



Solar energy seoul

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The metropolis of Seoul accounts for one-tenth of Korea's total energy consumption. However, the city's electricity self-sufficiency rate is a mere five percent. How can this supply-demand imbalance be addressed in a metropolis that has no room for the installation of a massive power plant? How can such a city produce more electricity and increase its electricity self-sufficiency rate? Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) has found the answer to both these questions in solar energy.

Since July 2014, the Gangbuk Arisu Water Purification Center has been operating the largest solar power generation facility in Seoul. The 18,720 solar modules of the facility span an area of approximately 96,000 square meters--13 times larger than the average soccer stadium. The Gangbuk Center produces an annual average of 6,500 megawatt-hours of electricity, enough to power 2,180 four-person households for one year.

With their wide rooftops, schools are one of the best places to install solar power generators. So far, solar panels have been installed at 304 schools in Seoul. If there were solar panels on the rooftops of all 1,400 public schools in Seoul, they would generate a total of 134 megawatts of electricity annually. Another step the city is taking is to offer funding to encourage the installation of mini solar panels in the communal areas of apartments and other types of multi-unit dwellings.

On September 22, 2014, at New York's Manhattan Center, Seoul's diverse efforts to become an energy-independent city were official recognized. At the 2014 City Climate Leadership Awards, co-hosted by Siemens and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Seoul was honored with the Green Energy award in recognition of its remarkable efforts to promote the use of solar energy. Seoul's goal for the future is the simultaneous achievement of energy reduction and energy production. To achieve this goal, the city will continue to expand its support for the installation of solar panels in small, unused spaces throughout the city and engage in further efforts to establish itself as a leading energy-independent city in the international community.

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Name

South Korea is making a major push to reduce its reliance on coal and shift to more green energy.

Currently, South Korea is heavily reliant on burning coal to meet its energy needs. Burning coal releases carbon dioxide and other toxic substances into the air and is a major cause of pollution and changing temperatures on the planet.

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