



Press Release

International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power System Programme (IEA PVPS) publishes its new “Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets 2017”.

IEA PVPS published its new Snapshot report on Tuesday, 10 April 2018. This serves as a preliminary assessment prior to the 23rd 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 402 GW of PV are now installed worldwide, while in 2017, 98 GW of PV were installed globally.

Paris, France, 10 April 2018 – Preliminary market numbers show that the PV market grew significantly in 2017. In total, about 96 GW of PV capacity were installed in the IEA PVPS countries and in other major markets during 2017, and up to 98 GW in total. The total installed capacity in the IEA PVPS countries and key markets has risen to at least 402 GW. These are the main outcomes of the latest IEA PVPS “Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Market 2017” report, published on 10 April 2018.

Solar PV technology continued to expand in 2017 thanks to the rapid development in China, India and some emerging markets. In the meantime the US and Japanese market went down, while Europe experienced a slow rebirth partially hidden by the decline of the UK market. In other words, the global PV market outside of China grew by 4 GW to 45 GW while China drove the global numbers up to at least 98 GW. This slow growth outside of China composes a different landscape for the PV market that global numbers are showing. In the same way, the distributed PV market grew significantly for the first time since 2011, with 38 GW compared to 19 GW one year before. But again, a large part of that growth came from China only.

In a decade, PV has 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 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 2017, 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=trends0>

Download the last edition of the “Trends in PV Applications” here: <http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=trends>

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

This report is the 6th 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.

For further information, contact: Gaëtan Masson, Task 1 Operating Agent g.masson@iea-pvps.org