

Can solar power plants help Bhutan achieve energy security?

The Solar Plant in Rubesa is one such initiative that takes Bhutan a step closer to achieving energy security through a diversified and sustainable energy supply mix. The project particularly demonstrates the viability of solar power plants on a utility-scale.

Why should Bhutan invest in solar power?

Like hydropower, sun is a bountiful resource Bhutan can tap into for producing renewable energy in keeping with our carbon neutrality commitments and also for enhancing energy security through diversification of energy sources. The commissioning and inauguration of the 180kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant

Is grid-tied solar a viable alternative energy source in Bhutan?

The commissioning and inauguration of the 180kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant marks the start of Bhutan's investment in grid-tied solar energy as a viable alternative energy source in the face of soaring domestic demand and climate change.

Can a solar power plant boost hydropower supply in Bhutan?

“Solar plant such as this can augment hydropower supply to meet our rapidly increasing domestic electricity demand, especially in winter months,” he said. Electricity in Bhutan is mostly generated from hydropower, a renewable energy source, unlike fossil-fuel driven power plants that are major contributors to carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

Is solar a reliable energy source in Bhutan?

The pilot grid-tied solar project at the UN House will demonstrate solar as a reliable energy source and serve as a key driver of energy source diversification in Bhutan. The UN House in Thimphu inaugurated its 83 KW grid connected rooftop solar, a first of its kind in Bhutan, and the 20 KW solar-thermal space heating projects on 8 March 2021.

Who inaugurated a solar power plant in Bhutan?

4 October 2021: The Chairperson of the National Council of Bhutan, Lyonpo Tashi Dorji, inaugurated the 180 kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant at Rubesa, Wangduephodrang today.

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First-of-its-kind solar power plant in Bhutan. The 180kW solar power plant is a first of its kind in the country



# Bhutan home solar power bank

and since its commissioning has been generating and feeding electricity into the local grid for distribution.

require off-grid solutions. Despite Bhutan's annual net power surplus, the country power had shortages, particularly during dry winters when hydropower generation was less due to low river flows. Domestic demand for electricity grew at an average annual rate of 17% from 2004 to 2009

The first-ever EIB project in Bhutan, one of just three net carbon-negative countries in the world, supports new solar photovoltaic and hydropower schemes under the EU's Global Gateway initiative. The 30-year loan for EUR150 million will unlock an estimated 310 MW of new renewable energy generation to serve communities in remote regions.

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A solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant will be constructed and will add 22 to 23 megawatts of clean energy to Bhutan's power grid. The solar PV power plant will complement hydropower in forming a more diversified electricity generation system and create resilience to the impacts of climate change.

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The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has provided over \$18 million in grants and loans to support the project, with an additional \$1 million from the Government of Bhutan. This initiative will contribute 17 megawatts of clean energy to Bhutan's power grid, bringing the country closer to achieving full energy independence.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the country's first mega solar power plant with a capacity of 17.38-megawatt was held in Sephu, Wangdue yesterday. The plant, which is expected to complete by the end of 2024, will occupy 65.49 acres in Yongtru village.

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The first-ever EIB project will support Bhutan's new solar photovoltaic and hydropower schemes under the EU's Global Gateway initiative. Bhutan has received its first-ever investment support from the European Investment Bank (EIB) of 150 million Euros.

Global Photovoltaic Power Potential by Country. Specifically for Bhutan, country factsheet has been elaborated, including the information on solar resource and PV power potential country statistics, seasonal electricity generation variations, LCOE estimates and cross-correlation with the relevant socio-economic indicators.

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