

Energy storage mauritius

Mauritius faces the many challenges of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) including a disproportionate vulnerability to climate change. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events and shifting ecosystems are jeopardizing the environment, the economy and the livelihoods of the population. In that respect, the UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles Multi-Country Office (MCO), in collaboration with the Government of Mauritius, is spearheading a transformative and pivotal shift towards a low-carbon economy in the country.

Mauritius aims to increase the share of renewable energy in its electricity mix to 60% by 2030. This ambitious goal not only enhances energy security but also aligns with the country's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40% by the same year, as per its revised National Determined Contribution (2021).

To support this ambitious target, the UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles MCO, through the transition to a low-carbon economy programme funded by the Green Climate Fund, is ensuring the deployment of 25 megawatts (MW) of rooftop solar photovoltaic panels for low- and middle-income households, NGOs, and public buildings. Furthermore, this initiative has leveraged technologies such as Battery Energy Storage Systems and Smart Grids to support the deployment of a 18 MW battery energy storage system and enhance the grid's capacity to integrate up to 185 MW of intermittent renewable energy.

Through this GCF-funded project, the UNDP has launched training programs designed to enhance the skills of women, youth, entrepreneurs, and government staff. For instance, to date more than 200 women have benefitted from training on solar photovoltaic technology. Such initiatives empower individuals to actively champion the adoption of renewable energy technologies, in line with SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

Effective measures to reduce GHG emission require a holistic approach and structural transformations. The UNDP is thus adopting a comprehensive portfolio approach towards climate change mitigation by supporting low-carbon development opportunities which address immediate challenges and pave the way for long-term sustainability.

The portfolio approach adopted by UNDP towards climate change mitigation caters for the interconnected threats posed by climate change and environmental degradation. It also strengthens key economic sectors and supports the sustainable management of fragile ecosystems through job creation and innovation.

The successful execution of these initiatives is made possible through the support of various funding agencies, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the British High Commission (BHC), and the Australian High Commission (AHC).

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