



Building the future with solar!

The proSTO blueprint shows local authorities how to make a commitment to local sustainable energy by implementing solar thermal ordinances. The guide which provides first hands practical advice, case studies and best practices is deemed a tool for those in charge of introducing solar thermal ordinances at local level.

Brussels, 8 April 2010 – Solar thermal which is already one of the major components in renewable heating systems, now sees its importance growing with the implementation of ambitious European and national policies in the field of energy efficiency in buildings. ESTIF warmly welcomes the publication of a blueprint for local and regional authorities implementing solar thermal ordinances and developing local strategies to secure energy supply and mitigate climate change.

Solar thermal plays a key role in reducing CO₂ emissions and improving the quality of life at local and regional levels. Heating and cooling of buildings represent almost 40% of the total energy consumed in Europe, whereas already today, the solar thermal industry offers reliable and cost-effective solutions for producing domestic hot water, space heating, solar cooling, solar process heat and solar district heating.

Solar thermal ordinances present many benefits for local communities

Buildings erected today will use energy over the next decades. With the implementation of solar thermal ordinances, local authorities can help their inhabitants to save substantially on their energy bills and gain independence from oil and other fossil fuel price increases.

Most of any household's energy consumption is to fulfill two basic needs: hot water and space heating in winter. To meet these, relatively low temperatures in the range of 40-60°C are needed which can mostly be covered by sun energy, avoiding waste of oil, gas or electricity. Last not least, solar thermal can also be aesthetically integrated into new and existing buildings.

Overall, solar thermal is one of the most cost-effective forms of renewable energy with a considerable potential for growth in Europe. In small residential buildings, solar thermal has meanwhile become a standard product, installed in millions of homes in Europe. Solar thermal can however also be convenient for larger central heating systems as used in hotels, retirement facilities, hospitals or



sport centres. Therefore solar thermal should be standard for all public buildings, allowing for substantial reductions in CO₂ emissions at local level and paving the way towards the introduction of solar thermal ordinances.

Use the tools developed by the proSTO project partners and get started with the implementation of a solar thermal ordinance

The proSTO blueprint is based on the experience of five communities across Europe (cities of Lisbon, Murcia, Stuttgart, Giurgiu and region of Lazio) which developed public measures and ordinances for promoting the use of solar thermal at local level.

This handbook steers local authorities through the whole process for developing and implementing a solar thermal ordinance at local level e.g. context, baseline assessment, ordinance components, flanking measures, monitoring.

Most of the existing solar thermal ordinances are connected to national or regional energy laws and implemented through local building codes. A growing number of European municipalities, regions and countries are adopting solar thermal ordinances, so far involving over 150 million Europeans.

The proSTO Blueprint is available for download (free of charge) at: www.solarordinances.eu

A Workshop on “Solar Thermal Ordinances = Making a commitment to local sustainable energy” will be held on 15 April 2010, 13.30-16.30, in Sofia (Bulgaria). The event takes place within the framework of the [6th International Congress on Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Sources for South-East Europe, 14-16 April 2010, Sofia \(Bulgaria\)](#).

To download the programme and register for the proSTO Workshop, please click [here](#) or send an email to: celia.galeotti@estif.org.



About the proSTO project

Boosting the use of solar thermal systems in the European countries is the prime objective of the ProSTO project in promoting an efficient implementation of solar thermal ordinances and supporting European local authorities in planning, developing, introducing and managing efficient solar thermal ordinances (STOs).

The region of Lazio (IT), the cities of Lisbon (PT), Murcia (ES), Stuttgart (DE) and Giurgiu (RO) are participating in this joint action to showcase best practice STOs. The aim is to implement



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optimized STOs, consisting of model regulations, tuned criteria, efficient administrative procedures and flanking measures.

A large number of practical tools are already available on the website www.solarordinances.eu, such as the STO database, the STO toolbox and the STO helpdesk. The dissemination of information on project results through the authorities' networks will also target and persuade new potential communities to adopt STOs.

The proSTO project is supported by



For more information, please visit www.solarordinances.eu or contact us under the below address.

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