Sierra leone off-grid energy storage



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Sierra Leone's challenging socio-economic context includes high poverty rates, particularly among children, unemployment, a serious lack of healthcare and limited access to electricity[1].

The Medium-Term National Development Plan 2019-2023 differs from the Recovery Agenda on the other hand by seeking to expand electricity generation, transmission, and distribution, engage the private sector, and ensure responsible leadership[1].

With the approval of the Electricity & Water Regulatory Commission's mini-grid regulations in 2019 by the GoSL, clarity and incentives for the off-grid sector have finally been provided. This is an indicator of the long-term commitment of the government to the sector[1].

The RREP, spanning from October 2016 to May 2022, was divided in several phases consisting of a total of 94 solar-powered mini-grids and 3 stand-alone systems installed at the Communities Health Centers (CHCs) across the country[3].

During the second phase, known as Work Package 2, 44 additional mini-grids were set up and managed through co-investment with private sector operators[3].

Work Package 3, concentrating on providing technical guidance and institutional reinforcement (capacity building) to both the government and the private sector. This aims to establish a conducive atmosphere for the development of mini-grids and their sustained operations over the long term[3][4].

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