

## **Initial country report: LITHUANIA**

The text below presents a brief overview of the current situation in Lithuania with respect to requirements & regulations. A list of actions proposed to coordinate these requirements on a European level is given in the end.

### ***Background/status***

In Lithuania there are no special rules/regulations for solar thermal systems/components in the building regulation. The general regulations for installations shall of course be followed (concerning e.g.: freezing risks, roof tightness, etc.).

### **Regulations**

There are regulation (normative document STR 2.09.02:2004) “Heating, ventilation and air-conditioning” and it regulates solar thermal systems applying to any building construction.

### **Subsidies**

In Lithuania no national subsidy schemes for solar thermal installations. There are installed only about 1000 m<sup>2</sup> of solar collectors.

### **Testing**

Lithuania has no accredited test institute for solar thermal systems/components. Lithuanian Energy Institute (LEI) has qualified personal and necessary equipments to perform outdoor/indoor official tests and material research.

### **Certification**

- No national certification scheme for solar collectors, systems or other solar components.
- All EC norms are generally accepted if certificates would be required by clients

### **Insurance**

- There are no special insurance schemes for installation of Solar Thermal Systems;
- Insurance of the house is affected by the installation of a solar thermal system. Special insurances against breakage of glass for vacuum tubular collectors should be evaluated.

### **Others**

According to National energy efficiency programme the utilization of the solar energy for heat should be expanded in the country. The solar collectors for drying of agricultural products installed in buildings' constructions of large farmers and enterprises should be designed.

## ***Actions needed for Lithuania***

All type actions supporting the market introduction of solar heating would be welcomed.

- Implementation of European directives concerning solar thermals (energy performance of buildings, energy labelling etc);
- Subsidy schemes for residential and private households would be important as most of the interest in solar energy is found within this sector;
- Schemes supporting high quality of solar heating would be important to avoid any market failures

## **Future regulation**

- Integration of solar thermal systems into the implementation of the coming EU building directive, in particular the computational assessment of the solar thermal systems on the building energy performance;
- Strive for exemption or **decrease** of VAT for solar energy equipments.

## **Potential subsidies**

Innovative support schemes to speed up the commercialization of solar heating, for example green energy schemes.

Subsidies for private households investing in solar thermal systems.

- Investigate possibilities for implementing a “green heat certificate” scheme allowing solar heating systems to sell CO<sub>2</sub> emission allowances. This certification should be used on the base of the European standards and the Solar Keymark.

## **Potential testing**

- Investigate the possibility to establish an accredited solar system testing institute in Lithuania

## **Potential certification**

- Investigate the possibility to development of a national certification scheme for installers
- Promote the Solar Keymark by assisting Lithuanian manufactures through offering assistance in the communication process with certification bodies from other countries.

## **Insurance**

- *To influence in order to obtain better condition for insurance for certified systems.*

## **Others**

- Promoting of Solar Keymark through the Lithuanian Solar Industries network and website
- Make national workshops, disseminating status and results of the project to the interested parties / target groups not already involved directly in the project.