



Communiqué, April 2015

**SOLAR-ERA.NET receives 32 preproposals with total project volume of 36 million euros in its third set of transnational calls in the field of solar power generation**

The third set of transnational SOLAR-ERA.NET calls PV3 and CSP3 found good interest in the solar power industry sector and research community. 32 preproposals with a total project volume of around 36 million euros and funding requested of around 25 million euros were submitted by the deadline set (27 March 2015). Preproposals involve 150 partners from 17 countries and regions (s. Figure 1).

About half of the organisations involved in the preproposals submitted belong to the categories of small and medium sized enterprises and large enterprises; research organizations have a share of 44%. Figure 2 shows the share of different types of organizations among the partners being involved in the preproposals submitted

26 out 32 preproposals were submitted for PV topics, 6 preproposals for CSP topics. Figure 3 shows the number of preproposals submitted per call topic.

17 countries and regions participate with their RTD and innovation programmes in these calls. The total public funding budget for both calls is 12 million euros, covering topics in photovoltaics (PV) and concentrating solar power (CSP). Innovative project proposals are sought on transnational level between different European countries strengthening the competitive position of the European solar power industry.

The participating SOLAR-ERA.NET funding organisations will now check the eligibility of the preproposals submitted and their suitability for national funding. The preproposal assessment results will be communicated to the applicants latest by end of May 2015. Applicants who pass this first stage will then be invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals will then be evaluated and ranked by independent experts and funding organisations. First successful projects are expected to start end of 2015 / early 2016.

