

Kazakhstan professional solar power generation household machine

Is solar energy a viable energy source in Kazakhstan?

In 2019, another solar power plant in Kazakhstan, Saran, with a capacity of 100 MW started its operation in the Karaganda region (Satubaldina, 2020). According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), within the period of 40 years, solar energy has a potential to meet about 20-25% of the energy demand of the country.

How many solar energy projects are there in Kazakhstan?

In particular, according to the Plan of Activities for Alternative and Renewable Energy in Kazakhstan, it is planned to put into operation about 28 solar energy projects until the end of 2020 with total installed capacity of 713.5 MW. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) financed two solar parks in Kazakhstan.

Is Kazakhstan a good place to install solar power plants?

At least 50% of the territory of Kazakhstan is suitable for installing solar power plants (Antonov, 2014). However, up until recently, solar resources of the country were not being used for power generation. Kazakhstan is developing solar energy technologies, namely production of photovoltaic modules using local silicon.

Should Kazakhstan invest in solar and wind energy?

Kazakhstan intends for renewable energy to constitute 30 percent of electricity generation by 2030 and 50 percent by 2050. Below I will make the case that there is significant opportunity for BRI investment to build up solar and wind energy.

Could Kazakhstan be a model for green energy development?

Kazakhstan's energy grid has not been modernised since its independence from the Soviet Union and is falling into a state of dereliction and disrepair. With its sights set on 50 percent renewable energy by 2050 and substantial solar and wind energy capabilities, Kazakhstan could be a model for green energy development.

What is the primary source of electricity in Kazakhstan?

Coal, produced in the northern regions, is used to power more than 70% of the country's electricity generation. Eighty-four percent of Kazakhstan's electricity is generated from fossil fuels, with hydropower accounting for 12 percent and less than two percent generation from solar and wind installations as of 2019.

Overview
Current status
Hydro renewable energy
Solar energy
Wind energy
Bioenergy
Barriers to renewable energy
Renewable energy projects
There is enormous potential for renewable energy in Kazakhstan, particularly from wind and small hydropower plants. The Republic of Kazakhstan has the potential to generate 10 times as much power as it currently needs from wind energy alone. But renewable energy accounts for just 0.6 percent of all power installations. Of that, 95 percent comes from small hydropower projects. The main



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barriers to investment in renewable energy are relatively high financing costs and an abse...

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