

EnerGaïa unveils the 11 nominees for its Innovation Awards and sets the stage for 11 and 12 December 2024

The 18th edition of Forum EnerGaïa will take place on 11 and 12 December at Montpellier Exhibition Centre, France. This unmissable business-focussed gathering covers the entire renewable energy value chain: production, distribution, installation, services. All solutions and technologies are represented, providing developers and decision makers from the public and private sectors with tangible and cross-disciplinary responses to their energy transition challenges.

Key figures

- 500 exhibitors
- 18,000 professionals
- 23% exhibitors from outside France*
- 50 countries represented*
Top 3: Spain, China, Germany
- 5 exhibition halls
- 24,000 sqm

*Figures for 2023

Sponsored by the Occitanie Regional Authority and organised by SPL Occitanie Events, EnerGaïa brings together all the stakeholders from the vast renewables ecosystem, from production to applications and including all the associated services on key markets: energy, building, agriculture, industry. The show is enjoying strong growth, with its exhibitor numbers doubling in the space of three years. Today a business event that is keenly anticipated by the profession, Forum EnerGaïa is confirming this gathering momentum with 500 exhibitors and 18,000 visitors expected this year.

THE 11 NOMINEES FOR THE 2024 INNOVATION AWARDS

This year, Forum EnerGaïa is holding the first edition of its Innovation Awards (*Trophées de l'innovation*), in partnership with *La Tribune*, to shine a light on the technical innovations and breakthroughs of exhibitors. Four trophies will be awarded in four brand-new and cross-disciplinary categories: International Award, Deployability Award, Ecosystem Award and Circularity Award. A total of 11 innovations have been shortlisted by a committee of experts, and will be showcased on a dedicated area, the Innovation Gallery, in the middle of a Forum in hall B3. The winners will be announced following live pitches delivered in front of the judges and visitors, at an awards ceremony held at the show on Thursday 12 December. The Occitane / Pyrénées Méditerranée regional authority will also award its own "Coup de Coeur" (judges' pick) award to one of the 11 nominees.

International Award category

International development potential and exportability

- **CITEL** with the new generation of DPVN surge protectors, specially designed to protect photovoltaic installations and complying with the most stringent international standards, providing the process with recognition on all global markets.
- **FHE** for the Inelio® technology, a thermal battery compatible with all renewable energy sources, which stores the energy produced for subsequent use as heating or to produce both hot and chilled water, suited to hot climate regions such as Africa.



Deployability Award category

Easy and rapid deployment of innovative solutions.

- **FEEDGY** for its agrivoltaic modules using photonic technology to share the light between the solar cells for electricity generation and the crops themselves.
- **KLAAS ALL ROAD** with the K350E trailer crane, the only all-electric crane on the market offering outstanding performance values. Versatile and easy to use, it is very quick to set up.
- **SWEEN PILOTIC** presents its Linky radio emitter without Wi-Fi and with no setup required, guaranteeing real-time and secure access to energy data, offering market players and their users a solution to better manage, control and make use of this data.

Ecosystem Award category

Collaboration with local stakeholders and innovative approach.

- **EPC SOLAIRE** has developed iNovaR, based on the experience of three manufacturers: an innovative solar panel attachment solution for the renovation of flat roofs on large buildings.
- **SERENYSUN** for “Notre énergie La Soie,” the largest renewable energy community in the Greater Lyon region offering professionals and consumers the opportunity to benefit from local green energy at controlled costs, without the need for installation or investment.
- **VOLTALIA** for the cattle breeding agrivoltaic demonstrator in Haute-Savoie that aims to study the interactions between photovoltaic infrastructure and cattle breeding, placing emphasis on animal welfare and sustainable farm production.

Circularity Award category

Resource efficiency, recycling and reuse.

- **DMEGC SOLAR** for Infinity RT fitted with LRF technology: an innovative reflective film for photovoltaic modules. It reinforces the durability of solar panels while improving their performance and visual appeal.
- **SPARQ** innovates with Ligna, a compact supercapacitor made from bio-based materials, ultra-thin and powered by solar energy: a sustainable alternative to batteries to provide energy to the multitude of IoT devices of the future.
- **THEVEN ENERGY** with Ecologène®, self-standing and quiet solar power generators using recycled batteries, to supply clean energy to consumers and businesses, in particular in off-grid areas.

