

Zambia needs an outdoor power supply





Overview

Does Zambia need a new energy source?

LUSAKA, April 1, 2025 – Access to electricity in Zambia has risen from 30% in 2017 to currently nearly 50%. Whilst half of the population is connected, the remaining half will require new energy solutions. Zambia currently relies on hydropower for 80% its electricity generation, but recent droughts have shown the limitations of this energy source.

Does Zambia have a lack of electricity?

With nearly half of Zambians having access to electricity, according to the World Bank's 2022 development indicators, the lack of power for over 20 hours per day has frustrated many whose businesses depend on it.

How can Zambia address the limitations of hydropower?

To address the limitations of hydropower, Zambia should consider integrating nuclear, wind, solar, and coal energy into its power grid. Each of these alternatives offers unique advantages and challenges.

How does the World Bank support Zambia's Electricity access initiatives?

The World Bank is supporting Zambia's electricity access initiatives, including the development of mini-grids, through projects like the Electricity Services Access Project (ESAP) and the Zambia-Tanzania Interconnector Project (ZTIP), aiming to expand access to affordable and sustainable energy.

Does Zambia have enough power?

Zambia's only public power utility company, the Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation, or ZESCO, said Monday that it does not have enough power to supply all hospitals. Media reports say some hospitals are turning patients away due to lack of electricity and water.

How can a diversified energy portfolio help Zambia?



The current energy crisis in Zambia, exacerbated by reliance on hydropower and frequent droughts, necessitates a shift towards a diversified energy portfolio. By incorporating nuclear, wind, solar, and coal energy, Zambia can reduce its vulnerability to power shortages and ensure a stable, sustainable energy supply.



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[Zambia power utility extends daily power supply to seven hours](#)

LUSAKA, Nov. 7 (Xinhua) -- Zambia's national power utility has announced that consumers will have a power supply for seven hours a day, up from three hours. Zesco Limited said in a ...

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