## Lesotho commercial solar



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The Lesotho Electricity Generation Company (LEGCO) is a company wholly owned by the Government of Lesotho. LEGCO was incorporated on the 29th January 2020 as a public company under the Companies Act of 2011. It commenced its full operations on the 1st September 2020. LEGCO is mandated to promote generation of electricity in the country and ensure security of electricity supply (achieve self-sufficiency and electricity independence). One of the electricity generation project under its direct supervision is the 70MW solar project at Ha Ramarothole in Mafeteng.

Installation of brackets is ongoing with 1449 bracket units completed of 2,700. Installation of photovoltaic panels began in August 2021. By end of October, 70 solar panels were installed out of 2616 when complete.

Civil works at Ramarothole substation began in August 2021 with excavations, site leveling and backfilling. Construction of foundation of main transformer was completed in October. Furthermore, construction of foundation of distribution room and complex building are at an advance stage (70% complete).

Fortune CP provides innovative renewable energy products and services in Lesotho. These include solar components (solar panels, inverters, batteries), off-grid and grid-tie solar systems for commercial, industrial and residential applications, battery energy storage systems, energy efficient LED lighting systems, solar water heating products, solar water pumping systems, mini grids and more.

Our solar systems are used by prominent companies and organisations such as Government (various ministries), Banks, Oil companies, Factories, Telecom companies, Hotels, Farms, UN organisations, Mines, Schools, Hospitals, and others.

Specializing in the supply and installation of solar power systems, we are dedicated to fostering sustainability and energy independence. Our comprehensive solutions are tailored to meet the diverse needs of our clients, harnessing the abundant energy from the sun to provide clean and reliable electricity for residential, commercial, and industrial applications.

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Matt Orosz's mission for the last 20 years can be explained with a single picture: a satellite image of the world at night, with major cities blazing with light and large swaths of land shrouded in darkness.

The image reminds Orosz SM "03, SM "06, PhD "12 of what he"s trying to change. Orosz is the CEO of

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OnePower, an MIT spinout building networks of minigrids powered by solar energy to bring electricity to rural regions of Lesotho.

There are other companies building minigrids in Africa, but OnePower is the only one to have accomplished the feat in Lesotho, and it's not hard to understand why. Known as the kingdom in the sky, Lesotho is a small, developing country crossed by mountain ranges and rivers, making it difficult to get electricity to rural regions. Recent estimates suggest that less than half of all households have electricity.

OnePower's first minigrid is a small system that has been serving around 200 customers for more than a year. The operation is part of an eight-minigrid project that will provide reliable electricity for the first time to more than 30,000 people, 13 health clinics, 25 schools, and over 100 small businesses.

Construction on those sites is underway, and Orosz is currently working on a power transmission and road crossing over the Senqu river, the largest in southern Africa. During the project, the operators of a health clinic on the off-grid side of the river let Orosz stay there on the condition that he fix their diesel generator. He got the generator working again, but if everything goes according to plan, the clinic won't need it for much longer.

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