

## Energy storage for grid stability cameroon

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The two projects total 36MW of solar PV generation capacity paired with 20MW/19MWh of battery energy storage system (BESS) technology at the cities of Maroua and Guider, in the Grand North region of Cameroon.

Scatec has delivered projects in a variety of emerging markets around the world representing diverse technologies including solar, wind, hydroelectric, power-to-X and energy storage (both standalone and solar-plus-storage hybridised).

Some notable recent examples in Africa include wins with solar-plus-storage bids in tenders for dispatchable capacity in South Africa, where it has close to 500MW of solar PV in operation, and an agreement with EDF to develop a 7GWh pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) plant in Malawi.

What the company said is particularly special about the Cameroon power plants, is that they have been delivered and are leased to the country's national electric utility, ENEO, on an energy-as-a-service (EaaS) model. They are connected to Cameroon's Northern Interconnected Network grid, which suffers frequent outages and other problems, which the Norwegian company claimed its hybrid plants will help mitigate these.

The EaaS model has been dubbed Release by Scatec and in addition to the financial arrangement also seeks to lower the customer"s required upfront capital expenditure by utilising a pre-assembled modular solution that arrives on site as plug and play equipment.

Energy-Storage.news reported on the projects back in December 2021 as the deal was announced, noting that Release by Scatec leases are offered on terms ranging from one-year contracts to much longer term agreements.

The company claimed at that time that pre-assembly means even a small onsite team can install between 1MW to 2MW per week of construction and once deployed are remotely monitored from Scatec's Control and Monitoring Centre in Cape Town, South Africa.

In fact, the announcement last week of full commissioning represents the final phase of deployment and portions of the power plants have been steadily coming online and generating power throughout 2022, Release by Scatec claimed.

The projects were supported with funding of between 10% and 20% of the development cost by the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC). In terms of technology, bifacial PV modules and single-axis



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trackers have been used for the solar portion.

The sun is an appropriate source of electricity in rural areas and sunshine in the northern part of Cameroon is can produce between 5.74 and 6 kWh/m2/day. The work of Kidmo et al. (2015), shows that northern Cameroon has significant wind energy potential, which could provide an alternative to dependence on compromising energy.

The search for a solution to Cameroon's energy demand has so far been limited by the fact that the country's various back-up systems are unable to meet the growing demand for energy from its ever-changing population.

Harmonics in PV/wind/hydro power systems originate in two ways (Lujano-Rojas et al., 2012): those injected into the system by non-linear loads such as incandescent lamps, televisions, microwave ovens and dishwashers. In addition, the harmonics generated by the system in the power grid feeding loads ahead of the common coupling point.

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