

Syria off-grid systems

In 2015, a bottleneck like this resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe: The cities of Aleppo, Idlib and other regions were cut off from supplies of diesel. The hospitals there were without electricity for 25 days, resulting in fatalities. As a result, members of the UOSSM (Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations) founded one of the largest medical NGOs in Syria with over 2,000 employees. The Syria Solar initiative was launched in 2016 with the aim of converting the health care system nationwide to one that uses renewable energies.

"Renewable energy for health facilities in particular is necessary for ensuring that the services which local communities depend on continue to be provided without interruption. Not only does it have the potential to democratize the way we use energy, but it can also localize the key ingredients that enable the health system to operate" said Talal Kanaan, founder of the Syria Solar and HIRS initiatives, in a press release.

By 2020, more than 45 health facilities in northwestern Syria are expected to use solar energy as their primary power source, in collaboration with health authorities in northwestern Syria. The conversion to solar energy is being implemented by various international organisations and Syrian NGOs.

The term sustainability is frequently associated with our future cities. However, in the most remote and unprivileged corners of the world off-grid systems have already established a new dimension for sustainability. With no infrastructure nor grid connections, off-grid systems offer a way to be self-sustainable and thrive with the least resources. If dealt with proper planning and caution, off-grid systems can be beneficial on a large scale and can also contribute to local integrated networks.

Off-grid systems exist in various forms such as electricity generation, bioenergy, off-grid housing, etc. As sustainability is of global interest the issue of off-grid is reviewed globally in remote locations of India and Jordan. The latest advancements in technology are considered.

Social, economic, and environmental sustainability are central themes of consideration. This paper displays how off-grid systems are advantageous in terms of the basic needs of life e.g. shelter, energy, and food. Included are a wide array of crucial case studies in different continents. The main case studies include biogas plants, and solar electricity in India and Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan.

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