

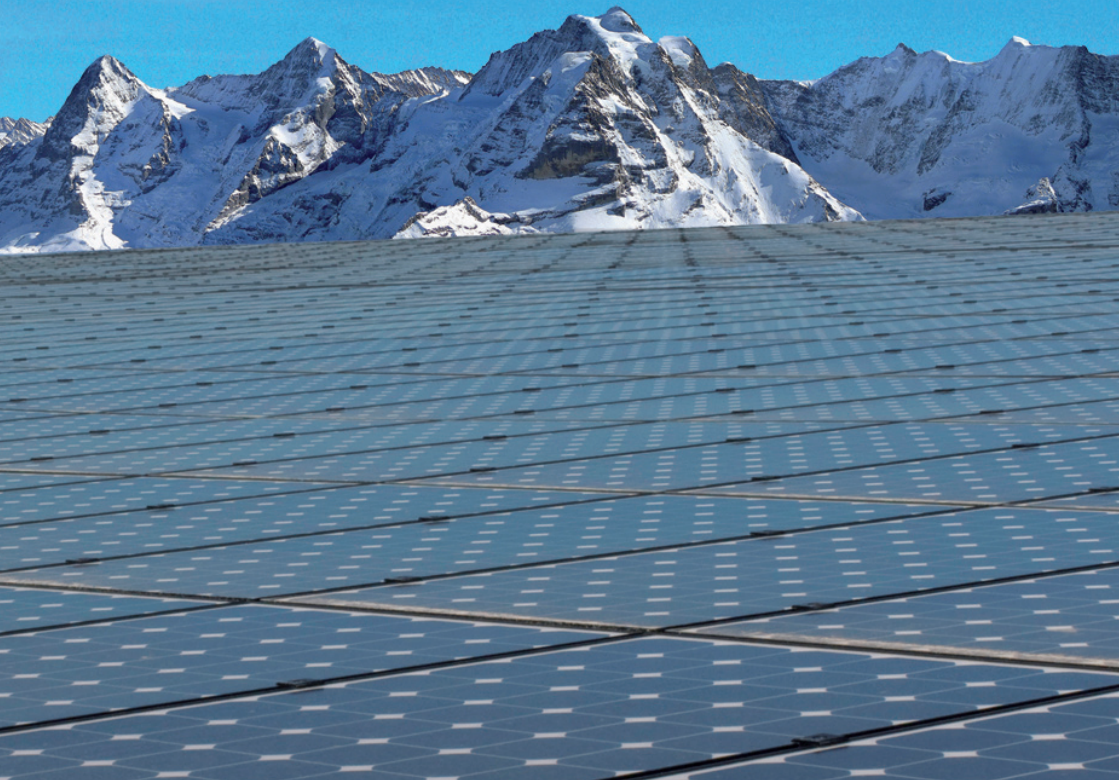
SWISSOLAR 

Swiss Solar Energy Professionals Association

The concentrated power of the solar economy in Switzerland

Your service provider for information, education,
quality assurance and collective advertising

Your platform for political concerns



Solar power in Switzerland

Every year, the sun sends up to 220 times more energy onto the surface of Switzerland than is used during the same period in the country. The insolation values lie between approximately 1,100 kilowatt-hours per square meter in the lowlands and 1,600 kWh/m² in mountain areas.

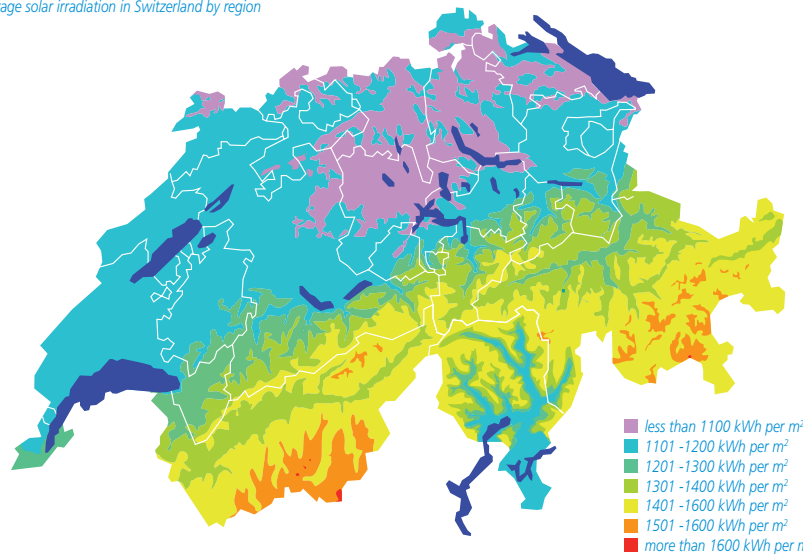
Innovative research institutes and dynamic companies have acquired a considerable amount of know-how in the various fields of solar power application. The entire sector provides around 10,000 workplaces, of which approximately 8,000 can be found in the strongly export-oriented photovoltaics area.

Since the introduction of the Swiss Feed-in Tariffs for renewable electricity, the photovoltaics business has seen strong growth in Switzerland. 25 megawatts were installed in 2009.

Because of the limit imposed by legislation on the financing of this scheme, it is expected that there will be no further strong growth in this market area within the next few years.

Solar thermal collectors for hot water preparation and heating are becoming more and more popular with homeowners. They benefit from financial support in all Swiss Cantons as well as from tax incentives. Around 150,000 square meters of glazed collectors were sold in 2009; 30 percent more than in the previous year.

Average solar irradiation in Switzerland by region



Swissolar, an all-embracing association

Swissolar's origins date back to 1978, which means that the association is one of the oldest of its kind worldwide. Today, this professional association has around 250 members from the fields of solar heating, solar power generation and solar building construction. They cover the entire added-value field: Manufacturers, installers, planners, research institutes and energy utilities. Swissolar also has the function of an umbrella organisation for the solar power business: Several important building technical services and solar associations can also be found among its members.

The foreseeable shortage of non-renewable forms of energy and the threat of climate change are forcing us towards a rapid and radical restructuring of our energy supply systems. In the future, heat and power from the sun will be the most important sources of energy for us. Swissolar campaigns for a basic political framework which will support the rapid establishment of sustainable energy supplies.

The "Swiss Solar Days," held in May, are one of the annual highlights of Swissolar's activities which are carried out in association with the European solar associations ESTIF and EPIA. At various locations in Switzerland, around 200 participants present information on the various possible uses of heat and power from the sun.

A selection of pamphlets and a comprehensive website present information on the use of solar power in German, French and Italian. Home builders can find companies appropriate to their needs in the «Solarprofis» list with over 400 entries. Decision makers and home builders are updated on the solar energy topic through advertisements, media work and information events.

Thanks to opportunities in the further education area, Swissolar members always have access to the latest technical state-of-the-art and thus always have satisfied customers.

All important manufacturers and solar thermal and photovoltaic component importers in Switzerland support the association within the framework of a Sponsoring Partnership. In return, the companies receive a privileged entry in the Swissolar documentation.

Swissolar memberships and partnerships:



Swiss section

member

member

Over half of the heating needs and one-third of power requirements in Switzerland can be met on a long-term basis by using solar technology available today on existing buildings!



Roger Nordmann,
President and Swiss Member of Parliament



David Stickelberger,
Managing Director

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