



European Union



Nigerian Energy Support Programme II

Fostering investments for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and improving access to electricity for disadvantaged, rural communities



In order to foster investments in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector and to increase the access to sustainable electricity, the European Union and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) jointly funded the Nigerian Energy Support Programme (NESP) in 2013.

The Challenge

Despite its rich gas and oil reserves and the corresponding export earnings, Nigeria continues to suffer from a chronic shortage of electric power. The slow performance of the public power sector has resulted in frequent power shortages, leaving large, medium and small enterprises as well as households without reliable electricity. With more than 200 million inhabitants, the country only has an installed electricity generation capacity of around 13,700 MW (in comparison: South Africa generates 51 GW), of which in 2020 only around 4,500 MW were available due to gas constraints, grid constraints and other technical issues.

Renewable Energy (RE) and Energy Efficiency (EE) are still underutilized in Nigeria. Policy development, however, has been encouraging in the last years with approvals of the National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency policy (NREEEP) and the Vision 30:30:30, which calls for the installation of 30 Gigawatt by 2030 with a share of 30 percent renewables. Still, around 55 percent of the population do not have access to grid-connected electricity. In rural areas, the number goes up to even 60 per cent.

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| Project name | Nigerian Energy Support Programme II |
| Commissioned by | The European Union (EU) The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) |
| Lead executing agency | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH |
| Project region | Nigeria |
| National partner | Federal Ministry of Power and further partner institutions |
| Duration | 12/2017 - 05/2023 |
| Financial volume | € 48 million |

Our Approach

NESP II supports Nigeria in utilizing the potentials of energy efficiency, integrating renewable energy into the grid and further scaling rural electrification. The overarching aim is targeted at the provision of reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for the Nigerian people. This includes provision of energy to disadvantaged parts of the population that have not had access to modern energy services before. NESP II implements a multi-level approach by combining advisory on energy policy, economy and technical knowledge for a wide range of stakeholders.



Photo left: Training on new developed Standards for Solar PV Components

Photo right: Training on solar PV installation

Photos: © GIZ

Implemented by





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Photo left: Field Survey

Photo right: Energy Audit Training

The NESP components are tasked with:

- Electrification planning and data assessment as a basis for policy reviews and to provide private sector market intelligence.
- Improving access to sustainable energy (on- and off-grid) through strengthening regulations and systems operations regarding the feed-in of large scale solar as well as providing 130,000 people in rural areas with solar power.
- Enabling an environment for investments in RE/EE through energy efficiency measures in buildings and industries, access to finance and quality standards.

Impact in figures ...

In its second phase, NESP continued its support on creating an enabling framework for RE and EE investments. In 2020, the programme supported the Ministry of Power to launch an interactive database for the energy market in Nigeria (nigeria4all.gov.org). This platform provides accurate and latest tools to support electrification planning and hence, supports Nigeria in achieving its energy access goals in a transparent and sustainable manner. Over 3,900 settlements and 3.2 million buildings have been mapped so far with over 60,000 km electricity grid tracked in 22 states.

With regards to policy development and regulations, the programme supported the Government amongst others, in the development of Mini-grid Regulations, a Building Energy Efficiency Code and 38 new Standards for Solar PV Components.

Additionally, NESP provided training courses on RE and EE, increasing vocational skills of more than 600 participants to encourage capacity development in the energy sector.

... and in stories



Fish vendor Adebisi Esho and her solar powered freezer
© Andrew Esiebo

Mrs. Adebisi Esho is one of the villagers in Gbamu Gbamu community – Ogun state, who has benefitted from a solar mini-grid project that was implemented with the support of NESP in 2017. Now, she enjoys 24-hour access to reliable electricity and saves more than 1000 Naira per day on fuel costs.

The vendor of frozen fish and drinks said:

“... the mini-grid is a welcome development as I am now able to run my freezer all night to ensure the fish is fresh and frozen before taking it to market. Now there is adequate power to ensure that the fish in freezer stays frozen longer. With this power, I no longer have to buy expensive fuel for my business. The solar mini-grid is slowly transforming our community (Gbamu Gbamu) and we are happy, excited and know that the future is brighter!”

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