

## ‘Solar Roofs Project’ Kicks-Off in Sabah

The Solar Roofs Project Malaysia finally commenced on 17th October this year. The project is part of the worldwide “dena Solar Roofs Programme” coordinated by the Deutsche Energie-Agentur GmbH (dena) - a German Energy Agency - and co-financed by the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) under the „renewables – Made in Germany“ initiative.

As part of the framework, reference and demonstration projects are installed on the roofs of designated institutions in different countries around the world. The installation is accompanied by comprehensive marketing and training programmes. These ‘beacon projects’ impressively presents the high-quality Made in Germany solar technology.

The project in Malaysia is undertaken by the Ing.-Büro Regenerative Energiesysteme Siebert – the Engineering consultancy for renewable energy systems Siebert – in cooperation with Solarsysteme Sachsen GmbH. It is hosted by the St. Michael School in Penampang, Sabah and includes the installation of a photovoltaic system as well as education for the students. The 5.4 kWp system consists of a Back-up-System M which ensures that the generated energy is stored during the weekends and can be used on school days.

In the first part of the education programme, the students were taught about solar energy, climate change and environmental protection. The programme included theoretical and practical learning experiences as students were guided by representatives of Ing.-Büro Regenerative Energiesysteme Siebert and Solarsysteme Sachsen GmbH

on certain activities such as building solar powered vehicles and measuring the power of a small solar panel. The aim of providing the students with such information is to ensure that the project is sustainable, as at the end of the project, the quantity of energy saved by the school will be assessed.

In addition, the students were also taught on how to raise awareness using renewable energies through various marketing activities such as designing a newspaper, sending out information flyers and creating a social media website.

In January 2013, a two-day introductory course on Photovoltaic basics will be held for those interested in gaining an insight into this steadily growing industry. Thereafter in March, the official launch of the project in Penampang will take place on-site. Following the launch of the project, a presentation and an exhibition by the students will be presented.



(left most) Sylvia Radisch-Siebert and (right most) Mandy Radisch of Ing.-Büro Regenerative Energiesysteme Siebert and Solarsysteme Sachsen GmbH with the students of St Michael School in Penampang, Sabah, East Malaysia.



(left) Sylvia Radisch-Siebert showing the students how to measure or calculate the individual energy need of each appliance.



The students are taught how to measure the energy need of all appliances and will later try to save energy through various approaches. At the end of the entire project, the quantity of energy saved by the school will be assessed.