



Tonga

Asia & Pacific

Ease of doing Solar classification



Influencer

Electricity Consumption in kWh/capita (2020)

567.7

Average PVout in kWh/kWp/day (2020)

4.0

Cumulative Solar Capacity in MW (2021)

6.3

Getting Electricity Score (2020)

73.2

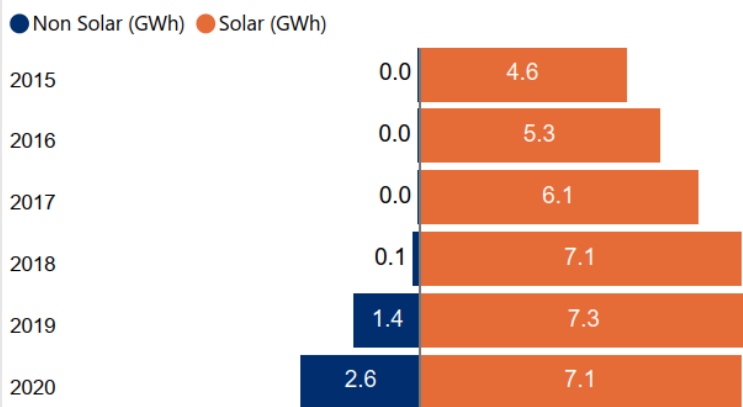
NDC Target by 2030 in % (base year 2006)

13.0

Human Development Index (2021)

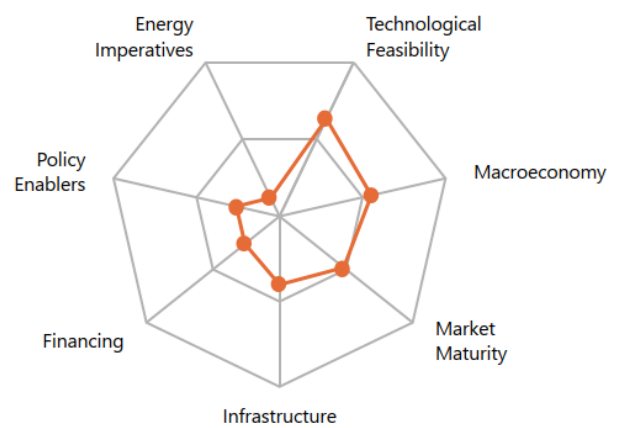
0.7

Renewable Energy Generation by Source

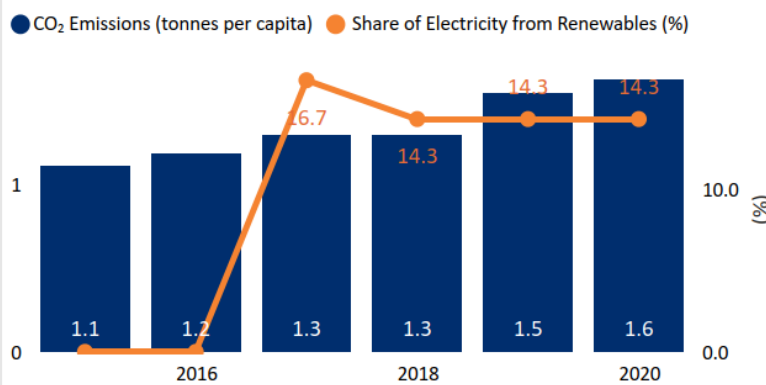


Non Solar RE includes Wind and Hydro;

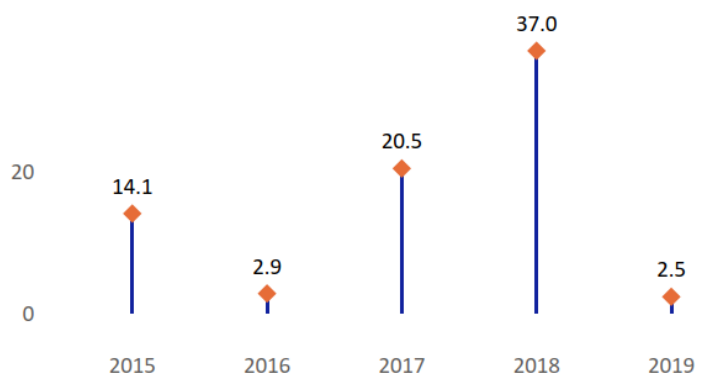
Performance against 7 Drivers



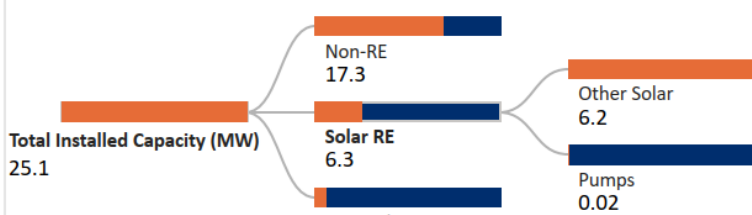
CO₂ Emissions vs Electricity share from Renewables



International Finance received for Clean Energy (Million US Dollars)



Installed Capacity by Source (2019)



Non-Solar RE: Wind, Hydro, Biomass, Geothermal & Marine;

Non-RE: Coal, Natural Gas, Nuclear, Oil, etc.;

Other Solar: Utility Scale Solar, Rooftop etc.;

Data not available for other Solar RE segments;

Support for Renewables (2020)

Feed-in-Tariffs for renewable energy supply to the grid?

