

ENERGY TRANSITION in Cameroon: Greening at United Nations Development Programme as a pilot



After revising its NDC with the support of UNDP, Cameroon announced, at COP26 in 2021, commitments to reduce GHG emissions by 35% compared to a reference scenario for the target year 2030, broken down into 12% unconditional and 23% conditional on the support of the international community in the form of financing, capacity building and technology transfer. The decarbonisation of the energy, agricultural and industrial sectors and the sustainable management of the waste sector play a crucial role in this respect, both globally and in Cameroon.

The challenge for UNDP is to satisfy energy demand of the office while reducing GHG emissions rapidly, starting with the best available techniques. The techniques will include deployment of large capacities of variable renewable energy such as solar PV with LED technology.

Renewable energy is the most effective solution for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Innovative and effective approaches are needed to reduce the environmental footprint of the global UNDP by 25% by 2025 and by 50% by 2030. Under its "UNDP Cameroon Goes Green" project, UNDP Cameroon has taken steps to reduce its carbon footprint as part of a commitment to bold climate action in line with the UN's "**Greening the Blue**" initiative.

Its actions are defined by the switch to solar power for its photovoltaic machine room and the replacement of all its light bulbs with LEDs, which has allowed the office to make real savings in terms of costs and GHG emissions reduction.

These installed solar panels will allow UNDP Cameroon to offset 4.57 tons of CO₂ emissions per year, while producing an impressive 12-Megawatt hours of cleaner, more efficient energy and reducing its annual costs by \$34,618. This supports the achievement of **SDG 13** "Climate Action" while promoting **SDG 7** "Clean and Affordable Energy".

It is worth noting that, the installation of this hybrid system was supported by UNDP's Information Technology Management (ITM) office based in Copenhagen.

Prior to the installation of the hybrid system, the UNDP Cameroon office was 100% dependent on the electrical grid supported by carbon-intensive diesel generators, which have proven to be polluting, expensive and unreliable.

UNDP Cameroon is a model of sustainability and green technology and is excited to see the possibilities that combining these various technologies will bring to

its work. We hope this will spark a movement to build local capacity and smart installations and transform the energy transport sectors in Cameroon.

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