Photovoltaics the Basis for Sustainable Energy Systems and Industrial Innovations

Becquerel Prize Honorary Lecture

Joachim Luther Fraunhofer-Institut for Solar Energy Systems, Freiburg, Germany



Global PV market



Solare Energiesysteme

Market development of PV, a likely scenario



Source: PSE GmbH, 2005

ISE

Si flat plate PV modules, price experience curve



Statement I

Photovoltaic has the potential to supply a quasi unlimited quantity of electricity in a sustainable way. Electricity (hydrogen) will become the most important final energy.

Photovoltaic is ideally suited for eradicating energy poverty in developing countries



Exemplary path, global primary energy consumption



Source: German Advisory Council on Global Change, 2003, www.wbgu.de

ISE

Statement II

Photovoltaic has a large potential for cost reduction through higher efficiency in

- use of material
- manufacture
- energy conversion



Thermodynamical limits of solar photovoltaic energy conversion



Source: R. Sizmann 1991



Statement III

Photovoltaic is high technology and thus especially suited for regions with high cost of labour

Many different PV technologies are being developed



Evolution of PV technologies





PV concepts under scientific discussion

Up and down conversion of photon energy

Multi-bands cells

Quantum well structure

Electromagnetic antenna

Auger excitation

Extraction of hot carriers

Thermophotonics



Photovoltaic optoelectronics





Statement IV

The value-added chain of PV has important high technology links

Semiconductor technology Metallurgy Packaging Electronics Integration



Links of photovoltaic technologies





Most important:

Research, industrial development and market introduction in PV has to be continuously pushed ahead by the European Commission and the national governments in a dedicated way.



Sincere thanks to all members of Fraunhofer ISE



