those, and I'm also writing a book, my next book, I am about to get it started, and it's going to be on this concept of ethical, special economic zones slash startup cities.

01:03:34.276 --> 01:03:35.476

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, yes.

01:03:35.916 --> 01:03:38.136

<v SPEAKER\_4>So yeah, so those are the two.

01:03:38.136 --> 01:03:39.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>Too bad I don't have a title here.

01:03:39.456 --> 01:03:42.696

<v SPEAKER\_4>I could tell you if you need it.

01:03:42.696 --> 01:03:43.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, I'll get it to you.

01:03:43.956 --> 01:03:44.996

<v SPEAKER\_2>I'll put it in the show note.

01:03:44.996 --> 01:03:45.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, yeah.

01:03:45.576 --> 01:03:49.576

<v SPEAKER\_4>One of them is definitely the demonologist, and the other

one, I will get that one to you.

01:03:49.576 --> 01:03:54.996

<v SPEAKER\_4>It's the one, you know, women and some of their, you know, special.

01:03:54.996 --> 01:03:59.796

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yeah, so, and related to Christ, it's an interesting one.

01:03:59.796 --> 01:04:01.436

<v SPEAKER\_4>So I'm just getting it started.

01:04:01.436 --> 01:04:02.156

<v SPEAKER\_2>Yeah, yeah, yeah.

01:04:02.156 --> 01:04:03.076

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah, fantastic.

01:04:03.076 --> 01:04:06.236

<v SPEAKER\_1>Paganism and the demonologist, you know?

01:04:06.236 --> 01:04:08.336

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

01:04:08.376 --> 01:04:10.536

<v SPEAKER\_4>You know, we all have different sides to ourselves.

01:04:10.536 --> 01:04:15.836

<v SPEAKER\_2>No, no, one of the things I learned a long time ago was read widely.

01:04:15.836 --> 01:04:17.216

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, yes.

01:04:17.216 --> 01:04:18.036

<v SPEAKER\_4>No, it's interesting.

01:04:18.036 --> 01:04:19.176

<v SPEAKER\_1>Expand your view.

01:04:19.176 --> 01:04:27.836

<v SPEAKER\_4>Yes, and even to understand how some people view the world, you know, I think it's very important to understand where people come from.

01:04:27.836 --> 01:04:32.156

<v SPEAKER\_4>And because those, a lot of these things are out there in terms of beliefs and all that.

01:04:32.156 --> 01:04:39.816

<v SPEAKER\_4>So, but it's up to me to read it and say, oh, I think this is a crackpot or whatever, but I need to read it and I need to make up my own mind about that.

01:04:39.816 --> 01:04:43.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>I shouldn't just be like, oh, that's crazy, you know, like, I think it's important.

01:04:43.376 --> 01:04:43.836

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah.

01:04:43.836 --> 01:04:44.676

<v SPEAKER\_1>Yeah.

01:04:44.676 --> 01:04:46.516

<v SPEAKER\_3>Great.

01:04:46.516 --> 01:04:47.836

<v SPEAKER\_1>Thanks for coming on again.

01:04:47.836 --> 01:04:54.096

<v SPEAKER\_1>This was this great conversation and really interested in keeping track of you in the future and where you go.

01:04:54.096 --> 01:04:55.456

<v SPEAKER\_4>I appreciate you.

01:04:55.476 --> 01:04:56.376

<v SPEAKER\_4>Thank you so much.

01:04:56.376 --> 01:04:58.556

<v SPEAKER\_4>Thank you and thank you for the work you do.

01:04:59.716 --> 01:05:05.876

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01:05:05.876 --> 01:05:09.736

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01:05:10.456 --> 01:05:12.576

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01:05:12.576 --> 01:05:17.816

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01:05:17.816 --> 01:05:25.476

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01:05:25.476 --> 01:05:29.076

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01:05:29.076 --> 01:05:34.156

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01:05:34.156 --> 01:05:35.056

<v SPEAKER\_2>I'm Kelly Ogle.

01:05:35.056 --> 01:05:37.076

<v SPEAKER\_2>Thanks for joining us on Energy Security Cubed.