



**The Gambia  
Standards Bureau**

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION**

**Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification –**

**Part 1: General introduction to IEC 62257 series and rural electrification**

ICS No.: 27.160

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## INTRODUCTION

Rural electrification is one of the predominant policy actions designed to increase the well-being of rural populations together with access to clean water, improved healthcare, education, personal advancement and economic development.

Several strategies can be adopted to implement rural electrification. Rural electrification can be completed through connection to a national or regional electrification grid. The IEC 62257 series applies to cases where the grid is too far away (too costly) or the individual demand centres are too small to make grid access economic, where autonomous power systems may be used to supply these services.

This series IEC 62257 provides technical specifications to different players involved in rural electrification projects (such as project developers, project implementers, installers, etc.) for the setting up of renewable energy and hybrid systems with AC voltage below 500 V, DC voltage below 750 V and power below 100 kVA.

These documents are recommendations:

- a) to choose the right system for the right place,
- b) to design the system,
- c) to operate and maintain the system.

The documents focus on rural electrification concentrating on but not specific to developing countries. They must not be considered as all-inclusive to rural electrification. That means that they could be used for rural electrification or electrification of remote sites in developed countries also. They try to promote the use of renewable energies in rural but they do not deal with clean mechanisms development at this time (CO<sub>2</sub> emission, carbon credit, etc.) Further developments in this field could be introduced in future steps.

This consistent set of documents is best considered as a whole with different parts corresponding to items for safety, sustainability of systems and at the lowest life cycle cost as possible. One of the main objectives is to provide the minimum sufficient requirements, relevant to the field of application that is: small renewable energy and hybrid off-grid systems.

## **DATE OF PUBLICATION**

This Gambian Standard was Gazetted under the authority of the Bureau on 17 November 2017.

## **THE GAMBIA STANDARDS BUREAU**

The Gambia Standards Bureau is a statutory Government specialized Agency established by The Gambia Standards Bureau Act 2010 to standardize products, methods, systems and for connected matters. Hence, the Bureau is the sole National Standardization Body. As such, it has been a member of International Standardization Bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) since 2011, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) from 2012.

The objectives of the Bureau, as specified in its Act, are to: establish and promulgate standards for imported and locally-produced goods; facilitate domestic and international trade; foster and promote standards both for industrial efficiency and advancing economic development; promote the health and safety of consumers; enhance international cooperation in relation to standards and standardization. Thus, the National Quality Policy details the responsibilities of the Bureau in Standardization, Metrology and Conformity Assessment services in Testing, Inspection and Certification.

Therefore, the functions, of the Bureau are to define, prepare, publish, modify or amend Standards Specifications as well information-dissemination of standards. In addition to providing Testing, Inspection and Certification services for goods, systems and processes independently or in relation to conformity with its Standards Mark, the Bureau also conducts training and research. In Metrology, the Bureau serves as the custodian of primary national reference measurement standards through its National Metrology Laboratories and conducts calibration of measurement devices and physical standards.

The development of Gambian Standards (GAMS) is carried out by the Bureau through Technical Committees composed of a balanced representation of stakeholders, as may be appropriate to the subject in question. The Bureau ensures that Standards are developed in accordance with the *ISO/IEC Guide 21-1:2005: Regional or National adoption of International Standards and other International deliverables* and the *World Trade Organization Code of good practice for the preparation, adoption and application of standards*. To the greatest extent possible, Gambian Standards are aligned to or are adoptions of relevant international standards.

For further information on and copies of Gambian Standards, please contact The Gambia Standards Bureau.

## **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE: NATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

The National Electrotechnical Committee (NEC) developed this National Wiring Standard. The NEC was initially set up by PURA in 2008 when they became a member of IEC. Upon establishment of the Bureau and replacement of PURA at IEC, the Bureau took over the NEC in 2012 and began the work of development of standards in the electrotechnical field.

The NEC consists of representatives from the following Institutions/Organizations:

- Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
- National Water and Electricity Company
- Gambia Telecommunications Company
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure
- University of The Gambia
- Gambia Technical Training Institute
- New Gambia Industrialists
- ComAfrique Intelizon Initiative
- Renewable Energy Association of The Gambia
- Consumer Protection Association of The Gambia
- The Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Gambia Standards Bureau is the Secretariat and Secretary to the NEC.

## FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
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- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for cost (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

The main task of IEC technical committees is to prepare International Standards. In exceptional circumstances, a technical committee may propose the publication of a technical specification when

- the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts, or
- the subject is still under technical development or where, for any other reason, there is the future but no immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard.

Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC 62257-1, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems. It was developed in cooperation with other IEC technical committees and subcommittees dealing with renewable energies and related matters, namely technical committee 21 (Secondary cells and batteries), subcommittee 21A (Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes), technical committee 64.

(Electrical installations and protection against electric shock), technical committee 88 (Wind turbines).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition issued in 2003. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows:

- Addition of a map and an up-to-date list of the current IEC 62257 series and a guide “how to use the IEC 62257 series” in order to implement a rural electrification project or a stand-alone hybrid system for a remote place in a developed country.

The guide is based on the different phases of an electrification project. It explains which player is in charge of which phase and which technical specification(s) of the series shall be used for this particular phase. It also includes examples of some useful tables or figures contained in each technical specification and how to use them for the project.

- Addition of a list of all the terms and definitions used in the series (Annex B).

This technical specification shall be used in conjunction with the other documents of the IEC 62257 series.

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
82/728/DTS	82/779/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62257 series, published under the general title *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- transformed into an International standard,
- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

## 1 Scope

This part of IEC 62257 first introduces a methodology for implementing rural electrification using small autonomous hybrid renewable energy systems.

Secondly it provides a guide for facilitating the reading and the use of the IEC 62257 series for setting up decentralized rural electrification in developing countries or in developed countries the only difference being the level of quality of service and the needed quantity of energy that the customer can afford.

The IEC 62257 series is designed as follows:

- Parts 2 to 6 are methodological supports for the management and implementation of projects.
- Parts 7 to 12 are technical specifications for individual or collective systems and associated components.

## 2 Normative References

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC/TS 62257-2:2004, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 2: From requirements to a range of electrification systems*

IEC/TS 62257-3:2004, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 3: Project development and management*

IEC/TS 62257-4, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 4: System selection and design*

IEC/TS 62257-5:2005, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 5: Protection against electrical hazards*

IEC/TS 62257-6:2005, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 6: Acceptance, operation, maintenance and replacement*

IEC/TS 62257-7, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7: Generators*

IEC/TS 62257-7-1, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7-1: Generators – Photovoltaic arrays*

IEC/TS 62257-7-3, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7-3: Generator set – Selection of generator sets for rural electrification systems*

IEC/TS 62257-8-1:2007, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 8-1: Selection of batteries and battery management systems for stand-alone electrification systems – Specific case of automotive flooded lead-acid batteries available in developing countries*

IEC/TS 62257-9-1, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-1: Micro power systems*

IEC/TS 62257-9-2, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-2: Micro grids*

IEC/TS 62257-9-3, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-3: Integrated system – User interface*

IEC/TS 62257-9-4, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-4: Integrated system – User installation*

IEC/TS 62257-9-5, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-5: Integrated system – Selection of stand-alone lighting kits for rural electrification projects*

IEC/TS 62257-9-6:2008, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-6: Integrated system – Selection of Photovoltaic Individual Electrification Systems (PV-IES)*

IEC/TS 62257-12-1, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 12-1: Selection of self-ballasted lamps (CFL) for rural electrification systems and recommendations for household lighting equipment*