# Vatican City to Achieve 100% Renewable Energy with New Solar Plant Construction



Vatican City is poised to become the eighth country in the world to generate 100% of its electricity from renewable energy with the construction of a new solar plant, Pope Francis announced. The plant will be built on 424 hectares of Vatican-owned property outside Rome. This project will augment existing solar installations within Vatican City and aim to ensure climate neutrality.

The shift towards renewable energy has been a significant focus of Pope Francis’s papacy. In 2015, he highlighted human-induced climate change as a critical concern and continued to advocate for environmental sustainability. The Vatican joined the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2022, further solidifying its commitment to combating climate change.

Separately, Google announced a partnership with BlackRock to develop a one-gigawatt solar power pipeline in Taiwan. This initiative aims to bolster Taiwan's local clean energy production and aid Google in achieving net-zero emissions by 2030. Google’s investment will support New Green Power, a solar developer, to increase Taiwan's renewable energy capacity. The generated solar energy will power Google's data centers and cloud regions in Taiwan, as well as supply some of its chip suppliers and manufacturers in the region.

Taiwan is a significant player in the semiconductor industry, producing nearly 60% of the world's chips, and this new solar capacity will help meet the high energy demands of chip fabrication facilities.