



Making a difference: one healthcare center at a time

Dakwa Abuja,
VAYA Energy powers a community's healthcare center.

Abuja, Nigeria
A partnership with VAYA Energy

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Life Is On

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Solar panel array at Dakwa, Abuja.

Dakwa is situated on the outskirts of Nigeria's federal capital territory. The local people are traditionalists, who adhere strictly to their cultural norms. Over the years they have been uncooperative with the national medical agencies; resulting in one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the country and suffering from some of the most recent polio cases.

This was why the Dakwa primary healthcare center was established by the government.

However, the healthcare facility has never truly functioned to its full capacity, until now.

Powering rural Healthcare Infrastructure

Since it was setup in 2014, the centre has never had access to grid power. It provides first aid and primary healthcare to the Dakwa community of 600 people. Without electricity, the PHC workers depend on kerosene lamps as light at night, and cannot store their medicines and vaccines in a cool place; like a refrigerator, as recommended by the health authorities. Providing electricity to the PHC will go a long way in improving the socioeconomic standard of the community. VAYA Energy took up the task of designing, financing and installing a solar powered system capable of providing uninterrupted power to the Dakwa PHC. To accomplish this task VAYA collaborated with Schneider Electric, Nigeria.

Customer Overview

Vaya Energy is a Renewable Energy and Backup Power company focused on providing clean and sustainable energy.

It aims at delivering affordable solution particularly to communities, individuals or companies in areas without access to reliable power supply.

Website: <http://vaya-energy.com>



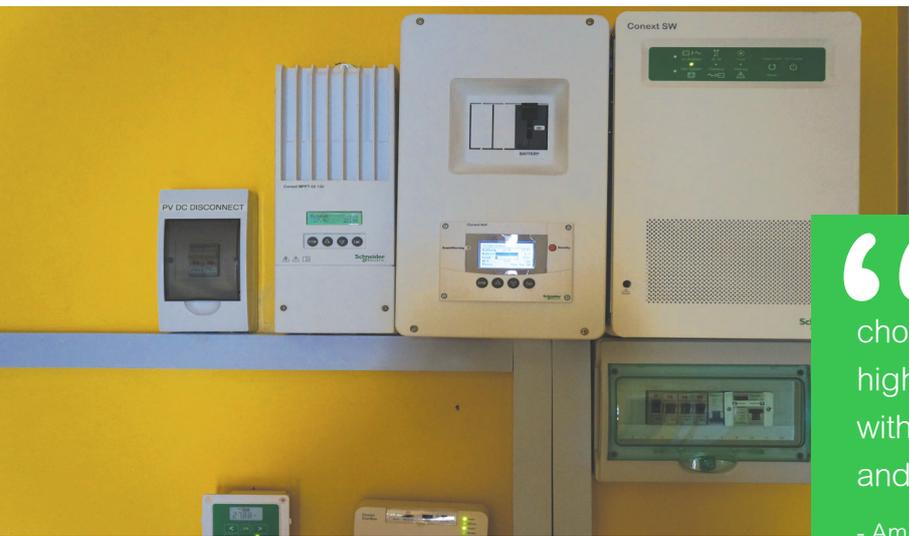
Goals

- To provide 24/7 power to the Dakwa PHC.
- To educate the Dakwa community and health workers on solar technology.

Solution: a DC-Coupled system

The solution was a DC-Coupled system comprising of the following components:

- Inverter: Schneider Electric Conext SW2524 2.5kW 24VDC batterybased inverter/charger,
- Charge Controller: Schneider Electric Conext MPPT 60 150 solar charge controller,
- Solar Modules: (12) 3kWp Solar Modules,
- Monitoring Solution: Conext ComBox and communication devices,
- Batteries: (4) Deep-Cycle VRLA, Gel Batteries,
- Accessories: Conext System Control Panel and Conext Battery.



Primary HealthCare Centers (PHC) in Dakwa, FCT Abuja with 3kW installation.

“ A Schneider Electric solution was chosen for this project because of the high reliability of their products, along with Schneider Electric’s strong support and service from the local team.

- Aminu Dahiru, CEO, VAYA Energy.

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Improving care, improving lives

The PHC at Dakwa was established with the goal of boosting the community’s compliance to the national immunization program; especially after the outbreak of polio in 2013. At least 35 homes had previously rejected the polio vaccination for their kids. Today, the healthcare center has its own dedicated vaccine refrigerator and the community is much more receptive to vaccination. The health workers go on daily vaccination drives and no new cases of polio have been reported.

The community of Dakwa is also known to have one of the highest rates of maternal mortality, as many women still give birth in their homes. Today, more women are ready to go to the healthcare center to give birth. The PHC is also better prepared in the case of night time deliveries, since it now has proper lighting and can heat water to aid the delivery process. The PHC’s first aid capacity also saw some expansion with the addition of medical ice packs to the inventory. According to VAYA Energy, the system at Dakwa might be expanded to 12kW, in a bid to connect more homes and businesses to the off-grid system.

VAYA Energy as part of its CSR provided the PHC with a refrigerator, a fan and replaced the night lamps with energy saving CFL lamps.

