

## **COUNTRY REPORT: Macedonia**

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This short report includes a brief description of the most important elements in Macedonian regulations and certification/subsidy schemes related to solar thermal products is given here below. The description is valid for 01/2011.

## **Regulatory Framework**

### Building Regulation (general)

- There are no special rules / regulations for solar thermal systems / components in the building regulation.
- There is a book of rules for energy efficiency of new constructed buildings.
- There is a strategy for energy development in Republic of Macedonia until 2030; this is prepared by the Ministry of Economy.

## **Public Incentives (subsidies, ordinances or other)**

### Relevant incentives

- In 2007 and 2009, 500 consumers who have installed a complete solar system were paid back the 30% from their investment in the system (up to 300 Euros).

### Requirements for support schemes

- Everybody who had installed a solar system could apply for the incentive; the only requirement was to prove the installation of the complete system as well as to provide a proof of the payment.

## **Testing**

- There is a test laboratory equipped to perform testing of solar collectors according to EN/ISO standards for solar collectors. This laboratory is part of the Hydrometeorological Service of R. Macedonia (HMS) but it is not yet accredited.

## **Certification**

- There is no national scheme for product and installer certification.

## **Insurance**

- There is no insurance for solar collectors and systems, but some companies insure collectors and systems as a part of the insurance of the building.

## **Other relevant information**

- Reduced VAT and import taxes on solar panels and components.
- There is an Association for Solar Energy Solar Macedonia.

## **Trade Barriers**

- There are no trade barriers.

## **Action needed**

- The management of the Solar Test Centre should be established in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 standard.
- The Solar Test Centre should be accredited.
- It is necessary to establish a national scheme for certification of solar collectors and systems and a national scheme for installers' certification.
- The government should only give stable incentives to the proven quality collectors.
- The consumers should be educated to understand the importance of buying solar collectors with proven quality.