

1 **The potential of solar photovoltaic systems for residential homes in Lagos city of Nigeria**

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13 **Abstract:** The development and use of solar photovoltaic (PV) technologies worldwide is
14 considered crucial towards fulfilling an increasing global energy demand and mitigating climate
15 change. However, the potential of a solar PV-system is location specific, influenced by the local
16 solar resource, energy demand and cost among other factors. The main aim of this study is to
17 conduct a detailed assessment of the potential of solar PV-systems in residential buildings in
18 Lagos Metropolitan Area, Nigeria. Nigeria has enormous solar energy potential, it is the most
19 populous country in Africa and occupies a significant place in the development of Africa. Yet, it
20 is a county with one of the lowest per capita electricity consumption in the world – at 149 kWh
21 per capita for a population of about 170 million, about 7% of Brazil’s and 3% of South Africa’s.
22 To achieve this goal, this study employed the survey of 150 residential buildings in three local
23 government areas (LGAs) in Lagos State, Nigeria to obtain electric load data. HOMER Pro was
24 used to size the PV-systems and to determine the levelized cost of electricity (LCOE). The
25 computed energy results of the study for the base case scenario revealed the PV array, lead acid

26 battery and the converter (inverter) of the PV-systems to be in the following range: 0.3 to 76 kW;
27 2 to 176kWh; and 0.1 to 13.2 kW respectively. Economic analysis revealed a LCOE of the
28 systems in the range of 0.398 USD/kWh to 0.743 USD/kWh. The use of PV-system generated
29 electricity in the dwellings has potential for an annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in
30 the range of 31.24 kgCO₂eq to 7456.44 kgCO₂eq. Clearly, the use of solar PV systems in
31 residential buildings possesses potentials for enabling Nigeria to attain its climate change
32 mitigation targets indicated in her National Determined Contributions (NDCs).

33 **Key words:** Energy; Nigeria; renewable energy; photovoltaic; residential buildings

34

35 1. Introduction

36 Provision of reliable and adequate energy services in an environmentally friendly manner and in
37 conformity with social and economic developmental needs is important for the attainment of
38 sustainable development goals (Vera & Langlois, 2007). Energy is important for the eradication
39 of poverty, for driving national economies, for raising living standards and improving human
40 welfare. The importance of energy is recognized in the adopted sustainable development goals
41 (SDGs) of the United Nations with the seventh of the 17 goals geared at ensuring access to
42 affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (United Nations, 2015). Most patterns
43 of energy supply and use around the world is unsustainable. In most parts of the globe, economic
44 development is limited due to a lack of reliable and secure supply of energy. An approximate 2.7
45 billion people in the world rely on the use of traditional biomass for cooking (International
46 Energy Agency, 2010) while an estimated 1.7 billion people lack access to electricity. Between
47 2000 and 2010, annual anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) increased by 10
48 GtCO₂eq with energy supply accounting for 47% of the increase (IPCC, 2014), implying that the

49 energy sector makes a significant contribution to climate change. According to Su et al. (2016),
50 economic development and population growth in cities alongside increased energy consumption
51 with consequent environmental problems have retarded sustainable development in urban areas.
52 In spite its large population and strategic role in Africa, Nigeria exhibits the aforementioned
53 hallmarks of energy poverty and negative environmental impacts that retard development. The
54 reasons for the characterization of Nigeria in the preceding sentence constitute the choice of it as
55 a case study region in this study. This will be discussed in the ensuing paragraph.

56 Nigeria's per capita electricity consumption is one of the lowest in the world – at 149 kWh per
57 capita for a population of about 170 million, about 7% of Brazil's and 3% of South Africa's.
58 Furthermore, a large proportion of the Nigerian population lives in rural areas, where most of the
59 villages are not connected to the grid due to lack of infrastructure (Mellersh, 2015). Nigeria's per
60 capita power consumption of less than 150kWh is one of the lowest in Africa, lower than those
61 of many less developed countries, including the Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe, Yemen and
62 Togo (Olaniyi, 2017; Oluseyi et al., 2016). In Nigeria, the generation of electricity dates back to
63 1896 when electricity was first generated in Lagos (Sambo, 2008a). Notwithstanding that
64 electricity has been present in the country for more than a century, the development of the
65 electricity sector has been occurring at a very slow rate. The demand of electricity in Nigeria
66 exceeds supply which is epileptic in nature irrespective of the enormous natural resources
67 endowed by the country which could be employed in the generation of electricity. According to
68 Sambo (2008a), 20 years prior to 1999, the Nigeria energy sector witnessed unsubstantial
69 infrastructural development investment since existing plants were not adequately maintained
70 while new ones were not commissioned. The author further recounted that the low investment in

71 the energy sector in 2001 resulted to a reduction in the estimated installed generation capacity
72 from 5600 MW to 1750 MW, far lower than the load demand of 6000 MW.

73 The consumption of electricity in Nigeria is dominated by the residential sector (Azodo, 2014)
74 with lighting being a major contributor. Due to the unreliable nature of the electricity supplied
75 from the grid, it is a common practice for households to use standby generators or kerosene
76 lamps to meet their lighting needs or as an alternative for lighting (Ahemen et al., 2016). The use
77 of diesel generators in residential buildings in Nigeria are not only a source of stress and fatigue
78 to household members as a result of the noise produced but as well constitutes a source of GHG
79 emissions (Oyedepo, 2012). Efforts towards addressing the energy situation by the Nigerian
80 government have been geared towards building more power plants but irrespective of the efforts
81 and financial resources invested, energy generation on average has remained below 4000 MW
82 (Olaoye et al., 2016). The integration of renewable energy into the current energy mix of Nigeria
83 can achieve the required 60 GW needed to place Nigeria in the category of an industrialized
84 nation without significant increase in environmental harm associated with pollution. However,
85 in order to adopt PV-system, it is imperative to establish the requirements and viability of such
86 an initiative especially on a wider scale. The aim of this study is to conduct a detail study of the
87 potential of solar PV-systems in Lagos Metropolitan Area, Nigeria. To achieve this aim, the
88 following objectives will need to be attained:

- 89 • Identify the different household energy consumption devices and patterns in some
90 selected regions;
- 91 • Investigate the potential of solar photovoltaic systems in Nigeria;
- 92 • Investigate the variation of the potential between main housing types in three local
93 government areas in Lagos Metropolitan Area, Nigeria.

