

Pressemitteilung

Sonne statt Öl

Abu Dhabi's Pilotprojekt für Solarenergie: ein Berliner Weiterbilder vermittelt Photovoltaik-Kenntnisse an den größten Stromversorger der Region.

Berlin, 22.06.10 – In Vorbereitung auf das Solardach Programm in Abu Dhabi schulte die in Berlin ansässige Renewables Academy (RENAC) vergangene Woche den örtlichen Stromversorger ADDC (Abu Dhabi Distribution Company) in Photovoltaik. Auf dem Stundenplan standen Themen wie Anlagendesign, Montage, Wartung und Monitoring sowie Netzintegration. „Durch das Training konnten sich unsere Ingenieure die nötigen Fertigkeiten aneignen, um den kommenden Herausforderungen des Solardach Programs zu begegnen, insbesondere aufgrund der Mischung aus Theorie und praktischen „hands-on“ Übungen.“, erklärte Jürgen Beigel, Senior Projekt Manager des Abu Dhabi Solardach Programs.

Stromerzeugung durch Solarenergie und deren Einspeisung in das öffentliche Netz ist bisher noch ein relativ neues Thema für Abu Dhabi und ADDC. Um den Ausbau der solaren Stromerzeugung in Abu Dhabi anzustoßen, sollen demnächst privaten Investoren durch neue politische Rahmenbedingungen entsprechende Anreize geschaffen werden. Im Vorfeld zu der neuen Gesetzgebung will Masdar mit einem insgesamt 500 MW großen Pilotprojekt, dem Solardach Programm, erste Erfahrungen sammeln. Mit der Umsetzung des Pilotprojektes wurde ADDC beauftragt.

Die Region weist zwar sehr gute Einstrahlungswerte vor, gleichzeitig aber auch hohe Luftfeuchtigkeit sowie ein großes Staub- und Sandaufkommen. Im Pilotprojekt werden unterschiedliche PV Anlagensysteme getestet, um die unter örtlichen Bedingungen optimale Anlagengröße, Komponentenauswahl und Aufstellwinkel zu ermitteln.

Die Ingenieure von ADDC werden zukünftig die Installation überwachen und für den Netzanschluss sorgen. Die RENAC hat bereits zahlreiche Ingenieure und Techniker aus der Region Naher und Mittlerer Osten darin geschult, unter regionalen Gegebenheiten optimal funktionierende Solarthermie- oder PV Anlagen zu planen, zu installieren und zu warten. Für ihre Schulungen hat die RENAC – neben ihrem 230 m² großen Trainingszentrum in Berlin – ein eigens für weltweite Erneuerbare Energien Trainings angefertigtes mobiles Trainingscenter. Damit können die Kursteilnehmer direkt vor Ort optimal auf den Aus- und Umbau der Strom- und Wärmeerzeugung durch Sonne und Wind vorbereitet werden.

Weitere Informationen:

www.renac.de

Interview mit dem Manager des Solardach Programms Mohamed Al Attas auf S.2

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Die Vereinigten Arabischen Emirate zeigen in jüngster Zeit zwar mehr Aufmerksamkeit gegenüber Umweltangelegenheiten, allerdings fehlt es noch an konkreten Aktionen. So hat die regionale Tageszeitung "Khaleej Times" letzte Woche in einem Artikel festgestellt: „Die Fachleute in den VAE denken zwar grün, handeln aber nicht so.“ RENAC hat den Manager des Solar Dach Programms, Mohamed Al Attas, zu den Plänen des Programs – und zu den ersten praktischen Schritten – befragt, bei dem durch den Einsatz von Photovoltaik die Energieversorgung umweltfreundlicher gestaltet werden soll.

Interview with Mohamed Al Attas, Solar Roof Program Manager of the Solar Roof Program of Abu Dhabi



What is the objective of the Solar Roof Top Program? Who is the initiator?

The Solar Roof Program (SRP) is a government sponsored financial incentive program designed to make the use of solar photovoltaic (PV) on rooftops more affordable to Abu Dhabi consumers. It shall trigger the implementation, ownership and operation of PV installations by private individuals, companies and other entities. The program shall stimulate the growth of local industries, business, jobs and skills in the solar PV sector in Abu Dhabi. The overall balance of the program shows a positive economical result for Abu Dhabi.

SRP is based on a financial incentive scheme consisting of the following elements:

1. Rebate payment in the moment of investment.
2. A premium tariff (FiT = Feed in Tariff) paid per kWh produced and fed into the grid.
3. To ensure continuous technological development this FiT will decrease annually.

The program is designed for a 500 MW PV on roof tops within 20 years

What is the task of ADCC within the program?

With the assistance and experience of Masdar, ADCC will set-up the structures, rules and regulations for the SRP. Later ADCC will host and run the SRP operations on a day by day basis with a dedicated team. ADCC will monitor the program, do the registrations, rebate and FIT payments, approve the connection of the PV systems to the local grid and report to the AD Government about the success of the program.

Which challenges do you see for Abu Dhabi concerning the implementation of electricity generation through photovoltaics? Does photovoltaic really have a chance in Abu Dhabi in consideration of the prize for oil?

The solar roof program is a further step to reach the targets of UAE and Abu Dhabi. The long term targets of UAE are: 7% share of Renewable Energies in UAE 2020 (corresponds to 1,500 MW capacity of Renewable Energies), gradually increasing revenues from Renewable Energy business. Furthermore, UAE aims to be leading by example and leading by adopting. Another important goal is to create local content regarding: know-how ,skills and qualification, IP (intellectual property) and setting up industries.

Therefore we have to meet various challenges. Electricity in Abu Dhabi is cheap and subsidized. We have no pressing energy security issues and no need for fuel diversification. Regulations to support embedded/distributed Generation (DG) such as PV do not exist. A lack of consumer awareness and education on issues of energy efficiency and alternative energy is also prejudicial to the implementation of RE. In terms of meteorological conditions, we have a high solar irradiation, but also high humidity, dust and sandstorms. Abu Dhabi is concentrating now on attracting investments and creating jobs in the higher value-added upstream, R&D and manufacturing segments of the PV value chain.

Has ADCC already experiences with the installation of PV plants or grid integration?

Until now, the PV value chain to support PV deployment is not established (distributors, installers, etc.). Historically, PV deployment in Abu Dhabi has been limited to off-grid applications. MASDAR is undertaking numerous initiatives to address this concern (MASDAR PV in Germany) Performance testing of different PV technologies and suppliers is being conducted by MASDAR.

Recent experiences are based on a 10MW PV plant at Masdar City, an international PV Test Field and the Masdar PV car park. All these projects have been connected to ADCC Grid. Apart from these, Abu Dhabi has no PV history.

Does the public in Abu Dhabi accept renewable energies as an alternative to fossil fuels? How is the public opinion during these days?

Renewable Energy and sustainability issues are very popular in the day by day media in UAE. However there is still a gap between “Talking the talk and walking the walk”. The SRP in AD will set the rules and regulations for Photovoltaic on the roofs of private individuals to get familiar with PV-technology on a hands-on basis. It will encourage many interested people to start up their own “mini-IPP” (independent power producer).

Why does ADCC take part in a training by RENAC?

We conducted a diligent market survey and concluded that RENAC, located in one of the most mature PV market in the world, has the best experience base for doing such a training. So we found RENAC by a comprehensive market research.

What know-how do the engineers have to acquire during the training?

For ADDC’s engineers it is of utmost importance to accomplish their professional skills in grid operation and connection with the particular issues of grid connected PV-systems.

Thank you for the interview!