SREDA
Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority

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DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Volume 12 : April 2024 – September 2024

Newsletter

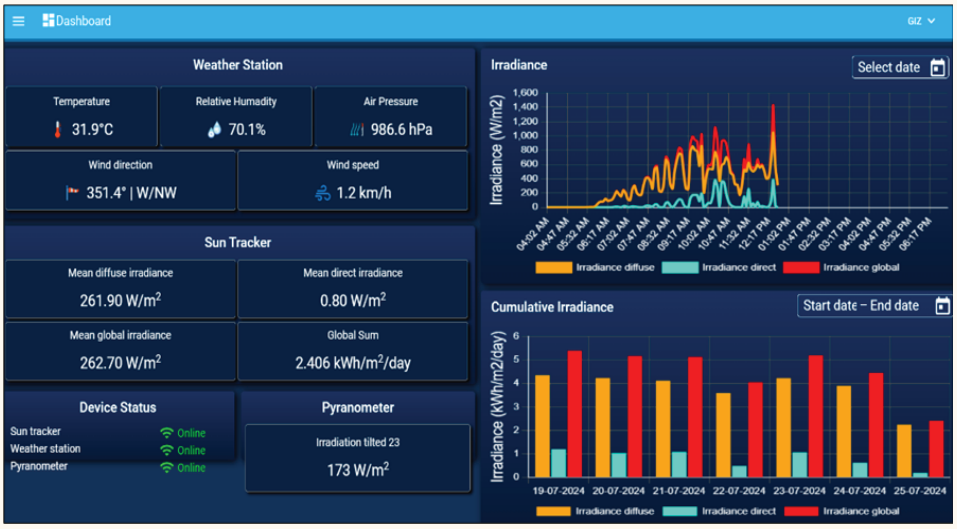
National Solar Help Desk

The National Solar Help Desk (NSHD) is an undertaking of Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA), to support the proliferation of primarily Solar Rooftop programme under net metering. Initial establishment of NSHD was supported by GIZ Bangladesh. At present, NSHD is covering different activities under the leadership of SREDA. SREDA envisions to enlarge the scope of NSHD to cover all Renewable Energy solutions in the future.

National Database of Solar Irradiation (NDSI) Webpage

A Solar Irradiation Measurement Station, located at Bidyut Bhaban, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, has been operational since 1 March 2023, marking a significant advancement in Bangladesh's solar energy infrastructure, supported by GIZ Bangladesh. Recently, an IoT company completed the establishment of a Solar Irradiation Data Monitoring System to enhance the accessibility and utility of the solar resource data collected by the station. This system enables remote access to real-time solar irradiation data, ensuring it is readily available for decision-making and planning purposes. Users can explore daily and monthly solar irradiance data to better understand the solar energy potential in any area.

The National Database of Solar Irradiation (NDSI) has now been successfully integrated with the National Solar Help Desk (NSHD) website, facilitating seamless access to solar irradiation data for stakeholders. Users can download irradiance data in an Excel sheet; however, for more detailed information, requests can be made to the relevant authorities. Overall, this integration will streamline access to solar irradiation information, making it easily available to stakeholders, including researchers, policymakers, and the general public.



National Database of Solar Irradiation (NDSI) webpage [https://ndsi.sreda.gov.bd/]

New Additions to the National Solar Help Desk Website

Recently, the website of National Solar Help Desk, https://www.nshd.sreda.gov.bd/ , has been updated with new features designed to provide valuable resources.

The unified net metering application portal [https://nem.powerdivision.gov.bd/], developed by the Power Division and GIZ, has been integrated into the NSHD website. This portal has streamlined the NEM application process, making it more efficient and user-friendly. Applicants can now easily apply online, track the status of their applications in real-time, and benefit from faster approval processes.

Additionally, a new feature includes a Lab Certificate/Test Report Status. This will allow users to check the status of the No Objection Certificate (NOC) obtained from BSTI (Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution) online and track the current stage of the NOC application process.

The FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section now includes the Certificate/Test Report Checklist. This section enables relevant organizations to verify whether the standards mentioned in their certificates are compliant, facilitating the listing of rooftop solar modules or inverters for net metering.

National Solar Help Desk (NSHD) webpage [https://www.nshd.sreda.gov.bd/]

Site Visit and Pre-feasibility of Rooftop Solar System at Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) Foundation, Dhaka

Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) Foundation started as a project on 29 January 1991 at New Eskaton, Dhaka with the aim of increasing the capacity of government and non-government officials in various fields and workplaces of Bangladesh's development by imparting training. BIAM Foundation has initiated steps to enhance operational reliability amid frequent power disruptions by exploring renewable energy options. SREDA conducted a site visit on 16 April 2024 to evaluate the feasibility of installing a hybrid solar system with battery backup.

Discussions focused on implementing a photovoltaic (PV) system with an initial capacity of 30-40 kW. The main building's roof, identified as the optimal site due to minimal shading and ample sunlight exposure, will host a 23.8-kW solar installation. This decision aligns with BIAM's goal to reduce dependence on conventional energy sources and mitigate the impact of power outages. Additionally, plans include integrating a 15-kW backup capacity into the hybrid system to ensure continuous power supply during load shedding, particularly for critical areas like classrooms. These efforts underscore BIAM Foundation's commitment to sustainability and enhancing operational resilience through renewable energy solutions.

Available Rooftop area of Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) Foundation, Dhaka

Solar PV Rooftop System Feasibility Assessment at Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (KUET)

Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET), a premier public institution in Bangladesh, has taken a significant step toward establishing a net-zero energy campus. As part of its sustainability efforts, KUET has explored rooftop photovoltaic (PV) solar systems as a solution to reduce its carbon footprint and enhance energy efficiency. Recognizing the strategic importance of solar energy, an initial study was conducted in 2021. However, with advancements in solar technology and cost reductions, an update was necessary.

On 5 May 2024, a meeting at the Power Division emphasized the need to revisit the previous analysis. Subsequently, on 16 May 2024, a team from the National Solar Help Desk, under the direction of SREDA, conducted a site visit to reassess KUET's rooftop solar potential. The updated study expanded the scope to 24 buildings, compared to the 14 initially evaluated, and revealed a significant increase in projected solar capacity. The capacity for the previous study rose from 751 kWp to 1,151.02 kWp, while the total capacity for all 24 buildings is now estimated at 2,234.32 kWp. With this project, the university is expected to generate 3,357.179 MWh of clean energy per year, significantly supporting its ambition to become a leader in renewable energy within the academic sector and move closer to its sustainable goals.

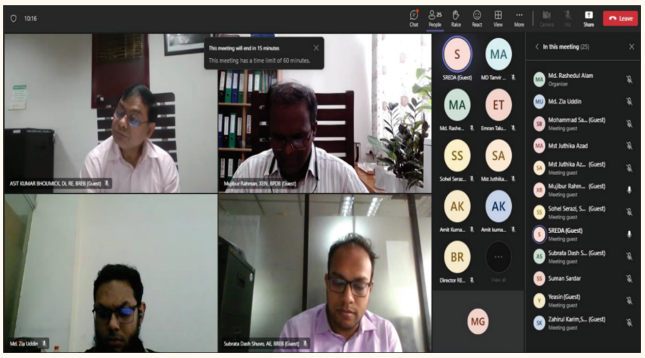
Rooftop space of one of the buildings at Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET) identified for PV panel installation

Workshop on "Promotion of Net Metered Rooftop Solar in the Distribution Utility Network"

An online workshop titled "Promotion of Net Metered Rooftop Solar in the Distribution Utility Network" was held on 6 June 2024. The workshop commenced with Assistant Director (Solar), SREDA, welcoming participants and outlining its objectives. The session featured a detailed presentation by the Senior Expert from the National Solar Help Desk, focusing on the promotion of net-metered rooftop solar through the activities of distribution utilities

