

# National portal of rooftop solar El Salvador

What energy sources does El Salvador use?

El Salvador is increasingly turning to indigenous renewable sources of energy such as hydropower, biomass, solar PV and geothermal energy. In 2019, more than two-thirds of the country's total energy supply came from imported fossil fuels.

## Why is solar energy booming in El Salvador?

In recent years, solar PV, wind and as well as other renewable technologies have boomed in El Salvador as the country looks to move away from traditional energy sources seen as compromising the country's socioeconomic future.

## Can solar power help people living in poverty in El Salvador?

Continuing to replace biomass with cleaner, safer alternatives will improve the lives of those living in poverty in El Salvador. In 2016, AES El Salvador, a power company, provided photovoltaic kits to more than 70 individuals living in poverty in rural areas. These kits offer a way to harness and store solar power.

# What are the upcoming projects in El Salvador?

The upcoming projects in El Salvador include the construction of a Biogas Power Generation Plant on the Acelhuate River in San Salvador, the commissioning of a photovoltaic plant at the 15 de Septiembre Hydroelectric Plant, and the establishment of a wind park in Metapán, Santa Ana.

#### When will El Salvador start building a solar park?

El Salvador's Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission (CEL) has started building a 17 MW solar park. It is the first to be owned, designed, planned and executed by the national authorities. It is scheduled to start operations in December 2023. Envisioned layout of the Talnique solar park in El Salvador.

## Where is El Salvador's first solar park located?

Envisioned layout of the Talnique solar park in El Salvador. The state of El Salvador has started building the country's first publicly owned solar park. It is being installed in the municipality of Talnique, La Libertad department. It will have an installed capacity of 17 MW, with operations expected to start in December 2023.

Salvadorian solar panel installers - showing companies in El Salvador that undertake solar panel installation, including rooftop and standalone solar systems. 13 installers based in El Salvador are listed below.

The Salvadoran Government, under President Nayib Bukele, is advancing the construction of Talnique Solar, the country's first state-owned solar power plant. Anticipated to start operations by the end of 2023, it will supply renewable energy to roughly 25,000 households.



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Towards sustainable energy, El Salvador is set to embrace a future dominated by renewable projects, contributing to the region"s ambitious target of 95% renewable energy by 2024. According to the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade), this surge in green energy initiatives will revolutionize the energy landscape of the country.

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The photovoltaic farm has more than 34,200 solar panels, which will generate around 30,000 megawatt hours (Mwh) of clean energy per year, which will help provide electricity with lower costs to some 19,000 Salvadoran homes.

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This report summarises IRENA analysis to identify favourable zones in El Salvador for utility-scale solar PV and onshore wind projects, and their associated techno-economic parameters.

El Salvador has experienced a remarkable 160-fold increase in solar energy generation capacity from 2015 to 2023, according to data from the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade). This surge is attributed to the growing number of solar farms across the country, which now contribute significantly to the national energy grid.

By 2019, renewable energy "had reached 64.3% of the country"s total installed capacity of 2.2 gigawatts (GW)." Renewable sources in El Salvador consist of solar power, hydropower and geothermal power. In El Salvador, oil generates only 32.36% of electricity.

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