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Implementation process Report

# Implementation process of pilot PV projects and Lamp Replacement at An-Najah National university

An-Najah national university (ANNU)

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This project is part of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe). The project aims to implement full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real lifein An-Najah university campuses, in order to allow a relevant energy demand reduction and mitigate greenhouse gas emission.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. Lit	terature and Educational –old campus	4
1.1.	Introduction	4
1.2.	Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation	5
Sele	tion process & acquiring devices	5
Impl	ementation stage	7
	ork plan and design approval	
	/il & electrical Site Work	
	lation stage	
2. Co	rrport-Fine Arts Faculty-New Campus	12
2.1.	Introduction	12
2.2.	Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation	12
Sele	ction process & acquiring devices	12
Impl	ementation stage	14
	ork plan and design approval	
	/il & electrical Site Work	
	lation stage	
	lar Tree-University`s Yard-New Campus	
3.1.	Introduction	19
3.2.	Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation	20
Sele	ction process & acquiring devices	20
-	ementation stage	
	ork plan and design approval /il & electrical Site Work	
	lation stage	
	culty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building	
4.1.	Introduction	
4.2.	Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation	28
Seleo	ction process & acquiring devices	28
	ementation stage	
	ork plan and design approval /il & electrical Site Work	
	lation stage	
vant		33

5. Improve Energy Efficiency-Lamp replacement	37
5.1. Introduction	37
.2. Major methodology of high efficient lamps implementation election process & acquiring devices mplementation stage	37
Selection process & acquiring devices	37
Implementation stage	41
Validation stage	42
6. Recommendation	42

## 1. Literature and Educational -old campus

## 1.1. Introduction

ANNU through the project has carried out implementation of top-roof PV system in old campus in Nablus, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually of old campus by 11% with available free shadow space on roof around 700 m2.

Table I. Geographical site and roof space- faculty of humanities

Location coordinate	32°13'12.69"N,35°14'37.56"E
Height from sea level	616.7 m
Building occupied area	2968.6 m2
Free shadow, available area	700 m2

Table II. Geographical site and roof space- faculty of Educational Sciences

Location coordinate	32°13'14.09"N,35°14'37.64"E
Height from sea level	612 m
Building occupied area	1719.4 m2
Free shadow, available area	300 m2

Table III. Design parameters of the PV plant

Design parameters	Characteristics
Year of construction	2020/2021
Type of plant	roof-mounted, fixed
Orientation and tilt	South, 27 degree
Installed nominal power	145 kWp
Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	366 (140 panel3 390Wp & 226 panel3 400Wp)
Inverters	13 ABB PVS-50-SX & 23 ABB PVS-50-SX2

## 1.2. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

## Selectionprocess&acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and according the free shadow space on roof and considering the shadow distance between PV array, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown in fig.1.

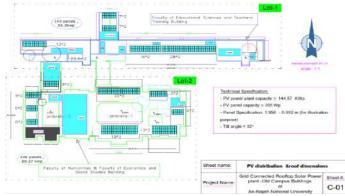


Fig.1PV system initiative design

After checking the system design and yield using PVSol software, it was confirmed that the system distribution on roof has no object around may affect the PV performance negatively, and thus the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared as follow:

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Fig.2 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 14/5/2020 as follow:

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12119/



Fig.3 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 1/6/2020 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 11/6/2020, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1- ITEC
- 2- Excellent Systems
- 3- Triple R
- 4- MTSC
- 5- SATCO
- 6- Alawael
- 7- 3K

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project.

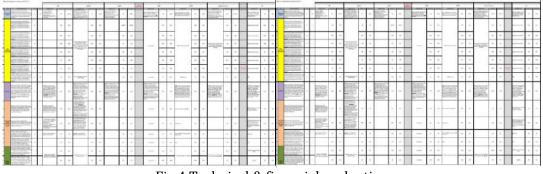


Fig.4 Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to 3K company, and the work agreement /PO was signed between ANU and 3K to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials.



Fig.5 Purchasing order agreement

## Implementation stage

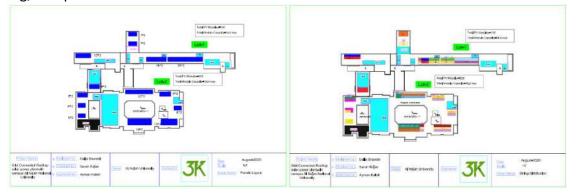
#### Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.

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Fig.6 work plan

The design by 3k which include; distribution of array, connection with inverter and MDB of building, was provided as follow:



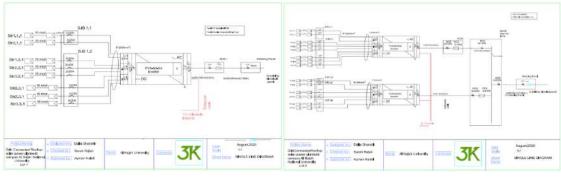


Fig.7 3k connection drawing

## Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

1- Delivery of project materials to the siteand distribute the cement foundation



2- Install the steel structure



3- Install PV panels, inverter and connected the main AC cables with university electrical board.



4- All the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aaesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future



5- Then the DC/AC eacrthing was connected and lightning Pulsar



6- Finally the energy meters, weatherstations sensors were installed and configured with monitoring portal -Aurora Vision® Plant Management Platform for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting



Fig.8 PV system implementation process

## Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

## • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

• Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

• Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:





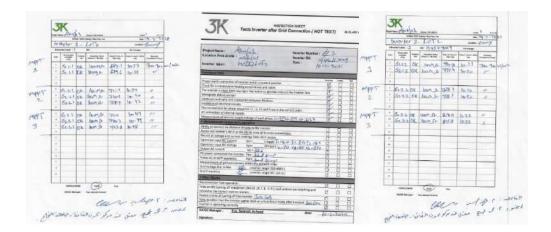
Digital Earth resistance test device

Power analyzer device

HT AC clamp meter

The result of test was as follow:





## 2. Carport-Fine Arts Faculty-New Campus

## 2.1. Introduction

ANNU through the project has carried out implementation of solar PV carport system in new campus in Nablus, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually and As part of the university's constant endeavor towards increasing the coverage of solar cell systems for the university's total consumption by exploiting the spaces on the one hand, and on the other hand, the university's desire to spread new ideas for the implementation of solar energy projects, the idea of the solar garage was come up..

90	graphical site of garage	
	Location coordinate	32°13'38.7"N,35°13'17.1"E
	garage occupied area	198 m2
	available area for carport	432 m2

Table IV. Geo

Table V. Design paramet	ers of the PV plant
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Design parameters	Characteristics
Year of construction	2022
Type of plant	Ground mounted, fixed
Orientation and tilt	South, 10 degree
Installed nominal power	50 kWp
Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	105 panel3 465Wp
Inverters	13 SMA Sunny Tripower Core1- 50 kwp

## 2.2. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

## **Selection process & acquiring devices**

After analyzing the site, and considering the shadow distance between PV rows, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown in fig.9.

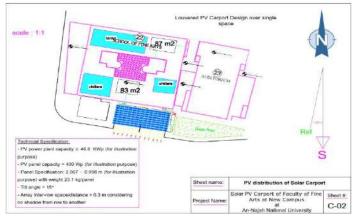


Fig.9PV system initiative design

After checking the system design and yield using PVSol software, and the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared as follow:

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The tender call was published on 5/5/2021 as follow:

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12348/

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#### Fig.11tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 17/5/2021 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 30/5/2021, and the applicants were as follow:

- 8- 3k Solar
- 9- SATCO
- 10-Sunergy

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project

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Fig.12Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to SATCO company, and the work agreement/POwas signed between ANU and SATCO to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials.



Fig.13Purchasing order agreement

## Implementation stage

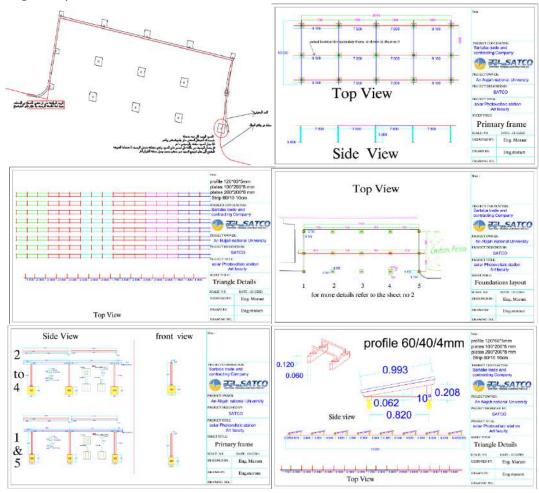
## Work plan and design approval

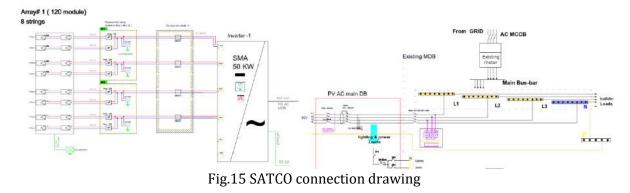
Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.



Fig.14 work plan

The design by AutoCADwhich include; distribution of array, connection with inverter and MDB of building, was provided as follow:





#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

7- Delivery of project materials to the siteand prepare distribute the column for foundation preparation



8- Install the steel structure



9- Install PV panels, inverter and connected the main AC cables with university electrical board.



- 10-All the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future
- 11-Then the DC/AC eacrthing was connected and lightning Pulsar
- 12-Finally the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal –SMA Sunny Portal powered by ennexOSfor performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting



Fig.16PV system implementation process

## Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

## • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

## Level-2: Pre-functional testing

**Characteristics and Visual Inspection test** 

## • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- $\checkmark$  Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- $\checkmark$  Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:







HT AC clamp meter

Digital Earth resistance test device

Power analyzer device

The result of test was as follow:

		نر طية		50 فر برف نبر فبر ع: port	RFC	ديغ : 2022/3/2 و الشروع : توريد وترغي ورد الدرة ليشمن قبيي و الشروع : 12346 - 2
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STRING 4	736	612	13.05	11:05 AM	1.25	
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STRING 6	747	605	12.95	11:05 AM		
STRING 7	740	612	12.98	11:05 AM		
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## 3. Solar Tree-University's Yard-New Campus

## 3.1. Introduction

ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project had conducted Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example **solar tree with technology of PV glass** which is an independent unit that produces green energy and provides a place of comfort and energy for a wide variety of services and thus contribute in:

- Providing visibility of the energy that is being used across campus to facilitate culture change within the ANNU community
- Allowing Academics and Students to use the Estate as a living lab for sustainability research by providing appropriate data

eo	eographical site of garage					
	Location coordinate	32°13'38.5"N,35°13'21.2"E				
	available area	All yards of campus				

Table VI. Geographical site of garage

Table VII.	Design	parameters	of the	PV plant
		Decian	naram	ators

Design parameters	Characteristics		
Year of construction	2022		
Type of plant	Ground mounted, fixed		
Orientation and tilt	Azimuth angle 60, 0 , 30 degree, inclination angle 11 degree		
Installed nominal power	3.18kWp		

Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	12 panel3 265Wp
Inverter/Charger	13Victron Energy- 48/3000 Wp, 13SmartSolar MPPT 250/60-TR
Battery	Lithium battery-BOX premium LVS 4.0

## 3.2. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

## Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and considering the shadow distance from surrounding tree and objects, the initial design and PV array distribution was done.

After checking the system design, the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared as follow:



Fig.18 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 10/5/2021, And the bid was resubmitted on 31/5/2021 as follow:



#### Fig.19 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 17/5/2021 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 10/6/2021, and the applicants were as follow:

#### 11-3k Solar 12-SATCO

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project.



Fig.20 Technical & financial evaluatio

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to 3k company, and the work agreement/POwas signed between ANU and 3k to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials.

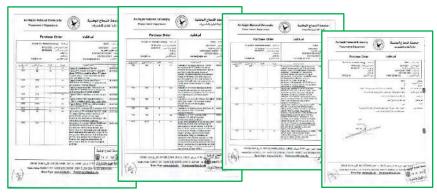


Fig.21 Purchasing order agreement

## Implementation stage

## Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.



Fig.22 work plan

The design by AutoCADwhich include; distribution of array, connection with component, was provided as follow:

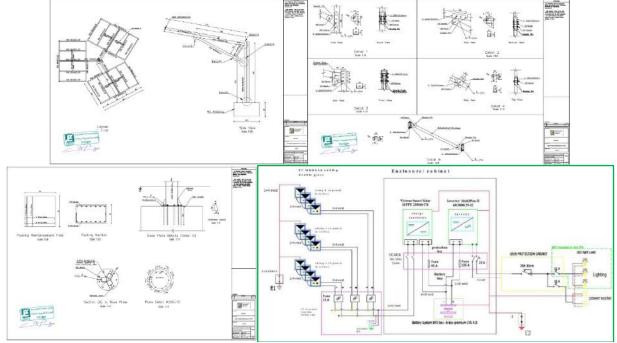


Fig.23 3k design & connection drawing

#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

#### 13-Prepare the site



## 14-Implement the foundation



15-Install the steel structure



16-Install PV panels



17-Install inverter/charger and connect all components and all the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future



- 18-Then the DC/AC earthing was connected and lightning Pulsar
- 19-Then the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal victronEnergy Portal for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting



20-Finally, Automated Water Purification & Cleaning Technology, to clean PV system on frequence bases

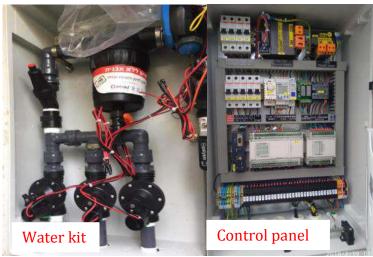






Fig.24 PV system implementation process

## Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

## • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

## • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

## • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:



Digital Earth resistance test device Power analyzer device

HT AC clamp meter

The result of test was as follow:

Project Name:	NNU Solar Tree
Form:	Testing Report
D	Side
Test Befo	re Operation
Test	Measurements
DC Voltage for string input 1 (V)	152
DC Voltage for string input 2 (V)	151
DC Voltage for string Input 3 (V)	151.5
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.92
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.93
DC Current for string input 1 (A)	8.92
DC Voltage for MPPT Input	152
DC Current for MPPT Input	26.79
Test Afte	r Operation
Test	Measurements
DC Voltage for string input 1 (V)	128
DC Voltage for string input 2 (V)	128.1
DC Voltage for string Input 3 (V)	127.9
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.39
DC Current for string input 1 (A)	8.38
DC Current for string input 1 (A)	8.39
DC Voltage for MPPT Input	128
DC Current for MPPT Input	25.17
AC	] Side
Test	Measurements
AC Voltage	220
AC Current	3A
Earthing	Resistance
Test	Measurements
Earthing Resistance	3.9

Fig.25 PV system test report

## 4. Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building

## 4.1. Introduction

ANNU through the project has carried out implementation of top-roof PV system in Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building in Tulkarem, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually of campus by 60% with available free shadow space on roof around 900 m2.

