



# Cuba buy solar systems

How many solar panels are produced in Cuba?

The government has built a manufacturing plant that has produced 14,000 photovoltaic solar panels, also near Cienfuegos. Currently, the Granma Province has the largest percentage of renewable energy generation within Cuba at about 37% in 2013.

Is Cuba wasting solar energy?

The opportunity now for individuals to import their own photovoltaic systems to Cuba, may change this situation. With just 20,000 solar water heaters and a million kWh every day of energy installed in its photovoltaic parks, Cuba is basically wasting the vast majority of the solar energy it has available. Read more from Cuba here on Havana Times.

Is solar energy a viable energy source in Cuba?

But, like most Caribbean nations, Cuba has immense potential for energy generation from renewable alternatives, including solar energy, which can be utilized to meet domestic and small business needs. Cuba's renewable energy output is small, estimated to be at about 4% of its overall production in 2012.

Is photovoltaic technology in Cuba a good idea?

Bearing in mind the cost of photovoltaic systems and transport costs to Cuba, rental homes and other private businesses seem to be the ones that are being called on to take advantage of this new opportunity. At least in the beginning. However, the mass use of photovoltaic technology in Cuba is also in the State's best interests.

Can Cuba build a solar power plant?

The loan should partly help finance four 10 MW solar power plants. Beyond that, the Cuban government has a long way to go if it is to build the planned 700 MW of solar capacity and secure the \$3.5 billion that are necessary to fund its vision of a countrywide energy transformation.

Does Cuba have a solar farm?

Although solar energy projects have thus far been limited to remote areas, capacity has increased considerably in recent years. In 2013 Cuba's first solar farm opened in Cantarrana, near Cienfuegos, with a capacity of 2.6 MWp.

For solar energy to have a long-term impact on Cuba's energy demand and production, projects must expand beyond off-grid usage. The focus should shift toward urban applications of solar systems and the further development of solar-powered domestic appliances.

Cuba authorized this Wednesday the non-commercial import of photovoltaic systems, their parts and pieces, free of customs duties, by individuals.



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Solar energy is one of the government's biggest bets for taking advantage of a natural resource that Cuba has in abundance, but the main problem continues to be the investment necessary to build a solar park.

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The director of UNE asks Cubans to buy their own solar panels. The statements arise in the context of the severe energy crisis in Cuba.

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Project leader Felix Morfis, also a representative of Cubasolar - a non-governmental organization promoting renewable energy in Cuba since 1994 - criticizes the high prices of solar panels and bureaucratic hurdles in obtaining loans to purchase them. "It seems the government has no real interest in people installing solar panels.

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