



Solar energy storage south sudan

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A just-commissioned solar and battery storage system will reduce diesel consumption by at least 80% at a base for 300 humanitarian workers in South Sudan, managed by the UN's International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

Independent solar power producer Scatec Solar, which is headquartered in Norway, said it has completed work on the project, combining a 700kWp solar PV system with a 1,368kWh battery energy storage system (BESS) and connected to existing diesel generators onsite.

The project is sited at the Humanitarian Hub in Malakal, South Sudan. According to the UN, the workers onsite—spanning more than 30 different organisations—service almost 30,000 internally displaced people who live in the UN's Protection of Civilians (POC) site adjacent to the Hub. Until now, it had been using around 800 litres of diesel every day.

“The combination of a movable, quickly installed equipment and flexible contract length increases our customer's financial flexibility, allowing them to access clean and reliable solar power through monthly invoices, rather than high upfront investments,” Scatec Solar's CEO added.

The system was partly funded by the UK government's Department for International Development and will help, the UN said, slash onsite power costs by 18%. As well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution onsite, the noise from diesel generators is greatly reduced, with the region enjoying sunshine every day, even during the rainy season.

“South Sudan enjoys sunshine all year round. Even during the rainy season, we still have long periods of sun, so this bid to shift to solar power was a no brainer. It made absolute sense to fully optimise the power of the sun in this way,” Jean-Philippe Chauzy, chief of mission for IOM in South Sudan, said.

“Investing in renewable energy is investing in a sustainable future and the launch of this innovative project will undoubtedly help us path a way towards the use of more renewable energy systems within the humanitarian sector,” Chauzy added.



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