



Lusaka energy conservation

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Despite minimal historical contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions, Zambia faces significant threats from climate change. In response, the country has established ambitious goals and commitments for resilient, low-carbon and sustainable development. One of the initiatives that showcases Zambia's bold vision and climate leadership is the Lusaka Renewable Energy Project --Chongwe Smart City, an initiative that aims to provide clean and affordable solar-generated electricity to a rural community near the capital city of Lusaka.

The proposed project is strongly aligned with Zambia's NDC, the country's pledge to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change under the Paris Agreement. Zambia's Revised Updated NDC, submitted in 2021, targets emission reductions of 25% (equivalent to 20,000 Gg CO₂) by 2030 compared to a business-as-usual scenario, or 47% (equivalent to 38,000 Gg CO₂) with substantial international support. The project contributes to this target by reducing emissions from the forest and electricity sectors, considered to be priorities in the NDC.

The Lusaka Renewable Energy Project is being actively promoted by the Zambia Electricity Supply Company (ZESCO) and the Industrial Development Cooperation, both of whom envision equity investment by private-sector partners. As the coordinating institution, the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment is also actively seeking financing opportunities for the project through various funding windows.

The project demonstrates Zambia's dedication and leadership in addressing climate change and advancing sustainable development, standing as a model for other African countries and cities aspiring to achieve similar goals. Official recognition of the project highlights the NDC Partnership's role in fostering efficient collaboration and coordination among diverse stakeholders, aiding countries in strengthening their climate action efforts and fulfilling their NDCs.

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Lusaka Province falls under the Office of the President and has statutory functions as stated under the Government Gazette Notice No. 5312 and no. 58 of 2004. The Province is headed by the Provincial Minister who is the political representative of the Government.

Zambia's energy resources include electricity (hydropower), petroleum, coal, biomass and renewable energy. It is only petroleum which is wholly imported in the country.



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Zambia's electricity market is structured as a single-buyer market model with ZESCO acting as the unique off-taker and bulk retailer of electricity on the national interconnected system. Independent Power Producers (IPPs) contribute to electricity generation and operate their own assets but sell the electricity to ZESCO through Power Purchase Agreements (PPA).

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

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

