

SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

Bissau Solar Photovoltaic Power Generation System



Overview

Near the capital Bissau, a 30 MWp solar power plant will be built with the aim of “reducing the average cost of electricity in the country and diversifying the energy mix, while battery storage will make it possible, in the first phase, to smooth the injection curve and, in the second phase, to provide services to the electricity system”, according to the Bissau-Guinean Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Regional Integration. Will China build Guinea-Bissau's first solar power plant?

A Chinese state-owned company has been contracted to build Guinea-Bissau's first large scale photovoltaic project, the Gardete solar power plant. The African Biofuel and Renewable Energy Company (ABREC), which promotes renewables and energy efficiency in several countries, has awarded the contract to China's hydropower entity, Sinohydro.

Who financed the Guinea-Bissau solar project?

The entire solar and hybrid project is being financed by the Government of Guinea-Bissau with a \$42.9 million loan from the West African Development Bank (BOAD). This financing was granted as early as 2017. The solar project, for which Sinohydro signed the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract, involves three facilities.

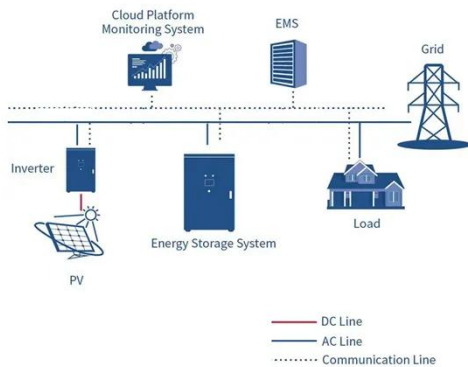
Does Guinea-Bissau have solar power?

Guinea-Bissau relies on fossil fuels and solar has seen limited development, with the exception of rural electrification initiatives. The nation has one of the lowest electrification rates in Africa, as well as electricity prices among the highest on the continent.

How much energy does Guinea-Bissau use?

As a result, around 95% of the energy consumed in Guinea-Bissauan households comes from biomass. The AfDB recently stated Guinea-Bissau has only 11MW of installed power generation capacity, almost all of being thermal generation.

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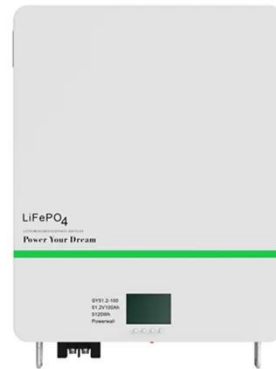
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