94 **2. Renewable energy studies in Nigeria: An overview**

95 **2.1 PV-system feasibility studies**

96 Several studies about renewable energy sources in Nigeria could be used to inform the
97 generation of electricity as a way forward to close the energy deficit gap in the country. These
98 studies among others include: the investigation of the potential of the agricultural sector as a
99 source of renewable energy in Nigeria by Elum et al. (2016), Akuru et al. (2017) discussed how
100 Nigeria could transition towards 100% renewable energy , Olaoye et al. (2016) studied the
101 energy crisis in Nigeria and the need for renewable energy mix, Diemuodeke et al. (2016)
102 conducted an assessment of hybrid renewable energy systems for coastline communities in
103 Nigeria, Osunmuyiwa et al. (2016) studied the conditions necessary for the transition and
104 adoption of renewable energy in Nigeria, Olatomiwa et al. (2016) conducted a study on hybrid
105 renewable power supply for rural health clinics in Nigeria, Akorede et al. (2016) studied the
106 current status and outlook of renewable energy development in Nigeria while Riti & Shu (2016)
107 conducted a study on renewable energy, energy efficiency and eco-friendly environment in
108 Nigeria. What emerges from the aforementioned studies is that Nigeria is endowed with
109 renewable energy resources including solar which if well exploited will enable the country to
110 meet its energy demand and overcome the existing energy crisis. Nigeria is endowed with
111 hydropower, biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, wave and tidal energy potentials that can be
112 employed in the generation of electricity (Akuru et al., 2017). Of the renewable energy
113 alternatives, solar appears the most promising and important source for electricity generation in
114 the future for both rural and urban areas (Okoye et al., 2016) and this could be attributed to its
115 apparent abundance and generation potential. For instance, based on the 2030 renewable energy
116 generation target for Nigeria, solar is envisaged to account for over half of the projected energy

117 to be generated (Table 1). The amount of energy that can be generated from a PV-system
 118 depends on the local solar resource and the conversion efficiency of the system adopted. Nigeria
 119 is located within a high sunshine belt and solar radiation is fairly well-distributed within the
 120 country, with an average solar radiation that varies from 12.6 MJ/m²/day in the coastal latitudes
 121 to an estimated 25.2 MJ/m²/day in the Far North part of the country (Akuru et al., 2017). Olaoye
 122 et al. (2016) opine that the use of 1000 W solar power systems on rooftops of one million
 123 Nigerian homes will result in a cumulative power production of 7000 MW of which can translate
 124 into a 45% addition to the present electricity per capita consumption.

125 Table 1: 2030 renewable energy target for Nigeria (Source: Sambo, 2008b).

Resource	Solar PV	Solar Thermal	Wind	Large Hydro	Small Hydro	Biomass	Total
Long term (MW 2030)	36,750	15,500	50	11,250	3,500	1,300	63,345

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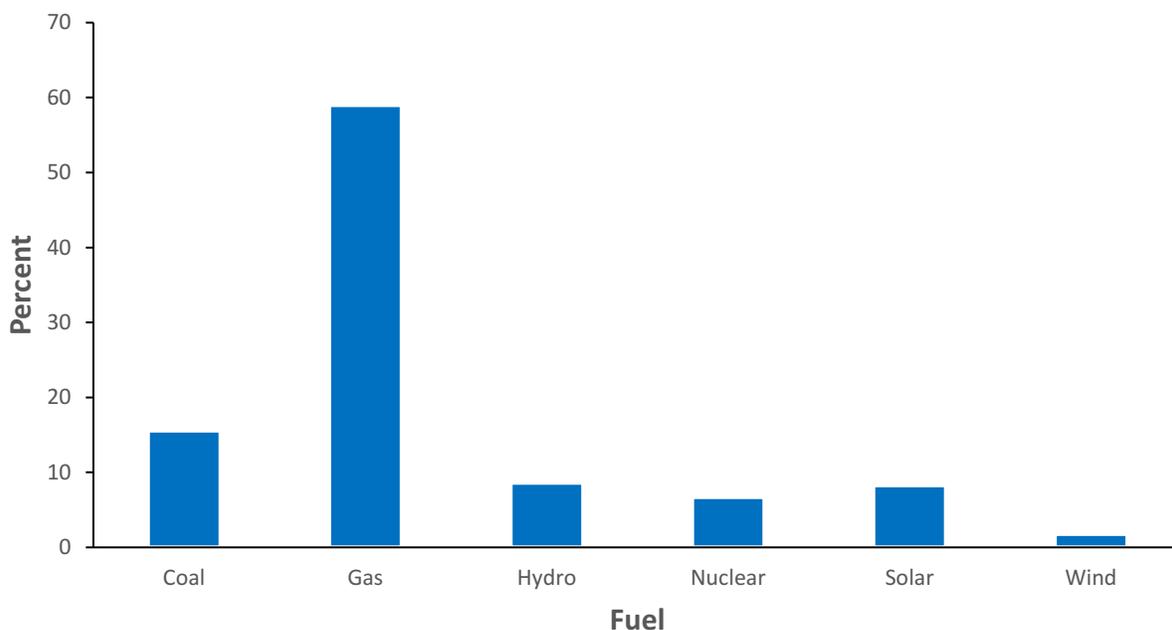
127 Several PV-related studies have been conducted in Nigeria including: solar energy potentials
 128 (Fadare, 2009; Okoye et al., 2016; Giwa et al., 2017; Ikejemba & Schuur, 2016); solar energy
 129 related policies (Ozoegwu et al., 2017); environmental footprints of electricity generation from
 130 solar PV (Akinyele et al., 2017); and technical and or economic feasibility related study of solar
 131 PV-systems (Bukar et al., 2017; Njoku et al., 2016; Okoye & Tylan, 2017; Adaramola &
 132 Oyewola, 2014; Ajoa et al., 2011; Adaramola, 2014; Oparaku, 2002; Akpan et al., 2013). From
 133 the aforementioned studies, it could be gathered that Nigeria has a good solar potential which
 134 could be harnessed to allay the energy crisis of the country and reduce GHG emissions.
 135 However, the cost of electricity generated from PV-systems in the country is not competitive to
 136 that supplied from the grid. From literature search, most of the PV-related design and techno-
 137 economic assessment conducted in Nigeria have been geared towards off-grid electrification of

138 rural communities with very little focus on residential buildings in grid-connected cities in the
139 country. The existing studies on the design and use of stand-alone solar PV-systems in
140 residential buildings concentrate on a single building and do not cover the different building
141 types. For instance, Guda & Aliyu (2015), Okoye et al. (2016), Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe (2015),
142 Adaramola et al. (2014) and Ogunjuyigbe et al. (2016) considered just a single (typical) building
143 in its design for a PV-system for a residential building in Nigeria. While their findings
144 demonstrates the potential of solar PV systems in supplying energy to meet the energy demand
145 of the respective buildings, the results cannot be assumed for other building types since energy
146 load differ among dwellings. Our study is innovative in that it covers the different categories of
147 residential buildings and employs a bigger sample size of 150 buildings from three different
148 Local Government Areas (LGAs).

149 **2.2 Energy policies in Nigeria**

150 Nigeria had no comprehensive energy policy before 2003 (Shabaan and Petinrin, 2014). The
151 country had separate policy documents for the different energy sub-sectors including: solid
152 minerals, oil, gas and electricity (Sesan, 2008). The Nigerian energy policy document came into
153 existence in 2003 to serve as a roadmap for a better energy future for Nigeria (Ajayi & Ajayi,
154 2013). This energy policy document envisaged to ameliorate the energy sector of the country by
155 taking the following steps: commercialization and privatization of the successor Power Holding
156 Company of Nigeria (PHCN) companies, the commissioning of new power plants and
157 distribution entities, inflow of private sector investment and creating an enabling environment
158 for the development of a competitive electricity market.

159 The analysis of Nigeria’s energy demand and supply projections from 2010-2030 was conducted
160 by Sambo (2008a) using Model for the Energy Supply Strategy Alternatives and their General
161 Environmental Impact (MESSAGE). Fuels inputted for the optimization were natural gas, hydro,
162 solar, coal, nuclear, and wind. The future installed electricity generation capacity by fuel for
163 2030 is presented in Figure 1. The results reveals that of the consumed electricity from fuel types
164 in Nigeria, solar is expected to produce 8.3 %.



