

Sandveld Solar Park announces commercial operation of 4.6MWp solar capacity in Ghanzi, Botswana.



Sandveld Solar Park: Commercial Operation in Botswana

Gaborone, Abidjan, Harare, Paris, 23 January 2026

The Sandveld Solar Park (Pty) Ltd has achieved a significant milestone with its 4.6MWp solar photovoltaic (PV) facility in Ghanzi, Botswana successfully commencing commercial operations. This accomplishment highlights a pivotal development in Botswana’s renewable energy landscape, reinforcing the advancement of competitive, market-driven clean energy initiatives in the country.

The project company is owned by Gaborone-based developers **Energy Systems Group (“ESG”)** and **Sahara Renewables Group (“SRG”)**. Sustainable infrastructure firm **New Sahara Ventures (“NSV”)** is the EPC O&M contractor for the Project.

The AFRIGREEN Debt Impact Fund (“AFRIGREEN”), managed by RGREEN INVEST and advised by ECHOSYS INVEST, focus on sustainable energy solutions and backed by prominent institutions including the European Investment Bank (EIB), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), Belgian Investment Company for Developing Countries (BIO), FMO, Proparco, Société Générale, and BNP Paribas. BNP Paribas provided a senior loan facility to the Project.

Key Project Metrics and Clean Energy Benefits

The Sandveld Solar Park project has brought about notable achievements in terms of employment, capacity building, commercial benefit to building material suppliers and environmental impact. During the construction phase, up to 60 jobs were created, with over 90% of these positions filled by Botswana nationals. This underscores the project’s commitment to local empowerment, significant skills transfer, and practical training within the community.

In addition to its socio-economic contributions, the facility is expected to generate approximately 9 GWh of clean electricity annually. This sustainable energy output is estimated to result in a reduction of nearly 9,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions each year, highlighting the project's important role in supporting Botswana's transition to cleaner energy sources while mitigating environmental impact.



Felix Chavaphi, *Managing Director of Energy Systems Group*, commented: “This is indeed a great milestone for our people, our partners and all our stakeholders who have worked tirelessly to reach this point of project development. The economic and environmental impact that the project will have on the Ghanzi township, and its surroundings promises to be a great one and we are excited to be part of this history making development. Our Vision is to see Ghanzi become not just a capital of premium Beef production but also a hub of clean energy production”.

Alexandre Gilles, *AFRIGREEN fund advisor's Managing Director* said: “We are pleased to support this initiative, which aligns with our commitment to promoting sustainable energy solutions in Africa. Our partners, ESG and SRG, have demonstrated their ability to deliver this project on time, within budget, and to the highest industry standards. As the first utility-scale project financed by AFRIGREEN, it sets an important precedent. We plan to continue investing in quality projects in Botswana and the broader region, starting with the upcoming extension of this project.”

Ainos Ngadya, *Chairman & Entrepreneur in Residence for New Sahara Ventures*, underscored the organisation's strategic focus on advancing sustainable energy solutions within the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). He highlighted the company's dedication to fostering a shared future and brighter communities through its initiatives. Ngadya noted that the transition toward cleaner energy, as exemplified by the energisation of Sandveld Solar Park, stands as a central pillar in NSV's strategy.

Stakeholder Support and Collaboration

The company extends its gratitude to the **Botswana Power Corporation (BPC)**, the **Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA)**, **Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC)** as well as Specialist Advisory firms, **ANF Capital Partners Inc**, **Fresh Legal Perspectives** and **Collins Chilisa Consultants** for their committed partnership. Their collaborative efforts played a crucial role in ensuring that the project was delivered according to schedule, reflecting the strength of public and private sector engagement in advancing Botswana's renewable energy sector.

Future Development: Sandveld Solar Park

Looking ahead, Sandveld Solar Park is positioned to play a significant role in Botswana's renewable energy landscape with a target to reach more than 300MW of solar capacity in the country by 2030. This ambitious target is underpinned by robust local partnerships and the backing of international investors, ensuring a strong foundation for success.

About Energy Systems Group

Energy Systems Group (Proprietary) Limited is headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana and is recognised as a leading provider of renewable energy solutions. With a proven track record spanning over two decades, the company has established itself as an integrated clean energy firm, specialising in the deployment of solar energy systems and mechanical installations. Energy Systems Group offers a comprehensive range of services, covering every stage of a project's lifecycle. The company's extensive experience and integrated approach position it as a key player in supporting Botswana's transition to sustainable energy.

About New Sahara Ventures

New Sahara Ventures is recognised as one of Africa's foremost developers, pioneers, operators, and owner-managed investors in renewable power and transition assets. The company boasts a substantial pipeline and portfolio capacity approaching 1,000 megawatts in Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the SADC region. As a forward-thinking organisation, New Sahara Ventures is committed to strengthening its collaboration with ESG & AFRIGREEN, aiming to deliver more sustainable and clean energy solutions throughout the Southern African Development Community. This partnership underscores the Group's dedication to supporting the region's transition to renewable energy and advancing broader sustainability objectives.

About the AFRIGREEN Debt Impact Fund

AFRIGREEN is an infrastructure senior debt fund that offers financing solutions for commercial & industrial (C&I) consumers in Africa, enabling their installation of on-and off-grid solar power plants to help reduce their energy bill as well as their diesel dependency. AFRIGREEN is a fund managed by RGREEN INVEST and advised by Echosys Invest.

AFRIGREEN applies IFC Performance Standards and EIB Environmental & Social Standards. It follows an environmental and social management system under which all projects are audited to assess positive and negative impacts in terms of environmental and social aspects. AFRIGREEN pays specific attention to the risk of forced labour being used in the production of solar photovoltaic panels and their

components. It condemns the use of such forced labour for the production of solar photovoltaic panels or their components.

PRESS CONTACTS

For more information about the project and future updates, please contact:

info@newsaharaventures.com

and,

For all media inquiries regarding AFRIGREEN:

Communication team: communication@rgreeninvest.com