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Hanoi, Vietnam | June 21, 2024 - The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT)"s Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority (EREA) and the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) hosted a technical workshop this month focused on integrating battery energy storage systems (BESS) into Vietnam"s power grid. During the workshop, a report titled "Enhancing Vietnam"s Grid Stability with BESS," co-authored by the Institute of Energy (IE) and GEAPP, was launched.

Scaling battery energy storage systems is critical in ensuring a steady supply of renewable energy for the communities that need it most. The BESS Consortium-launched by GEAPP in 2023 -is on track to meet its target of developing a 5GW pipeline of BESS projects by the end of 2024 and fully deploy 5GW of BESS infrastructure across 30 countries by 2030.

Solar PV power generation in Vietnam could about to be maximised through the integration of battery energy storage systems (BESS), with consultancy AqualisBraemar LOC Group (ABL Group) hired to conduct feasibility studies across multiple PV plants following curtailment issues in the country.

After the Asian country experienced rapid growth in installed solar PV capacity, power generation from the renewable source is being curtailed, largely due to network congestion. A feed-in tariff (FiT) scheme had been wildly successful in incentivising new solar PV, especially on commercial rooftops, during 2020.

Norway-headquartered ABL Group has been hired by Dragon Capital"s subsidiary, VN Green Holding, to look at the feasibility of installing behind-the-meter BESS technology at up to three of VN Green"s solar projects to mitigate the impact of curtailment.

The consultancy will make a detailed analysis of the PV plants to see how much curtailment has taken place and is expected in future and will then model and optimise a variety of possible BESS solutions.

The study will seek to implement the lowest cost of storage on a levelised basis to assess the commercial feasibility of this colocation of generation with batteries.

PV Tech"s sister publication Energy-Storage.news asked ABL Group for the approximate or expected output and capacity of the BESS solutions, as well as their colocated solar PV plants, but had not yet received a reply at the time of publication.

"We are pleased to support Dragon Capital in the development and optimisation of BESS for its PV projects in Vietnam," ABL Group"s onshore renewables unit director Richard Abrams said.

Those capacity figures kept rising and concerns were also raised about stability of the grid being affected by

the influx of variable renewable power installations, while major cuts to tariffs were also proposed.

Batteries could perform ramp rate control to integrate variable renewable generation onto the grid, or time-shift energy from daytimes when production is abundant, to evening peak times, when it is not. They could also provide grid stabilising services like frequency and voltage control, help transmission and distribution (T& D) network organisations to save costs on expensive upgrades, and more.

At the Solar and Storage Finance Asia online event hosted last July by our publisher Solar Media, Vietnam was described as a "wonderful example" of a country in the continent where energy storage could make a massive positive impact on the transition to low carbon energy.

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