# IEA-SHC Task 41: Solar Energy and Architecture Subtask B: Methods and Tools for Solar Design

Miljana Horvat, Marie-Claude Dubois Subtask B leaders

Subtask B experts



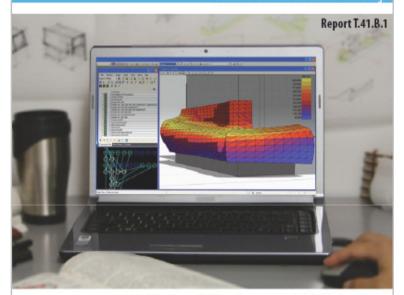
#### Subtask B: Methods and Tools for Solar Design

- 1. Comprehensive **review of existing methods and tools** that architects currently use at early design stage (EDS)
- 2. Identify current barriers that prevent architects from using the existing methods and tools for solar building design.
- 3. A. Provide **guidelines for architects** about solar design digital tools and their capabilities
  - 3. B. Provide **tool developers** with needs of architects regarding digital tools for solar design
    - 4. Develope **digital modules** for AutoCAD and ArchiCAD for easier visualization of solar components
  - 5. In collaboration with Subtask C, **collect output data, figures and facts produced by various tools in demonstration projects**, to be included in the Communication Guidelines.
    - **6. Dissemination**: seminars, lectures



#### State-of-the-Art

#### Task 41 – Solar Energy and Architecture Subtask B – Methods and Tools for Solar Design



State-of-the-Art of Digital Tools Used by Architects for Solar Design

## Total of 56 software packages reviewed

 CAAD (Computer aided architectural design) tools: 23

Visualization tools: 13

Simulation tools: 20

Available at:

http://www.iea-shc.org/publications



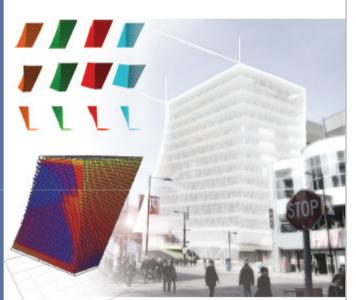


T.41.B.2

#### 14 participating countries:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canad a, Denmark, France, Germany, Ital y, Norway, Portugal, Spain, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland

May-November 2010



International survey about digital tools used by architects for solar design Subtask B: Methods and Tools for Solar Design

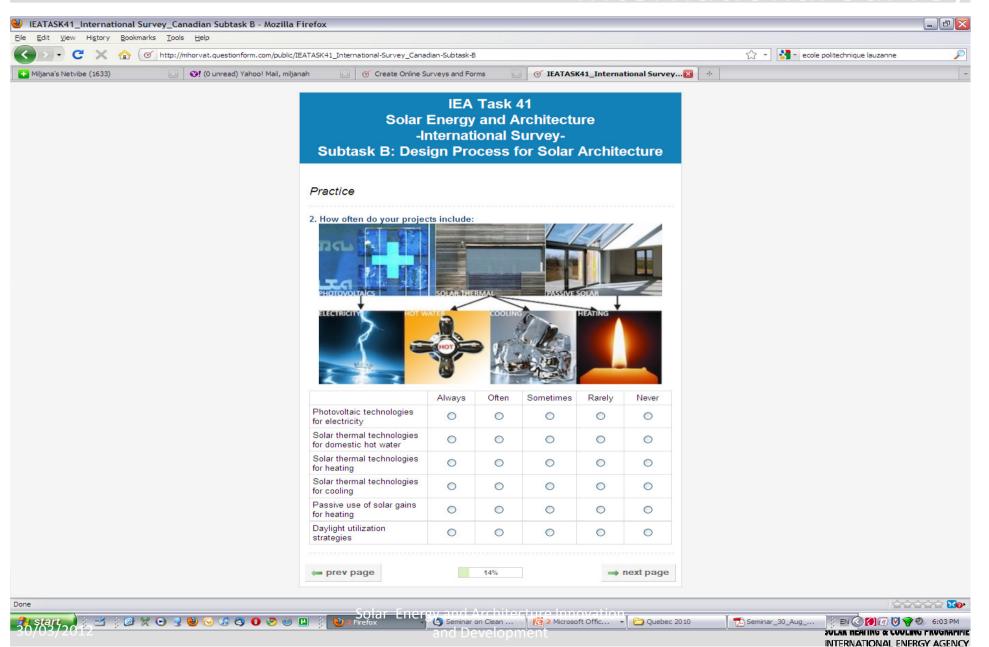
Available at:

