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**Facilitation of decentralised renewable energy sources use – Support for solar thermal collector installations for household owner and residential communities**

Category

Renewable energy

Location

Warsaw, Poland

**A sustainable solution to financing renewable energy**

An innovative financing scheme has helped bring sunshine to households and renewable energy businesses right across Poland.

The key to the initiative’s success has been to think local. The fund was set up to enable households and residential communities to obtain a loan from one of six partner banks in order to install solar thermal collectors. They would then receive a subsidy, which reimbursed their costs by up to 45 %.

Success has exceeded all expectations. Over 67 000 installations have been carried out in every region of the country, with some 3500 local bank branches involved. The programme has also helped to support Poland’s solar thermal manufacturing industry, with an estimated 9600 new jobs created. The scheme also represents another step forward in the transition from a fossil fuel-based economy to one that embraces clean technology and renewable sources. Over 60 % of subsidised solar collectors replaced installations that used coal as their energy source.

Organisation

National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management

Poland

[www.nfosigw.gov.pl](http://www.nfosigw.gov.pl)

Project website: [www.nfosigw.gov.pl/kolektory](http://www.nfosigw.gov.pl/kolektory)