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Mr. Batten, said in a statement, "The commissioning ceremony today marks an important step in ADB's support for Tuvalu's renewable energy transition. The completed project is helping the government to transform energy supply in Funafuti and the outer islands from a manual diesel-based power system into a modern automated high renewable energy-based power system."

The Tuvalu Increasing Access to Renewable Energy Project, part of the Pacific Renewable Energy Investment Facility, has received \$6 million in support from ADB. This is the first energy project in Tuvalu by ADB, and it has installed solar systems in the outer islands of Nui, Nukufetau, and Nukulaelae. To help Tuvalu reach its renewable energy goals, ADB approved an additional \$7.8 million in December 2023. This funding is co-financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Ireland Trust Fund, and the Urban Resilience Trust Fund from the UK Government.

The additional funding will support the Pacific's first near-shore floating solar PV system on Funafuti's Te Namo Lagoon. This system is designed to adapt to climate change and will help with coastal protection and reef regeneration. The project aims to improve the quality and reliability of power, make the energy service more resilient to climate change, reduce the country's reliance on imported fuels, and lower power generation costs by replacing some diesel with solar power.

The project is funded by ADB through the Asian Development Fund, which supports the poorest and most vulnerable countries. It is co-financed by the Global Environment Facility and the Government of Tuvalu. Since its establishment in 1966, ADB has worked to promote a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable Asia and Pacific, with a focus on eliminating extreme poverty. It is owned by 69 members, 49 of which are from the region.

Funafuti, Tuvalu: The installation of Tuvalu's inaugural 100.8kW Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) system has been successfully completed, with this cutting-edge system seeing 184 solar panels positioned on Tafua Pond in Funafuti.

Like many Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Tuvalu has been heavily reliant on imported fuel for its diesel-based power generation system. Through this new FSPV system 174.2 megawatts per hour of electricity will be generated each year, meeting two percent of Funafuti's annual energy demand.

The Facilitation of the Achievement of the Sustainable National Energy Targets of Tuvalu Project (FASNETT)- implemented by the United Nations Development Programme Pacific Office in Fiji in partnership with the Government of Tuvalu is supported by the Global Environment Facility. The project aims to facilitate the development and utilisation of feasible renewable energy resources and applications of energy efficient technologies in Tuvalu.



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The disruptive impact of global fuel prices has had significant repercussions on both local businesses and households, particularly in the Tuvalu's remote islands. The Government of Tuvalu has been passionately engaged in harnessing renewable energy solutions that align with the country's climate mitigation agenda.

With the successful installation of the FSPV system, the Government of Tuvalu draws closer to its national energy objective of achieving a complete reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity generation sector by 2025, in alignment with the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

General Manager of Tuvalu Energy Corporation, Mafalu Lotolua, underscored the Government of Tuvalu's pledge toward the use of innovative solutions, and stressed that without such action Tuvalu will continue to be hit hardest in the face of global climate change implications.

"This aspiration not only charts a promising path for the growth of renewable energy and energy-efficient enterprises but also serves as a testament to Tuvalu's unwavering commitment to sustainable methodologies as we strive for a greener, brighter future," he said.

UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji Resident Representative, Munkhtuya Altangerel, visited the site at Tafua Pond and said the installation signifies a determined leap forward on Tuvalu's sustainable journey.

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