MOUNT COFFEE

Location
Montserrado County,
Liberia

PROJECT SUMMARY

Feasibility studies for what would be Liberia's first ever grid-connected solar farm are under way thanks to a development loan from REPP to Gigawatt Global.

Liberia currently suffers from one of the lowest electrification rates in the world and has a total installed capacity of just 126MW, which is constraining economic growth.

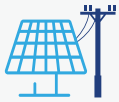
Once built, the 20MW plant in the north of the country would increase national generation capacity by 15% and, with that, contribute significantly towards its NDC target of increasing the proportion of renewable energy to at least 30% of all electricity production by 2030.

Developer Gigawatt Global Liberia Ltd.'s proposed site for the farm lies 18km from the Mount Coffee hydropower dam, which experiences periods of significantly reduced productivity during the dry season due to low water levels. The completed plant would complement the hydropower facility during these months and in doing so displace the need for higher-cost diesel generation that most Liberians rely on for lighting, while supplementing the dam's clean energy production for the rest of the year.

The project has been openly supported by the Liberian government and is the country's first development by an Independent Power Producer (IPP). If it proves a success, it will provide a strong demonstration of impact for other clean energy projects regionally and help build the necessary capacity at government level to support the growth of Liberia's nascent solar sector.

AT A GLANCE

Technology
Grid-connected solar PV



Project type
Greenfield, grid-connected

Offtaker
Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)

KPIs

Greenhouse gas emissions avoided: 17,520 tCO_2e per year

People with first-time access to clean energy: N/A

MW Installed capacity: 20MW

FUNDING STRUCTURE

Signed: 13 December 2018

Type: Development loan

REPP funding: Undisclosed

SDGs

"Gigawatt Global is pleased to partner with the UK's REPP to unlock the potential of deeply impactful renewable energy projects where they're needed most. This is especially evident in Liberia which struggles with seasonal hydro levels and reliance on expensive polluting diesel power, thus benefiting greatly from Gigawatt's solar project."

Michael Fichtenberg, Executive VP Finance & Business Development, Gigawatt Global

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