

# Solar Transformation in Costa Rica





## Overview

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Can solar power diversify the energy mix in Costa Rica?

While hydroelectric power dominates the energy mix at approximately 80% of electricity production, solar energy, though currently a smaller contributor, holds significant potential to diversify and stabilize the grid. This paper investigates Costa Rica's renewable energy journey, emphasizing solar power's evolving role.

How is Costa Rica transforming its energy portfolio?

Costa Rica is taking bold steps to diversify its energy portfolio. The country is integrating wind, solar, and geothermal solutions to strengthen its power grid. These efforts aim to reduce reliance on any single source and ensure long-term sustainability.

Is Costa Rica a leader in solar energy in Central America?

Research by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA, 2020) identifies Costa Rica as a potential leader in solar energy within Central America, given its high solar potential averaging 4.5-5.5 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/day, yet notes that policy incentives lag behind those for other renewables.

Is solar a viable energy source in Costa Rica?

Critically, the literature reveals gaps in solar-specific research for Costa Rica. While hydroelectric and geothermal energy dominate academic focus, solar remains underrepresented, despite its potential to address energy security and grid stability.



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