

SEPTEMBER, 2025



REA, Astound Power Kick Off Renewable Energy Training Programme, 100 Young Nigerians Enrolled.

On Saturday, 13 September 2025, the Rural Electrification Agency added a feather to its sustained efforts on your inclusion and capacity building in the renewable energy space with the official launch of a Renewable Energy Training Programme at the University of Maiduguri, Borno State. A 8-week programme deliberately designed to nurture and train a new breed of young professionals in Northern Nigeria, equipping 100 students with the foundational knowledge

Cont'd Page 4

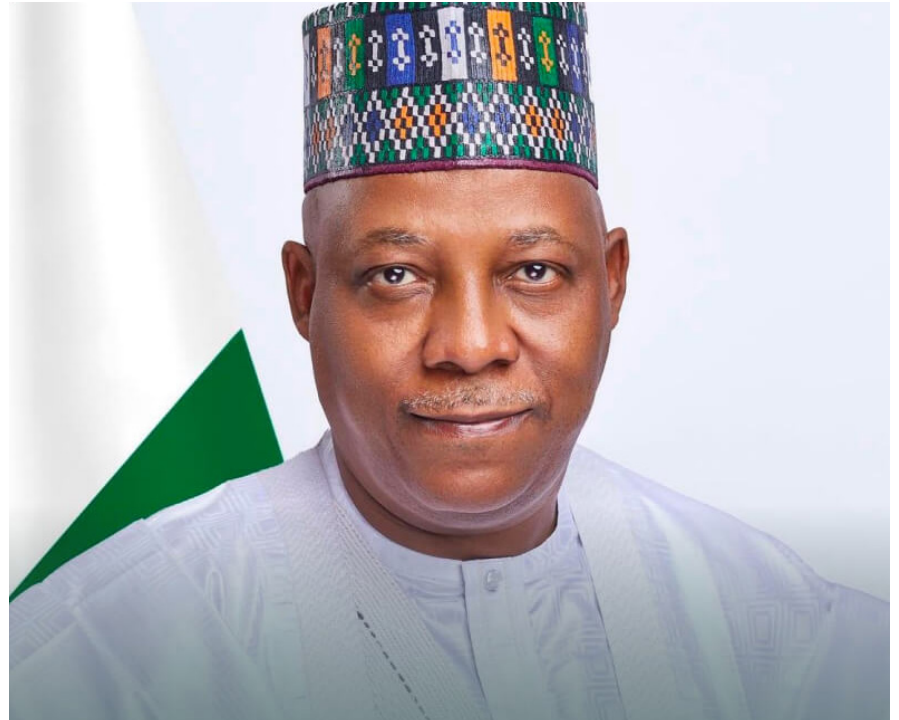


Infracorp, REA, and Solarge BV Sign Agreement, Take Strategic Leap Toward Local Solar PV Manufacturing

In a landmark move to accelerate Nigeria's energy transition and industrialization agenda, The Rural Electrification Agency (REA), The Infrastructure Corporation of Nigeria (InfraCorp), and Solarge BV of the Netherlands have formally announced the creation of Solarge Nigeria Limited, a special purpose vehicle (SPV) that will establish and operate a 1(ONE) gigawatt (GW) solar photovoltaic (PV) panel manufacturing facility in Nigeria. The agreement was signed at infraCorp office central area, Abuja.

Cont'd Page 3

V.P Kashim Ibrahim Set to Unveil NREIF as REA Counts Down to the Groundbreaking Event in Abuja



The Federal government of Nigeria, through the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) of Nigeria under the Federal Ministry of Power, wishes to inform the general public, stakeholders, renewable energy manufacturers partners, and the broader clean energy community that the Nigeria Renewable Energy Innovation Forum (NREIF, 2025) has been scheduled for the 14th and 15th of October, 2025 in Abuja, Nigeria. The highly anticipated 2-day knowledge-driven and impact-focused Forum, originally slated for August 2025, will now take place on the above dates. This comes as a direct response to the heightened national and global interest, increased registrations, and expanded partnership conversations following our initial announcement.

Themed "Implementing the Nigeria First Policy: Facilitating Local Content Development and Manufacturing in the Renewable Energy Ecosystem," NREIF 2025 has been curated as a catalytic space for impact-focused policy dialogue, strategic partnerships for innovation in the renewable energy manufacturing space, and local content development showcase, all aimed at unlocking opportunities in the renewable energy manufacturing landscape and positioning Nigeria as the renewable energy hub in Africa.

As the Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Power and the Rural Electrification Agency continue to advance the nation's efforts on improved energy access and clean energy technology independence, NREIF 2025 is a signal of growing momentum, stronger stakeholder alignment, and the need to accommodate more collaborative participation.

