

Can Montenegro reduce energy demand?

Montenegro has great potential for reducing demand through more efficient energy use. According to IEA statistics, Montenegro's energy intensity has been falling slightly in recent years but is still more than twice that of the EU-28. Inefficient practices such as using electrical heaters for heating are widespread.

Which energy projects have been subjected to an EIA in Montenegro?

Montenegro has not provided a list of energy projects that underwent screening and were subjected to an EIA. The development of the EIA, which should include an appropriate assessment for the Komarnica hydropower project, located within a candidate Emerald Site and the Dragi?nica and Komarnica Nature Park, was delayed.

How much electricity does Montenegro need?

With around 621 000 inhabitants, Montenegro's electricity needs are mainly met by the 225 MW lignite power plant at Pljevlja and the 307 MW Peru?ica and 342 MW Piva hydropower plants, all run by state-owned utility Elektroprivreda Crne Gore (EPCG).

Does Montenegro have a gas distribution network?

Montenegro currently does not have a gas distribution network. The Minister of Economy announced the government's intention to begin importing U.S. liquefied natural gas (LNG) via the Port of Bar in March 2020.

How does Montenegro utilize its hydro power?

Montenegro currently uses only approximately 20 percent of its hydro power potential. To fully develop this sector, Montenegro needs to upgrade its transmission and distribution network. The most important development project in the transmission system was the construction of an underwater electricity cable to transport the power to and from Italy. Montenegro will need to continue investing in its hydro power infrastructure to increase its usage and export capabilities.

Does Montenegro have a gas market?

Montenegro does not have a gas market. REMIT Regulation (EU) 1227/2011 is in place. Despite the non-existing gas market, Montenegro adopted the supply rules for natural gas. Initially scheduled for 2019, the adoption of the new Law on Cross-Border Energy Infrastructure projects, intended to transpose Regulation (EU) 347/2013 is pending.

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target of achieving a 50% share of renewable energy in the gross final energy consumption, in line with the 2030 target - set by the Energy Community, has not yet been incorporated in the national legislation of Montenegro. The draft NECP is also pending.

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Montenegro possesses the potential to become a nearshoring hub for energy-intensive industries given its renewable energy potential, strategic location, and EU candidacy. However, to fully capitalize on these opportunities, Montenegro must align its policies, invest in infrastructure, and promote sustainable industries.

Naida Taso, lead of the Renewable Energy Task Force & Senior Renewable Energy Expert at the Energy Community Secretariat, shares the main aspects of the newly adopted Renewable Energy Law in Montenegro.

In Montenegro, electricity consumption over the past year, from November 2023 to October 2024, shows a diverse mix of energy sources. Close to half of the country's electricity originates from low-carbon sources, totaling approximately 48.45%. Within this segment, hydropower is the predominant source, accounting for about 40.79% of the total electricity generated, while wind ...

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Mujović added that the Energy Community Secretariat gave a positive opinion on the law. Of note, the ministry earlier said that the law fulfills the country's obligations towards the Energy Community regarding the transposition and implementation of the EU's Renewable Energy Directive (2018/2001).

Montenegro's small population and limited energy demand have historically constrained its market, but access to Italy's market could transform Montenegro into a central hub for regional energy trading. This shift could also support the growth of renewable energy, as coupling brings more stable pricing and reduces financial risk for developers.

The Energy Development Strategy of Montenegro sets out objectives and defines mechanisms for the transition from the current energy system to a safe, competitive and environmentally acceptable energy paradigm by 2025. It also provides guidelines for

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The LNG terminal would open access to the global market, improve energy security, and enhance regional energy infrastructure. It could transform the Port of Bar into a key energy hub, creating economic opportunities and ...

Montenegro has established itself as a strategic gateway for EU companies looking to expand their operations and exports to the Southeast European markets and beyond. With its ongoing EU accession efforts, strong economic growth, and strategic location, Montenegro provides unique opportunities for businesses seeking to tap into new markets ...

Renewable heat. Renewables also have an important role in providing heat for buildings and industrial processes. To achieve decarbonisation and energy saving objectives, many countries are encouraging individual homes and buildings to shift from fossil fuel heating systems such as gas- or oil-fired boilers to systems like heat pumps which are much more efficient and can be ...

The Montenegro-Italy submarine power cable has been deployed under an investment that will enable Montenegro to become an energy hub for the Balkan countries, said Terna CEO Luigi Ferraris, adding that the commencement of commercial use is planned by the end of the year.

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