

# Program

## Sustainable Solar Europe 2023

07.12.2023 | La Tricoterie, Brussels  
[www.sustainable-solar-europe.com](http://www.sustainable-solar-europe.com)

**Thursday, 07.12.2023**

09:00 - 09:45

### Opening

09:00 - 09:45

Opening

Stefano Grassi, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON, European Commission

Markus Elsässer, CEO, Solar Promotion GmbH

Virginijus Sinkevicius, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, European Commission

Patrick Ten Brink, Secretary General, European Environmental Bureau

Moderator

Walburga Hemetsberger

CEO, SolarPower Europe

10:00 - 11:00

### Session 1: Supply Chain Transparency

After one year of hard work, this session will unveil the final design of the Solar Stewardship Initiative: the SSI Code finalised after the multi-stakeholder consultation and the pilot programme, the SSI governance with civil society participation, an effective stakeholder grievance mechanism, a transparent claims guide and an assurance system based on independent audits.

With the legislative procedures on the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and the Forced Labour Ban well underway, the panel will discuss how the SSI can be a reference tool for the industry and other stakeholders to effectively address human rights and environmental impacts across the global solar value chain.

10:00 - 11:00

Session 1: Supply Chain Transparency

Alexia Ruvoletto, SolarPower Europe

Assheton Carter, Chief Executive Officer, TDi Sustainability

Pia Alina Lange, Director EU Public Affairs & Policy, Trina Solar

Özer Ergül, Supply Chain Sustainability and Operational Excellence Executive, Aquila

Marc Dufour, Senior Energy Specialist, EIB

Phil Bloomer, Executive Director, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Moderator

Dries Acke

Director, Solar Power Europe

### The Role of Innovation in Shaping a Sustainable Solar Industry

The panel will show how European innovation is shaping sustainable PV technologies, contributing to the future of the solar industry. It will bring together representatives from

five EU-funded projects - RESiLEX, TRUSTPV, PHOTORAMA, CIRCUSOL, and ICARUS- that will discuss the unique role of shaping a sustainable solar industry, related to recycling silicon from old PV panels, improving the performance and reliability of solar PV components, developing circular business models for the industry, and transforming waste streams into secondary raw materials. The aim of the session will entail depicting how the EU projects fit into the larger picture of creating a more sustainable and efficient solar industry in Europe.

#### More particular the session will cover the following topics:

- The importance of innovation in shaping a sustainable solar industry
- Challenges and opportunities that arise with developing sustainable solar technologies
- The role of collaboration and cross-sectoral partnerships in advancing sustainable solutions for the solar industry
- Q&A that will give the audience the possibility to know more about the projects and how innovation will impact the future of the industry

10:00 - 11:00

The Role of Innovation in Shaping a Sustainable Solar Industry

Claire Agraffeil, Project coordinator Photovoltaic Sustainability, CEA

Francisco Javier Luque, Project Manager, euRobotics aisbl

Yijiang Xu, Research Scientist, SINTEF Industry

Daniela Ariolli, Sustainability and Circular Economy Specialist (Technical Innovation Department), BayWa r.e. EMEA

Tom Rommens, R&D Professional Sustainable Materials Management, VITO

Moderator

Hanna Dittmar

11:30 - 12:30 **Session 2: EU Regulatory Framework for Sustainable Solar: Ecodesign, Energy Label and Best-in-class Solar** **ESG: Securing Long-Term Boudoir Commerciality and Sustainability of Solar Assets**

This session will delve into the upcoming EU regulatory measures for PV modules and inverters – Ecodesign and Energy Label, which should be finalised by early 2024. Further, the session will focus on further EU action on solar sustainability, in the context of the Green Deal Industrial Plan (GDIP) and the Net-Zero Industry Act, addressing the question of whether, and how, sustainability can support EU manufacturing

11:30 - 12:30  
 ESG: Securing Long-Term Boudoir Commerciality and Sustainability of Solar Assets  
 Sun Li, Head of Sustainability Development, Jinko  
 Özer Ergül, Supply Chain Sustainability and Operational Excellence Executive, Aquila

