

## Solar storage senegal

The Kolda solar farm project, with a total investment exceeding EUR 105 million, stands out as the largest photovoltaic facility with battery storage in the region. Scheduled for completion in 2026, the project will feature a solar capacity of 60 MW, supplying clean electricity to an estimated 235,000 people. The 72 MWh battery system will stabilize the power grid, providing up to three hours of backup during peak evening demand, and enhancing the integration of renewable energy into Senegal's grid infrastructure.

Benjamin Memmi, CEO of AXIAN Energy, emphasized the transformative potential of the project: "The Kolda solar farm embodies our commitment to energy inclusion in Senegal and beyond. This fully renewable initiative will provide clean energy to around 25,000 households in Casamance while advancing battery storage technology to optimize grid stability and resource utilization. We are deeply thankful for the support of our financial partners and the Senegalese authorities in making this vision a reality."

The initiative not only addresses the urgent need for reliable and sustainable energy but also contributes to the economic development of Senegal's underserved Casamance region. By reducing reliance on fossil fuels, the project is poised to cut emissions, enhance energy security, and create local job opportunities.

Tidiane Doucoure, Director at Ninety One Group, fund manager for EAAIF, highlighted the project's broader implications: "This investment in renewable energy and critical battery storage aligns with Africa's low-carbon transition goals. The Kolda project exemplifies our commitment to transformative infrastructure that delivers meaningful social and environmental benefits."

FMO's Co-Chief Investment Officer, Huib-Jan De Ruijter, underscored the significance of the partnership with AXIAN Energy: "This is a milestone for FMO as it marks our second solar PV and BESS project in Senegal. By advancing grid stability and expanding clean energy access, this project strengthens Senegal's energy mix and reinforces our commitment to sustainable development in Africa."

Monika Beck, DEG Management Board member, added: "This project illustrates the shift from fossil fuels to cleaner energy solutions, electrifying rural areas and creating the foundation for long-term economic growth."

As the largest solar and battery project in West Africa, the Kolda solar farm will serve as a blueprint for renewable energy advancements in the region. With its ability to deliver clean power, improve grid reliability, and foster economic development, the initiative represents a significant stride toward a sustainable energy future for Senegal and beyond.

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