



# Uae solar energy projects Malawi

After attracting \$67m in investment, one of Malawi's first solar projects has reached financial close... Image supplied Developed by UAE-based Phanes Group in collaboration with responsAbility Renewable Energy Holding and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), the project was the result of the first power purchase agreement (PPA ...

Malawi's electricity utility has broken ground on a solar power and battery storage project aimed at increasing the country's power generation capacity. This is the first phase of the scalable 20MW Salima solar power plant that will ...

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One of the first solar projects in southeast African country Malawi has reached financial close after attracting investment totalling \$67m. Initial site works have now begun in Nkhotakota and construction of the first phase is targeted for completion by March next year. Once complete, the project will add 46 MW of energy to the local power supply.

The independent power producer (IPP) based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, has just obtained the green light from the Malawian authorities to invest in solar photovoltaic energy. The framework agreement was signed recently on the sidelines of the 27 th United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

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The solar project will provide greater energy access to the people of Malawi. The country is one of the least electrified countries globally, with only 4 percent of the rural population having access to electricity

These three solar power developments in Malawi come at a time when the population is expanding and demand for energy is growing. Cooperating charities, policymakers, national banks and energy providers have successfully powered the developments with support from the government and international community in line with sustainability goals.

The Nkhotakota Solar Power Plant is one of Malawi's first commercial scale-independent solar power projects and it is being developed in two phases of 21 MWac and 16 MWac. The project is part of the Malawian government's plan to move the East African country from its reliance on hydropower, which currently



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represents over 90% of its energy mix.

The centrally located facility is Malawi's first solar power plant connected to the national grid, a project successfully completed under a public-private partnership (PPP). The President of the Republic of Malawi Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera visited the Salima district, 101 km from the capital Lilongwe, on November 16, 2021.

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Developed by UAE-based Phanes Group in collaboration with responsAbility Renewable Energy Holding (rAREH) and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), the project was the result of one of the first Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) signed with Malawi's national utility (ESCOM) in February 2019.

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