Support Rural Electrification in Eastern Congo

Project description

The region of Butembo and Beni has one of the lowest rates of electricity access (around 3%) in the country and doesn't have neither an electricity network nor the national electricity company services. The project is providing electricity for the first time to the population of the cities of Butembo and Beni and will be a major step for local SMEs as well. 30,000 households will use this green electricity, replacing diesel generators available in limited numbers. ENK is using a prepayment system allowing the users to follow in real time their energy consumption and better manage their budget (no credit or debt collection). Within households, women are the most positively impacted by the arrival of electricity. Indeed, they no longer have to fetch tens of kilos of charcoal several times a week and transport them over many kilometers. They also benefit from a huge time saving when preparing meals and cooking. In addition, thanks to electricity, they can store food in fridges or freezers.

Project developer

ENK is a Congolese company resulting from a public-private partnership between Energreen and the province of North Kivu. ENK's mission is to produce and distribute renewable energy in regions that have been deprived of electricity and have potential for strong economic growth. By promoting access to affordable and quality electricity, ENK supports economic development in these regions. They have built and operate the powerplant, they also have established the transmission and distribution networks.

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Sustainable Development Goals



Project details

Project name: Talihya Nord I

Project type: Run-of-river small hydro

Location: Butembo & Beni, DRC

Project owner: Energie du Nord Kivu (ENK)

Status: Under registration & operational

Project ID: Verra VCS (under listing)

Key facts

57,000 tCO₂ saved/year.

9.5 MW power installed capacity.

10k households

supplied with green electricity to date.



Pictures



Impacts

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The country has an enormous development potential thanks to a very abundant hydrological resource.

The project is taking full advantage of this potential by using it instead of going for a more complex source of energy production.

Purchasing electricity from ENK allows households to make significant savings.

The electricity sold by ENK is two to three times cheaper than using diesel generators.



The plant was built through advanced technology transfer from industrialized countries.

The project was constructed with modern technology which are of a higher standard than many power plants in Africa.



In the region, around 3% of the population has access to electricity.

To date, 10,000 households have had access to an affordable and renewable energy.

Key facts

\$42m

total amount invested by ENK (two powerplants and distribution network).

30k households

to be supplied with green electricity.

250km

of new distribution lines built.

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