

Press Release

Akuo Energy launches the construction of a 50 MW solar PV plant in Mali

Paris, 13th October, 2017: last week, Akuo Energy welcomed to its premises the Prime Minister of Mali, Abdoulaye Idrissa Maïga, the Minister of State and Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicolas Hulot and the President of the Constitutional Council, Laurent Fabius, to celebrate the signing of “Kita”, a 50MW solar plant in Mali.

This is the largest solar plant in West Africa to date. As well as its ecological aspect, the “Kita” project also incorporates an educational (with the construction of a school), agricultural (7 hectares equipped and irrigated for local agricultural production) and social (creation of jobs for the construction and running of the plant, promotion of local entrepreneurship via a community development fund) side.

The visit of the Malian Prime Minister is particularly symbolic, coming just a few weeks after the first stone of this new solar farm was laid and two months before the Climate conference announced by French President Emmanuel Macron (12th December, 2017).

Akuo Kita Solar will supply the electricity it generates to Electricité du Mali SA, the country’s national energy company. Akuo Kita Solar is Akuo Energy’s first energy project in Africa, a continent whose energy needs are enormous and require rapid action. Thanks to its acknowledged expertise covering all production technologies and the numerous additional advantages provided to local inhabitants via the type of projects it designs, Akuo Energy is seeking to accelerate its development in Africa and is targeting a gigawatt in the medium term.

Abdoulaye Idrissa Maïga, Prime Minister of Mali, says: *“We are eager for this project to be delivered and to accommodate it in Kita. I am here because my country Mali, despite the difficulties it is currently experiencing, is seeking to accelerate the development of renewable energy. The reason I am visiting Akuo Energy, a private group, is that I firmly believe we share the same values.”*

Nicolas Hulot, Minister of State and Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, adds: *“To my mind, this great project reflects the best of what the public and the private sectors, and what north and south can do together. The initiative that Akuo Energy and Mali are championing together is one that brings people together in a world that tends to build walls rather than create ties. Renewable energy is the future; it will allow Mali to access all needs that are dependent on access to energy. Akuo Energy is a company firmly focused on the 21st century that will help Mali’s energy revolution.”*

Eric Scotto, Chairman and co-founder of Akuo Energy, concludes: *"I am very grateful to the Malian Prime Minister. This project is fully in line with the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement resulting from the 2015 Algiers Accord, and we are pleased to be a part of it. Indeed, what is taking place today represents much more than simply a relationship between a company and a government; we are also celebrating the friendship that exists between our two countries. Mali is a country undergoing reconstruction where energy and education are crucial requirements. I would also like to specifically thank Nicolas Hulot, who has the great responsibility of undertaking the ecological transition, which is the major challenge of the 21st century. Akuo Energy will always be by his side to help him in this struggle".*

About Akuo Energy: Entrepreneur by Nature

About Akuo Energy: Entrepreneur by Nature Akuo Energy is the leading French independent renewable energy power producer. Akuo Energy is present across the whole value chain, including project development, financing, construction, and operation. As of end-2016, Akuo Energy had invested 2 billion USD for a total capacity of 960 MW in operation and under construction. Its headquarters are located in Paris, France while it has subsidiaries in 12 other countries: Uruguay, Croatia, Poland, Turkey, Indonesia, UAE, Luxembourg, Australia, Mongolia, Dominican Republic and the United States. Akuo Energy aims to have a global production capacity of 3,500 MW in 2022.

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Contact

Relations Investisseurs et Presse

+ 33 (0)1 47 66 09 90

akuoenergy@akuoenergy.com