## **SOLAR** PRO. Armenia energy storage membranes

## How has Armenia restructured its energy sector?

Prompted by a severe electricity supply crisis in the mid-1990s, Armenia has revamped its energy sector over the past 20 years. Parts of the sector have been privatised, some companies have been restructured, most households now have access to gas, and cost-reflective tariffs have been introduced.

How can Armenia synchronise its energy system with its neighbours?

To synchronise its system with those of its neighbours and provide electricity at competitive prices, Armenia will have to open its relatively closed electricity market. The Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure (MTAI) is responsible for developing and implementing energy policy.

## Why does Armenia need a single energy supplier?

Armenia relies on imports of natural gas and oil for most of its energy needs, which exposes it to supply risks and dependence on a single supplier. As the government considers energy security and the development of indigenous sources to be of prime importance for the energy sector, renewables and efficiency measures are key areas.

What percentage of Armenia's Energy is renewable?

Renewable energy resources, including hydro, represented 7.1% of Armenia's energy mix in 2020. Almost one-third of the country's electricity generation (30% in 2021) came from renewable sources. Forming the foundation of Armenia's renewable energy system as of 6 January 2022 were 189 small, private HPPs (under 30 MW), mostly constructed since 2007.

Can bioethanol production be exploited in Armenia?

Annual biogas potential of around 135 mcm is just beginning to be exploited, and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Fund recently produced an Assessment of Bioethanol Production, Potential Utilization and Perspectives in Armenia exploring possibilities for bioethanol production and presenting the concept to investors.

How important is R&D in energy technology and innovation in Armenia?

Research and development (R&D) in energy technology and innovation in Armenia is not significant, though it is becoming more important. The government's plan to develop new renewable energy technologies will increase the need for technology and innovation funding, and for skilled human resources.

This is an important step on the pathway to energy efficiency initiated by Armenia in 2004 with its first law on Energy Saving and Renewable Energy. Last evaluated by the government in 2022, Armenia''s potential for energy efficiency is high.

The Republic of Armenia Energy Sector Development Strategic Program to 2040 defines the main directions

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of the development of the energy sector of the Republic of Armenia and the measures ensuring its implementation till 2040.

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Why should Armenia start thinking about battery storage now? As Armenia works towards the Government's ambitious renewable energy targets and the share of variable renewable generation increases, the country might need to install battery storage systems to ensure the reliable and smooth operation of its power system While the need for battery

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The law on Energy Saving and Renewable Energy (2004) defines the policy principles for renewables and energy savings, and efficiency licensing and tariffs are regulated mainly by the PSRC's laws on licensing and energy.



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