

# Working hand in hand for the benefit of the climate

Why we as a company like to do projects with research institutes

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7th International Conference Energy & Meteorology
Padova, 28 June 2023





### **Agenda**

- What we do
- Our motivation for doing research projects
- Successful projects
- Lessons learned





#### What we do

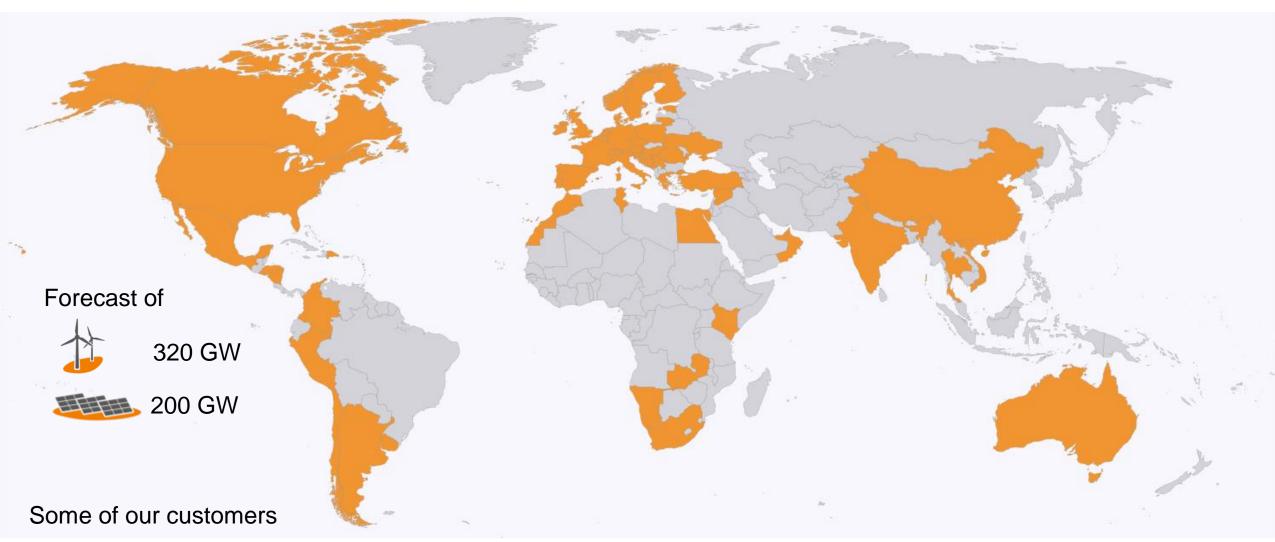
## energy

We provide services for the integration of renewables into electrical grids and energy markets. To make sure that renewables are the solution, not the problem.

- Services:
  - wind and solar power predictions for grid operators, energy traders and plant operators worldwide
- R&D:
  - internal and external projects with partners from research and industry
- Consulting:
  - Capacity building with international partners



