European cooperation in Photovoltaics
Facts, Lessons Learned and Outlook

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PV – a race against what?
A long track record of European cooperation in PV and CSP

- **PV ERA NET** (FP6)
  - 2 calls
  - 6 projects
  - 5 MEUR funding
  - Focus on building network and identifying gaps and opportunities

- **SET Plan (with SEII)**

- **PV ERA NETwork (self-sustained follow-up network)**

- **SET Plan (with Integrated Roadmap)**

- **Energy Union**

- **SOLAR-ERA.NET (FP7)**
  - 4 calls
  - ~ 40 projects, i.e. ~ 10 projects per call
  - 40 MEUR funding, i.e. ~ 10 MEUR funding per call

- **SOLAR-ERA.NET Cofund (H2020)**
  - 1 Cofund call
  - ~ 15-20 projects, ~ 20 MEUR funding

- **SOLAR-ERA.NET Cofund 2 (H2020)**
  - 1 Cofund call + 1 additional joint call
  - ~ 30+ projects
  - ~ 30 MEUR funding

- **?**
Consortium

+ new members
- members lost
Recent activities and achievements: some figures

Global figures:
• Overall 6 joint calls over 6 years, different support schemes
• 283 preproposals and 144 full proposals submitted
• 80 projects running or about to start
• 408 partners involved in projects (multiple counting)
• 100 MEUR project volume incl. 68 MEUR funding

Typical project:
• 3 – 5 partners from 3 – 4 countries
• 1,2 MEUR project volume (of which 0,8 MEUR public funding)
Next Joint Call (preliminary information - tbc)

- Launch: 7 October 2019
- Funding agencies involved: Austria FFG, Belgium-Flanders VLAIO, Cyprus RIF, Germany PtJ + NRW, Greece GSRT, Israel MoE, The Netherlands RVO, Spain AEI + CDTI, Sweden STEM, Switzerland SFOE, Turkey Tübitak
- Funding volume: around 10 MEUR
- Stay tuned to www.solar-era.net!
SOLAR-ERA.NET Topics

- Advanced industrial PV technologies
- Emerging PV technologies
- BIPV and infrastructure applications
- Operation, diagnosis and system integration of PV plants
- CSP low cost and next generation technologies
Key Aspects in a Nutshell

- Innovation
- Multifunctionality
- Reliability
- Design
- Industrial manufacturing
- Environment
System Dimension

- Photovoltaics
- Buildings
- Infrastructure
- Grids
Opportunities

• Stepping stone for international cooperation
• Complementarity between national and EU funded programmes
• Building a more robust and consistent research landscape
• Increasing strengths and reducing weaknesses
• Flexibility and bottom-up nature, no “one size fits all” approach
• Innovative transnational research for medium-sized projects
Added Value and Impact

• Networking and collaboration between countries and agencies across Europe
• Good practice for supporting projects on transnational level
• Common initiatives and implementation activities
• New industry-led innovation opportunities and partnerships
• More transnational cooperation bottom-up / «cut to measure»
• Larger and more diverse portfolio
Can we be satisfied?

Well…

• Scale of activities does not yet match the challenges
• Adequacy and matching of funding can be improved
• More flexibility in handling administrative procedures and barriers is required

Moreover…

• Increasingly many issues to be tackled beyond technology
• Innovation needed along the entire value chain – from research to the enduser
• Need for comprehensive yet tangible approaches
• Impact can still be strongly enhanced
A few thoughts for the future

• The chances for PV to really matter have never been better
  - for the energy system, for climate change and for future generations
• Bold initiatives are needed, overcoming each organizations/individuals limits
• Embracing all stakeholders becomes crucial
• Collaboration among all actors will accelerate the delivery of our promise
• More trust and true partnerships instead of more procedures and rules
• Enough studies have been written but much more action is needed
• To succeed, we all have to leave the comfort zone and think out of the box
• Because …
“No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it”
PV – a race against time!

Thank you for your attention!

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