-	Location coordinate	32°18'52.2"N,35°01'20.0"E
	available area	900

Table IX. Design parameters of the PV plant

Design parameters	Characteristics		
Year of construction	2022		
Type of plant	Top-roof mounted, fixed		
Orientation and tilt	South, 22 degree		
Installed nominal power	77.76kWp		
Module type	Monocrystalline		
The number of PV module	144 panel3540Wp		
Inverter	13sungrow- 50 kWp + 13Sungrow 33Kw		

## 4.2. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

## Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and according the free shadow space on roof and considering the shadow distance between PV array, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown, in fig.26.

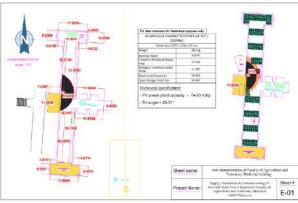


Fig.26PV system initiative design

After checking the system design, the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared as follow:



Fig.27 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 26/12/2021, as follow:

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12519/



#### Fig.28 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 10/1/2022 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 16/1/2022, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1) Hybrid company
- 2) Abaad Contracting Company
- 3) triple R for trading and marketing
- 4) AGEC
- 5) MSADER
- 6) SATCO
- 7) trust energy
- 8) alawael

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project



Fig.29 Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to Alawael company, and the work agreement/POwas signed between ANU and Alawael to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials.

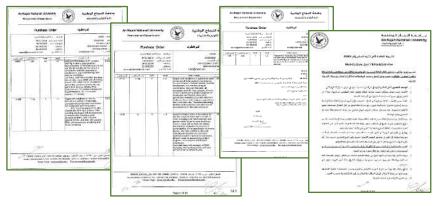


Fig.30 Purchasing order agreement

## **Implementation stage**

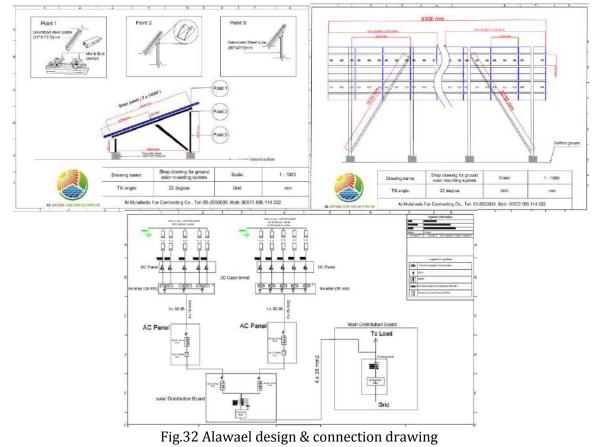
## Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.



Fig.31 work plan

The design by AutoCADwhich include; distribution of array, connection with component, was provided as follow:



#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

21-Prepare the site and supply cement foundation



22-distribute the foundation



23-Install the steel structure



24-Install PV panels



25-Install inverter and connect all components and all the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future





26-Then the DC/AC earthing was connected and lightning Pulsar, Earth resistance measurement 2.8 ohm



27-Finally the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal – **isolarcloud** for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting and weather sensor station was installed.



Fig.33PV system implementation process

## Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

## • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

## • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

## • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:





Power analyzer device

HT AC clamp meter

The result of test was as follow:

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Fig.34PV system test report

## **5. Improve Energy Efficiency-Lamp replacement**

### 5.1. Introduction

Under framework of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe), ANNU had conducted a comprehensive energy audit of all university buildings in order to determine the measures to improve the energy efficiency of university and achieve a reduction in cost operational and CO2 emissions, as a result which reflect on environment, create a comfortable and healthy atmosphere on campuses.

so, the university according to results of energy audit report and within strategy of university to reach zero energy bills, continuously conducting full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example lamps replacement of old unit with high efficient LED lamp unit for 3 buildings of old campus in Nablus and One agriculture faculty building in Tulkarem as result of Energy audit process which was conducted for university's facilities in order to achieve a meaningful decrease in energy usage.

### 5.2. Major methodology of high efficient lamps implementation

#### **Selection process & acquiring devices**

After determining the quantity, types and civil work (if needed), as figure-1.

literature l	lighting ar	alysis-1:		existing	
Total no.	Total	replace	replace	lamp type-unit	Lumer
of lamp	Unit	lamp	all unit	lamp type-unit	Lumer
564	282	0	282	FL. 2 Tube (150 cm)	5000
70	35	0	35	FL. 2 Tube (120 cm)	2500
7	7	0	7	FL. 1 Tube (120 cm)	2500
	324				
learning lig	ting ana	lysis-2:		existing	
Total no.	Total	lamp	replace		
of lamp	Unit	only	all unit	lamp type-unit	Lumen
116	58	0	58	FL. 2 Tube (120 cm)	2500
	58				
old library	lighting a			existing	
Total no.	Total	replace	replace	lamp type-unit	Lumen
of lamp	Unit	lamp	all unit		
18	9	0	9	FL.2 Tube (120 cm)	2500
3	3	0	3	FL.1 Tube (120 cm)	2500
	12				
tulkarem c	ampus lig	hting analı	reie 2.	existing	
Total no.				existing	
of lamp	Total Unit	replace lamp	replace all unit	lamp type-unit	Lumen
12	6	0	6	FL.2 Tube (120 cm)	2500

Fig.35existing lamp quantity

and thus, the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for lamp unit in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared as follow (see annex-1):

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Fig.36 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 10/8/2023 as follow:

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12947/

RFQ-12947	
توريد وحدات انا <mark>رة</mark> موفرة	ة للطافة بكفاءة عالية
محانا	
2023-08-10	
2023-08-17	الساعة 1:00 م
Ulzan 08-10	2023-

Fig.37 tender call-1

Then the tender call was closed on 22/8/2023, and the applicants were as follow:

13-Al-Takamul Engineering Company

14-Clean Energy Electrical Contracting Company

15-Sparkle Technology and Trade Company

16-Masdar Energy Systems Company

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially for first time, to select the best offer for supplying high efficient lamp (see annex-2)



Fig.38 Technical & financial evaluation-1

The submitted offers were studied from a technical and financial standpoint, and it was found that all the submitted offers did not conform to the required specifications, which necessitated resubmitting the bid directly, with the specifications modified to suit what is available in the market and achieve the required benefit (see annex-2), as follow:

#### The tender was also re-invitedon 17/8/2023 as follow: https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/0-550/

	ببركات المتخصصة والراغية بالمذ	شاركة في العطاء المذكور أدناه:
رقم العطاء	RFQ-12947	
الموضوع	توريد وحدات انارة موفرا	ة للطافة بكماءة عالية
السعر	لالعمالا	
تم النشر في	2023-08-17	
الموعد النهائي	2023-08-22	الساعة 1:00 م
		رم والمشتريات - قسم العطاءات - مكتب رقم -1120 قب مبنى الإذارة العامة الجز 4 او من خلال فراسله البريد الالكبروني proturement@najah.edu
<mark>لا</mark> ستفس <mark>ا</mark> ر يرجى ال <mark>ا</mark> تص	ىا <mark>ل</mark> على:	ي: H+970-9-2345618 البريد الالكبروني: H+970-9-2345618
<mark>لا</mark> ستفس <mark>ا</mark> ر يرجى ال <mark>ا</mark> تص	ىا <mark>ل</mark> على:	

Then the tender call was closed on 22/8/2023, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1- Al-Takamul Engineering Company
- 2- A united company
- 3- Triple R
- 4- Clean Energy Electrical Contracting Company
- 5- Shaaban and Sons Company
- 6- Sparkle Technology and Trade Company
- 7- Masdar Energy Systems Company

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially for second time, to select the best offer for supplying high efficient lamp (see annex-2)



Fig.40 Technical & financial evaluation-2

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to Shaaban and Sons Company, and the work agreement /PO was signed between ANU and Shaaban to purchase the project materials and supply them immediately to ANNU. (see annex-3)

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Fig.41 Purchasing order agreement

## Implementation stage

The contractor supplies the lamps to university store immediately as agreement, and the technical teams in university start installing the lamps in four building immediately.

- remove the old lamp:



• Replace the old lamp with high efficient lamp unit



Fig.42 implementation process

### Validation stage

In order to ensure the approach has achieved the expected goals, we will check the electrical consumption of each building using energy analyzer and electrical bills of campuses by end of year to inspect the variation of consumption and the results of installing high efficient lamp.

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:



Power analyzer device

HT AC clamp meter

# 6. Recommendation

- 1- We recommended other public buildings to benefit from these implemented pilot projects at ANNU, and to use the same methodology in order to reduce their independency from conventional supply.
- 2- We recommend that our partners continue working together on project proposals related to eco-sustainable renovation in public buildings, in order to bring the energy consumption in our public buildings to zero
- 3- The feasibility of the proposed and implemented approach should be tested and monitored for long-term to consider change/update on base data and conduct the required computational.

4- The approach followed in implementation, follow-up, monitoring and examination to ensure the effectiveness of the implemented projects in a positive and effective manner, as the projects have been completed, installed, operated successfully.











# Innovative Retrofit Technology Report

# Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System (SPVs) for Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building – An-Najah National University

(Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building– An-Najah National University at Tulkarem)

> Prepared by: An-Najah national university (ANNU)

2023

Project Acronym	University building
Project Name	"Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation" (Med-EcoSuRe)
Project Duration	September 2019- August 2022
Website	www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/med-ecosure
Authors	An-Najah National University (ANNU)
Date	February 2023
File Name	Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life report ( <b>Rooftop Solar</b> <b>Photovoltaic System (SPVs) for Faculty of Agriculture and</b> <b>Veterinary Medicine building - An-Najah National</b> <b>University – Palestine</b> )

This project is part of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe). The project aims to implement full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life in An-Najah university campuses, in order to allow a relevant energy demand reduction and mitigate greenhouse gas emission.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	INT	RODUCTION	4
2.	WH	AT & WHY SOLAR ROOFTOP ON GRID?	5
3.	TEC	HNOLOGY DESCRIPTION	6
4.	FUL	L SCALE EXPERIMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	7
Z	ł.1	PROJECT PV PLANT SUMMARY	7
Z	1.2	CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	8
5.	MA	JOR METHODOLOGY OF RETROFIT TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION	8
5	5.1	SELECTION PROCESS & ACQUIRING DEVICES	8
5	5.2	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE	0
	Wo	rk plan and design approval1	0
	Civi	I & electrical Site Work	1
5	5.3	VALIDATION STAGE 1	5
ſ	νονιτ	ORING $\&$ EVALUATION STAGE	6
	Тес	hnical evaluation:1	7
	Env	rironmental and Economic evaluation:1	8
6.	REC	OMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE SCALE UP OF INSTALLING ROOFTOP PV SYSTEM 1	9

# 1. Introduction

Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries. Technical solutions are continuously developed by universities for eco-sustainable building renovation, but there is still a gap between designed models and their actual application. This is due to several barriers, such as the insufficient collaboration between key actors and the lack of efficient suitable tools from the public sector to develop solutions.

Under framework of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe), the partnership universities of project have taken action that aims to find Technical solutions for eco-sustainable building renovation. The Med-EcoSuRe project offers an innovative approach to the definition and diffusion of cost-effective energy renovation within university buildings, with the perspective of extending results to the whole public buildings sector in the long term. A Mediterranean cross-border living lab bringing together researchers, building managers, companies, public organisations and students - will be established to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions as well as retrofitting schemes to be implemented in 9 university buildings. The final aim behind the project is to turn university managers into active players contributing to the cocreation and experimentation of emerging ideas, breakthrough scenarios and innovative concepts, where the Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries.

The project aims to achieve the following: -

- Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Improving energy efficiency in university building and installing On-grid PV solar system.
- Reduce the energy demand from local public electrical network, which reduce electricity bills and contribute in educational process positively.
- ✤ A sustainable, reliable, safety and cost-effective electrical energy supply
- PV power Plant is tested, evaluated and monitored using monitoring, sensor and data logging system which monitored remotely and at site for public demonstration & display

ANNU aims through its facilities and activities to achieve environmental sustainability as follow: -

- Promote and create a campus which supports academic, research and enterprise activities in a sustainable way
- Provide the education, advancement, dissemination and application of sustainable development

- Maximize the wider impact of ANU's environmental sustainability activities at local, regional, national and international level through collaboration, partnership and communications
- > become a leader across the HE sector in terms of environmental sustainability

Accordingly, ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project had conducted Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example Rooftop Solar system as a solution to conserve energy in old buildings where a deep retrofit approach is not possible in order to achieve a meaningful decrease in energy usage and GHG emissions and as a result, a comfortable and healthy atmosphere on campus.

Also contribute in providing visibility of the energy that is being used across campus to facilitate culture change within the ANNU community

# 2. What & Why Solar Rooftop On Grid?

Solar rooftop is a solar panel installed on the roofs of buildings that are either commercial, institutional, or residential. The roof top system consists of a series of solar panels which are mounted on roof and connected together to convert solar radiation to electrical energy. The electrical energy from the series of panels is fed into an inverter so that the energy can be converted in alternating current compatible with grid power. Hence, the system will only work when there is constant electricity supply from the power grid.

So, why solar Rooftop system?

- reliable, easy-to-install system with a lifespan of 25 years using existing roof space to generate clean energy
- reducing the electricity bills because of Net Metering mechanism which once the PV system synchronized with grid electricity can be used to transfer excess electricity back to the main grid
- Cuts Down on Carbon Footprint, installing the rooftop panel will generate clean energy, which mitigate global warming by lowering the emission of greenhouse gases
- Low Costs of Maintenance: there are no significant expenses, so it's an economical option, because the system needs periodic excellent cleaning and maintenance and the average solar rooftop has a 25-year life expectancy, making the investment worthwhile
- Installation doesn't require any additional room
- Adaptable to the Palestine Climate: Palestine is part of the eastern Mediterranean basin and geographically located in such a way that it receives a relatively high quality of solar energy all over the year where it has nearly 3000 sunny hours.
- Safe investment: The price of electricity is always changing. Therefore, it is challenging to estimate the cost of electricity over a specific time period. On the other

hand, it is simple to estimate the cost of power produced when it comes to electricity produced by solar rooftops. In reality, it is possible to estimate how much it will cost to produce electricity in another 10 years. This makes it a safe investment.

- widens the availability of energy source and achieve independency: Even though Palestine's power shortage is steadily improving, cities, institutions and many individuals still lack sufficient and dependable access to electricity all the time, in either urban and rural locations. which forced them to use alternative means such as diesel generators. These alternatives have detrimental consequences on one's health and have unstable running expenses. Solar energy can provide a cheap source of electricity in this situation.

# **3. Technology Description**

In this pilot project, we proposed to use a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, mounted on the roof that converts solar energy into electricity to meet the building's own energy consumption requirements or, in certain situations, fed back into the electrical grid.

The size of the installation can vary dramatically, and is dependent on:

- ✓ available space on roof
- ✓ load bearing capacity of roof
- $\checkmark$  possibility to redistribution of existing objects on roof and shadow distance
- ✓ the amount of electricity required or coverage percentage of load
- ✓ the funding available for the project
- ✓ the grid operator's willingness to accept excess capacity.

the system components include PV modules, their accompanying mounting structure and an inverter.

