

<div class="df_qntext">Is Iraq advancing solar power projects?

Iraq is advancing several solar power projects as part of a plan to meet its electricity needs. This aerial photo shows panels at a newly opened industrial-scale solar power plant in Karbala, Iraq, on September 17, 2025 [Anmar Khalil/AP]

<div class="df_qntext">How many megawatts is a solar project in Iraq?

Nasser Karim al-Sudani, head of the national team for solar energy projects in the Iraqi prime minister's office, said another project under construction in Babil province will have a capacity of 225 megawatts, and work will also begin soon on a 1,000-megawatt project in the southern province of Basra.

<div class="df_qntext">How much solar power will Iraq have in 2025?

The country has a plan to install 12 gigawatts of solar capacity by 2030, according to the ministry of electricity, which includes delivering a 1 GW solar plant for Basra this year. Peak summer demand in 2025, meanwhile, is expected to reach 55 GW, while supply stands at just 27 GW, according to estimates by Iraq's electricity minister in January.

<div class="df_qntext">Will Iraq open its first industrial-scale solar power plant?

This aerial photo shows panels at a newly opened industrial-scale solar power plant in Karbala, Iraq, on September 17, 2025 [Anmar Khalil/AP] Iraq is set to open its first industrial-scale solar plant in a vast desert area in Karbala as the government attempts to tackle an electricity crisis that has led to widespread blackouts.

<div class="df_qntext">Could large-scale solar power plants help ease Iraq's electricity crisis?

The projects are part of a larger vision to account for a portion of Iraq's electricity needs using large-scale solar power plants that could help ease the electricity crisis while also reducing the negative environmental impact of gas emissions.

<div class="df_qntext">Why is Iraq turning to solar?

"Farmers are turning to solar to reduce their bills and lower the load on water pumps. The electricity from solar is stable," he said. Apart from its oil riches, Iraq has vast solar potential that the authorities say they will use to close the gap between supply and demand, at the same time, reducing carbon emissions.

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Iraq has abundant untapped solar resources that could allow it to achieve its target and reduce reliance on imports of electricity. Additionally, the cost of electricity powered by solar energy is lower than that ...

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