

# Cook Islands optimised solar panels

How will new energy technologies affect the Cook Islands?

In future, new energy technologies such as marine energy may offer new opportunities for the Cook Islands to generate electricity from other renewable sources. Developments in energy storage or in energy efficiency may also further reduce the Cook Islands' reliance on diesel. The Cook Islands prefers to use proven and economic energy technologies.

Does the Cook Islands have solar power?

The Cook Islands Electricity Sector historically been powered by diesel generators. Since around 2011, increasing solar PV generation on Rarotonga has changed this situation. And in 2014- 15, installation of 95-100% renewable solar hybrid systems on the Northern Group Islands further altered the mix.

Will the Cook Islands use renewable electricity?

The Cook Islands will be careful in its selection of renewable electricity options and will not entertain unproven or non-commercial technologies. The attached Summary Table provides some indicative and preliminary information on the types and costs of the renewable electricity technologies we are considering.

Where are solar panels installed in the Cook Islands?

The Cook Islands is a recipient of the Fund and has committed to installing Solar (PV) systems for the islands of Rakahanga, Pukapuka, Nassau, Suvarrow and part of Manihiki.

What changes will the Cook Islands make?

The changes will include management of power utilities, environmentally friendly and cost effective renewable electricity sources, and energy efficient strategies. The Cook Islands will be careful in its selection of renewable electricity options and will not entertain unproven or non-commercial technologies.

Why is energy important in the Cook Islands?

Energy is a fundamental prerequisite to the sustainable socio-economic development of a nation. As such, the Cook Islands Government considers that environmental protection, energy security and economic growth are inseparable key pillars of our country's development.

Renewable energy in the Cook Islands is primarily provided by solar energy and biomass. Since 2011 the Cook Islands has embarked on a programme of renewable energy development to improve its energy security and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, [1] with an initial goal of reaching 50% renewable electricity by 2015, and 100% by 2020. [2]

In its approach to delivering a 100% renewable energy target across 12 islands by 2020, the Cook Islands presents a rare insight into how planning requirements of high penetration renewable island systems vary with scale.

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Although nearly all households in the Cook Islands are connected to grid electricity, only 5.5% of households have additional solar photovoltaic systems installed, and 1% use small diesel generators. Several actions have taken place throughout the islands to increase the uptake of renewable energy.

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achieving the Cook Islands targets of 50% of islands powered by renewable energy by 2015 and 100% coverage by 2020. The Chart and Plan were updated in 2016 considering the increase solar PV generation on Rarotonga and the installation of solar-hybrid systems on the northern Cook Islands. Projects completed in the north include over 850kW of ...

renewable energy generation technology was based on the satisfactory solar resource, suitability to the site, maturity of the technology and supporting systems (including batteries), and low maintenance requirements.

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This implementation Plan cannot be read on its own but with the backdrop of the "Cook Islands Renewable Energy Chart Implementation Plan." This report provides the analytical data, advice and comments from which this island specific Implementation Plan has been developed.

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The Cook Islands Government aims to achieve 90% of their power needs from renewable energy by 2020. We helped the government realise its aim. To support the Cook Islands Government, the New Zealand Government - through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, installed mini-grid photo-voltaic power systems in a number of villages on six ...

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Energy self-sufficiency (%) 2 8 Cook Islands COUNTRY INDICATORS AND SDGS TOTAL ENERGY SUPPLY (TES) Total energy supply in 2020 Renewable energy supply in 2020 92% 8% Oil Gas Nuclear ... Solar PV: Solar resource potential has been divided into seven classes, each representing a range of annual PV output per unit of capacity

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