



Lusaka renewable electricity

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Government through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) is set to deploy over 15,000 solar home systems and develop solar mini-grids in rural areas that are not connected to the national grid.

REA Chief Executive Officer, Clement Sikazwe says solar energy remains one of the key technologies, the authority will continue to deploy to increase access to electricity services in rural Zambia.

ZANIS reports that Mr Silavwe was speaking in Lusaka today, when REA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEP), aimed at supporting Zambia's broader electrification efforts with advanced data collection and analysis.

"Through utilizing the Edison Data platform, REA will now be able to utilize project data on the platform and this will improve on project monitoring and management and will enhance our ability to monitor the operation of solar energy deployment," Mr Silavwe said.

He further said REA has launched the commencement of the smart capital subsidy project dubbed "off-grid rural smart subsidy programme which is being funded by the World Bank.

He said the partnership with REEP will avail to the Authority, a state of the art data platform called energy data intelligence system for off-grid networks which will be able to collect data from the sensors.

And REEP Director General, Magdalena Kouneva, said under the MoU, REEP will provide capacity building to REA in data collection and analytics which are much-needed skills in the energy sector.

The REA already exists more than TWENTY years, and has achieved almost NOTHING in that time. And since it's a government institution, it doesn't get any money. Because the PF hierarchy rather gives 'empowerment' to those criminal cadres! Let someone else roll out solar systems, the REA can't do it! PF: Lying about everything, not delivering anything!

Rural Electrification programme that never ends and has been ongoing only comes to life when elections are near; you mean you can not sit down pull out the map of Zambia and say we will electrify the whole country by 2025. This is one of the most corrupt govt firms there is; where supply contracts for cables, poles, transformers are passed around cadres of ruling parties.



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