

Utility-scale solar belgium

Analysts from the Becquerel Institute say that they expect 337 MW of new solar capacity in Belgium for the first half of 2024. They anticipate around 900 MW for the full year, due to growth in specific segments.

The energy regulator in Brussels indicates that the capital recorded 7 MW of solar installations in the first half, down from 23.6 MW for all of 2023. Analysts told pv magazine that, while the residential segment (<5 kVA) remains stable, the small and medium segment (5-100 kVA) has slowed.

In Wallonia, the Becquerel Institute said that about 100 MW of solar was installed in the first half - a decline from last year's "exceptional" figures. It attributed this to the phasing out of net metering and the end of value-added tax (VAT) reductions for newer buildings.

Earlier this month, pv magazine reported that Flanders added 230 MW of solar in the first half, holding the majority of the country's solar capacity. The Becquerel Institute said that residential installations, which make up 50% to 80% of Flanders' annual solar capacity, have slowed due to reduced investment support and VAT changes. However, the 10-40 kVA, 40-250 kVA, 250-750 kVA, and >750 kVA segments in Flanders have either held steady or improved compared to early 2023.

The Becquerel Institute forecasts that Belgium will install around 900 MW of solar this year, with 650 MW to 700 MW expected from Flanders, 15-20 MW from Brussels, and 200 MW to 250 MW from Wallonia. This would be only half of last year's record 1.8 GW, but analysts view last year's figures as "exceptional" and not indicative of ongoing trends.

In 2023, Belgium updated its National Climate Action Plan, setting new solar targets of 8.9 GWp for Flanders, 5 GWp for Wallonia, and 1 GW of floating solar by 2030. The IEA-PVPS annual report for 2023, as noted by contributing author Gerrit Jan Schaeffer, confirms that Belgium will likely meet its targets and could even reach 20 GWp to 22 GWp by 2030.

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BRUSSELS, Belgium (Tuesday 12th December 2023): Almost 17 million more European homes were

powered by solar in 2023, due to a 40% growth in solar installations from 2022. Compared to the 40 GW of solar installed in 2022, 2023 brought 55.9 GW of new solar capacity across the EU27.

Walburga Hemetsberger, CEO of SolarPower Europe said; "Solar has continued to deliver for Europe in crisis with record-breaking installations. Now as solar hits its own turning point, Europe must deliver for solar. We are not yet installing the average 70 GW annually needed to meet our 2030 solar targets. It's clear policymakers can't afford to be complacent for the rest of the decade."

Germany has returned to the number one slot of Europe's solar ranking, installing 14.1 GW in 2023, having been temporarily dethroned by Spain in 2022. Germany also now holds the record for the most solar installed by an EU country in one year, taking over Italy's 12-year record of 9.3 GW in 2012. Spain (8.2 GW), Italy (4.8 GW), Poland (4.6 GW), and the Netherlands (4.1 GW) follow Germany and round out the top five EU solar markets.

Driven by the lingering impact of the energy crisis, a large extent of 2023 growth stems from delayed 2022 installations. The final months of 2023 were much quieter than the start of the year. Looking toward 2024, the report forecasts slower growth, with a year-on-year increase of only 11%. This marks a departure from three years of at least 40% annual growth.

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