

Does the Cook Islands have solar power?

The Cook Islands Electricity Sector historically been powered by diesel generators. Since around 2011, increasing solar PV generation on Rarotonga has changed this situation. And in 2014- 15, installation of 95-100% renewable solar hybrid systems on the Northern Group Islands further altered the mix.

How will new energy technologies affect the Cook Islands?

In future, new energy technologies such as marine energy may offer new opportunities for the Cook Islands to generate electricity from other renewable sources. Developments in energy storage or in energy efficiency may also further reduce the Cook Islands' reliance on diesel. The Cook Islands prefers to use proven and economic energy technologies.

Will the Cook Islands use renewable electricity?

The Cook Islands will be careful in its selection of renewable electricity options and will not entertain unproven or non-commercial technologies. The attached Summary Table provides some indicative and preliminary information on the types and costs of the renewable electricity technologies we are considering.

Where are solar panels installed in the Cook Islands?

The Cook Islands is a recipient of the Fund and has committed to installing Solar (PV) systems for the islands of Rakahanga, Pukapuka, Nassau, Suvarrow and part of Manihiki.

Why is energy important in the Cook Islands?

Energy is a fundamental prerequisite to the sustainable socio-economic development of a nation. As such, the Cook Islands Government considers that environmental protection, energy security and economic growth are inseparable key pillars of our country's development.

What is a Cook Islands renewable electricity chart (road map)?

This document is called the Cook Islands Renewable Electricity "Chart". Other countries have called similar documents a "Road map" - and these are countries that are either landlocked or have many kilometres of road between settlements. Our environment is different. We have many kilometres of sea between islands.

Renewable energy in the Cook Islands is primarily provided by solar energy and biomass. Since 2011 the Cook Islands has embarked on a programme of renewable energy development to improve its energy security and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, [1] with an initial goal of reaching 50% renewable electricity by 2015, and 100% by 2020. [2]

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**Solar PV:** Solar resource potential has been divided into seven classes, each representing a range of annual PV output per unit of capacity (kWh/kWp/yr). The bar chart shows the proportion of a country's land area in each of these classes and the global distribution of land area across the classes (for comparison).

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The Cook Islands has a financially healthy electricity sector with technical and commercial challenges requiring on-going investment. With the exception of Pukapuka, Nassau and Suvarrow, the Cook Islands has some form of electricity network. Power supply on Rarotonga is the responsibility of the government-owned utility Te Aponga Uira ("TAU").

To support this ambitious plan the Asian Development Bank and the European Union fund the Cook Islands Renewable Energy Sector Project, which will construct up to six solar photovoltaic (PV) power plants with a total installed capacity of about 3 megawatts-peak coupled with battery to store electricity from solar energy.

King says the Cook Islands has its own commitment to meet its challenge of 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030. Local environment group Te Ipukarea Society earlier said that facilitating the general public to install grid tied domestic solar systems on their home would help the Cook Islands achieve this 100 per cent renewable energy.

New Zealand company completes solar project in Cook Islands. New Zealand company Infratec has completed a \$US10.8 million Asian Development Bank project to deliver reliable renewable energy to four islands in the ...

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