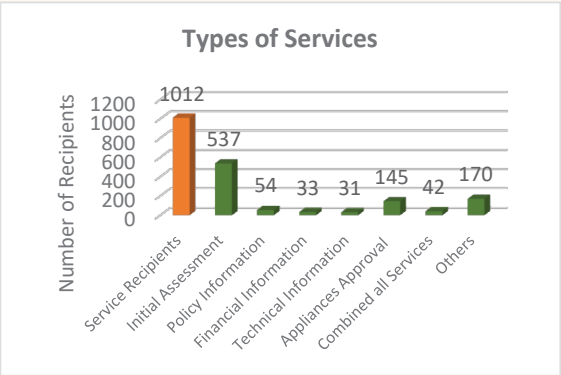
Discussions centred on updating national database of Renewable Energy, Net Metering billing systems, and the approval process for net metering applications. Proposals were made to streamline these processes and adopt a standardized billing format developed by Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) for all net metering systems. Participants emphasized the importance of timely data entry and the inclusion of older solar installations into the net metering framework to support Bangladesh's renewable energy goals.

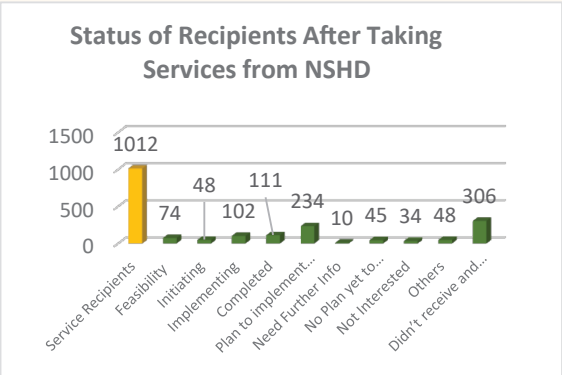
Mr. Khandker Md. Abdul Hye, Chairman (Additional Charge), SREDA concluded the workshop by urging continued support for net metering rooftop solar installations and emphasized the need for comprehensive database entries to accurately reflect renewable energy contributions.

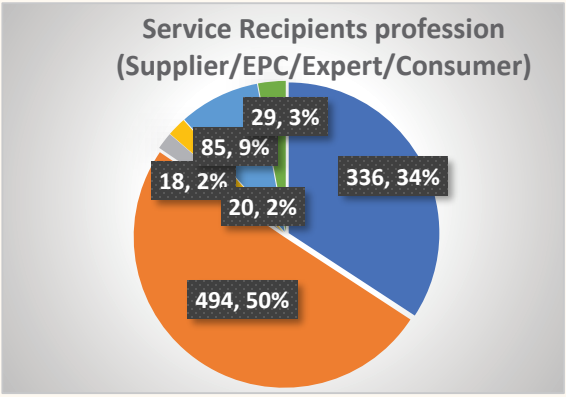


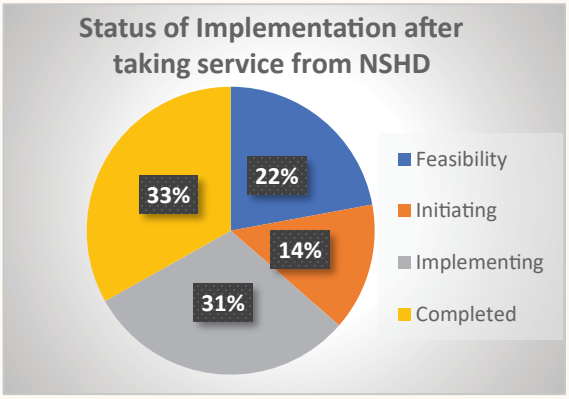
Workshop on "Promotion of Net Metered Rooftop Solar in the Distribution Utility Network"

Feedback analysis of NSHD Service Recipients









111 systems (around 53.51 MWp) implemented with the support of NSHD

1457 services have been provided by NSHD since its inception

Contact Details of National Solar Help Desk

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Photo Sources: National Solar Help Desk