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## **Southern Africa Carbon Markets Investment Forum Agenda and Key Discussion Topics (CIELA Hotel and Conference Centre) 24-26 June 2025**

The Southern Africa Carbon Markets International Investors Forum (SACMIIF) will feature a comprehensive agenda designed to equip attendees with knowledge, foster dialogue, and generate actionable insights on carbon markets in the Southern African region. The agenda spans three days and includes a variety of sessions, from keynote addresses to workshops, panel discussions, and networking events.

### **Day 1: Opening and Keynote Sessions**

- **Morning Session: Registration and Welcome**
  - Attendee registration and welcome remarks by the organizing committee.
- **Keynote Address: The Future of Carbon Markets in Southern Africa**
  - Insights from a leading figure in climate finance on the evolving landscape of carbon markets.
- **Panel Discussion 1: Current Opportunities in Southern Africa's Carbon Markets**
  - Discussion on emerging investment opportunities, including insights on different sectors such as renewable energy, waste management, and ecosystem services.
- **Networking Lunch**
  - An opportunity for attendees to interact and establish connections.
- **Afternoon Session: Regulatory Frameworks and Compliance Trends**
  - Panel discussion involving regulators and standards organizations on the current regulatory environment and compliance requirements for carbon projects.
- **Networking and Evening Reception**
  - An informal gathering for attendees to network and discuss ideas.

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### **Day 2: Thematic Workshops and Presentations**

- **Morning Workshops:**
  - **Workshop 1: Debt-for-Nature - Innovative Financing Mechanisms for Carbon Projects**
    - Exploring how debt-for-nature swaps can support carbon projects and biodiversity conservation.
  - **Workshop 2: The Role of Technology in Carbon Management**
    - Discussing innovative technologies that enhance carbon project outcomes and monitoring.
- **Lunch and Networking**
  - Facilitated discussions over lunch focused on bridging gaps between project developers and investors.

- **Afternoon Presentations: Project Spotlights**
  - **Project Showcase 1:** Renewable Energy Ventures in Southern Africa
  - **Project Showcase 2:** Community-led Ecosystem Restoration Initiatives
  - Each showcase will highlight successful projects, funding needs, and potential investor opportunities.
- **Panel Discussion 2: Navigating Financing for Carbon Projects**
  - Involving financiers and project developers discussing effective financing strategies and lessons learned.

### Day 3: Networking and Matchmaking

- **Morning Session: Creating Synergies Between Investors and Project Developers**
  - Speed networking sessions aimed at matching investors with project developers based on interests and objectives.
- **Panel Discussion 3: Regional Policies and Frameworks Enhancing Carbon Market Activity**
  - Focused discussion on harmonizing regional policies and frameworks for enhanced carbon trading.
- **Lunch and Networking**
  - Opportunities to reflect on insights and discussions over the past two days.
- **Afternoon Session: Future Directions for Carbon Markets in Southern Africa**
  - Closing keynote addressing the roadmap for the future of carbon markets in the region, including commitments and collaborative actions.
- **Closing Remarks and Action Plan Discussion**
  - Summarizing key outcomes and establishing an action plan for stakeholders moving forward.

### Key Discussion Topics:

1. **Investment Opportunities:** Identifying sectors and project types with the highest potential for attracting investment in carbon markets.
2. **Regulatory Challenges:** Exploring the impacts of existing regulations and the need for harmonization of standards across SADC nations.
3. **Innovative Financing Models:** Debating the merits of various financing strategies, including debt-for-nature arrangements and impact investing.
4. **Technology and Innovation:** Analyzing the role of technological advancements in maximizing carbon project efficiencies and monitoring.
5. **Collaboration Strategies:** Facilitating discussions on how to forge partnerships between investors, developers, and governmental bodies.
6. **Capacity Building:** Addressing the need for education and capacity building in relation to carbon market mechanisms and project implementation.