

California solar energy syria

The ceasefire has not improved living conditions for Syrians, as they are still dealing with runaway inflation. In fact, about 90% of the population lives below the poverty line. Many people have to push their cars on foot because they can't afford fuel. Those who can afford it often spend hours waiting in long queues at the petrol station.

Committed to transforming the electricity landscape and increasing the adoption of renewable energy in Syria, the government is aiming to have 10% of electricity generated from solar power by 2030.

The Syrian Ministry of Electricity is currently managing the construction of a 100kW solar power plant in the town of Sargaya, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023. The project is estimated to cost more than SYP 81 billion (equivalent to around GBP 125 billion) and to have an annual production of 150,000 panels. It aims to generate enough electricity to power approximately 100 houses - bringing reliable energy to the local residents.

On September 2, 2013, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States of America and the United Arab Emirates – along with the National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces (SOC) – signed The Syria Recovery Trust Fund (SRTF). Over the following months, multiple European countries joined the SRTF which aims to finance projects in sectors such as health, water, electricity and food security, to name a few.

The recent installation of solar panels is bringing about positive changes in the Syrian Arab Republic. The use of renewable energy sources, such as solar power, is improving access to clean water and health care services for the residents. Additionally, it's creating new employment opportunities and decreasing the country's reliance on imported resources. These advantages spell hope for greater achievements with renewable energy in Syria.

Harvesting olive oil wasn't always so difficult for Munzer Zidan. The farmer and retired teacher from Khirais Village in Syria owns 175 olive trees. Previously, he was able to produce 12 tanks of olive oil annually, which became his primary source of income. Last year, Munzer's harvest was insufficient to fill a single tank of olive oil.

And Munzer is not alone. His neighbours, also farmers, are experiencing similar challenges in the tiny village comprising 24 households. Residents say consequences of a changing climate, including the country's multi-year drought and unpredictable weather patterns, have caused a drastic reduction in their agricultural productivity.

For farmers like Munzer, this means a loss of income, which is particularly challenging given that Syria is

currently experiencing one of the worst economic crises since the start of the civil war in 2011. Families face food insecurity as they struggle to harvest crops on their land, which they previously relied on for sustenance.

One of Munzer's neighbours, Suliman Zidan, a community leader and a farmer, said access to water has been his primary concern. Alongside other community members, Suliman was digging wells to increase water supply.

The ongoing drought has led to unbearable heat waves. It has contributed to crop failure and livestock losses. And there have been large-scale displacement and migration of rural populations as farmers and herders have moved to urban areas in search of economic opportunities.

"There is continuous water scarcity. There are several key rivers which are experiencing reduced water flow, which is impacting livelihoods – particularly agricultural production," Azizmamadov said.

In 2021, community members began rebuilding Khirais, which had been badly damaged during the country's civil war. They removed landmines, repaired homes, planted trees and revived agricultural projects.

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