

Can solar power power the Nepalese energy system?

Nepal has vast low-cost off-river pumped hydro-energy-storage potential, thus eliminating the need for on-river hydro storage and moderating the need for large-scale batteries. Solar, with support from hydro and battery storage, is likely to be the primary route for renewable electrification and rapid growth of the Nepalese energy system.

Can pumped hydro be used to store energy in Nepal?

For several hours, overnight and seasonal storage, pumped hydro is much cheaper. Batteries and pumped hydro are complementary storage technologies. Hydrogen production in Nepal is unlikely to be significant. Hydrogen or hydrogen-rich chemicals such as ammonia could be used to store and transport energy in Nepal.

Does Nepal have a potential for off-river hydro storage?

Nepal has enormous potential for off-river PHES. The Global Pumped Hydro Storage Atlas [42,43] identifies ~2800 good sites in Nepal with combined storage capacity of 50 TWh (Fig. 6). To put this in perspective, the amount of storage typically required to balance 100% renewable energy in an advanced economy is ~1 day of energy use.

Why is thermal energy storage important?

Thermal energy storage (TES) is increasingly important due to the demand-supply challenge caused by the intermittency of renewable energy and waste heat dissipation to the environment. This paper discusses the fundamentals and novel applications of TES materials and identifies appropriate TES materials for particular applications.

Why should we study pumped storage systems in Nepal Himalayas?

Nepal Himalayas provide an ideal testbed to study pumped storage systems given high topographic gradients, large flow fluctuations, and prevalent energy demand patterns.

Could hydrogen be used to store and transport energy in Nepal?

Hydrogen production in Nepal is unlikely to be significant. Hydrogen or hydrogen-rich chemicals such as ammonia could be used to store and transport energy in Nepal. However, this is unlikely to occur because the efficiency is very low compared with those of batteries, pumped hydro and thermal storage, which unavoidably translates into high costs.

This Nepal Energy Outlook 2022 is developed with joint effort from Kathmandu University, Institute of Engineering, Nepal Energy Foundation, and Niti Foundation. The document summarizes the current national energy scenario, policy provisions extended by Government of Nepal, issues & gaps, and the potential recommendations to mitigate the gap.

In this study, we configured a geospatial model to identify the potential of PSH across the Nepal Himalayas under multiple configurations by pairing lakes, hydropower projects, rivers, and available flat terrain, and consequently estimate the energy storage capacity.

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This report--Policy and Regulatory Environment for Utility-Scale Energy Storage: Nepal--is part of a series investigating the potential for utility-scale energy storage in South Asia. This report, focused on Nepal, is the third in a series of country-specific evaluations of policy and regulatory environments for energy storage in the region.

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Thermal energy storage Nepal

Nepal's hydropower resource can produce green hydrogen as an energy storage medium and electrify the transportation sector [8]. Since Nepal is expected to have about a 3000 MW electricity surplus by the year 2030, it is time to practice alternative electricity use to make hydropower projects financially feasible [9].

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