

Solar power romania

Nofar Energy and Econergy marked the start of the test phase for their 155 MW photovoltaic system in R?te?ti, west of Bucharest

In the decade through the end of 2022, Romania's renewable energy capacity saw only neglectable additions. But the market has woken up with legislative reforms and subsidies from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP or PNRR), part of the European Union's Recovery and Resilience Facility.

Among the examples, Nofar Energy and Econergy Renewable Energy, both headquartered in Israel, have just put the largest solar power plant in Romania into operation. The facility, which entered the test phase, was built in 18 months in R?te?ti in the country's south, in Arge? county.

The system has 155 MW in peak capacity, taking over from Ucea de Sus. The biggest photovoltaic plant in the country until now, at 82 MW, was built almost ten years ago.

The companies said they invested EUR 102 million in the endeavor. The solar power plant, located west of Bucharest, in the Muntenia region, spans 170 hectares. The investors estimated its annual output at 220 GWh, equivalent to the electricity consumption of more than 100,000 households in Romania.

“Our project is profitable even without subsidies because it is very big,” said Manager Partner in Nofar Energy Favi Stelian. He stressed that investments in photovoltaic facilities between 10 MW and 20 MW aren't feasible.

The company, active also in neighboring Serbia, said on its website that it has 957 MW in connected and ready-to-be-connected facilities.

The R?te?ti park is Econergy's first in Romania, where it is developing 2.3 GW in capacity. Country Manager Bogdan Asanache said the firm has 410 MW under construction across the country. As for the rest of Southeastern Europe, Econergy operates in Greece as well.

According to the World Bank Group's new Country Climate and Development Report, Romania needs to increase solar power capacity by 3.6 GW by 2030 from the level registered at the end of 2022. The country had 1.4 GW online at that moment, the International Renewable Energy Agency said.

Executive Director of the Romanian Photovoltaic Industry Association (RPIA) Andrei Manea, who attended the event in R?te?ti, said its studies showed that by 2030 there would be 45,000 permanent jobs in sector in Romania.



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In other news, France-based Engie is preparing to build a solar park of 9.3 MW in peak capacity in Gemenele, where it already operates a 47.5 MW wind power plant, completed in 2013. They will have the same connection point, Profit.ro reported. It would make them one of the first hybrid power plants in Romania.

Enery received a green light two months ago for the connection of its planned 535 MW photovoltaic system to the transmission grid.

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