## Solar street lights in ghana



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"Because criminals don"t like visibility, the government has supported the region to make sure we light up the entire region with some street lights. In phase one, 10,000 streetlights were distributed in 2022.

"20,000 in 2023 and in phase three, we are going to do 25,000. There is a process in place where a company wants to partner with the regional coordinating council to do a solar one on the Tema Motorway. They will do a pilot from Shiashie through the Airport to 37 to Accra Central," he noted.

"Then we look at the N1 all the way to Weija Gbawe. Then we come to Achimota, the Overhead, through the Forestry Commission, the Achimota Police Station, GIMPA and then we make a turn towards Fiesta Royale" he added.

Adako-Jachie (Ash), Jan. 15, GNA - Government has been urged to strengthen partnerships with electrical engineering companies and other key stakeholders to help address the issue of poor street lighting in the country.

Mr Thomas Dwomoh, Head of Electrical Training Centre at Prefos Limited, an electrical and civil engineering Company based in Kumasi, who made the call, said proper street lighting system had become a national problem with almost every place experiencing a malfunction or none at all.

He said the company was poised to offer more workplace experience learning through its training center, especially, in photovoltaic technology, besides spearheading the national electrification and infrastructural development programme.

To this end, the company had acquired a land to build a modern 570KVA solar assembly plant and a solar farm with the intention to support Ghana's industrialization agenda through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as well as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.

Mr Dwomoh said the Training Center was in 2023 affiliated with Partner Africa Project to champion the Green Africa agenda in the area of providing photovoltaic solar training to African indigenes.

This project, which is sponsored by the government of Germany would provide modern training facilities and equipment to the Prefos Electrical Training Center and some stipends to train the youth in solar technology.

The newest city in Africa's sub-Saharan region to implement solar street lighting for financial and ecological reasons is Jinja, Uganda. The demand for effective, sustainable lighting solutions has resulted in a significant change in the African industry towards solar LED street lights.

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Africa is a great place to capture solar energy because of its reputation for having an abundance of sunshine. Nonetheless, a large number of African nations continue to primarily rely on conventional energy sources, which drives up energy prices and pollutes the environment. Solar LED street lights have emerged as a practical answer as public awareness of the need to switch to alternative sources of energy has grown in recent years.

Compared to conventional street lighting systems, solar LED street lights have a number of advantages. First of all, they run on solar energy, which is abundant, clean and sustainable in Africa. This lowers energy expenses and increases energy independence by doing away with the requirement for pricey and unstable grid connections. Furthermore, a greater percentage of solar energy can be converted into useable light by solar LED street lights due to their high efficiency. As a result, there is improved roadway visibility and safety due to brighter, more uniform illumination.

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