

Uzbekistan solar thermal energy

Uzbekistan's energy sector is currently undergoing a large-scale transition. The key institutions and stakeholders for energy policymaking and its implementation are summarised below.

The Ministry of Finance exercises price regulation, including tariff-setting for electricity, and general control over the financial stability of the state sector, among other functions. Moreover, the PPP Development Agency under the Ministry of Finance plays a key role in developing PPPs in co-operation with Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Energy.

The Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade is responsible for implementing the state investment policy, including foreign direct investments in the energy sector, and co-operating with international financial institutions and foreign governmental financial organisations. It is also responsible for devising and co-ordinating state policies on foreign trade and international economic co-operation.

The Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction is in charge of analysing and forecasting macroeconomic indicators and development based on proposed economic management market mechanisms and strategies to develop the main industries, including energy. The ministry also formulates strategies for industrial development in Uzbekistan based on the effective deployment of production forces, rations and food production.

The State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics is the official authority collecting energy statistics. It will play an important role in the future in collecting data on off-grid solar photovoltaics and solar heat use in households.

Uzbekhydroenergo JSC is a state-owned company which operates hydropower plants, another important source of energy in Uzbekistan. The company was separated from Uzbekenergo JSC and established in May 2017. In total, it operates 37 hydropower plants with an installed capacity of 1853 MW (EBRD, 2020).

The National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan JSC, the systems operator, is responsible for implementing centralised operational dispatch of all power plants and for operating transmission networks.

The Regional Electric Power Networks JSC is in charge of local electricity distribution. Its distribution and sales to consumers are handled by 14 territorial JSCs under its management.

Uzbekistan is a net exporting country. Looking at its energy supply, total energy supply was 47.1Mtoe in 2019. Total energy supply decreased by 22% between 2011 and 2015 due to a slump during the global financial crisis, but has grown by 30% over the last 5 years mainly due to an increase in residential sector consumption. Natural gas accounted for 85.8% of total energy supply in 2019, while the remainder was

mainly from oil (8.2% in the same year), coal (4.4%) and hydro (1.2%).

Uzbekistan's electricity generation was 63.5 terawatt hours (TWh) in 2019 due to an increase in generation capacity. Overall generation has grown steadily, with an increase of 27% since 2008, most of which was supplied by natural gas. In 2019, natural gas accounted for 85% of overall generation, followed by hydro (10.2%) and coal (3.7%).

Total installed capacity was 12.9GW in 2019, mainly consisting of 11 thermal power plants (TPPs), including co-generation plants (11.0GW, or 84.7% of total capacity), and 42 hydropower plants (HPPs) (1.85GW, or 14.3%).

Looking at renewables by technology, almost all renewable energy in Uzbekistan is generated by hydropower (6.5TWh, or 10.2% of overall generation in 2019), while wind and solar power are negligible to date.

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