

# Mauritania: 50MW solar PV Project

## Mauritania's first large-scale solar PV plant


### Background

Mauritania's economy is sensitive to international commodity prices. Between 2008 and 2014, Mauritania experienced an economic boom. The World Bank attributes this boom to improved productivity, and income in rural areas after reform policies in the agricultural and livestock sector. Nonetheless, the boom was transient, a fall in mineral prices in 2014 sparked a recession. Today, economic recovery remains slow as rapid urbanization and a growing population exert further pressure on resources.

Under its 2016 Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity Strategy, the Government of Mauritania considers energy a priority for poverty reduction. Mauritania is endowed with oil, natural gas, and several renewable energy resources. It has considerable wind potential on the Atlantic coast making commercialization attractive. However, fossil fuels still dominate energy consumption. Liquefied petroleum gas accounts for 95% of the country's commercial energy needs. The government plans to meet its growing energy demand with fewer fuel imports through renewable energy. It set and achieved a target of 20% renewables by 2020.

### The project

The Toujounine solar PV power plant helped Mauritania achieve its 2020 goal of 20% renewables, supplying 10% of the country's total electricity production in 2019. Consisting of 156,000 solar panels and totalling 50MW installed capacity, the project is the largest solar PV plant in the country. Every year, the plant generates around 87GWh, which is enough to sustainably meet the electricity demands of 362,500 people.

Project type:	Renewable Energy – Solar
Location:	Nouakchott, Mauritania
Project start date:	January 2018
Project standard:	 <b>VCS</b> VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD A Global Benchmark for Carbon
Goals of the UN Agenda 2030	
