

SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

The second batch of energy storage power stations in North Africa



Overview

Are energy storage boom times extending to Africa?

Boom times for energy storage have extended to the continent of Africa, with a 10-fold increase in installed storage supporting grids and renewable energy penetration.

How can interconnections reduce the cost of electricity generation in North Africa?

All of these can help the region decrease the cost of electricity generation by increasing the share of renewables in the electricity mix. Interconnections would also bring flexibility that will complement the more diverse power systems in North Africa with a higher share of renewable energy.

How can North African countries achieve near-universal access to electricity and clean cooking?

Energy access: North African countries have already achieved near-universal access to electricity and clean cooking (SDG 7.1) thanks to effective public policies promoting major grid extensions, dedicated rural electrification programmes, and the expansion of gas networks and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) distribution.

How many GWh of storage projects are being built in Africa?

AFSIA said similar projects have also been launched in Senegal, Malawi, Botswana, Tanzania, Namibia and Mauritius, for a total of 500 MW plus. In total, AFSIA says around 18GWh of storage projects are under development across Africa. Tristan is an Electrical Engineer with experience in consulting and public sector works in plant procurement.

Why is renewable electricity so important in North Africa?

Over the last decade, renewable electricity in North Africa has grown more than 40%, driven by the rapid expansion of wind, solar photovoltaic and solar

thermal. Renewables play a minor role in the transport sector across the region, with still few electric vehicles that can use renewable power and low levels of biofuels.

What is the Drakensberg pumped storage scheme?

Designed to generate electricity for 10 hours per day through its four 250 MW turbine generators, the Drakensberg Pumped Storage Scheme is an energy storage facility, situated in the northern parts of the Drakensberg Mountain range of South Africa, which provides up to 27.6 GWh of electricity storage.

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