Based on the data of the target building in the project, the building is old and the existing loads i.e. tanks, have been distributed to create a load balance and therefore it cannot be displacing. accordingly, the remaining available no-shadow space on the roof is what had determined the capacity of the system which determines the percentage of coverage for electricity consumption or savings in the electricity bill.

In addition, On-Grid PV system contributes in increasing the awareness of teacher, pupils, and community regarding the "green energy technology" and increase the positive environment in the Schools by reducing the CO2 emission.

# 4. Full scale experiment of Innovative Technologies

ANNU through the project has carried out implementation of top-roof PV system in Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine building in Tulkarem, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually of campus by 60% with available free shadow space on roof around 900 m2.

Table I.	Geographical	site o	f project
----------	--------------	--------	-----------

Location coordinate	32°18'52.2"N, 35°01'20.0"E
available area	900



Fig.1 information location of PV system

Accordingly studying the roof type and space availability is so important because different roofs require different mounting solutions which reflect on capital cost of project, and while PV systems add relatively low additional load on a roof, it is still important to ensure that the overall system is in line with structural allowances, and that it does not compromise the building's roof insulation.

### 4.1 Project PV plant Summary

Table II. D	esign param	eters of the	PV plant
-------------	-------------	--------------	----------

Design parameters	Characteristics
Year of construction	2022
Type of plant	Top-roof mounted, fixed
Orientation and tilt	South, 22 degree
Installed nominal power	77.76 kWp
Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	144 panel $\times$ 540Wp
Inverter	$1 \times$ sungrow- 50 kWp + $1 \times$ Sungrow 33Kw

## 4.2 Contribution of the project activity to sustainable development

The project contributes to the general well-being of the region and is in line with the sustainable development policies of the host site.

#### Social well-being:

The project activity will lead to employment generation during installation as well as operation phase of the project activity.

### Economic well-being:

The project implementation will provide a fillip to economic activity in the region. Direct & indirect employment will be generated in the plant for the project implementation & management. The success of this project will encourage more business to be developed in the local region thus bringing in economic prosperity in the region.

### Environmental well-being:

The project being a renewable energy power project would contribute to mitigation of global warming. In addition, the project activity also would not lead to any air pollution unlike fossil fuel based power plants

# 5. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

### 5.1 Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and according the free shadow space on roof and considering the shadow distance between PV array, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown, in fig.2.

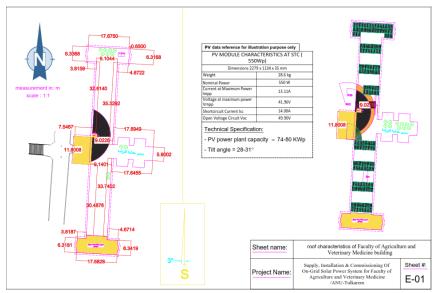


Fig.2 PV system initiative design

After checking the system design, the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared (see annex-1) as follow:



Fig.3 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 26/12/2021, as follow:

Cas	NI BCMED Med-Ec	Autor Load to To EUROPEAN UNION	-		جمعة التجاح الرطة إعلان طرح عطاء	and a star		- ACAT
					RFQ-12519 بة والراغية بالمشاركة في الطاء المذكور بالجدول:	ية الشركات المتخصص	اح الوط	مة اللم
Γ		الموعد ا لتقديم عروه	موعد الطرح	فن نسفة	موضوع العطاء	رقم العطاء	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
	الساعة	التتريخ	موعد العرج	العلاء	موسوع تعلام	رائم المعنام		
	PM 13:00	16/01/2022	26/12/2021	200 شيكل	لمسمم ركورية وتركوب وتشغيل نطلم الطقة الشسية الكوروصونية (SPV) على الأسطم لمبنى كلية الإراعة والطب اليطري ـ جمعة التجاح الوطنية في طركارم وحسب المواصفات المذكورة باسفية المطاه	RFQ-12519	1	
				ل علاء .	پرهٔ لائنهٔ الشرکة مع عرفان السعر. بله مصدق او كفلة بنکه لمانل (2000 دولار امريكي ) كفلة دخو مطاه .	حوباً بتلمين نقدي أو ش ، على من يرسو عليه ال اه غير مستردة .	ة إرفاق مطاه مم الاعلان	يعاد ال تكاثرف ثمن ند
يعد دفع	فة من وثلق العقاء	ض، للحصول على تسل	ارة الحرم القديم – تايا	112/ في مينى الإ	ية دائرة اللوازم والمشتريات / رئيس قسم العطاءات مكتب رقم () دائرة المالية / امين الصندوق في الجامعة الحرم القديم _			
						علمة	الاتصال	A.H.J
		p	rocurement.eu	@najah.edu	970-09+ - فاكن: 970-9-2345618+ البريد الألكتروني: ا	- مانف 2345113	شتريات	ازموال

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12519/

Fig.4 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 10/1/2022 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 16/1/2022, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1) Hybrid company
- 2) Abaad Contracting Company
- 3) triple R for trading and marketing
- 4) AGEC

- 5) MSADER
- 6) SATCO
- 7) trust energy
- 8) alawael

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project (see annex-2)



Fig.5 Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to Alawael company, and the work agreement/PO was signed between ANNU and Alawael to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials. (see annex-3)



Fig.6 Purchasing order agreement

### 5.2 Implementation stage

#### Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.

	Task	Task Name	Duretlo	Start	Pintsh		n L m L	26 29 00	2022	10 10 10 10	auty 2022			August 2022
1	-	Al Najah Solar Projec	rt. 59 day	Mon 23/05/22	Thu 11/08/22		-							
2	-	Mechanical work	21 day	Mon 23/05/22	Mon 20/06/22		-							
з	-	Structure desig	n 2 days	Mon 23/05/22	Tue 24/05/22		-							
4	-	Supply and inst metal structure		Wed 25/05/22	Mon 20/06/22		1							
3	-	Solar panels		Tue 21/06/22	The 14/07/22							_		
	-	Supply solar pa		Tue 21/06/22						- <b>h</b>				
7	-	installing solar	panels 11 days	Wed 22/06/22	Wed 06/07/22					+				
8	-	connecting solar panels with DC		Thu 07/07/22	Thu 14/07/22						-			
	-	Solar Inverters	9 days	Thu 07/07/22	Tue 19/07/22						-		-	
10		Supply solar inv	erters 3 days	Thu 07/07/22	Mon 11/07/22						2			
11	-	install solar inv	erters 6 days	Tue 12/07/22	Tue 19/07/22							*		
12	-	AC panels	7 days	Wed 20/07/22	Thu 28/07/22								<u> </u>	
13				Wed 20/07/22									<u> </u>	
14	-	Testing Commissi	oning 10 day	Fri 29/07/22	Thu 11/08/22								-	
13		testing Commis	sioning 10 days	Fri 29/07/22	Thu 11/08/22								1	
			nk		Poard	JETTALY 1			Income Miletanov	•	Manual Summary Kithiga		Deadline	
			ek.					1		¢1	Manual Summary Rolling			¢
		igh Alter F.O.mpp St	pile .		External 1	Tasks	-	1	inactive Summary	¢1	Manual Summary	<u> </u>	Progress	¢
		igah After P.O.mpp N (05/22 N		•		lasks Mestore	1	1		¢				¢

Fig.7 work plan

The design by AutoCAD which include; distribution of array, connection with component, was provided as follow:

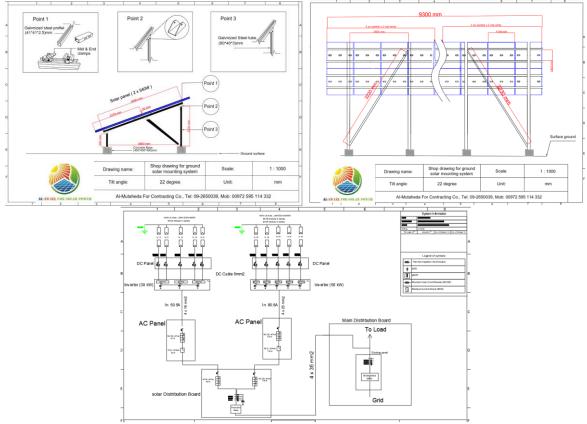


Fig.8 Alawael design & connection drawing

#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

1- Prepare the site and supply cement foundation



2- distribute the foundation



3- Install the steel structure



4- Install PV panels



5- Install inverter and connect all components and all the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future.



6- Then the DC/AC earthing was connected and lightning Pulsar, Earth resistance measurement 2.8 ohm



7- Finally the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal – **isolarcloud** for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting and weather sensor station was installed.





Fig.9 PV system implementation process

### 5.3 Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

#### • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

#### • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

#### • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:



Digital Earth resistance test device

The result of test was as follow:



Power analyzer device



HT AC clamp meter

#### Verification test draft



	PV generator	Reference	Remarks		
		Value	Confirm	non confirm	
Unit STC capacity		540 Wp	/		
	Technology	Monocrystalline	/		
	Quantity	144	1		
Modules	Manufacturer	JAsolar	1		
	Existence by-pass diodes	Yes-3 diodes	/		
	Orientation	True South	/		
	Tilt	22 degree	1		
Assembly	Shades (if any)	Yes, in early morning/ late evening for the middle array	1		
	Type of structure	Hot deep strength	/		
	Structure material	Steel	/		
	Mechanical strength	Strong	/		
	Bolts and nuts material	stainless steel	/		
Structures	Resistance to corrosion	Yes, it is galvanizes	/		
	Quality of attachment fittings	Excellent	/		
	Quality of anchors	Excellent	-		
	Earthing	Yes, it is earthed with cable size 10 mm <sup>2</sup>	-		
				+	

	Voc and Isc per string	Voc	lsc			
	string 1.Inv1	866	13.5			
	string 2.Inv1	861.1	13.46			
	string 3.Inv1	671.4	13.12			
	string 4.Inv1	673.4	13.2			
Strings	string 1.Inv2	763.6	13.21			
	string 2.lnv2	763.0	13.25			
	string 3.Inv2	763.5	13.27			
	string 4.Inv2	765.7	13.2			
	string \$.Inv2	764.3	13.24			
	Cable type	Kablo	N2XY	/		
(Friday and	Cross section	4*35 mm²		1		
(Grid inverter)	Number of AC panel	1		1		
	Existing lighting arrestors	Yes		1		
	Voltage drop at I max	Less than 1%		1		
For inverte	HC:					
	Inverter	Referen	nce	Remarks		
		Value		confirm	non confirm	

Reference Value

cabling (cont'd)

AL-AWAEL

	Cabling	Reference	Re	marks
		Value	confirm	non confirm
	Cable type	Solar cable	~	
Interconnections	Cross section	6 mm <sup>2</sup>	~	
of modules	Length	≥ 1200 mm	1	
	Protection of junction	IP65	/	
	Junction attachment	Yes	1	
1.1.37711733	Cable type	Solar Type	1	
Modules-to-	Cross section	6 mm <sup>2</sup>	-	
junction box	Length	According to each array	1	
	Quantity	red & black	/	
	Protection of junctions	IP65	/	
	Quantity of boxes	2	-	
Junction box	Number of strings per box	(1):4 , (2):5	~	
Junction box	String fuses specifications	20 A	/	
	Sealing efficiency	Very Good, IP65	/	

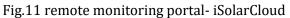
Inverter	Reference	Ren	narks	
	Value	confirm	non confirm	
Manufacturer	Sungrow	~		
Inverter #	2: 50kw & 33kw	1/		
MPP voltage range	200-1000 V	/		
Nominal input voltage	585 v	/		
DC reverse connection protection	yes	/		
AC short circuit protection	yes	/		
DC switch / AC switch	Yes/no	1		
Nominal AC voltage	3/N/PE, 230/400 V	/		
Rated output frequency	50 Hz	1		
Inverter -1				
A.C. power	36.3 KVA	~		
Max AC output current	55.2 A	/		
Input voltage range	312 V to 528 V	1		
No. of independent MPP input	3	/		
Inverter -2				
A.C. power	55 KVA	1/		
Max AC output current	83.6 A	-		
Input voltage range	312 V to 528 V	/		
No. of independent MPP input	5	1 1		

#### Fig.10 PV system test report

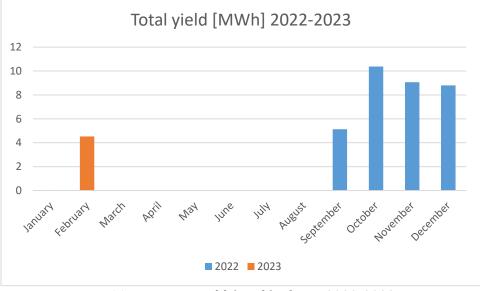
### Monitoring & evaluation stage

The performance of system was analyzed using technical data downloaded from the data logger of isolar cloud portal.

< Back	Today 53.	y Revenue	ð	(	9 MW	Today (m) 14-17°C
Overview     Device Information		ay Yield 5 kWh			(♣)	0
Curve Curve Fault Plant Configuration	<ul> <li>Real-time Power</li> <li>1.9 kw</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Current Month's Yield</li> <li>4.142 MWh</li> </ul>	$\sim$	辭 Total Vield 21.965 MWh	©     ,
Advanced Settings	PV Installed Capacity	78 kWp	Revenue This Month	4,143 USD	Total Revenue ⊘	18,863 USD
	Day Month Year	Total < 2023/0	4/12 >			



The PV system operation was monitored from 18/9/2022-31/12/2022 & 12/2/2023-28/2/2023, during the operation period a periodic maintenance of the system will be carried out and followed up to solve problems when they occur, such as changing a fuse or cleaning the panel, and the results were as follow:



Total production over operated period 2022/2023= 37.92 MWh

Fig.11 PV system yield (MWh) of year 2022-2023

According to data, the system was working properly, and thus is shown in the indicator below:

### **Technical evaluation:**

System Efficiency

The efficiency of PV system measures the ability of system to convert the sunlight into required energy for load consumption, the system efficiency is given by following form:

η (system efficiency) = <u>Output energy of PV system (KWh)</u> Global radiation energy received by PV array area (KWh)

### The System efficiency for operation period (Sep-Dec/2022) is 17 % The System efficiency for operation period (Feb-March/2023) is 14 %

Performance Ratio

PR = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> Energy produced by system at STC (KWh)

### The Performance Ratio for operation period (Sep-Dec/2022) is 78%

### The Performance Ratio for operation period (Feb-March/2023) is 63%

Final Yield (Yf)

Y<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)

The final yield will refer for how many hours the system is operated in year or day.

Accordingly,

### Yf over operated period is 488.01 h and average solar hour per day is 3.83 h/day

Capacity Factor (Cf)

The capacity factor varies quite a bit for solar photovoltaic systems depending on the location. Generally, it is in the range of 10-25%. One of the key reasons for this low ratio is the nature of renewable power.

