

# How to utilize lessons learned from O&M

The O&M Based Approach to Project Development
- Thinking from the End in Order to Generate LCOE Optimised Projects



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Specialist for PV Services: O&M, Asset Management, Advisory and Engineering

- 7 MEUR revenue in 2020
- >800 MWp of PV plants under management
- Proven market expert and one of the biggest independent service providers across Germany and Europe:
  - Experienced management and a qualified team of 75
  - Modular and comprehensive service portfolio
  - High degree of innovation, processual and IT-driven business
  - Active in 10 countries



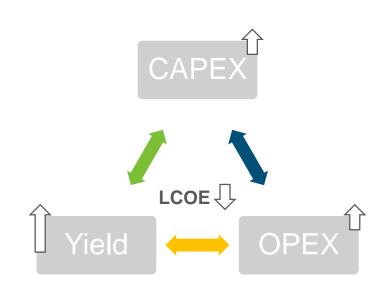


## O&M knowledge has a major impact on LCOE

Considerations and relevance for PV and O&M

- 3 variable elements to LCOE with high interdependencies
- Out of all renewable energy sources (in Germany¹), PV
  has
  - by far lowest OPEX overall and
  - highest LCOE sensitivity regarding variation in OPEX

Optimising LCOE as a whole, instead of individual elements, by utilizing O&M experience





# Often, the steps of the PV value chain are not integrated

General challenges and risks from project development to operations

	Project Development Design Construction Operation					
Situation	<ul> <li>Not all risks are identified as such</li> <li>Risk factors are incorrectly assessed</li> <li>Risks might be ignored or outsourced</li> </ul>					
Complication	<ul> <li>Risk propagation / fault transfer through following project stages</li> <li>Lack of transparency during Due Diligence &amp; commissioning</li> <li>Financial risks are mostly borne by investors or O&amp;M provider</li> </ul>					
Resolution	<ul> <li>Identify &amp; recognize possible risks already during PD and ongoing phases</li> <li>Gain transparency about risks and shift the horizon forward</li> <li>Solve issues collectively and at an early stage</li> </ul>					



# Apparently small items can lead to substantially higher LCOE

Use case: landscape management

	Project Development Design Construction Operation					
Issue	<ul> <li>Mowing prohibited between March and September</li> <li>Cuttings to be disposed outside the plant, sheep grazing not allowed</li> </ul>					
Complication	<ul> <li>Module edges at a low height above ground &amp; use of diagonal brace substructure</li> <li>Invasive, high growing natural vegetation (instead of overseeding)</li> <li>No consideration of expected losses in yield assessment</li> </ul>					
Result	<ul> <li>Non-negotiable constraints for operational phase</li> <li>Misleading financial model, caused by additional OPEX and high risks concerning</li> <li>performance loss (shading)</li> <li>operational safety (fire hazard)</li> <li>component damaging (hotspots)</li> </ul>					



# Apparently small items can lead to substantially higher LCOE

Use case: landscape management impressions







+15% O&M costs

-4% Yield

LCOE increase by ~8%



## An integrated approach could have saved costs and effort

Impact of O&M Knowledge on each part of the value chain

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#### Design

#### Construction

#### Operation

#### Solution

- Identifying environmental constrains as key success factor to LCOE
- Solve the problem at its source (e.g., ecological concept)
- Proactively communicate anticipated issues

- Adapt system design for better mowing conditions and less shading
- Consider realistic shading in yield assessments
- Adjust EPC specifications to environmental conditions to prevent further issues
- OPEX assessment & LCOE benchmark for different designs

- Being involved at early stage
- Provide advice and assessment of OPEX impact
- Create technical and organizational solutions to overcome challenges
- Continuously reassess situation during operations
- Alignment with authorities
- Adopt landscape management concept

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## The integrated approach is already important and will be even more

Prepare yourself for new challenges...







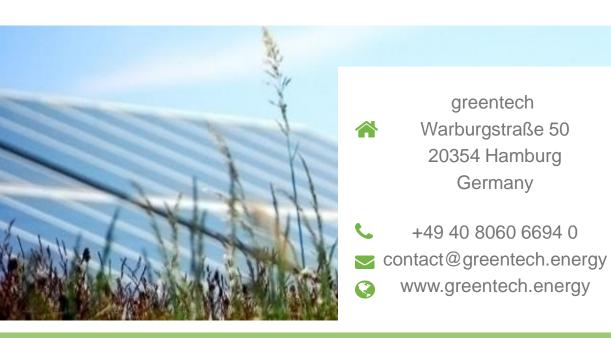
operation







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