



What is a solar farm & how can it help Tonga?

Producing energy since August this year, and providing power for up to 10,336 households, the Solar Farm is helping The Government of Tonga pursue its National Energy Roadmap plans to see up to 70% of Tongatapu's electricity generation sourced from renewables by the end of 2025.

Why do we need solar power in Tonga?

Renewables like solar are a significant means for Tonga to expand energy access, stabilize power grids as well as reduce pollution. Considering the shortage of solar expertise and finances for countries like Togan, the role of independent power producers and the practice of PPA provide solid support to smooth the way for solar deployment.

Who are Sunergise New Zealand & Tonga Power Limited?

This solar project was completed under the partnership between Sunergise New Zealand Limited and Tonga Power Limited with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Sunergise led the construction and meanwhile united local Tongan civil, mechanical and electrical sub-contractors to the team.

What does Sunergise's 6MW solar system mean for Tonga?

As Hu'akavameiliku, Prime Minister of Tonga said at the ceremony: "The successful completion of the Sunergise's 6MW Independent Power Producers solar generation system today, demonstrates the major role renewable energy independent power producers play towards achieving our 70% target by [the]end of [the]year 2025."

How can Tonga transform its energy sector?

The Government of Tonga has formulated targets to transform its energy sector by achieving a 50 percent share of renewables in the country's energy generation mix by 2020 and 70 percent by 2030. However, achieving these targets require catalytic investments to transform the country's energy infrastructure.

How much energy does Tonga generate?

It accounts for 90 percent of its electricity generation. The Government of Tonga has formulated targets to transform its energy sector by achieving a 50 percent share of renewables in the country's energy generation mix by 2020 and 70 percent by 2030.



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"In Tonga, we have taken the decision of building of renewable capacity by 70% by 2030 and solar will be a key driver for achieving our targets. The role of ISA will be crucial in helping the countries strengthen their NDCs and to chart a roadmap for achieving their climate action targets," Hon Tei said.



Maama Mai is the first renewable energy generation facility connected to Tonga's electricity grid. It's made up of 5,760 photovoltaic solar panels and can generate up to 1.32 megawatts of electricity ??? reducing the country's annual diesel use by around 470,000 litres, and carbon emissions by more than 2,000 tonnes.



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It is reportedly the largest solar power project in the South Pacific, replacing 18% of current diesel-fueled power with solar energy on the Tongatapu island. This solar project was completed under the partnership between Sunergise New Zealand Limited and Tonga Power Limited with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).



Solar power has emerged as a particularly viable renewable energy source in Tonga, thanks to its sun-soaked climate and mostly flat landscape. The Tongan government has taken initiative by endorsing solar power development and implementing a net metering policy.



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Tonga Power Limited is continuously expanding its Renewable Energy Portfolio, through the introduction of solar generation and most recently Tonga's first ever large scaled wind generation system in Niutoua.



The Tonga Outer Island Renewable Energy Project (OIREP) will construct Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power plants on 8 outer islands. The "on-grid" portion will be allocated to Ha"apai and "Eua, while the "off-grid" portion will incorporate "Uiha, Nomuka, Ha"ano, ???



The new solar farm is expected to begin operations by April 2020. To achieve its goal of 50% renewable energy by 2020 and 70% by 2030, Tonga is also developing wind and biomass generation sources, and will integrate these with multiple units of battery energy storage.