http://www.iea-shc.org/publications



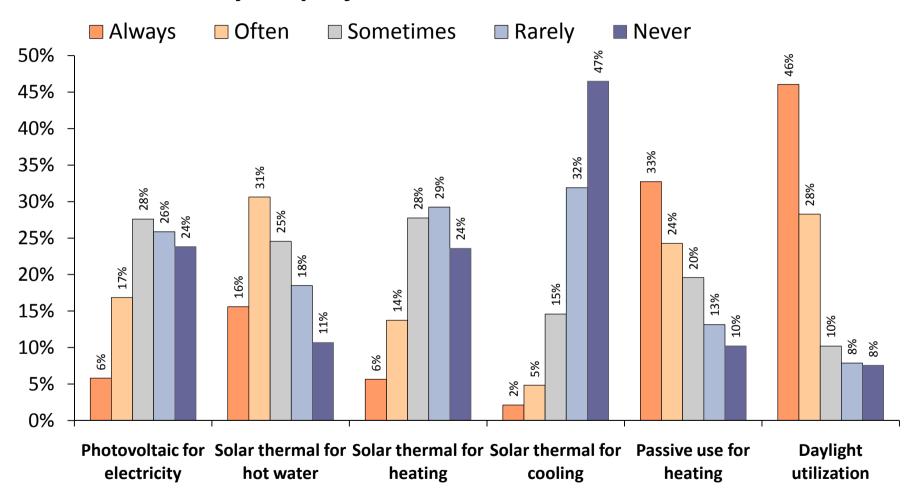


#### International Survey



#### Results

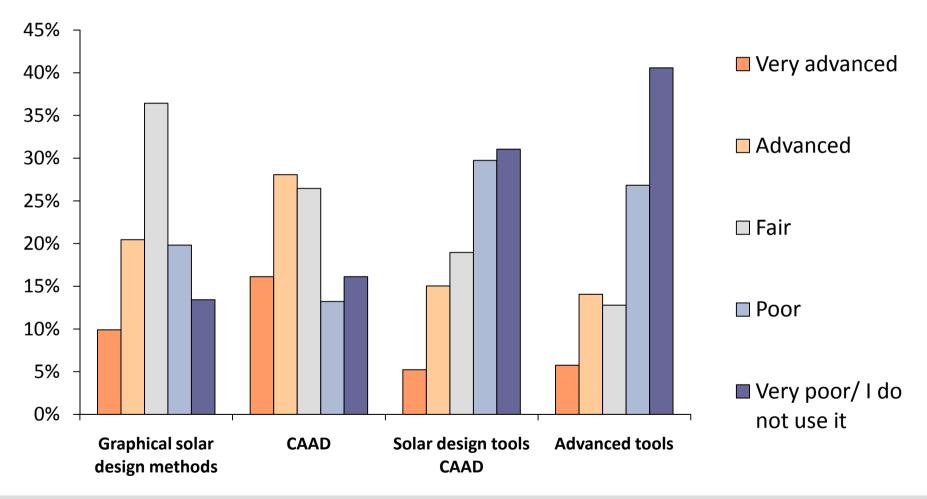
#### How often do your projects include:





