

## Burkina faso energy independence

Burkina Faso Council of Ministers, during a meeting chaired by the President, Captain Ibrahim Traore, on Wednesday, adopted a decree to create the Burkinabe Atomic Energy Agency (ABEA) in a move to achieve energy independence.

The government spokesperson, Jean Emmanuel Ouedraogo, disclosed this, stating that the Head of State &#8220;clearly indicated that this achievement will help guarantee the energy independence of Burkina Faso, the industrialisation of the country and facilitate access to electricity throughout the national territory.&#8221;

Also, the Council approved two reports for the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Crafts. The first report includes two decrees: one transferring Craft Villages to the International Crafts Fair of Ouagadougou (SIAO) and another modifying SIAO&#8217;s statutes to include these villages.

The second report established Faso Rails company, headquartered in Bobo-Dioulasso, to develop a national railway network. This 70 billion FCFA project, according to Burkina24 reports, will be completed in 18 months, with 75 per cent state ownership and 25 per cent private sector involvement.

&#8220;The creation of this company is in line with the vision of His Excellency the President of Faso, who instructed the government to work to establish, at the national level, a railway network that can connect the various provincial capitals,&#8221; the Trade and Craft Minister, Serge Gnaniodem Poda s.

The Council also adopted a decree from the Ministry of Economy and Finance, defining coverage for specific services by public officials. These include organising international events, training, and running competitions and activities in professional schools and universities.

Additionally, a decree was adopted to regulate and remunerate close protection services by the National Police and Gendarmerie for individuals, ensuring state control over these personnel.

The Ministry of Health announced free care and services from mobile clinics, including mammography and cervical cancer screening, to improve financial access to healthcare for target populations.

Prime Minister Apollinaire Joachimson KYELEM de TAMBELA officially inaugurated the K?d?ni photovoltaic solar power plant in District 6 of the commune of Bobo-Dioulasso, Hauts Bassins region. The inauguration ceremony, graced by the presence of Simon-Pierre BOUSSIM, the Minister of Energy, Mines, and Quarries, marked a significant step in Burkina Faso&#8217;s quest for energy independence and sustainability.

The K?d?ni solar power plant, with a capacity of 38 MWp, is poised to inject an average of 73 GWh per year



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into the interconnected National Grid, benefiting approximately forty-two thousand households.

Minister Simon-Pierre BOUSSIM highlighted the government's strong commitment to addressing the structural deficit in electrical energy production while simultaneously reducing the country's dependence on external energy sources. The clean and cost-effective energy produced by the Koudni plant aligns with the government's strategy to strengthen the national production base and increase the share of renewable energies, particularly solar, in Burkina Faso's energy mix.

Following the successful inauguration in Hauts Bassins, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Energy proceeded to the Balé region in the afternoon for the commissioning of the Pô solar power plant. These initiatives underscore Burkina Faso's dedication to expanding its renewable energy capacity and fostering sustainable development.

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