

The annual conference of the European Technology and Innovation Platform for Photovoltaics on “QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF PV SYSTEMS” took place on 3 May 2018 in Brussels, Belgium

Industry leaders as well as top-ranking scientists, engineers and policy makers met on 3 May to discuss "Quality and sustainability as an asset for the European Industry". Over 130 PV specialists from 16 European countries attended the conference. The Conference was chaired by the ETIP PV Chairman Marko Topič.

ETIP PV Chairman Marko Topič stated: "All five sessions confirmed from different angles and perspectives that quality and sustainability matters. In all respects there is room for further growth. In search for a balance between low-cost and high-quality / durability concepts of scoreboards and eco-labelling of products has been welcomed. Sustainability of the whole PV sector will be assured if everyone across the value chain, both upstream and downstream, makes profit."

David Moser, the Programme Chair of the conference, came to the conclusions:

- quality in PV has a leverage effect with the benefits that can clearly offset the added costs
- bankability is a variable concept depending on stakeholders and context while quality is an absolute value
- feedback loop from downstream to upstream is essential to define what is really needed in terms of quality checks of PV components
- large scale performance data are much needed to be able to better assess and improve the assumptions in business models

The only way to achieve a sustainable development of PV technology must be to focus on quality products and procedures. All stakeholders involved in PV plant design and installation need to collaborate and engage for a sustainable long-term selection of products and systems.

The programme was complemented with a selected number of poster presentations.



The European Technology and Innovation Platform for Photovoltaics elected Chairmen and seven new Steering Committee members during their meeting on 2 May, 2018 in Brussels, Belgium

The European Technology and Innovation Platform for Photovoltaics (ETIP PV) elected during the meeting in Brussels the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen for the term 2018 - 2020.



Marko Topič, Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Elec. Eng. and Affiliate Professor at the Colorado State University, was reelected as ETIP PV Chairman. Wim C. Sinke, Manager Program Development at ECN Solar Energy in the Netherlands and Gaëtan Masson, Managing Director of Becquerel Institute, Brussels, have been reelected as Vice-Chairmen of the ETIP PV.

On Wednesday, 2 May 2018, ETIP PV also reelected Steering Committee members and elected new members representing European countries.

The new members of the Steering Committee are:

- Franz Karg, Avancis
- Richard Moreth, VITRONIC
- Riccardo Po, Eni spa
- Uwe Rau, Forschungszentrum Jülich
- Eduardo Román, Tecalia
- Wolfgang Storm, Wacker Chemie
- Harry Wirth, Fraunhofer ISE