Namibia microgrid operation

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The project team, led by Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt (THI), reached a significant milestone by installing a 26 kWp decentralised solar system at Tsumkwe secondary school. The aim of the installation is to eliminate the considerable gap between electricity demand and the mini-grid’s power generation capacity.

Instead of battling the increasing energy demand by using more and more diesel generators, the goal of uninterrupted electricity supply should be approached by sustainable solutions such as PV systems.

The mini-grid operator CENORED (Central North Regional Electricity Distributor) reports a shift in consumer needs with a desire for increased electrical appliances beyond basic lighting and entertainment. Therefore, the demand for electricity is expected to increase further, making the incorporation of sustainable green solutions essential.

The pilot solar system has demonstrated the potential to relieve the burden on the mini-grid while using the existing distribution lines. By deploying more decentralised systems, the village could enjoy stable and continuous electricity supply without the constraints of expanding the central grid.

In conclusion, the PROCEED project offers valuable insights into the impact of decentralised solar systems on overloaded mini-grids in Tsumkwe, Namibia. The project’s findings emphasise the importance of harnessing solar energy to complement existing generators, paving the way for greener and more reliable electricity supply. The success of the pilot solar system serves as a promising model for the widespread adoption of decentralised solutions, promoting energy efficiency and environmental responsibility in off-grid communities.

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