



# Palau energy storage for demand response

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The Palau Energy & Water Administration (PEWA) under the Ministry of Finance acts as an international contact point and represents Palau in overseas energy meetings. It is also the project management unit for a number of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in Palau.

The PEWA, in collaboration with the Palau Public Utilities Corporation (PPUC), are responsible for the management, implementation and maintenance of new energy projects and infrastructure on behalf of the Government of Palau (GoP). All new energy projects must give due regard to the objectives of the Palau National Energy Policy (PNEP) adopted in 2010.

Such objectives encourage:

PPUC needs to be involved in the project planning from the outset to ensure that the project is sustainable and that technical issues such as network integration and power quality are considered. Significant involvement of PPUC will make use of the expertise that exists within the organization, and will maintain and develop that expertise.

Careful consideration of the project objectives, implementation and sustainability is paramount. Successful, sustainable projects encourage further projects whereas poorly managed, unsustainable projects discourage future activities.

Project donors must be encouraged to coordinate with the appropriate government agencies.

Palau, like the rest of the world, faces two major energy challenges. The first is to deliver clean, secure, affordable energy for all citizens of Palau while treating the environment responsibly. The second is to respond to the risks of climate change by adaptation to changes and by mitigation through reducing the greenhouse gases caused by the production and use of energy. In addition, Palau faces a challenge that it shares with other small island countries, namely it's extremely high dependence from imported fuels.

The Palau National Energy Policy which has been developed in an inclusive and participatory process clearly sets out Palau's energy policy vision. It forms the basis for a strategic action plan which ensures that the policy vision becomes a reality. This policy also provides guidance for a unified and integrated energy sector management and set forth the foundation for Palau's energy future. The vision is for a reliable and resilient energy sector delivering Palau sustainable, low emission energy services, by:

Adjustments have to be introduced at multiple policy levels to effectively promote clean, reliable, efficient and sustainable energy for all citizens of Palau. The National Energy Policy and its Strategic Action Plan will



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guide the public and private sectors of Palau in cooperation and our regional and international development partners to establish a sustainable energy sector. Through implementation of this policy, Palau will become an international leader in creating a green and renewable energy society.

This process began in April 2009 and was guided by an executive committee composed of members from Palau Energy & Water Administration (PEWA), PPUC, OERC, the Senate, the House of Delegates of the 8th OEK and the Office of the President. This document has been refined in a series of consensus building workshops. Additionally, consecutive drafts have been circulated amongst the working group members for review and input.

An energy sector review that was undertaken as an initial step in this project has shown that energy is a vital resource underpinning all aspects of our society and fundamentally influencing Palau's environmental sustainability. Being almost 100% dependent on imported energy, Palau is highly vulnerable to international energy market movements and price volatility. Palau's energy security is not guaranteed and energy supply interruptions undermine economic growth and social development. Palau is a small country lacking significant economies of scale and has dispersed outer islands' populations that are difficult to serve.

In addition, environmental vulnerability through climate change is significant. Extreme weather events and sea level rise pose serious threats, particularly for the low-lying atolls. Environmental damage, habitat loss and pollution resulting from transport and use of petroleum products can have long-term negative effects on the country's fragile island ecosystems, which at the same time provide the basis for economic development and prosperity of Palau's citizens.

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