

## Croatia solar energy for the environment

Croatia has already connected 750 MW to 800 MW of solar and wind power to the grid since the beginning of the year, and the total additions in 2024 are expected to reach 1,200 MW, Ivo Milati? said at the event, organized in Zagreb by the Renewable Energy Sources of Croatia association (RES Croatia or, in Croatian, OIEH) in cooperation with the European RE-Source Platform.

Solar is leading the new installations. The state secretary noted that in 2018, when Croatia adopted the first rulebook for the production of energy for self-consumption, there was 55 MW of solar power. Croatia has now reached 700 MW, out of which 600 MW is on the roofs of firms and homes, Milati? said.

Large amounts of energy that will be produced at some points during the day must be adequately placed in the market, to avoid being offered for free or with negative prices, Milati? said and added it this is why PPA contracts are important.

Out of 5 GW in total since 2021, more than 70% is for photovoltaics, the state secretary pointed out. Today eight out of 10 requests for energy approval are for solar power. The ministry expects the total would reach 8 GW by the end of the year.

In a few months the ministry will finish mapping wind farm locations and determine go-to areas, where investors will be made aware of the administrative requirements for each potential investment, Milati? explained.

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