

Norwegian company Statkraft, a leading international hydropower company and Europe's largest producer of renewable energy, entered the Albanian market in 2007 with an investment in a cascading hydropower plant on the Devol River.

After the successful completion of the implementation phase and connection to the national electricity network, the first block of the floating photovoltaic power plant Banja has successfully started commercial operation. The plant is located on the accumulation of the hydroelectric power plant Banje, with an installed capacity of 72 MW, which is managed by Statkraft.

The floating photovoltaic power plant Banje has a projected installed capacity of 2 MWp. As previously announced, the investment costs of the project amount to 2 million euros.

The first unit of this plant, consisting of 1,536 solar panels, has an installed capacity of 0.5 MWp and covers an area of approximately 4,000 square meters. In addition, 160 identical solar panels were placed on the ground, to compare and document the cooling effect on the floating panels.

The second phase of project implementation is planned for the second half of 2021, when three more floating units will be installed, with an additional capacity of 1.5 MWp.

Source: [monitor.al](http://monitor.al)