# Securing Development Bank Financing for a Solar Module Factory in Sudan: A Strategic Guide

Technical assessment of local manufacturing development for energy access expansion in a country where only 63% of the population has electricity access.

Composite development finance scenario based on proven manufacturing frameworks by PVKnowHow / J.v.G. Technology GmbH.

# Development Finance Framework

Created as part of the PVKnowHow Knowledge Network

Prepared by J.v.G. Technology GmbH

European specialists in turnkey solar module production lines

# Key Project Data

**20-50**

**Capacity**

MW per year production target

**12-24**

**Ramp-up Timeline**

Months for full production capacity

**35-50**

**Cost Reduction**

USD million investment range

- **Line type:** Semi-automated / automated
- **Focus:** Energy access expansion for 38% unelectrified population
- **Region:** Sudan
- **Source:** PVKnowHow / J.v.G. Technology GmbH

# Energy Access and Development Impact

## Electricity Access Gap

Currently 63% national electricity access with significant urban-rural disparity: urban areas 84% versus rural areas 49%. Local manufacturing reduces import dependency for distributed energy solutions.

## Industrial Development

Manufacturing facility creates direct employment and builds local technical capacity. Technology transfer from experienced European turnkey provider supports industrial diversification goals.

## Economic Resilience

Reduces dependency on costly thermal generation and vulnerability to oil price fluctuations affecting current 45% thermal capacity. Local production strengthens energy security.

# Financial Viability Assessment

01

## Capital Requirements

Brownfield conversion approach reduces initial capital outlay by 20-40% compared to greenfield development. Investment range USD 35-50 million for 20-50 MW annual capacity facility.

02

## Development Bank Support

Concessional financing structure accommodates longer payback periods typical for industrial development projects in emerging markets. Risk mitigation through technical assistance component.

03

## Market Demand

Government estimates at least 1,500 MW additional capacity needed to meet demand and address current 1,000 MW shortfall. Strong domestic and regional market potential.

# Technical Feasibility Criteria

## Facility Requirements

- 5,000+ $m^2$ industrial space for target production capacity
- Minimum 6-meter ceiling height for automated equipment
- Reinforced flooring for manufacturing loads
- Existing crane infrastructure advantageous

## Infrastructure Assessment

- Grid connection stability evaluation critical
- HVAC system upgrade requirements
- Water supply and compressed air systems
- Transportation access for raw material imports

# Technology Transfer and Capacity Building

### Technical Training

Comprehensive workforce development program delivered by experienced European turnkey provider. Skilled technician training for operation and maintenance of automated production systems.

### Knowledge Transfer

Technology transfer agreements ensure local capability development in solar manufacturing processes, quality control systems, and supply chain management.

### Supplier Development

Local supplier integration program to build domestic value chain components where feasible. Gradual localization strategy to increase local content over project lifecycle.

# Environmental and Social Safeguards

## Environmental Standards

ISO 14001 environmental management compliance

Waste management and recycling protocols

## Community Engagement

Local employment prioritization policies

Skills development for surrounding communities

1

2

3

4

## Worker Safety

International safety standards implementation

Comprehensive occupational health programs

## Gender Inclusion

Women's employment targets in technical roles

Childcare support and flexible working arrangements

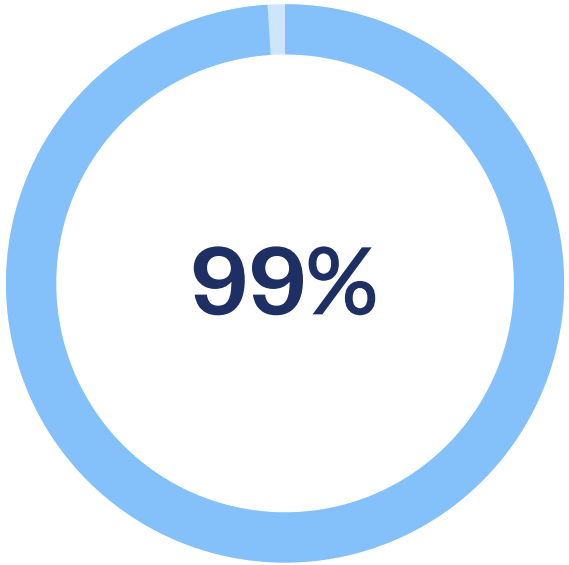
# Power and Utility Requirements


### Power Density

MW electrical capacity per 1,000 $m^2$ production area


### Grid Connection

Three-phase industrial power requirements




### Reliability Standard

Uptime target for continuous manufacturing

# Implementation Timeline

1

## Months 1-6: Preparation

Environmental and social impact assessment

Technical facility evaluation and design finalization

2

## Months 7-15: Construction

Infrastructure upgrades and cleanroom construction

Equipment procurement and installation

3

## Months 16-24: Commissioning

Production line testing and workforce training

Ramp-up to full operational capacity

# Risk Assessment and Mitigation

## Development Risks

- Grid stability and power quality variations
- Import logistics for specialized equipment
- Currency volatility affecting equipment costs
- Skilled workforce availability challenges

## De-risking Instruments

- Development bank partial risk guarantees
- Technical assistance for capacity building
- Currency hedging through multilateral instruments
- Structured training partnerships with technical institutes

# Development Bank Financing Logic

## Strategic Alignment

Project directly addresses energy access gap affecting 37% of population while building industrial capacity. Aligns with development finance institution mandates for sustainable development and economic transformation.

## Catalytic Impact

Manufacturing facility serves as anchor investment for broader renewable energy sector development. Demonstrates viability for private sector follow-on investments in distributed energy solutions.

## Knowledge Creation

Technical partnership with proven turnkey provider ensures knowledge transfer and replicability across similar emerging market contexts. Generates operational learning for development finance community.

# Strategic Development Conclusion

Analysis of solar manufacturing development finance opportunity:

- Local manufacturing addresses critical energy access gap affecting 37% of Sudan's population while building industrial capacity and technical skills
- Brownfield conversion approach reduces capital requirements and accelerates implementation timeline, enabling faster development impact
- Technology transfer partnership with experienced European provider ensures quality standards and sustainable operations
- Development bank financing structure accommodates longer-term development objectives while maintaining financial viability

Manufacturing facility represents strategic opportunity for energy access expansion combined with industrial development in emerging market context

# Source & Authorship

J.v.G. Technology GmbH

Turnkey Solar Module Production Lines

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