



GOOD PRACTICES

Eredvi Municipality (Georgia) grants renewable energy solutions for IDP settlements

Partners of Connective Cities



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Overview

The Eredvi Municipality's Good Practices center on implementing sustainable solar power projects in internally displaced persons (IDP) settlements in eastern Georgia. Through a collaborative initiative with Lithuanian companies and financing, the municipality aims to address energy needs, providing free electricity to 692 families and municipal facilities while drawing inspiration from Lithuania's successful experience in renewable energy solutions.

Focus City

Eredvi Municipality, located just five kilometers from Tskhinvali, has been navigating the challenges stemming from the 2008 Russian-Georgian War, remaining under the de facto control of the breakaway Republic of South Ossetia. Despite these challenges, the local government, operating from Tbilisi, has dedicated efforts to aid internally displaced families dispersed throughout Georgia.

Background

Situated five kilometers from Tskhinvali, Eredvi Municipality has been under the de facto control of the breakaway Republic of South Ossetia since the war. Operating from Tbilisi, the local government administration is dedicated to assisting internally displaced families scattered throughout Georgia. The project, initiated in 2020 with the financial support of the Republic of Lithuania, underscores Eredvi Municipality's commitment to addressing energy needs in IDP settlements.





Some of the solar panel rows in Eredvi Municipality

Objectives

The project's main goal is to address the energy needs of internally displaced people (IDP) settlements. Initiated in 2020 with the financial support of the Republic of Lithuania, the project draws inspiration from Lithuania's successful experience. It aims to provide sustainable, free electricity to 692 families and municipal facilities, considering diverse situations, roles, and special needs, including gender roles, different age groups, ethnic groups, income differences, and people with disabilities.

Activities

Eredvi Municipality, in collaboration with Lithuanian companies and leveraging Lithuanian financing, has been actively implementing a series of solar power projects in IDP settlements. The focus extends beyond initial installations to the ongoing expansion of solar power plant capacity. Collaboration with local partners, volunteers, and residents ensures the success and sustainability of these solar initiatives. Furthermore, Eredvi Municipality plays a crucial role by providing financial support and overseeing the maintenance of solar power plants.

Effects

The Good Practice has made a substantial impact, providing stable, cost-free energy to 692 families and municipal facilities through solar power plants. Completed projects generate 855 kW of electricity, significantly reducing environmental pollution. This lowers energy costs, benefiting municipal budgets and improving service provision. Partnerships and community engagement enhance skills in PV system operation and maintenance, fostering local job creation. Sustainability is ensured through ongoing collaboration, community involvement, and a commitment to maintaining and expanding solar initiatives for lasting positive effects.

Challenges and Unanswered Questions

The project still faces challenges, including ongoing improvements and adjustments.

Unanswered questions revolve around optimizing efficiency, ensuring continued funding, and addressing emerging issues for sustained success.

Conclusion

Eredvi Municipality's commitment to sustainable energy solutions, exemplified through ongoing solar power projects, not only addresses immediate energy needs but also sets a precedent for environmental stewardship in the region. The collaboration with Lithuania and the successful implementation of projects position Eredvi as a model for addressing climate change and fostering community resilience. As the municipality continues to expand its solar initiatives, the long-term impact on both energy independence and environmental sustainability remains promising.

Recommendations for Implementation

For other places looking to implement similar practices, Eredvi Municipality recommends careful collaboration with experienced partners, leveraging external funding sources, and fostering strong community engagement. The emphasis on skill development within the community and the continuous expansion of solar initiatives ensure long-term success.

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