DIRCO: Building Energy receives visit from South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Building Energy, multinational company operating as Global Integrated IPP in the Renewable Energy Industry, received the visit of Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, at its headquarters in Milan. The meeting confirms the attention that the South African Government pays to the companies operating in their Country, such as Building Energy.

Through its office in Cape Town, the Italian Group manages and coordinates the development and realization of more than 30 projects in South Africa and central Africa, among which the Kathu solar farm and the Mkuze biomass plant.

In Kathu, in the Northern Cape, South Africa, Building Energy built an 81 MW photovoltaic plant, which has been operating since August 2014 and is one of the biggest solar park in the continent. In 2013 the company won the commission for the construction of a biomass plant with a capacity of 14 MW in Mkuze, the first and largest biomass plant in Africa. In April 2015, moreover, Building Energy was awarded preferred bidder status in the round four of South Africa’s REIPPPP programme for the development of a 140 MW wind project in Roggeveld, in an area between the Northern and Western Cape Provinces and a 4.7 MW small-hydro project in Kruisvallei, in the Free State Province.
Building Energy has recently been center stage in a number of exchange initiatives with the South African Government. In July 2014, the company supported the creation of a mural dedicated to Mandela in Milan, which was given by the municipality of Milan to the South African Government to celebrate twenty years of freedom and democracy in the Country. In May 2015, Building Energy sponsored the African Utility Week and Clean Power Africa in Cape Town, global conference and trade exhibition in the power and water utility industry. In October 2014 and 2015, moreover, the Company took part in the South Africa-Italy Summit organized in Cape Town by The European House - Ambrosetti.

"Despite the difficulties and troubles it experienced in the past, South Africa is one of the fastest-growing Countries in Africa. - said Minister Nkoana-Mashabane – Nowadays South Africa is also focusing its attention on the environment, maintaining all the goals that were set for the improvement of the energy mix and the increase in the use of clean energy, and will be one of the main players in the upcoming COP21. We are aware of the role that foreign companies, like Building Energy, play in South Africa and we’re working to keep all our commitments in order to guarantee that their investments will profit."

"We are honored to have received the visit of Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation - said Fabrizio Zago, Building Energy CEO – tangible sign of the good relationship we have with this Country. South Africa represents a market with a huge potential for companies operating in the renewable energy sector, such as Building Energy, thanks to its rich resources and to the governmental programs for the development of this field, such as the fourth bid of the renewable energy procurement program, in which the company took part and was awarded preferred bidder status for the development of a wind and a small-hydro project."