

## Energy Access Using Solar Minigrid for Ijaye Community, Oyo State, Nigeria

Ijaye Community Energy Access Project using Solar Mini grid is a 2023 project of the Community Research and Development Centre (CREDC) funded by the Global Environment Facility Small Grant Programme and co-financed by the Organisation.

Goal 7 of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) also known as Global Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015 canvases for affordable and clean energy.



Source: GLEC Global

In Nigeria, many still do not have access to power supply from the national grid. Many who have access to power from the national grid are underserved.

While quoting the Energy Progress Report 2022 released by Tracking SDG 7, a report by The Punch Newspaper on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 stated as follows:

*“ Nigeria has the lowest access to electricity globally, with about 92 million persons out of the country’s 200 million population lacking access to power... ”*

Ijaye Community is located in Akinyele Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. The project titled ‘Access to Sustainable Energy Using Solar Mini Grid for Ijaye Community’ was formally flagged off on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, 2023 in Ijaye with an Inception Workshop and Training. The mini grid facility to be installed is a 20KW facility which is expected to power about 100 houses within the Community. The expected date for completion of the project is September 2023 with end-users connected to the facility. The project will utilize the photovoltaic technology to generate electricity within the Community.



Representative of the Oyo State Commissioner for Energy giving his address at the Inception Workshop and Training

Ijaye Community has lacked access to electricity for over a decade due to some technical issues after being initially connected to the national grid. Having been off the grid since 2014, residents have had to resort to unclean and unsustainable alternatives such as the use of fossil fuel powered generators, candle light and lamps for lighting purposes. The use of private generators has both environmental, health and socio-economic implications; they are sources of Green-House Gas (GHG) emission, health challenges due to smoke and soot; and put undue stress on the finances of households and businesses.

With the installation and connection of end-users to the facility, the use of fossil fuel powered lighting will drastically reduce.

At the project flag off Inception Workshop and Training, CREDC lectured participants on energy efficient best practices and the 2016 NERC Mini grid Regulation.



Cross section of participants at the Workshop



Resource Persons (CREDC) at the Inception Workshop/Training

One of the visions of CREDC is bringing energy to local communities in a sustainable manner in line with the global call for sustainable development encapsulated by the sustainable development goals. The Ijaye Project is one of such projects currently being embarked upon by the organization in furtherance of its objective of creating awareness and implementing action plan.