Cont'd Page 5

REA Hosts 3 State Governments in September as the Agency Advances its State-by-State Strategic Roundtable



In September, the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) continued its steady progress, scaling its flagship State-by-State Strategic Roundtable series by convening three transformative sessions with the Governments of Akwa Ibom, Kebbi, and Sokoto States. The high-level engagements, each attended by the Executive Governors and Deputy Governors, reaffirmed the REA's mandate to facilitate public-private-partnerships and catalyze investment opportunities across States, in alignment with the 2023 Electricity Act.

The Roundtable sessions are designed to unlock state-level opportunities, while aligning local energy priorities with national electrification goals. By fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue, the REA is building stronger partnerships with state governments, development finance institutions, and private sector players, ensuring the delivery of clean, sustainable power to households, enterprises, and public institutions.

At the Akwa Ibom State Roundtable, discussions centred on exploring opportunities to advance Akwa Ibom State's electricity market and foster impactful public-private partnerships. The Governor underscored the state's commitment to leveraging the REA Roundtable outcomes to build a robust electricity market that can power industries, improve livelihoods, and strengthen

resilience. "We have moved from aspiration to legal and institutional foundation. Today, we pivot to implementation and delivery. Electricity is the key driver of our purpose to ensure that every Akwa Ibomite, in every corner of this State, can live with dignity and opportunity in the 21st century" – Pastor Umo Eno, Executive Governor, Akwa Ibom State.

At the Kebbi State Roundtable, the pivotal role of energy in boosting agricultural productivity and improving rural livelihoods was highlighted, harping on the theme, Bridging Infrastructure Gaps and Igniting Innovative Growth for a Resilient Electricity Market. With the State being a hub for agricultural production, stakeholders explored electrification models that enhance agro-processing, irrigation, and cold storage, positioning renewable energy as a driver of food security and rural economic growth in the State. Kebbi State is open for business. The



State is blessed with not just fertile land but with people. The people of the State are resilient, hardworking and eager to succeed – Umar Abubakar Tafida, Deputy Governor, Kebbi State.

Themed catalysing investment in the Sokoto State electricity market, advancing distributed energy for productive use, local enterprise, and sustainable growth, the REA-Sokoto State session emphasized inclusive growth and the need to power lives and enterprises at the grassroots. Discussions explored scalable renewable energy interventions for households and small businesses, opportunities for productive use of energy, and mechanisms for attracting financing to strengthen the state's electricity market. Access to reliable electricity is a cornerstone for unlocking productivity and attracting investors and improving the livelihood of our people, particularly in communities that have long been unserved and underserved" – Idris Gobir, Deputy Governor, Sokoto State.

As the REA continues to advance this deliberate and transformative initiative, it remains clear that the Agency has access to verified and verifiable energy access data, millions of unserved and underserved Nigerians stand a chance to be energized using distributed renewable energy technologies across the 36 States and the FCT, and the clean energy sector in Nigeria is ripe for strategic public-private-partnerships and investments.



REA, UNEP Activate Off-grid Refrigeration Implementation Programme to Strengthen Food Security, Healthcare, and Local Economies

The Rural Electrification Agency (REA), in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), has officially launched the Off-grid Refrigeration Guidelines Pilot Implementation Programme in Abuja. The strategic energy access initiative seeks to promote the widespread adoption of energy-efficient off-grid refrigeration solutions in Nigeria's rural and underserved communities.

UNEP is the leading global authority on the environment, providing guidance and support to countries in achieving sustainable development. UNEP works to strengthen environmental governance, promote clean and efficient energy systems, and advance climate resilience. Through initiatives such as the United for Efficiency (U4E) programme, UNEP has been at the forefront of developing and promoting minimum energy performance standards, including for cooling and refrigeration, to help countries reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower energy costs, and improve access to sustainable technologies.

Given the critical role of refrigeration in enhancing food security, healthcare services, and economic productivity, this initiative seeks to bridge the energy access gap by introducing sustainable and scalable refrigeration technologies tailored to the unique socio-economic and environmental contexts of rural communities.

Speaking at the inception workshop, the Honourable Minister of Livestock

Development, Idi Maiha, hailed off-grid refrigeration as a "game-changing solution" that cuts across multiple sectors including food security, healthcare delivery, and local economic growth.

"Refrigeration supports livelihoods and stimulates local economies," the Minister said.



From preserving milk, meat, fruits, and vegetables for farmers, to storing vaccines in rural clinics, to powering small businesses like food vendors and local shops, efficient refrigeration is at the heart of sustainable community development.

