

On-site energy outdoor solar lifelong use in China





Overview

Can rooftop solar be deployed in China?

This study moves beyond technical estimates to assess the deployable rooftop solar potential across 367 Chinese cities, factoring in real-world constraints. The findings offer actionable insights to guide strategic deployment and support China's ambitious solar energy goals.

How much solar power did China add in 2025?

China added 60 gigawatts (GW) of new solar power capacity in the first three months of 2025. This was China's largest- ever first-quarter addition. Rooftop solar systems contributed around 36 GW, which is 60% of the total capacity added.

What is the future of solar energy in China?

The focus is on self-consumption, grid stability, and reducing dependence on central power plants. A recent report by Rystad energy shows that most rooftop systems are being installed for commercial and industrial (C&I) use. The total installed capacity of distributed solar in China is expected to reach 130 GW by the end of the year.

How big is China's rooftop solar system?

This was China's largest- ever first-quarter addition. Rooftop solar systems contributed around 36 GW, which is 60% of the total capacity added. This increase in rooftop installations follows new policy guidelines announced in October 2024 by the National Energy Administration (NEA). These guidelines took effect in May 2025.



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