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Is the Sierra Leone energy storage project green



Overview

Sierra Leone's 30MW waste-to-energy project in Freetown aims to transform urban waste into renewable electricity for 3 million people, boosting energy access and sustainability. What is the SOGREA initiative & how does it help Sierra Leone?

The SOGREA initiative directly supports Sierra Leone's Energy Transition and Green Growth Plan (ETGGP), launched in November 2024 under the Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and Food Security (PICREF).

Does Sierra Leone have a low energy access rate?

Sierra Leone currently has one of the lowest energy access rates globally, with only 36% of its population connected to the grid and a mere 6% in rural areas. The SOGREA Initiative supports the government's aim to increase the share of renewable energy in the country's energy mix to 35% by 2030. "By 2027, Sierra Leone will be fully illuminated.

Will Sierra Leone be fully illuminated by 2027?

This limited access impacts healthcare, education and job creation. To address this, the government has set a target to raise renewable energy use to 35 per cent by 2030 and electrify rural areas by 2027. "By 2027, Sierra Leone will be fully illuminated.

Is EU funding a game-changer for rural development in Sierra Leone?

Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, Chairman of the Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Food Security (PI-CREF), and Chairman Energy Governance Coordination Group (EGCG): "This EU funding is a game-changer for rural development in Sierra Leone.

Are green mini-grids the best way to electrify Sierra Leone?

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) has identified green mini-grids as the

most suitable means to electrify a significant number of communities, given their cost-effectiveness. SOGREA is designed to build on past successes and lessons learned to scale up the mini-grid sector and strengthen its sustainability.

Can partnerships deliver lasting change in Sierra Leone?

Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, said that by working together, the government of Sierra Leone, the European Union, UNOPS, and SEforALL are showing how partnerships can deliver lasting change.

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