

Will a new solar micro-grid change Vanuatu's future?

On the remote island of Malekula, a new solar micro-grid is changing the lives of over 2,800 people -- boosting local development while contributing to Vanuatu's sector-specific target of transitioning to close to 100 percent renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2030.

What is a micro-grid in Vanuatu?

Launched in September in the communities of Wintua and Lorlow, the micro-grid is Vanuatu's first-ever community-run power system: members of the communities own and manage it. This keeps energy costs low as there are no external operation costs or profit margin are usually incorporated into an electricity fee and passed onto consumers.

What is a Vanuatu solar PV system?

This project is aligned to the Government of Vanuatu's National Energy Road Map for increasing the energy access for rural communities in Vanuatu. The installed solar PV system is a stand-alone 230/400 VAC 50Hz solar micro-grid combined with 48V batteries operating 24 hours and 7 days a week.

Is solar a good idea for Vanuatu?

Antony Garae, Director of the Vanuatu Department of Energy, said this project is a great boon to his country, where 80 percent of rural residents lack electricity. "Solar is the best solution for these areas not only because of its obvious contributions to climate change mitigation but because fuel is costly and difficult to transport," he said.



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The company works directly with landowners and representatives to purchase or lease land to host solar farms, provides capital and support to developers, and assists funds, companies, and individuals to directly invest in distributed energy, enabling clients to efficiently develop portfolios of distributed energy projects and accelerate the



While electricity customers are granted such rights under the Electricity Supply Act, for the purposes of safety and stability of the entire electricity network, the Department of Energy highly recommends that any person who intends to or has installed a rooftop solar for self-generation purposes must ensure that his or her system must not



Vanuatu's geography makes it difficult to create centralized energy systems, which leaves many communities and islands needing electricity, hindering development and forcing the use of fossil fuels for lighting.



NextGrid Inc. is a renewable power company. We develop and operate distributed solar energy and storage projects in the United States. We focus on investment-grade commercial opportunities in states that welcome renewable energy such as Massachusetts, New Jersey, D.C., Maine and California.



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In Vanuatu, grid power is one of the most expensive in the world. Our solar power systems offer a cost-effective alternative, significantly reducing your electricity expenses and providing a more affordable energy solution.



Union Electrique Du Vanuatu Limited (UNELCO) is set to contract the construction of a groundbreaking 3 MWp solar Photovoltaic (PV) grid-connected plant with an estimated Vatu (VT) 300 million worth of investment financed through the Port Vila Concession tariff for the period of 2020-2025.



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