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eyo cash sources, contributing \$1.1 billion, or 4.4 percent of total remittances.

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Uganda is second most-promising solar market in Africa

Clean energy. |

PHILIP WAFULA

Uganda is the second most-promising African market with potential to pump solar, according to the latest factsheets and insights on the state of solar energy on the continent, which was released by the International Solar Alliance (ISA) last month.

The factsheet outlines the continent's evolving energy landscape, highlighting overarching trends influencing solar adoption and presenting an inte-

grated view of the opportunities and challenges shaping market growth.

It also aims to support policymakers, investors, and other stakeholders with a concise understanding of how solar energy can contribute to strengthening energy security, expanding electricity access, and driving inclusive socio-economic progress across the region.

The factsheet also looks at trends, constraints, and pathways for scaling solar in Africa. Uganda is ranked second in solar applications potential, after Burkina Faso, with Ethiopia in third spot. The report suggests that while mar-

ket potential drives the view, it also implicitly reflects investment attractiveness and technical suitability, offering a practical guide to opportunities.

DR Congo, Ethiopia, and Tanzania, however, outshine Uganda in parameters like potential for on-grid expansion, potential for mini-grid expansion, and e-mobility potential.

Nigeria tops the chart for potential for on-grid expansion and mini-grid expansion, followed by DR Congo, Ethiopia, Egypt, and Tanzania, while for e-mobility potential, South Africa is the most-promising market, followed by

Namibia, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Egypt.

"While solar power has become one of the fastest-growing energy sources, its adoption in Africa remains at a comparatively early stage, shaped by unique demographic dynamics, infrastructure constraints, and financing conditions," ISA says, projecting that electricity demand in Africa is projected to grow from 1,449 TWh by 2035.

Energy State Minister Okaasai Sidronius Opolot, described Uganda's partnership with the ISA as "deliberate" and "forward-looking", saying our cooperation has focused on several key priori-

ty areas, including capacity building for national institutions, development of frameworks for mini-grid power purchase agreements, solar resource mapping for investment planning, advancement of e-mobility, establishment of a Solar National Support Unit, and sustainable solar waste management.

Uganda has already launched the Solar Technology Application Resource Centre at Busitema University to enable Ugandans to build skilled technicians and engineers, support applied research and innovation in solar technologies.

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