

Your Gateway to the French Renewable Energy Market

- **France is Europe's second largest producer of primary energy from renewable sources** (13%), after Germany (16.5%), but ahead of the United Kingdom and Italy (around 12%).
- The French solar photovoltaic sector and the wind power sector are ranked fourth leading in Europe.
- In 2008, France was Europe's leading producer of Hydroelectricity.

Here are three major reasons to grow your business in the extensive French and neighbouring European markets:

1. Sell your product in a Booming Sector

SOLAR—France is now one of the top 10 photovoltaic markets in the world after the number of installations grew by 150% during 2008 (175 MW capacity by late 2008 compared with 70 MW in late 2007). The market turnover is estimated at 1 billion euro in 2008—4th leading in Europe.

WIND— In 2008, the total power capacity of the sector of 2,500 wind turbines has surpassed 3,400 MW, thus placing France 4th in Europe after Germany, Spain and Italy, with the estimated turnover of 1.7 billion euro. Thanks to the regions receiving the most regular strong winds are on the west coasts of the country France is ranked as the European country with the 2nd largest potential for wind power after the United Kingdom.

HYDRO—Hydro power provides a fifth of the world's electricity. Second form of energy production behind nuclear, In France, it represents 14% of electricity production and 95% of the electricity produced by renewable energy. The installed capacity is around 24,000 MW. The French power generation bank has a total capacity of about 120,000 MW.

2. Take advantage of the continued Government Supported Environment

Following the “Grenelle” environment round table talks, the French government has set a target of increasing wind power capacity to 25,000 MW by 2020, including 6,000 MW at sea, which would provide almost 10% of total electricity consumption in France. Overall, the French support system for the clean energy sector is among the most generous in the European Union, mostly comprising financial aid and tax exemptions for individuals along with investment incentive programs at regional and local level.

3. Make your product more competitive by enjoying Significant Technological Advantages

The “Grenelle” Environment round table talks, which underlined France's commitment to develop green energy as part of its “Green New Deal”, have already led to the emergence of new manufacturing projects in the fields of solar, wind and hydro power.

The examples are: Solar Nano Crystal (an EDF R&D project seeking to develop cutting-edge photovoltaic technologies); The Savoie Technolac technology park which is home to National Solar Energy Institute (INES), a nearly 140 solar power researchers. : R&D Centres for Wind Power are: ARMINES / CEP, the CEA (French Commission for Atomic Energy) laboratories in Cadarache; and the GREAH (Group for Electronic and Automated Research in Le Havre.)

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Opportunities for Australian companies

France has shown substantial growth in the area of renewable energy. France's government has set new goals in terms of green energy. This drive towards clean energy provides prime opportunities for Australian companies to boost exports to France.

One of the acts of commitment of The "Grenelle" Environment round table talks focuses on carbon emission reduction and energy efficiency:

Energy efficiency and carbon opportunities

- Programme to promote renewable energy hydraulic, wind, biomass, geothermal, photovoltaic cells and solar energy.
- Consumption of 30 to 50 % renewable energy in the French overseas departments and territories by 2020;
- Research into second-generation biofuels;
- R&D programme relative to the geological capture and storage of CO₂;
- Plan for energy-efficient and low-input farming;
- Carbon balance assessments of all administrative departments and a 20 % improvement in energy efficiency;
- Compulsory inclusion of environmental clauses in the public procurement code;
- Study on the introduction of a climate energy tax.
- France is the second largest consumer of bio-fuels in Europe after Germany.

CONTACT US

Exportia has relationships with distributors of high tech products and major players in the renewable energy sector in France. Contact us to know how we can help you get a foothold in one of the most significant European clean tech markets.

Exportia acknowledges the following sources of information:

Invest in France, <http://www.invest-in-france.org/>

OECD, <http://www.oecd.org/>

European Commission, <http://www.ec.europa.eu/>

Syndicat des Energies Renouvelables, [http://www.enr.fr/
www.legrenelle-environnement.gouv.fr](http://www.enr.fr/www.legrenelle-environnement.gouv.fr)

Renewable Energy Associations and Innovation Clusters

The clean energy sector is structured around a number of associations and innovation clusters seeking to promote and develop renewable energy in France:

- **SOLAR Associations**—Enerplan (Professional Association for Solar Energy), SOLER (French Association of Solar Photovoltaic Professionals) and the SER (French Renewable Energy Union);
- **Innovation Clusters**—Brittany Marine and PACA Marine; DERBI; Lorraine Wind Power Business Cluster.

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