### SOLAR Pro.

# Morocco cheapest way to store solar energy

Does Morocco need a solar power station?

Morocco plans to generate 42% of its energy from renewables by 2020, rising to 52% by 2030, with solar, wind and hydropower each providing a third of the total. The new Ouarzazate Solar Power Station will help Morocco meet its renewable power targets. Image: Solar Business Hub The country is well on its way to achieving that goal.

What is Morocco's first solar project?

Morocco's 800 MW solar hybrid project at Mideltwill be the first solar project in the world to include thermal (heat) storage of PV (Photovoltaic) as well as CSP (Concentrated Solar Power). Midelt's first-of-a-kind hybrid solar and shared storage project will deliver dispatchable solar at 7 cents per kWh.

What is the best solar map in Morocco?

They started with the best map to date of Eastern Morocco's Direct Normal Irradiation (DNI) - the solar resource used by CSP - a high-quality satellite solar map with the closest-ever spatial resolution: 1 X 1 km per pixel, and with twenty years of DNI data.

Should Morocco co-locate PV and CSP and share CSP thermal storage?

This idea of colocating PV and CSP and sharing the CSP thermal storage is one that Schmitz believes will be widely applicable as energy grids become more saturated with renewables, not just Morocco's, and as therefor more regulators move from lowest cost to "best fit" procurement.

What is CSP & how does it work in Morocco?

CSP is a form of solar energythat can store its solar energy thermally for dispatch later when needed, whether day or night. Morocco stands out also in meeting its targets with a steady pipeline of renewable installations coming online.

#### Is Morocco bringing the cost of Technology down?

Mafalda Duarte, the manager of Climate Investment Funds (CIF), told The Guardian in 2016 that: "Morocco is showing real leadership and bringing the cost of the technology down in the process."

The Ouarzazate Solar Power Station site has used innovative methods to generate and store the sun's rays, particularly the latest developments in concentrated solar power. The humming, tracking mirrors of ...

Azelio"s power storage system stores energy generated by solar and wind facilities. Credit: Azelio. Swedish renewable energy solutions provider Azelio has completed the installation of its renewable energy storage system in Morocco"s Noor Ouarzazate solar complex.

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Morocco is leading the way in the global energy shift with its solar projects. It shows a strong commitment to renewable energy. The Noor Power Station in Ouarzazate is a big success, showing Morocco''s ability to use solar energy well. Now, solar energy makes up 7% of Morocco''s energy. But, the goal is to reach 20% by 2030.

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Additionally, renewable energy assures Morocco''s rural population that their source of energy is affordable. According to Mohammed Jamil al-Ramahi, the CEO of Masdar (the company that received the contract for the Noor CSP Complex), "It is now cheaper to build renewable energy power plants than those based on fossil fuels."

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