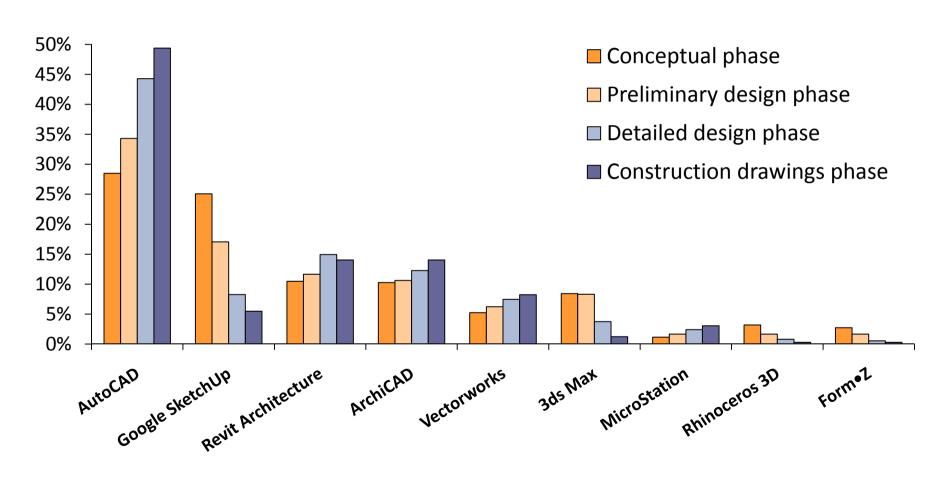
#### Results: current skills

#### Identify your current skills with solar design tools:



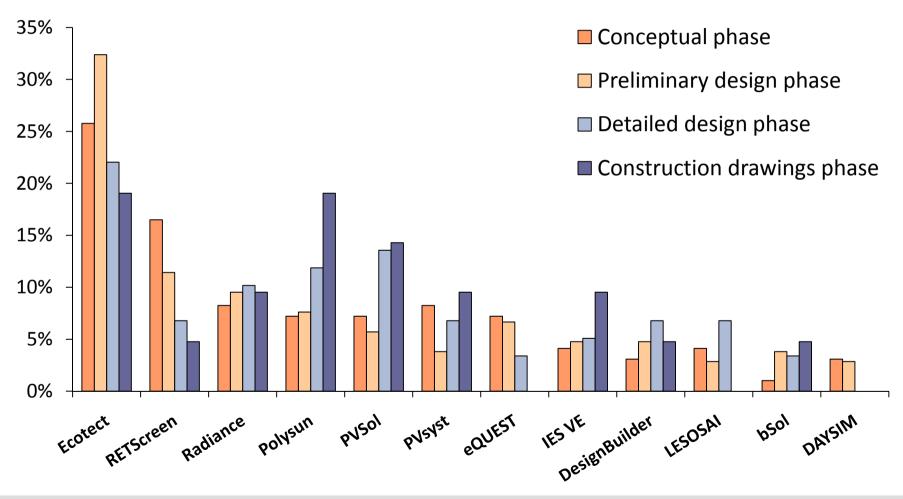


#### Identify in which design stage you use the following programs:



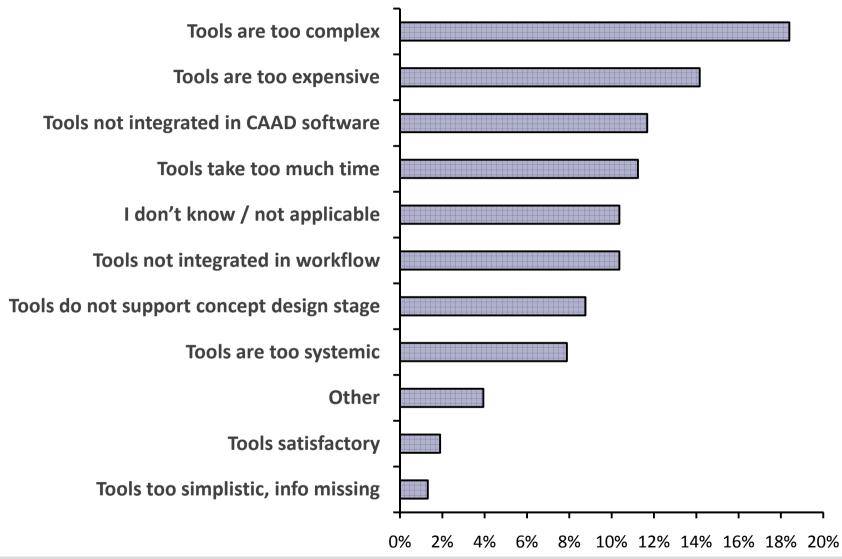


#### Results: simulation tools by design phase





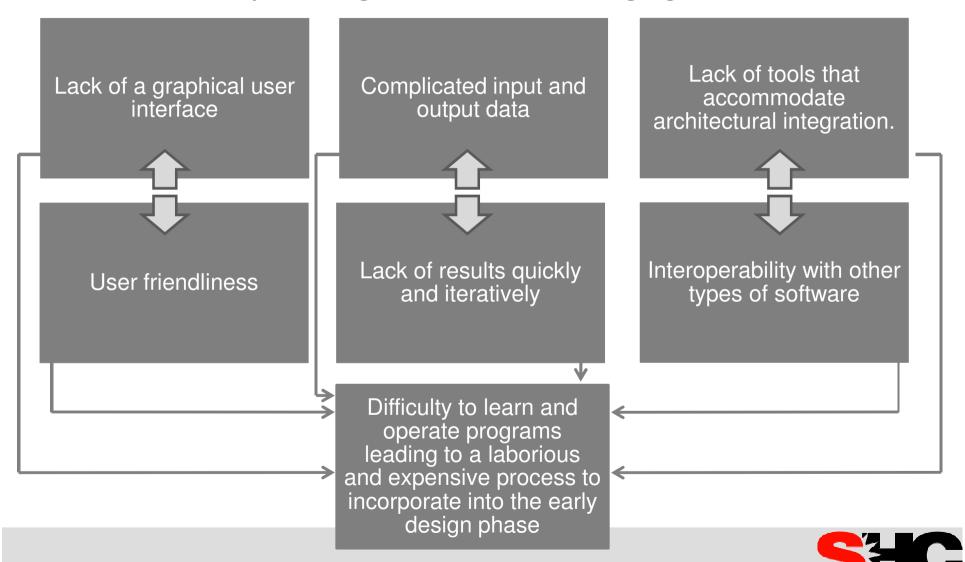
#### Results: Identified barriers





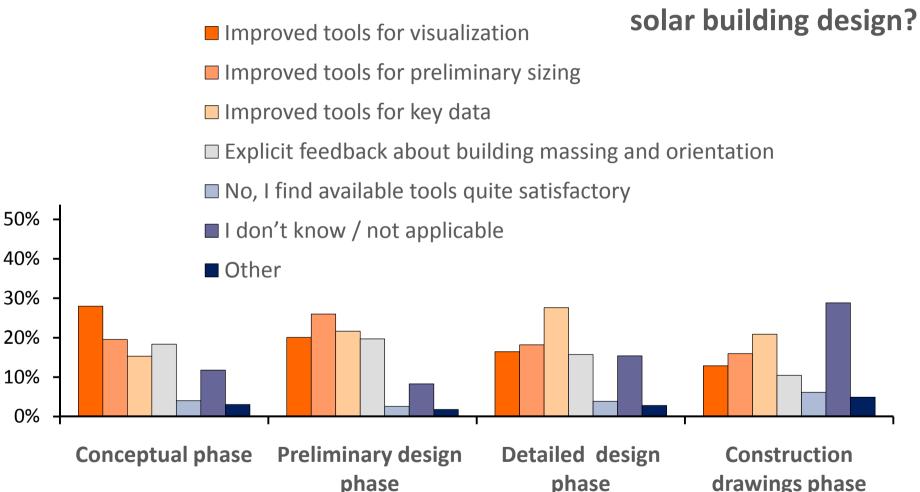
#### Methods and tools: exploration

#### Common barriers preventing architects from utilizing digital simulation tools



### Results: strategies for improvements

Do you see a need for improved tools to support the integration of solar building design?





#### Results

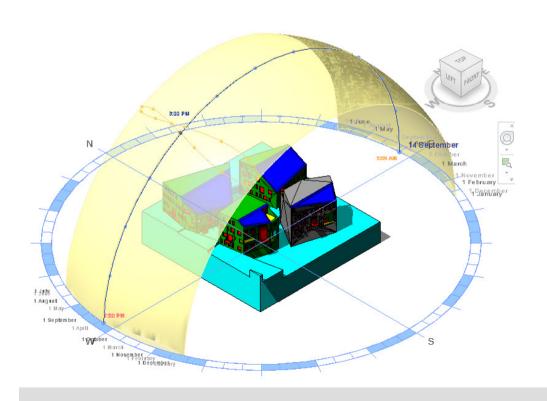


- Methods and tools are not yet well-defined and suitable for architects, especially for Early Design Phase (for active and passive solar strategies)
