

# Solar power generation dedicated to Tibetan areas

# Why is solar energy a good choice in Tibet?

Solar energy is an optimal choice because of its high potential and the large land area coverage Tibet. In the last decade, many big solar power plants (each with an electric-power production of about 10MW) were established across the Tibetan Plateau and connected to the power grid.

#### Does Tibet have solar power?

State Grid employees check solar power panels in the Tibet autonomous region. [Photo by SONG WEIXING/FOR CHINA DAILY] The annual solar radiation volume in the Tibet autonomous region is equivalent to 240 billion tons of standard coal, according to data from the latest scientific expedition on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

## Which region in Tibet has the most solar energy?

Solar energy resources in western and northern Tibetare the richest, having two-thirds of the total solar energy resources in Tibet. This region receives an annual radiation of 7000-8400 MJ/m 2 and 2900-3400 h of sunshine. The average annual number of days with more than 6 h of sunshine varies between 275 and 330.

## What is China's 900 MW photovoltaic project?

[Photo/Xinhua]A photovoltaic project with a power generation capacity of 900 MW went into operation on Sunday in northwest China's Qinghai Province. It is the second-phase project for an ultra-high-voltage power linethat transmits electricity from Qinghai to central China's Henan Province, according to China Three Gorges Corporation.

#### How much power does Tibet have?

Power generation in Tibet reached 1206 GWhin 2004,of which 1088 GWh was hydropower. New power generation capacity in Tibet's "11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010)" is mainly from hydroelectricity, whereas other energy resources including solar energy are considered supplementary to hydropower.

#### Are there hydroelectric plants in Tibet?

Alongside these large and expensive projects, there are also several smaller hydroelectric plants in Tibet. In contrast, only 1.27 billion Yuan (US \$187 million) will be invested in building small photovoltaic power stations and distributing adaptable systems to households in Tibet in the "11th Five-Year Plan".



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Web: https://publishers-right.eu/contact-us/ Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

