



# Benin budget solar setup

Who can benefit from a new off-grid solar scheme in Benin?

Households, smallholders and entrepreneurs in remote locations across Benin will be able to access reliable and cheap electricity for the first time under a new off-grid solar scheme agreed between leading solar energy company ENGIE Energy Access and the European Investment Bank, one of the world's largest financiers of renewable energy.

Who are the actors in the solar industry in Benin?

The Interprofessional Association for Renewable Energy Specialists (AISER - Bénin) is one of the main actors in the private sector for solar products and installations in Benin. It is an association for promotion and advocacy of renewable energy in Benin.

How will a European Investment Bank loan help Benin?

The European Investment Bank has agreed to provide a EUR 10 million loan to support the deployment of 107,000 high-quality solar home systems to Benin. This will open up access to clean energy for 643,000 people. The solar home systems include solar panels and battery storage to be sold on Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) contracts.

Will EIB support Engie to deploy off-grid solar power in Benin?

The new Benin cooperation follows EIB's previous support for ENGIE to deploy off-grid solar power in Uganda. Benin is the sixth African country to benefit from the EIB's streamlined support for African off-grid energy investment, following recent backing for projects in Mozambique, Uganda, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Comoros.

Does the EIB support Africa's off-grid energy investment?

Benin is the sixth African country to benefit from the EIB's streamlined support for African off-grid energy investment, following recent backing for projects in Mozambique, Uganda, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Comoros. Solving the last mile challenge to provide power in remote communities across Benin

By scaling up adoption of off-grid solar technology in Benin, this new initiative will provide economic, social, educational and health opportunities for families and entrepreneurs who cannot be connected to the electricity network.

The joint venture will get straight to work, delivering a portfolio of 12 solar mini-grids within a year. At an overall cost of \$8.5 million, the 12 stand-alone solar systems will have a generating capacity of 1.7 MWp and 3 MWh of battery storage capacity.

This initiative seeks to deploy 1.7MWp of solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity, backed by 3MWh of battery

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storage, thereby empowering over 3 000 households and businesses with reliable electricity supply.

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The operation aims at facilitating access to energy for households and micro-entrepreneurs in Benin by financing the design, production, distribution, installation and payment plans of about 107 000 Solar Home Systems.

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COP29: Benin launches climate action plan to unlock investment. Together, the FORSUN, TTC and DEFISOL plants will strengthen Benin's energy capacity, enough to supply electricity to thousands of homes, the Benin government said in a statement.

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