Senegal microgrid benefits

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RePower, formally known as "Improving Renewables Penetration Through Plug and Play Microgrids," aims to enhance the penetration of renewable energy in rural communities in Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and Ghana. Nearly 800 million people, most of whom live in sub-Saharan Africa, do not have access to electricity.

In the longer term, solar microgrids in Senegal will provide access to enough reliable electricity to transform communities, creating a higher quality of life and economic growth. 7 villages, 3,000 residents to access reliable solar. Non-profit organization Solar Village Project is now bringing solar microgrids to Senegal.

The ASER300 project in Senegal uses mini-grid systems from Asantys Systems and Off-Grid Europe with SMA"s Sunny Island battery inverters. The system comprises PV modules, PV and battery inverters, batteries, control technology and a cooling system.

Empowering communities and local businesses with renewable energy. RePower aims to bring renewable electricity to 20,000 off-grid customers in Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and Ghana by 2027. Among the projects featured in the organization"s webinar was a series of 27 containerized microgrids developed by Africa GreenTec.

The RePower project aims to improve access to electricity in rural Africa by installing renewable plug-and-play microgrids in Madagascar, Niger, and Senegal. Our goal is to provide 20,000 off-grid consumers with access to clean, affordable, and reliable electricity by 2027.

Erik Nordman, of Grand Valley State University, describes strides to achieve universal electricity access in Senegal and the role of microgrids.

Affordable and clean energy is the foundation for many of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Modern energy, like electricity and liquified petroleum gas, is a vital need for industries and households. But more than 40 percent of residents of the world"s least developed countries don"t have access to electricity. In developed countries that figure is only 10 percent.

There are huge benefits in accelerating energy access. These include economic benefits as well as increased studying time and reduced pollution. But, closing this energy gap is a herculean task and there"s been very little progress. Investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency must increase by a factor of five if universal energy access is to be achieved by 2030.

Senegal stands out among least developed countries as having made the biggest strides in expanding energy access. In this grouping, which includes 30 other African countries, it has one the highest rates of electricity access and is the only one with electricity access above 50 percent and near universal (about 85 percent)

access in cities.

Senegal has a young and growing population. More than 60 percent of its residents are under 25-years-old and more than 75 percent of Senegalese work in agriculture. But industries like food processing, mining, and fertilizer production are also important. Improvements in energy systems would help modernize these sectors.

To achieve universal energy access by 2030, the UN says Senegal must double its electrification rate. Currently, only 33 percent of rural Senegalese have electricity access. But connecting rural homes to the centralized grid is too expensive for most households and building the transmission infrastructure will take years.

Last year Senegal took steps to address these challenges, starting with diversifying its energy mix. About 88 percent of Senegal"s electricity is generated from fossil fuels and the rest is from renewable energy. It aims to increase the proportion of renewables to 20 percent by 2017. One of the ways it is doing this is by tapping into solar energy.

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