The Minister further stated that lessons from this pilot would serve as a blueprint for scaling similar projects nationwide, strengthening agricultural value chains, reducing food waste, and enhancing rural healthcare resilience. He called for stronger collaboration among government, private sector investors, civil society, and international partners to unlock the full potential of decentralized energy systems.

REA's MD/CEO, Abba Abubakar Aliyu, underscored the Agency's commitment to delivering the pilot while highlighting its transformative impact. "This programme



will directly support Nigeria's food security drive by reducing post-harvest losses, improving the preservation of agricultural goods, and strengthening healthcare delivery systems. Livestock development will also benefit significantly as proper cold storage for beef and animal products unlocks additional value for farmers and processors," he said.

Aliyu noted that efficient refrigeration would ease logistics challenges for temperature-sensitive products, create jobs, boost incomes, and improve the dignity of rural communities. He assured stakeholders of REA's dedication to scaling the programme and called on the Federal Government and partners to sustain funding for expansion.



This co-ownership and strategic offtake agreement/collaboration, aligns with the Federal Government of Nigeria's National Public Sector Solarization Initiative (NPSSI) and the broader objectives of the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund (RHIDF), which aim to scale clean energy access across public institutions while building robust local content in Nigeria's renewable energy sector.

The special purpose vehicle (SPV), Solarge Nigeria Limited will be co-owned by:

- InfraCorp – 26%
- REA – 25%
- Solarge BV (Netherlands) – 49%

This public-private partnership will leverage InfraCorp's investment mobilization capacity, REA's policy leadership in rural electrification and public sector solarization, and Solarge BV's advanced technology and manufacturing expertise to localize high-quality solar PV production in Nigeria.



Key Project Highlights

- **1GW Solar PV Factory:** A state-of-the-art manufacturing facility to be constructed in Nigeria, with a target of 50% local content within the first three years.
- **Technology Transfer & Jobs:** The facility will support significant technology transfer, capacity building, and job creation, furthering Nigeria's energy transition and industrial policy goals.
- **Strategic Offtake:** Under the agreement, REA has committed to procure at least 200MW of solar modules per year over five years from Solarge Nigeria Ltd for NPSSI, RHIDF, and other public electrification programs.

In his address during the signing of the offtake agreement, Director General Budget office, Tanimu Yakubu kurfi mentioned that:

“This partnership exemplifies the type of innovation and collaboration that the Federal Government seeks to promote under the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund. It not only supports our fiscal sustainability goals but also deepens Nigeria's industrial base and energy self-reliance.”

Speaking on the partnership, Abba Abubakar Aliyu, Managing Director/CEO of REA stated that:

“Through this joint venture, we are not only creating access to clean energy but building the local capacity to manufacture it. This initiative aligns perfectly with the Renewed Hope Agenda and our mandate to electrify communities and institutions.”



Dr. Lazarus Angbazo, Managing Director/CEO of InfraCorp, added:

“Solarge Nigeria Limited represents a bold step toward local manufacturing and energy sovereignty. We're proud to partner with REA and Solarge BV to build a resilient and sustainable energy future for Nigeria.”

Joost Brinkman, CEO of Solarge BV, also expressed enthusiasm:

“We are excited to bring our technology and experience to this landmark initiative. Solarge Nigeria Ltd will set a new benchmark for solar manufacturing in Africa — built by Nigerians, for Nigerians.”

Solarge Nigeria Ltd will be governed by a Board of Directors representing all shareholders, including an independent non-executive director. A dedicated Project Management Office (PMO) and Offtake Coordination Desk will ensure seamless execution, regulatory compliance, and alignment with public procurement frameworks.



REA, Astound Power Kick Off Renewable Energy Training Programme, 100 Young Nigerians Enrolled.

Cont'd cover page

and skills necessary for contributing to Nigeria's sustainable energy future, the programme kicked off at the University of Maiduguri, the site of the 12MW solar hybrid power plant constructed under the World Bank-funded Energizing Education programme (EEP) Phase II.

Beyond implementing the deployment of renewable and off-grid energy infrastructure nationwide through its various programmes and initiatives, over the years, the REA has championed efforts on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and capacity development in the renewable energy space through initiatives such as the EEP female STEM Internship and the NEXTGen RESCO program. These initiatives are being optimised to secure the quality workforce needed across the nation as the Federal Government of Nigeria advances its mandate in renewable energy infrastructure scale-up. These young professionals, upon acquiring the requisite knowledge, will continue to strengthen a community of localized workforce in the sector.

