

China-Africa solar Modules





Overview

Does Africa Import solar panels from China?

This report presents Ember's analysis of Africa's imports of solar panels from China. The Chinese solar panel export data gives valuable insights because it includes imports up to June 2025, at a monthly granularity, and for every country in the world. The data can be found in Ember's China Solar Export Explorer.

Where do Africa's solar panels come from?

The vast majority of Africa's solar panels come from Chinese imports. That is because China produced 80% of the world's solar panels in 2024, and is by far the biggest exporter. Africa depends heavily on imports because domestic solar panel manufacturing is still limited.

How many solar panels did Africa Import in 2025?

Africa's solar panel imports set a new record in the 12 months to June 2025, reaching 15,032 MW — a 60% increase on the 9,379 MW imported in the preceding 12 months. The last time imports surged was in 2023, when South Africa solar imports picked up as the power crisis hit its peak.

Are solar panels taking off in Africa?

The first evidence of a take-off in solar in Africa is now here: The last 12 months saw a big rise in Africa's solar panel imports. Imports from China rose 60% in the last 12 months to 15,032 MW. Over the last two years, the imports of solar panels outside of South Africa have nearly tripled from 3,734 MW to 11,248 MW.



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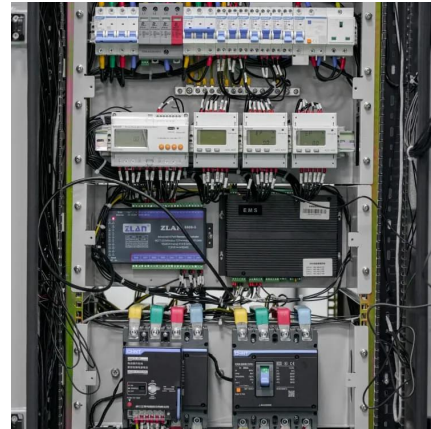
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[China-Fueled Solar Boom in Africa](#)



China's financing is accelerating Africa's solar build-out--utility and distributed projects, grid upgrades, and local manufacturing. Opportunities, risks, and policy signals.

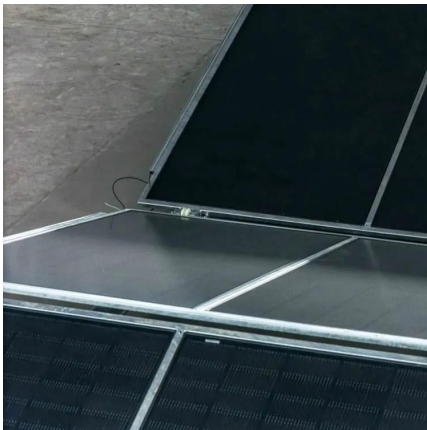
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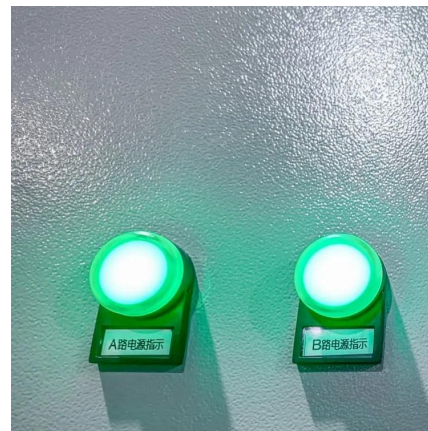
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Ember: African imports of Chinese solar panels up to over 15GW

Africa imported over 15GW of panels from China in the 12 months to June 2025, a 60% increase over the imports recorded in the prior year.

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