

Can Angola deploy pumped-storage hydroelectricity & hydrogen solutions?

Fernando Prioste, CEO of COBA Group, talks to The Energy Year about Angola's potential for deploying pumped-storage hydroelectricity and hydrogen solutions as it develops a robust energy industry and the central role of COBA Group in the country's power arena.

Should Angola invest in energy storage solutions?

With the ongoing solar projects under development in Angola with an installed capacity amounting to 500 MW, it is urgent to start thinking about efficient energy storage solutions. What structural challenges must be addressed for Angola to seize its renewable energy potential?

What is the Wind Atlas of Angola?

The wind Atlas of Angola has allowed the identification of enough potential for electricity generation near the Atlantic scarp, along a north-south axis associated with higher altitudes, and in the southwestern region of the country, where the wind at a height of 80 meters above the ground reaches average speeds of more than 6 meters per second.

Who will build a 50 MW solar power plant in Angola?

The Italian company ENI signed a concession agreement with the government for the construction of a 50 MW solar plant in Namibe province, in southwestern Angola. The solar power plant will be constructed by Solenova, a joint venture between ENI and Angolan state-owned oil producer Sonangol.

Can Angola achieve energy self-sufficiency?

Angola has everything it needs to achieve energy self-sufficiency through renewable sources - not only water, but also sun and wind. With these three natural resources, Angola could achieve the transition from oil and gas to renewable energies, and then boost its energy self-sufficiency.

Can a gas grid be used in Angola?

This is not possible in Angola as there is no gas grid, but the hydrogen obtained from renewable energies can be shipped overseas or converted into ammonium. In turn, this chemical compound can be used as an energy storage component that could be exported or used for the fertiliser industry.

Pumped-storage systems could be useful to balance production and consumption needs in remote off-grid areas. This technology allows the storage of excess energy produced by solar plants during the day or by the wind farms during the night, since power banks are too expensive.

The Ministry of Energy and Water's recent mapping studies reveal that the country could harness 16.3 GW of solar power and 3.9 GW of wind power. Angola has the potential to become sub-Saharan Africa's largest producer of solar energy.

The Quilemba Solar Project - with a capacity to generate 45 MW of power - is on track to begin operations by Q4, 2025 or early-2026. Developed by Sonangol in partnership with TotalEnergies and energy company Greentech, the project aligns with TotalEnergies' multi-energy strategy in Angola.

Onshore wind: Potential wind power density (W/m²) is shown in the seven classes used by NREL, measured at a height of 100m. The bar chart shows the distribution of the country's land area in each of these classes compared to the global distribution of wind resources. Areas in the third class or above are considered to be a good wind resource.

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This infographic summarizes results from simulations that demonstrate the ability of Angola to match all-purpose energy demand with wind-water-solar (WWS) electricity and heat supply, storage, and demand response continuously every 30 seconds for three years (2050-2052). All-purpose energy is for electricity, transportation,

WIND ENERGY: 100 MW UNTIL 2025. The wind Atlas of Angola has allowed the identification of enough potential for electricity generation near the Atlantic scarp, along a north-south axis associated with higher altitudes, and in the southwestern region of the country, where the wind at a height of 80 meters above the ground reaches average speeds ...

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