



# Battery storage device Kenya

Who is implementing a battery energy storage system in Kenya?

Nairobi, Friday, November 24, 2023: Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen), has been earmarked as the Implementing Agency for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) as part of the Kenya Green and Resilient Expansion of Energy (GREEN) program, funded by the World Bank.

Does Kenya need battery energy storage?

A battery energy storage. The question of power storage has become critical as Kenya embraces e-mobility which requires reliable power supplies. The Energy and Petroleum ministry targets to mainstream power storage in its electricity master plan as the country's renewable energy generation expands.

What is a battery energy storage system (BESS)?

The BESS will serve as a crucial repository for surplus energy generated from geothermal and Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) sources, enabling improved electricity service delivery to Kenyans. "KenGen is honoured to lead the implementation of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project under the GREEN program.

What are the opportunities for utility scale battery energy storage systems?

There are opportunities for Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Two thirds of Kenya's electricity is generated from renewable/clean energy sources. Of this, wind power accounts for 15% (435MW) while solar accounts for just under 2% of total installed capacity (51MW) with these numbers expected to continue to grow.

How will Kenya's Windlab project help shore up manufacturing?

The project would help shore up manufacturing in the country," Windlab CEO Roger Price said during the groundbreaking for the project. And last week, Kenya Power announced plans to set up a grid-level 100 MW lithium-ion battery energy storage system (ESS) by 2024 to store power at low demand to be used during peak power demand.

What drives demand for industrial battery systems?

Demand for industrial battery systems is being driven by increasing reliance on intermittent energy sources such as wind and solar power and the potential to add energy to the grid quickly when power needs spike.

The Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen), has been designated to be the Implementing Agency for the Kenyan Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which is part of the Kenya Green and Resilient Expansion of Energy (GREEN) program, funded by the World Bank.

The LCPDP's demand forecast includes Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to be used to support the



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integration of variable renewable energy technologies and system support. BESS features prominently in the generation capacity expansion plan which includes 50MW of BESS in the generation mix by 2022 with the number rising to 250MW by 2026.

The growing demand for storage will constrain raw battery materials, reduce the availability of new batteries, and increase the rate of battery retirement.

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Incorporating BESS facilities into the grid is not a novel concept in Africa, and Kenya can take cues from neighbouring countries such as Malawi (where the Golomoti solar project features a 10MWh BESS) and South Africa (where the Kenhardt projects will boast a battery storage capacity of 1,140MWh) that have already embraced BESS technologies.

Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) has been selected to carry out a battery storage pilot project, through a programme to increase electricity access funded by the World Bank. KenGen announced last week (24 November), that it had been chosen as the agency to implement the pilot, under the programme, Kenya Green and Resilient ...

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