

# Economic benefits of solar photovoltaic power generation

Do solar photovoltaic energy benefits outweigh the costs?

This article appears in the Spring 2020 issue of Energy Futures, the magazine of the MIT Energy Initiative. Benefits of solar photovoltaic energy generation outweigh the costs, according to new research from the MIT Energy Initiative.

## What is photovoltaic power generation?

As a typical technology form of solar energy application, photovoltaic (PV) power generation uses the photovoltaic effect to directly convert solar radiation energy into electric energy, which is one of the most promising renewable energy technologies to realize sustainable development, and it is also a means to realize zero energy building [4].

#### What are the benefits of solar energy transformation?

Floating PV is a prime example, with global cumulative installed capacity exceeding one gigawatt in 2018 and clear potential for rapid growth. Rooftop solar PV systems have spread rapidly thanks to supporting policies, such as net metering and fiscal incentives. Energy transformation brings socio-economic benefits.

#### What are the benefits of PV power generation?

5.4. Social Benefit In addition to direct economic benefits, comprehensive utilization of PV power generation can also bring other benefits, such as reducing pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions, providing jobs, ensuring energy security, and improving the safety of electricity for life and production in rural and remote areas in China.

## What are the benefits of solar PV?

The perception of solar PV as a mature technology and auctions, which have become the preferred method for governments to select new solar capacity worldwide, 38 decrease the risk and the financial costs, which in turn reduces the cost of solar electricity. 36 Improvements in maintenance and lifetime will also lower the cost.

#### What is solar photovoltaic (PV) power?

The steady rise of solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation forms a vital part of this global energy transformation. In addition to fulfilling the Paris Agreement, renewables are crucial to reduce air pollution, improve health and well-being, and provide affordable energy access worldwide.



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