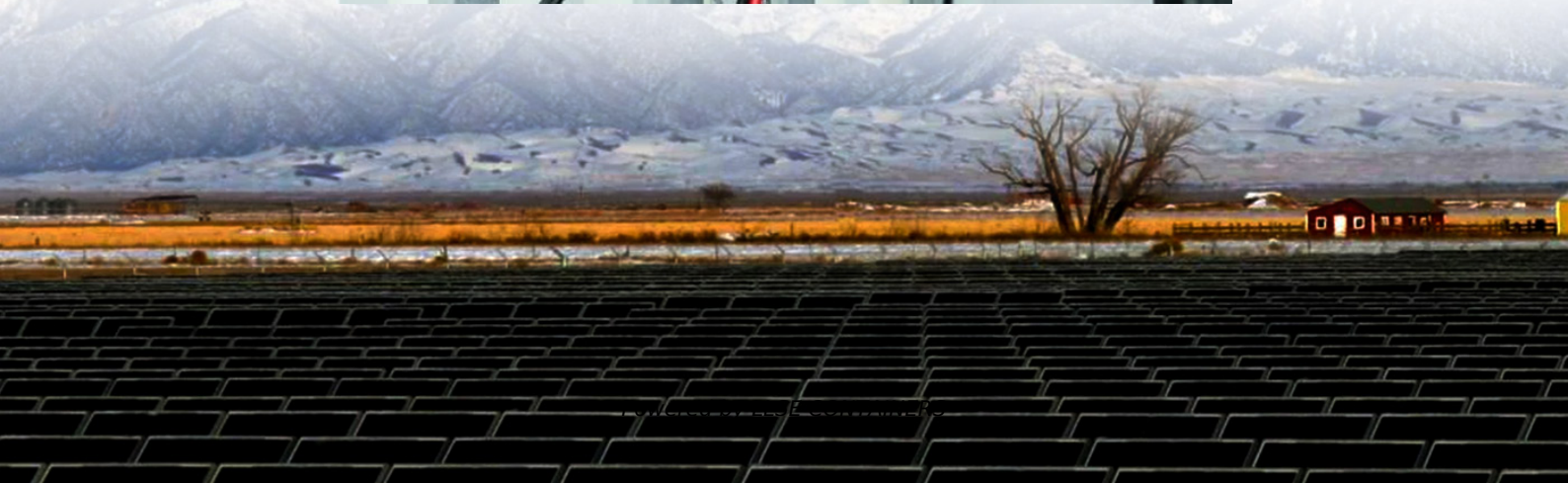


# Kenya is mandatory to equip solar container battery manufacturers





## Overview

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Does Kenya have a VAT exemption for solar equipment & accessories?

In September 2013 the newly introduced Value Added Tax Act 2013 (“The Kenyan VAT Act 2013”) did not contain any provisions providing for VAT exemption or zero-rating of solar equipment and accessories. This meant that with effect from 1st September 2013 imported solar equipment and accessories were subject to VAT at 16%.

Can a solar power system be exempted from tax in Kenya?

On the other hand, Kenya Revenue Authority (“KRA”) adopted the interpretation that equipment that could ‘technically’ only be powered by solar PV could qualify for exemption, thereby excluding any equipment or accessories that could potentially be powered by the grid (e.g. solar fridges, solar lanterns with a USB charging port etc.).

What is a standardised solar importation guideline?

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide clarity to the solar PV industry (solar PV companies and clearing and forwarding agents (C&F)) on the importation process, requirement and qualification for exemption for all relevant solar products in Kenya through the production of a standardised importation guideline.

What challenges did KRA face in importing solar power equipment?

KEREA representing Solar Home System(SHS) companies as the industry association, informed KRA about the challenges its members were having due to the lack of clarity and inconsistencies within the importation process. Specifically the members were impacted by the inconsistent application of tax exemptions on certain solar powered equipment.



## Kenya is mandatory to equip solar container battery manufacturers

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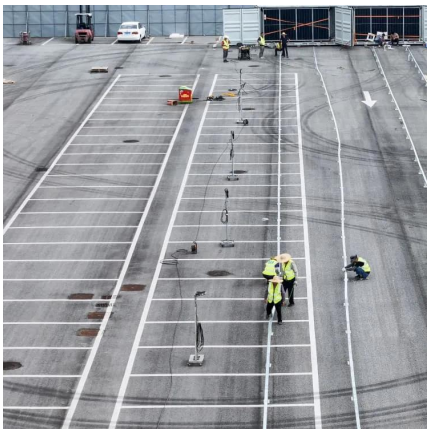


### [Guide to Solar Panel Manufacturing in Kenya: EPRA & KEBS ...](#)

Jun 4, 2025 · Starting a solar panel factory in Kenya? Our expert guide simplifies EPRA solar license requirements, KEBS standards, and NEMA compliance. Your roadmap to success.

### [Kenya Green Manufacturing Policy and Investment Guide](#)

Apr 30, 2025 · It also highlights challenges and potential solutions to address bottlenecks facing local manufacturers in the solar PV, battery and electric mobility ecosystem.



### **Promoting the Use of Solar Energy in the Manufacturing Sector in Kenya**

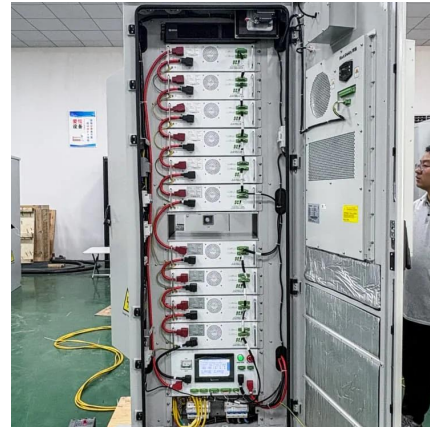
Oct 27, 2022 · The government could consider focusing on the solar industrial revolution by investing in the industrial capacity needed to manufacture solar cells to scale up its adoption ...

### [Kenya: Battery Energy Storage System Project - USTDA](#)

The Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen), has been designated to be the Implementing Agency for the Kenyan Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which is part of



...



## Importation Guidelines

Oct 16, 2023 · Item 48 of the same schedule which introduced VAT exemption on "inputs or raw materials supplied to solar equipment manufacturers for manufacture of solar equipment or ...



## [Solar Manufacturing in Kenya: A Business & Investor's Guide](#)

Jun 3, 2025 · Thinking of solar manufacturing in Kenya? Our guide covers the economic landscape, legal framework, tax incentives, and key opportunities for investors.



## [Kenya: The role of grid scale battery energy storage systems ...](#)

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## [MPS Are In Favour Of Installing Battery Storage In Wind And Solar ...](#)

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