

# **UN Global Climate Action Awards: Climate leaders**

# **SunFunder: Pioneering Climate Investments in Africa** | *Africa*

SunFunder is the leading debt-financing provider for distributed solar in Africa and other emerging regions, bringing access to energy and long-term climate investments. It has closed over USD 150 million in loans to 57 solar companies working in off-grid solar, mini-grids, agri-solar and other commercial & industrial (C&I) solar projects. These investments mitigate carbon emissions by replacing fossil fuels, and also help communities adapt to climate change by increasing resilience in local economies and food systems.

Founded in 2012, it was the first mover in addressing the debt financing bottleneck faced by off-grid solar companies, and has built a team with unique market expertise and local presence. SunFunder has also devised new blended finance vehicles through a series of its own managed funds, unlocking more than USD 150 million from public and private sources. SunFunder's focus is now on scaling its climate impact, launching the first of its new "Gigaton" funds with an initial USD 500m fund and target first closing in 2022.

#### Key facts

- SunFunder's investments have directly resulted in over 750,000 tonnes of annual CO2e mitigation.
- SunFunder's investments have directly resulted in more than 8 million people gaining improved energy access.
- SunFunder has unlocked over USD 150 million in blended finance, and closed over USD 150 million of debt financing for 57 solar investees in 24 emerging and frontier nations.

### More information

Digital assets are available for download at <a href="https://trello.com/b/FNvAMbUN/2021-announcement-unglobal-climate-action-awards">https://trello.com/b/FNvAMbUN/2021-announcement-unglobal-climate-action-awards</a>



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