### **International activities**











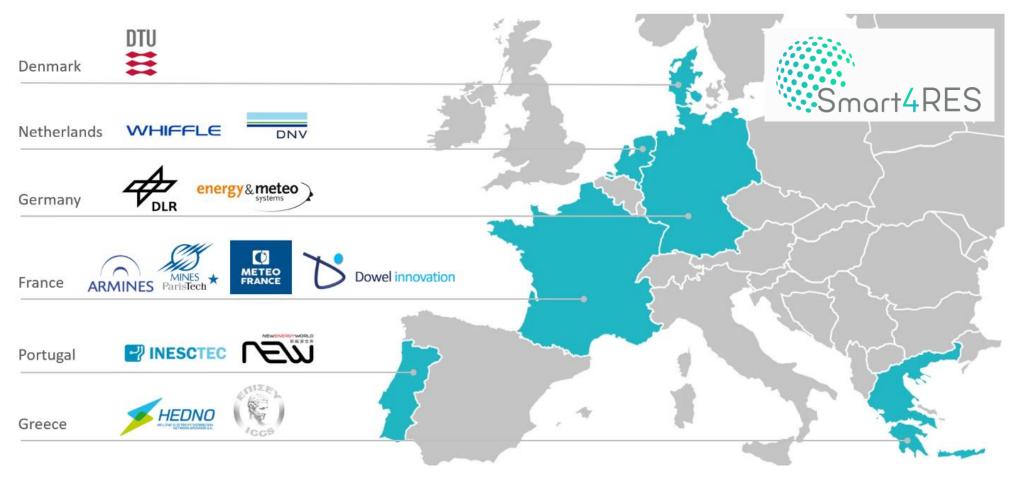




### **Motivation for research projects**

- We need innovation and new technologies to improve our services
- We have R&D team with scientific background
- Internal projects mainly aim at evolutionary steps forward
- Projects with external partners offer the chance for a big leap forward!
- Reasons
  - Cooperation with dedicated research institutes from energy meteorology
  - Well-defined project plan
  - Extra budget
- Our goal is product development and enhancement, not writing papers!





more information: smart4res.eu



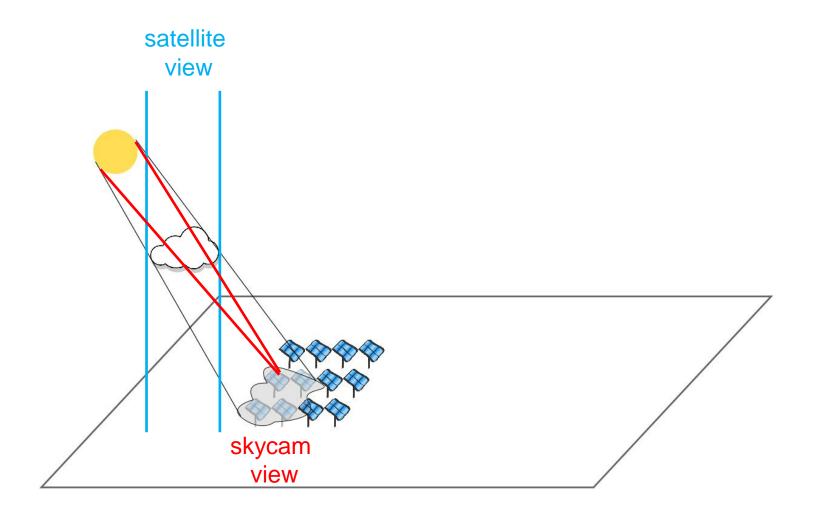
## Critical situation of solar power forecasting: broken clouds



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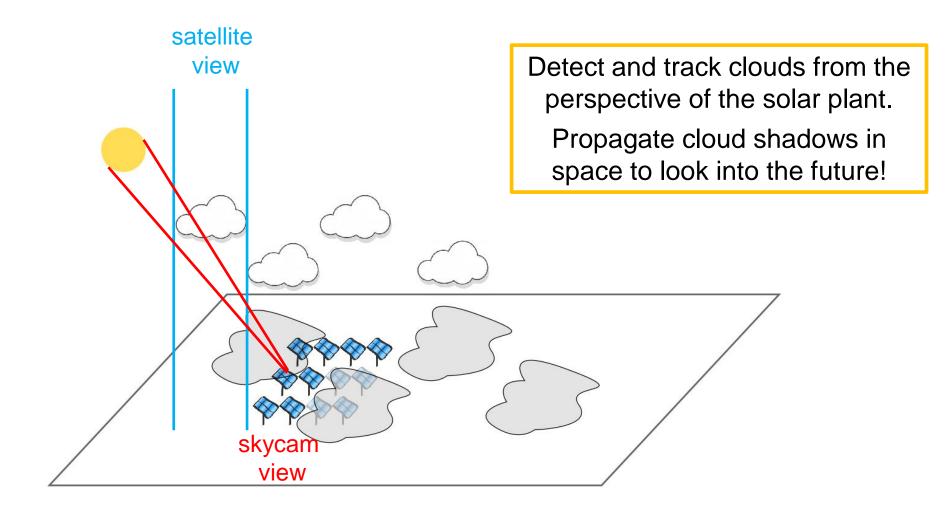