No

Net metering/Gross metering policies and regulations?

No

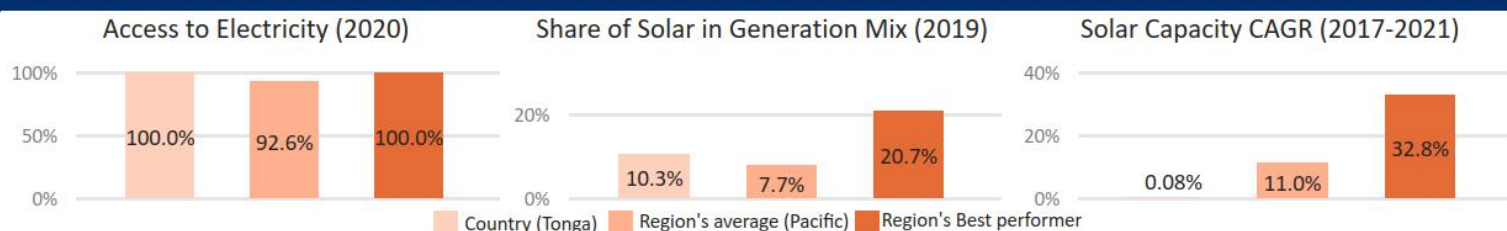
Renewable Energy Certificates?

No

Renewable Purchase Obligation?

No

Country's regional performance and characteristics



Areas of Strength

Macroeconomy
Technological Feasibility

Areas of Improvement

Energy Imperatives
Policy Enablers

Key Insights

Drivers

Insights



Macroeconomy

- Tonga is a middle-income¹ country with a GDP per capita (PPP) of USD 6,749 in 2020.²
- Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, the GDP (Real) declined to 0.5% in 2020 and it further declined by 2.7% in 2021.³
- The inflation rate (CPI) of Tonga has increased to 1.4 % in 2021 from 0.4% levels in 2020.⁴
- The general government gross debt to GDP has reached 47.5% in 2021 from 43.6 % levels in 2020.⁵



Policy enablers

- Tonga has committed to achieve a share of 70% from renewables in the generation mix by 2030.⁶
- Tonga has also been working to achieve its energy efficiency target by 2030.⁷
- Tonga Climate Change Policy is focused towards building a resilient Tonga by 2035 envisioning an integrated approach to adaptation, disaster risk reduction and mitigation.⁷



Technological Feasibility

- Tonga receives high levels of solar irradiation (GHI) of 4.9 kWh/m²/day and specific yield 4.0 kWh/kWp/day indicating a high technical feasibility for solar in the country.⁸
- Tonga Renewable Energy Project (TREP) entails electricity generation from renewable sources and grid technologies.⁹
- In March 2021, Energy Department of the Ministry of MEIDECC conducted a procurement for solar PV/BESS based micro-grid in 'O'ua, Tungua, Kotu and Mo'unga'one and for the island of Niufo'ou.¹⁰



Market Maturity

- 100% of the population in Tonga is having access to electricity since 2020.¹¹
- The Electricity Commission regulates the power sector in the country. The state-owned Tonga Power Ltd (TPL) generates, transmits, and distributes electricity to the four islands in Tonga.¹²
- Tonga has developed the Renewable Energy Act, 2016 that promotes the development of renewable energy industry in the country.¹³



Infrastructure

- Nuku'alofa Network Upgrade Project (NNUP) has helped in reducing network losses and provide safe and reliable electricity supply to approximately 8,472 households and businesses.¹⁴
- Tonga is changing the existing electricity meters with the new smart meters to improve electricity services to the consumers.¹⁵



Financing

- ADB has financed Tonga's renewable energy project with an estimated cost of USD 750 Mn.¹⁶
- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has given a grant of USD 29.9 Mn to emphasis on a climate-resilient battery energy storage system and renewable energy systems.¹⁷
- Australian Government and Government of Tonga has funded Tonga Renewable Energy Project with amounts of USD 2.50 Mn and USD 5.60 Mn respectively.¹⁸



Energy Imperatives

- In 2020, the per capita electricity consumption stood at 0.567 MWh in Tonga, which is lower in comparison to the global average of 3.31 MWh.¹⁹
- The total installed capacity of solar PV witnessed a CAGR of 0.08% between 2017-2021 reaching 6.3 MW in 2021 from 6.2 MW levels in 2017.²⁰
- The peak demand for electricity in the country stood at 0.06 TWh remaining same in 2021 and 2020.²¹
- In 2021, the total installed capacity in the country reached 25 MW²² with almost 100% share coming from fossil fuel based electricity.²¹