

# Solar irrigation in Mexico

Can solar pumps be used for irrigation in Mexico?

Large-scale solar pump systems for irrigation in Mexico are few, as grid power is reliable and heavily subsidized (tariff 9CU: 0.033 USD/kWh and tariff 9N: 0.016 USD/kWh), making it more cost-effective to run electricity pumps. In more remote, rural areas and for decentralized, small-scale farms, solar pumps may provide a viable alternative.

What is solar-powered irrigation?

Solar-powered irrigation is a cross-cutting topic that requires not only expertise in solar energy (by planners and suppliers), but also in water management/irrigation and agriculture (by technical government staff, agricultural extension workers and farmers).

How can solar-powered irrigation systems improve access to water?

In line with this, FAO and GIZ have also developed a Toolbox on Solar-Powered irrigation Systems for advisors. The report also stresses the importance of water resources assessments and planning to avoid increasing pressures on water resources. By reducing costs, SPIS can improve people's access to water.

Is solar irradiation overestimated in Mexico?

Specific production of PV plants in Mexico is less than the projected production. Solar irradiation is overestimated in comparison to other factors. Only a slight increase in productivity with increasing irradiation is observed. Solar inverter providers optionally offer plant operators online access to their installed photovoltaic (PV) systems.

Are solar powered irrigation systems a viable option for small farmers?

As investment costs for solar powered irrigation systems (SPIS) are coming down and subsidy schemes for SPIS are being rolled out, solar technologies are becoming a viable option for both large and small-scale farmers. SPIS provide reliable and affordable energy, potentially reducing energy costs for irrigation.

How much solar irradiation does Mexico produce?

PV systems in Mexico generate in the range between 90 and 125 kWh/kW -1 month<sup>-1</sup>. Specific production of PV plants in Mexico is less than the projected production. Solar irradiation is overestimated in comparison to other factors. Only a slight increase in productivity with increasing irradiation is observed.

This hilltop irrigation project is an innovative initiative that uses state-of-the-art PV combiner boxes and solar pump inverters to harness solar energy and provide a sustainable irrigation solution for local farmers. USFULL has emerged as a beacon of change as it sheds light on Mexico's challenges with electricity and how its irrigation ...

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2.5 Irrigation in Mexico. In Mexico, the largest consumptive use of water is the irrigation (77%), being vital to agricultural production, as two-thirds of its territory are arid or semi-arid regions. Additionally, the rainy season is concentrated in only a few months of the year (mainly in summer).

Solar powered drip irrigation systems are a cost-effective solution promoted by the United Nations to reduce dependence on fossil fuels-based irrigation and reliance on international markets for energy import [105, ...

The system adopts the latest PB-G3 Smart Pro series solar pumping inverter. Due to the local sufficient sunshine duration and 98% high conversion efficiency of inverter, the pump can run over 10 hours in sunny days, which can fully meet the requirements of the livestock drinking water supply and forage crops irrigation.

Mexico Solar has installed 2,487 solar panels across the country for the irrigation of crops. The installation of photovoltaic pumping systems in the countryside has saved up to 1.3MW/year, representing a reduction of 23,500t of CO<sub>2</sub>.

workshop to better understand the potential of solar-powered irrigation systems (SPIS) for developing countries. During the workshop, representatives from nineteen countries shared

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As shown in Figure 4 below, some agricultural practices implemented in Mexico have a high climate smartness rating but low adoption rates. Silvopastoralism, biodigestors, drip irrigation,...

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