### Nowcasting of irradiation based on SkyCam and satellite data





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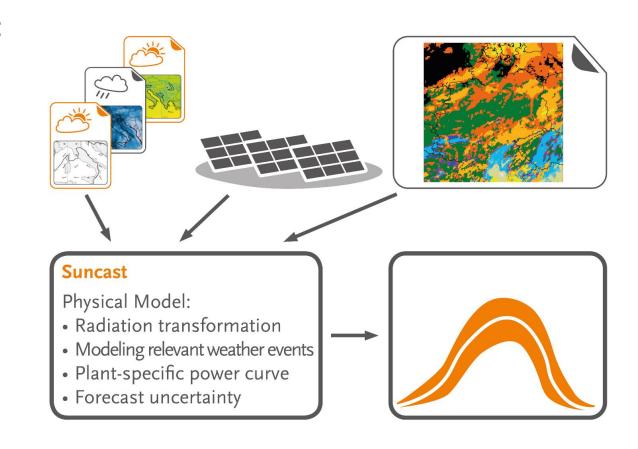


Already used in our solar power prediction:

- Multiple NWP data
- Satellite images
- Real-time power data

Here we investigated the benefit of additional data streams:

- Skylmager network (Eye2Sky)
- Lightning information





- Idea: Use network of Skycams (Eye2Sky) to improve shortest term prediction of solar power
- irradiance maps (ghi and dni)
- temporal resolution 30s
- 800 x 800 pixel (40 x 40 km)
- reprocessed and provided by DLR

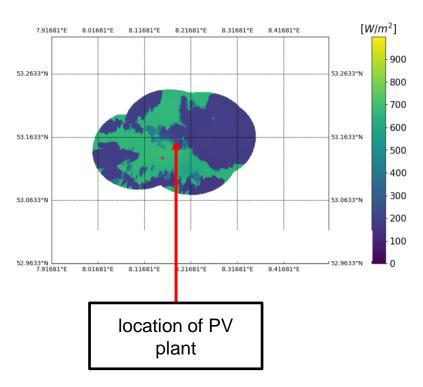


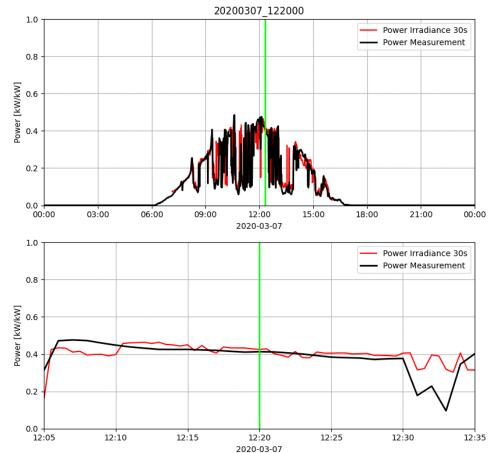


www.dlr.de



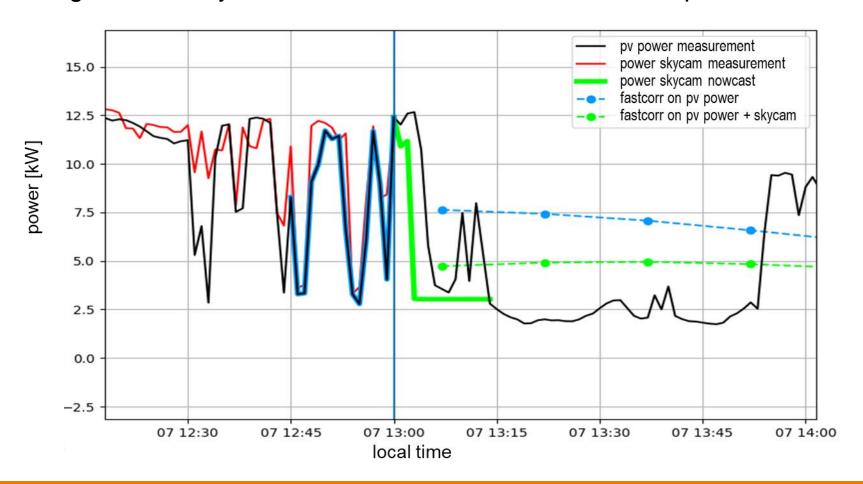
# Data from SkyCam fit well with measured production







