

## A-Core Container

# China-Africa subsidized solar inverters



## Overview

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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.

Has China built a solar power plant in Africa?

Yes, China has made strides in building solar power plants in Africa. For example, China's government financed the construction of a utility-scale 50 megawatt (MW) solar plant in Kenya — the first of its kind in the country.

Does China have an Africa Solar Belt?

China's first major program under its new strategy of shifting overseas renewable energy investments toward smaller-scale initiatives is the Africa Solar Belt.

Could China-Global South credit be used to finance solar panels in Africa?

Eric Olander, co-founder of the China-Global South Project, told Bloomberg that the credit may be used to “finance purchases of vast quantities of solar panels, batteries and electric vehicles” from China, for use in Africa.

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.

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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