



Renewable energy storage gaborone

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Pash Global and Tswana Renewables have formed a joint venture to develop small-scale PV plants across Botswana. For the first two 400 kW projects they have already secured a power purchase agreement.

London-based clean energy investment firm Pash Global has formed a 50-50 joint venture with Botswana-based project developer Tswana Renewables to build several solar plants totaling 30 MW in Botswana.

The two companies want to invest \$35 million in the projects. For two of them, each with a capacity of 400 kW, they have already secured a power purchase agreement (PPA) from Travelodge, a hotel group in Gaborone, and Ramotswe, a plastic manufacturing company for water tanks. The plants are both scheduled to be completed by the end of August.

“Currently, we have 30 MW in the pipeline of 25 to 35 individual grid-tied solar projects of about 400 kW, some being bigger and others slightly smaller,” Kofi Owusu Bempah, CEO of Pash Global, told pv magazine. “The idea is to sell power to private off-takers. We like Botswana because renewable energy penetration is very low, enabling us to directly negotiate with private businesses to support their energy needs and reduce their cost of power.”

The levelized cost of energy (LCOE) of the projects will range between \$0.08 and \$0.10/kWh. The projects will be located in areas like Gaborone, Ramotswe, and Lobatse.

Pash Global is looking to collaborate with other partners in this project and venturing into other countries like Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Mali, and South Africa.

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At Clean Energy Research Centre (CERC), our world-class facilities and highly qualified and experienced researchers are here to support clean energy projects through research and engagement.

We have amongst others successfully electrified part of a Village and our systems are providing water heating



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in schools. Our well-resourced solar thermal trailer is used to create public awareness, and provide training to practitioners and students, impacting policy and changing mindsets towards clean energy.

A Carbon Tracker report estimates 60% of the world's technical solar potential - enough to produce 3.5 exawatt-hours of clean electricity per year - would already be cheaper than fossil fuel if installed. Of the remainder, most would be in sub-Saharan Africa, a region which has the potential to be a global solar and wind powerhouse.

It is tempting to wonder whether Lefoko Moagi has read the latest report from London-based non-profit Carbon Tracker, which spells out the nature of the renewable energy revolution unfolding before us.

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