

Can solar power plants help Bhutan achieve energy security?

The Solar Plant in Rubesa is one such initiative that takes Bhutan a step closer to achieving energy security through a diversified and sustainable energy supply mix. The project particularly demonstrates the viability of solar power plants on a utility-scale.

Who inaugurated a solar photo-voltaic power plant in Bhutan?

The Chairperson of the National Council of Bhutan, Lyonpo Tashi Dorji, inaugurated the 180kW grid-tied ground mounted Solar Photo-Voltaic Power Plant at Rubesa, Wangdue Phodrang on October 4, 2021.

Is grid-tied solar a viable alternative energy source in Bhutan?

The commissioning and inauguration of the 180kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant marks the start of Bhutan's investment in grid-tied solar energy as a viable alternative energy source in the face of soaring domestic demand and climate change.

Why should Bhutan invest in solar power?

Like hydropower, sun is a bountiful resource Bhutan can tap into for producing renewable energy in keeping with our carbon neutrality commitments and also for enhancing energy security through diversification of energy sources. The commissioning and inauguration of the 180kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant

Can a solar power plant boost hydropower supply in Bhutan?

"Solar plant such as this can augment hydropower supply to meet our rapidly increasing domestic electricity demand, especially in winter months," he said. Electricity in Bhutan is mostly generated from hydropower, a renewable energy source, unlike fossil-fuel driven power plants that are major contributors to carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

How is Bhutan achieving energy security?

Bhutan is undertaking various initiatives to broaden its energy mix by exploring other clean, renewable energy sources. The Solar Plant in Rubesa is one such initiative which takes Bhutan a step closer to achieving energy security through a diversified and sustainable energy supply mix.

Bhutan's active engagement with various ISA programmes underscores its commitment to harnessing solar energy for enhancing sustainable development. Bhutan has accordingly submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) to join seven of the nine ISA's programmes.

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The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has provided over \$18 million in grants and loans to support the project, with an additional \$1 million from the Government of Bhutan. This initiative will contribute 17 megawatts of clean energy to Bhutan's power grid, bringing the country closer to achieving full energy independence.

Bhutan Solar Initiative Project (BSIP) set up under Royal Command has implemented two Solar PV Projects in Thimphu. 250kW Rooftop Centenary Farmers Market (CMF) and 500kW Ground mounted at Dechencholing. Both projects are grid-tied, meaning the electricity generated is directly fed into the BPC grid, and are without batteries.

A private firm constructed the 80 kW system with funding support from Bhutan For Life, Bhutan Foundation, and GEF-Small Grants Programme UNDP at Dawathang, Pema Yangdzong and Dungkar Choling. The Department of Energy, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Bhutan Ecological Society (BES) implemented the ...

marks the start of Bhutan's investment in grid-tied solar energy as a viable alternative energy source in the face of soaring domestic demand and climate change. 4 October 2021: The Chairperson of the National Council of Bhutan, Lyonpo Tashi Dorji, inaugurated the 180 kW grid-tied ground mounted solar photo-voltaic power plant at Rubesa ...

Bhutan is boosting its renewable energy sector with the 17.38 MW Sephu solar plant and a EUR150 million EIB loan to expand solar and wind capacities, reducing reliance on hydropower and imports, and enhancing sustainability.

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It is historic, as we lay foundations for the construction of the 17.38MW Sephu Solar PV Project (SSP) today- Bhutan's first large-scale, utility non-hydro renewable energy project. Deviating from our sole focus on hydropower, the project aims to enhance domestic capability, embrace emerging technologies, reinforce climate change resilience ...

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