



Press Release

International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power System Programme (IEA PVPS) publishes its new “Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets 2018”: *At the end of 2018, PV reached for the first time half a TW of total capacity.*

IEA PVPS published its new Snapshot report on Monday, 15 April 2019. This serves as a preliminary assessment prior to the 24th edition of the PVPS flagship report “Trends in PV Applications” that will be published at the end of the year. This report provides estimated data about photovoltaic (PV) capacity in the countries reporting to the IEA PVPS Programme and additional key markets. At least 505 GW of PV are now installed worldwide, as 99,8 GW of PV were installed globally in 2018.

Paris, France, 15 April 2019 – Preliminary market numbers show that the PV market probably stabilized in 2018. In total, about 97,9 GW of PV capacity were installed in the IEA PVPS countries and in other major markets during 2018, and up to 99,8 GW in total (compared to 98,9 GW in 2017). The total installed capacity in the IEA PVPS countries and key markets has crossed the 500 GW mark in 2018, or half a TW. These are the main outcomes of the latest IEA PVPS “Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Market 2018” report, published on 15 April 2019.

While the Chinese PV market experienced a limited decline in 2018 to 45 GW, it was compensated with larger installation volumes in several emerging and established markets. Amongst the growing markets, India can be cited, with 10,8 GW, Australia, that increased spectacularly in 2018, with close to 3,8 GW, Mexico follows with close to 2,7 GW, then Korea with 2,0 GW, followed by a declining Turkish market, above 1,6 GW. The Middle East and African markets experienced growth as well, however a large part of this will be visible in 2019 when most plants will be commissioned, especially in the UAE and Egypt. In the meantime, the US and Japanese market were roughly stable, while Europe grew. The European market rebirth was mainly driven by the significant growth in Germany and the Netherlands, while growth was visible in many countries.

In summary, the global PV market outside of China grew by 9 GW to 55 GW while the decline in China drove the global numbers up to at least 99,8 GW. This growth outside of China composes a different landscape for the PV market, with a 20% growth outside of China.

In total, PV contribution amounts to close to 2,6% of the electricity demand in the world. In the coming years, PV has the potential to become a major source of electricity at an extremely rapid pace in several countries all over the world. The speed of its development stems from its unique ability to cover most market segments; from the very small individual systems for rural electrification to utility-size power plants (today way over 1 GWp). From the built environment to large ground-mounted installations, PV finds its way, depending on various criteria that makes it suitable for most environments. In 2018, PV was the first electricity source in capacity deployed globally. It follows a rapid growth path, which might be supported in the coming years by two key enablers: the decrease of battery prices and the rapid uptake of electric vehicles.

Download the full report here:

<http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=266>

Download the last edition of the “Trends in PV Applications” here:

<http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=trends>

See other reports recently published here on grid integration and BIPV:

<http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=3>

About the IEA PVPS “Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets” Report

This report is the 7th edition of its kind. It has been prepared by IEA PVPS Task 1 largely on the basis of national contributions provided by Task 1 participating countries and additional sources. The data presented in the report are preliminary estimates that will be followed by official validated data by national governments. These official data will be published later this year in the well-known IEA PVPS Trends Report. To obtain electronic copies of this report or information on other IEA PVPS publications please visit the IEA PVPS website www.iea-pvps.org.

About IEA PVPS

The IEA Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme (IEA PVPS) is one of the collaborative R&D Agreements established within the IEA and, since its establishment in 1993, the PVPS participants have been conducting a variety of joint projects in the application of photovoltaic conversion of solar energy into electricity. The 32 PVPS members are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, International Copper Alliance, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, SEIA, SEPA, SolarPower Europe, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, and the United States.

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