

Solar & other Renewables

The sun, wind, waves and geothermal heat are energy sources that will never run out. They are perpetual, or self-renewing. Used in a cost-efficient way, they can contribute to securing energy supplies and smoothen the transition to a fossil-free economy.

Collect and store the heat of the sun

Collecting and storing the heat of the sun for rainy days seems obvious. Danish photovoltaic technology and solar thermal energy systems offer reliable and cost-efficient methods of generating electricity and heat. Today, these systems are applied with success in commercial as well as residential buildings.

On a larger scale, solar thermal energy can be used for district heating, as well. Denmark hosts the world's largest solar district heating plant. A 20,000 sq. metre solar collector system provides district heating to 1,450 end users. The plant has attracted much attention worldwide, and every year, thousands of professionals and journalists come to visit.

An untapped potential

Geothermal and wave power are other perpetual resources, which Danish companies strive to turn into cost-efficient energy. In Denmark, low-temperature geothermal heat is used to supplement traditional methods for producing district heat. Wave power has been an important focus area for coordinated research in Denmark since 1997 with a view to phasing in wave power as yet another future energy source. Several of these technologies already exist, and many more are under development in Denmark, where manufacturers and subcontractors operate in a unique R&D community together with universities.

Commercial utilisation of the power of the sun, wind, waves and earth has yet to reach a more mature stage. But these self-renewing resources hold immense untapped potential.

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