### **SOLAR** Pro.

# Réunion solar panel government

Should reunion have solar panels?

"At least 60% of the houses on Reunion are detached. If all of them were equipped with PV panels, that could cover half of our island's electricity needs," he stated. The government has indeed included solar energy in its transition plan, but in the form of large projects.

Will Reunion Island produce all its energy by 2028?

France's overseas territory Reunion Island is aiming to produce all of its energy through renewables by the end of 2028. Though activists agree on the target, they disagree on the methods. The Les Cedres project on Reunion Island combines PV panels with organic farming Image: Sandy Palenzuela

How can a new energy system be made in Réunion?

This includes replacing sugar cane with different food crops; restricting urbanization; increasing the capacity for producing energy from waste; significantly scaling up photovoltaicsthat convert sunlight directly into energy; and convincing Réunion islanders to make certain lifestyle changes.

Will switching to renewables solve Réunion's self-sufficiency problem?

Although laudable, switching to renewables will not solve the self-sufficiency problem. The renewable sources Ré union uses to generate electricity will still be mainly imported from abroad. "Forests will be cut in Canada to put in our furnaces in Ré union island," says Mathieu David, who studies mechanics and energy at the University of La Ré union.

Is electricity self-sufficiency possible on Réunion?

Although electricity self-sufficiency on Réunion is theoretically possible, there are still a number of constraints imposed by factors such as nature, technology and economics. The island's remote location and geographical features are serious challenges for starters.

Why is Réunion so worried about energy imports?

Part of this concern stemmed from Réunion's over-reliance on imports,including for energy,says Russeil,who is now at the French National Research Institute for Agriculture,Food and Environment in Paris.

Reunion Island is facing the challenge of saying goodbye to imported fossil fuels and reaching energy self-sufficiency by 2030, a goal defined in the region's Multiannual Energy Program (PPE). In 2019, the French Environment and Energy Management Agency ADEME has delivered the latest report on the island's development and future scenarios ...

The 27,000 solar panels cover an area of 4.5 hectares, which generate an annual total of 10 GWh in local renewable electricity. This contributes to Reunion's energy strategy, by reducing dependence on imports, and minimizing the share of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions in the energy mix.

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On 17 August 2015, the french government adopted the energy transition act for green growth. Almost five years later, Reunion Island is taking a lead with respect to their installed solar capacity and the country's energy transition.

Reunion Island"s government is indeed aiming to become energy independent but only by the end of 2030. That"s too late, says Futhazar. The trained engineer thinks the government plans are also ...

In the framework of the Reunion Island's energy plan, i.e. the Regional Schema for Climate, Air, Energy (SRCAE), the regional government established an Energy Governance Committee (EGC) gathering regional, local and state government actors as well as private stakeholders (energy and waste companies) and the public.

Solar energy - half photovoltaic, half thermal - has now overtaken hydropower (43 ktoe compared with 40 ktoe). Thanks to the large Takamaka and Rivière de l"Est plants, hydropower has been used on the island for decades, but its output has varied considerably each year due to irregular rainfall.

Thanks to the government's strategy and financial incentives, the energy market on Reunion Island is changing rapidly towards a more sustainable future. Today, more than 60% of the island's homes have solar ...

EDF Renewables is strengthening its presence on the island of Reunion with the commissioning of the Rivière des Galets solar power plant (4.6 MW). Inaugurated on October 27, 2023, this is the fourth EDF Renewables ...

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Solar thermal collectors and photovoltaic (PV) systems are already widespread in La Reunion. 70% of households are equipped with solar domestic hot water and PV represented approximately 25% of the total installed capacity of electricity generation in 2022.

Thanks to the government's strategy and financial incentives, the energy market on Reunion Island is changing rapidly towards a more sustainable future. Today, more than 60% of the island's homes have solar water heaters installed on their roofs.

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