

Welcome to Solar Weekly Insight, presenting the most important developments in the global solar industry, ranging from significant industry trends, policies, research, and new technologies to markets and pricing.

This week's edition focuses on PV panel spot market prices, Latin America's PV market, and a new CPV module conversion efficiency world record by Fraunhofer ISE.

PV module spot market prices declined to this year's low in June

In the course of June the average price for solar PV modules from all regions of origin fell to 0.59 €/Wp (approx. USD 0.8), an all-time low in 2014.

PRICE INDEX - JUNE 2014

Module type, Origin	€/Wp	Trend from May 2014	Trend from January 2014
Crystalline modules			
Germany	0.64	0.0 % →	- 7.2 % ↓
Japan, Korea	0.66	- 1.5 % ↓	- 5.7 % ↓
China	0.55	- 1.8 % ↓	- 5.2 % ↓
Southeast-Asia, Taiwan	0.50	- 3.8 % ↓	- 5.7 % ↓

PV module prices development in June, H1, 2014

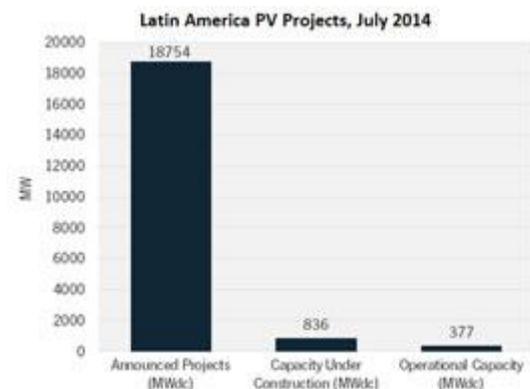
The average price for PV modules decreased by 1.8% in June 2014. This development stopped at the end of the month, and prices stabilized again in early July or in some cases even moved upward, reports Solar Server's partner pvXchange.

The price for crystalline PV modules from Germany remained unchanged compared to May, but decreased by 7.2% since January 2014.

[PV-price index](#)

Latin America's PV pipeline close to 20 GW

According to the newly released Q3 2014 "Latin America PV Playbook", the region's solar photovoltaic (PV) project pipeline included 514 projects and rose by 22 percent over last quarter, reaching a total of 19.5 gigawatts (GW).



Growing from a smaller base, capacity under construction outpaced announced projects, rising 52 percent over the first quarter of the year.

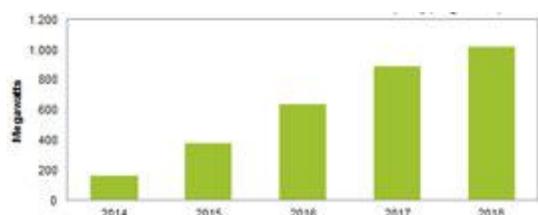
As of July 2014, there are 836 megawatts (MW) under construction and 18.7 GW of projects announced.

GTM Research forecasts that more than 1 GW of PV will come on-line this year across Latin America. [More](#)

Chart source: GTM Research Latin America PV Playbook

Solar PV expectations for Brazil rise as additional auctions are announced

Brazil's plan to auction 3.5 gigawatts (GW) of solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity through 2018 comes as welcoming news for the global solar PV industry as the ambitious goal is expected to catalyze solar growth in Latin America, according to a new report from IHS Technology (El Segundo, California, U.S.).



*Brazil's PV outlook:
Annual installed capacity in MW*

Exactly how much capacity will be awarded in Brazil has not yet been disclosed, but IHS expects about 500 megawatts (MW) to be available for PV projects in the first round.

The ceiling price for the 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) for bids is likely to be set at approximately RS 250 per megawatt-hour (MWh), or USD 112 per MWh.

"Bids will be highly competitive," said Josefin Berg, senior analyst for solar demand at IHS. [More](#)

Fraunhofer ISE scores 36.7% CPV module conversion efficiency

The Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE (Freiburg Germany) has been successfully developing concentrator photovoltaic (CPV) technology for many years. Now ISE's "FLATCON" CPV module technology allowed for a world record module efficiency of 36.7%, achieved by adapting the concentrating lens to a new four-junction solar cell structure.



The high module efficiency was measured under Concentrator Standard Testing Conditions (CSTC), and marks the best value ever achieved for a solar photovoltaic (PV) module.

Decisive in this achievement was Soitec's newly developed four-junction solar cell based on the wafer bonding technology and developed in cooperation with Fraunhofer ISE. [More](#)

Picture left: Newest CPV module (FLATCON) with an efficiency of 36.7%

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