

Azerbaijan sustainable project pipeline stalls as fossil buildout dominates the region

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Despite its commitment to increasing renewable energy capacity, Azerbaijan continues to prioritize fossil fuel development, according to a new report from Global Energy Monitor.

While the country has set a target of reaching 30% renewable energy share by 2030 and is actively pursuing wind and solar projects, the pace of development remains slow. The report highlights that the majority of new power capacity under construction in Azerbaijan is still based on fossil fuels, particularly gas.

The 1.3 GW Mingecevir gas power plant, scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, underscores the country's reliance on fossil fuels for its energy needs. This development contrasts with the global trend towards renewable energy sources, particularly solar and wind power.

The Caucasus and Central Asia region as a whole is facing similar challenges. While there are ongoing efforts to expand renewable energy capacity, the dominance of fossil fuels persists. The region's reliance on fossil fuel exports and the economic benefits associated with them have hindered the transition to cleaner energy sources.

As the world prepares for COP29, it is crucial for countries like Azerbaijan to accelerate their transition to renewable energy. By investing in clean energy technologies and implementing supportive policies, Azerbaijan can reduce its carbon footprint and contribute to global efforts to combat climate change.