### Integration of SkyCam Nowcast into shortest-term solar prediction





- Research project with partners from Germany
- Mission: Enhance offshore wind power forecasts to reduce imbalances for grid operators and energy traders
- Focus on ramp events: hard to forecast, can create massive errors
- Integration of LIDAR and SCADA measurements into shortest-term predictions















Idea similar to SkyCam: Horizontal laser (lidar) to take snapshot of incoming wind field





	100S	2005	400S
Typical wind measurement range	3km	6km	10km
Maximum range	14.7km	14.7km	15km+
Scanner rotation speed	Up to 30°/s		
Accumulation time	From 0.1s to 10s		
Data transfer	Ethernet/LAN		
Data format	Export in NetCDF by graphic interface or to FTP server		
API type	REST web API		
API functionalities	Lidar configuration and monitoring; status/activities/logs monitoring; data download (JSON stream and NetCDF files)		
Weight	232kg (without options)		
Temperature range	-30°C to +45°C (-22° to 113 F°)		
Power consumption	500W to 1.600W		

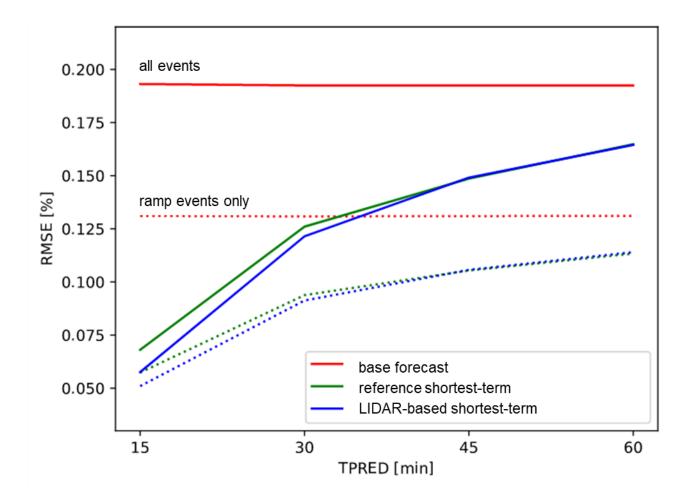
www.leosphere.com

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#### Results so far:

- LIDAR based wind power forecasts do perform better in the short term, especially for ramp events, even with small laser
- Our prime minister (Chancellor Scholz) knows what a ramp event is ...







https://www.bundeskanzler.de/bk-de/mediathek/mint-grusswort-bundeskanzler-2195978



### Why have these projects been successful?

- Inspiring discussions
- Strong commitment of all partners
- Very good results overall
- Specific progress for us
  - Gain of knowledge
  - Potential improvement of products
- Good organization by coordinator
- Low administrative overhead for us
- Meeting nice people in nice places!
- Involvement of federal government not strictly necessary



Final Conference Smart4RES, Paris 2023



### Lessons learned for co-operations with research institutes

- Very good project idea
- Experienced coordinator
- Equal level of competence and expertise between partners
- Clear separation of tasks in project work
- No conflict of interest in commercially exploitable topics
- Operational perspective and options after project

Towards climate-resilient energy systems: The clock is ticking. We need to bring the best minds and ideas together to achieve this goal.





### What a difference renewables make

