

Press Release

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2nd “Solar for All” Contest Now Open for Applications

Attractive Prizes for Innovative Solar Electrification Solutions for Communities

The 2nd “Solar for All” Contest for Innovative Community Solar Electrification Solutions 2016, organized by the Canopus Foundation and the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE, is now accepting applications. Proposals for PV solar electrification solutions to provide a scalable number of low-income communities with power are invited for submission. The most innovative and promising solutions will be selected for the award.

The 2016 edition of the contest was initially called “Solar for All Contest for Innovative Solar Village Grid Power Solutions.” The name change was decided during the first jury meeting for this second contest in Paris on December 11, 2015. The jury decided to extend the scope of the contest beyond solar village grid solutions, to include community solar electrification. “Thus the focus of the 2nd “Solar for All” Contest has moved away from purely grid-based solutions to address and promote PV electrification solutions that benefit communities most, whatever the physical form of the system,” says Julia Heller, project manager at the Canopus Foundation and contest coordinator, explaining the name change. “The price for solar electricity today is at a level where it allows for a wide range of community solar electrification, well beyond village grids or small-scale solutions”, concludes Prof. Eicke R. Weber, director of Fraunhofer ISE, who chairs the jury.

Two attractive prizes will be awarded to the best applications drawn from the short list selected by the jury. The first prize is a 400,000 Euro loan for 8 years at 6 percent interest and

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no collateral required. A crowdfunding campaign will be launched in 2016 by bettervest GmbH to raise the prize money. Canopus and a second sponsor guarantee the provision of the full amount of the loan to the winner independent of the success of the crowdfunding campaign.

The runner-up will receive a special prize of 10,000 Euros from the Siemens Stiftung as well as an offer of membership in their international "Empowering People Network" support program that promotes relevant technological and entrepreneurial approaches with potential for basic supply and sustainable development.

The award ceremony is planned to be held at Intersolar India in Mumbai from October 19-21, 2016.

The "Solar for All" contest is now open for applications. Developers, system integrators, owners or operators of existing or planned solar electrification solutions for communities, particularly in rural areas of developing and emerging regions, are especially encouraged to apply. Applications are welcome from all countries. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. CEST (Germany).

More information on eligible concepts and instructions on the applications can be found at:
www.sfa-pv.org/the-contest

Short Video Contest 2016: "Showcasing Community Solar Electrification Solutions"

The Canopus Foundation is now also accepting applications for the "Showcasing Community Solar Electrification Solutions" Short Video Contest 2016 (formerly "Showcasing Village Grids" Contest). In line with the 2nd "Solar for All" Contest, the organizers have decided to expand the focus of the video contest. One outstanding short video on the topic

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of community solar electrification will be chosen to win a 2,000 Euro prize and be showcased to the expert jury and other participants of the 2nd "Solar for All" awards ceremony at Intersolar India 2016. Anyone wishing to share their ideas, stories and/or experiences on community solar electrification is invited to participate. The submission deadline for short videos is May 1, 2016.

Participation in the 2nd "Solar for All" Contest does not require participation in the video contest and vice versa; the two contests are run separately.

More information on the video contest, including instructions on how to apply can be found at:
www.sfa-pv.org/the-contest

Press release and photo: www.ise.fraunhofer.de

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