

Does a globalized solar photovoltaic module supply chain save money?

Modelling shows that a globalized solar photovoltaic module supply chain has resulted in photovoltaic installation cost savings of billions of dollars.

Are solar photovoltaics ready to power a sustainable future?

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Is a domestic manufacturing base in solar PV a good investment?

A domestic manufacturing base in solar PV may provide other benefits besides direct employment worthy of future study. Our model does not incorporate any spillover benefits to adjacent industries, such as semiconductors and electronics.

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.

Are solar PV prices going down?

Nonetheless, rapid price declines in solar PV have not been without controversy. China, for example, has played an outsized role in scaling up the mass production of solar PV cells and modules, comprising 78% of global production in 2021 9,10 (Fig. 1).

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.

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 ...



Photovoltaic energy storage goes overseas

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