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North Macedonian state-owned power utility Elektrani na Severna Makedonija published a call for a contractor. The selected company would build two solar power facilities, of 10 MW and 20 MW in capacity, in two areas with coal mines and thermal power plants.

In North Macedonia, even more additional investments in solar power plants are planned. The WBIF already approved financing for an extension of the plant in Oslomej 2 and the construction of a new plant in Bitola for a combined total capacity of 30MW.

The Slovenian Gen-I Group has inaugurated a solar power plant with an installed capacity of 12 MW near Kavadarci, North Macedonia. This facility is expected to generate up to 15,500 MWh of electricity annually, significantly contributing to the country's decarbonization efforts.

In North Macedonia, one of the largest solar power plants in the region is being built on the site of a former coal mine in Oslomej - the project has been identified by the Western Balkans Investment Framework as one of 17 Flagship projects.

North Macedonia was the first in the region to put a solar power plant on a former coal mine into operation, in 2022. There is one under construction in Serbia, while Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo are preparing to build such photovoltaic units.

The company owns and develops photovoltaic, battery energy storage and wind projects with a joint capacity of 2 GW in Bulgaria, Hungary, North Macedonia and Romania. More than 455 MW is operational and more than 550 MW is in construction.

There are also a series of auctions for solar power investments to ensure more solar PV projects in the pipeline. However, despite its small land area, North Macedonia also stands out as a biodiversity hotspot, housing a significant portion of Europe's biodiversity.

The WBIF investment grant and the EBRD Loan, supporting the transformation of Oslomej and Bitola power plants from coal based to solar energy, represent a clear indication that the country is taking the right steps -



## North Macedonia solar power projects

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