

Dominican republic nico manufacturing energy storage

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The Dominican Republic is one of the fastest growing economies in Latin America. This is also apparent in the expansion of renewable energy. Its share of power generation has more than tripled since 2017. Despite this increase and the conducive climatic conditions for its use, 85per cent of the country's electricity in 2022 continued to be generated using fossil fuels. As a result, absolute greenhouse gas emissions are still increasing.

In its climate targets (Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs), the Dominican Republic has committed itself to reducing its emissions by more than a quarter by 2030 in comparison to the business-as-usual scenario for 2030. The large number of renewable energy projects currently planned will likely result in the share of power generated from renewable energy sources doubling again over the next few years.

Despite the substantial expansion, there is still considerable scepticism among policy-makers and the private sector. The issues of grid capacity and storage, in particular, are curbing expansion at normative and technological level.

Studies are determining the potential of solar and wind energy and the production of hydrogen, as well as the technical requirements of charging stations for electromobility.

A pilot project is making it possible to provide electricity for a community in a rural location with a micro grid. Public participation (community energy) and collaboration with cooperatives are increasing acceptance among the population.

The Superintendency of Electricity (SIE) signed a cooperation agreement with the United States of America Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) for an amount of US \$ 619,350 dollars to finance technical assistance to address Energy Storage Systems in Battery (BESS) in the entire electrical system of the Dominican Republic.

This smart method of storing and managing electrical energy ensures more productive energy, better grid management, and greater stability and availability of electricity. Among the functions of this new modality is the reduction of the natural intermittency of renewable sources, auxiliary power substation services, among others.

This technical assistance, which will allow the implementation of energy storage technology in the country, will help address the gaps and regulatory gaps present in current regulations and the development of the analysis with the necessary recommendations for technical and financial regulations.

The development framework of this project, after analyzing the current situation, will include the diagnosis of



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the possible solutions that could be implemented in power generators, the transmission network and the assets of the distribution network.

The analysis of the possible solutions, through Battery Energy Storage Systems, will take into account the functionalities of the generation units, including complementary services such as frequency regulation, backup power units, integration to the power grid. renewable energies, among others.

With the results of this technical assistance, the SIE takes a further step towards advancing innovations according to the times in energy storage aspects, as well as in their regulation, with a view to strengthening and developing the performance of the Dominican electricity market.

Additionally, this new concept will help the entire electricity service chain, from the generation sectors to the distribution process, to improve the quality and stability of the electricity supply.

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