

Eritrea micro grid project

British solar power developer Solarcentury has been selected to design and build two solar-powered mini-grids in two remote communities of East African country Eritrea. The 2.25 MW project is...

UK company Solarcentury has commissioned two solar-storage-diesel mini-grids in rural communities in Eritrea that are far away from the grid and have relied purely on diesel power until now. The hybrid power systems at ...

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This report explains the main barriers to scaling up green mini-grids in Sub Saharan Africa and how developers are overcoming these barriers. It also makes recommendations on how the African Development Bank can support the mini-grid sector.

For example, two small towns in the African nation of Eritrea had micro-grids installed this year, bringing clean power to 40,000 people. It's a hybrid system that uses Solarcentury PV panels, Tesla batteries, and Caterpillar diesel generators for back-up. It was funded by the Eritrean government, the UN and the EU.

The present project included the design and tendering of two mini-grid PV systems in Areza and Maidma (total 2.25MWp PV), designed as hybrid plants with storage units (3.4 MWh Li-Ion Battery), and diesel gen-sets (5 gensets; total 1.3 MVA). The renewable energy fraction of the system is higher than 70%.

This report discusses the significant challenges and opportunities related to energy access in Eritrea, highlighting the role of reliable and affordable renewable energy supply in socio-economic transformation.

The rural minigrids project is Solarcentury's first in Eritrea, but it has been active in Africa for six years and has completed projects in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, including delivering a hybrid minigrid for the Theobroma Group's Tulip cocoa processing plant in Nigeria.

Theo Guerre-Canon is the local project manager for Solarcentury's Eritrea project. He tells us about the high hopes he has for social and economic change in the area. Earlier this month we launched two solar-hybrid mini-grids. Theo explains: "70% of the electricity from the mini-grids will be generated by solar, the remainder by diesel.

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3 ???· The project's development objective is to enhance access to renewable energy in the Gash Barka region, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Through the deployment of mini-grids, the project aims to drive positive socio-economic impacts in selected towns, including job creation, empowerment of women, growth in income-generating activities, and a significant ...

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