



Lesotho increased renewable energy penetration

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Global Europe is the EU's main financial tool for promoting sustainable development, peace and stability across the globe. With an envelope of EUR79.5 billion for the period 2021-2027, the EU's external actions support partner countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Renewable Lesotho harnesses the Mountain Kingdom's solar, hydropower and wind energy potential to maximise generation, achieve energy security, and to improve access to reliable and affordable clean energy.

A joint initiative to increase clean energy generation and energy efficiency in the Mountain Kingdom, Renewable Lesotho promotes reliable and equitable access to energy, while improving energy sector leadership and capacity.

Launched in 2023, Renewable Lesotho is part of the Global Gateway, Europe's strategy to boost smart, clean and secure connections in digital, energy and transport sectors, and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.

Renewable Lesotho is a joint effort between the Government of Lesotho and its relevant Ministries, the European Union Delegation to Lesotho, the European Investment Bank (EIB), European multi-donor platforms GET.transform and GET.vest, the Association of Bilateral European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Renewable Lesotho is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) as well as the Government of Lesotho's National Strategic Development Plan II (NSDP II), the EU-Lesotho cooperation strategy for 2021-2027 and Team Europe Initiative - Green Deal.

The EU contribution is EUR 15 million (LSL 300 million) open to additional contributions from other partners. The action is co-funded by the German government to the tune of EUR 860,000 as well as the Irish government with a contribution of EUR 100,000.

In Lesotho, about 47 percent of households have access to electricity, concentrated mainly in urban areas. The



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government has not achieved its goal of increasing the electrification rate to 75 percent of households by 2022. Lesotho has identified hydropower, wind generation, and solar power as potential renewable energy sources to help reach these targets and are proactively seeking development partners and investors to help it achieve this goal.

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