

# Effective utilization rate of solar power generation

How has solar energy generating capacity changed since 2009?

Photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generating capacity has grown by 41 per cent per year since 2009<sup>1</sup>. Energy system projections that mitigate climate change and aid universal energy access show a nearly ten-fold increase in PV solar energy generating capacity by 2040<sup>2,3</sup>.

What is the contribution of solar energy to global electricity production?

While the contribution of solar energy to global electricity production remains generally low at 3.6%, it has firmly established itself among other renewable energy technologies, comprising nearly 31% of the total installed renewable energy capacity in 2022 (IRENA, 2023).

What is solar energy utilisation?

Vision Solar energy utilisation is one of the most promising avenues for addressing the world's energy and environmental problems because of its many advantages, including its abundant and convenient availability, and its pollution-free and sustainable nature.

Can solar energy be used to reduce building energy consumption?

To date, energy consumption in building is approximately 40% of the global energy supply. At the same time, the total built environment has considerable untapped rooftop space, which could be used to harvest solar energy. This solution could also help reduce building energy consumption by providing shading.

Why is solar energy utilisation important?

Indeed, solar energy utilisation represents a tangible way for our society to continue developing and progressing since the total annual solar radiation received by Earth is more than 7500 times the world's total annual primary energy consumption of approximately 450 EJ.

How is the capacity utilization factor of a solar power plant calculated?

The capacity utilization factor (CUF) of a solar power plant is calculated by dividing the actual energy generated by the plant over a given time period, by the maximum possible energy that could have been generated at the plant's rated capacity over that same time period. It is calculated using the following formula:

Where:

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