C<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)× 8760h/year

total hours over operated period is 2952 h, accordingly **the average capacity factor of system over this period is 16 %.** 

#### **Environmental and Economic evaluation:**

The CO2 emission will be reduced according to how much energy produce from the PV solar system since the system operation, as follow:

#### It's expected that the reduction in CO2 emission will be 94.15 ton CO2/year

#### It's expected to reduce energy bills yearly by 27300 Euro

PV Investment cost (€) = 58153.5 Euro

S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year

But according to the actual energy output, the average monthly energy saving was 9.4 MWh, around 1845 Euro/month which equivalent to 22148 Euro/year, and thus reflect in number of years of payback period.

Actual Saving cost in 1st year (€/year) = 22148 €/year

S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year

= 58153.5 Euro / 22148 Euro = 2.63 years ≈ **2 years & 8 month** 

# 6. Recommendations and future scale up of installing Rooftop PV system

In general, innovative technologies and processes should be conceived in order to seize low radiation energy and optimize its transformation into actual power. Based on what was previously mentioned so we recommended the following to install rooftop PV system:

- The optimum power output must be estimated before the installation of the photovoltaic plant, which was influenced by quantity and quality of the solar energy resource of the desired project location.
- Solar module efficiency: Modules in operation typically have an efficiency of between 9% and 22%; however, module performance typically deteriorates over time. This module degradation can occur at a rate of approximately 0.3% to 1%/year, depending on the module type and local conditions, so choosing high efficient module will reflect on solar energy production.

Two types were available in Palestinian Market; Poly-crystalline and monocrystalline which used in PV installations and those modules have different properties, which influence the suitability of their application:

- Poly crystalline modules are widely used with many proven manufacturers around the world. They are typically less expensive to produce than monocrystalline modules, but are not as efficient. Because of the way they are manufactured,
- Mono crystalline modules have a higher efficiency than most other types of modules, but can be more expensive as a result.

Typically, modules come with a 10-year mechanical warranty on the product, and a 25-year performance warranty.

- Appropriate design considerations: such modules layout and spacing, cable lengths and inverter sizing, to reduce the losses in individual components of the system, as the energy is converted from solar to electrical energy.
- Shading losses analyses play a crucial role before installation because they allow to predict and analyse the performance of the designed PV system, where Inter-row shading and the surrounding landscape influences how much exposure the system

has to the sun. Neighbouring buildings, trees or natural features can shade part or the whole of a system, affecting overall energy generation.

- The system's layout should consider local health and safety requirements, including whether or not access is required by emergency services in the event of a fire. This also affects accessibility for system maintenance, cleaning the modules, and carrying out maintenance on any of the components.
- In addition, structure of PV frameworks carefully identified, especially on the roofs of old buildings, to limit the heaviness of photovoltaic panels. A PV panel typically weighs 20–40 kg. Since a PV array clearly incorporates numerous panels, the all-out weight of the introduced array is much bigger. So reducing the basic load of the PV structure will solve this issue, make PV modules lighter and diminish transportation costs besides decreasing the cost of the materials used for the photovoltaic structure.
- To avoid penetrate the roof when fixing the mounting structure of PV systems to keep the building's waterproofing and roofing warranties
- The mounting system should be able to withstand applicable wind and/or snow loading
- It is important that the material selected (i.e. structure, welding Screws and clamps) is adequately treated and galvanized to prevent corrosion, as the mounting system will be exposed to the environment and external factors
- Installing Energy meters' measure electricity generated by the system, and this data is used in assessing facility performance and bidirectional meter with grid to measure the flow of electricity in two directions and thus monitor power usage in real time and save money.
- Installing weather station to measure and track temperature, insolation and wind speeds, so that the performance of the system can be compared to what should have been generated, given the conditions.
  - The performance of a system is dependent on the environmental conditions
- Installing System remote monitoring to ensure the system operates efficiently

As is clear, getting accurate information on the actual behavior of the designed PV system will allow understanding how to optimize its efficiency, thus contributing to reduce the amount of energy generated from non-renewable sources and the emissions.

This system is a cost-effective energy solution, which permits to save a huge amount of money and time during the PV system installation, which can replicate on the roof of other new/old building through a robust design of the system, taking in to account the mentioned consideration to achieve the maximum energy efficiency of system and make use of the available spaces in order to enhances the autonomy of the national grid and reduce the cost of electrical energy.

This type of system encourages investors to increase in the uptake of solar PV installations due to:

- Lower costs of PV technology: Overall installation costs for PV technologies have decreased significantly in recent years, and it's expected to continue going forward and overall system costs are forecasted to decrease by between 40% and 75% by 2050;
- increasing grid supplied electricity prices;
- the availability of preferential feed-in-tariffs or other financial incentives for renewable energy technologies (including tax credits);
- carbon emission reduction;
- the availability of alternative financing options;
- air pollution concerns; and
- energy security concerns











# Innovative Retrofit Technology Report

# Grid-Tied PV Power Plant at Top-Roof of Old-Campus Buildings – An-Najah National University

(Faculty of educational science and teachers' training building & faculty of humanity and economics building)

Prepared by: An-Najah national university (ANNU)

2023

Project Acronym	University building		
Project Name	"Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation" (Med-EcoSuRe)		
Project Duration	September 2019- August 2022		
Website	www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/med-ecosure		
Authors	An-Najah National University (ANNU)		
Date	February 2023		
File Name	Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life report ( <b>Old-Campus PV system- An-Najah National University – Palestine</b> )		

This project is part of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe). The project aims to implement full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life in An-Najah university campuses, in order to allow a relevant energy demand reduction and mitigate greenhouse gas emission.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	IP	NTRODUCTION	4
2.	W	/HAT & WHY SOLAR ROOFTOP ON GRID?	5
3.	Т	ECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION	6
4.	F	ULL SCALE EXPERIMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	. 7
4	.1	Project PV plant Summary	9
4	.2	CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	9
5.	N	AJOR METHODOLOGY OF RETROFIT TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION	LO
5	.1.	Selection process & Acquiring devices	LO
5	.2.	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE	12
	И	Vork plan and design approval	12
	С	ivil & electrical Site Work	13
5	.3.	VALIDATION STAGE	16
5	.4.	MONITORING & EVALUATION STAGE	19
	T	echnical evaluation:	20
	E	nvironmental and Economic evaluation:	22
6.	R	ECOMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE SCALE UP OF INSTALLING ROOFTOP PV SYSTEM 2	22

# **1. Introduction**

Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries. Technical solutions are continuously developed by universities for eco-sustainable building renovation, but there is still a gap between designed models and their actual application. This is due to several barriers, such as the insufficient collaboration between key actors and the lack of efficient suitable tools from the public sector to develop solutions.

Under framework of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe), the partnership universities of project have taken action that aims to find Technical solutions for eco-sustainable building renovation. The Med-EcoSuRe project offers an innovative approach to the definition and diffusion of cost-effective energy renovation within university buildings, with the perspective of extending results to the whole public buildings sector in the long term. A Mediterranean cross-border living lab bringing together researchers, building managers, companies, public organisations and students - will be established to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions as well as retrofitting schemes to be implemented in 9 university buildings. The final aim behind the project is to turn university managers into active players contributing to the cocreation and experimentation of emerging ideas, breakthrough scenarios and innovative concepts, where the Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries.

The project aims to achieve the following: -

- Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Improving energy efficiency in university building and installing On-grid PV solar system.
- Reduce the energy demand from local public electrical network, which reduce electricity bills and contribute in educational process positively.
- ✤ A sustainable, reliable, safety and cost-effective electrical energy supply
- PV power Plant is tested, evaluated and monitored using monitoring, sensor and data logging system which monitored remotely and at site for public demonstration & display

At the same pace, ANNU aims through its facilities and activities to achieve environmental sustainability as follow: -

- Promote and create a campus which supports academic, research and enterprise activities in a sustainable way
- Provide the education, advancement, dissemination and application of sustainable development

- Maximize the wider impact of ANU's environmental sustainability activities at local, regional, national and international level through collaboration, partnership and communications
- > become a leader across the HE sector in terms of environmental sustainability

Accordingly, ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project had conducted Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example Rooftop Solar system as a solution to conserve energy in old buildings where a deep retrofit approach is not possible in order to achieve a meaningful decrease in energy usage and GHG emissions and as a result, a comfortable and healthy atmosphere on campus.

Also contribute in providing visibility of the energy that is being used across campus to facilitate culture change within the ANNU community

# 2. What & Why On Grid Solar rooftop?

Solar rooftop is a solar panel installed on the roofs of buildings that are either commercial, institutional, or residential. The roof top system consists of a series of solar panels which are mounted on roof and connected together to convert solar radiation to electrical energy. The electrical energy from the series of panels is fed into an inverter so that the energy can be converted in alternating current compatible with grid power. Hence, the system will only work when there is constant electricity supply from the power grid.

So, why solar Rooftop system?

- reliable, easy-to-install system with a lifespan of 25 years using existing roof space to generate clean energy
- reducing the electricity bills because of Net Metering mechanism which once the PV system synchronized with grid electricity can be used to transfer excess electricity back to the main grid
- Cuts Down on Carbon Footprint, installing the rooftop panel will generate clean energy, which mitigate global warming by lowering the emission of greenhouse gases
- Low Costs of Maintenance: there are no significant expenses, so it's an economical option, because the system needs periodic excellent cleaning and maintenance and the average solar rooftop has a 25-year life expectancy, making the investment worthwhile
- Installation doesn't require any additional room
- Adaptable to the Palestine Climate: Palestine is part of the eastern Mediterranean basin and geographically located in such a way that it receives a relatively high quality of solar energy all over the year where it has nearly 3000 sunny hours.
- Safe investment: The price of electricity is always changing. Therefore, it is challenging to estimate the cost of electricity over a specific time period. On the other

hand, it is simple to estimate the cost of power produced when it comes to electricity produced by solar rooftops. In reality, it is possible to estimate how much it will cost to produce electricity in another 10 years. This makes it a safe investment.

- widens the availability of energy source and achieve independency: Even though Palestine's power shortage is steadily improving, cities, institutions and many individuals still lack sufficient and dependable access to electricity all the time, in either urban and rural locations. which forced them to use alternative means such as diesel generators. These alternatives have detrimental consequences on one's health and have unstable running expenses. Solar energy can provide a cheap source of electricity in this situation.

# 3. Technology Description

In this pilot project, we proposed to use a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, mounted on the roof that converts solar energy into electricity to meet the building's own energy consumption requirements or, in certain situations, fed back into the electrical grid.

The size of the installation can vary dramatically, and is dependent on:

- ✓ available space on roof
- ✓ load bearing capacity of roof
- $\checkmark$  possibility to redistribution of existing objects on roof and shadow distance
- ✓ the amount of electricity required or coverage percentage of load
- ✓ the funding available for the project
- ✓ the grid operator's willingness to accept excess capacity.

the system components include PV modules, their accompanying mounting structure and an inverter.

Based on the data of the target building in the project, the building is old and the existing loads i.e. tanks, have been distributed to create a load balance and therefore it cannot be displacing. accordingly, the remaining available no-shadow space on the roof is what had determined the capacity of the system which determines the percentage of coverage for electricity consumption or savings in the electricity bill.

In addition, On-Grid PV system contributes in increasing the awareness of teacher, pupils, and community regarding the "green energy technology" and increase the positive environment in the Schools by reducing the CO2 emission.

# 4. Full scale experiment of Innovative Technologies

ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project has carried out implementation of **top-roof PV system** in old campus in Nablus, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually of old campus by 11% with available free shadow space on roof of both buildings around 1000 m2 in total.

1- Faculty of Humanities & Faculty of Economics and Social Studies Building

gr	aphical site and roof space- faculty of	humanities
	Location coordinate	32°13'12.69"N,35°14'37.56"E
	Height from sea level	616.7 m
	Building occupied area	2968.6 m2
	Free shadow, available area	700 m2





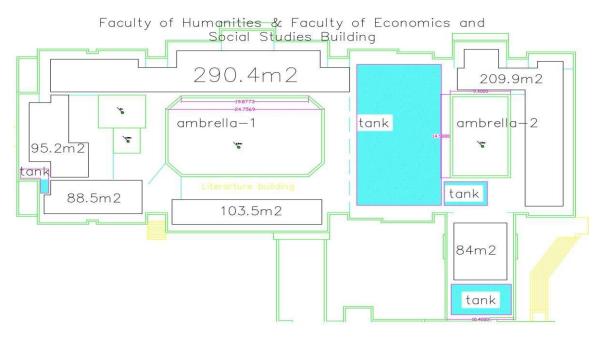


Fig.1 Faculty of Humanities & Faculty of Economics and Social Studies Building and roof space information

### 2- Faculty of Educational Sciences and Teachers' Training Building

υy	Taphical site and tool space- faculty o	I Educational Sciences
	Location coordinate	32°13'14.09"N,35°14'37.64"E
	Height from sea level	612 m
	Building occupied area	1719.4 m2
	Free shadow, available area	300 m2

Table II. Geographical site and roof space- faculty of Educational Sciences



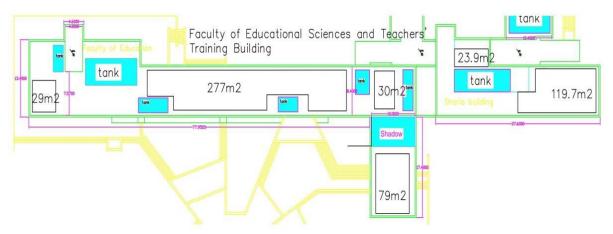


Fig.2 Faculty of Educational Sciences and Teachers' Training Building and roof space information

Accordingly studying the roof type and space availability is so important because different roofs require different mounting solutions which reflect on capital cost of project, and while PV systems add relatively low additional load on a roof, it is still important to ensure that the overall system is in line with structural allowances, and that it does not compromise the building's roof insulation.

# 4.1 Project PV plant Summary

Table III. Design parameters of the PV plant

Design parameters	Characteristics
Year of construction	2020/2021
Type of plant	roof-mounted, fixed
Orientation and tilt	South, 27 degree
Installed nominal power	145 kWp
Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	366 (140 panel $ imes$ 390Wp & 226 panel $ imes$ 400Wp)
Inverters	1 $\times$ ABB PVS-50-SX & 2 $\times$ ABB PVS-50-SX2



Fig.3 old Campus PV system

# 4.2 Contribution of the project activity to sustainable development

The project contributes to the general well-being of the region and is in line with the sustainable development policies of the host site.

#### Social well-being:

The project activity will lead to employment generation during installation as well as operation phase of the project activity.

## Economic well-being:

The project implementation will provide a fillip to economic activity in the region. Direct & indirect employment will be generated in the plant for the project implementation & management. The success of this project will encourage more business to be developed in the local region thus bringing in economic prosperity in the region.

# Environmental well-being:

The project being a renewable energy power project would contribute to mitigation of global warming. In addition, the project activity also would not lead to any air pollution unlike fossil fuel based power plants

# 5. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

# 5.1. Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and according the free shadow space on roof and considering the shadow distance between PV array, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown in fig.5.

