

## ContainerPower Energy Solutions

# Bhutan Solar Panel solar Power Generation Project



## Overview

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Bhutan inaugurated its first-ever utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant on July 19 in Yongtru village, Sephu Gewog (Village Block), in Wangdue Phodrang in central part of Bhutan which is about five hours journey from the capital, Thimphu. What is Bhutan's first solar power project?

The first phase of Bhutan's first utility-scale solar power project at Sephu in Wangdue Phodrang is set for completion by March next year. A utility-scale solar facility generates solar power and feeds it into the grid. The 17.38-megawatt solar farm is expected to generate around 24 million units of energy annually, once operational.

What is Bhutan Solar Initiative project (BSIP)?

Bhutan Solar Initiative Project (BSIP) aims towards achieving a sustainable energy supply for Bhutan through alternative renewable energy sources of solar grid integration. About 60 De-suups have been actively involved in this six-month long project and have gained practical knowledge of installing solar PV systems through hands-on experience.

How many solar power systems are there in Bhutan?

As of 2015 there are approximately 4,600 solar power systems operating in Bhutan, with 2,750 on-grid systems and 1,848 off-grid systems. The development potential is estimated at 12,000 megawatts.

Where are solar panels installed in Thimphu?

The project included the installation of Rooftop Solar PV at Centenary Farmer's Market (CFM) and Ground Mounted Solar Panels at Dechencholing in Thimphu. The first phase of the project completed in May-June, last year.

Are solar PV systems a climate mitigation effort?

The implementation of solar PV systems, as a climate mitigation effort, have a significant positive impact on the environment, as it is a form of renewable

energy generation with the least climate impact.

Why is yongtru solar project reducing land use?

Located in the village of Yongtru in Sephu Gewog, the solar project now spans 44 acres, reduced from the originally planned 65 acres. Project officials say that this decrease in land use is due to the procurement of higher-wattage solar panels. Once completed, the energy generated from the farm will be fed into the national grid.

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