



This paper introduces the resource, status and prospect of solar energy in Iran briefly. Among renewable energy sources, Iran has a high solar energy potential. The widespread deployment of solar energy is promising due to recent advancements in solar energy technologies.

Among RE resources, Iran has the remarkable potential for solar energy with the average annual rate of 4.5-5.5 kWh/m². Under these conditions, solar photovoltaic (PV) power plants can play a crucial role in supplying a significant portion of the country's electricity demand.

Iran's potentials for solar-based electricity generation At present,Iran is producing only 0.46% of its energy from renewable energy sources. In 2016,the country's renewable-based electricity generation sector was mainly comprised of 53.88 MW wind,13.56 MW biomass,0.51 MWsolar and 0.44 MW hydropower .

Solar energy plants are situated in Shiraz, Semnan, Taleghan, Yazd, Tehran and Khorasan. Some of the other projects were carried out by Iran Renewable Energy Organization (SUNA), such as Taleghan solar energy park, Design, fabrication and installation of 350 solar water heaters at Bushehr, Tabas, Yazd, Bojnord, Zahedan and Isfahan.

The guaranteed purchase tariff rates announced by SUNA in May 2016 . Official exchange rate for the US dollar announced by the Central Bank of Iran on September 1,2016. The basic price for an average of different install capacities of PV power plants was 7290 IRRs/KWh in 2015 and 5940 IRRs /KWhin 2016 and 2017 .

Iran's total area is around 1600,000 km² or 1.6×10¹² m² with about 300 clear sunny days in a year and an average 2200 kW-h solar radiation per square meter. Considering only 1% of the total area with 10% system efficiency for solar energy harness, about 9 million MW of energy can be obtained in a day.

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Specifically for Iran, country factsheet has been elaborated, including the information on solar resource and PV power potential country statistics, seasonal electricity generation variations, LCOE estimates and cross-correlation with ...

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