

Benchmark trip to the Netherlands, 4. & 5. June 2024

Unlocking Solar Potential: Learning from the Dutch Experience

The Netherlands stands as Europe's largest per capita solar power producer, with an average of two solar modules per inhabitant. Government support, innovative policies, and a competitive auction system have propelled the rapid expansion of solar installations, including utility-scale projects and floating solar installations. However, success has posed challenges, particularly regarding grid constraints, driving efforts towards grid upgrades and innovative solutions such as hydrogen and battery storage.

Join Us for Firsthand Insights

Organized by SolenergiKlyngen, Statkraft and The Norwegian Embassy, this two-day program will take place on June 04. & 05., focusing on key areas such as regulatory frameworks, grid integration, innovative solutions, and lessons learned. This benchmark trip provides a unique opportunity for Norwegian stakeholders to learn from Dutch experiences, exchange ideas, and build collaborations towards a sustainable energy future.

Day 1 Solar Summit

The Dutch Approach: Scaling Solar and dealing with Grid Congestions

The trip kicks off in Amsterdam where participants will engage with industry experts and stakeholders, exploring market trends, approval processes, and grid balancing and constraints. Insights from Statkraft, TenneT, Holland Solar, and regulatory bodies will shed light on the Dutch journey towards solar energy dominance.

Amsterdam

08:20	Arrival in Amsterdam Schipol (or evening before; individual booking)
09:30	<i>Pick up by bus</i>
10:30	Site visit: Houten solar park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on technology/engineering and construction of solar parks • Profitability of solar assets
12:30	Lunch – Van der Valk Hotel, Houten
14:00	<i>Drive to Statkraft</i>
14:30	Welcome Niels van der Linden, Country Manager Benelux
14:35	Market trends and introduction to solar development in The Netherlands Floor Maassen, Holland Solar
15:05	Approval process “the Dutch way” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From national targets to local municipality permitting processes, representative Martijn van der Pouw, Statkraft • Support scheme realities: what’s working and what not? Floor Maassen, Holland Solar • How to get projects alive? Focus on the hick ups form a developer/owner’s perspective (incl. community involvement/NIMBY) Jeroen van Mensvoort, Statkraft
16:00	Balancing power – TenneT’s grid management, future outlook and lessons learned Joris Besseling, TenneT
16:30	The future of solar integration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATO’s & flexibility • Co-located solar & storage systems • Long Duration Energy Storage – the future possibilities Johannes Wouters, storage developer, Statkraft Renewables BeNeLux
17:00	Lessons learned from managing of solar assets in The Netherlands

	Round up, Niels van der Linden, Country Manager Benelux (10-15 min)
17:15	Networking reception with Dutch stakeholders in collaboration with the Norwegian Embassy

Day 2 Roadshow with TNO
Enabling Multiple Land Use: Solar Deployment Innovations

Partnering with TNO, the Dutch equivalent to SINTEF, the program ventures into the field to witness state-of-the-art solar parks.

Together with Dutch participants, we will explore interesting parks, hear engaging speakers, delve deep into the significance for biodiversity, environmental aesthetics, and opportunities for the agricultural sector. Challenges related to grid integration will also remain a focal point on our agenda.

Symbion Solar Park

Under the National Consortium Solar in Landscape, TNO, Vattenfall, Rijksvastgoedbedrijf, ERF, Hemus, and Aeres University of Applied Sciences have joined forces to gather more information about the combination of a solar park and strip cultivation. Strip cultivation is an innovative agricultural method where different crops are grown side by side in long narrow strips. This method enhances biodiversity and reduces the risk of diseases.

Discussions with industry partners, financial institutions, NGOs, and research institutes throughout the day will offer a comprehensive understanding of Dutch strategies and challenges.

The roadtrip is organised by the National Consortium Solar in Landscape.

[Example last year](#)

Flight back: 20:50, Amsterdam Schipol – Oslo Individual booking