

# Photovoltaic panels power generation in Laos

How many solar power plants are there in Laos?

However, by the end of last year, only eight solar power projects and four biomass power plants were in operation, with an installed generation capacity of 116 MW, representing just 1% of the country's total electricity production. As of early 2023, Laos produced power from 76 hydropower dams, with another 43 still under construction.

How much does electricity cost in Laos?

To its credit, state-run electricity company Electricité du Laos (EDL) is trying to encourage more solar power development by offering a tariff rate of USD 0.08 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). That's higher than the rate for hydropower-generated electricity, which ranges from USD 0.05 to 0.06 per kWh.

How will a power distribution improvement project help Laos?

On June 1, 2023, the World Bank approved a Power Distribution Improvement Project to increase the capacity and efficiency of Laos' domestic electricity grid. The project should also strengthen EDL's financial management.

Can commercial wind power be developed in Laos?

Commercial wind power capacity, however, could see limited development due to typically low wind speeds. Laos has also struggled to maintain grid integrity, which could cause future grid curtailment as it seeks to develop more renewable energy sources.

Is renewable power gaining traction in Laos?

Renewable power generation is slowly gaining traction in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos). However, the country of only 8 million people doesn't receive as much attention as its larger and more powerful fellow Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members, particularly Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Why does Laos suffer from energy instability?

However, Laos generally suffers from energy instability because most of its power plants are owned by international businesses and generate electricity for export. It even has two electricity grids, one for exporting power and one for domestic usage.

EDL = Electricité du Laos, EDL-Gen = Electricité du Laos Generation Public Company, EDL-T = Electricité du Laos Transmission Company, IPP = independent power producer, MEM = ...

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