

Develop feasibility studies

Subject:	Best practice framework (Factsheet D3.1)
Description:	This document describes the measure regarding a regional support mechanism for SDH feasibility studies through a specification template
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Document download:	www.solar-district-heating.eu/en/knowledge-database/

Summary description of the instrument

Region: Region Auvergne Rhône Alpes

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

Short description of the measure: Regional support mechanism for SDH feasibility studies through a specification template for SDH feasibility studies.

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. Feasibility studies to develop RES projects can be partially financed by the national energy agency (ADEME). Each category of RES projects have its own specification template validated by Ademe to get subsidies. Solar thermal energy has a dedicated template but this guide focus only for domestic hot water use. It's the same case for the DHC guide that does not fit for SDH projects.

Objectives

The main objective is to increase the number and the quality of feasibility studies of solar thermal energy integration in district heating projects. The specification template must help DHC developers to get subsidies from Ademe for the studies of SDH integration. This document will be helpful to choose consultant during call for tender too and to be sure that studies are technically and economically relevant.



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Develop feasibility studies

Measures and actions

The specification template will be based on the different fact sheets produced during the SDH+ project.

It will be validated by different stakeholders (consultant, CEA Ines, Ademe, ...) to be sure that it is relevant and exhaustive.

The different measures that can be followed to measure the impact of this action are:

- Number of electronic versions downloaded
- Number of printed versions distributed
- Number of feedbacks
- Number of feasibility studies realised based on the document.

Barriers and opportunities

The main barriers are linked with the poor knowledge of local authorities and stakeholders concerning the possibility to develop SDH. We could summarise those barriers as follows:

- The lack of information about this technology for every stakeholder is identified as a strong barrier for the development of solar thermal energy in DH
- Solar thermal solution is thus not sufficiently studied in development phase of DH projects.
- Precise technical and economic data referring to SDH models adapted to the Region are needed.
- The end consumer acceptance has to be developed.

A specification guide offers good opportunities to try to overcome those barriers:

- Engineer consultant will use this guide and will integrate a SDH part in DHC studies.
- The document will be disseminated at a national scale and used in other regions in France.
- The document will be a reference for SDH studies and will allow improving the quality of the studies.

Results

The results expected are an increase of the number and of the quality of SDH studies. The ADEME published at the national scale a guidebook based on the regional document, so feasibility studies for SDH can receive subsidies at national scale.



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ADEME developed a web tool for their guidebooks named DIAGADEME (<http://www.diagademe.fr/diagademe/>). It is a portal for all energy/environment feasibility studies co financed by the ADEME.

Lessons learned

Some elements will be probably missing in the first version of this guide. An update will be necessary depending of the first studies feedback.

The fact that this template has been institutionalised is a good opportunity to upgrade the knowledge of solar thermal energy as a real option to study in DHC development. A guidebook at national scale means more feasibility studies, more DHC studied and so more stakeholders implicated, like engineer office, energy suppliers, ...

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