# SOLAR PRO.

## Senegal starting a solar panel business

How much does a solar power plant cost in Senegal?

The paired solar power plants cost \$40.77 million, providing electricity to 540,000 people at under four cents per kWh - not only the cheapest energy in Senegal but among the most cost-effective across sub-Saharan Africa.

#### Why should Senegal invest in solar power plants?

Solar power plants in Senegal form part of the strategy for increasing access to electricity, focusing on regenerative sources. Senegal's government wants to become an emerging economy by 2035 and the energy sector is one of the major components of Senegal's growth. Rural areas remain the most challenging areas to install power grids.

#### How many jobs will the new solar power plants create in Senegal?

The addition of the solar power plants form part of the World Bank Group's Scaling Solar program and are funded by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), European Investment Bank and Proparco. The project estimates that more than 400 jobsin the towns benefit from the existence of the new solar power plants in Senegal.

### Who sponsors Senegal's solar power plants?

The PV plants,located in Western Senegal, are sponsored by Engie, Meridiam, and the Senegalese Sovereign Wealth Fund for Strategic Investments (FONSIS). The competitive tendering process was led by Senegal's Energy Regulatory Commission (CRSE). For more information, please read the press release here.

#### How much solar power does Senegal have?

As it stands, Senegal has 112 MWof installed solar, however this figure is rising exponentially year on year as investment swings in favor of green energy development and policymakers under H.E. Macky Sall's regime and others realize the benefits of the renewable source.

#### When will Kael & Kahone solar plants be available in Senegal?

Meanwhile, the Kael and Kahone solar plants came online in May 2021, developed by Engie and Meridiam following competitive tendering by Senegal's Energy Regulatory Commission, financed by the International Finance Corporation, European Investment Bank, Proparco and Senegalese sovereign wealth fund, FONSIS.

The new solar plants in Senegal bring opportunities for employment, improved conditions in workspaces and homes and affordable electricity costs. Solar power plants in Senegal form part of the strategy for increasing access to ...

Scaling Solar-tendered PV Plants Bring Clean Energy to More Than 500,000 in Senegal. The Kael and Kahone solar plants, the first financed and tendered under the Scaling Solar program in Senegal, became

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operational in May 2021.

The rapid development of the solar business in Senegal has been facilitated by key themes including government assistance, foreign investment, creative financing models, technological improvements, and an emphasis on sustainability.

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In Senegal, like elsewhere in Sub-Saharan Africa, the energy market faces a number of challenges. Power can be expensive for consumers. Infrastructure is limited and supply can be inconsistent.

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