

Photovoltaic solar panels in rural Kazakhstan

Is Kazakhstan a good place for solar energy?

Kazakhstan's environment is idealfor harnessing wind and solar energy. More than 50% of its territory offers suitable conditions for solar power plants, tapping into a potential of 2.5 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year. This capacity could satisfy 20% to 25% of the nation's energy needs.

Where are solar power plants located in Kazakhstan?

In 2019, Nurgisa solar power plant with a capacity of 100 MW in Kapshagay, Almaty regionstarted its operation (informburo.kz,2019). In 2019, another solar power plant in Kazakhstan, Saran, with a capacity of 100 MW started its operation in the Karaganda region (Satubaldina, 2020).

Can solar and wind power reduce poverty in Kazakhstan?

Given that residents in Kazakhstan's southern regions often import electricity due to inefficient northern transmission lines, solar and wind power could lower energy costs. These savings allow people to allocate more of their income to value-added goods, contributing to poverty reduction.

Can Kazakhstan produce solar cells using silicon?

As Kazakhstan is rich in silicon (85 million tons), production of silicon solar batteries on the domestic market was started (Sim, 2015). In this light, recently "Astana Solar" plant aimed at the production of photovoltaic modules was launched in Nur-Sultan. The plant is to produce solar cells using Kazakhstan's silicon.

Which part of Kazakhstan receives the most solar radiation?

During the summer months (June - August), due to its geographical location, the southern part of Kazakhstan receives direct solar radiation for the most of the daylight hours which constitute 83 - 96% of the maximum possible value.

Is petrochemical production a problem in Kazakhstan?

Currently,petrochemical production represents about 50% of Kazakhstan's total exports and 30% of its government tax revenues. While such growth has enabled Kazakhstan to reduce the proportion of people living below the national poverty line from 47% in 2001 to just 5.2% in 2021,problems continue to persist.

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