

# China's land suitable for solar power generation

What is the potential of solar power generation in China?

Chen et al. developed a comprehensive solar resource assessment system based on the GIS +MCDM method in 2019. This system was applied to the assessment of the potential of PV power generation in the countries under the "Belt and Road" initiative. The results showed that the PV potential of China is 100.8 PWh.

Which land is suitable for PV power generation in China?

The results showed that the average suitability score of land in China is 0.1058 and the suitable land for PV power generation is about 993,000 km<sup>2</sup> in 2015. The PV power generation potential of China is 131.942 PWh, which is approximately 23 times the electricity demand of China in 2015.

Where is solar power generated in China?

Fig. 2. Spatial distribution of annual theoretical power generation of China in 2015. The results of theoretical PV power generation show that the high-value areas are mainly concentrated in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, followed by Northwest China and Yunnan, where are rich in solar radiation resources.

How to develop PV solar farms in China?

Land use policy for developing PV solar farms in China. Different from most developed countries, in China, urban lands are owned by the country, and rural lands are collective ownership. For this reason, the development of PV solar farms highly relies on the land use policy introduced by the government.

Should China support solar energy development?

The robust backing and financial support from the Chinese government for solar energy development underscore a model that many developing nations can emulate: fostering solar-friendly policies, emphasizing economic incentives, and exploring diverse terrains for PV deployments, harmonizing the balance between land resources and energy needs.

How much solar energy will China have by 2021?

However, according to the National Energy Administration of China, the total proportion of solar and wind energy in the energy structure of China will only reach 11% by 2021, indicating that the exploitation of solar energy resources in China should be developed in future works.

The results show that the potential for large-scale PV power plants in China's deserts is significant, with 69.4% of the region assessed as medium or higher. The most ...

To achieve the goals of carbon peak and carbon neutrality, Xinjiang, as an autonomous region in China with large energy reserves, should adjust its energy development and vigorously develop new energy sources, such as photovoltaic (PV) power. This study utilized data spatiotemporal variation in solar radiation from 1984 to

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2016 to ...

This rapid progress highlights the critical role solar energy plays in China's energy strategy, given its attributes of cleanliness, quiet operation, and cost-effectiveness. Despite addressing contemporary energy and environmental dilemmas, solar energy still faces challenges related to land utilization [ 7 ].

China deserts' solar power potential reduces 73-170 % of global emissions. Using 6-14.7 % of China's deserts can meet the country's electricity demand by 2025. Desert ...

For instance, in Germany, nearly 90% of the total solar PV power generation (26 GW) in 2012 was from solar roof power stations, whereas in China, the proportion is merely about 20%, and most of it is not connected to the grid [57]. Solar DPG, especially BIPV in China, is accepted to have great development potential. Specifically, the total architecture area that can ...

Excluding high-vegetation zones, China's desert regions possess a solar power generation potential of 47-110 PWh per year, which is 5.4-12.7 times China's 2022 electricity demand and 1.7-3.9 times the global demand. The estimated installed capacity ranges from 36.4 to 84.9 TW, with system costs between \$10.0 and 33.5 trillion. The ...

Meteorological data such as wind speed and solar radiation are essential for assessing the geographical potential of wind and photovoltaic power generation in China. Wind and solar energy assessment mainly uses reanalysis datasets (such as NCEP (National Centers for Environmental Prediction), MERRA (Modern-Era Retrospective Analysis for ...

Concentrating solar power (CSP) plays an important role in China's carbon neutrality path. The geographical, technical, and CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction potential of CSP in China was evaluated by province. Approximately 1.02 × 10<sup>6</sup> km<sup>2</sup> of land (11% of land area) can support CSP development.

The results show that the potential for large-scale PV power plants in China's deserts is significant, with 69.4 % of the region assessed as medium or higher. The most suitable area is 12.7 × 10<sup>4</sup> km<sup>2</sup> (7.6 % of the overall study area), mainly centered in the Tibetan Plateau's Qaidam Basin Desert and the deserts of northern China ...

Following clustering analysis, a total area of 128,588 km<sup>2</sup>, accounting for approximately 1% of China's total land area, was identified as consolidated land parcels suitable for large-scale development. When fully developed, the generation potential of these land parcels could cover approximately 90% of China's electricity consumption ...

China's PV land has undergone a series of adjustments and refinements, and its main applicable land is still unused land such as desert and Gobi, but PV compound class land such as forest land, arable land, lakes, and

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reservoirs has undergone iterations such as permission and prohibition.

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Land is a fundamental resource for the deployment of PV systems, and PV power projects are established on various types of land. As of the end of 2022, China has amassed an impressive 390 million kW of installed PV capacity, occupying approximately 0.8 million km<sup>2</sup> of land [3]. With the continuous growth in the number and scale of installed PV ...

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According to the results for comprehensive suitability and power generation potential, the comprehensive regionalization of solar power generation development in arid and semi-arid regions of northwest China was pursued through a zoning method that combined "top-down" deduction and "bottom-up" induction (Wu et al., 2016), and it was divided into ...

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