165 Figure 1: The future installed electricity generation capacity by fuel (Reference Case %, Source:
166 Sambo, 2008a).
167
168

169 Nigeria’s monthly per capita electricity consumption is estimated to be 12 kWh (International
170 Energy Agency - IEA, 2017). This national per capita electricity consumption is lower compared
171 to 27 kWh reported by Olaniyan et al. (2018). In South West region where Lagos is located, per
172 capita residential electricity consumption per month is 23 kWh (National Bureau of Statistics -
173 NBS, 2016). Average electricity price in South West Nigeria is 6 US cents/kWh (NBS, 2017;
174 Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission - NERC, 2017; Olaniyan et al., 2018).

175 Nigeria has set a renewable energy target in the transport and electricity sectors (IRENA, 2015).
176 With respect to electricity generation, the country has a target of electricity generation from
177 renewable sources set at 9.74 %, 18 % and 20 % by 2015, 2020 and 2030 respectively (Bamisile
178 et al., 2017). Electricity generation from solar energy alone stands at 1.26 %, 6.92 % and 15.27
179 % for 2015, 2020 and 2030 respectively while the target of renewable electricity from solely
180 solar is at 12.96 %, 38.43 % and 76.36 % for 2015, 2020 and 2030 respectively indicating that
181 solar will dominate in the long-term. The revised version (November 2012) of the REMP
182 provides a list of economic and financial instruments/incentives that should be employed in order
183 to reduce the high initial investment cost of renewables so as to bolster the penetration of
184 renewables into the energy supply mix of the nation (Ozoegwu et al., 2017). These energy targets
185 and supportive renewable energy policies highlighted in the REMP are not yet binding since the
186 REMP is yet to be approved and signed into a law by the National Assembly and the Executive
187 respectively. However, the National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy (NREEEP)
188 developed in 2013/2014 by the Federal Ministry of Power and approved in 2015 by the Federal
189 Executive Council stands in as a binding document for the REMP (Nigerian Energy Support
190 Programme, 2015). The solar electricity target of the NREEEP stands at 117 MW, 1343 MW and
191 6831 MW by 2015, 2030 and 2030 respectively. In an attempt to create a conducive environment
192 that will promote the entry of renewable energy into Nigeria, NREEEP empowers relevant
193 government ministries and federal government agencies and departments to adopt and develop
194 any of the following instruments: mandatory or voluntary renewable portfolio standards, net
195 metering framework, feed-in-tariffs, adoption of a public benefit funds, power production tax
196 credits, provision of capital grants, tax holidays and exemptions and other incentives for
197 renewable energy projects, bidding rounds through national renewable energy independent

198 power producer procurement program and generation disclosure requirement. According to the
199 Renewables 2015 global status report, support policies for renewable energy in Nigeria include:
200 feed-in-tariffs, biofuel obligation/mandate, public investments, loans or grants, reductions in
201 sales, energy, CO₂, value-added tax (VAT), or other taxes and capital subsidy, grant or rebate.

202 *Characteristics of favourable environment for the adoption and use of solar PV-Systems*

203 Generally, the adoption and use of PV systems for electricity generation in residential homes
204 mainly depend on knowledge of the environmental benefit of PV systems over other source of
205 fuels for electricity generation especially fossil fuel. The consciousness of the population on the
206 environmental benefit of using PV systems over fossil fuel constitutes an enabling environment
207 for its adoption (Palm & Tengvard, 2017). Some households adopt PV systems as a way to
208 promote environmental sustainability. Furthermore, the initial cost of investment (purchase and
209 installation) of PV systems in residential homes may be high compared to electricity supply from
210 the grid system. Vasseur and Kemp (2015) reported that the competitiveness of the price of PV
211 generated electricity with the electricity supplied from the grid plays an important role in its
212 adoption and use. Hence, PV adoption and use will be favourable where electricity from PV is
213 competitive with that supplied from the grid. Also, reduced investment cost of solar PV and
214 increased dissemination of knowledge on its environmental benefits among the population are
215 favourable conditions for their adoption and use.

216 **3. Methodology**

217 This study surveyed residential buildings from three Local Government Areas (LGAs): Kosofe,
218 Oshodi and Alimosho in Lagos Metropolitan Area, Lagos State of Nigeria. The survey was
219 conducted using a structured questionnaire. The approach consisted of using purposeful

220 sampling. The purposive sampling enabled the selection of units based on particular purposes
221 linked to achieving research objectives of the study as well as representativeness and
222 comparisons among different types of cases. Lagos is divided into five Administrative Divisions
223 (Lagos, Epe, Badagry, Ikorodu and Ikeja) which are further divided into 20 Local Government
224 Areas (LGAs) and 37 Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs). The “Lagos Metropolitan
225 Area” also known as Metropolitan Lagos contains about 85 % of the population of Lagos State,
226 and includes semi-rural areas. The three LGAs (Alimosho, Kosofe, and Oshodi) selected for this
227 study fall under the five largest LGAs out of the 16 LGAs in Metropolitan Lagos - 2006
228 population census (National Population commission Nigeria, 2010). In each of the LGAs, the
229 different residential building types were identified and an equal number (10) of each building
230 type were surveyed for the collection of data. In each household surveyed, the questionnaire
231 administrator together with a household member completed the energy audit section of the
232 questionnaire while the time-of-use diary section of the questionnaire was left with the
233 household for completion. The data from the time-of-use diary was used in Microsoft Excel for
234 the computation of the hourly electricity load profile for the seven days of the week for each
235 building surveyed. The hourly energy load (in watts) for each building was obtained by summing
236 up the power rating of all the appliances used during the 24 hours period of the day and the
237 obtained value converted to kWh by dividing by 1000. The daily load profile for each dwelling
238 was obtained as an average of the load profile for the seven days of the week. The technical,
239 economic and environmental potential for the use of solar PV-systems for the onsite generation
240 and use of electricity to meet the electricity needs of the buildings was analyzed. The technical
241 and economic assessments were conducted using HOMER Pro and the economic analysis was
242 based on the Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE). Sensitivity analysis was performed using

243 HOMER Pro by varying the economic parameters (inflation and discount rates) and the solar
244 PV-system sizing parameters.

245 **4. Description of survey and analysis**

246 **4.1. Household surveys**

247 Jiboye (2014) reported five categories of residential buildings in Nigeria: duplex, single family
248 bungalow, traditional court yard, flat/apartment dwelling and '*face-me-I-face-you*'. These five
249 categories of buildings were considered for this study. Hence, while the study is conducted for
250 Lagos, results for each building type obtained in this study could be relevant for similar building
251 types in other parts of Nigeria. In each of the LGAs, 50 households (10 per building category)
252 were randomly sampled with the use of a questionnaire amounting to a total of 150 households
253 for the entire study (Table 2). The number of local governments and buildings selected in Lagos
254 Metropolitan Area were based on the existing challenges to sustainable development in these
255 areas such as limited and inefficient power supply from the grid system, environmental,
256 sociocultural, economic and administrative/legislative problems reported in previous studies
257 (Oduwaye, 2009; Otegbulu, 2011; Adama, 2017). The questionnaire was structured into four
258 different sections. Section 1 was designed to obtain socio-economic data of the households,
259 section 2 was geared at capturing characteristics of the buildings, section 3 was designed to
260 obtain information about the electrical appliances used in the surveyed buildings while section 4
261 was designed as a time-of-use diary to capture information related to the time and duration of use
262 of the different appliances in the buildings, as used by Enongene et al. (2017) and Manjia et al.
263 (2016). The survey had a response rate of 100%. This high response rate was due to the fact that
264 research assistants walked through the neighbourhood, handed the questionnaire and return later

265 to collect. The research assistant provided help to those residents who struggled with completing
266 the questionnaires.

