

The logo for EUROSOLAR, featuring the words "EURO" and "SOLAR" stacked vertically in a stylized, outlined font. An orange triangle is positioned above the text, pointing towards the top right.

EUROSOLAR  
The European Association  
for Renewable Energy



# EUROPEAN SOLARPRIZE

## 2018

SATURDAY, 17 TH NOVEMBER  
KUNSTMUSEUM – BONN

With kind support of



EUROSOLAR  
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Bonn 2018

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# EUROPEAN SOLARPRIZE 2018



## **AWARD CEREMONY** Saturday 17th November Kunstmuseum, Bonn

15.00 – 17.30 (admission from 14.30)

### **WELCOME AND MODERATION**

**Prof. Peter Droege**

President of EUROSOLAR

### **KEYNOTE: “LOCAL ENERGY TRANSFORMATION: MANDATES FOR A RENEWABLE WORLD, EXPANDING THE SCOPE FOR ACTION”**

**Ashok Sridharan**

Lord Mayor of the City of Bonn and President of ICLEI –  
Local Governments for Sustainability

### **PANEL: “LEADING IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FOR A 100 % RENEWABLE EUROPE”**

**Jennifer McIntosh**

Executive Secretary of ISES –  
International Solar Energy Society

**Stephan Grüger, MdL**

Vicepresident of EUROSOLAR

**Yunus Arikan**

Head of Global Advocacy and Policy of ICLEI –  
Local Governments for Sustainability

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARD WINNERS**

### **GET-TOGETHER**

17.30 – 19.00



# EUROPEAN SOLARPRIZE 2018



## THIS YEAR'S EUROPEAN SOLAR PRIZE GOES TO:

Towns, municipalities, council districts, public utilities  
**Le Mené, France**

Solar architecture and urban planning  
**Pilatus Aircraft Ltd, Switzerland**

Industrial and commercial companies or farmers  
**S&H Connect GmbH, Austria**

Local or regional associations / organisations  
**Low Carbon Hub, United Kingdom**

Owners and operators of renewable energy installations  
**Plus-Energy-Settlement Zentrum Tobel, Switzerland**

Transport and Mobility  
**Ostseestahl GmbH & Co. KG, Germany**

Education and vocational training  
**Energy Endeavour Foundation, Netherlands**

One World Cooperation  
**Comet-ME, Israel**

### **Members of the jury:**

Prof. Peter Droege, President of EUROSOLAR (Principality of Liechtenstein)

Dr. Axel Berg, Chairman of EUROSOLAR Germany

Gallus Cadonau, Solar Agency Switzerland

Joaquim Corominas, President of the Association Energy Congress of Catalonia (Spain)

Hermann Fellner, Executive board of EUROSOLAR Germany

Stephan Grüger, MdL, Vice president of EUROSOLAR (Germany)

Wolfgang Hein, Vice president of EUROSOLAR (Austria)

Andre Langwost, EUROSOLAR France

Jennifer McIntosh, Executive Secretary of ISES – International Solar Energy Society (Germany)

Prof. Livio Sacchi, University of Pescara (Italy)

Prof. Jürgen Sachau, University of Luxembourg



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## Le Mené *France*

### **Towns, municipalities, council districts, public utilities**

#### **Outstanding commitment and holistic approach to covering the community's energy needs with 100 % renewables generated on a local scale**

The energy success story of the community of Le Mené started in 1999 with a group of pig farmers who wanted to profitably use their slurry output. Several inspiring trips to Denmark and Germany led to the construction of a methanization plant, co-owned by 40 local farmers, which is able to convert 70,000 tons per year of agricultural and food waste into energy.

Recognizing the enormous potential of renewable energies, the region, with around 6,500 inhabitants, set itself the goal of meeting its energy needs by 100 % with renewables by 2025 and is already well on the way to making this vision a reality. With 78 photovoltaic systems and seven wind turbines, with a total capacity of 12 MW, the city currently generates

about 40 % of its energy from local renewable sources.

In addition, a rapeseed oil plant produces fuel for diesel tractors and animal feed and makes the import of soya from Brazil superfluous. Regional wood is used for heat production and replaces much of the demand for oil-based heaters. In the near future, the municipality would like to focus on thermal renovation, load shifting and the expansion of wood-based district heating, as well as continuing the expansion of PV and wind power. A takeover of the local distribution grid, which is currently impossible under French law, is also sought.

With strong will and commitment, Le Mené, together with its citizens, is moving towards energy autonomy – and without any support from the government. The municipality is already benefiting from its sustainable investments in the regional energy economy and is thus playing a pioneering role for the renewable and forward-looking development in France.



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## Pilatus Aircraft Ltd *Switzerland*

### **Solar architecture and urban planning**

#### **Architecturally perfect integrated solar plant on the production hall to meet the energy needs of the aircraft production**

Pilatus Aircraft Ltd, a Swiss aircraft development and production company, has taken the guiding principle of sustainable development to heart and in recent years has taken a series of measures to increase energy-efficient and environmentally friendly production.

