

Les Soleils du Bénin

green energy infrastructure project portfolio

Les Soleils du Bénin is a Team Europe funded portfolio of green mini-grid energy infrastructure in Benin, developed by the French company GDS International, the franco-Beninese company MJB – ARESS and with funding from NOA and EDFI ElectrIFI.

Through 12 green mini-grids, the project portfolio will provide distributed renewable energy (DRE) to around 50,000 people, 700 small and medium-sized enterprises and 300 public infrastructure customers, such as schools, healthcare centres and clinics, public administration offices and churches. ~1,650 tonnes of CO₂ emissions are avoided every year, while the project has already created 2,000 local jobs.

Les Soleils du Bénin has leveraged blended finance and have received private finance from NOA, combined with Team Europe financing from EDFI ElectrIFI.

The objective of this project is to provide a stable access to clean electricity at an affordable price. The project originated as part of a call for projects organised by the Off-grid Clean Energy Facility (OCEF), a component of the Millenium Challenge Account (MCA)-Benin II off-grid electricity access project. The consortium was one of the few which managed the technical and financial challenge, with many dropping out during the development phase.

Today, the impact is massive and already noticeable: 12 electrified villages are first illuminated by the free public lighting provided, making streets safer and increasing the available opening hours for school, clinics, businesses etc. In the long run, we expect not only more economic activity but also more children in schools for longer hours and more vaccines distributed.



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Location:

Benin (multiple locations)



Budget:

~EUR 10,000,000



Private financing: NOA

Team Europe financing:

EDFI ElectrIFI



Green energy infrastructure:

The project will generate 3.1 MWh for 1.7 MWp.



Electricity connections:

The project portfolio will connect to renewable power

6,000 total customers, impacting approximately **50,000** people

On the **6,000** total customers, about **700** are Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), including mills, restaurants, bars, shops and mechanic's garages, and **300** are institutional customers, such as schools, healthcare centres and clinics, public administration offices and churches.



Climate impact:

~1,650 tonnes of CO₂ emissions will be avoided every year.



Social impact:

The project has already created 2,000 local jobs.

Team Europe Project Partners:



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