267 **Table 2: Selection of number of buildings in Local Government Areas**

Building type	Kosofe	Oshodi	Alimosho
Duplex	10	10	10
Simple family bungalow	10	10	10
Traditional court yard	10	10	10
Flat/apartment	10	10	10
'Face-me-I-face-you'	10	10	10
Total	50	50	50

268 LGA: Local Government Area

269
270 **4.2. Sizing of solar PV-system components**

271 *Computation of load profiles*

272 The energy load profile for the appliances for all the buildings surveyed was computed using
273 Excel spreadsheet. The hourly energy load (in kWh) for each building was obtained by summing
274 up the power rating of all the appliances used at specific periods of the 24 hours of the day. The
275 daily load profile for each dwelling was obtained as an average of the load profile for the seven
276 days of the week. The minimum and maximum load of buildings employed in the sizing of the
277 systems is presented in Appendix A (see Data in Brief).

278 *System design*

279 A stand-alone PV-system was designed to meet the minimum and maximum load profile for
280 each building type per LGA. A total of 30 PV-systems were therefore designed.

281 For this design to be effected, site details or locations were edited in Homer Pro. In the case of
282 this study, the 3 locations or LGAs were edited separately. Other information edited into Homer
283 Pro were the minimum and maximum electric load profiles, PV-system components (battery,

284 PV-system array and converter) technical and cost details and the solar resource data (Global
285 Horizontal Irradiation-GHI) for the study locations (LGAs).

286 Based on the edited data, HOMER Pro was used to conduct the simulation process by modelling
287 the behaviour of the system configuration each hour of the year in order to determine the
288 system's technical feasibility and life cycle cost. This includes the optimization of the system by
289 simulating different system configurations with the objective of searching for the system that
290 satisfies the technical constraints at the lowest life cycle cost. The base case scenario calculation
291 was performed based on the following: a minimum battery state of charge (SOC) of 40%, 0%
292 maximum annual capacity shortage, 5% discount rate, 2% inflation rate and a PV-system
293 lifetime of 25 years. The capacity shortage was set at 0% in order to investigate the potential of
294 the system to serve 100% of the buildings' load while 40% battery SOC coincides with the
295 recommended depth of discharge of the battery bank that will safeguard its lifespan.

296 *Sensitivity analysis*

297 HOMER Pro was used to perform sensitivity analysis based on five different variables:
298 maximum annual capacity shortage, PV-system lifetime, minimum battery SOC, inflation and
299 discount rate in order to determine their effect on the system's LCOE. Table 3 presents the
300 sensitivity parameters used.

301 **Table 3: Sensitivity parameters employed in the HOMER Pro modelling**

Sensitivity variable	Base case	Sensitivity case(s)
Maximum annual capacity shortage	0%	5%, 10% and 15%
Discount rate	5%	10%
PV-system lifetime	25 years	20 years and 30 years (e.g. J.v.G Desert Module)
Inflation rate	2%	5%
Minimum battery SOC	40%	30%

302 **Computation of PV-system array area**

303 The size (area) of the PV-system array for the different buildings was computed using equation 1
304 as purported by Birajdar et al. (2013).

$$305 \quad A_{PV} = \frac{L_{el}}{H_{avg} \times n_{pv} \times n_b \times n_i \times T_{CF}} \quad (1)$$

306 Where A_{PV} represents the required PV-system array area in m^2 , L_{el} is the required daily electric
307 load of the building in kWh/day, H_{avg} is the location's average daily solar irradiation in $kWhm^{-2}d^{-1}$, n_{pv}
308 represent the PV panel efficiency in %, n_i is the efficiency of the inverter in % while T_{CF}
309 stands for the temperature correction factor, n_b is the battery efficiency. The battery and inverter
310 efficiency were adopted from Abdul and Anjum (2015) as 85% and 90% respectively while the
311 T_{CF} was adopted from Caisheng and Nehrir (2008) as 80%. It is important for the PV-system
312 area to be adjusted to take into consideration variation of the PV-system output over its lifetime
313 as a result of degradation. This adjustment is effected by dividing the PV-system area by the
314 module derate factor which accounts for PV-system output reduction due to the accumulation of
315 dust and degradation over time. A module derate factor of 0.9 was adopted from Sandia National
316 Laboratories (1995).

317 **4.3. Economic analysis**

318 HOMER Pro was employed in conducting the economic analysis using the information presented
319 in Table 4. The LCOE generated by the system using 2% inflation rate and 5% discount rate was
320 determined. The operation and maintenance cost was considered as 2% of the initial PV-system
321 module cost while the installation cost of the system was considered as 10% of the initial PV-
322 system module cost.

323 **Table 4: Cost of solar PV-system components (obtained from a local supplier)**

System component	Cost (USD)
Module (100W monocrystalline)	158
Charge controller (60 AMP)	190
Battery (Deep acid lead, 83.3Ah)	160
Inverter (1 kW)	158
Total	666

324

325

326 **4.4. Environmental analysis**

327 A life cycle assessment (LCA) data for electricity generated from PV systems in Nigeria is used
 328 to estimate the environmental benefits or potentials of the PV-systems employed in this study.
 329 Since such information is scarce, the average LCA data of 162 gCO₂eq/kWh of electricity
 330 generated from monocrystalline modules obtained by Sherwani et al. (2010) was adopted. From
 331 Brander et al. (2011), the emission associated with a kWh of electricity from the grid in Nigeria
 332 stands at 440 gCO₂eq. The emission saving (Es) associated with the use of a kWh of electricity
 333 generated by the PV-systems employed in this study was computed using the approach employed
 334 by Abanda et al. (2016):

335
$$Es = EG - EPV = 440 \text{ gCO}_2\text{eq} - 162 \text{ gCO}_2\text{eq} = 278 \text{ gCO}_2\text{eq}$$

336 Where EG represents emissions associated with a kWh of grid electricity while EPV represents
 337 emissions of a kWh of PV-system generated electricity. This implies that if a building uses a
 338 kWh of PV generated electricity rather than a kWh of electricity from the grid, an emission
 339 saving of 278 gCO₂eq constituting a 63.2% emission reduction would be achieved. The daily
 340 emission saving that would result from the use of electricity from the PV-systems by the

341 buildings was computed by simply multiplying the daily load of the buildings in kWh by 278
342 gCO₂eq.

343 **5. Analysis of results and discussion**

344 **5.1. Sources of energy and fuel consumption in buildings**

345 The main source of energy for all the building types in the study locations is diesel generators
346 and rechargeable lanterns which are charged either by the diesel generators or electricity from
347 the grid, accounting for 48.4 % of the total source of energy available in the area. Our findings
348 concerning the use of diesel generators in residential buildings concord with the claim of
349 Ayodele & Ogunjuyigbe (2015) that almost every household in Nigeria have resorted to the use
350 of petrol/diesel generators as a result of the inadequate power supply in the country. The unstable
351 power supply also explains the availability of rechargeable lanterns in some households as they
352 are mostly used during grid electricity outages.

