

## AFRICA ENERGY UPDATE



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### 1. Gabon: Olam Palm unveils the site of its biofuel production plant

- After having obtained all the regulatory authorizations to produce biofuel in Gabon, the Singaporean multinational Olam Palm presented the site to house the future plant. It was earlier this week, during the visit of Appolinaire Alassa, Director General of the Office of Ports and Roads of Gabon (OPRAG), stakeholder in the development of this project, reports Gabon Media Time.
- Located in the southern part of Libreville not far from the timber port and the hydrocarbon storage area, the site covers five hectares. It was ideally chosen because it offers easy access for importing equipment and exporting by-products from palm oil processing. The construction and commissioning of this biodiesel plant should provide hundreds of direct and indirect jobs.
- For the government, the production of biofuel, less polluting, will thus strengthen the competitiveness of the palm oil sector and concretize the country's orientation in favor of the preservation of the environment and the fight against climate change.  
<https://www.agenceecofin.com/>

### 2. Chad Government launches construction of two solar power PV plants in Gaoui

- The government of Chad through President Idriss Déby Itno has laid the foundation stone for the construction of two photovoltaic (PV) solar power plants with a combined capacity of 100 megawatts in the town of Gaoui which is located approximately 10km northeast of N'Djamena.
- The project will be implemented by Merl Solar Technologies, a company whose origin is Australia and that has an excellent track record in planning and implementing renewable energy projects – particularly photovoltaic solutions in rural off-grid areas especially in Sub Sahara Africa.
- Each of the two installations will have a capacity of 50 MWp, for a total of 100 MWp. They'll both be equipped with 10 MVAh (megawatt volts ampere-hours) battery storage systems, a 33/90 kV electrical substation as well as 10 kilometers of high voltage line.  
[Energymixreport.com](http://Energymixreport.com)

### 3. BENIN: Eiffage RMT obtains land for the Illoulofin solar power station (25 MWp)

- A 25 MWp photovoltaic solar power plant will be set up in Illoulofin, commune of Pobè. On 19 November 2020, the mayor of this commune, Dinan Simon, handed over a 96-hectare plot of land to the Eiffage RMT consortium.
- The project to build a 25 MWp solar power plant and modernize the information system of the Société béninoise d'énergie électrique (Defissol) is undergoing further development. On 19 November 2020, the mayor of the municipality of Pobè, Dinan Simon, handed over a 96-hectare plot of land to the consortium responsible for building the solar power plant.
- The solar plant to be built in the village of Illoulofin in Pobè will inject 35 GWh of electricity per year into the grid of the Société béninoise d'énergie électrique (Sbee), thus covering the consumption needs of around 180,000 people. Thanks to this solar project, Benin should reduce its CO2 emissions by 23,000 tons per year over a period of 25 years.  
<https://www.afrik21.africa/>

### 4. Buhari orders regular crude supply to modular refineries

- President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday ordered the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) to ensure

regular crude supply to Watersmith and other modular refineries in the country to enable them operate optimally.

- He also directed all other relevant agencies not to starve the modular refineries of all resources including condensate to operate.
- Buhari gave the order during the virtual commissioning of Watersmith's 5,000 barrels per day (bpd) Modular Refinery and groundbreaking for the 45, 000 bpd refinery at Ibigwe Field, Ohaji Egbema Council Area of Imo State.
- He said the modular refineries represent four key policy roadmap rolled out by his administration last year aimed at reducing importation of petroleum products.
- The president, who expressed delight commissioning the refinery, described it as the largest modular refinery in the country.

<https://thenationonlineng.net/>

#### **5. KenGen launches elaborate renewable energy project pipeline**

- Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen) has unveiled an elaborate renewable energy project pipeline focused on supporting the Government's economic growth agenda.
- The company's focus in the next 12 months, according to the Managing Director & CEO, Rebecca Miano, is to deliver the Olkaria I Unit 6 geothermal power plant which will add 83.3MW to the national grid.
- "KenGen is also continuing with its geothermal exploration program in Olkaria. To date, we have drilled more than 310 wells to support our geothermal-led strategy," she added.
- In addition, Miano said, the procurement of the redevelopment of Olkaria I power plant which seeks to increase the plant's installed capacity from the current 45MW to 50MW, and also extend its life by 25 years, was in the final stages.

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#### **6. Nigeria requires N1tn for efficient electricity transmission – TCN**

- The Transmission Company of Nigeria has said Nigeria requires nothing less than N1tn to effectively wheel electricity through the national grid.
- The Executive Director, Transmission Service Provider, TCN, Victor Adewumi, said this at the 52nd Power Dialogue of the Nigeria Electricity Hub on which held online in Abuja on Wednesday.
- He said TCN would require the sum to make the country's power grid stable, adding that the \$1.6bn which the transmission company was getting from international agencies would not be enough to stabilise the grid.
- When asked to state how much would be needed to get the grid to transmit electricity effectively, Adewumi replied, "Simply put, TCN requires nothing less than N1tn to make the grid to be very stable.
- "For the project that TCN is financing internally, relying on our IGR (Internally Generated Revenue) and the Federal Government budget system, TCN requires nothing less than N600bn. So, when you look at the total, you will be talking about N1tn. This is a huge sum of money and if you look at it critically, there is no way that even the Federal Government can provide this kind of fund."
- He said investors were invited to come and fund some of the projects in TCN, as they would recoup their investments over time.

<https://punchng.com/>

#### **7. Seplat Expands Wells to Boost Gas for Electricity**

- Seplat Petroleum Development Company has said it is expanding more gas wells at its Oben Gas Plant in Edo State towards providing more gas for electricity generation.

- The indigenous oil and gas firm, in a statement, said the feat was being achieved due to the cordial relationship it enjoyed with the host communities.
- SEPLAT has an ultra-modern gas plant in Oben and accounts for about 30 per cent of gas-to-power for the national electricity grid.
- Nigeria has over 70 per cent dependability on gas to generate electricity with over 24 gas-fired power plants that require gas supply from Seplat and other gas producers.
- The Chief Executive Officer of SEPLAT, Mr. Roger Brown, announced the expansion plan when he led a delegation on a courtesy visit to the Edo State Governor, Godwin Obaseki, at the Government House in Benin.

<https://dailytrust.com/>

#### **8. Namibia's farmers give thumbs up to oil drilling**

- Kavango East farmers who recently raised concerns over the scheduled detailed oil and gas exploration in the region have given the project the greenlight, following a meeting with representatives of the Canadian firm Reconnaissance Energy Africa and mines and energy minister Tom Alweendo.
- Reconnaissance Energy Africa has an exploration licence for oil and gas and approval was granted by the authorities for exploration activities at Kawe and surrounding villages.
- “They have put together all the information to see whether the geology of that particular area is suitable for oil and gas exploration and that data have shown that there might be suitable grounds in that area of Ncaute and Kawe villages and in order to confirm whether the geology is suitable, the drilling will be done in December,” said Sindila Mwiya, the project consultant hired by Reconnaissance Energy Africa. “So, community does not have to worry or panic because the drilling in December is just going to drill two wells that the company has committed to the government as part of their exploration commitment.”
- According to Mwiya, the two wells will be used to confirm whether the sedimentary basin or the geology governs the formation and existence of oil and gas.

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