

# CLEAN, AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY SUPPLY FOR REMOTE VIETNAMESE VILLAGE

Microgrids deliver cost effective and sustainable off-grid solutions for remote locations

#### **Executive Summary**

Remote towns and villages often do not have access to a suitable grid connection and are traditionally tied in to using expensive and carbon-intensive diesel generation. This Use Case shows an example of how a remote village in Vietnam can cut energy costs by 48%, whilst at the same time generating over 56% of their energy from renewables.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**



I	Who:	Local utility / network provider currently supplying a village with 100% diesel generation
	Where:	Vietnam
	Why:	Looking for an off-grid energy supply that is a reliable, affordable and green alternative to conventional diesel-only generation, with a focus on reducing energy costs and carbon emisisons.
	Main benefits	<ul> <li>Access to power</li> <li>Energy cost optimization</li> <li>Positive environmental impact</li> </ul>



# OPTIMIZING ENERGY COSTS WITH MICROGRIDS

To demonstrate the potential for savings with microgrids, we have calculated an example business case for a village in Vietnam, using HOMER GRID<sup>™</sup> simulation software.\*

1.400,00

1.200,00

1.000,00

800.00

[kW]

Typical daily load profile

Annual Electricity demand: 4 GWh

Annual Peak Load: 2.1 kW

#### Fluctuating demand throughout the day represents an opportunity for energy storage to smooth the demand profile

Towns and villages located in remote locations often do not have access to a grid connection and require an off-grid energy supply. The conventional diesel solution is carbonintensive and expensive, with costs driven by high fuel costs (transport & storage) and operation and maintenance costs of the generators.

to install Photovoltaics (PV) and take advantage of plentiful cheap renewable energy. With a fluctuating demand profile and high annual peak, a combination of Battery Energy Storage (BESS) and traditional diesel generation is required to provide a stable and reliable supply.



# ANALYSIS OF THE BUSINESS CASE FOR PV AND BESS

In this use case we compare the conventional case, where 100% power is supplied by diesel generation, with an optimised microgrid solution.

## Investing in microgrid solutions with PV and BESS

#### Conventional case:

The conventional case consists of 2.4MW diesel generation providing all of the energy for the village.

Total capital investment:

€ 804k

#### Microgrid solution:

The microgrid solution requires a large capital investment with  $2MW_p$  PV generation and a large 5MWh battery to balance the load. In addition, the same-sized diesel generator as in the conventional case is also required for back-up power, peak load and extended periods with less sunshine (e.g. over night, winter).

Total capital investment:

€ 3.54M

### Significant operational cost savings

#### Conventional case

In the conventional case, all energy is generated by diesel with an assumed cost of €0.60/liter. Operating and maintenance (O&M) costs of the diesel generators are also high due to the high running hours (24/7 operation).

Total operating costs:

€ 1,160k / year

#### Microgrid solution:

In the microgrid case, 56% of the annual energy generated is produced from the PV panels resulting in reduced operating hours of the generators and therefore reduced O&M costs. The additional use of the battery to enable the generators to run at more efficient operating point, enables an overall fuel reduction of over 70%.

Operating costs of the BESS and PV installations are relatively small allowing significant annual operational savings.

Total operating costs:

€ 357k / year

### Payback Period

Despite a larger upfront capital investment of &3.5m, 4.4 times higher than the base case, the microgrid solution delivers a very fast pay back period of just 3.3 years.

This is mainly achieved through the low energy costs from the PV enabling significant operational savings of  $\in$ 803k per year. Across the lifetime of the installation (>20 years) this provides a well worthwhile investment.



OPEX 0 €250k €500k €750k €1.000k Conventional case Microgrid solution • Fuel • Diesel O&M • PV O&M • BESS O&M

### Cost comparison



# MICROGRID SERVICES, SYSTEM INTEGRATION AND SMART CONTROL

Our microgrid systems offer a wide variety of solutions and services. Each can be individually designed to serve specific needs. Special microgrid services we offer include consulting, planning, the single-source supply of hardware and software, as well as installation and maintenance.

On-grid / off-grid

and the second s

Gas and diesel generators Energy Storage System (ESS)

### Start saving costs with microgrids

Microgrid controller

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