

Guinea-bissau solar panels

International finance institution the World Bank will support the development of Guinea-Bissau's first solar power plants with a \$35 million grant through its Solar Energy Scale-up and Access project.

Approved by the bank's Board of Executive Directors, the project entails the development of 30 MW of solar parks with battery energy storage systems as well as the enhancement of transmission grid infrastructure in the country. The project will be implemented until June 2030.

"At the moment, only 33% of Guinea-Bissau's population has access to electricity," stated World Bank Resident Representative in Guinea-Bissau Anne-Luci Lefebvre, adding, "The country has large and untapped solar resources, which would be the least cost and fastest approach to solve the power supply gap."

The project will also support capacity building and technical assistance to the country's Ministry of Electricity and Water and national utility company the National Electricity and Water Company of Guinea-Bissau.

Financing for the project will be provided by the World Bank's subsidiary -- the International Development Association. Multilateral climate fund Green Climate fund will provide \$10.5 million while technical assistance program the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program has pledged \$2.65 million in grant financing.

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Amid first LNG exports and revitalized oil production, the Republic of Congo will host the inaugural forum on March 25-26, 2025, hosted by the Ministry of Hydrocarbons.

The Solar Energy Development and Electricity Access Project will see the construction of several solar power plants and battery storage units with private sector involvement. A 30 MW solar power plant will be developed near the capital, Bissau, to reduce electricity costs and diversify the energy mix.

Battery storage will initially help stabilize the power supply and later offer additional services to the electricity system, according to the Ministry of the Economy, Planning, and Regional Integration of Guinea-Bissau.

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

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