  - Need to adapt current tools and methods -> accelerate development of solar architecture
    - Architects do collaborate with others (IDP)
- Architects handle most decisions of solar energy themselves
- Tools used in EDP should be flexible and provide more data about solar energy
  - Limitation: low response rate



#### DB3: Guidelines

## Report T.41.B.3a - Solar Design of Buildings: Guidelines for Architects on Digital Tools

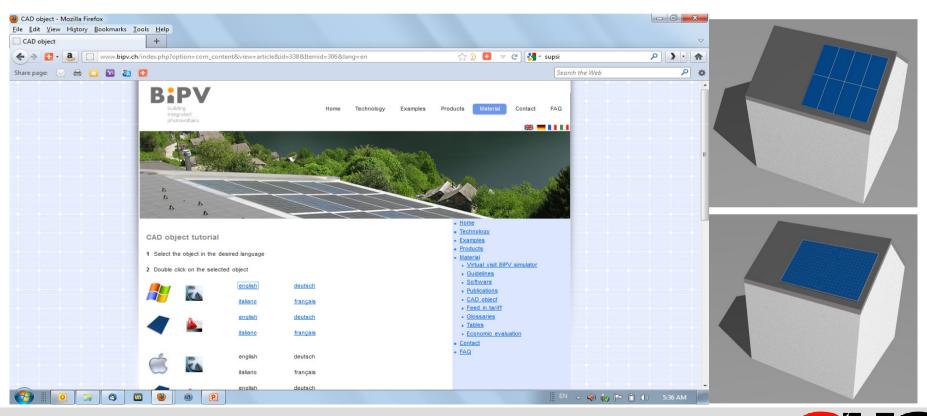


Report T.41.B.3b - Solar
Design of Buildings:
Architects' Needs
Regarding Digital Tools



#### **DB4: CAAD objects**

- for AutoCAD and ArchiCAD
- English, French, German, Italian
- The <u>Swiss BIPV Competence Centre website</u>





#### DB6: Dissemination

- Publications
- Conferences
  - Seminars
- Continuing education sessions for architects