This philosophy is also reflected in the new production hall in Stans. With the PlusEnergy industrial building made of indigenous wood, the Swiss aircraft manufacturer is implementing the energy efficiency targets and decentralized energy production on its own site. The roof of the industrial hall is equipped on the north and south sides with solar modules that

fit perfectly into the slightly arched roof.

The almost 6,000 sqm monocrystalline PV system with a capacity of 1.05 MW is the largest solar power plant in the canton of Nidwalden. It generates 1.09 GWh annually and easily covers the total energy needs of 966,000 kWh/a, which is largely used for aircraft production. The self-generated surplus electricity surpasses its own demand by 13 % and supplies the Nidwalden power station with regional solar power.

The elegant and powerful PV system is a role model for the modern and future-oriented industrial solar architecture. Pilatus Aircraft Ltd thus makes an important contribution to the energy transition in Switzerland and throughout Europe.



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## S&H Connect GmbH *Austria*

### **Industrial and commercial companies or farmers**

#### **Successful concept for exploiting the potential of using solar energy on the roofs of municipal facilities and industrial buildings**

S&H Connect is a young company specialized in consulting, planning and installation of photovoltaic systems. The company was founded in 2015 and has set itself the goal of unlocking the enormous potential of roof areas for the use of solar energy. Therefore S&H cooperates with municipal and private partners from the Province of Burgenland.

As part of the so-called "Sun Care Package", municipalities, private households and industrial companies from across the region can lease their unused roof space to S&H Connect for the installation of PV systems. The landlords benefit from guaranteed rental income of 5 EUR / kWp in the first 13 years and subse-

quently become the owners of the facilities. From then on, the solar energy gained can be used for self-consumption or fed into the grid as needed.

The entire system is insured for over 25 years and gives the partners positive image advertising through the generation of green electricity. This results in a win-win situation for all participants. With the successful rental model, S&H Connect has already installed more than 100 PV systems with a total of 3.5 MW on the roofs of Burgenland.

The company creates incentives for those who normally do not have the opportunity to switch to solar energy, and offers private customers and municipalities the opportunity to participate in the renewable energy market, save money and earn without large investments.



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## Low Carbon Hub *United Kingdom*

### Local or regional associations / organizations

#### Pioneering model of a citizen-driven, social enterprise that enables a community-owned renewable energy supply in Oxfordshire

The Low Carbon Hub (LCH) in Oxfordshire develops community-owned renewable energy projects in partnership with schools, businesses, and community groups at no cost to their partners. To make these projects happen LCH offers people the opportunity to invest in them directly so that they can benefit financially and their money can help consign fossil fuels to history.

As a social enterprise LCH re-invests 100 % of their own surplus in community-benefit activities like fuel poverty alleviation and energy efficiency projects. The mission is to create a new decentralized and locally owned renewable energy system in Oxfordshire. Therefore the organization also offers practical support to groups who want to set up their own renew-

ables or energy saving projects. The increased regional value added brings economic benefits for the entire community.

As of now 37 PV arrays and one hydro electric plant with a total capacity of 3.6 MW have been installed, which save over 1,500 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually. On top of this LCH anticipates £1.6 M lifetime savings on host electricity bills, as well as £2.4 M in benefit donations to Oxfordshire communities.

With its outstanding commitment, the Low Carbon Hub is well on its way to power Oxfordshire with the intelligent interconnection of community-owned renewable energy plants. Oxfordshire thus makes itself independent of expensive energy imports, strengthens its own economy and contributes to a worth living future for all. The Hub shows impressively how the energy transition on local scale can be achieved – by and with the citizens.



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## Plus-Energy-Settlement Zentrum Tobel *Switzerland*

### Owners and operators of renewable energy installations

#### Trend-setting example of the social and economic integration of tenants into the use of solar energy

On the site of a former industrial wasteland in the middle of the village center of the Thurgau municipality Tobel, a plus energy settlement with sustainably low-cost housing was completed in 2017. The project comprises three apartment buildings with 32 MinergieP certified rental apartments, which were built with minimal additional costs and require little energy for heating.

In order not to deny the tenants the advantages of using renewable energies, a cooperative solar system was installed on the flat roofs, which will be extended to the balcony facades. The special feature: The self-generated thermal solar energy, which is stored in stratified storage tanks and the building construction, can be

used free of charge for all tenants. The solar electricity from the roof, the tenants can buy at the usual household rate directly from the landlord.

The rental price also includes four e-mobiles that are available to tenants via an eCarSharing concept. With the help of the yearly solar surplus electricity of 121,500 kWh, all future energy required for the inhabitants' eMobility can be covered. Solar self-sufficiency also keeps rental and maintenance costs low. Rents are up to 20 % below the local average.

