

Solar PV installations in Ugandan health centers

Nearly 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa suffer from a lack of access to electricity and depend heavily on traditional resources of energy supply. Amid this, the East African country of Uganda is making progress towards attaining SDGs, especially towards increasing energy access of its rural populations.

In the current COVID-19 pandemic situation the need for modern and reliable energy services is more than urgent in Uganda. Energy is one of the pillars on which a healthcare system runs, and in the absence of uninterrupted energy supplies, the Ugandan healthcare system is at a risk of being unable to provide crucial services to its vulnerable population. Simply put, reliable, affordable electricity is the need of the hour to run health care facilities, improve access to health care, and better the quality of health services.

Solar Energy in Rural Uganda

Implementation of Renewable Energy Solutions

by

The United Nations
Development
Programme

in collaboration with
The World Health
Organization

&

The Ministry of Health-
Uganda

Joining hands for a greener future

Having recognized the urgent need for modern energy services in Uganda, UNDP in collaboration with WHO and the Ministry of Health in Uganda is supporting the electrification of 23 health centers as part of the COVID-19 response mechanism.

In the first phase of the programme, 11 health centers have been supported across the country where commissioning will commence soon while site assessments are being undertaken to support additional 13 health centers.

The goal of the initiative is to improve access to energy services for 30 health facilities across the country in the vulnerable communities in Uganda. This is part of UNDP's integrated support to COVID 19.

The 7-step Green Energy Solution

As part of its efforts to improve health services while promoting green energy solutions, the UNDP Uganda Country Office, supported by UNDP ITM's Green Energy Team (GET) collaborated with WHO and the Ugandan Ministry of Health to provide reliable and sustainable energy to the chosen health facilities in Uganda.

The GET used its innovative 7-step green energy solution, which is recognized as best practice for UNDG solar implementation, to develop and implement these projects. Through the whole process, the GET ensured that the projects are aligned with SDGs, particularly SDG 7 "Affordable and Clean Energy" and SDG 13 "Climate Action" while continuously promoting energy efficiency measures and enhancing proper user behavior.



Target Health Centers

The supported health centers are located in Central, Western, Eastern and North Eastern parts of the Country and were selected based on the criteria that they have a high outpatient ration and unreliable energy supply.

Installations have been completed in the following centers:

1. Kamwenge: Rukunyu HC IV
2. Kinoga: Bukomero HC IV
3. Bukedea: Bukedea HC IV
4. Buyende: Kidera HC IV
5. Sironko: Budadiri HC IV
6. Oyam: Anyeke HC IV
7. Manafwa: Babulo HC IV
8. Kakumiro: Kakumiro HC IV
9. Kapelebyong: Kapelebyong HC IV
10. Kazo: Kazo HC IV
11. Omoro: Lalogi HC IV



The solarization of the health centers

Decentralized energy solutions have the lowest cost and present the most practical way to provide power in remote and off-the-grid health centers. The efforts to power health facilities with solar energy present a major opportunity to improve quality of health services, which is especially essential in the challenging circumstances.

The projects are expected have these following outcomes

1. Reliable energy supply to the health centers
2. Increased ability of health workers to handle emergency situations
3. Improved health and wellbeing of the vulnerable populations
4. Improved response by health workers to handle COVID19 cases and other medical conditions