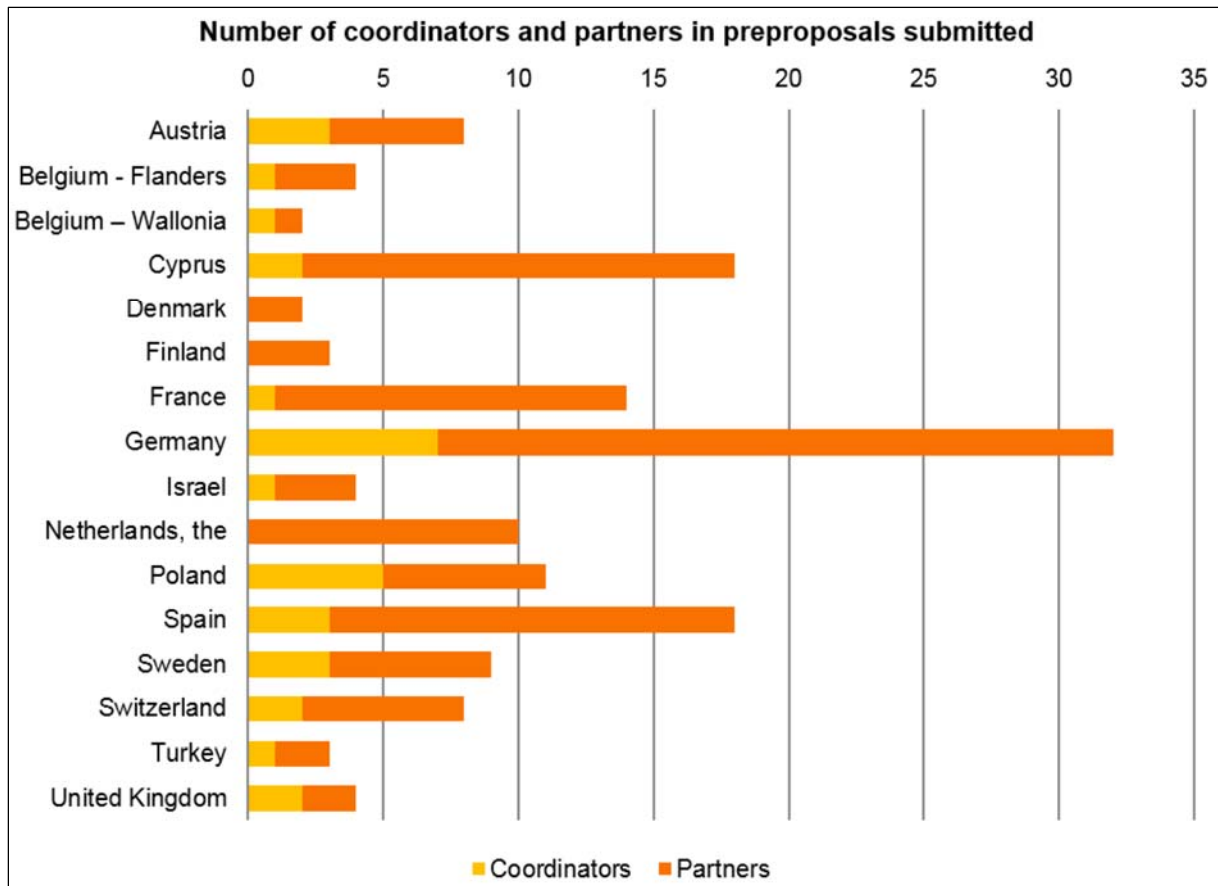


Figure 1: Number of coordinators and partners in the preproposals submitted by country / region participating in the third transnational SOLAR-ERA.NET calls PV3 and CSP3. Germany includes preproposals submitted to the regional agency of North-Rhine-Westphalia.

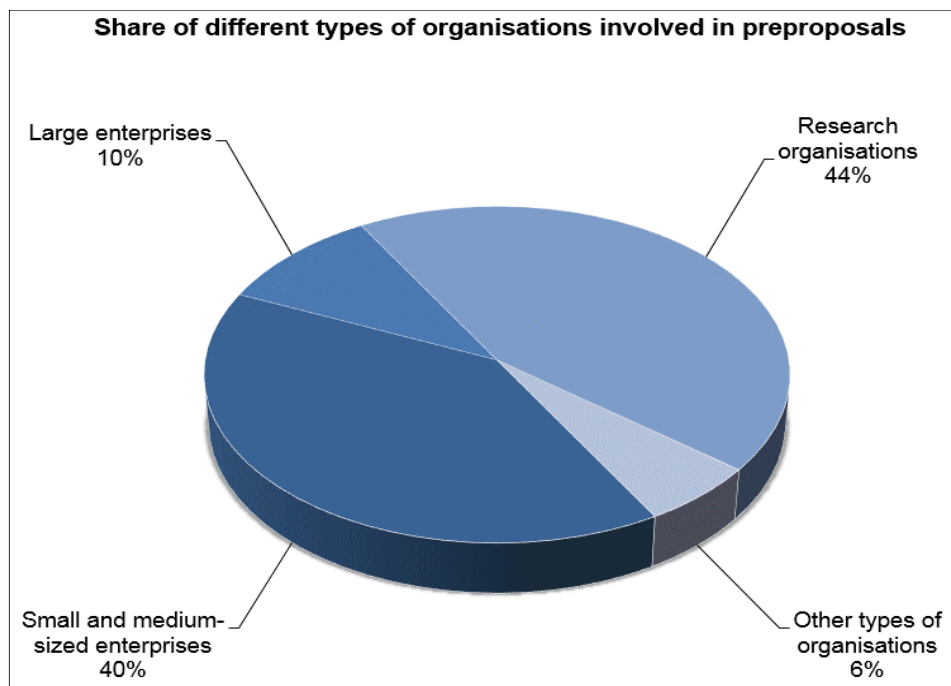


Figure 2: Share of different types of organizations among the partners involved in the preproposals submitted in the third transnational SOLAR-ERA.NET calls PV3 and CSP3

