

## Book tips:

- Claus Kleber, Cleo Paskal: "Spielball Erde. Machtkämpfe im Klimawandel". (Game ball earth – Power struggles in climate change: Language: German)

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**EUROPEAN UNION**  
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## Project Partner news

### 04.10.2012-05.10.2012: VIS NOVA Conference in Gorlice/Poland

The VIS NOVA project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF. In order to increase energy efficiency and save energy the five regions Northern Saxony/Düben Heath (DE), Schwäbisch Hall (DE), Tulln (AT), Małopolska (PL) and South-Transdanubia (HU) came together to jointly implement the VIS NOVA project which aims at establishing and developing effective sustainable energy solutions in rural regions. The first three conferences of the project were in Leipzig, Bad Düben and Pecs (Hungary). The 4th conference has been held in Gorlice, a small city in Poland. During the first day the partners talked about some interesting issues concerning renewable energies. The presentation of Tomasz Pyszcek dealt with passive house architecture in Poland. Zdzislaw Zaber in his turn talked about the usage of

geothermics and the usage of wind and water.

Adam Grenda, the mayor of the Laszki Commune, spoke about renewable energy and the legal principles in commune management. The beginner of the lecture series was Daniel Amariei of CERE. The topic of his lecture was Conceptualization of the Transnational Sustainable Energy Strategy. The attendees visited the heating station at the local hospital at the end of the first day. This hospital heating systems works on pellets and solarthermics. This is a very environment friendly technology. On the second day the partners discussed the next steps within the project and the concept of their implementation methods of one of its milestones, the Transnational Sustainable Energy Strategy.

The 5th Transnational Meeting will be held during enertec in Leipzig, Jan. 29-31, 2013.

More information on the VIS NOVA project can be found on: [www.vis-nova.eu](http://www.vis-nova.eu)





## International news

### 15.11.2012 Global Wind Power Market

**Could Triple by 2020:** Greenpeace International and the Global Wind Energy Council released their bi-annual report on the future of the wind industry in Beijing. The fourth edition of the Global Wind Energy Outlook shows that wind power could supply up to 12% of global electricity by 2020, creating 1.4 million new jobs and reducing CO2 emissions by more than 1.5 billion tons per year, more than 5 times today's level. By 2030, wind power could provide more than 20% of global electricity supply.

[http://www.sonnenseite.com/News\\_Global+Wind+Power+Market+Could+Triple+by+2020.80.a23838.html](http://www.sonnenseite.com/News_Global+Wind+Power+Market+Could+Triple+by+2020.80.a23838.html)

**17.11.2012: New European project “PV Grid” launches to promote large-scale integration of Photovoltaics in electricity distribution grids:** More than 20 partners have launched a Europe-wide effort to identify solutions to the wider integration of solar PV in Europe, particularly at the distribution level: Their new two-year project is funded by the European Commission's Intelligent Energy for Europe programme and will run until October 2014. PV GRID's aim is to contribute to overcoming regulatory and normative challenges linked to the integration of high shares of PV electricity in the distribution system across Europe.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com>



### 19.11.2012: EU energy demand can be cut

**by two thirds:** By 2050, the European Union's primary energy demand can be cut by two thirds by implementing energy-efficiency measures. This is the conclusion of a study by the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI, which was commissioned by the Federal Environment Ministry (BMU). The study was presented in Berlin. Katherina Reiche, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Environment Ministry emphasized that energy efficiency increases offer huge potentials. At the same time, around 90 percent of all energy-saving measures pay for themselves. Energy efficiency could reduce the costs of energy considerably and even make a profit. Energy efficiency can therefore make a crucial contribution to reducing the EU's greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent as planned by 2050. If all the measures outlined in the study were implemented, it would be possible to save billions of euros annually.

[http://www.sonnenseite.com/News\\_EU+energy+demand+can+be+cut+by+two+thirds.80.a23873.html](http://www.sonnenseite.com/News_EU+energy+demand+can+be+cut+by+two+thirds.80.a23873.html)

### 22.11.2012: “Photovoltaic could become the backbone of the US electricity grid”:

The significance of the US solar market, particularly East Coast states, was discussed by experts, market specialists and local installers. The severe damage caused by the super storm Sandy is still, two weeks following landfall, top of the agenda on the US East Coast. The attendees and speakers spoke out in favor of solar energy becoming the “backbone of the US electricity grid”. The significance of the US solar market, particularly East Coast states, was discussed by experts, market specialists and local installers in two sessions. Delaware stood out in particular thanks to both successful market developments and transparency. Positive developments were also noted for Pennsylvania and New York. Connecticut is considered to be a relatively small market but shows great innovation in their financing models.

