

How has global solar PV manufacturing capacity changed over the last decade?

Global solar PV manufacturing capacity has increasingly moved from Europe, Japan and the United States to China over the last decade. China has invested over USD 50 billion in new PV supply capacity - ten times more than Europe - and created more than 300 000 manufacturing jobs across the solar PV value chain since 2011.

Are solar PV supply chains cost-competitive?

Currently, the cost competitiveness of existing solar PV manufacturing is a key challenge to diversifying supply chains. China is the most cost-competitive location to manufacture all components of the solar PV supply chain. Costs in China are 10% lower than in India, 20% lower than in the United States, and 35% lower than in Europe.

How many dumping and import taxes are imposed on solar PV?

Since 2011, the number of antidumping, countervailing and import duties levied against parts of the solar PV supply chain has increased from just 1 import tax to 16 duties and import taxes, with 8 additional policies under consideration. Altogether, these measures cover 15% of global demand outside of China.

How can a solar PV supply chain be sustainable?

Ensure environmental and social sustainability Strengthen international cooperation on creating clear and transparent standards, taking into account environmental and social sustainability criteria. Focus on skills development, worker protection and social inclusion across the solar PV supply chain.

Does China's solar industry have a global reach?

In 2023, China achieved record photovoltaic export volume growth across all subcomponents, driving manufacturing expansion in emerging markets. Following Wood Mackenzie's recent presentation at the SNEC Solar PV Conference & Exhibition in Shanghai in June, we share our insights on the global reach of China's solar and storage industry.

Is polysilicon a bottleneck for solar PV?

Global capacity for manufacturing wafers and cells, which are key solar PV elements, and for assembling them into solar panels (also known as modules), exceeded demand by at least 100% at the end of 2021. By contrast, production of polysilicon, the key material for solar PV, is currently a bottleneck in an otherwise oversupplied supply chain.



Photovoltaic energy storage industry goes overseas

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