

World's top utility-scale solar project developers Europe rises again

The emergence of unsubsidised projects is helping European companies to rise back up the list of the world's top utility-scale solar project developers. The developers with more than 1 GW_{AC} of cumulative installed volume are:

Rank	Project developer	Cumulative to date		Change since end 2018		
		Plants	GWac	Plants	GWac	Rank
1	First Solar [US]	73	5.174	10	1.205	2
2	Canadian Solar [CA]	196	4.118	9	0.259	22
3	NextEra Energy [US]	58	3.408	16	1.216	1
4	SunEdison [US] (in insolvency)	125	3.123	6	0.257	23
5	ENEL Green Power [IT] (part of ENEL)	47	3.092	5	0.603	11
6	State Power Investment Corporation [CN]	55	3.025	2	0.221	25
7	ACME Solar [IN]	70	2.806	10	0.730	7
8	Adani [IN]	49	2.790	3	0.361	18
9	Engie [FR]	113	2.167	38	0.906	3
10	Azure Power [IN]	40	1.786	6	0.795	5
11	Tata Power [IN]	40	1.733	5	0.549	14
12	Shunfeng [CN]	9	1.532	0	0.000	
13	Cypress Creek Renewables [US]	140	1.503	13	0.209	27
14	juwi AG [DE]	88	1.463	7	0.545	15
15	Trina Solar [CN]	8	1.357		0.840	4
16	China Three Gorges New Energy [CN]	11	1.281	0	0.000	
17	EDF Energies Nouvelles [FR] (part of EDF)	54	1.267	9	0.428	16
18	Scatec Solar [NO]	24	1.256	7	0.622	10
19	Neoen [FR]	31	1.256	10	0.552	12
20	Enerparc [DE]	172	1.251	38	0.303	19
21	X-Elio [ES] (owned by KKR & Brookfield)	31	1.235	5	0.742	6
22	Shell [NL]	29	1.223	10	0.659	9
23	Abengoa Solar [ES]	17	1.179			
24	AES Corporation [US]	53	1.166	13	0.393	17
25	Softbank [JP]	13	1.164	4	0.673	8
26	SunPower Corporation [US]	40	1.145	1	0.101	
27	JinkoSolar [CN]	15	1.139	2	0.549	13
28	Hareon Solar [CN]	12	1.112	1	0.025	
29	Sempra Energy [US]	11	1.090	4	0.264	21
30	ACWA Power [SA] (part owned Silk Road Fund)	8	1.088	1	0.300	20
31	Greenko Energy Holdings [IN]	3	1.060	1	0.060	
32	8minutenergy [US]	15	1.047	2	0.244	24
33	China Singyes [CN]	3	1.040	2	0.220	26
34	GCL-Poly Energy Holdings [HK]	27	1.033	1	0.020	

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The top 40 utility-scale solar project developers by cumulative installed capacity

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North American companies retain the four top spots, with NextEra Energy ranked #1 for installations since the beginning of 2019, and First Solar still top by cumulative installed capacity. The strength of India's domestic market is underlined again by the four Indian companies in the top 11 places in the table.



Europhiles will be pleased to see ENEL retaining its elevated position, and developers like Engie and Juwi climbing up the list. These companies had expanded their activities into emerging overseas markets, during the stagnation of the European solar market, but are now also pursuing post-subsidy project opportunities closer to home. In addition, Europe claims four of last year's top five climbers – X-Elio, Shell, Scatec Solar and Neoen – joining Trina, which enters this list having started to develop its own projects in China.

Japan's Softbank has also been a significant climber, thanks substantially to its activities through SB Energy in India.

These figures are always calculated from the bottom up – totalling the AC capacity of commissioned projects in which the listed companies are known to have been participants. Wiki-Solar seeks to check statistics with these top developers, but its database does not list the developer for every project, and therefore the totals shown may be understated. In particular, Chinese companies should doubtless be more prominent, and China should probably have more than the eight companies shown on this list.

T E X T E N D S

Notes for editors:

- [1] This release on the utility-scale solar market is available here:
http://wiki-solar.org/library/public/200421_Top_utility-scale_solar_project_developers.pdf
- [2] Wiki-Solar is the leading authority on utility-scale solar with a database covering some 13,000 utility-scale solar projects, of which about three-quarters are operational. All figures are based on the AC export rating of operational plants. Projects under development are excluded until they have been commissioned.
- [3] Wiki-Solar defines 'utility-scale solar' as more than 4 MW_{AC} (~ 1,500 households in Europe) see: <http://wiki-solar.org/data/glossary/utility-scale.html>.
- [4] 'Solar Photovoltaic Projects in the mainstream power market' was [published](#) in 2012.

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