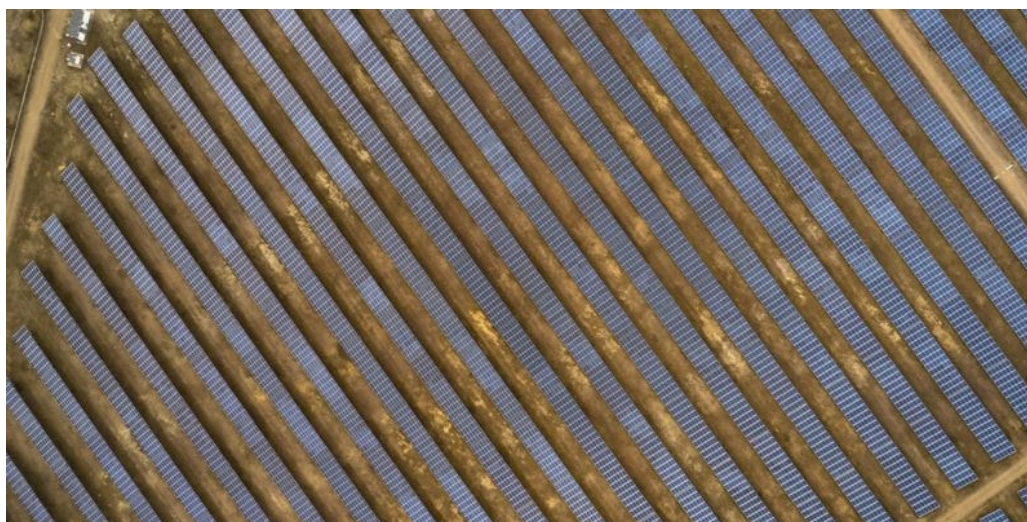


Homepage » LESOTHO: construction of the Mafeteng solar power plant will begin in 2021

LESOTHO: construction of the Mafeteng solar power plant will begin in 2021

By **Inès Magoum** - Published on October 9 2020 / Modified on October 9 2020



According to recent statements by the Lesotho authorities, construction work on the Mafeteng solar photovoltaic power plant will begin in five months. The installation will have a production capacity of 70 MWp.

The Mafeteng district in Lesotho will soon have a 70 MWp photovoltaic solar power plant. The project, which has been under development for almost three years, has just been given a new boost. In recent statements, the authorities of this southern African country have indicated that construction work on the plant will begin in five months. This decision follows the opening by Exim Bank of China of a line of credit to finance the project. The value of the line of credit was not disclosed. But a few months ago, the Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese embassy, Ma Guoliang, said that the Lesotho government was negotiating a loan of 2 billion Lesotho Lots (more than \$121 million).

The photovoltaic solar power plant will be installed in the locality of Ha-Ramarothole, in the district of Mafeteng and will occupy a 220 hectare plot of land. The works will be carried out by two Chinese

companies, notably China Sinoma International Engineering and TBEA Xinjiang New Energy. The construction of the facility will be carried out in two phases.

The first stage of the project will make it possible to inject 30 MWp of electricity into Lesotho's national power grid. This phase is expected to cost \$70 million. The second part of the plant, with a capacity of 40 MWp, will require an investment of \$77 million. The implementation of this phase of the project will start after a monitoring and evaluation interval of the first phase of the project.

The future solar photovoltaic power plant will improve access to electricity in Mafeteng district and Lesotho as a whole, a country where barely 30% of households have access to electricity according to the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). Lesotho currently covers most of its electricity consumption with its 72 MW Muela hydropower plant, which unfortunately does not meet the growing demand of the population and businesses. However, the government of this small southern African kingdom wants to increase the rate of access to electricity to 40% before the end of 2020.

The future Mafeteng solar power plant will enable Lesotho to reduce its electricity costs, an energy partly imported from South Africa and Mozambique.

