

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.

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.

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.

Can a partner help the Cook Islands achieve its targets?

The Cook Islands is looking for partners who can help achieve its targets through funding the conversion of one or more of the islands from diesel generation to renewable energy. We acknowledge the support we have already received from our partners.

How will electricity tariffs be reviewed in the Cook Islands?

Electricity tariffs will be reviewed so that they, as a minimum, ensure on-going operational viability and account for disadvantaged sections of communities. The Cook Islands Government will review the institutional arrangements to best achieve the 50/15 - 100/20 renewable electricity policy goals for the electricity sector.

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.

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 ...

oRenewable Energy Chart developed and finalised 2012  
oStakeholders started implementation  
oRenewable Energy transformation for TAU began in 2009:  
oPolicy changes was introduced, own installation involving large scale systems with 1MW PV grid tie system commissioned in 2014

Using the latest equipment and smart metering, the systems can be supported remotely. And with local residents trained during the installation process, the community is empowered to maintain and operate the systems themselves.

As part of the ICTnexus Smart Islands project, an IoT platform will feature Semtech's LoRa<sup>®</sup> devices as well as a LoRaWAN network for the Island's infrastructure. Implementing LoRaWAN allows for several smart island use cases including energy metering, water management, air quality and weather stations, street light operation, asset ...

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ICTnexus provides Smart Agriculture Solutions and Services for the Cook Islands and collects data to optimise agricultural operations and generate value from IoT applications with complete flexibility using LoRaWAN<sup>®</sup> devices and our IoT platform.

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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Over the last five years the Cook Islands have made huge strides to reach its national electricity target of 50% of islands converted to renewable energy sources by 2015, with the remaining 50% to be achieved by 2020.

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Procurement, installation and commissioning of the Southern Group Renewable Energy Project; Review Energy Efficiency Policy for electrical appliances and transport sector; Facilitate ...

The Cook Islands has a financially healthy electricity sector with technical and commercial challenges requiring on-going investment. With the exception of Pukapuka, Nassau and Suvarrow, the Cook Islands has some form of electricity network. Power supply on Rarotonga is the responsibility of the government-owned utility Te Aponga Uira ("TAU").

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