As the REA continues to open its doors to strategic, impact-focused collaborations, the agency is working in lockstep with Astound Power, a youth-led Renewable Energy Company and MCC, the company engaged for the construction of the UNIMAD power plant under Phase II of the EEP.

Speaking at the training launch, Abba Abubakar Aliyu, the MD/CEO of REA emphasized the central role young people must continue to play to gain industry-standard expertise to secure the future of the nation's clean energy assets, aligning with the Federal Government's efforts on youth employment, and sustainable development. He explained that "the REA has already deployed clean energy infrastructure across the country, and as Nigeria is moving towards becoming the renewable energy hub of Africa, these



infrastructure requires not only funding but, most importantly, a pipeline of young workforce to lead in the operation and maintenance of these infrastructure"

Olufemi Akinyelure, the Head, Nigeria Electrification Programme (NEP), while addressing the 100 young Cohorts of the Renewable Energy Training Programme, spoke on the need to secure the energy transition pathway through skills development. He reiterated the transformative value of the Energizing Education Programme (EEP) II, under the NEP while giving assurances to young Nigerians to "tap into the opportunities being created by the REA as capacity development initiatives such as this will continue to take place across institutions where the REA currently have active EEP projects".

The 100 Cohorts were given a charge by other high-level dignitaries from the REA, as well as the Maiduguri University Management, including the Executive Director, Technical Services, Engr. Umar A. Umar; the Executive Director, Corporate Services Ayoade Gboyega; the Chief Medical Director, UMTH, Prof. Ahmed Ahidjo as well as the Actng. Vice Chancellor for the University.

In appreciation of the partnership with the REA, the Founder and CEO, Astound Power, Shuaibu Abubakar, expressed his delight as "securing the capacity

development partnership with the REA will ensure the optimization of the 8-week training curriculum designed to explore both theoretical and practical learning. Abubakar explained that "a future for the youth must involve the youth" and "by focusing on youth, this initiative aims to cultivate a new generation of skilled workers, leaders, and innovators who will spearhead Nigeria's energy transition.

For the REA, the sustained advocacy for youth inclusion in the clean energy sector is more than just an academic endeavour, but a deliberate move to secure the Federal Government's investment in renewable energy, increase local capacity and local expertise in the clean energy sector, drive long-term sustainability of renewable energy assets and build a dynamic workforce that can compete anywhere across the world.



Cont'd cover page



V.P Kashim Ibrahim Set to Unveil NREIF as REA Counts Down to the Groundbreaking Event in Abuja

With the Vice President of the Federal, His Excellency Sen. Kashim Ibrahim, GCON scheduled to flag-off the event, the 2-day Forum will convene a diverse ecosystem of actors: local manufacturers, research institutions, development finance institutions (DFIs), Renewable Energy Service Companies (RESCOs), vertically integrated clean energy companies, academia, sub-nationals, regulators, Ministries, international climate and technology partners, and investors focused on localized industrialization and energy access acceleration.

Speaking on NREIF, the Managing Director/CEO of the REA, Abba Abubakar Aliyu stated, "We are thrilled by the level of interest we have received since the first announcement of NREIF, 2025. We appreciate the sustained interest of our local and international partners whose commitments have been instrumental to the design of the Forum. NREIF is more than just an event; it is a defining

milestone in Nigeria's transition from being a consumer of clean energy products to a producer and exporter. It is time for Nigeria to eliminate renewable energy capital flight, while supporting our local expertise and local innovation through the optimization of our natural resources. Together, we can turn Nigeria into the renewable energy hub of the continent".