The planners and managers have succeeded in reducing not only the rental costs, but also the personal footprint for each inhabitant in the center of Tobel by 20 %. The forward-looking concept enables tenants to participate in the energy transition through their concrete and social involvement and to profit directly from it.



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## Ostseestaal GmbH & Co. KG, Germany *Germany*

### **Transport and mobility**

#### **Solar Electric Car Ferry 'Sankta Maria II' as a visionary example of emission-free water transport and wakeup call for the European ship industry**

Serving as the world's first fully electric car ferry for inland waterways, the Mosel Ferry 'Sankta Maria II' is exclusively powered by battery power and solar energy. It is replacing a traditional car ferry, which has been commuting on the Mosel on the German border between Oberbillig and the Luxemburg community of Wasserbillig since 1966.

The new 28-meter-long ship with a carrying capacity of up to 45 passengers and six cars per journey is estimated to save 14,000 liters of fuel, as well as reduce noise and exhaust emissions. With the experience gained from previous ship projects, the Stralsund company Ostseestaal has implemented a series of innovative solutions in the construction of the solar-pow-

ered car ferry. Due to its lightweight construction and its efficient, hydrodynamic design the ferry requires only a quarter of the propulsion power compared to conventional ships.

The company's strategy is to replace conventional ships with their cleaner, solar electric alternatives which can be up to 40 metres long and 8 metres wide and can carry up to 250 guests. Ten solar inland passenger ships and solar ferries have been completed since 2013 – currently, 14 further projects are being planned for the German inland navigation market.

With courage and pragmatism, Ostseestaal puts e-mobility on the water and impressively proves to the marine industry that there already exists a market for electrically powered ships. The company thus makes an enormous contribution to the environmentally friendly water transport and to achieving the European climate targets.



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## Energy Endeavour Foundation, Netherlands

### Education and vocational training

**For stewarding the Solar Decathlon Europe, the far-reaching student competition to raise awareness in the field of innovative and resource-responsible architecture with a political effect in Europe and the U.S.**

The Solar Decathlon Europe is an international competition that challenges collegiate teams to design and build energy-efficient houses powered exclusively by the sun. Judged based off the completion of ten categorical competitions, the goal of the Decathlon is to promote new and innovative ideas and provide a way for dedicated students to contribute to the success of the field.

The original Solar Decathlon was launched in 2000 in the United States. By garnering widespread media coverage, it generated parallel power to educate the public on the benefits, affordability and availability of clean energy solutions. In 2010 an additional Solar Decath-

lon started in Europe, using the same format as its American predecessor but now making the competition more accessible to international teams.

Since the founding of the Solar Decathlon Europe, a wealth of information has been acquired, collected and distributed. Through the construction of 73 houses, participation of over 2,000 students from 26 countries, and the attendance of over 500,000 visitors, the event is making a big impact on the plausibility and acceptance of using renewable energy.

The 4th European Solar Decathlon will take place in Szentendre, Hungary in 2019 and will deal with the renovation and modernization of existing buildings. With its communicative reach, the competition not only raises the awareness of junior architects but of the broader society about the topic of sustainability in the field of construction, thus increasing the pressure on political decision-makers.



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## Comet-ME *Israel*

### One World Cooperation

#### Outstanding commitment in the sustainable electrification of marginalized communities in the occupied Palestinian territories

The Israeli-Palestinian organization Comet-ME is a unique hybrid of technological start-up, development aid agency, and political human rights organization for off-grid Palestinian communities in Area C. By providing green energy and clean water services it facilitates social and economic empowerment of some of the poorest and most marginalized communities in the occupied Palestinian territories.

These communities are disconnected from all infrastructure, including access to roads, electricity, and running water. The discriminatory planning regime imposed by Israel, the harassment and violence by settlers and restrictions placed by the military, are tantamount to

a policy of de-development for the protected Palestinian population, aimed at pushing them out of the region.

Until today Comet-ME already installed wind and solar systems throughout 55 vulnerable communities, providing clean energy to nearly 5,000 people. Participation and trust-building are integral parts of the work. Through direct and long-term involvement of the communities, the NGO gains a better understanding of their needs and is able to ensure a sustainable energy and water infrastructure.

The holistic approach helps to make people's lives better, at the same time to break down prejudices and to improve the relationship between hostile groups. Comet-ME impressively demonstrates the potential of renewable energies for conflict management and the preservation of peace on our planet.



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## Heliograph

Heliograph is a current term for a device called sunshine autograph, a meteorological instrument that can be used to determine the duration of sunshine of a day. It works on the principle of a burning glass when its glass ball is hit by direct sunlight. Through the changing angle of the sunshine in the course of a day the burning point moves on. With a special paper stripe you receive a burned line from which you can easily conclude the duration of sunshine.

The Solar Prize sculpture was created by Emil Schult, who had been inspired by this instrument.

