# SOLAR PRO

## Wind solar hybrid Armenia

What are the opportunities for large-scale investments in wind energy in Armenia?

The interlocutors also spoke about the opportunities for large-scale investments in the field of wind energy in Armenia. In November 2021, Masdar signed an agreement with the Government of the Republic of Armenia to develop a 200-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) plant. The Ayg-1 project will be Armenia's largest utility-scale solar plant.

#### Does Armenia have solar energy?

Armenia has significant solar energy potential: average annual solar energy flow per square metre of horizontal surface is 1 720 kWh (the European average is 1 000 kWh), and one-quarter of the country's territory is endowed with solar energy resources of 1 850 kWh/m 2 per year. Solar thermal energy is therefore developing rapidly in Armenia.

#### What percentage of Armenia's Energy is renewable?

Renewable energy resources, including hydro, represented 7.1% of Armenia's energy mix in 2020. Almost one-third of the country's electricity generation (30% in 2021) came from renewable sources. Forming the foundation of Armenia's renewable energy system as of 6 January 2022 were 189 small, private HPPs (under 30 MW), mostly constructed since 2007.

#### Why does Armenia need a single energy supplier?

Armenia relies on imports of natural gas and oil for most of its energy needs, which exposes it to supply risks and dependence on a single supplier. As the government considers energy security and the development of indigenous sources to be of prime importance for the energy sector, renewables and efficiency measures are key areas.

#### What is the energy mix in Armenia in 2021?

Natural gas dominates the energy mix (59.6% of total energy supply in 2020), but the electricity mix is more diversified. In 2021, Armenia produced 7.7 TWh of electricity, of which natural gas covered 44% (3.4 TWh), hydro and other renewables 30% (2.3 TWh) and nuclear 26% (2.0 TWh).

#### Will Armenia build a 200 megawatt photovoltaic power plant?

Stressing that the investment program for the construction of a 200-megawatt photovoltaic power plant in the field of renewable energy in Armenia is the first step of mutually beneficial cooperation with Masdar, President Sarkissian hailed the agreement reached today on another 200 megawatt capacity.

Hydropower accounted for 21.8%, while solar stood at 2.7% and wind power at just 0.02%. Overall, renewable sources (hydro, solar, wind) combined generated 2,183 GWh or 24.5% of the total. Armenia exported 17.3% of the total electricity output to Iran and Georgia.

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The government's ambitious plan to increase renewables to 66% of the power generation mix by 2036 (from 7% in 2012) includes small hydro, wind and solar PV resources, but excludes biofuels. To reach this target, Armenia will need to have 2 185 MW of new renewable energy capacity installed by 2036.

The UAE-government owned renewable energy company Masdar will implement another 200 MW solar project in Armenia. The agreement was reached during the meeting of Armenian President Armen...

In other words, a hybrid system can combine wind, and solar energy (WS) to be stored in various ways. The hybrid-focused economies have stable energetic infrastructure at a less cost, without any tangible influence on the environment.

The review comprehensively examines hybrid renewable energy systems that combine solar and wind energy technologies, focusing on their current challenges, opportunities, and policy implications.

As of 1 January 2020, wind energy implementation in Armenia was limited. In addition to already-operating wind farms with total installed capacity of 4.23 MW, only one more is under construction with a design capacity of 4 MW.

Armenia"s area cannot be considered as homogeneous from the perspective of available solar energy: the difference between the amount of solar energy reaching the ground in different places in the country can be up to 20% in the summer time, and 50% in the winter time.

This year alone Abdul Latif Jameel Energy has announced it has been awarded a 540 GWh hybrid solar-wind project in Chile; secured financing for a Mexican solar farm that will power 150,000 homes; and announced it is supporting the launch of Jordan's first nanosatellite.

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