



EurObserv'ER provides e-mail notifications at each Barometer release. Signing-in by entering your e-mail address will keep you informed on future publications.

See <http://www.eurobserv-er.org>.

Alternatively, follow #EurObserv_ER at https://twitter.com/EurObserv_ER

Press release

From: EurObserv'ER

Subject: **Released: photovoltaic barometer**
Global and European solar photovoltaic (PV) power figures, policy developments and industry news for 2011



NEW: follow #EurObserv_ER at https://twitter.com/EurObserv_ER

Free download of the bi-lingual barometer (PDF, English/French, 24 pages, 4.3 MB):
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro208.asp>

Date: May 2012

Pages: 3

Key data for the 27 European Member States:

- Cumulative solar PV power capacity at the end of 2011: 51.4 GWp (29.8 GWp end of 2010)
- Installed PV capacity during the year 2011: 21.5 GWp (13.7 GWp during 2010)
- Cumulative solar PV electricity production: 44.8 TWh in 2011 (22.6 TWh in 2010)

European Union PV market largest worldwide, EU market continues to increase and PV electricity production doubles

The global and European photovoltaic market has continued to expand during 2011

Yet again the PV power sector was the leading electricity generating capacity installer in the European Union, as 21529 MWp went on grid from photovoltaic power plants during 2011, bringing the European Union's capacity to date to 51357 MWp. This figure is higher than the one of the new EU wind power plants, which stood at 9368 MW.

The European Union accounts for 74% of all newly connected PV capacity, the total installed photovoltaic capacity worldwide at the end of 2011 being 69 GWp.

The cumulative EU solar PV electricity production doubled compared to last year (44.8 TWh in 2011 and 22.6 TWh in 2010).

Despite the implementation of increasingly complex incentive systems that are intended to take market dynamics into account, the soaring growth of the photovoltaic market again caught the public

authorities off guard. Not a single government had counted on the continuing and accelerating downward slide in the price of photovoltaic modules. The drop completely outpaced the feed-in tariffs and led to a new rush on installations as investors tried to make the most of the differential between feed-in tariffs and the real cost of the photovoltaic kWh. Speculation in Germany was finally stopped in its tracks when installers ran out of stock in December.

Country highlights:

- The Italian market overheats again
- Germany to control its market
- More than 100% growth in France
- The Flemish region at the helm of the Belgian market
- Subsidies halved in the United Kingdom
- Moratorium in Spain

Besides the 2011 realisations per EU Member State other subjects that are discussed in the new barometer are:

- Renewable energy policies
- Industry overview
- Comparison with National Renewable Energy Action Plans

For additional information on renewable energy issues (data referring to 2010, among others EU Member State renewable energy employment, turnover and realisations) see also the annual EurObserv'ER publication '*The State of Renewable Energies in Europe*', 2011 edition: <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan11.asp> (January 2012, PDF, English/French language, 248 pages, 12.7 MB).

Note: the interactive database on the website (click on 'Interactive EurObserv'ER Database' on the www.eurobserv-er.org homepage) allows you to download the Barometer data separately. This will allow you to create your own graphs to be used in your publication.

See also the EurObserv'ER policy files at www.eurobserv-er.org/policy.asp for an overview of renewable energy policies in all 27 EU Member States for all technologies

About the EurObserv'ER Barometer

The EurObserv'ER Barometer regularly publishes indicators reflecting the current dynamics in renewable energies (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal and biomass, biogas, biofuels) worldwide and within the European Union.

Barometers published are all available for download. Direct links to all 2010/2011/2012 EurObserv'ER publications:

Solar Photovoltaic Barometer
(April 2012, PDF, 24 pages, English/French language, 4.3 MB):
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro208.asp>

Wind Power Barometer
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro207.asp>
(February 2012, PDF, English/French, 28 pages, 4.6 MB):

'*The State of Renewable Energies in Europe*', 2011 edition:
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/bilan11.asp>
(January 2012, PDF, English/French language, 248 pages, 12.7 MB)

Barometer on Solid Biomass
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro206.asp>
(November 2011, PDF, English/French language, 20 pages, 3.6 MB)

Ground source Heat Pump Barometer
(September 2011, PDF, English/French language, 20 pages, 2.6 MB)
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro205.asp>

Biofuels Barometer
(July 2011, PDF, English/French language, 26 pages, 3.6 MB)
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro204.asp>

Solar Thermal Barometer
(June 2011, PDF, 28 pages, English/French language, 2.9 MB)
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro203.asp>

Renewable Municipal Waste Barometer
(December 2010, PDF, 14 pages, English/French language, 2.4 MB)
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro200a.asp>

Biogas Barometer
(December 2010, PDF, 16 pages, English/French language, 1.4 MB)
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro200b.asp>

The EurObserv'ER barometer is a project supported by the European Commission within the DG Energy "Intelligent Energy Europe" programme. It is also supported by Ademe, the French Environment and Energy management Agency, and Caisse des Dépôts.



Note to the editors

For further information on this barometer, please contact:

Ms Diane Lescot
Observ'ER
146, rue de l'Université
75007 Paris - France
Tel: 33 (0) 1 44180080
E-mail: diane.lescot@energies-renouvelables.org

Request to the editor: in case you use this press release for an article, the consortium would appreciate a short reference to the article. The reference can be sent to the e-mail address mentioned above.

When including a web link to an article on the Barometer, for technical reasons please use either <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/downloads.asp> or <http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/baro207.asp> and not a direct link to the PDF file.

The sole responsibility for the content of the EurObserv'ER Barometer lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EACI nor the European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.