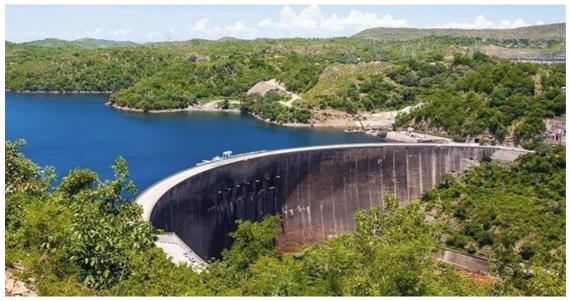


Zimbabwe approves MoU for nuclear energy cooperation with Russia

Zimbabwe has approved a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Russia's State Atomic Energy Corporation (Rosatom) aimed at building nuclear energy capacity in the African country to mitigate its energy crisis.



Lake Kariba

An alternate source of energy will reduce Zimbabwe's dependence on Lake Kariba and hydropower. The country only produced 650MW against a national demand of 1,700MW. The anticipated cooperation in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes will strengthen the energy mix and provide alternative sources of energy that Zimbabwe needs.

In addition, the country has discovered uranium deposits in the coal rich Hwange and Binga districts with exploration still in progress.

The country's co-operation with Rosatom, will also explore the feasibility of constructing a nuclear science and technology centre, says Zimbabwe's information minister, Monica Mutsvangwa.

No further details of the agreement were provided.