
East Africa Solar Air Conditioning

Does Africa need a regulated air conditioning industry?

Africa's demand for cooling systems is expanding. But regulating the industry is a struggle. A technician positions an R-22 refrigerant on an outdoor air conditioning unit in Lagos, Nigeria, Thursday, July 18, 2024. (AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)

Are air conditioners still popular in Kenya?

In Kenya, the demand for cooling systems is growing as temperatures warm, the population grows and electricity access expands. Air conditioners running on R-22 are still very common in Kenya, but the National Environmental Management Authority told The Associated Press there have not been new imports since 2021, in line with 2020 regulations.

Do air conditioners in Africa still use R-22 gas?

(AP Photo/Sunday Alamba) According to industry professionals and public records, the most common air conditioners in Africa still use what's known as R-22 gas. This refrigerant is less harmful to the ozone layer compared to the older, even more damaging coolants called chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).

Why do air conditioners sprout from the walls in Abuja?

In Abuja and across Nigeria, air conditioners sprout from the walls as the appliance turns from a middle-class luxury into a necessity in an increasingly hot climate. The industry is governed by regulations prohibiting the release of cooling gases into the air, for example by conducting leak tests after an appliance is fixed.

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Many African governments are actively pursuing the development and promotion of solar-powered alternatives to traditional air conditioning. This has conducted to the initiation of ...

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In effect, inherent growth of the solar industry in Africa continued to take gradual growth from 4,303MW in 2017 to 6,097MW in the year 2018 contributing only 1.1 % to the global solar ...

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