Press Release

International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power System Programme (IEA PVPS) publishes its new "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets 2016".

IEA PVPS published its new Snapshot report on Tuesday, 18 April 2017. This serves as a preliminary assessment prior to the PVPS Trends Report that will be published in Q3 2017. This report provides estimated data about photovoltaic (PV) capacity in the countries reporting to the IEA PVPS Programme and additional key markets. At least 303 GW of PV are now installed worldwide, while in 2016, 75 GW of PV were installed globally.

Paris, France, 18 April 2017 – Preliminary market numbers show that the PV market grew significantly in 2016. In total, about 75 GW of PV capacity were installed in the IEA PVPS countries and in other major markets during 2016. The total installed capacity in the IEA PVPS countries and key markets has risen to at least 303 GW. These are the main outcomes of the latest IEA PVPS "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Market 2016" report, published on 18 April 2017.

Solar PV technology continued to expand in 2016 thanks to the rapid development in China, America and India. The 50% growth reported in 2016 came from these countries, with disparities in other markets. Japan and Europe contributed less than in 2015 and the contribution of emerging countries remained equal. In other words, the global PV market outside of China grew by 5 GW to 40 GW while China drove the global numbers up to at least 75 GW. Once driven by financial incentives in developed countries, PV has started to progress in developing countries, answering to a crucial need for electricity. Whereas in several developed countries, PV comes in direct competition with existing plants from incumbent utilities, in emerging countries PV already helps to satisfy a growing need for energy in general and electricity in particular, pushed by declining prices.

In a decade, PV has become a major source of electricity at an extremely rapid pace in multiple countries all over the world. The speed of its development stems from its unique ability to cover most market segments; from the very small individual systems for rural electrification to utility-size power plants (today over 1 GWp). From the built environment to large ground-mounted installations, PV finds its way, depending on various criteria that makes it suitable for most environments.

Download the full report here: http://www.iea-pvps.org/index.php?id=trends0

About the IEA PVPS "Snapshot of Global Photovoltaic Markets" Report
This report is the 5th edition of its kind. It has been prepared by IEA PVPS Task 1 largely on the basis of national contributions provided by Task 1 participating countries and additional sources. The data presented in the report are preliminary estimates that will be followed by official validated data by national governments. These official data will be published later this year in the well-known IEA PVPS Trends Report. To obtain electronic copies of this report or information on other IEA PVPS publications please visit the IEA PVPS website www.iea-pvps.org.

About IEA PVPS
The IEA Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme (IEA PVPS) is one of the collaborative R&D Agreements established within the IEA and, since its establishment in 1993, the PVPS participants have been conducting a variety of joint projects in the application of photovoltaic conversion of solar energy into electricity. The 30 PVPS members are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, International Copper Alliance, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, SEIA, SEPA, SolarPower Europe, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, and the United States.

For further information, contact: *Gaëtan Masson, Task 1 Operating Agent g.masson@iea-pvps.org*