



IN BRIEF

cepting applications for the new subsidy programme, allocating 9 billion JPY (66,6 million EUR) of supplementary budget for FY 2008, that equates to provision for 70 000 JPY/kW (520 EUR/kW). 20,05 billion JPY has been earmarked for the subsidy programme in FY 2009. System cost reductions will be expected from 2009 onwards.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia has not been spared from the effects of the global economic downturn, but the PV sector appears to have avoided the worst of the crisis. Notably the main component of the country's PV deployment programme – SURIA 1000, which seeks competitive bids and balance funding from the private sector for a share of public investment funds – was again heavily oversubscribed. The 5th Call, which ended on 1st April 2009, received applications for three times the 140 kWp capacity allocation. The penultimate call will start on 1st December 2009. At the same time, a major

Japanese investor is developing a second polycrystalline silicon manufacturing base at the Samalaju Industrial Park in Sarawak, Malaysia. The basic design for the plant is scheduled to be completed by the middle of 2009 and will be created through a partnering agreement with a Malaysian Corporation. This brings the total number of significant Foreign Direct Investments in PV manufacturing in Malaysia to five.

USA

Ever since a State of Florida ruling in the late 1950s, there has been no recognition under United States common law of a citizen's right to sunlight. For solar system owners, particularly in dense urban environments, this creates a potential problem; how to ensure that their system continues to enjoy unfettered solar access so that they as users can continue to enjoy the expected system performance. The Solar America Board for Codes and Standards (Solar ABCs) has recently completed a comprehensive review of

Solar Access Law as it exists in the USA and has developed a number of model statutes for use by state and local governments to address the issue in support of solar energy use.

The Report investigates two distinct Solar Access issues:

- Solar Easements – the ability of one property to continue to receive sunlight across property lines without obstruction from another's property (e.g., buildings, foliage, or other impediments).
- Solar rights – the ability to install solar energy systems on residential and commercial property that is subject to private restrictions (e.g., covenants, conditions, restrictions, bylaws, condominium declarations, and local government ordinances and building codes). The report, *A Comprehensive Review of Solar Access Law in the United States: Suggested Standards for a Model Statute and Ordinance*, is available for download from the Solar ABCs website www.solarabc.org/solaraccess

PVPS NEWS

NEW ACTIVITIES

An emerging challenge to achieve the full market potential of grid-connected PV is the ability of the electricity grid to handle high penetration levels of PV systems. The IEA PVPS Programme is considering a new activity to build on the work of the completed Task 5, Grid interconnection of building integrated and other dispersed photovoltaic power systems. Further information will be provided in subsequent editions of this newsletter.

Following the completion of Task 2, Performance, Reliability and Analysis of Photovoltaic Systems it is clear that the topic of performance and reliability of PV systems and components is still very much a priority for most countries.

Consequently the IEA PVPS Programme is considering a new task to continue working on the subject, with areas of work to possibly include statistical system and component analysis, module testing, analytical system assessment, and dissemination and use of tools for education. Further informa-

tion will be provided in subsequent editions of this newsletter.

PVPS EXCO AT SPI

The IEA PVPS Executive Committee will next convene in Anaheim, California, USA. The 34th ExCo meeting will be held in conjunction with Solar Power International (SPI) 09. Solar Power International, the largest solar conference in the USA takes place from 27-29 October 2009. PVPS will have a stand at the conference on the Tuesday and Wednesday (27-28 October), providing an opportunity for visitors to meet with

representatives of the Programme. We hope to see you there.

PVPS @ EU PVSEC

PVPS will also be present at the European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition (EU PVSEC) again this year. The 24th EU PVSEC takes place in Hamburg, Germany on 20-24 September 2009. PVPS will have a stand at in the EPIA booth. Task 1 (Information Dissemination) and Task 8 (Very Large-scale PV) will hold a joint workshop 'Towards a Future of Large Scale Deployment of PV' during the event.



16 kW tracking system at a farm in the Negev.

[PHOTO: SOLARPOWER]

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If you have any comments or require further information about any articles appearing in PV Power, or if you have suggestions for new features, please contact your national representative. Full contact details are provided on the PVPS website.

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PV POWER

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