



la solar power Sierra Leone

Does Sierra Leone have a solar energy resource?

Ministry of Finance The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) recognises that the country is endowed with a significant solar energy resource. This potential however remains largely untapped.

Why did Frontier Energy buy a 50 MW solar project in Sierra Leone?

Commenting on the transaction, Lars Tejlgaard Jensen, Investment Director and Partner, Frontier Energy stated: " The 50 MW solar project in Sierra Leone stands as a testament to the project development and delivery capabilities of Frontier and Planet One.

Who regulates the energy sector in Sierra Leone?

The primary law regulating energy sector in Sierra Leone is the National Electricity Act 2011("Electricity Act"). This Act incorporates EGTC and establishes EDSA, both of which started operations in 2015. It also sets the legal provisions under which those entities are governed, managed, functioning and are funded.

Why is co-investment important in Sierra Leone?

The co-investment enables the development of a critical project that stimulates investment in renewable energy- responding to the urgent need for access to clean, affordable and stable power. The renewable energy potential in Sierra Leone is abundant, primarily in hydropower, wind and solar resources.

How many solar mini-grid sites are there in Sierra Leone?

In 2020 Power Leone signed an MOU with the Government of Sierra Leone to construct and operate 40 solar mini-grid sites with 1.4 MW capacity across rural Sierra Leone. In 2024, Sierra Leone is constructing and commissioning 17 of these mini-grid sites (800 kW).

What will GOSL do for Sierra Leone?

GOSL will remove barriers hampering the effective development, implementation and dissemination of renewable energy technologies. Also, the draft Energy Policy estimates that Solar PV generation capacity in Sierra Leone is expected to start at 31 MW in 2020 and increase to 156 MW by 2023.

Several companies have joined forces to co-invest over US\$52 million in Planet Solar, a groundbreaking 50MW solar power project in Sierra Leone. These companies include the British International Investment (BII), FMO Dutch entrepreneurial development bank, Proparco, and Frontier Energy.

Planet Solar is the first utility scale solar power project and the first Independent Power Producer (IPP) in Sierra Leone. The project aims to achieve the realization of 50 MW of renewable energy in a country with a huge gap between electricity demand and supply.

This report is prepared at the request of the Government of Sierra Leone as part of the World-Bank-funded



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project on Unlocking the Potential for Grid-Connected Solar Power through ...

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The 50MW solar capacity is expected to increase the operational domestic electricity supply by approximately 30%, benefitting commercial and industrial entities, public institutions, and households connected to the main grid.

Planet Solar will be the first large-scale grid-connected solar Independent Power Producer (IPP) project, driving a diversified approach to addressing energy access in the West African country. The 50MW solar capacity is expected to help avoid 53,000 tonnes of annual CO₂ ...

The renewable energy potential in Sierra Leone is abundant, primarily in hydropower, wind and solar resources. However, it remains underutilised while up to 80 per cent of the country's electricity is generated from fossil fuels.

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