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Burundi Wind-Solar Energy Storage Project Construction

Overview

How much solar power is available in Burundi?

Hydropower: 1,700 MW of potential. 300 MW are economically possible (“Burundi” 2022). Solar: Average daily solar insolation is 4–5 kWh/m2/day, indicating strong solar potential for Burundi (“Energy Profile Burundi” n.d.). There is a growing number of households, businesses, schools, and health clinics using distributed, off-grid solar.

Which region of Burundi has a high potential for wind energy harvesting?

Another study found that the Bujumbura region has a high potential for wind energy harvesting (Placide, Lollchund, and Dalso 2021). Geothermal: According to the Burundi Ministry for Energy and Mines, the Rift Valley region of the country is likely to have geothermal potential (Manirakiza 2012).

What is the primary energy supply in Burundi?

The remainder of the primary energy supply is from oil (“Burundi Energy Profile” 2021). However, a majority (98%) of the renewable energy supply in Burundi is bioenergy. The remainder of the renewable energy supply is hydroelectric, and solar power (“Burundi Energy Profile” 2021).

What can a Burundi Energy Center do?

For example, such a center in Burundi could focus on funding and implementing solar-plus-storage technologies for rural and remote households. The 2015 Electricity Act enables foreign investments into the power sector. In addition, laws in Burundi allow tax benefits for energy investment and public-private partnership.

What is the average wind speed in Burundi?

Wind: The mean wind speed in Burundi is 4–6 m/s (“Energy Profile Burundi” n.d.). Small wind turbines need an average wind speed at least 4 m/s, meaning Burundi’s wind could support electricity generation (“Wind

Explained” 2022). One study found that total wind power potential in the country is 12–15 TWh per year (Mentis 2013).

Why does Burundi need a gas power plant?

This is driven by a lack of supply, grid inefficiencies (24% of supply lost due to transmission and distribution network technical issues (Nsabimana 2020)), lack of investment in new infrastructure, and dependence on a leased gas power plant (“Burundi ClimateScope 2021” 2021).

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