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West African solar energy storage power station put into operation



Overview

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West African independent power producer Africa REN has commissioned a 16-MW solar farm with 10 MW/20 MWh of battery storage in Bokhol, northern Senegal, hailing the project as the first in the region dedicated to frequency regulation. Dubbed Walo Storage, the EUR-40-million (USD 46.6m).

The West African nation, where over 60% of the population have access to electricity—one of the highest in the sub region—aims to achieve universal energy access by 2030. Senegal has begun commercial operations at a new solar energy facility that combines photovoltaic power with lithium-ion battery.

Urgent need to stabilize the grid, due to the high share of renewable production in the energy mix. The project will increase the current spinning reserve by 40% and will provide additional services such as frequency control, island functioning and Black-Start capability. Battery storage is.

Senegal and sustainable infrastructure developer Africa REN have commissioned the Walo Storage facility in Bokhol, marking the first grid-connected solar-plus-battery installation of its kind in West Africa. The €40 million project includes a 16 MW photovoltaic plant paired with a 10 MW/20 MWh.

The project has been touted by the developer as the first solar PV facility in the region to be combined with lithium-ion battery storage. Described as a first for West Africa, a solar PV installation with battery storage project dedicated

to frequency regulation has been commissioned in Senegal.

The project is the first solar and storage one with a BESS dedicated to frequency regulation in West Africa, the firm said. Image: Africa REN. Independent power producer (IPP) Africa REN has commissioned a solar and storage project in Senegal, which it claimed as the first of its kind in West.

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