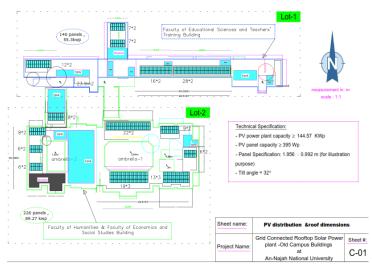


Fig.4 PV system initiative design

After checking the system design and yield using PVSol software, it was confirmed that the system distribution on roof has no object around may affect the PV performance negatively, and thus the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared (see annex-1) as follow:

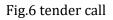


Fig.5 tender dossier

#### The tender call was published on 14/5/2020 as follow:

# https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12119/

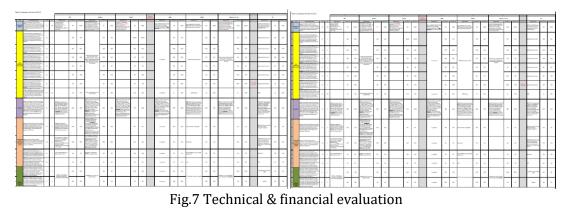




During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 1/6/2020 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 11/6/2020, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1- ITEC
- 2- Excellent Systems
- 3- Triple R
- 4- MTSC
- 5- SATCO
- 6- Alawael
- 7- 3K

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project (see annex-2)



Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to 3K company, and the work agreement /PO was signed between ANU and 3K to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials. (see annex-3)



Fig.8 Purchasing order agreement

# 5.2. **Implementation stage**

# Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.

		TaslTask Name Mov		Duratio	Start	Finish	Predecessors	March 2019 April 2019 May 2019 June 2019 June 2019
	•	* Phase #1- Sub	mittals and approvals	6 days	Mon 8/24/20	Sun 8/30/20		per a la la la heteronana especie de la
			epprovals for final drawings and	6 days	Mon 8/24/20	Sun 8/30/20		
		equipments						
3		📌 Phase #2 - Sup	ply Phase	10 day	Sat 9/5/20	Sat 16/9/20		
4		Supply of St	eel Structure	6 days	Set 9/5/20	Thu 9/10/20		
5	•	Supply of PV	/ Modules	1 day	Sat 9/12/20	Sat 9/12/20	4	
6	×.	Supply of in Italy	verters and Weather Station from	1 day	Sun 9/13/20	Sun 9/13/20		
				1 day	Tue 9/15/20	Tue 9/15/20		
	-	Supply of Di	& AC Cables	1 day	Wed 9/16/20	Wed 9/16/20		
9		🖈 Phase #3 - Inst	allation Phase	22 day	Mon 9/12/20	Sun 9/28/20	8	
10	-	- Installation	of steel structure	9 days	Sat 9/12/20	Mon 9/21/20	4	
11	-	- Installation	of PV modules	7 days	Tue 9/22/20	Tue 9/29/20	5,10	
12	P	DC Cabling a	and AC Cabling	3 days	Mon 9/28/20	Wed 9/30/20	1\$Selays	
13	×.	Monitoring	of inverters, Weather Station and	1 day	Mon 9/28/20	Mon 9/28/20		
14		Assembly of	MDB and AC cables	1 day	Thu 10/1/20	Thu 10/1/20	7,8,12	
15	-	S Earthing and	lightning system	1 day	Wed 9/30/20	Wed 9/30/20	11	
16		A Phase #5 - Tes	ting, Comissioning & Training	4 days	Wed 9/30/20	Sun 10/4/20	9	
17		* Handing ove	er	3 days	Wed 9/30/20	Sat 10/3/20	15	
18	-	Testing and	commissioning of plant	3 days	Sun 10/4/20	Tue 10/6/20	17	
19		Connection	of plant to the Grid	1 day	Wed 10/7/20	Wed 10/7/20	18	
20		* Training the	staff	1 day	Wed 9/30/20	Wed 9/30/20	19	
			Task		Project Summary		Manual Tat	Start only C Deadine +
		Najah Solar	Spit		inactive Task		Duration or	
ooft Jate	op Pr	roject 150 kw 9/2020	Mistore •		inactive Milestone	*		vnary Rohap Driemal Tasks Manual Progress
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Fig.9 work plan

The design by 3k which include; distribution of array, connection with inverter and MDB of building, was provided as follow:

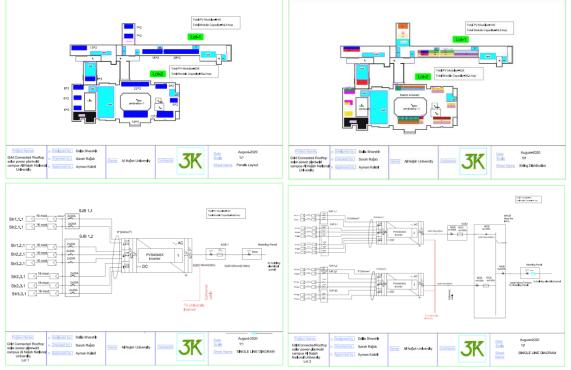


Fig.10 3k connection drawing

#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

1- Delivery of project materials to the site and distribute the cement foundation



2- Install the steel structure



3- Install PV panels, inverter and connected the main AC cables with university electrical board.





4- All the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aaesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future



5- Then the DC/AC eacrthing was connected and lightning Pulsar



6- Finally the energy meters, weather stations sensors were installed and configured with monitoring portal - Aurora Vision® Plant Management Platform for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting



Fig.11 PV system implementation process

# 5.3. Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

#### • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

#### • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

• Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:







yzer device HT A

HT AC clamp meter

Digital Earth resistance test device

Power analyzer device

# The result of test was as follow:

VIX						50	ING TEST:	Device : PV CRECK Polarity ( Elec.) Voc 7 lec			19-2-202	1
		1					2	LIT (1)		CendBion	sumy	
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	1110MHC			mppl	3	52-1.1	OK	100 Ma	729.4	9.34	11	
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	Pass/Yes	FailWo	8.65		4				-			
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he inverter is clean from any signs that water or dirt has entered the inverter box	8	H	-11	0	- 2	51.2.1	OK	lange	819.5	9.54	C	
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lectrical continuity and connection between Modules	12				.7	53.2.1	OK	100M SV	819.0	9.68	11	
sulation of electrical circuits	Ø				8					1.00		
e connections for phase sequence L1, L2, L3 and N are in the correct order.	Ø.				0	1	-		240	a 14	11	
C connection of internal supply.	Ø	0			-	51.3.1	OK	100MA	816.8	9.64		
easurement of internal supply voltage of each phase. L1-230 L2-235 L3=227 -V Measurements at inverter's operation.	Ø			mpp13		523.1			85.6	9.73	11	
versurements at inverter's operation: slifty to connect via distance directly to the inverter	-	100			33	52.31	OK	100MSV	821.4	9.54	cr.	
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peration input DC Voltage Vpv= 836 (Vmppt.) V1 = 835 V= = 745					-		-				100	
utput AC current loc = 60.74 A in eta X -					13							
V power connected the inverter. Ppv: 44.18 Kmp		D			- 16							
ower AC in MPP operation. Pac= 42.7 Ump					- 67							
feasurement of grid parameters within the allowed range	Ø				- 18		-					
rid Voltage line to line : 3.50V, inverter range (320-480V)	12						-					
the second secon	R				-18							
Other Checks			-									
sconnection Test operation.	R					CONCLU	SION	(PADE)	FAIL			
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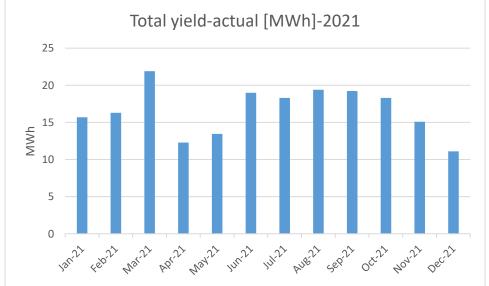
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# 5.4. Monitoring & evaluation stage

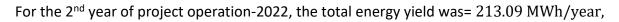
The performance of system was analyzed using technical data downloaded from the data logger of Fimer Aurora Vision and digital meters.

The PV system operation was monitored from 1/1/2021 until 28/02/2023, during these period a periodic maintenance of the system was carried out and followed up to solve problems when they occur, such as changing a fuse or cleaning the panel, and the results were as follow:



For the 1<sup>st</sup> year of project operation-2021, the total energy yield was= 200.08 MWh/year:

Fig.12 PV system yield of year 2021 -MWh



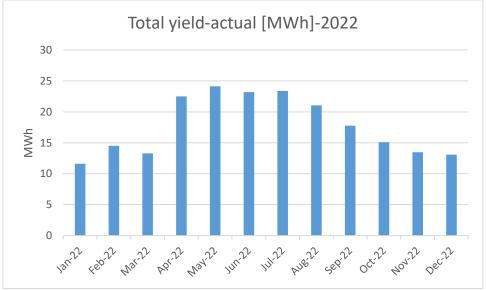


Fig.13 PV system yield of year 2022 -MWh

For the 3<sup>nd</sup> year of project operation-2023, the total energy yield was (until 28<sup>th</sup> February,2023) = 27.62 MWh/year,

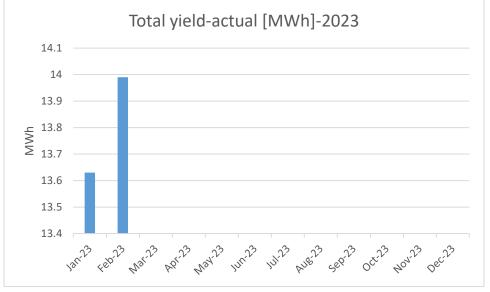


Fig.5 PV system yield of year 2023 – MWh

So, the total solar system yields 2021-2023, as follow:

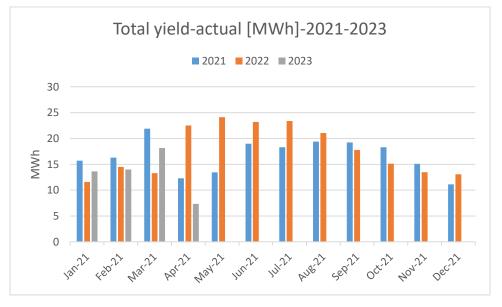


Fig.6 PV system yield (MWh) of year 2021-2023

According to previous data, the system was working properly, and thus is shown in the indicator below:

#### **Technical evaluation:**

System Efficiency

The efficiency of PV system measures the ability of system to convert the sunlight into required energy for load consumption, the system efficiency is given by following form:

η (system efficiency) = <u>Output energy of PV system (KWh)</u> Global radiation energy received by PV array area (KWh)

The System efficiency for 1<sup>st</sup> year (2021) is 14% The System efficiency for 2<sup>nd</sup> year (2022) is 15% The System efficiency for 3<sup>rd</sup> year (March-2023) is 12%

Performance Ratio

PR = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> Energy produced by system at STC (KWh)

The Performance Ratio for 1<sup>st</sup> year (2021) is 64.6% The Performance Ratio for 2<sup>nd</sup> year (2022) is 75% The Performance Ratio for 3<sup>rd</sup> year (March-2023) is 63%

➢ Final Yield (Yf)

The final yield will refer for how many hours the system is operated in year or day.

Accordingly,

# $Y_f$ over operated period is 3039.93 and average solar hour per day is 3.68 h/day

Capacity Factor (Cf)

The capacity factor varies quite a bit for solar photovoltaic systems depending on the location. Generally, it is in the range of 10-25%. One of the key reasons for this low ratio is the nature of renewable power.

C<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)× 8760h/year

the total hours over operation period is 18936h, accordingly **the average capacity factor of system over this period is 15%.** 

## **Environmental and Economic evaluation:**

The CO2 emission and electricity bills will be reduced annually according to how much energy produce from the PV solar system since the system operation, as follow:

- The electricity bill will reduce over 2021-2022 = 63628.18 Euro
- CO2 emission will reduce by 268.3 ton CO2
- > Payback time

The previous estimation calculation was as follow:

Expected Saving cost (€/year) = 2158.16 €/month\*12month=25897.92 €/year

PV Investment cost (€) = 92488 Euro

S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year

= 92488 Euro / 25897.92 Euro = 3.57 years ≈ **3 years & 6 month** 

But according to the actual energy output, the saving was higher which reflect in decreasing number of years of payback period.

Actual Saving cost in 1st year (€/year) = 30812.32 €/year

PV Investment cost (€) = 92488 Euro

S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year

= 92488 Euro / 30812.32 Euro = **3 years** 

# 6. Recommendations and future scale up of installing Rooftop PV system

In general, innovative technologies and processes should be conceived in order to seize low radiation energy and optimize its transformation into actual power. Based on what was previously mentioned so we recommended the following to install rooftop PV system:

- The optimum power output must be estimated before the installation of the photovoltaic plant, which was influenced by quantity and quality of the solar energy resource of the desired project location.
- Solar module efficiency: Modules in operation typically have an efficiency of between 9% and 22%; however, module performance typically deteriorates over time. This module degradation can occur at a rate of approximately 0.3% to 1%/year,

depending on the module type and local conditions, so choosing high efficient module will reflect on solar energy production.

Two types were available in Palestinian Market; Poly-crystalline and monocrystalline which used in PV installations and those modules have different properties, which influence the suitability of their application:

- Poly crystalline modules are widely used with many proven manufacturers around the world. They are typically less expensive to produce than mono-crystalline modules, but are not as efficient. Because of the way they are manufactured,
- Mono crystalline modules have a higher efficiency than most other types of modules, but can be more expensive as a result.

Typically, modules come with a 10-year mechanical warranty on the product, and a 25-year performance warranty.

- Appropriate design considerations: such modules layout and spacing, cable lengths and inverter sizing, to reduce the losses in individual components of the system, as the energy is converted from solar to electrical energy.
- Shading losses analyses play a crucial role before installation because they allow to predict and analyse the performance of the designed PV system, where Inter-row shading and the surrounding landscape influences how much exposure the system has to the sun. Neighbouring buildings, trees or natural features can shade part or the whole of a system, affecting overall energy generation.
- The system's layout should consider local health and safety requirements, including whether or not access is required by emergency services in the event of a fire. This also affects accessibility for system maintenance, cleaning the modules, and carrying out maintenance on any of the components.
- In addition, structure of PV frameworks carefully identified, especially on the roofs of old buildings, to limit the heaviness of photovoltaic panels. A PV panel typically weighs 20–40 kg. Since a PV array clearly incorporates numerous panels, the all-out weight of the introduced array is much bigger. So reducing the basic load of the PV structure will solve this issue, make PV modules lighter and diminish transportation costs besides decreasing the cost of the materials used for the photovoltaic structure.
- To avoid penetrate the roof when fixing the mounting structure of PV systems to keep the building's waterproofing and roofing warranties
- The mounting system should be able to withstand applicable wind and/or snow loading
- It is important that the material selected (i.e. structure, welding Screws and clamps) is adequately treated and galvanized to prevent corrosion, as the mounting system will be exposed to the environment and external factors
- Installing Energy meters' measure electricity generated by the system, and this data is used in assessing facility performance.

