

SOPHIA project – European Research Infrastructure

SOPHIA Research Infrastructure project started in February 2011 within the context of the Research Infrastructures Call FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1 and has been running for a period of 4 years finishing in February 2015.

The objective of SOPHIA is to strengthen and optimise PV research capabilities, mainly by coordinating efforts on important but precompetitive topics. Throughout the project, issues of fragmentation and costly duplication of research at the European scale have been addressed. Large research infrastructures working together will avoid the useless replication of a large number of small efforts.

The SOPHIA project has brought together the main European Photovoltaic Research Infrastructures in order to provide the scientific community with common referential to conduct efficient and coordinated research work in the field of PV technologies.

SOPHIA has:

1. Linked researchers in academia and research institutes in order to address some specific challenges of solar photovoltaic energy such as :
 - the characterisation and understanding of some materials : silicon, TCOs, thin films, polymers, etc.
 - the modelling of cells, modules and systems
 - the performance evaluation of modules and systems, including CPV and BIPV systems
2. Given access to European researchers to a unique portfolio of laboratories and test facilities in the field of photovoltaics. This ensures that a large number of scientists from the EU and the Associated States can benefit from expensive equipment, helping in maintaining Europe leadership in this strategic sector.

For more information:

www.sophia-ri.eu

<http://uttp.enea.it/sophiawebinar/>

Strategic Vision for PV Research Infrastructure

SOPHIA project takes the lead

The high-level event will be held during the 29th European PV Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition (EU PVSEC) in Amsterdam. The focus of that event will be to present main outcomes of the SOPHIA project and discuss the findings of the Strategic Research Infrastructure Agenda (SRIA) that includes inputs from all the different topic leaders and expert groups within the SOPHIA consortium.

The workshop aims at increasing awareness of the essential role energy research infrastructures at European level, and helping researchers and users gain knowledge for more efficient and improved functioning of PV energy systems, rationalise, optimise and achieve economies of scale, promote European leadership, contribute to the development and to the implementation of resources as well as to the development of a competitive industry contributing to European growth.



Supported by:

European PV Research Infrastructure

Keystone for the reinforcement of the **PV industry**, Europe's
growth and competitiveness

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 23 September 2014 (09:00 – 12:00)

RAI Convention & Exhibition Centre (EU PVSEC 2014) – Auditorium Centre, First Floor, Room G106

Event organised by:



Supported by:



Media partners:



08:30-09:00 Registration & Welcome coffee

Session I: SOPHIA FINAL RESULTS – Contribution to all main PV research areas

Moderator: James Watson, EPIA CEO

09:00-09:20 SOPHIA project – The unique project-hub for PV R&D *Philippe Malbranche, CEA-INES (SOPHIA Project Coordinator)*

09:20-10:00 Main outcomes – Flash presentations per technology and activity *Topic Leaders, SOPHIA experts*

Session II: PV RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE IN EUROPE – What support does it need?

Moderator: Nicola Pearsall, Professor of Renewable Energy, Northumbria University

10:00-10:15 From joint research infrastructure to large scale PV manufacturing. Is it still possible in Europe? *Jean-Pierre Joly, INES General Director*

10:15-10:45 Panel Discussion
Topic: What does the research community see as main challenges for future PV growth? What are the needs and how those can be addressed within the EU?
Panellists: Hein Willems, Solliance Director • Antoni Martinez, CTO Renewables, KIC-Innoenergy • Jean-Pierre Joly, INES General Director • Philip Pieters, Business Development Director Energy, imec • Representative from EERA (tbc)

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

Session III: PV RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE TRENDS AND STRATEGIES – What is the way ahead?

Moderator: Wim Sinke, Manager Program Development, ECN Solar Energy

11:00-11:15 Strategic Vision on PV Research Infrastructure (SRIA) – Observations and Recommendations *Jan Kroon, Senior Researcher, ECN*

11:15-12:00 Panel Discussion
Topic: Open consultation on the SRIA - How do we achieve optimum implementation?
Panellists: Fabio Belloni, DG Research & Innovation, EC • Arnulf Jäger-Waldau, Scientific Officer DG JRC, EC • Andreas Bett, Fraunhofer ISE Deputy Director • Greg Arrowsmith, Policy Officer, EUREC

12:30 Networking lunch