

Overview of solar energy in Norway

Vebjørn Bakken

Director, UiO:Energy

Centre leader, Centre for Materials Science and Nanotechnology

and on behalf of the Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology (SUSOLTECH)





Outline

- A very short Norwegian solar history
- The Norwegian PV market
- The Norwegian sustainable energy strategy
- The solar «landscape» in Norway
- SUSOLTECH the Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology



A very short Norwegian solar history



1916: Edvard Munch - *The Sun* University of Oslo

> 1994: Scanwafer established in Glomfjord Production capacity ~75 MW



2006: REC listed on stock exchange full chain from silicon to modules



Alf Bjørseth - a chemist from UiO



2013: Scatec Solar finishes South African 75 MW project

Installed PV in Norway



Source: Multiconsult

Installed PV in Norway

#	Name	kW _p	Year
1	Asko Vestby	3 380	2017
2	Asko Vest	2 000	2017
3	Asko Midt	1 406	2017
4	UNIL Våler	1 322	2016
5	Asko Kalbakken	1 147	2016
6	Asko Sør	720	2016
7	Posten-Bring Trondheim	670	2016
8	Asko Hedmark	537	2017
9	CC Vest	363	2017
10	Powerhouse Kjørbo	312	2014





Source: Multiconsult

The Norwegian PV market summarized

Trends and drivers

- Near zero energy or energy positive buildings
- Environment-conscious companies
- Increasing interest from households

Barriers/disincentives

- Quite low electricity prices
- Low feed-in tariffs
- Reluctant distribution service operators (DSO)
- Installation costs still quite high



A collective R&D strategy for the energy sector

Energi21

- Permanent strategic advisory body with mandate from the Norwegian
 Ministry of Petroleum and energy.
 Established in 2009.
- Norway's national RD&D strategy for renewable and climate friendly stationary energy technology
- Strategic work is based on multidisciplinary cooperation between business communities, research institutes, universities and authorities
- Industry led board appointed by the Minister of Petroleum and Energy

Six priority focus areas







Energi21 – Solar power

- A collective R&D strategy for the energy sector
- The major motivation for solar is to develop (and maintain) industry that is competitive **globally**
- The growing **international market** opens many new business areas, for example related to financing, service and operation of solar energy projects

Ambitions include

- To develop the silicon-based solar industry of tomorrow an upstream industry that is leading on quality and innovation
- To develop businesses in other parts of the value chain, both internationally and in Norway
- Research institutions that are both visible and attractive internationally



The solar «landscape» in Norway



Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology Research ~20 partners (universities, research institutes, industry)

Business development ~75 partners (industry, research institutes, universities)



Public outreach ~500 members (individuals, companies)

The Norwegian Solar Energy Cluster The Norwegian Solar Energy Society



The Norwegian Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology

What is SUSOLTECH?

Research Center for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology

- Centre of Excellence
- Appointed by Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- 8 years of funding
 - Research council: 50%
 - Industry Partners: 25%
 - Reserach Partners: 25%
- In total 250 MNOK (100 mill BRL)





The Norwegian Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology

Centers for Environment-friendly Energy Research



The Research Centre on Zero Energy Neighbourhoods in Smart Cities – ZEN Centre

Who is SUSOLTECH?



Who is SUSOLTECH?





The Norwegian Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology

Who is SUSOLTECH?





- The overall goal of the Centre is to increase the size and number of jobs in the **domestic solar cell industry**. These secondary goals support this goal:
 - To develop the most environmentally friendly production processes for Si feedstock for high efficiency, crystalline Si-based solar cells in the World
 - To develop processes for making affordable, high performance Si ingots and wafers, as well as selected materials and processes allowing for producing solar cells with efficiencies above 25% for Cz Si and 21% for HPMC Si
 - To demonstrate lower electricity costs, improved performance and improved sustainability due to the developed technologies on cell, module and system level
 - To contribute to a cost-effective and sustainable growth in the use of **solar energy systems in Norway**, with a particular emphasis on the building sector



Metallurgical Si production

- Develop even more cost- and energy-efficient production processes
 - New reduction processes based on alternative materials
 - New refining methods for B and P removal

Chemical Si production

- Developing new production reactor technologies
 - Understanding decomposition of silane
 - New processes with optimized material morphology and purity











Si FEED-STOCK PRODU CTION

Monocrystalline Si

- High performance at low cost
 - Understand and reduce formation of microdefects
 - Fully understand the role of the crucible

Multicrystalline Si

- High performance mc-Si materials
 - Understand and control impurities
 - Develop models of generation of crystal defects
 - Models for interaction between defects and impurities
 STEULER





Si INGOT, CRUCIBLE & WAFER



Kerfless Si

- The "holy grail" of Si substrate production
 - Novel techniques for epitaxial Si growth



Wafer efficiency

• How much does material quality matter?







Processes for high efficiency (> 25%)

- Investigate new concepts with potential for extremely high efficiency
 - Photon Energy Conversion
 - Si-based tandem solar cells

BIPV

- Make BIPV products more attractive
 - Aesthetics and efficiency









Strengthening the Norwegian solar cell industry

- Innovation studies
 - How can we improve the «solar cluster»?



SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM

Sustainability

- Collecting and disseminating LCA data
- Using LCA as a tool to develop improved value chains

Field performance

- Coordinating a growing, important activity in Norway
- Quantifying how improvements along the value chain affect overall performance criteria





The Norwegian Research Centre for Sustainable Solar Cell Technology