- Installing System remote monitoring to ensure the system operates efficiently

As is clear, getting accurate information on the actual behavior of the designed PV system will allow understanding how to optimize its efficiency, thus contributing to reduce the amount of energy generated from non-renewable sources and the emissions.

This system is a cost-effective energy solution, which permits to save a huge amount of money and time during the PV system installation, which can replicate on the roof of other new/old building through a robust design of the system, taking in to account the mentioned consideration to achieve the maximum energy efficiency of system and make use of the available spaces in order to enhances the autonomy of the national grid and reduce the cost of electrical energy.

This type of system encourages investors to increase in the uptake of solar PV installations due to:

- Lower costs of PV technology: Overall installation costs for PV technologies have decreased significantly in recent years, and it's expected to continue going forward and overall system costs are forecasted to decrease by between 40% and 75% by 2050;
- increasing grid supplied electricity prices;
- the availability of preferential feed-in-tariffs or other financial incentives for renewable energy technologies (including tax credits);
- carbon emission reduction;
- the availability of alternative financing options;
- air pollution concerns; and
- energy security concerns











# Innovative Retrofit Technology Report

# Solar Carport for Fine Arts Faculty in New-Campus Building– An-Najah National University

(The south garage of Fine Arts Faculty in New-Campus building)

Prepared by: An-Najah national university (ANNU)

2023

Project Acronym	University building
Project Name	"Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation" (Med-EcoSuRe)
Project Duration	September 2019- August 2022
Website	www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/med-ecosure
Authors	An-Najah National University (ANNU)
Date	February 2023
File Name	Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life report ( <b>Solar Carport in</b> <b>New-Campus Building - An-Najah National University –</b> <b>Palestine</b> )

This project is part of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe). The project aims to implement full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life in An-Najah university campuses, in order to allow a relevant energy demand reduction and mitigate greenhouse gas emission.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	INT	RODUCTION	1
2.	WН	IAT & WHY ON GRID SOLAR CARPORT?	5
3.	TEC		5
4.	FUL	L SCALE EXPERIMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	5
Z	l.1	Project PV plant Summary	7
Z	.2	CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	7
5.	MA	JOR METHODOLOGY OF RETROFIT TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION	3
5	5.1.	SELECTION PROCESS & ACQUIRING DEVICES	3
5	5.2.	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE	)
	Wo	rk plan and design approval10	)
	Civi	il & electrical Site Work	1
5	5.3.	VALIDATION STAGE	3
5	5.4.	MONITORING & EVALUATION STAGE	5
	Тес	hnical evaluation:	5
	Env	ironmental and Economic evaluation:12	7
6.	REC	COMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE SCALE UP OF INSTALLING ROOFTOP PV SYSTEM 18	3

# **1. Introduction**

Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries. Technical solutions are continuously developed by universities for eco-sustainable building renovation, but there is still a gap between designed models and their actual application. This is due to several barriers, such as the insufficient collaboration between key actors and the lack of efficient suitable tools from the public sector to develop solutions.

Under framework of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe), the partnership universities of project have taken action that aims to find Technical solutions for eco-sustainable building renovation. The Med-EcoSuRe project offers an innovative approach to the definition and diffusion of cost-effective energy renovation within university buildings, with the perspective of extending results to the whole public buildings sector in the long term. A Mediterranean cross-border living lab - bringing together researchers, building managers, companies, public organisations and students - will be established to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions as well as retrofitting schemes to be implemented in 9 university buildings. The final aim behind the project is to turn university managers into active players contributing to the co-creation and experimentation of emerging ideas, breakthrough scenarios and innovative concepts, where the Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries.

The project aims to achieve the following: -

- Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Improving energy efficiency in university building and installing On-grid PV solar system.
- Reduce the energy demand from local public electrical network, which reduce electricity bills and contribute in educational process positively.
- ✤ A sustainable, reliable, safety and cost-effective electrical energy supply
- PV power Plant is tested, evaluated and monitored using monitoring, sensor and data logging system which monitored remotely and at site for public demonstration & display

At the same pace, ANNU aims through its facilities and activities to achieve environmental sustainability as follow: -

- Promote and create a campus which supports academic, research and enterprise activities in a sustainable way
- Provide the education, advancement, dissemination and application of sustainable development

- Maximize the wider impact of ANU's environmental sustainability activities at local, regional, national and international level through collaboration, partnership and communications
- > become a leader across the HE sector in terms of environmental sustainability

Accordingly, ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project had conducted Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example solar carport as a solution to conserve energy in new buildings where the roof of the buildings does not have spaces for installing solar systems due to the presence of air conditioners devices, chillers and water tanks, so the Solar CarPort is a great alternative to roof mounted solar and ideal for electric vehicle charging, to achieve a meaningful decrease in energy usage and GHG emissions and as a result, a comfortable and healthy atmosphere on campus.

Also contribute in providing visibility of the energy that is being used across campus to facilitate culture change within the ANNU community.

# 2. What & Why On Grid Solar CarPort?

Solar carport is a roof supported by beams or posts to protect the vehicles in the parking from harsh weather and form shadow for them and includes solar panels that cover the carport's roof to capture solar energy and convert it into energy.

Solar carport systems include a number of key components that require considerable electrical and mechanical design. Solar car parks range in size from a single carport arrangement for one parking space to large multi-bay car parks.

Multifunctional solar carports can provide a flexible energy system designed to fulfil a number of functions. Function requirements of these carports are site specific and take into account:

- Onsite electrical loads (i.e. lighting, EV charging etc.) and storage capacity
- solar generation capacity (size and performance of solar array installed)
- local distribution network and weather conditions

So, why solar CarPort system?

- Efficient Space Usage: No additional space is required to construct a carport; instead, an already existing area can be used to increase productivity and visitor, customer, and employee comfort.
- Protection: the carport will shield the vehicle from the bad weather, such as snow or sweltering sun rays and also can help improve vehicle fuel economy by providing shade to keep cars from overheating in the sun

- Better Power Generation: the tilt angle is flexible and can be constructed to maximize energy output and exposure, which is different from conventional solar panel system which there is restrictions on how much the panels can be tilted or even how they can be fastened for roof installations.
- Single-source solution for canopy structure design and construction

So, it is an ideal way to add Solar PV to any property without altering it and at the same time provides a sheltered place with integrated charging point for electric vehicles. The solar panels can then provide an income from the feed-in tariff and free fuel for the electrical cars.

# **3. Technology Description**

A solar carport is a taller version of a solar array attached to the ground. The solar panels will serve as the new structure's roof, eliminating the need for one.

Solar carports employ the same solar energy technology as a regular ground- or rooftopmounted system. When exposed to sunlight, carports transform photons into energy, which is then used to produce voltage or electric current in a photovoltaic cell. It is frequently referred to as the photovoltaic effect.

Although most solar carports are grid-connected, some freestanding off-grid solutions are also available. These also go by the name of solar canopies. Parking lots and other paved areas are frequently used as the location for solar canopies. Bifacial solar panels, which catch the light reflected from the ground, are another option.

the system components include PV modules, their accompanying mounting structure, built in generation meter and switchgear for PV and an inverter.

# 4. Full scale experiment of Innovative Technologies

ANNU through the project has carried out implementation of solar PV carport system in new campus in Nablus, in order to reduce the energy consumption annually and As part of the university's constant endeavor towards increasing the coverage of solar cell systems for the university's total consumption by exploiting the spaces on the one hand, and on the other hand, the university's desire to spread new ideas for the implementation of solar energy projects, the idea of the solar garage was come up..

gi	aprilodi site ol galage	
	Location coordinate	32°13'38.7"N, 35°13'17.1"E
	garage occupied area	198 m2
	available area for carport	432 m2

Table I. Geographical site of garage



Fig.1 information location of south garage fine arts faculty

# 4.1 Project PV plant Summary

Table II. Design parameters of the PV plant

Design parameters	Characteristics
Year of construction	2022
Type of plant	Ground mounted, fixed
Orientation and tilt	South, 10 degree
Installed nominal power	50 kWp
Module type	Monocrystalline
The number of PV module	105 panel $ imes$ 465Wp
Inverters	1 $ imes$ SMA Sunny Tripower Core1- 50 kwp



Fig.2 PV carport-new Campus PV system

# 4.2 Contribution of the project activity to sustainable development

The project contributes to the general well-being of the region and is in line with the sustainable development policies of the host site.

Social well-being:

The project activity will lead to employment generation during installation as well as operation phase of the project activity.

## Economic well-being:

The project implementation will provide a fillip to economic activity in the region. Direct & indirect employment will be generated in the plant for the project implementation & management. The success of this project will encourage more business to be developed in the local region thus bringing in economic prosperity in the region.

#### Environmental well-being:

The project being a renewable energy power project would contribute to mitigation of global warming. In addition, the project activity also would not lead to any air pollution unlike fossil fuel based power plants

# 5. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

# 5.1. Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and considering the shadow distance between PV rows, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown in fig.3.

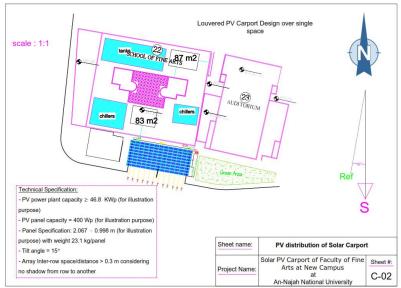


Fig.3 PV system initiative design

After checking the system design and yield using PVSol software, and the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared (see annex-1) as follow:

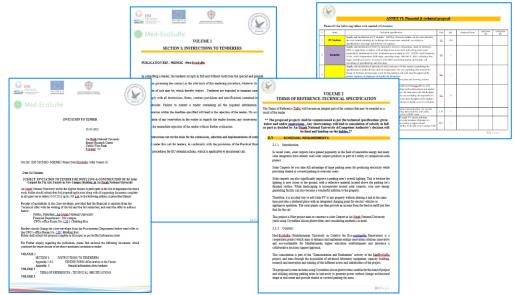


Fig.4 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 5/5/2021 as follow:

https://www.najah.edu/ar/tenders/rfq-12348/

			RFQ 12348 +ile	اعلان طرح ا		
		اء المذكور بالجدول:	بالمشاركة في الط	لدعو جامعة النجاح الوطلية الشركات المتقصصة والراغية		
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PM 13:00	2021/5/30	2021/5/5	350 شيكل	تورية وتركيب SOLAR PV CARPORT في موقف الميارات الجذربي ثلاثية القون-تمرم الجامعي الجنيد وحسب المواصفات يكراسة الحطاء	RFQ- 12348	1
				ا الانتية الشركة مع حرض السعر 4- مصفى او علقة بنتية تمانل (2000 دولار ) علقة مغول ع 3- و	هويا بتامين تقدي أو شيا على من يرسو عليه العا اه غير مستردة .	لاء مص لاعلان

Fig.5 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 17/5/2021 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 30/5/2021, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1- 3k Solar
- 2- SATCO
- 3- Sunergy

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project (see annex-2)



Fig.6 Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to SATCO company, and the work agreement/PO was signed between ANU and SATCO to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials. (see annex-3)



Fig.7 Purchasing order agreement

# 5.2. **Implementation stage**

#### Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.



Fig.8 work plan

The design by AutoCAD which include; distribution of array, connection with inverter and MDB of building, was provided as follow:

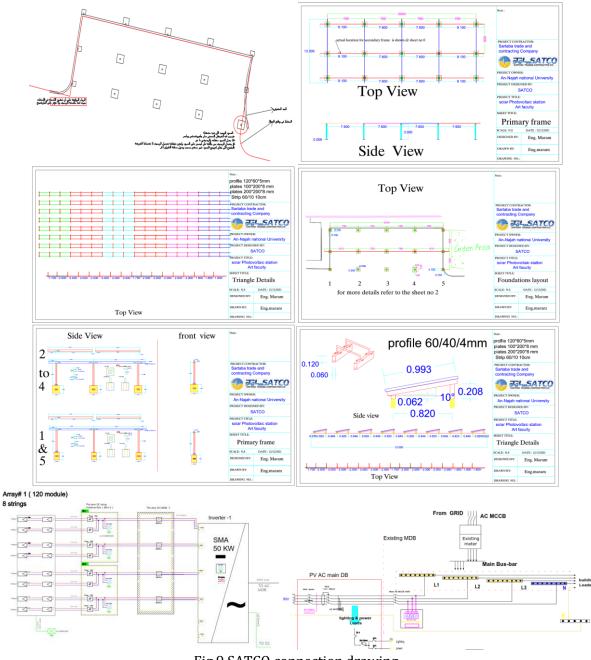


Fig.9 SATCO connection drawing

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

1- Delivery of project materials to the site and prepare distribute the column for foundation preparation

Civil & electrical Site Work

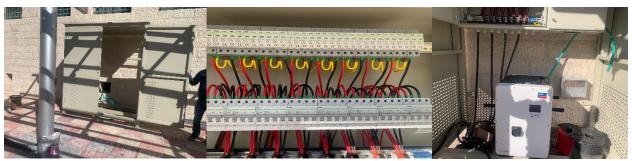


2- Install the steel structure



3- Install PV panels, inverter and connected the main AC cables with university electrical board.





- 4- All the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future
- 5- Then the DC/AC eacrthing was connected and lightning Pulsar
- 6- Finally the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal SMA Sunny Portal powered by ennexOS for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting.



Fig.10 PV system implementation process

# 5.3. Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

# • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

## • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

# • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:





Power analyzer device



HT AC clamp meter

Digital Earth resistance test device

The result of test was as follow:

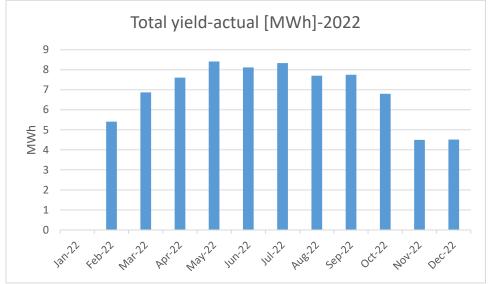
AR PV Corport. RI الموا			بنی کلیة		
resistance value / ohm	TIME	I MPPT A	V MPPT V	V OC V	Inverter 50kw
	11:05 AM	13	612	755	STRING 1
	11:05 AM	12.98	614	741	STRING 2
	11:05 AM	12.85	622	736	STRING 3
1.25	11:05 AM	13.05	612	736	STRING 4
	11:05 AM	13	628	735	STRING 5
	11:05 AM	12.95	605	747	STRING 6
1 T	11.05 AM	12.98	612	740	STRING 7
/ ohm	resis value	TIME         resis           11.05 AM         11.05 AM           11.05 AM         11.05 AM           11.05 AM         11.05 AM           11.05 AM         11.05 AM           11.05 AM         11.05 AM	A         Title         value           13         1105 AM           12.29         1105 AM           12.55         1105 AM           13.05         1105 AM           13.05         1105 AM           12.29         1105 AM           12.25         1105 AM	V MPT V         IMPT A         TME         resident value           612         13         1155.4M         1           614         1228         1105.4M         1           622         1226         1105.4M         1           612         13.05         1105.4M         1           612         13.05         1105.4M         1           638         13         1155.4M         1           656         122.5C         1105.4M         1           612         12.05         1105.4M         1	V CC V         V M97 V         1 M97 1         TIME         reside value           755         612         11         11.05.4M           741         63.4         12.26         11.05.4M           756         622         12.85         11.05.4M           756         622         12.05         11.05.4M           756         632         11.05.4M         1.05.4M           757         638         13         11.05.4M           747         665         12.26.         11.05.4M

Fig.11 PV system test report

# 5.4. Monitoring & evaluation stage

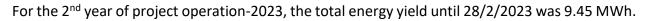
The performance of system was analyzed using technical data downloaded from the data logger of SMA portal and digital meters.

