



Sustainability action · Project Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Saint Nikola Wind Farm, Bulgaria

The project will contribute approximately 1.5% of Bulgaria's energy consumption and will significantly increase the country's wind generation capacity. The wind farm contributes to the economical revival and sustainable development of the region.

Project

This 156 MW onshore wind farm has been installed to lower the country's dependency on fossil fuels and make way for a low carbon future. With its 52 Vestas wind turbines erected, the Kavarna project is the largest wind farm in Bulgaria. Saint Nikola Wind Farm significantly increases Bulgaria's capacity in the production of renewable energy and helps the country reaching the requirements of the 20/20/20 European Union Programme.

The wind farm has been constructed so as to allow for the land to continue to be used as agricultural land by local farmers. The turbine foundations have dimensions of 17x17 m and the distance between the wind turbines allows free access of agricultural machinery.

As part of the project's corporate social responsibility programme, projects related to the healthcare, education, culture, ecology and sport are financed every year.

Checklist	Additionality and permanence	3 rd party verified	Transparency	Annual CO ₂ -reduction	Social and environmental benefits	Marketing material
Project 301 780	According to the rules of the VCS	By Carbon Check (Pty) Ltd	Provided by Markit Environmental Registry	256,108 tCO ₂ e	As documented in our database	Pictures available



Location

The project is located in the Kavarna region, in the North East part of Bulgaria about 3km inland from the Black Sea.

Project achievements

Socio-economic impact

- Thanks to the St. Nikola CSR programme, more than 16 000 people receive access to modern diagnostic technology that includes financing of digital x-ray and digital echography for the Kavarna Municipality hospital
- Funding of four outdoor fitness parks for Kavarna Elementary schools and local public parks
- Funding of four digital Interactive whiteboards for 3 of Kavarna schools
- The project supports various community activities, that includes the International Dance Competition "Open Kavarna", the annual fireworks festival, the first 3D cinema in the region and Easter and Christmas meals for pensioners and disabled people
- One hundred jobs have been created in the construction of the plant, and long-term employment for about 34 locals has been created in operation of the wind farm. These provide social insurance in a region that is typified by part-time jobs in agriculture
- The employees receive regular training on health and safety, first aid, fire, high voltage, risk analysis, emergencies, and security

Environmental impact

- No trees have been cut during the construction works. In an on-going attempt to improve environmental conditions, the project operators have planted 3000 trees
- The wind farm has no impact whatsoever on the habitats and birds in the region, and this has been proved by intensive research monitoring and analyses by Bulgarian and international experts
- The project has a strict waste management plan, with adequate disposal of waste and recycling of scrap