

El salvador solar energy for businesses

In recent years, El Salvador has significantly increased its solar energy capacity, marking a pivotal shift towards cleaner and sustainable sources. According to the Directorate General of Energy, Hydrocarbons, and Mines (DGEHM), during 2023, El Salvador's photovoltaic plants generated approximately 539,067.71 MWh, constituting an impressive 7.13% of the country's energy matrix.

The energy sector in El Salvador has witnessed remarkable growth, positioning the nation as a regional leader in the transition towards renewable and cleaner energy sources. Statistics from the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade) reveal a 160-fold increase in solar energy generation capacity from 2015 to the past year, showcasing a significant transformation towards energy self-sufficiency.

This data aligns with information presented by the DGEHM, highlighting that solar plants contributed 7.13% to El Salvador's energy mix in 2023, trailing only behind natural gas, geothermal, and hydroelectric sources.

The dynamism of the sector is underscored by the multitude of projects executed in recent years. In the last year alone, over 35 photovoltaic projects, both private and public, were registered, catering to the energy demand of approximately 500,000 Salvadoran households over a year.

The institution estimates that a substantial investment in a solar plant could result in up to a 50% reduction in energy bills, with a recovery period of around five years. The average lifespan of a solar panel is approximately 20 years, further emphasizing the long-term sustainability of such projects.

Renewable energy promotion has attracted significant foreign investment, fostering economic growth. Over the years, the push for renewable energy has been instrumental in bringing new foreign investment projects into the country.

Daniel ?lvarez, President of the Executive Hydroelectric Commission of the Lempa River (CEL), recently announced the continuation of state-led renewable projects. This includes the construction of the second state-owned photovoltaic plant, situated in the 15 de Septiembre Hydroelectric Power Plant.

The new photovoltaic project, the second under the Bukele administration, aims to generate around 20 megawatts with solar panels installed on CEL's hydroelectric plant grounds. ?lvarez confirmed that the project has received feasibility approval, and they are currently exploring financing options for its construction in the coming months.

This initiative follows the success of the Talnique Solar plant, operated by Inversiones Energ?ticas (INE), boasting an installed capacity of 17 megawatts. Talnique Solar, with an investment of \$20 million,



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commenced operations in December 2023, making a significant contribution to El Salvador's renewable energy landscape.

President ?lvarez emphasized that, currently, photovoltaic energy stands as one of the primary sectors attracting investments in the country. As El Salvador continues to prioritize renewable energy, these developments underscore its commitment to a sustainable and cleaner future.

The energy sector in El Salvador has experienced significant growth in recent years, positioning the country as a regional leader in the transition to renewable, cleaner, and more sustainable sources.

According to statistics from the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade), El Salvador has experienced a 160-fold increase in its solar power generation capacity from 2015 to last year, marking a significant transformation towards energy self-sufficiency.

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