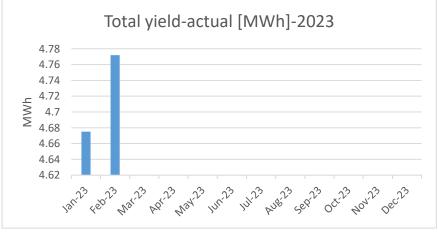
The PV system operation was monitored from 1/2/2022 until 31/3/2023, during these period a periodic maintenance of the system was carried out and followed up to solve problems when they occur, such as changing a fuse or cleaning the panel, and the results were as follow:

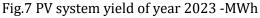


In 2022, the Total energy production = 76.01 MWh.

Fig.12 PV system yield of year 2022 -MWh







So, the total solar system yields 2022-2023, as follow:

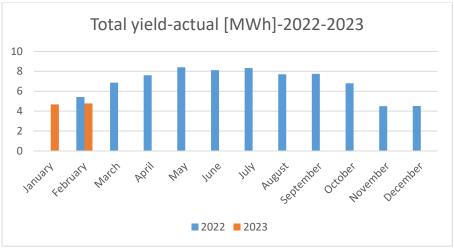


Fig.8 PV system yield (MWh) of year 2022-2023

According to previous data, the system was working properly, and thus is shown in the indicator below:

## **Technical evaluation:**

System Efficiency

The efficiency of PV system measures the ability of system to convert the sunlight into required energy for load consumption, the system efficiency is given by following form:

η (system efficiency) = <u>Output energy of PV system (KWh)</u> Global radiation energy received by PV array area (KWh)

## The System efficiency for operation period (2022) is 20% The System efficiency for operation period (3-2023) is 14%

Performance Ratio

PR = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> Energy produced by system at STC (KWh)

## The Performance Ratio for operation period (2022) is 86% The Performance Ratio for operation period (3-2023) is 61%

➢ Final Yield (Yf)

Y<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW) The final yield will refer for how many hours the system is operated in year or day.

Accordingly,

# Yf over operated period is 1750.48 h and average solar hour per day is 3.97 h/day

Capacity Factor (Cf)

The capacity factor varies quite a bit for solar photovoltaic systems depending on the location. Generally, it is in the range of 10-25%. One of the key reasons for this low ratio is the nature of renewable power.

Cf = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)× 8760h/year

# total hours over operated period is 9432 h, accordingly the average capacity factor of system over this period is 16%.

# **Environmental and Economic evaluation:**

The CO2 emission and electricity bills will be reduced according to how much energy produce from the PV solar system since the system operation, as follow:

# The electricity bill is reduced until March/2023 = 14145.27 Euro

# And CO2 emission will reduce by 54.11 ton CO2

Payback time

Expected Saving cost (€/year) = 1258 €/month\*12month=15096 €/year PV Investment cost (€) = 63243 Euro S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year = 63243 Euro / 15096 Euro = 4.19 years ≈ **4 years & 2 month** 

But according to the actual energy output, the average energy saving was 7.5 MWh, around 1503 Euro/month which equivalent to 18036 Euro/year, and thus reflect in number of years of payback period.

Actual Saving cost in 1st year (€/year) = 18036 €/year PV Investment cost (€) = 63243 Euro S.P.B.P = Investment / saving cost per year = 63243 Euro / 18036 Euro = **3.5 years** ≈ **3 years & 6 month** 

# 6. Recommendations and future scale up of installing Rooftop PV system

The most successful current approach to reducing emissions from the transport sector is to electrify transport systems, which is driving an increased reliance on decarburization of the electricity supply sector. Electric vehicles can lower GHG emissions, and also promise to lower the lifecycle costs of transportation.

With this in mind, it is not difficult to understand the need for integrating Solar Carports into transport network, so the project aims to encourage the Palestinian Universities, decision makers and investors to adopt this pilot project and replicated in other site, because this system can be applied wherever there is a requirement for, or an existing carpark, for example a park and ride hub, and also may install in combination with battery energy storage systems (BESS) and EV charging to the solar carport, which lead to realize even more climate benefits.

Electric vehicle charging using renewable energy provides sustainable transport for the future. In addition, there is potential to establish a network of publicly available solar powered charging stations at retail car-parks, tourist attractions, council properties, and bus stations etc.

In general, innovative technologies and processes should be conceived in order to seize low radiation energy and optimize its transformation into actual power. Based on what was previously mentioned so we recommended the following to install solar carport system:

- System size: When choosing the size of your carport, it is essential to strike a balance between installation costs, available space, and the amount of electricity you can produce so choosing the optimum configuration based on your parking lot and energy requirements.
- The Space/height under Solar Carport: the design must consider how much space/height there is beneath the panels and it must be high enough for equipment and cars to pass easily underneath but not too height to not unnecessarily drive up the price of project.
- Lighting: providing adequate lighting for anyone who parks in your lot is still critical. Lighting can be installed under the carport to keep the parking areas well-lit and secure. This is critical for a larger solar carport system that span two or more rows of parking spaces.

Solar carports stand out due to their versatility, which offers clean energy while protecting your car and freeing up space.











# Innovative Retrofit Technology Report

# Solar Power Tree in in University's` Yard of New-Campus– An-Najah National University

(University's` Yard of entrance in New-Campus)

Prepared by: An-Najah national university (ANNU)

2023

Project Acronym	University building
Project Name	"Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation" (Med-EcoSuRe)
Project Duration	September 2019- August 2022
Website	www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/med-ecosure
Authors	An-Najah National University (ANNU)
Date	February 2023
File Name	Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life report ( solar power tree in University's` Yard of New-Campus Building - An-Najah National University – Palestine)

This project is part of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe). The project aims to implement full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies, validation and testing in real life in An-Najah university campuses, in order to allow a relevant energy demand reduction and mitigate greenhouse gas emission.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.	INTRODUCTION						
2.	SO WHAT IS SOLAR TREE?5						
3.	WHY SOLAR TREE?						
4.	TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION6						
5.	FUI	LL SCALE EXPERIMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	7				
5	5.1	Project PV plant Summary					
5	5.2	CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	9				
6.	MA	AJOR METHODOLOGY OF RETROFIT TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION	10				
e	5.1.	Selection process & acquiring devices	10				
-	5.1. 5.2.	Selection process & acquiring devices					
-	5.2.		11				
-	5.2. Wa	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE	11 <i>11</i>				
e	5.2. Wa	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE	11 11 12				
e	5.2. Wa Civ	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE ork plan and design approval il & electrical Site Work	11 11 12 16				
e	5.2. Wo Civ 5.3. 5.4.	Implementation stage ork plan and design approval vil & electrical Site Work Validation stage	11 11 12 16 17				
e	5.2. Wa Civ 5.3. 5.4. Tea	Implementation stage ork plan and design approval vil & electrical Site Work Validation stage Monitoring & evaluation stage	11 11 12 16 17 19				

# **1. Introduction**

Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries. Technical solutions are continuously developed by universities for eco-sustainable building renovation, but there is still a gap between designed models and their actual application. This is due to several barriers, such as the insufficient collaboration between key actors and the lack of efficient suitable tools from the public sector to develop solutions.

Under framework of the Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation (Med-EcoSuRe), the partnership universities of project have taken action that aims to find Technical solutions for eco-sustainable building renovation. The Med-EcoSuRe project offers an innovative approach to the definition and diffusion of cost-effective energy renovation within university buildings, with the perspective of extending results to the whole public buildings sector in the long term. A Mediterranean cross-border living lab - bringing together researchers, building managers, companies, public organisations and students - will be established to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions as well as retrofitting schemes to be implemented in 9 university buildings. The final aim behind the project is to turn university managers into active players contributing to the cocreation and experimentation of emerging ideas, breakthrough scenarios and innovative concepts, where the Low energy educational buildings are becoming the standard for new buildings in European and Mediterranean countries.

The project aims to achieve the following: -

- Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Improving energy efficiency in university building and installing On-grid PV solar system.
- Reduce the energy demand from local public electrical network, which reduce electricity bills and contribute in educational process positively.
- A sustainable, reliable, safety and cost-effective electrical energy supply
- PV power Plant is tested, evaluated and monitored using monitoring, sensor and data logging system which monitored remotely and at site for public demonstration & display

These goals are in line with the desire of An-Najah University, which seeks to obtain and achieve environmental sustainability through its facilities and activities as follow: -

- Promote and create a campus which supports academic, research and enterprise activities in a sustainable way
- Provide the education, advancement, dissemination and application of sustainable development

- Maximize the wider impact of ANU's environmental sustainability activities at local, regional, national and international level through collaboration, partnership and communications
- ▶ become a leader across the HE sector in terms of environmental sustainability

Accordingly, ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project had conducted Full scale experimentation of innovative retrofit technologies for example **solar tree with technology of PV glass** which is an independent unit that produces green energy and provides a place of comfort and energy for a wide variety of services and thus contribute in:

- Providing visibility of the energy that is being used across campus to facilitate culture change within the ANNU community
- Allowing Academics and Students to use the Estate as a living lab for sustainability research by providing appropriate data

## 2. So.... What is Solar Tree?

Solar Tree is an environmental enterprise, an ecological sculpture, an artificial solar structure that looks like sculptural trees and exists from a small scale (size of a bonsai tree) to a large scale (about the size of a wind turbine) power plant. The structure is a ground-mounted solar system with a pole that supports many individual panels up in the air. The aesthetics of solar trees differ and they have been designed to provide different means of power to different urban and built environments.

It can be placed in residential areas and in urban areas, courtyards, schools and universities, parks, and along hiking trails. It can also be placed in cultural institutions as an icon and a symbol of community, environment, and green education.

## 3. Why Solar Tree?

solar trees offer a few surprising benefits over their ground-mounted counterparts, including:

- Efficient design & preserve land: In situations where space is a constraint, and the vertical integrated is required, solar trees provide an option for installing multiple layers of solar panels while maximizing the efficiency of the available area.
- **Beautiful & great scenery**: The solar tree design is efficient and strikingly appealing, compared to the way standard solar panels are laid out, solar trees look

a lot more aesthetically pleasing. The sight of a tree-shaped solar installation can be quite pleasing to the eyes.

- **Flexibility and compatibility**: Solar panel trees can serve as an excellent option where solar roofing is not available and also can be installed with automatic sun tracking and in-built cleaning mechanisms.
- **Perfect to increase awareness of clean energy**: it's a live experience which Individuals and businesses looking to showcase their support for sustainability can do so in style by installing solar trees, also its A great way to educate people about solar and build awareness about solar technology and are being used for this purpose in various schools and institutions around the world.
- **Potentially enhanced electricity output**: There are certain solar tree designs which claim to produce a substantially higher amount of electricity when compared to standard solar panels covering the same surface area.

Therefore, ANNU proposed to install solar tree using Crystalline silicon photovoltaic glass, which yield more power per sqm ((twice)-in comparison to amorphous silicon glass and also using storage unit of BYD Battery-box LV.

# 4. Technology Description

In this pilot project, we proposed to use a combination of Crystalline silicon PV glass and storage unit for domestic use of university students.

Crystalline silicon PV glass is the most suitable material to be used on canopy and skylight applications, spandrel glass, solid walls and guardrails. PV glass presents the same mechanical properties as conventional architectural glass used in construction for architectural purposes.

This type of panel can be easily customized especially in term of shape since trapezoids can be fabricated without difficulty, and its efficiency reached to 16%.

BYD battery-box is a lithium battery unit with battery control unit for usage with external inverter, batter box LV is 48 V battery with flexible and modular design with no cable inside, one box contains 1-4 battery unit that connected in parallel to generate (3.5-14 KWh) as required.

Also the proposed solar tree structure is Trestle, as follow:

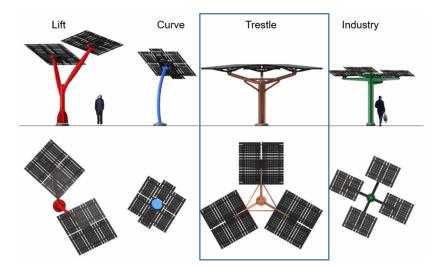


Fig.2 solar tree structure

# 5. Full scale experiment of Innovative Technologies

ANNU through Med-EcoSuRe project has carried out implementation of <u>solar tree with</u> <u>technology of PV glass</u> off-grid system in yards of new campus in Nablus, for domestic use of university students in order to charge the Mobile, laptops under the shade of the solar tree.

Solar tree generated energy form the solar panels and store the energy to the battery by a DC Charge controller. The controller is MPPT. During the daytime when the sunlight is sufficient to meet the loads, the generated solar energy directly feed to the loads. Any excess solar energy after meeting the loads should be stored in the battery.

This project is the first one in Palestine so it will stand out and be a part of university's plan to spread new ideas for the implementation of solar energy projects.

gi	graphical site of galage				
	Location coordinate	32°13'38.5"N, 35°13'21.2"E			
	available area	All yards of campus			

Table I. Geographical site of garage



35.22136,32.22740 🌐

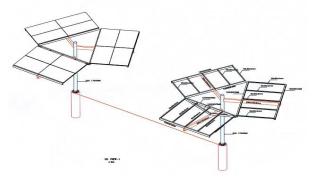


Fig.3 information location of solar tree

the An-Najah National University (ANNU) seeks to be to be the first in pioneering projects and provide the stimulus for other universities in Palestine to improve the energy efficiency and apply its measurement, which complies to some extent with Palestinian government action plan in public buildings - the national energy efficiency action plans (NEEAPs), which must be reinforced by the renovation strategies in university, and vice versa.

## 5.1 **Project PV plant Summary**

This innovative PV system will encourage the investor to invest in this kind of project because it is expected to produce 25% to 30% more power if all panels may be rotated by 180 in the afternoon and morning towards the east and the west by an easy mechanism and increasing the awareness of teacher, pupils, and community regarding the "green energy technology" and increase the positive environment in the Schools by reducing the CO2 emission.

