Solar Energy

Use of Solar Energy – we can do better!

A large portion of the potential to use solar energy still remains **unused!**





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Barriers

Solar energy still remains unexploited, why?

Causes (IEA SHC):

- 1. Economical factors
- 2. Lack of technical knowledge
- Reluctance to use "new" technologies
- Architectural (aesthetic) factors



Architects have a key role to play!



EU EPBD 2010 on the energy performance of buildings

"Nearly zero-energy buildings" – EU goal to reach in 8 years.

The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be <u>covered to a</u> <u>very significant extent by energy from renewable sources.</u>

This will increase the use of the building envelope as an active solar collector!

Architectural consequences – and potentials

If a large part of the building envelope will be covered by solar thermal and/or PV collectors, it will highly influence the building's architecture and the urban landscape...

If building integration of solar systems is not accepted – no market penetration!

- Efficiency x Usability!



IEA Project

IEA SHC Task 41: Solar Energy and Architecture



Duration: 2009 - 2012

Subtask A: Criteria for architectural integration Lead by Switzerland

Subtask B: Methods and tools for solar design Lead by Canada

Subtask C: Case studies & communication Lead by Denmark with support from Norway

Overall objectives of Task 41

- 1. Accelerate development of high-quality solar architecture
- 2. Improve qualifications of architects



Task 41 participants

Participating countries

Australia Austria **Belgium** Canada Denmark Germany Italy Norway Portugal Singapore **Spain** Sweden Switzerland South Korea





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Task 41 contributions

Contribution of IEA Task 41 to remove barriers

- Seminars / Workshops both national and international
- □ International surveys and state-of-the art
- □ Collection of high quality architectural examples
- Guidelines for architects about Solar Thermal and PV integration
- Guidelines for product developers of both technologies
- □ CAAD 3D objects of solar components, examples
- Architects' needs regarding digital tools for solar design of buildings. Recommendations for developers of tools to be used by architects at an early design stage
- Guidelines for architects on digital tools for solar design of buildings.
- □ "Communication guideline" to support architects



The vision - and the opportunity - is to make architectural design a driving force for the use of solar energy

> Sunny Woods, residential building Beat Kämpfen Architects, Switzerland

Photo: EPFL-LESO