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# Dear Reader,

in times of a decreasing cohesion for international joint climate protection initiatives, convinced local citizens and stakeholders and their resolute local actions become even more important for at least small steps towards our ambitious CO<sub>2</sub> reduction goals. In this context it is really motivating to follow all the smaller and larger communities, that make use of new and existing district heating systems based on solar and renewable energy sources for the concrete energy transition in their area. In addition, our SDHp2m regional teams are presently developing policy and market instruments for the regional level, that aim at creating a SDH favorable framework and thus facilitate such exemplary projects. Read more about these activities in this newsletter and our recent publications available on the project website. Or even better: save the date or submit an abstract about your recent SDH activities for our next SDH conference in April 2018 in Graz.

Sunny Regards! Your SDH-Project Team July 2017



# 5th International Solar District Heating Conference: Call for abstracts now open!

Submit your abstract to present your work on solar district heating in Graz on 11 and 12 April 2018.

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## New subsidy program for 4th generation district heating in Germany

The German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy launched a new subsidy scheme for 'District Heating Pilot Projects 4.0' on the 1st of July. In order to get funding, district heating networks have to cover at least 50 % of the annual heat consumption from renewable energy sources or waste heat.

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### Three pilot case studies in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region

The solar thermal industry needs a second wind in France. This is the challenge of the European project SDHp2m, of which the Regional council of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, RAEE (regional energy and environment agency in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes) and CEA INES (research institute, department of the French national institute for solar energy) are partners. The aim of the project is to develop the integration of solar thermal energy in district heating systems. In the region, the potential is very significant: indeed, from 400 000 m² to 1 600 000 m² of solar thermal collectors could be integrated into district heating systems.

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### New solar-bioenergy villages in Germany

Several bioenergy villages with combined biomass and solar heat supply are being realized at the moment in Germany. The idea of solar thermal integration in district heating networks is spreading in rural areas.

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#### Experimental solar district heating plant for research activities

An experimental district heating and cooling is in operation since April 2017 at the French National Research Center for Solar Energy (CEA INES). A 300 m² solar thermal plant with six different technologies of solar panels combined with a 40 m³ storage tank feed the network. This platform is ready for 4th Generation District Heating development as it allows to test decentralized feed-in, power-to-heat equipment, combined heat and power and more.

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## From the roof into the district heating network

The district heating operator in Berlin-Adlershof BTB enables the connection of a solar thermal plant and an innovative plus-energy house concept for a district via net-metering contract.

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## New German solar yield prediction tool for solar district heating systems

SCFW (ScenoCalc Fernwärme) is an open-source tool based on Microsoft Excel. It was developed within a German research project aiming at extending the scope of the existing tool ScenoCalc to a system level approach and enabling a solar yield prediction specifically for solar district heating systems. The tool can be downloaded for free at <a href="https://www.scfw.de">www.scfw.de</a>.

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# Travel to Denmark with a delegation of the Metropolitan Region Hamburg

On June 13, a delegation of the working group on climate protection and energy of the Hamburg Metropolitan Region visited two SDH sites in Denmark. As local advisory board for the Hamburg region within the SDH project, the working group aims at paving the way for SDH projects in the region. In the Metropolitan Region with 5 million inhabitants, there are already numerous district heating networks in operation – but so far only few with renewable energies.

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# Poland: solar for more efficient district heating networks

Solar district heating has great opportunities in Poland as a key technology to lower air pollution levels in cities. Aneta Więcka from the Polish Institute for Renewable Energy emphasised in this interview that costs of high-quality coal are raising and financial support for demonstration plants is available.

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## Conference 'Renewable district heating in large cities' in April 2017

On the 3rd of April 2017, an expert conference was held in Hamburg with around 170 experts on renewable energies in large-scale district heating systems, organized by the SDHp2m partners Hamburg Institut and AGFW. Strategies and realized best-practice-examples from international and national pioneer cities showed how the transition of urban heat supply towards renewable energies succeeds and which important role district heating can play.

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More information: www.solar-district-heating.eu



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