Do it yourself - PV for everybody!

Technology Arts Sciences TH Köln

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Introduction

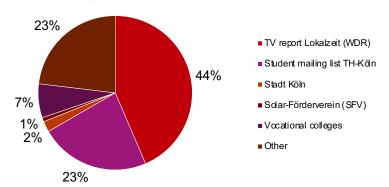
Plug-in solar systems are gaining more and more acceptance and are on the rise, as they make it possible to contribute to the energy transition with a small investment and score points with their short amortisation times. As part of this master's project, workshops were held for the general public in which around 400 participants were first given a theoretical introduction to plug-in solar devices and then allowed to try everything out for themselves and generate green electricity. In addition, a train-the-trainer concept was developed based on the experiences of the workshops, which provides instructions and guidelines for your own plug-in solar workshops. This concept aims to further spread of plug-in solar systems.

1. Preparation phase

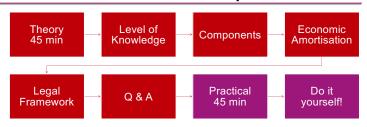


Various e-mail distribution lists from the TH Köln, the City of Cologne, the Solarförderverein and KlimaVeedel were used to publicise the workshops. Flyers were used to publicise the upcoming dates and interested parties were able to book an appointment online using a QR code. The greatest attention was generated after a three-minute WDR report, which reached a total of 1.4 million people, meaning that all available appointments were fully booked within a few minutes.

How did you hear about the workshop?



2. Procedure of the workshops



3. Train-the-Trainer

The train-the-trainer concept includes the dissemination of the experience gained from the plug-in solar power workshops to other potential workshop providers. In this context, a handbook has been compiled with all the important information and tips on the biggest obstacles that can arise in this context. In addition, the theoretical presentation was annotated so that everyone realises what the most important information from each slide is. This has already been passed on to the company YUMA, which is the market leader for plug-in solar systems in Germany. The company started its own workshops at the beginning of September and used our experience to help them.



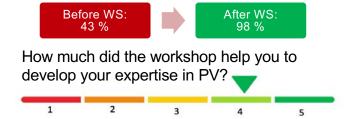
4. Evaluation

At the beginning of the theoretical part, the competences, experiences and expectations of the participants were queried in a 5-minute survey. In addition, a further survey was sent to the participants 4 weeks after the workshop to evaluate the workshop. The first survey was completed by a total of 297 participants and the second by only 94, making the evaluation subject to inaccuracies.

How would you rate your knowledge about PV?



Do you have the competence to set up your own balcony power plant by yourself?



5. Purchase of new plug-in solar systems

Have you purchased a plug-in solar system since the workshop?



What were the reasons for the purchase?

47 %	Financial Aspect
100 %	Contribution to the energy transition
53 %	Independent of the electricity supplier
21 %	Funding from the City of Cologne
11 %	Others

What reasons prevent you from making a purchase?

13 %	Technical uncertainty
15 %	Investment costs
17 %	Disagreements with landlord
7 %	Doubts about efficiency
46 %	Others

