



## Media Release

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### Prestigious award for Australian Solar Mapping Tools

The Australian PV Institute (APVI) has been awarded the national ENERGY GLOBE Australia Award for its suite of live generated solar photovoltaic (PV) maps and tools.

ARENA CEO Ivor Frischknecht congratulated the APVI on the significant win and for its ongoing efforts to improve the mapping resources, which make it easier to track and understand the Australian solar PV market.

“This global recognition is well deserved and is the latest in a series of positive outcomes for the ARENA-supported [Australian Solar Mapping Tools](#) project, which was developed by the APVI in collaboration with the University of New South Wales, SMA Australia and others,” Mr Frischknecht said.

“Since being launched in 2014, the APVI’s online maps and tools have attracted significant interest from electricity operators, industry, government and consumers, with nearly 25,000 unique visits to the website.

“The bringing together of live generation data, historical maps and animations, tools and analysis is invaluable. It provides easy access to real-time data about the performance, impact and contribution of solar PV systems by state and territory as well as nationally.

“As the Australian winner of the National ENERGY GLOBE Award, the APVI is now in the running for the 2015 International ENERGY GLOBE Award that recognises outstanding sustainable best practice projects worldwide.”

Mr Frischknecht said the APVI had been continuously improving the mapping resources.

“Last week the APVI released an upgraded live map, which now monitors twice as many solar PV systems across the country,” Mr Frischknecht said.

“The live solar map draws on data from more than 5500 solar PV systems. Users can track real-time energy output and see the percentage of energy demand met by rooftop solar in each state and territory.

“Energy stakeholders are now able to access more data and more detailed and accurate output estimates from solar PV systems installed across Australia.

“In addition to the live solar map, there are several other useful tools. For example, 3D modelling showing the benefits of installing rooftop solar and an interactive guide to the location, capacity and annual performance of solar PV installations.”

ARENA has provided \$430,000 funding support towards the project.

**About ARENA**

ARENA was established by the Australian Government to make renewable energy technologies more affordable and increase the amount of renewable energy used in Australia. ARENA invests in renewable energy projects, supports research and development activities, boosts job creation and industry development, and increases knowledge about renewable energy. ARENA is currently supporting more than 200 projects and is actively seeking new projects to support.

**About the Australian PV Institute**

The Australian PV Institute is a not-for-profit, member-based organisation which focuses on data analysis, independent and balanced information, and collaborative research. Our objective is to support the increased development and use of PV via research, analysis and information. In addition to Australian activities, we provide the structure through which Australia participates in two International Energy Agency (IEA) programs – PVPS (Photovoltaic Power Systems), made up of a number of activities concerning various aspects of PV, and SHC (Solar Heating and Cooling), concerned with new solar thermal products and services.

**About the ENERGY GLOBE Award**

The ENERGY GLOBE Award was founded in 1999 by the Austrian energy pioneer Wolfgang Neumann and is one of today's most prestigious environmental awards aiming to present successful sustainable projects to a broad audience. With more than 160 participating countries and approximately 1000 project submissions annually the Energy Globe Award distinguishes projects regionally, nationally and globally, which conserve resources such as energy or utilize renewable or emission-free sources. The aim of the Energy Globe is to raise global attention on sustainable, everywhere applicable environmental solutions and to motivate people to also become active in this area.