353 Heating, lighting, leisure and air conditioner accounts for the highest (24.8%) of energy
354 consumption in the study locations. Heating observed in the field survey is mainly composed of
355 the source of heating for cooking (hot plate, microwave oven, boiling ring, electric kettle, rice
356 cooker, kerosene and LPG cook stoves) as compared to boiler for residential heating in the
357 temperate regions of the world. Lighting includes the use of compact fluorescent, fluorescent
358 lamps, and incandescent lamps. Leisure refers to entertainment (the use of audio, video and
359 television for leisure, and charging of mobile phones and PCs- desktops and laptops). Air
360 conditioner for cooling in the studied areas have higher power ratings compared to fans. Higher
361 rates of energy consumption from heating, lighting, leisure and cooling recorded from studied
362 areas can be attributed to location (urban) and socioeconomic status of the residents. This is

363 consistent with the findings of Emagbetere and Oreko (2016); and Olaniyan et al. (2018). High
364 energy consumption from luxurious and high power rating electrical appliances are prevalent
365 with urban dwellers like those in Lagos city compared to rural dwellers (Olaniyan et al., 2018).
366 This is due to their socioeconomic status and the advantage of having longer hours of electricity
367 supply from the grid system compared to those in the rural areas. Emagbetere and Oreko (2016)
368 reported that the choice of the source of energy used for cooking in Lagos State, Nigeria is
369 influenced by the level of income, education and the job of the individual. The average weekly
370 consumption of diesel, kerosene, and candles in study locations is about 28 litres, 1 litre and 7
371 bars of candles respectively. In some cases, consumption differs with building types and utility.
372 The average weekly consumption of diesel for traditional court buildings is equal to 12 litres,
373 duplex and '*Face-me-I-face-you*' is equal to 14 litres, single family bungalow and flat dwellings
374 is equal to 28 litres. It was observed that traditional court buildings use more kerosene (average
375 of 7 litres per week) followed by duplex (average of 5 litres per week) compared to 1 litre used
376 in single family bungalow and flat buildings. The highest number of candles (average of 20 bars
377 per week) was recorded from flat buildings. The use of kerosene lamps and candles in
378 households could be attributed to the high cost of running a diesel generator. Consequently, the
379 diesel generator would not be used for 24 hours of the day and residents will need to use
380 kerosene lamps so as to keep the home illuminated at night after the generator has been turned
381 off. Power consumption in the study locations are greatly increased during dry seasons and
382 festive periods. This indicates that meteorological conditions represents an important factor that
383 influences electricity load of dwellings and our findings concord with that of Novoselac et al.
384 (2014) who reported a variation of daily electricity loads between seasons. Similarly, Fotsing et
385 al. (2014) reported the occurrence of minimum and maximum load in Cameroon in the month of

386 August (wet season) and December (hot season) respectively. As attested by Aldossary et al.
 387 (2014), more electricity is needed for air conditioning during periods of higher temperatures.

388 **5.2. PV-system for maximum and minimum loads of buildings**

389 The results of the HOMER Pro simulations of the PV-systems for meeting the minimum and
 390 maximum loads of each building type according to each LGA is presented in Table 5. The
 391 technical specifications presented in Table 5 are for the base case scenario: 0% capacity
 392 shortage, 40% battery minimum state of charge, 25 years PV-system’s lifetime, 5% discount rate
 393 and 2% inflation rate.

394 With regards to the PV-systems designed for the maximum loads of buildings, the largest size of
 395 PV-array (78kW) will be required for “Face-me-I-face-you” building type in Alimosho LGA
 396 with 176 kWh lead acid battery, 20 kW converter. On the other hand, traditional court buildings
 397 in Kosofe LGA will require the smallest size of PV-system array (0.6 kW) with 4 kWh lead acid
 398 battery and lowest converter of 0.6 kW.

399 For solar PV-systems designed for the minimum loads, the largest size of PV-system array, lead
 400 acid battery and converter (22 kW, 80 kWh, and 4.6 kW respectively) will be required for duplex
 401 in Alimosho LGA. Conversely, ‘Face -me –I- face -you’ in Kosofe LGA will require the smallest
 402 size of PV-system array, lead acid battery and converter (0.2 kW, 2 kWh, and 0.1 kW
 403 respectively). A variation in the capacity of the system components is a function of the variation
 404 in the electric load of the dwellings.

405 **Table 5: Specifications for PV-system components**

Building type	LGA	PV-array (kW)	1 kWh lead acid battery	Converter (kW)
PV DESIGN FOR MAXIMUM LOAD OF BUILDINGS				

Single family bungalow	Kosofe	3	30	1.6
	Oshodi	24	125	6.4
	Alimosho	15	108	7.5
Duplex	Kosofe	6	32	2
	Oshodi	30	130	7.2
	Alimosho	40	132	9
'Face-me-I-face-you'	Kosofe	1.6	16	1.6
	Oshodi	6	36	5.8
	Alimosho	78	176	20
Traditional court	Kosofe	0.6	4	0.6
	Oshodi	6	30	2.8
	Alimosho	16	68	3.4
Flat apartment	Kosofe	3	18	2.8
	Oshodi	16	88	6.8
	Alimosho	42	76	13.2
PV-SYSTEM DESIGN FOR MINIMUM LOAD OF BUILDINGS				
Single family bungalow	Kosofe	0.6	3	0.4
	Oshodi	4.5	19	1.2
	Alimosho	7	28	2.5
Duplex	Kosofe	0.8	9	0.6
	Oshodi	3	12	2.6
	Alimosho	22	80	4.6
'Face -me -I face -you'	Kosofe	0.2	2	0.1
	Oshodi	2.5	22	0.7
	Alimosho	7	42	5.4
Tradition court	Kosofe	0.3	2	0.4
	Oshodi	0.6	4	0.6
	Alimosho	1	8	0.4
Flat apartment	Kosofe	0.7	3	0.6
	Oshodi	0.7	6	0.4
	Alimosho	5	22	1.4

406

407 *PV-system array area*

408 The computed required PV-system array area for the different buildings is presented in Table 6.

409 From literature (Eruola et al., 2010; Fagbemi, 2011), the rooftop area of typical buildings in

410 Southwest Nigeria are as follows: single family bungalow (332.12 m²); duplex (218.3 m²); *Face-*

411 *me-I-face-you'* (156.78 m²); traditional court (282.24 m²); and flat apartment (280.72 m²).

412 Comparing the PV-system array area obtained from our study to the rooftop area of the different
 413 types of building obtained from the literature, the building types can accommodate their
 414 respective PV-system array on their rooftops except for the *Face-me-I-face-you*' building in
 415 Alimosho LGA. This implies that the rooftop area is an important factor that should be taken
 416 into consideration in the assessment of the technical feasibility for the application of solar PV-
 417 systems in the onsite generation and use of electricity in residential buildings. Although most of
 418 the buildings have roof area large enough to accommodate the PV-array, shading of the PV
 419 panels on the rooftops could result to system losses thereby affecting the capacity of the system
 420 to meet the load of the building. Our computation assumes that the PV-systems installed in the
 421 buildings would have minimal shading.

