



## The EAST-GSR Project

### Solar thermal applications in Eastern Europe with Guaranteed Solar Results

#### The EAST-GSR project:

#### Promoting a quality approach for large-scale solar thermal systems

The EAST-GSR project, co-financed by the European Commission in the framework of the ALTENER Programme, aims at supporting the emergence of a sustainable solar thermal market in Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia, taking advantage of the Guaranteed Solar Results (GSR) quality approach.

The GSR approach is based on a five year contract through which a joint consortium, gathering all the operators involved in a large solar thermal system implementation, guarantees an annual quantity of produced solar hot water. At the end of the contract, if the cumulated guaranteed energy is not reached, the Guarantor has to compensate the building owner on the base of the missing part. This approach was developed in France in the late 90s and has been used in various European countries.

It is a useful tool to structure a developing market in a sustainable way as it makes the professionals responsible and allow a learning effect leading to the use of quality equipments and to a proper sizing of the systems. From a financial point of view, risks are minimized since the service is guaranteed by a contract. As a consequence, loans are more easily mobilised and the efficient use of public subsidies is ensured.

#### Why are you concerned?

For the new European Union Member States, developing their renewable energy sources (RES) market is a key issue as they are now concerned by the related European ambitious objectives. The Regions and local communities are a key level for the implementation of those objectives through exemplary realisations and the concrete implementation of incentive schemes (financing, technical and decisional support, information dissemination). The EAST-GSR project, by transposing the GSR concept, proposes an approach that can guarantee a good use of public money (by securing solar thermal projects on public buildings or through an efficient use of public subsidies to the private sector).

#### Implementing pre-feasibility studies






Public buildings (schools, sport centers, health centers and hospital, etc.) as well as collective housing and the tourism facilities have been identified as big potential sectors for large-scale solar thermal systems. The EAST-GSR project, which enters its last phase, now focuses on dissemination and demonstration aspects. That is why pre-feasibility studies will be conducted on potential new large-scale installations. All interested private or public bodies can contact the project consortium members in the Eastern European partner countries (see below). The result of those pre-feasibility studies will be actively presented to potential investors and will help negotiating the financing of the installation.



## National networking meetings and training sessions

Knowledge transfer is also a key issue and national sessions will be organised in each of the 5 Eastern European countries. It will include a networking meeting dedicated to the information of public bodies, professional associations, financing institutions and end-users (hotel and social housing managers, etc.) and a training sessions that will be the opportunity to address issues such as installations design and sizing, the GSR contract procedure and remote telemonitoring systems. Eventually, a site visit will be organised.

The dates of those national sessions are the following:

	April 11 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2008 in the framework of the 15th Fair of Residential Building Materials and Interior Fitments DOM, Kielce.
Poland	
	May 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2008 (networking session) and May 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> (training sessions and site visit) in the framework of “Sun and Building”, Ljubljana.
Slovenia	
	June 10 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> in Bratislava
Slovak Republic	
	June 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2008 during the Neptune regional energy forum.
Romania	
	Late September in Sofia, dates to be confirmed.
Bulgaria	

## For further information...

Information and documents on the project are accessible on the project website:

[www.solareast-gsr.net](http://www.solareast-gsr.net)

If you are interested in benefiting from a feasibility study, if you want to receive the national sessions' programme or if you are looking for more information about the project, feel free to contact the following EAST-GSR partners:

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