



New york electric grid burkina faso

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Power Africa, a U.S. Government-led partnership, is providing support to the Beyond the Grid Fund for Africa (BGFA) initiative in Burkina Faso, Liberia, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia. Power Africa will provide an in-kind contribution worth approx. EUR 4 million (USD 4.5 million) over three years in order to help operationalise the initiative and develop a pipeline of commercially viable projects within the framework of BGFA.

The core function of BGFA is to provide financial incentives to selected private energy companies to enable them to offer high quality, affordable and climate-friendly energy services and products under sustainable and inclusive market conditions to rural and peri-urban people in the target countries.

"Power Africa works in partnership to increase the number of people with access to power. The BGFA initiative fits well into our goal of 60 million new home and business connections in sub-Saharan Africa, where 70% of the population is still lacking access to electricity. We are pleased with the results from the pilot programme in Zambia, to which we also contributed, and we strongly believe that the initiative, now being extended to four new countries, will accelerate energy access in additional markets," said David Stonehill, Beyond the Grid Lead at Power Africa.

Ash Sharma, Head of BGFA at the facility manager Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), welcomes Power Africa to the BGFA team. "With its extensive hands-on experience in the off-grid sector and strong local presence, Power Africa brings significant value to the initiative. We look forward to building on the cooperation started in the Zambian programme, with additional joint activities in areas as diverse as gender assessment, policy and regulatory reform, private sector outreach and e-waste management. "

The BGFA is a financing facility managed by NEFCO and implemented on the ground by the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP). Total funding of the BGFA now stands at approximately EUR 59 million, currently financed by Sweden through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the planned EUR 4 million in-kind contribution by Power Africa. The facility is also open to other like-minded contributors and several other actors, including Germany and Denmark, have already shown interest in joining the programme.

The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Quarries (MEMC) launched Burkina Faso's AMP National Project on 16 February 2023. The program will focus on enabling innovation and technology transfers in decentralized renewable energy distribution and storage solutions.

The aim is to increase access to clean energy by improving the financial viability of, and promoting large-scale commercial investment in, solar photovoltaic minigrids in Burkina Faso.



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The project will also support the government's COVID-19 recovery efforts and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities by supporting livelihoods and providing income-generating activities.

It is expected to significantly contribute to accelerating the country's rural electrification efforts as a competitive option to provide electricity to off-grid areas.

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