11:30 - 12:30  
 Session 2: EU Regulatory Framework for Sustainable Solar: Ecodesign, Energy Label and Best-in-class Solar  
 Raffaele Rossi, Head of Market Intelligence, SolarPower Europe  
 David Polverini, Policy Officer, European Commission  
 Laura Miranda Perez, Head of Sustainability and Government Affairs, Oxford PV  
 Yuliya Katsyuk, Sustainability Manager, FuturaSun  
 Giorgio Bardizza, Global Manager, TÜV Rheinland

Moderator  
 David Rose  
 Director, LACS Training

Moderator  
 Raffaele Rossi  
 Head of Market Intelligence, SolarPower Europe

12:30 - 13:00 **Sustainability Award**

12:30 - 13:00  
 Sustainability Award

14:00 - 15:00 **Session 3: Sustainability of PV Components**

PV technology is comprised of a number of materials and components, such as glass, silicon, plastic, aluminum, steel and cement. The environmental characteristics of each of these components have an effect on the overall sustainability performance of solar technology. This session will explore the sustainability challenges and opportunities in some of the sectors connected to PV manufacturing and its key components. We will discuss how intersectoral and supply chain cooperation can contribute to reducing solar environmental footprint.

14:00 - 15:00  
 Session 3: Sustainability of PV Components  
 Sandro Starita, Director Sustainability, European Aluminium  
 Kamila Slupek, Sustainability Director, Eurometaux  
 Iva Ganev, Manager Environment & Climate Policy, Glas for Europe  
 Daniel Cios, European Commission, DG GROW

Moderator  
 Dries Acke  
 Director, Solar Power Europe

15:30 - 16:30 **Creating a Sustainable and Circular Solar Industry**

The session will highlight the importance of creating a sustainable and circular solar industry in Europe, with a particular focus on restoring the value chain for PV. With the increasing demand for renewable energy sources, it is crucial to consider the entire life cycle of PV systems, from raw material extraction to end-of-life management. The session will explore how to integrate circularity principles right from the beginning of

**Session 4: How to Maximise Dual use of Land and Water Surface Potential: Floating solar and Agrivoltaics**

Opening part: launch of floating PV report

Multiple use of space is essential to maximise land-use efficiency, mitigate land constraint issues and tackle climate crisis while ensuring preservation and protection of natural ecosystems. This session will

the PV value chain.

15:30 - 16:30

Creating a Sustainable and Circular Solar Industry  
 Anna Sobczak, Policy coordinator, European Commission  
 Arvid van der Heide, Researcher PV Modules, imec  
 Alexis Barrou, R&D Engineer, CSEM  
 Yun Luo, Chief Executive Officer, Rosi Solar

Moderator

Manfred Spiesberger  
 Project Manager & Researcher, Zentrum fuer Soziale Innovation (ZSI)

explore the multiple use of land and water potential and discuss the next steps needed to accelerate the deployment of agrivoltaics and floating PV.

15:30 - 16:30

Session 4: How to Maximise dual use of Land and Water Surface Potential: Floating solar and Agrivoltaics  
 Ignacio Asenjo, Planning and Programming Officer, DG Energy, European Commission  
 Michele Tagliapietra, Head of Product Management Floating-PV, BayWa r.e.  
 Francisco Vozza, Chief Commercial Officer & GM Norway, SolarDuck

Moderator

Lina Dubina  
 Project Coordinator for Sustainability, SolarPower Europe

17:00 - 18:00

**Session 5: Sustainable End-of-life Solutions for Solar Products**

Solar technologies have unique features at their end-of-life stage. Current recycling processes for solar panels allow for a technical recycling yield of up to 90% by weight, while the current EU legislation, the WEEE Directive, already requires recycling of solar panels. With an anticipated multi-TW growth of solar capacity in the EU to meet climate, energy and security ambitions, optimising end-of-life management practices in the solar industry becomes a crucial task. This session will explore the latest developments across end-of-life practices for solar, including recycling, reuse, and repowering, from the perspective of different stakeholders in the sector.

17:00 - 18:00

Session 5: Sustainable End-of-life Solutions for Solar Products  
 Maria Banti, Policy Officer, European Commission  
 Nicolas Defrenne, Managing Director, Soren  
 Kahya Engler, Technical Lead M&A - Strategy, Sunrock

Moderator

David Moser  
 Group Leader - Photovoltaic energy systems, EURAC Research

18:30 - 19:00

**Closing**

18:30 - 19:00  
 Closing

19:00 - 22:00

**Reception**

19:00 - 22:00  
 Reception