



European Forum of Photovoltaic Cluster

Brussels, 14.10.2015

The first European Forum of Photovoltaic Cluster took place on October 14th during the Open Days 2015 in Brussels.

This conference was organized by Solarvalley Mitteldeutschland on behalf of seven European PV clusters to highlight results of joint activities within the project SOLARROK and to further focus on actual and upcoming opportunities and challenges for the European PV Community. About 80 stakeholders in PV industry and research institutions as well as public authorities and intermediate actors attended the event.

Hubert Aulich, President of the board of directors of Solarvalley Mitteldeutschland presented SOLARROK as a joint effort to deepen the transregional cooperation of PV Clusters in Europe in terms of research, development and innovation as well as education and training and sharing the knowledge about best practises in cluster management. In the key-note address, Eicke Weber, director of the Fraunhofer ISE, emphasized the importance of PV technology for the current and future energy mix and envisioned how European Regions could participate in the growing markets for solar energy. In four consecutive panel sessions experts from industry and scientific institutions discussed topics of strategic importance for the PV sector in Europe. The discussion covered upcoming applications for PV in the field of grid and building integration of PV as well as questions regarding international cooperation with the MENA region and the importance of policies for the development of a sustainable PV market.

The intense discussions of the conference opened up the window for versatile and fruitful cooperations in future. SOLARROK provides the platform to follow up on it.

On behalf of the consortium the Coordinator:

Dr. Carsten Rudolf, Solar Valley GmbH, E-Mail: c.rudolf@solarvalley.org

SOLARROK is an EU FP-7 funded project having started in 2012 that comprised PV Clusters and Research partners from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia and Spain coordinated under the leadership of the German Cluster Solarvalley Mitteldeutschland. More information about SOLARROK is available at: www.solarrok.eu