

Australia solar power niamey

The solar farm sits adjacent to the existing 100 megawatts Gorou Banda Thermal Power Station, in Gorou Banda, in Commune V of the city of Niamey, the capital and largest city in the country. This is located on the southwest bank of River Niger, across the river from the central business district of the city, about 15 kilometres (9 mi) southeast of the Stade G?n?ral Seyni Kountch?.

As of September 2021, Niger's national generation capacity was reported as 284 megawatts, all of it derived from expensive "fossil fuels". The national electrification rate was 18.8 percent, in 2019, with the government of Niger aiming to raise that rate to 80 percent by 2035, with 30 percent of generating capacity derived from renewable sources.

The Gorou Banda Solar Plant represents the first grid-ready renewable energy source in the country. The electricity generated at this power station will be sold to Soci?t? Nig?rienne d'Electricit? (Nigelec), the electricity company of Niger. The World Bank's "Scaling Solar" program works in a complimentary manner to meet the goals of the stakeholders.

In September 2021, the Government of Niger called for pre-qualification of eligible IPPs to tender for the construction of this power station. "Interested IPPs have until 22 November 2021 to apply". IFC is acting as advisor to the government of Niger, in this process.

In February 2022, six IPPs were selected in the first round to continue bidding for the rights to develop this power station. Those six winners are identified in the table below.

The construction costs were estimated at US\$70 million in 2020. Two institutions have pledged financial support. The French Development Agency (AFD) has agreed to lend EUR23.5 million and the European Union has promised to lend EUR5 million towards this development.

In July 2023, it was reported that the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor on the first phase f the project was a consortium comprising French companies Sogemcom and Akuo Energy. The solar farm is expected to reach commercial commissioning in August 2023.

One defining characteristic of Abdoul-Kader is his unwavering desire to serve. He wholeheartedly devotes himself to his family, friends, and community. "I spent some time outside my village, in the city of Agadez, where I went to study. After graduating I remained there to work. But one thought consumed my mind - to return and contribute to the well-being of my community," he expresses with deep conviction.

Ingall, the rural commune from which he originates, is in the Agadez region, over 850 kilometers away from the capital Niamey, and serves as a crossroads for several communities, notably Tuareg, Peuls, and also the

Hausa community. Every year, during the rainy season, vast herds migrate towards the salted pastures and springs to the north of Ingall, crossing the clays of Ighazer.

Livestock farming is the main economic activity and primary source of income for the inhabitants of Ingall. However, for the past few years, rainfall has become increasingly erratic, and the drought period has extended, significantly affecting the livestock. This year was no exception and several Agadez region communes, including Ingall, were severely affected by extreme heat, resulting in the death of numerous animals. The situation has significantly impacted the well-being of the population, including the youth, who represent the majority and also practice livestock farming.

The lack of opportunities has also led to a mass exodus of young people to other major towns in the country, or even neighboring countries. "More and more young people are migrating to the cities of Agadez and Tahoua in search of opportunities. To counter this trend, I thought of training some of them in renewable energies so as to provide them with alternative sources of income," said Abdoul-Kader.

Abdoul-Kader specializes in electrical installation for buildings. He also provides electrical equipment services. More recently, he has branched out into renewable energies, with a particular focus on training and coaching young people.

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