

Cote d ivoire battery storage

Cote d'Ivoire's energy mix is mostly derived from thermal power. There are four major thermal power plants in the country: Azito, Ciprel, Aggrekko and Vridi. The main source is natural gas. However, gas production in Cote d'Ivoire does not meet domestic power demand for the thermal power plants. The rest of the gas is imported mainly from Nigeria.

The Government of Cote d'Ivoire is determined to change this situation by turning the country into a regional LNG import hub in West Africa, meeting both regional and domestic demand. To that end, the government is involved in the construction of a terminal with a floating storage and re-gasification unit (FSRU) in Vridi, south of Abidjan, with a capacity of 3 million tons per year, and a pipeline connecting the FSRU to existing and planned power plants in Abidjan. This will also feed into the regional markets connected to the Ivorian network.

Many other projects are underway to diversify the energy mix. These include: Atinkou (Ciprel V) 390 MW gas power project, Azito thermal power plant (250 MW expansion), Songon (372 MW) and the hydroelectric dams, Singrobo (44 MW), Louga (283 MW), Boutoubrou (156 MW), Tiboto (220 MW) and Tayaboui (100 MW). But for the moment, heavy fuel oil and distillate diesel oil are the main back-up fuels.

Untapped hydropower potential is estimated at 7,000 MW, of which 1,847 MW is potentially economically exploitable. As part of the country's 2020 plan, seven new hydro projects with a total capacity of 1,150 MW have been announced.

The government is also interested in the development of mini-grids, for which photovoltaics is very well suited. For example, street lighting with solar panels has already been implemented. However, there are still no solar power plants in the country.

Cote d'Ivoire plans to produce 20% of sustainable energy in its energy mix by 2030. It also wants to reduce the share of fossil fuels to 66% and increase the share of renewable energy (mainly hydro) in electricity production to 34%.

On June 13, 2022, the Ivorian government adopted a local content law for oil and gas sectors. This law requires holders of petroleum license to give priority to jobs to qualified personnel of Ivorian nationality, to provide training programs that enable these personnel to acquire the level of qualification required to access all levels of responsibility in the sector.

The same obligation is expected of the oil sector, oil and gas companies operating in Cote d'Ivoire, in all sectors of the value chain, from exploration to exploitation.

Investors must also give preference to Ivorian companies for subcontracting, service provision and goods supply activities. In addition, the bill directs them to exploit the financial and insurance services available in the country.

C?te d'Ivoire has launched a set of legislative and regulatory texts aiming at governing the energy sector in recent years. However, these texts need to be updated to better align with the development of the sector.

Moreover, since 1990, the state has granted the exclusive right to transport and distribute electricity to the Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Electricit? (CIE), the national power utility. This monopoly does not encourage the emergence of new players in the electricity sector. Fair competition could further help to diversify the energy mix.

From a regulatory perspective, one of the major changes in the energy sector is the recent enactment of the local content law for the oil and gas sectors. This law provides a further strengthening of local content provisions, which include reforms on the preferential selection of local companies for supply and services contracts and employment of nationals, as well as the use of local financial and insurance services. Moreover, the new law implements a classification of petroleum-related activities into three distinct categories, namely:

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Web: <https://www.hollanddutchtours.nl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

