

“THE UK SOLAR ENERGY MARKET COULD REACH 300 MWP PER YEAR IN SOLAR CARPORTS UNTIL 2035”



Solar energy continues its unstoppable growth in the United Kingdom. Our Collaborator Praxia Energy, one of the manufacturers and distributors of fixed structures for solar projects with the most presence in northern Europe, explains to us in this interview how the market is growing and how the UK is betting on solutions such as solar canopies for photovoltaic self-consumption.

Pablo Cuesta
CEO at PRAXIA Energy & Simply Solar

The number of new solar farms and battery storage projects in the UK has increased exponentially. By year's end, plans for 16GW of solar farms had been approved for planning and grid connection, and plans for a further 9GW were still being evaluated. The government plans to reach 70GW by 2035, including an estimated 17GW of solar capacity in the UK.



What makes the UK market attractive for solar energy?

We have just returned from the Solar & Storage exhibition in the United Kingdom, where we had our own stand. The UK's target, supported and expanded by the current government, is to have a capacity of 70 GW of photovoltaic power by 2035. By the end of this year, it will reach 20 GW. This means there is a potential market of around 5 GW per year.

Energy independence, access to clean, affordable, and reliable energy, as well as, of course, the decarbonization and electrification of the economy, are the primary drivers.

What challenges do fixed structures face, and how does PRAXIA Energy overcome them?

As we see in all the markets where we operate, soil complexity is on the rise. This demands a deeper understanding, experience, and technical solutions. We must ensure that we offer a product with a strong guarantee, of course, but also at very competitive prices.

We are very proud to say that with 3 GW installed across 44 countries, we have had zero incidents to date.





Is there a commitment to solar canopies?

With no doubt. Distributed generation is growing strongly, as one of the barriers being addressed is the improvement of the electrical grid.

The introduction of electric vehicles and batteries is also helping significantly. Our business volume in this area is not yet very high, but we have participated in projects with a lot of visibility, which I believe ensures us a good market position.

Currently, the ratio is 2/3 solar farms and 1/3 other applications (rooftops and canopies). Considering the previous figure of 5 GW, this would amount to approximately 1.5 MW for ground and canopies. If I consider 20%, the market could reach 300 MWp per year in canopies over the coming years.

What are the company's prospects for this market in the coming years?

This is our best market both now and in the future, and I believe our company will grow solidly and steadily within it. Let's keep in mind that all projects involve fixed structures.

Our goal is to reach an annual volume of 250 MWp in this market. By 2025, we will be close, and I think we will achieve it by 2026. The objective should be (between ground structures and canopies) in the range of 15-20 million in annual revenue.