

Does Colombia have solar power?

In the first renewable energy auction for the country, over 1 GW of wind power was awarded in 2019 for a 15-year power purchase agreement from 2022. Colombia has significant solar power resources because of its location in the equatorial zone, but the country sits in a complex region of the Andes where climatic conditions vary.

What is the solar energy potential in Colombia?

The potential of solar energy at a global level in Colombia is 4.5 kW h/m<sup>2</sup>/day and the area with an optimal solar resource is the Peninsula de la Guajira, with 6 kW h/m<sup>2</sup>/day of radiation, surpassing the world average of 3.9 kW h/m<sup>2</sup>/day. In the referenced link, there is an interactive map of the radiation indices in Colombia by IDEAM.

Who owns a 61 MW solar plant in Colombia?

The final average price for the PV technology was significantly higher than that of the previous procurement exercise. The 61 MW solar facility is owned by Colombian oil company Ecopetrol.

What does Colombia's new solar decree mean for the world?

Colombia's new decree includes requirements that energy communities must meet, such as rules on collective self-consumption and collective distributed generation. PV initiatives should be designed to last, as several well-meaning off-grid solar projects for the developing world have floundered over the years.

What is the history of solar PV adoption in Colombia?

Mesa recounted the history of solar PV adoption in his country and provided details on the most recent developments, including the construction of Colombia's largest solar park by Italian group Enel and the first large scale battery project by Canadian Solar.

Will solar and wind power increase in Colombia in 2022?

Colombia has world-class wind and solar energy potential and recent regulatory updates have enacted a robust framework of incentives. However, as of 2022, solar and wind have an operating installed capacity of just about 1.5% of the capacity mix. The next five years could see a sharp increase in solar and wind capacity.

This brief provides a snapshot of the renewables landscape for wind and solar in Colombia as of 2022. The authors discuss current legislation and financing intended to help move the country closer to its potential for renewable energy sources, as well as regulation regarding societal and environmental impacts.

Colombia is currently offering automatic exclusion of VAT in the acquisition/imports of solar panels and other equipment for solar systems. There are not any restrictions or non-tariff barriers on renewable equipment at this time.

Currently in the Colombian national territory, the installation of photovoltaic infrastructure corresponds to about 5.28 MW (about 20.000 solar panels/electric energy), distributed in 46% in the ZNI and 54% in the SIN.

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