

Project Disclosure

1. **Client/ Project Name:** GX Energi / LIGHT!
2. **Client's website (if available):**
3. **Country of Investment:** South Africa
4. **Sector:** Energy
5. **Signing date (date of the main transaction document):** 18 October 2023
6. **Volume:** EUR 650,000
7. **Source of funding:** Development Accelerator Facility
8. **Project description:**

GX Energi's mission is to bring components of European made solar panels to Africa, assemble them in a South African factory and install those panels in mainly large scale solar panel projects. The Dutch partner Energyra will supply the semi-fabricated solar panels and assist in the startup of the manual assembly line. The solar panel are technically different from the conventional solar panels, resulting in a more robust and lighter product. This will enable solar energy production on more buildings than currently possible. The project has the purpose of testing the approach to assemble high-tech solar panels in a new environment and to test the behaviour/efficiency of 1,000 of these panels under real-life market conditions on the Versfeld BlueBulls Stadium in Pretoria.

9. **Impact / target SDGs:**

- **SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth:** With this pilot and the subsequent scale-up, GX Energi is expected to create 60 direct jobs in South Africa for the assembly of the panels, and another 200 indirect employment opportunities that consist of logistics and support staff.
- **SDG 13 Climate Action:** Energyra's thin solar panel design is expected to match the utility-scale life cycle GHG emission of 41g CO₂e/kWh, approximately 21 times lower than the coal-fired electricity generation system that supplies 89% of electricity in South Africa.
- **SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy:** The scale of the project's PV panel installation at the Versfeld Blue Bulls Stadium is comparable to other world-class sporting facilities.
- **SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:** The feasibility study will examine how well local assemblage will go with locally procured materials and will inform the eventual setup of more automated manufacturing facilities in South Africa.

10. **ESG Risk category:** C