

SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

Vatican Solar Distributed Photovoltaic System



Overview

Does Vatican City have solar power?

Yes. Vatican City has joined Albania, Bhutan, Nepal, Paraguay, Iceland, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo to become one of just eight countries in the world to generate 100% of its electricity from renewable sources. Several church organizations around the world are making the move to solar.

Why did Pope Francis ask the Vatican to build a solar farm?

Pope Francis last year asked the Vatican to study developing the area into a vast solar farm, hoping to put into practice his preaching about the need to transition away from fossil fuels and find clean, carbon-neutral energy sources. Pope Leo XIV visited the site in June and affirmed that he intended to see Francis' vision through.

How will the Vatican's new energy system work?

According to the Vatican's press office, the installation will apply the most advanced solutions currently available, balancing clean energy generation with the preservation of agricultural use, the region's hydrogeological stability, and the protection of its cultural and archaeological heritage (ZENIT News / Rome, 08.01.2025).-

What is the agrivoltaic system based on?

The agrivoltaic system to be built here is based on «Fratello Sole», a motu proprio that Pope Leo XIV issued to promote environmental responsibility within Vatican infrastructure. The project aims to meet the full energy needs of both the Vatican State and Vatican Radio using solar technology integrated with agricultural activity.

What did Pope Francis say about solar power?

“Fratello sole” or “Brother Sun” was Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter that

detailed how solar power is an invitation for people around the world to make lifestyle changes to counter global warming and the “pervasive” use of fossil fuels.

Where are solar panels located in Rome?

Sometimes the solar arrays are situated on top of greenhouses, interwoven among crops, or elevated plants. Where is the Vatican’s solar installation located?

The agrivoltaic plant is situated on the Holy See’s property at Santa Maria di Galeria on the outskirts of Rome.

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