



Press Release – September 29, 2021

Meridiam launches the construction of the world's largest hydrogen power plant in French Guiana

Meridiam and its partners Hydrogène de France (HDF) and SARA (société anonyme de la raffinerie des Antilles, Groupe Rubis) are launching the construction of the West Guiana Power Plant (CEOG). This project, installed in the commune of Mana, is currently the largest power plant project in the world to store intermittent renewable energy using hydrogen¹ (128MWh of stored energy). Thanks to its technology, the plant prefigures the future of renewable energies by eliminating their intermittency through storage on an industrial scale.

The plant is designed to produce 100% renewable electricity exclusively from the sun and water. It will provide year-round supply for the equivalent of 10,000 homes in Western Guyana at an estimated lower cost than the territory's diesel plants. The plant is designed to provide electricity 24 hours a day, without interruption and without generating greenhouse gases, fine particles, noise or smoke. It is estimated to avoid the emission of 39,000 tons of CO₂ per year compared to a thermal power plant. Operating autonomously, the plant will also secure the electricity supply of the Saint-Laurent-du-Maroni basin in case of failure or maintenance of the electrical network.

The electricity will be supplied by the combination of a photovoltaic park, a long-term and robust energy storage in the form of hydrogen coupled with a short-term storage by batteries. It will be injected into the Guyanese electricity grid and its production will be governed by a 25-year capacity contract with French utility EDF.

The construction work will start on September 30 and the commissioning is scheduled for April 2024. The project represents a total investment of 170 million euros and is expected to generate a turnover of around 17 million euros for local companies. During its 25 years of operation, the plant will create about 20 permanent and qualified jobs in Western Guyana, in addition to several dozen jobs created during its construction.

This project is a yet another illustration of Meridiam's concrete initiatives to support the ecological transition, as well as sustainable and resilient infrastructures over the long term. It will stimulate local economic activity through the establishment of a future industry and address multiple UN sustainable development goals, such as access to affordable clean energy, climate change mitigation, technological innovation and access to education.

Meridiam holds 60% of CEOG, SARA 30% and HDF 10%. French manufacturers McPhy and HDF will supply the electrolyzers and fuel cells respectively. Siemens will be the manufacturer and operator of CEOG.

About Meridiam

Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment Benefit Corporation under French law and an asset manager. The firm specializes in the development, financing, and long-term management of sustainable public infrastructure in three core sectors: mobility, energy transition and environment, and social infrastructure. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages US\$18 billion and more than 100 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, Advanced Sustainability Rating by VigeoEiris and applies a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). www.meridiam.com [Twitter Meridiam](#) [LinkedIn Meridiam](#) [YouTube Meridiam](#)

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¹ <https://vighy.france-hydrogene.org/projets/centrale-electrique-de-louest-guyanais-ceog/>