422 **Table 6:** Required PV-system array area for the different buildings

Building type	LGA	PV-system array area (in m ²)-low loads	PV-system array area (in m ²)-High loads	Roof area (m ²) of building
Single family bungalow	Kosofe	1.69	12.44	332.12
	Oshodi	13.30	76.15	
	Alimosho	20.71	50.38	
Duplex	Kosofe	3.32	17.57	218.3
	Oshodi	8.73	98.87	
	Alimosho	53.24	93.69	
'Face-me-I-face-you'	Kosofe	0.79	6.41	156.78
	Oshodi	9.63	16.85	
	Alimosho	26.35	187.63	
Traditional court	Kosofe	0.89	1.94	282.24
	Oshodi	2.37	18.84	
	Alimosho	4.37	46.19	
Flat apartment	Kosofe	2.12	9.32	280.72
	Oshodi	2.50	47.50	
	Alimosho	14.78	65.83	

423

424 Overall, reducing the load of the buildings would reduce the PV array size and consequently, the
425 required rooftop area. Observations from field survey revealed that power ratings of appliances
426 of the residents is a major contributor to electric loads. As pointed out by Edomah and Nwaubani
427 (2014), it is imperative that minimum efficiency standards for domestic appliances be set in
428 Lagos since residential energy consumption accounts for 70 % power demand in the state.
429 Implementing policies or enforcing minimum standards for appliances will influence consumer
430 behaviour to adopting energy efficient appliances and also prohibit the importation, production
431 and sales of energy- consuming appliances. However, the Nigerian governance system on energy
432 efficiency of residential electrical appliances is weakly formulated due to lack of policy, non-
433 engagement of the key stakeholders (households) in the design of agenda and participation in
434 decision-making processes, shortage of allocated resources, and the over-lapping work of
435 different governmental organizations (Gana & Hoppe, 2017). Therefore, awareness/sensitization
436 of the residents on the adoption of energy efficient appliances in their homes can be an effective
437 way to reduce electric loads.

438 *Sensitivity analysis for technical specifications for system components*

439 Sensitivity analysis was conducted on the annual capacity shortage (5%, 10% and 15%) and the
440 minimum battery state of charge (30%). The effect of varying annual capacity shortage and
441 minimum battery state of charge on the technical specifications of the systems designed for the
442 minimum loads of the single family bungalow building type is presented in Table 7 (See
443 Appendix B in Data in Brief for other types of buildings).

444 An overview of the results of the sensitivity analysis shows that increase in maximum annual
445 capacity shortage (from 0 – 15 %) will lead to decrease in the size of PV-system array and lead

446 acid battery. This is supported by the claim of Enongene (2016) that an increase in capacity
 447 shortage decreases the amount of the load of the dwelling that must be met by the system and
 448 consequently a reduction in the PV-system array and battery bank. However, the case is different
 449 for lead acid battery in Alimosho (increase between 5- 10 % and subsequent decrease at 15 %).
 450 For minimum battery state of charge (at sensitivity value of 30 %), results reveal that Alimosho
 451 will require the largest size of PV-system array and lead acid battery (7 kW and 24 kWh
 452 respectively). In contrast, Kosofe will require the smallest size of PV-system array (0.5 kW) and
 453 lead acid battery (3 kWh).

454 Table 7: Effects of minimum battery state of charge and capacity shortage on system components
 455 (for minimum loads of single family bungalow building type)

LGA	Sensitivity value (%)	PV-system array (kW)	1 kWh lead acid battery	PV-system power output (kWh/year)
Sensitivity variable: Maximum annual capacity shortage				
Kosofe	0	0.6	3	839
	5	0.3	3	419
	10	0.3	2	419
	15	0.3	2	419
Oshodi	0	4.5	19	6 291
	5	2.5	12	3 495
	10	2	12	2 796
	15	2	8	2 796
Alimosho	0	7	28	9 787
	5	4	20	5 593
	10	3	22	4 194
	15	3	14	4 194
Sensitivity variable: Minimum battery state of charge				
Kosofe	40%	0.6	3	839
	30%	0.5	3	699
Oshodi	40%	4.5	19	6291
	30%	4	19	5 592
Alimosho	40%	7	28	9787
	30%	7	24	9 787

456

457 **5.3. Economic analysis**

458 The economic analysis results of the PV-systems in terms of the LCOE (for the base case
459 scenario) are presented in Table 8. The LCOE of electricity of the designed systems (30 systems)
460 for the base case scenario ranges from 0.398 USD/kWh (Oshodi, maximum load for duplex
461 building) to 0.743 USD/kWh (Alimosho, maximum load for flat apartment). This wide variation
462 in the LCOE could be due to the fact that there exists a difference in the nature of the loads of the
463 buildings. There are some buildings with very high loads that occur after sunshine hours and
464 such buildings require a large battery bank for energy storage to support these high night loads,
465 culminating in higher LCOE. The values of the LCOE obtained in this study are higher
466 compared to USD 0.098/kWh cost of electricity from the grid power system in some locations in
467 Nigeria. This supports the claim of Baurzhan and Jenkins (2016) that solar PV is unaffordable to
468 rural households in Sub Sahara Africa from an economic and financial perspective. Such
469 households are unable to afford the up-front capital cost of the system due to low or irregular
470 income. The range of LCOE obtained from this study is higher compared to that (0.206
471 USD/kWh to 0.502 USD/kWh) obtained by Okoye et al. (2016) for selected cities (Onitsha,
472 Kano and Lagos) in Nigeria. The LCOE obtained for the city of Lagos by the authors were 0.417
473 and 0.495 USD/kWh. Meanwhile the study by Okoye et al. (2016) considered all the components
474 of a stand-alone PV system as our study, their study used an estimated energy load data of a
475 hypothetical building (typical large household in Onitsha) for the design of the PV-system using
476 intuitive and numerical methods while in our case, household specific electricity load data for 50
477 buildings (covering five building types) were considered in the simulation of the PV systems
478 using the HOMER Pro software. Hence, the disparity that exists between the range of LCOE
479 from our study and theirs is not unexpected. Studies by Ohijeagbon & Ajayi (2014) estimated the

480 unit cost of electricity generated from diesel generators in Nigeria at 0.62 USD/kWh. Only one
 481 of the thirty systems designed had a unit cost of electricity that was superior to 0.62 USD/kWh.
 482 Hence, PV-systems are more economically viable for use as stand-alone systems compared to
 483 diesel generators. While this could constitute an incentive for the adoption of solar PV, the
 484 viability of households to adopt solar PV will depend on their ability to afford the associated up-
 485 front capital cost. The unit cost of electricity from PV-systems obtained from this study could be
 486 lowered if the Nigerian government ensures an enabling condition that will bolster the adoption
 487 of the technology.

