

Is Uzbekistan ready for a grid-scale battery energy storage project?

Image: Ministry of Energy of Uzbekistan From pv magazine ESS News site Uzbekistan is in line for its first grid-scale battery energy storage project as it seeks to stabilize and strengthen its existing electricity grids and ramp up the uptake of renewable energy.

Will Uzbekistan have a battery energy storage system?

ADB said it will be one of the first utility-scale renewable energy projects with a battery energy storage system (BESS) component in Uzbekistan. It follows the announcement of the country's first BESS in May 2024 and the connection of the first phase of a 511 MW solar project in March of this year.

Will Uzbekistan fund a 250-megawatt solar photovoltaic plant?

TASHKENT, May 21, 2024 -- The World Bank Group, Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company PJSC (Masdar), and the Government of Uzbekistan have signed a financial package to fund a 250-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic plant with a 63-MW battery energy storage system (BESS).

Will Uzbekistan build a solar-plus-battery system?

The ADB is proposing a large scale, solar-plus-battery system in Uzbekistan. According to a listing on ADB's website, the Samarkand 1 Solar PV and BESS Project will involve the construction of two solar power plants, of 100 MW and 400 MW, a pooling station, 500 MWh BESS, loop-in loop-out transmission lines, and a 70 km overhead transmission line.

Does Uzbekistan have a solar plant?

Separately, ACWA Power recently announced financial close on a 200 MW solar plant and 500 MWh BESS near the national capital, Tashkent. Uzbekistan had 253 MW of cumulative installed solar capacity at the end of last year, according to figures from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

Will Uzbekistan have a solar power grid?

For instance, the UAE's state-owned Masdar added 511 MW of photovoltaic projects to Uzbekistan's grid in March and, in January, expanded its partnership with the Uzbek government to develop 500 MWh of battery storage and 2 GW of wind energy. Uzbekistan aims for 12 GW of renewable capacity by 2030, with 7 GW from solar PV.

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Uzbekistan aims to generate 25% of its electricity from clean sources by 2030. The Nur-Bukhara facility is expected to generate 250 MW and store 126 MW hours of energy. The project includes constructing a

20-kilovolt substation and a 3.1-kilometre transmission line to connect to the national grid.

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The project is being developed by ACWA Power's Sazagan Solar 1, a subsidiary of the Saudi Arabian energy giant, ACWA Power. This development marks one of Uzbekistan's first utility-scale renewable energy projects incorporating a BESS component.

The Sarimay solar power plant, boasting a capacity of 126 megawatts, marks a step in Uzbekistan's transition towards sustainable energy sources. Scheduled for commissioning in the last half of 2025, this solar facility is projected to curtail approximately 116,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions annually.

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