

ProDes methodology for supporting the use of renewable energy systems in desalination applications

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ABSTRACT

ProDes started on the 1st of October 2008 and it will run initially for 2 years. It brings together 14 leading European organisations and will support the market development of renewable energy desalination in southern Europe. Using renewable energy to power desalination, either in stand-alone or grid connected systems, will allow better load control and consequently wider renewable energy use. The project has four phases. First, the foundations will be laid for European wide R&D coordination and a dedicated industry working group will be established within the European Desalination Society. A course for students and professionals will be developed and implemented initially in four southern European countries, and also later through other interested institutions. The course will be also offered as an e-learning option. Phase 2 facilitates communication and networking among the industry, investors and SMEs on the local level. Emphasis will be put on helping companies raise capital for further product development or project implementation. An analysis of the European and international markets will help companies for planning their growth strategies. The third phase is concentrated on the improvement of the framework conditions for facilitating the implementation of renewable energy desalination. The last phase will create widespread awareness about the benefits of the technology through a promotional campaign involving use of the local media.

Keywords: Renewable energy; Desalination; Southern Europe; Network; Training; Awareness raising

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