Table II. Design parameters of the PV plant

Design parameters	Characteristics			
Year of construction	2022			
Type of plant	Ground mounted, fixed			
Orientation and tilt	Azimuth angle 60, 0 , 30 degree, inclination angle 11 degree			
Installed nominal power	3.18 kWp			
Module type	Monocrystalline			
The number of PV module	12 panel $\times$ 265Wp			
Inverter/Charger	1 × Victron Energy- 48/3000 Wp, 1 × SmartSolar MPPT 250/60-TR			
Battery	Lithium battery-BOX premium LVS 4.0			



Fig.4 PV solar tree-new Campus

## 5.2 Contribution of the project activity to sustainable development

The project contributes to the general well-being of the region and is in line with the sustainable development policies of the host site.

#### Social well-being:

The project activity will lead to employment generation during installation as well as operation phase of the project activity.

#### Economic well-being:

The project implementation will provide a fillip to economic activity in the region. Direct & indirect employment will be generated in the plant for the project implementation & management. The success of this project will encourage more business to be developed in the local region thus bringing in economic prosperity in the region.

#### Environmental well-being:

The project being a renewable energy power project would contribute to mitigation of global warming. In addition, the project activity also would not lead to any air pollution unlike fossil fuel based power plants

# 6. Major methodology of retrofit technology implementation

### 6.1. Selection process & acquiring devices

After analyzing the site, and considering the shadow distance from surrounding tree and objects, the initial design and PV array distribution was shown in fig.2 &3.

After checking the system design, the budgetary estimation was done to analyze the project cost and its feasibility.

Therefore, in order to choose the best offers for devices and civil & electrical site work in terms of technical effectiveness and lowest offers, the tender dossier was prepared (see annex-1) as follow:

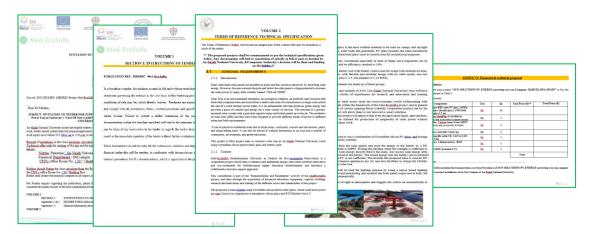


Fig.5 tender dossier

The tender call was published on 10/5/2021, And the bid was resubmitted on 31/5/2021 as follow:

		ty for more	۲		and the second	DK.
	EcoSuR-		عطاء RFQ 12353 عطاء وبالمشاركة في العط	اعلان طرح ، تدعو جامعة النجاح الوطلية الشركات الملقصصة و الراغية موضوع الطعاء		
	الموعد ا لتقديم عرون التاريخ	مو عد الطرح	ثنن نسفة العطاء	مرضوع تلفته	رقم الحلاء	
PM 13:00	2021/5/30	2021/5/10	150 شيكل	توريد و تركيب Solar Power Tree في - الحرم الجامعي الجديد وحسب المواصفات المذكورة يتسفة الحطاء	RFQ- 12353	,
			, elbe	ة الألتية للشركة مع عرض السعر 4 مصدق او عقلة بتكية تعامل (2000 دولار ) عقلة دخول ع 44 .		اء مص علان

Fig.6 tender call

During the tenderer offers preparation, a tour visit was organized by ANNU on 17/5/2021 to inspect the site and replying their query. And then the tender call was closed on 10/6/2021, and the applicants were as follow:

- 1- 3k Solar
- 2- SATCO

Then the offers were evaluated technically and financially, to select the best offer for supplying materials and implementing the project (see annex-2)



Fig.7 Technical & financial evaluation

Then according to the tender committee, the tender has been awarded to 3k company, and the work agreement/PO was signed between ANU and 3k to start the implementation activity and purchasing the project materials. (see annex-3)

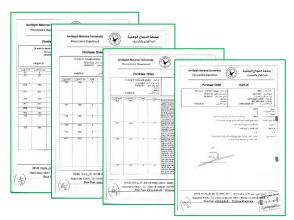


Fig.8 Purchasing order agreement

## 6.2. Implementation stage

#### Work plan and design approval

Before the contractor initiate the implementation process on the site, the work plan, designs and equipment information are sent by contractor in order to get ANNU approval of them and giving an order directly to work to contractor.

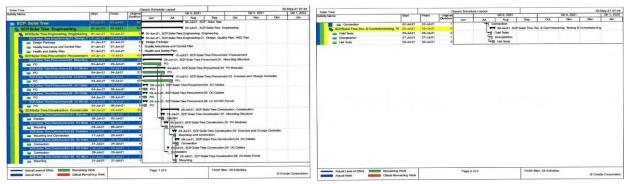


Fig.9 work plan

The design by AutoCAD which include; distribution of array, connection with component, was provided as follow:

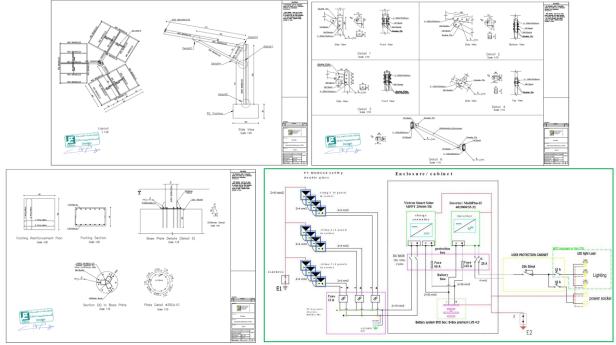


Fig.10 3k design & connection drawing

#### Civil & electrical Site Work

After taking the approval from ANNU, the contractor company start purchasing the components and manufacturing the steel structure and cement base, then they start implementing the project as follow:

1- Prepare the site



#### 2- Implement the foundation



3- Install the steel structure



4- Install PV panels



5- Install inverter/charger and connect all components and all the cables were installed in tranches and trunks for aesthetic image of the project and facilitate the maintenance work in future





- 6- Then the DC/AC earthing was connected and lightning Pulsar
- 7- Then the energy meters was installed and configured with monitoring portal victronEnergy Portal for performance monitoring, condition monitoring and data reporting

	NNU Hide details					Last updated: a few second		Status: <b>OK</b>	Local time: <b>09:22</b>
	AC Input		"(()))		◎ AC Loads				
_				1			42 W		
	Discharging	-65 W							
Volta <u>o</u> Curre									

8- Finally, Automated Water Purification & Cleaning Technology, to clean PV system on frequence bases

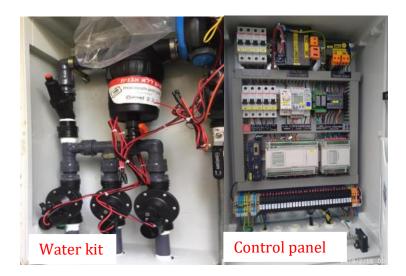




Fig.11 PV system implementation process

## 6.3. Validation stage

In order to operate the system successfully, the system components were checked and test by civil and electrical engineering in university during the implementation process to inspect the work and then a test was conduct before the system operation completely.

So three levels of commissioning and system testing was conduct as follow:

### • Level-1: site acceptance Inspection

The acceptance of the site to install the equipment of the PV system is responsibility of the installing contractor (in our case 3k Company) and to start implementing the concrete base, galvanized steel structure.

### • Level-2: Pre-functional testing

Characteristics and Visual Inspection test

### • Level-3: performing operational test

In the last point of the project commissioning, the PV solar plant components during operation are checked and the successful operation of project is checked.

Operational test was done according to International Electro technical commission (IEC) recommendation [IEC 62446], to ensure that the system is properly installed and performing optimally.

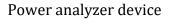
The test has been carried out as follow:

- ✓ Tests to all DC circuit(s) forming the PV array, which include the following tests:
- ✓ Tests to all AC circuit(s)

The equipment's that have been used for testing are all calibrated by authorized utility as follow:



Digital Earth resistance test device





HT AC clamp meter

The result of test was as follow:

Project Name:	NNU Solar Tree		
Form:	Testing Report		
	CSide		
	re Operation		
Test	Measurements		
DC Voltage for string Input 1 (V)	152		
DC Voltage for string Input 2 (V)	151		
DC Voltage for string Input 3 (V)	151.5		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.92		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.93		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.92		
DC Voltage for MPPT Input	152		
DC Current for MPPT Input	26.79		
Test Afte	r Operation		
Test	Measurements		
DC Voltage for string Input 1 (V)	128		
DC Voltage for string Input 2 (V)	128.1		
DC Voltage for string Input 3 (V)	127.9		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.39		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.38		
DC Current for string Input 1 (A)	8.39		
DC Voltage for MPPT Input	128		
DC Current for MPPT Input	25.17		
AC	C Side		
Test	Measurements		
AC Voltage	220		
AC Current	3A		
	Resistance		
Test	Measurements		
Earthing Resistance	3.9		

Fig.12 PV system test report

## 6.4. Monitoring & evaluation stage

The performance of system was analyzed using technical data downloaded from the data logger of Victron energy portal.

The PV system operation was monitored from 24/5/2022, during the operation period a periodic maintenance of the system will be carried out and followed up to solve problems when they occur, such as changing a fuse or cleaning the panel, and the results were as follow:

Total production from 24/5/2022 until 1/3/2023 = 3254.35 KWh.

For the  $1^{st}$  year of project operation-the system operated in period 24/5/2022 - 31/12/2022, the total energy yield was= 2.845 MWh/year:

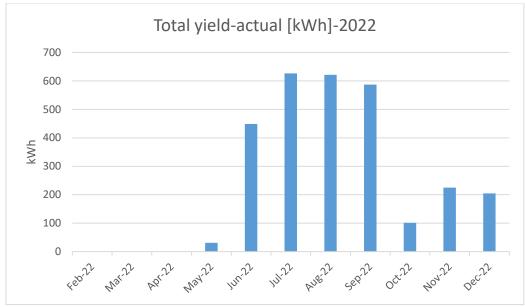


Fig.13 PV system yield of year 2022 -kWh

For the  $2^{nd}$  year of project operation-2023, the system operated in period 1/1/2023 - 28/2/2023, the total energy yield was= 0.41 MWh/year

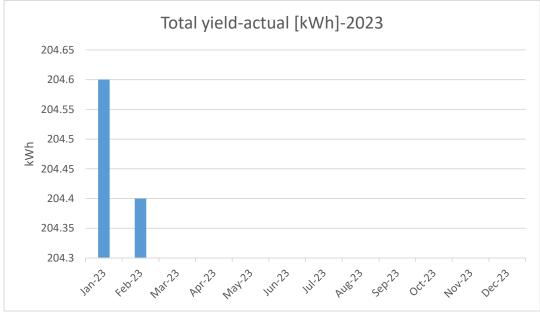


Fig.9 PV system yield of year 2023 -MWh

So, the total solar system yields 2022-2023, as follow:

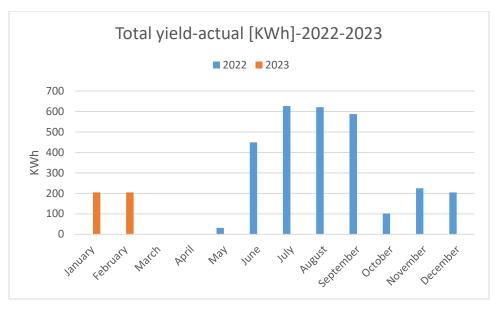


Fig.10 PV system yield (kWh)of year 2022-2023

According to previous data, the system was working properly, and thus is shown in the indicator below:

## **Technical evaluation:**

According to data, the system was working properly, and thus is shown in the indicator below:

System Efficiency

The efficiency of PV system measures the ability of system to convert the sunlight into required energy for load consumption, the system efficiency is given by following form:

### The System efficiency for 1<sup>st</sup> year (2022) is 19% The System efficiency for 2<sup>nd</sup> year (March-2023) is 11%

Performance Ratio

PR = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> Energy produced by system at STC (KWh)

The Performance Ratio for operation period (2022) is 70% The Performance Ratio for operation period (March-2023) is 40%

## ➢ Final Yield (Yf)

Y<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)

The final yield will refer for how many hours the system is operated in year or day.

Accordingly,

## Yf over operated period is 1023.38 h and average solar hour per day is 2.98 h/day

Capacity Factor (Cf)

The capacity factor varies quite a bit for solar photovoltaic systems depending on the location. Generally, it is in the range of 10-25%. One of the key reasons for this low ratio is the nature of renewable power.

C<sub>f</sub> = <u>actual energy generated by PV system (KWh)</u> PV array maximum Capacity (KW)× 8760h/year

total hours over operated period is is 6744 h, accordingly **the average capacity factor of system over this period is 12 %** 

## **Environmental and Economic evaluation:**

The CO2 emission will be reduced according to how much energy produce from the PV solar system since the system operation, as follow:

According to actual data, the average energy that produced around 402 KWh/month, and in a year round 4.825 MWh, so It's expected that the reduction in CO2 emission will be 2.84 ton CO2/year

# 7. Solar Tree Technology future scale up

During the previous years, the ANNU university was keen to install solar panels of a type Monocrystalline in projects, although it's slightly has higher price in comparative with polycrystalline, but ANNU aims to get a PV system with acceptable appearance and decent technical architecture, without neglecting performance or durability.

plus, the high efficiency and power output which we get from monocrystalline panels can provide better saving over lifetime of system, where monocrystalline efficiency reach 17-22%. also, we at ANNU care to install high quality solar panel and ensure that by checking the performance and efficiency ranking of solar panel brands list, for example; Suntech, Sun power, Canadian Solar, Jinko, Trina and JA solar, to choose the solar panels that work best in our university.

The Monocrystalline panel has two types; Monofacial panels and Bifacial solar panels/Glass Technology which was used for solar tree pilot project

The solar tree glass Technology has the same purpose of monofacial panels but there is significant difference must be analyzed for future scale-up technology possibilities of this type, as follow:

	bifacial	monofacial	comment
Energy Generated KWh per 1 KW	1516.98	1469.5	using bifacial panel, the energy generated was 3.2% higher than monfacial project
System Efficiency	19%	14-16%	
Occupancy Efficiency (m2/kw)	6.415	7.736	using bifacial panel, the occupancy space was 20.6% less than monfacial project
panel technology Capital Cost (Euro/watt)	0.2755	0.2565	the benefits of bifacial modules did outweigh the cost advantages of monofacial options

Accordingly, the glass technology which used in solar tree pilot project more power than monofacial solar panels, which mounted on rooftops or ground, but they provide shade while taking up minimal surface area. A creative mind could find endless uses for these trees: shade for city sidewalks, parking lots, playgrounds, backyards and more.

It is worth mentioning here the major advantage and disadvantage of glass solar panel technology and highlight some of its best features: -

- Advantage:
  - Up to 1% more efficiency than traditional solar panels.
  - Better usage of the available space.
  - Cost-effective technology.
  - Prices for new solar panels will get reduced as the technology becomes more popular
- Dis-advantage:
  - Relatively larger cost than traditional technologies

The use of this technology is quite convenient for the solar application in general, so with rise of PERC & bifacial solar panels, homeowners and utilities can benefit by using less space, fewer installation components, and using PV modules with higher performance and an infinity of applications.