THE AMBITIONS OF FORUM ENERGAÏA 2024

- **Contribute tangible solutions for the energy transition**

Forum EnerGaïa is laying on a programme that is both practical and forward-looking, enabling participants to gain insights, source information, exchange and discover all the market's innovations and latest developments. More than 100 round tables, talks and exhibitor pitches featuring more than 130 expert speakers will be on offer.

The issue of employment and training in the renewables professions will be covered in the opening round table on Wednesday 11 December from 10.30 am to 12.15 pm, on the theme: "Renewable energy: how to make the industry attractive to all audiences."

The morning of Thursday 12 December, meanwhile, will be dedicated to offshore wind power.

- **Connect up all stakeholders in renewable energy verticals**

In this perspective, EnerGaïa offers three theme pavilions bringing together exhibiting companies and a pitch zone:

- Sustainable Buildings pavilion – Hall B1
- Solar Heat pavilion – Hall B1 (details below)
- Employment & Training pavilion / Professions Forum – Hall B3

For the third year running, Forum EnerGaïa is setting up a pavilion dedicated to employment and training alongside the French employment agency France Travail and UIMM Occitanie (Metallurgical employers' federation).

The energy transition places employment and skill development at the heart of business strategies, and therefore at the heart of EnerGaïa. Among the special features laid on, an Escape Game day on Wednesday 11 December organised by UIMM Occitanie, and a Job dating day in partnership with France Travail Hérault.

A SOLAR HEAT PAVILION, REFLECTING THE "SOLAR THERMAL AND GEOTHERMAL" ROADMAP

For the very first time, Forum EnerGaïa will host a pavilion dedicated to the issues of the solar chain, orchestrated by Enerplan, the renewable solar power trade association.

The Forum EnerGaïa presentation press conference held on 17 October featured a round table with contributions from Mickaël Marie, communications officer at Enerplan, and Christophe Luttmann, Vice-chairman of the French Association of Geothermal energy Professionals (AFPG) dealing with solar thermal power and geothermal heat pumps.

The speakers began by reminding the audience of the ambitious goals set down by the national plan for 2035:

- to quadruple the production of heat using ground-level geothermal power by 2035, going from 4.6 TWh to a minimum of 18 TWh.
- to multiply heat production generated by thermal solar power by 7.6 between now and 2035, thus increasing it from 1.3 TWh to at least 10 TWh.

Before specifying that **energy combination will allow France to gain in energy independence but also promote local jobs and improve the trade balance.**

Christophe Luttmann then stated that “geothermal power and thermal solar power are mature solutions that can perfectly be combined from a technical viewpoint, and are immediately available.” He then pointed to exemplary references abroad: in Sweden, Luxembourg and Switzerland, but also in France: Annecy, Gex, and Thiverval-Grignon. These examples illustrate deployment in a range of markets spanning collective and individual housing, and tertiary and industrial property.

Mickaël Marie meanwhile reiterated that “thermal solar power is a renewable energy source that is just as modular as photovoltaic,” and added that “the big issue at stake for France is to reduce the pressure on the power grid by all means possible. The roadmap that we have jointly signed aims to give fresh impetus to the market.”

Meet AFPG in the Sustainable Buildings pavilion, and ENERPLAN in the Solar Heat pavilion, in hall B1.

Practical information

- Dates and times: Wednesday 11 December 2024 from 09:00 to 18:00 / Thursday 12 December 2024 from 09:00 to 17:00
- Venue: Montpellier exhibition centre - Route de La Foire - 34470 Pérols (France)
- Two entrances: Reception A (North) and Reception B (South),
- Free entry – professionals only
- Website: <https://www.energaia.fr/>
- Social media: [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#)

**Interested in attending Forum EnerGaïa ?
Contact us now to book your press pass.**

About Forum EnerGaïa

An annual event with nationwide and international reach dedicated to renewable energy industry professionals, Forum EnerGaïa has been accompanying all the sector’s stakeholders for 18 years. Initiated by the Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée Regional Authority, Forum EnerGaïa is today a showcase for the actions the authority is taking to promote the energy transition and achieve its objective of becoming the first positive energy region in Europe. SPL Occitanie Events, the organiser of the Forum EnerGaïa, is committed to an eco-responsible approach. It has been ISO 20121 certified by AFNOR since January 2021 for all its activities.

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