488

489

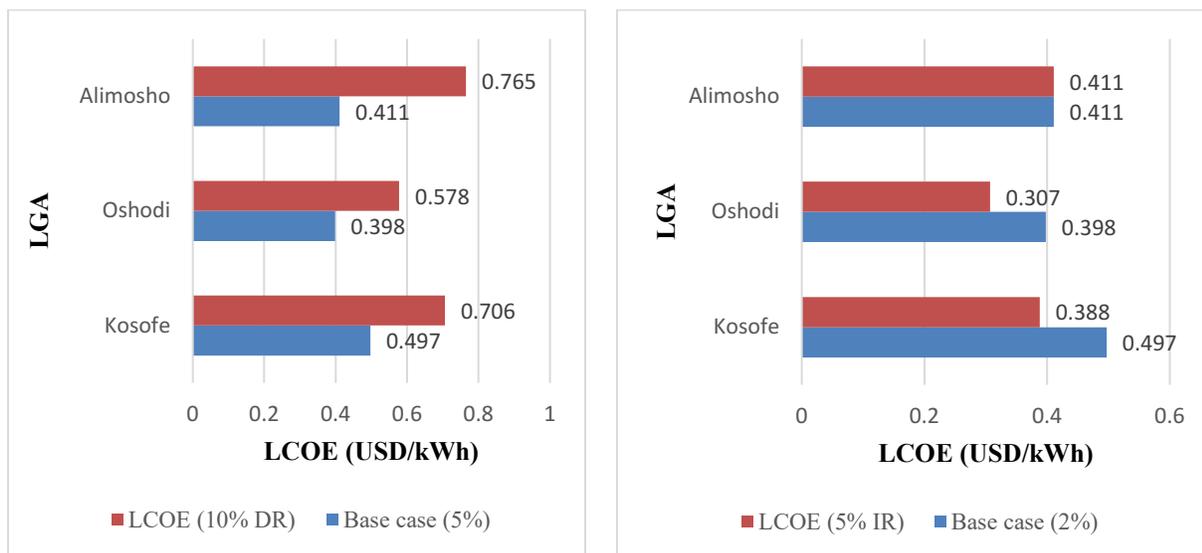
490 **Table 8: Results of the economic analysis of the PV-systems**

Building type	LGA	LCOE (USD/kWh)	
		Maximum loads	Minimum loads
Duplex	Kosofe	0.497	0.552
	Oshodi	0.398	0.459
	Alimosho	0.411	0.502
Single family bungalow	Kosofe	0.508	0.529
	Oshodi	0.452	0.439
	Alimosho	0.513	0.432
'Face -me -I -face -you'	Kosofe	0.538	0.531
	Oshodi	0.571	0.498
	Alimosho	0.429	0.422
Traditional court	Kosofe	0.54	0.575
	Oshodi	0.453	0.43
	Alimosho	0.45	0.417
Flat apartment	Kosofe	0.547	0.449
	Oshodi	0.501	0.533
	Alimosho	0.743	0.488

491

492 Using the duplex building type as an example, the effect of the inflation rate and discount rate on
 493 the LCOE is presented in Figure 2. Increasing the discount rate from 5% to 10% culminates in an

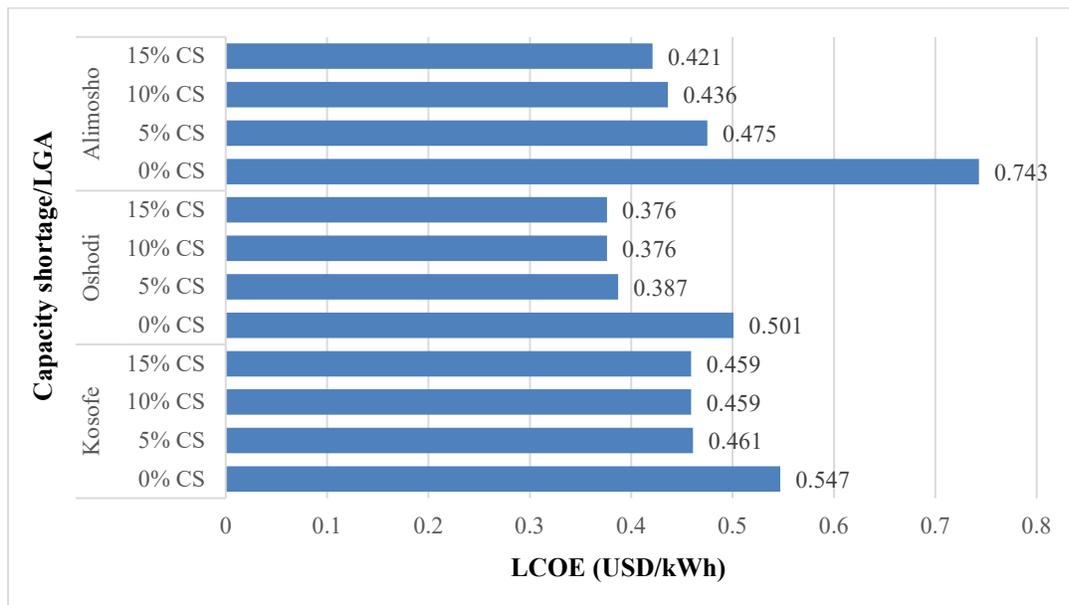
494 increase in the LCOE while an increase in the inflation rate from 2% to 5% reduces the LCOE.
 495 Using the duplex building type (maximum load) for the Kosofe LGA as an example, an increase
 496 in the discount rate from 5% to 10% results in an increase in the LCOE from 0.497 USD/kWh to
 497 0.706 USD/kWh. The other building types for the different LGA observed the same trend
 498 (Appendix C - see Data in Brief). Ayompe and Duffy (2014) witnessed a similar increasing trend
 499 of the LCOE as a result of an increase in the discount rate. According to Enongene (2016), as the
 500 discount rate increases, the present value of future cash flows of the PV- system is decreased
 501 culminating in an increased LCOE of the system.



502
 503 **Figure 2: Influence of discount rate (left) and inflation rate (right) on the LCOE for the system**
 504 **designed for the maximum load for the duplex building type.**

505 An increase in the maximum annual capacity shortage decreases the LCOE of the systems. The
 506 LCOE for the flat apartment building type (maximum load) for Kosofe decreased from 0.547
 507 USD/kWh (0% capacity shortage) to 0.459 USD/kWh (15% capacity shortage) as can be verified
 508 from Figure 3. Such a reduction in LCOE could be explained by the fact that, as the capacity
 509 shortage is increased, the proportion of the building's load to be left unmet increases and
 510 consequently, load culminating in an increase in LCOE of the system (such as high load

