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Afghanistan s largest wind power energy storage project

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Overview

A Turkish construction company, 77 Insaat, has laid the foundation for a major renewable energy project in Afghanistan's Herat province, with plans to build a 200-megawatt wind power plant—the first of its kind to be led by a Turkish firm. Is wind power a good option in Afghanistan?

The wind power capacity at the end of 2016 was enough to meet almost 4% of total world electricity production. Wind power is now considered as the most cost-effective option in a large number of countries for new power generating capacity. Afghanistan has a good wind resource potential especially in South East part of the country.

Should Afghanistan focus on renewables?

Focussing on renewables for domestic power generation, would ensure power generation and grid stability for its current and future energy needs, and would thus help Afghanistan achieve energy security.

What is the energy potential of Afghanistan?

National installed capacity. On the other hand, Afghanistan possesses huge renewable energy potential. According to MEW, the total electricity generation potential of these resources is 318 GW. Solar power with 222 GW, wind power with 66 GW, and hydropower with 23 GW, respectively, constitute the leading parts [2,15].

Is solar power a viable option in Afghanistan?

The country experiences abundant sunshine throughout the year, making solar power an attractive option. Additionally, Afghanistan's mountainous terrain offers great potential for small to medium-sized hydroelectric projects. Wind power can also be harnessed in certain regions, such as the western and northern provinces.

What is Afghanistan doing to improve electricity supply?

These efforts have focused on expanding access to electricity, rehabilitating existing infrastructure, and promoting small-scale renewable energy sources. Afghanistan requires a substantial expansion of its transmission grid to connect power generation sources to demand centers across the country.

How can Afghanistan improve its power infrastructure?

There have been limited efforts to improve Afghanistan's power infrastructure, including initiatives supported by international organizations such as the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

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