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## DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR THE EDUCATION OF CRAFTSMEN AND PLANNERS IN TUNISIA

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### The objectives

Given the potential role that solar energy generation could play in meeting Tunisia's energy needs, the actual diffusion of solar technology is very limited. The installation of solar plants is further limited by the lack of local expertise. This project addresses the issue by focusing on training and educating the target population in the planning and erection of solar thermal and photovoltaic plants.



### The project

The project involved the development and execution of training courses and accompanying handbooks on the planning, installation and maintenance of solar thermal installations and photovoltaic plants. The two training programmes covered theoretical and practical aspects of the efficient and reliable implementation of solar plants for heat and electricity production. The handbook, in French, outlined the available technology and provided further information for the installation of solar energy plants.

### The results: technical

More than 55 participants from Tunisia were involved in the courses, held by French speaking trainers with expertise in their field. The course on solar thermal plants considered domestic hot water, hotels, swimming pools and other applications. Training in photovoltaic sector considered both grid connected and standalone applications. An emphasis was placed on multimedia teaching and practical training. Each participant received a certificate of participation and a copy of the handbook for further reference.

### The results: economic, social & environmental

A section of the handbook was devoted to funding schemes and economic support possibilities for the financing of solar installations in Tunisia. Information on European producers of solar equipment played a role in opening up the local market to European manufactures. Subsequent course evaluation advocated the need for a wider geographical spread of training courses, which could be facilitated by the advanced training of locally based technical staff (train the trainer concept).

### Project partners

- Zentrum für rationelle Energieanwendung und Umwelt GmbH, Regensburg (DE) (Co-ordinator)
- CRES – Centre for renewable energy sources, Athens (GR)