## Cameroon utility-scale energy storage



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The two facilities, with a combined 36 MW of PV capacity and 20 MW/19 MWh of storage, feature more than 44,800 bifacial solar panels on trackers, with an estimated annual production of 80 GWh. They were linked to the Northern Interconnected Network (NIN) in collaboration with Eneo Cameroun, the nation"s electricity company.

Originally planned as a photovoltaic project in 2019, the two plants saw their capacity gradually increase from 25 MW to 36 MW. Battery storage was added to enhance energy smoothing and facilitate nighttime electricity usage.

The Ministry of Water and Energy said that the solar plants are expected to reduce regional power interruptions by 98% and save fuel expenses. Scatec introduced "Release by Scatec" offer, a rental contract for pre-assembled storage batteries integrated into energy production infrastructure.

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Scatec signed two lease agreements with Cameroon's national electricity company, ENEO. The deals will expand Scatec's solar and battery storage capacity in the country to 64.4 MW of solar and 38.2 GWh of BESS across two sites.

"In addition to improving electricity supply in Cameroon and significantly reducing the cost and CO2 emissions from alternative generation based on diesel supply, these pioneering leasing contracts with ENEO are serving as a model for access to affordable clean energy for other countries and large energy consumers in the region," said Release CEO Hans Olav Kvalvaag.

Kvalvaag added that the company expects to finalize and implement more projects soon. Once completed, ENEO estimates the plants will supply energy to 200,000 households, generating 141.5 GWh per year. The BESS will ensure stable energy supply during peak hours.

"This move will enable ENEO to further secure power generation in the Northern regions while also improving service quality for households and the industrial sector in these regions," said ENEO Cameroon

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CEO Amine Homman Ludiye. "This new step towards more reliable and carbon-free energy is part of ENEO"s strategy, which is central to its continued efforts, under the auspices of the government of Cameroon, to sustainably improve on the power available in Cameroon."

Cameroon had 50 MW of installed solar at the end of 2023, up from 14 MW at the end of the preceding year, according to figures from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). The country announced a custom duty exemption on PV modules, inverters, charge controllers, batteries and cables intended for rooftop solar systems in April of this year.

13 December 2021: Release by Scatec has entered into a lease agreement with electricity company ENEO in Cameroon to deliver two hybrid solar and storage plants totalling 36 MW solar and 20 MW/19 MWh storage. The plants will supply low cost, clean and reliable electricity in Maroua and Guider in the Grand-North of Cameroon. IFC is partnering with Release to realise these redeployable projects.

"We are pleased to enter into this agreement with ENEO, which further fuels our journey to make renewable energy more accessible and affordable across growth markets. The deal marks our entry into the Cameroonian market, and we are proud to contribute with a cost-efficient and immediate solution to a cleaner and more stable electricity supply in a region suffering from power shortages caused by droughts limiting the supply of hydropower," says Raymond Carlsen, CEO at Scatec.

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