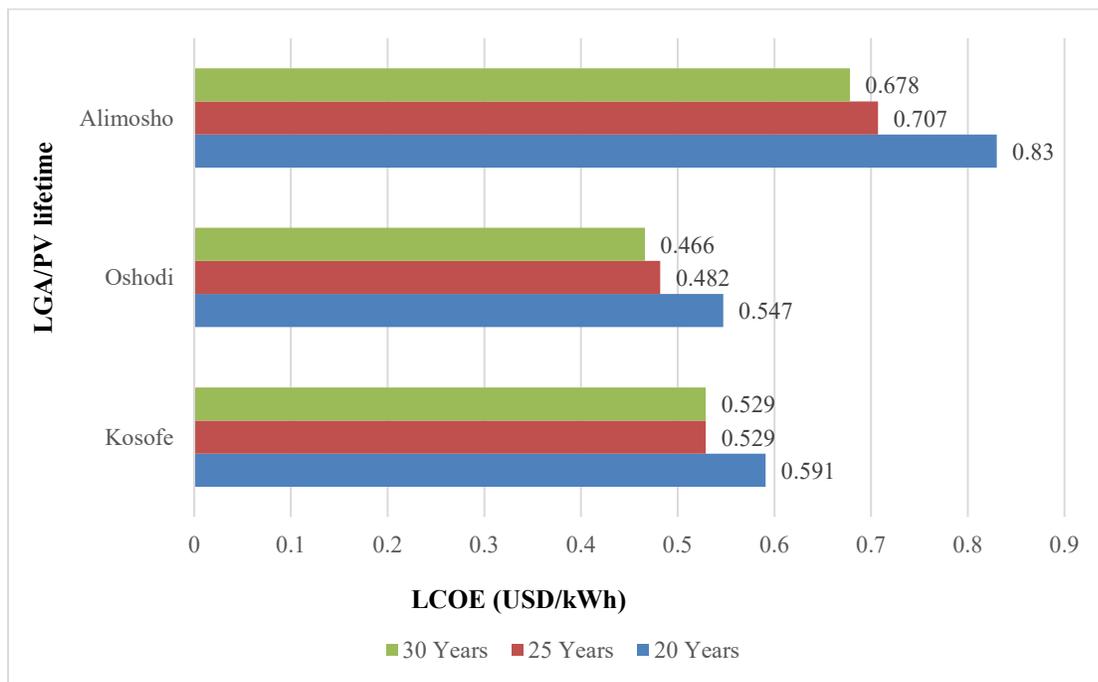
511 occurring after sunshine hours) is left unserved. The reduction in LCOE associated with an
 512 increase in capacity shortage is indicative of the fact that hybrid PV-systems are more
 513 economically viable compared to the stand-alone ones. The effect of capacity shortage for the
 514 other building types for the different LGAs is presented in Appendix C. A remarkable difference
 515 is observed between the LCOE at 0% capacity shortage and 5% capacity shortage. Using Kosofe
 516 as an example (Figure 3), the LCOE (USD/kWh) at 0% and 5% capacity shortage is 0.547 and
 517 0.461 respectively culminating in a difference of 0.088. This difference is large when compared
 518 to 0.002 which represents the difference in the LCOE between 5% (0.461) and 15% (0.459).



519
 520 **Figure 3: Influence of capacity shortage on LCOE for the maximum load of flat apartments**

521
 522 Regarding the effect on the PV-system lifetime on the LCOE, the PV-system lifetime is
 523 inversely proportional to the LCOE of the system. A decrease in the PV-system's lifetime from
 524 25 to 20 years increases the LCOE of the system while the reverse is true for an increase in the
 525 PV-system's lifetime from 25 years to 30 years as presented in Figure 4 for the case of flat-

526 apartment (See Appendix C for details for the other buildings types). As reported by Enongene
 527 (2016), increase in the lifetime of the PV-systems translates into more energy generated by the
 528 system for the same initial capital cost and this explains a decrease in the system’s LCOE.



529
 530 **Figure 4: Effect of PV-system lifetime on the LCOE for the system designed for the**
 531 **maximum load for the Flat-apartment building type**

532 **5.4. Environmental potential of the PV-systems**

533 The environmental analysis associated with the use of solar PV-system generated electricity for
 534 meeting the entire load of the buildings (0% capacity shortage) is presented in Table 9. The
 535 emission reduction associated with the use of electricity from the PV-system varies with
 536 different buildings. Pertaining to the high loads, the annual emission reduction varies from 76.90
 537 (Traditional Court, Kosofe) to 7456.44 kgCO₂eq (*‘Face- me –I- face –you’*, Alimosho). For the
 538 low loads, the emission reduction varies from 35.95 (traditional court, Kosofe) to 2115.95
 539 kgCO₂eq (duplex, Alimosho). This observed variation is due to the existence of differences in
 540 the daily loads of the buildings. In a nutshell, the use of electricity generated from PV-system in

541 each building reduces annual emissions by 63.2% compared to the business-as-usual scenario in
 542 which case the buildings would solely rely on the grid to satisfy their respective electricity
 543 requirements.

544 **Table 9: Annual emission reductions (kgCO₂eq) associated with the use of PV-system**
 545 **generated electricity in buildings**

Building types	Kosofe	Oshodi	Alimosho
Maximum loads			
Single family bungalow	493.56	3025.76	2001.86
Flat Apartment	370.58	1887.20	2615.87
<i>'Face- me -I- face -you'</i>	254.56	3673.65	7456.44
Duplex	697.97	3930.15	3723.08
Traditional court	76.90	748.85	1830.43
Minimum loads			
Single family bungalow	66.46	528.95	822.69
Flat apartment	84.29	99.95	587.58
<i>'Face -me -I- face- you</i>	31.24	382.61	1394.63
Duplex	132.49	347.39	2115.95
Traditional court	35.95	71.32	173.88

546

547 **6. Conclusion and Policy implications**

548 This study focused on the assessment of the technical, economic and environmental potential of
 549 onsite PV-systems for generating electricity in different residential building types in the Lagos
 550 Metropolitan Area of Nigeria.

551 The computed energy results of the study for the maximum load of buildings for the base case
 552 scenario revealed the PV array, lead acid battery and the converter (inverter) of the PV-systems
 553 to be in the following range: 0.3 to 76 kW; 2 to 176kWh; and 0.1 to 13.2 kW respectively. For
 554 the minimum load of the buildings, the results of the PV array, lead acid battery and converter of
 555 the system were found to be in the following order: 0.3 to 7kW; 2 to 80 kWh; 0.1 to 5.4kW
 556 respectively. Results of the economic analysis revealed a LCOE of the systems in the range of

557 0.398 USD/kWh to 0.743 USD/kWh for maximum loads and 0.422 USD/kWh to 0.552
558 USD/kWh for minimum loads. The use of PV-system generated electricity in the dwellings have
559 potential for an annual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the range of 76.90 gCO₂eq to
560 7456.44 kgCO₂eq (for maximum loads) and 31.24 gCO₂eq to 2115.95 kgCO₂eq (for minimum
561 loads). Generally, from a technical perspective, solar PV-systems have the potential for use as a
562 stand-alone source of electrical energy in the different categories of residential buildings in
563 Lagos, Nigeria. While the LCOE for the PV-systems is lower than that of diesel generator used
564 by households, it is high compared to the LCOE of the grid.

565 The promotion of an enabling environment for the adoption and use of solar PV-system in
566 residential buildings will support the attainment of Nigeria's mitigation target spelt out in the
567 country's nationally determined contribution (NDC). However, just creating a favourable
568 environment for the adoption and use of PV-systems may not constitute a solution to all
569 dwellings. For instance, this study revealed a building with high electric load which requires a
570 PV array size greater than the available rooftop area. For such a building, a reduction in the
571 electric load through energy efficiency measures would reduce the size of the PV-array,
572 rendering the rooftop adequate to accommodate the PV array. Therefore, there is need for the
573 government of Nigeria to use a mix of energy policy options that can support the deployment and
574 uptake of solar PV-systems in the country on the one hand, while reducing residential energy
575 consumption through the promotion of energy efficiency on the other hand.

576 Future research should investigate periods during the day which power outages occur and based
577 on this information, explore the possibility of designing a solar PV-system grid-connected hybrid
578 system for the residential buildings.

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587

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