[http://www.sonnenseite.com/News\\_%E2%80%9CPhotovoltaic+could+become+the+backbone+of+the+US+electricity+grid%E2%80%9D.80.a23901.html](http://www.sonnenseite.com/News_%E2%80%9CPhotovoltaic+could+become+the+backbone+of+the+US+electricity+grid%E2%80%9D.80.a23901.html)

## Congresses & exhibitions

**04.12.2012/ Berlin:** Conference: “Heat and electricity from the sun. Current developments in Berlin, national and international”

**04.12.2012-06.12.2012/Venray:** Fair for renewable energy, environmental technology and biofuel

**18.12.2012/Lüchow:** Conference: “Prevent damage of biogas plants”

**21.01.2013-22.01.2013/Berlin:** Conference: “Fuel in the future”

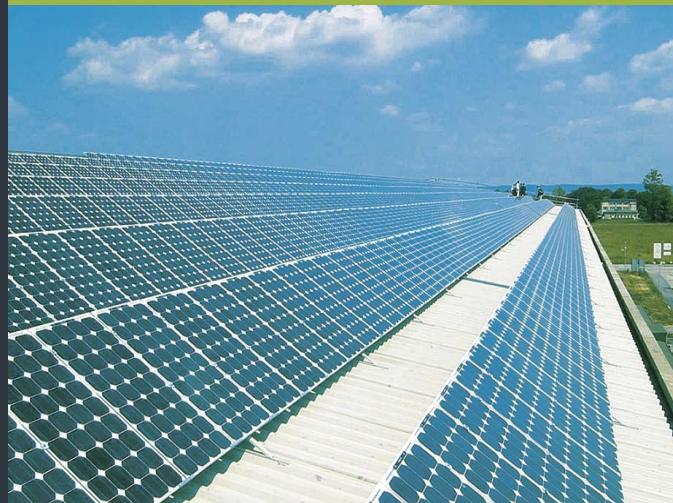
**29.01.2013-31.01.2013/Leipzig:** Biogas Fair 2013

**06.02.2013-15.02.2013/Nienburg** Conference: “English for Biogas- Do you speak Biogas?”

**20.02.2013-21.02.2013/Eltville** Conference: “Asset management in distributed networks”

For further information contact Fachverband BIOGAS e.V. under:

[http://www.biogas.org/edcom/webfvb.nsf/id/DE\\_Terme\\_Sortiert](http://www.biogas.org/edcom/webfvb.nsf/id/DE_Terme_Sortiert)



## International news

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions Gap

#### Widening as Nations Head to Crucial

**Climate Talks in Doha:** Keeping Average Global Temperature Rise to Below 2°C Still Achievable, with Potentially Big Cuts Possible from Buildings, Transportation and Avoided Deforestation - But Time Running Out.

Action on climate change needs to be scaled-up and accelerated without delay if the world is to have a running chance of keeping a global average temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius this century. The Emissions Gap Report, coordinated by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the European Climate Foundation, and released days before the convening of the Climate Change Conference of the Parties in Doha, shows that greenhouse gas emissions levels are now around 14 per cent above where they need to be in 2020. Instead of declining, concentration of warming gases like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are actually increasing in the atmosphere-up around 20 per cent since 2000. If no swift action is taken by nations, emissions are likely to be at 58 gigatonnes (Gt) in eight years' time, says the report which has involved 55 scientists from more than 20 countries.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/Future.Greenhouse+Gas+Emissions+Gap+Widening+as+Nations+Head+to+Crucial+Climate+Talks+in+Doha+.71.a23907.html>

## International news

**23.11.2012: Climate change evident across Europe, confirming urgent need for adaptation:** Climate change is affecting all regions in Europe, causing a wide range of impacts on society and the environment. Further impacts are expected in the future, potentially causing high damage costs, according to the latest assessment published by the European Environment Agency today. The report, 'Climate change, impacts and vulnerability in Europe 2012' finds that higher average temperatures have been observed across Europe as well as decreasing precipitation in southern regions and increasing precipitation in northern Europe. The Greenland ice sheet, Arctic sea ice and many glaciers across Europe are melting, snow cover has decreased and most permafrost soils have warmed. Extreme weather events such as heat waves, floods and droughts have caused rising damage costs across Europe in recent years.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com/News.Climate+change+evident+across+Europe+-+confirming+urgent+need+for+adaptation,80,a23913.htm>



## 4-degrees briefing for the World Bank:

The risks of a future without climate policy: Humankind's emissions of greenhouse gases are breaking new records every year. Hence we're on a path towards 4-degree global warming probably as soon as by the end of this century. This would mean a world of risks beyond the experience of our civilization – including heat waves, especially in the tropics, a sea-level rise affecting hundreds of millions of people, and regional yield failures impacting global food security. These are some of the results of a report for the World Bank, conducted by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and Climate Analytics in Berlin. The poorest in the world are those that will be hit hardest, making development without climate policy almost impossible, the researchers conclude. "The planetary machinery tends to be jumpy, this is to respond disproportionately to disruptions that come with the manmade greenhouse effect," PIK's director Hans Joachim Schellnhuber points out. <http://www.sonnenseite.com/News.4.degrees+briefing+for+the+World+Bank+-+The+risks+of+a+future+without+climate+policy+,80,a23877.html>

## National news

**16.11.2012 A higher production of wind power increases economy and employment:** With the expansion of wind power the Federal States of Germany could create 30.000 new jobs until 2020. These calculated the Institute of Ecological Economic Research on behalf of Greenpeace. The study of the IÖW compares the economical effects of the different aims of green energy by the federal states and the government until 2020.

### 17.11.2012 Germany/ Reform agreed principles for EEG:

The Environment Ministers of the countries agreed principles for a reform of the renewable Energy Law. Energy must remain affordable for consumers. The allowances need to be calculable in a long term time. Electricity from renewable energy sources must also play an important role. There should be a power supply connection and an obligation transit for green energy in the future.

<http://www.sonnenseite.com>