

Hans-Josef Fell receives Global Solar Leaders Award

Shanghai, June 12, 2024 - At the 17th International Photovoltaic Power Generation and Smart Energy Conference and Exhibition (SNEC PV+) in Shanghai yesterday, Hans-Josef Fell was awarded the Global Solar Leaders Award, one of the world's most prestigious prizes in the field of solar energy. With his political work, he has made a significant contribution to the breakthrough of photovoltaics, first in Germany and then worldwide.

In his speech at the opening panel of the conference, Fell emphasized that China has the potential to lead the world towards 100% renewable energy and thus effective climate protection within a decade. He praised the progress and innovations that China has made in the field of renewable energies in recent years and emphasized the country's central role in the global energy transition.

"The current exponential growth in solar and wind energy, battery technology, electromobility and other sectors could lead China to climate neutrality by 2035 if it continues unabated. China's official goal of becoming climate-neutral by 2060 is far too late in view of the urgent need to protect the climate," Fell said in his speech.

Hans-Josef Fell is a globally recognized pioneer and advocate for renewable energies. As co-author of the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) in Germany, he has contributed significantly to the development of photovoltaics, biogas, wind power, hydropower and geothermal energy and laid the foundations for a sustainable energy policy in over 60 nations. China also adopted the basic principles of the EEG and thus established itself as the world market leader for solar energy.

The Global Solar Leaders Award is presented annually by the Global Green Energy Industry Council, the Global Solar Council and others to outstanding individuals who have made a significant contribution to the promotion and development of solar energy. The award recognizes Fell's tireless commitment and significant influence on global energy policy.

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About Hans-Josef Fell

Hans-Josef Fell has been a committed advocate of solar energy since the 1970s. In 1991, he installed one of Germany's first photovoltaic systems on his house, which today runs on renewable energy all year round. As a councillor in Hammelburg, Fell introduced the first municipal cost-covering solar power tariff in 1993 and founded the world's first solar power generation community in 1994. In 1998, he was elected to the German Bundestag, where he served until 2013. He significantly increased public research funding for photovoltaics and drafted the world's first feed-in law for renewable energies (EEG), which was passed in 2000. Fell's work inspired more than 60 countries to adopt the EEG principles, promoting the global expansion of photovoltaics. He also played a key role in the founding of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), which today has over 180 member states. As a board member of the German-Chinese Parliamentary Group, Fell promoted the adoption of the EEG principles in China, thereby accelerating PV growth. Since 2013, as President of the Energy Watch Group, he has focused on climate protection research and policy and presented the first global simulation for a 100% renewable energy supply.

About SNEC PV+

The International Photovoltaic Power Generation and Smart Energy Conference and Exhibition (SNEC PV+) is the largest and most influential event in the field of solar energy and smart energy solutions. It provides a platform for the exchange of knowledge and innovations as well as for networking between experts and companies. The 17th conference will be held from June 11 - 15, 2024 in Shanghai, China. Over 600,000 visitors and more than 3,000 exhibitors are expected at the PV trade fair in Shanghai this year. <https://pv.snec.org.cn/>

Über die Energy Watch Group

The Energy Watch Group is a non-profit think tank. We contribute to the reduction of CO2 emissions and the cooling of the earth's atmosphere on a global, national and local level. Together with our network, we develop suitable goals, effective solutions and pragmatic policy advice. We bring these to the dialog with decision-makers and the media.