

Turkey & UK join the IEA Solar Heating and Cooling Programme

February 2015. GÜNDER, the Turkish Section of the International Solar Energy Society, on behalf of the Government of Turkey, and DECC, the UK's Department of Energy & Climate Change, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, officially joined the IEA Solar Heating and Cooling Programme (IEA SHC).

"We look forward to many years of collaboration with these two new members", says IEA SHC chairman Ken Guthrie. "Turkey is an exciting market, and being the second largest, after China, in new solar water collector installations" he adds, "this is sure to be a dynamic partnership and help to disseminate our results to the MENA region."

"The UK is rejoining IEA SHC after a nine-year hiatus," remarks Ken Guthrie. "Through this collaboration we look forward to supporting solar thermal as the UK works to reach its goal of sourcing at least 15% of their energy from renewables by 2020."

Turkey is represented on the IEA SHC Executive Committee by Dr. Bülent Yeşilata of Harran University and a GÜNDER board member and by Dr. Kemal Gani Bayraktar, GÜNDER President. Dr. Yeşilata notes *"Turkey's official participation in the SHC Programme comes just at the right time as our solar market is well positioned in the marketplace. Recent regulations on renewable energy use along with energy efficiency requirements have created many opportunities for the solar energy and HVAC sectors. Solar energy has a major role to play in Turkey's renewable energy roadmap, as the country is geographically located in the "solar band."* Yeşilata adds that, *"Being the largest European and the second largest world solar thermal market player, Turkey is ready to develop and implement larger scale SHC solutions in buildings and industry and to become the bridge between the MENA region and the rest of the world. Thanks to the unanimous decision of the SHC Executive Committee, SHC 2015: International Conference on Solar Heating and Cooling for Buildings and Industry, will be held in Istanbul on December 2-4. In my opinion, this decision is extremely meaningful and encouraging for Turkey, especially as 2015 is Turkey's first full year as a SHC member. It is my sincere expectation that Turkey's contribution to the SHC Programme in the coming years will be significant, especially in the area of SHC technologies for urban transformation and regional development purposes."*

The United Kingdom is represented by the Department of Energy & Climate Change, which states that *"DECC is pleased to be participating in this Programme."* Robert Edwards is serving as the Executive Committee member.

Turkey and the UK bring the membership of IEA SHC to 27 member countries and organizations. IEA SHC members collaborate on projects (referred to as "Tasks") in the field of research, development, demonstration (RD&D) and test methods for solar thermal energy and solar buildings.

PRESS RELEASE



Further information:

- IEA SHC: www.iea-shc.org
- SHC 2015 conference: www.shc2015.org
- GÜNDER: www.gunder.org.tr
- DECC: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change

About the International Energy Agency's Solar Heating and Cooling Programme (IEA SHC):

- The Programme was established in 1977.
- Its objectives are co-operative research, development, demonstration and exchange of information regarding solar heating and cooling systems.
- 27 countries/organizations are IEA SHC members.
- The research topics of the current 10 projects range from general topics, such as "Solar Resource Assessment and Forecasting" and system and materials research, such as "Large Solar Thermal Systems" and "Polymeric Materials for Solar Thermal Applications" to market support topics, such as "Solar Rating and Certification".

Contact information:

- IEA SHC Information Center: communications@iea-shc.org