Solar Power Plant Replaces Fossil Energy in the Dominican Republic

It is the largest solar power plant in the Caribbean and a first of its kind in the region.

Installing the largest solar power plant in the Caribbean the project is an alternative to the fossil driven electricity fuel mix by sun power and furthermore creates local employment, a visitor center and a fund for social activities.

Project type:
Solar

Project location:
Dominican Republic

Project status:
In operation, credits available

Annual CO₂ reduction:
48,026 t

Situation without project
National electricity fuel mix

Project standard
Gold Standard
CER

Impressions

Once the plant will be fully contracted, 264,000 pieces of solar modules will be installed on an area as big as 50 football pitches.

The project activity consists in the installation of a 60 Megawatt photovoltaic Solar Energy Farm in the Monte Plata province in the Dominican Republic. The expected solar irradiation per year (with 1,490 kWh/kWp) is approximately one and a half times higher than in Switzerland. 100 Giga Watt hours (equals the consumption of 20,000 households in Switzerland) electricity will be produced per year thanks to this ideal solar radiation conditions.

Copyright © 2019 Foundation myclimate, Pfingstweidstrasse 10, 8005 Zurich, Switzerland
www.myclimate.org, T +41 44 500 43 50, sales@myclimate.org
It is the largest solar power plant in the Caribbean and a first of its kind in the region. It produces renewable, local produce electricity for around 50,000 households in the Dominican Republic per year. Almost 70,000 t CO₂ are being reduced per year. This equals the burning of around 26 million liter fossil fuel.

The success of Monte Plata solar project increases local employment rate and raises the percentage of renewable energy for the Dominican Republic.

Dr. Quincy Lin, Chairman of GES

An assessment of environmental effects has been done. The owner is obliged to reforest outside the project area any if needed deforestation activity and to conserve an area next to a river adjacent to the project site. At least equal amount of native flora will be replanted next to the project site and also a plantation of different plant species within the boundaries of the project site is mandatory. In addition, a visitor center will be installed next to the site to demonstrate renewable energy possibilities and to provide climate education. At least five percent of the income of carbon revenue will flow in a revolving fund managed by the community of Monte Plata dedicated for social activities.

Thanks to the support of myclimate and the CO₂ offsetting mechanism the attractiveness of the project for investors can be improved. The project activity is financed by GES and operated by Soventix.

More Pictures on Facebook

This project contributes to 6 SDGs:

1. No poverty

5% of the income from carbon credits goes to local schools.

4. Quality education

People are being trained on different aspects of the project.

7. Affordable and clean energy

219 GWh of renewable energy has been delivered to the grid until 2020. This means locally produced renewable electricity for around 130,000 households.

8. Decent work and economic growth

53 long-term positions have been generated (40 men and 13 women). Additionally, 36 security employees from an external company are being employed and 200 jobs were created during construction.

The Monte Plata solar project will increase fivefold the current photovoltaic power in the country’s energy mix once the overall project has been completed.

There was no rainforest where the solar panels are located but unused meadows and bushland (see map).
31,000 tonnes of CO₂ are saved per year.

2,000 trees have been recultivated.

Foreign experts were involved in the project to build local capacity. 264,000 pieces of solar modules have been installed (equivalent to 50 football pitches), completing the spread of environmentally sound technology.