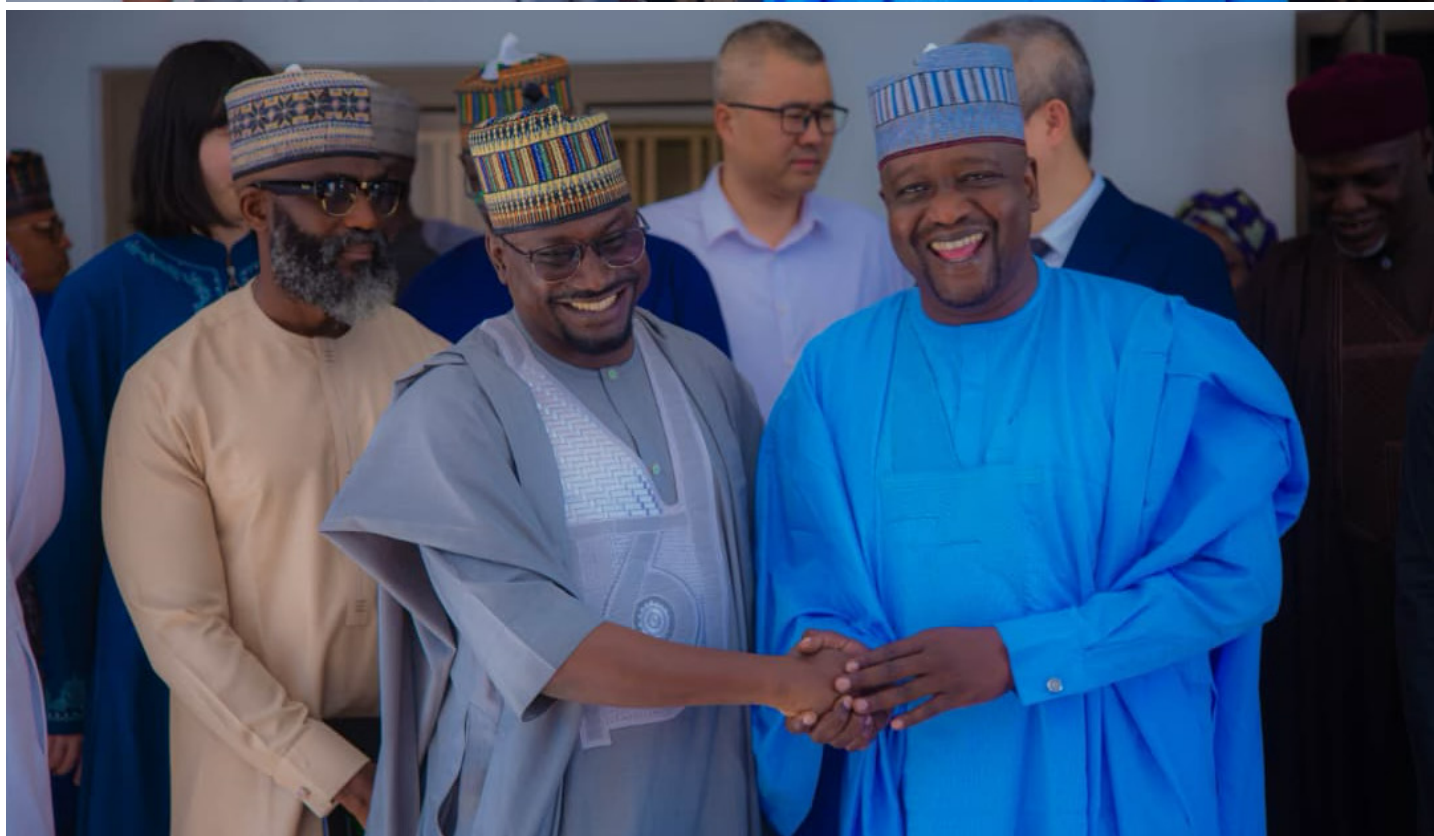
The REA has activated an open call to all stakeholders, including vertically integrated renewable energy companies, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OeM), local innovators and innovation hubs, Investors, Government agencies and private sector players, Development Finance Institutions and all other stakeholders interesting in participating, partnering or sponsoring NREIF, 2025

Through a curated exhibition hub, technical sessions, policy and innovation showcase sessions, keynotes and plenary, the Forum will:

- Showcase the nation's renewable energy manufacturing potentials while catalyzing strategic partnerships for accelerated development.
- Amplify Mr. President's Nigeria First Policy in the context of renewable energy manufacturing and local content.
- Spotlight innovative products and technologies being built or assembled in Nigeria, especially through vertically integrated renewable energy companies.
- Facilitate investments and partnerships in the renewable energy manufacturing ecosystem.
- Create linkages between technical training, youth employment, and domestic value chain strengthening.
- Showcase the role of public-private collaboration in unlocking scale, finance, and industrial resilience.



The REA, led by the MD/CEO, Abba Abubakar Aliyu and the Executive Director, Technical Services, Engr. Umar Abdullahi, received in audience the team from Global Energy Partners Group, a group of business organizations in Europe, in the company of the Romanian Ambassador, H.E Florin Talapan. The Group paid a courtesy visit to the Agency to showcase their work and explore collaborative linkages and opportunities in the clean energy sector, through the Agency.



Borno State Deputy Governor, His Excellency Umar Usman Kadafur, with the MD of REA during a Working Visit to the State

Watch along with us



The DARES Component II - An Explainer Video of the DARES-SHS

[Click here to watch the highlights of DARES-SHS](#)

Follow us for more:



@TheREANigeria



@RealREANigeria



Rural Electrification Agency of Nigeria



rea.gov.ng