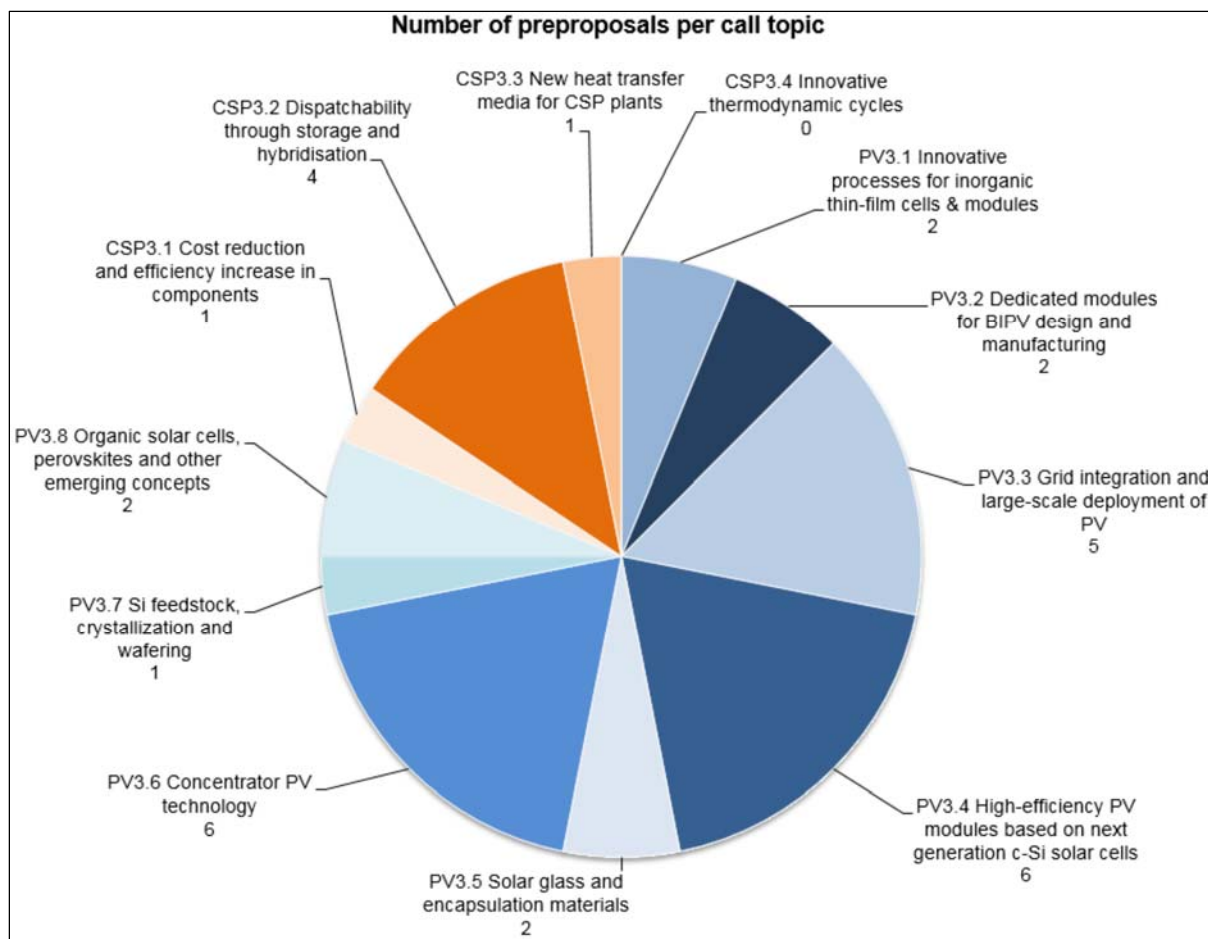


Figure 3: Number of preproposals submitted per topic in the third transnational SOLAR-ERA.NET calls PV3 and CSP3

#### What is SOLAR-ERA.NET?

SOLAR-ERA.NET is a FP7 funded European network of national and regional funding organisations and RTD and innovation programmes in the field of solar electricity generation, i.e. photovoltaics (PV) and concentrating solar power (CSP) / solar thermal electricity (STE).

SOLAR-ERA.NET shall contribute to reaching the objectives of the Solar Europe Industry Initiative (SEII) by carrying out the coordination and support actions for the implementation of the SEII between national and regional RTD and innovation programmes.

The SEII is embedded in the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) which aims to increase, coordinate and focus EU support on key low-carbon energy technologies in order to achieve Europe's 2020 energy objectives in the future. The SEII is a joint initiative of the industry sector, EC and member states. The objective of the SEII is to boost the development of the PV and CSP sector beyond "business-as-usual" in the areas of Research and Development, Demonstration and Deployment. For the concerned solar electricity technologies Implementation Plans have been developed setting out priorities for RTD in Europe.

The goal of SOLAR-ERA.NET is to undertake joint strategic planning, programming and activities for RTD and innovation in the area of solar electricity generation. Joint activities, namely joint calls, are defined for key topics and priorities in accordance with the Solar Europe Industry Initiative (SEII). These transnational calls are part of these activities.

More information on the call and network: [www.solar-era.net](http://www.solar-era.net) / info (at) solar-era.net