Inès Magoum

CATEGORIES RENEWABLE ENERGIES SOLAR ENERGY

TAGS EXIM BANQUE OF CHINA AFRICA RENEWABLE ENERGY AFRICA

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOUTHERN AFRICA SOLAR ENERGY AFRICA

SOLAR ENERGY SOUTHERN AFRICA USTDA AFRICA

COUNTRIES AFRICA LESOTHO SOUTHERN AFRICA





**AFRICA'S
GREEN ECONOMY
SUMMIT**

proud sponsor



Investments

**21-23
FEB 2024**

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

**REGISTER
NOW**

**VISIT
WWW.GREENECONOMYSUMMIT.COM**

More on the same theme



SOLAR ENERGY

NAMIBIA: in Otjikoto, SPS to decarbonize gold mining with solar power



BIODIVERSITY

Floods, plastics pollution, solar energy... five news highlights this week



SOLAR ENERGY

Ivory Coast: PFO enters the solar business with its first 52 MW plant in Sokhoro

More on the same area



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Italy-Africa cooperation sharpens with €5bn energy and migration plan



DRINKING WATER

LIBYA: water strategy soon to be revised to meet climate challenges



SUSTAINABLE CITIES

TOGO: sports dance choreographs sustainable waste management



AFRIK 21 COMMUNITY

Join the green economy community in Africa, by becoming member of the Afrik 21 Group on LinkedIn

[> Join](#)

AFRIK 21

Afrik 21 is published by Publishing 21,
31 rue Saint-Georges, 75 009 Paris,
France
Siret 838399186 00077 Paris

[Write us](#)

[> Editorial staff](#)

Editor in chief : Jean Marie Takouleu

[> Advertising](#)

Brand content & display : Gaëlle Nicolas

[> Management](#)

Publisher : Delphine Chêne

NEWSLETTERS

Subscribe to the English newsletter of the actors for green economy in Africa and receive it by mail each morning on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays..

I accept the terms&conditions; [Read](#)

SUBSCRIBE

INFORMATION

[> Legal mentions](#)

[> About us](#)

[> Copyright and reproduction rights](#)

[> Data processing and liberties](#)

[> Cookies](#)

[> Liability of the Publisher](#)

ARCHIVES

- [January 2024](#) (105)
- [December 2023](#) (45)
- [November 2023](#) (79)
- [October 2023](#) (95)
- [September 2023](#) (97)
- [August 2023](#) (111)
- [July 2023](#) (97)
- [June 2023](#) (98)
- [May 2023](#) (92)
- [April 2023](#) (99)
- [March 2023](#) (130)
- [February 2023](#) (129)
- [January 2023](#) (123)
- [December 2022](#) (105)
- [November 2022](#) (136)
- [October 2022](#) (141)
- [September 2022](#) (149)
- [August 2022](#) (132)
- [July 2022](#) (141)
- [June 2022](#) (145)
- [May 2022](#) (130)
- [April 2022](#) (139)
- [March 2022](#) (158)

- [February 2022](#) (133)
- [January 2022](#) (124)
- [December 2021](#) (110)
- [November 2021](#) (134)
- [October 2021](#) (113)
- [September 2021](#) (129)
- [August 2021](#) (118)
- [July 2021](#) (122)
- [June 2021](#) (105)
- [May 2021](#) (105)
- [April 2021](#) (117)
- [March 2021](#) (108)
- [February 2021](#) (111)
- [January 2021](#) (112)
- [December 2020](#) (107)
- [November 2020](#) (120)
- [October 2020](#) (123)
- [September 2020](#) (114)
- [August 2020](#) (108)
- [July 2020](#) (116)
- [June 2020](#) (114)
- [May 2020](#) (108)
- [April 2020](#) (117)
- [March 2020](#) (113)
- [February 2020](#) (96)
- [January 2020](#) (104)
- [December 2019](#) (76)
- [November 2019](#) (107)
- [October 2019](#) (121)
- [September 2019](#) (103)
- [August 2019](#) (92)
- [July 2019](#) (103)
- [June 2019](#) (102)
- [May 2019](#) (102)
- [April 2019](#) (92)
- [March 2019](#) (88)
- [February 2019](#) (81)
- [January 2019](#) (87)
- [December 2018](#) (58)
- [November 2018](#) (86)
- [October 2018](#) (81)
- [September 2018](#) (59)
- [August 2018](#) (58)
- [July 2018](#) (65)
- [June 2018](#) (55)
- [May 2018](#) (52)
- [April 2018](#) (19)