

Guidelines for the implementation of solar district heating

Subject:	Guidelines for the implementation of solar district heating
Description:	Redaction of a guide based on key facts and interviews in order to improve acceptance of solar district heating (SDH)
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Document download:	www.solar-district-heating.eu/

Summary description of the instrument

Region: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

Partners involved: RhônAlpEnergie Environnement (RAEE), Regional Council of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (RCARA), Centre à l'Énergie Atomique (CEA) Institut National de l'Énergie Solaire (INES)

The measure is based on the drafting of guidelines for the implementation of solar district heating. The goal is to develop the knowledge of this possible heat source for district heating and to increase the acceptance.

Initial situation

In France, solar thermal energy is developed only for domestic hot water use in individual or collective houses. There is consequently a lack of knowledge about the possibility of integrating solar thermal energy in district heating. For a part of the stakeholders, solar thermal energy is always associated to domestic hot water (with moreover bad references because of a lack of monitoring). For the other part, SDH seems to be an experimental and expensive renewable energy.

Those points have been identified in a national survey realised during a previous step of the *SDHp2m* project.

During the discussions with the regional stakeholder group created at the occasion of the *SDHp2m* project, a specific focus has been made on the need for communication to the elected representatives. If they are well informed at the early beginning of DHC project, they could boost new projects by showing a strong political will to integrate a part of solar thermal in district heating and cooling projects.



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Objectives

The main objective of this guide is to develop the knowledge of SDH among elected representatives and improve SDH local acceptance. This guide will include popular scientific information about technology, 'Frequently Asked Question' and interviews of elected representatives that have already developed SDH on their territory.

On the one hand, a part of the guide aims at targeting local authorities and on the other hand, it will be a large scale communication tool to improve acceptance and to show that SDH is technically and economically feasible and is relevant for the territories.

Measures and actions

The writing of the guide will be a collaborative work between RAEE, RCARA and CEA INES based on existing content (technical parts for instance), but also new materials (such as interviews and Frequently Asked Questions). The main challenge is to be clear and concise to give good arguments to defend solar thermal in district heating.

The guide is less than 20 pages. The different indicators that can be measured to evaluate the impact of the action are:

- Number of electronical versions downloaded
- Number of printed versions distributed
- Number of feedbacks

A relevant dissemination will be done during regional and national conferences, press articles, and will be integrated to the dissemination action planed within the *SDHp2m* project.

Barriers and opportunities

There are two identified barriers. The first barrier could be that stakeholders may not read the guide, if there is a failure in the dissemination phase of the document or if it is not attractive enough. The other one could be that the stakeholders don't feel concerned by the topic and that the aim of the guide is missed. It is consequently essential to involve the stakeholder group before dissemination to have feedbacks.

A good opportunity identified is that new stakeholders can be convinced of the interest of SDH. Therefore the target group for this guide will not only be local authorities but other stakeholders also.

Another opportunity is that this guide could be relevant at the European level, with the help of EuroHeat & Power for translation and dissemination.



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Results

Results will be available here as soon as the measure has been implemented

Lessons learned

Lessons learned will be available here as soon as the measure has been implemented and evaluated.

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