

PHOTOVOLTAIC FACT SHEETS

European Photovoltaic Technology Platform



Some people state that “Decentralised PV systems are not sufficient for commercial requirements.”

The fact is: For most stand-alone applications, photovoltaic (PV) power systems generate the least cost electricity over the lifetime of the project. Moreover, solar energy can provide technically viable autonomous solutions for a very wide range of applications from small elementary domestic needs to industrial energy service applications, from individual plants of a few watts to village or island micro grids up to the MW range.



Source: TTA

PV Microgrid in Cabo Verde

Furthermore, PV, combined with storage and other renewable energy technologies or diesel generators to form a PV multisource (hybrid) plant, is able to supply also high quality AC electricity 24h/day.

PV can thereby contribute to income generation activities such as farms, water pumps, shops, small businesses and industries as well as education facilities.

“Off-grid applications are the most competitive solution in many situations”



Xavier Vallvé
Trama TecnoAmbiental

PV is used in remote areas where it is the most cost-competitive solution. Remote applications for solar power include:

- Rural electrification
- Commerce and shops
- Schools and clinics
- Communication and navigation
- Cathodic protection
- Security and surveillance
- Street lighting



Source: ISET

PV generator in Gambia

Therefore the correct statement is: “Remote PV plants are the electricity supply of choice for many commercial and productive applications including larger electrical loads.”