

## Over 600 students from Catalonia learn about the benefits offered by solar energy

The Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME), in collaboration with the Cluster for the Internationalisation and Innovation of Spanish Solar Companies (Solartys), has provided this year seminars in several schools of Catalonia, in the framework of the European project FOSTER in MED, to raise awareness about the benefits offered by solar energy in the Mediterranean region among young people.



*Training workshop at INS Montmeló, June 2015*

**Barcelona, 22 December 2015** - The Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME), in collaboration with the Cluster for the Internationalisation and Innovation of Spanish Solar Companies (Solartys), has provided this year seminars in several schools of Catalonia, in the framework of the European project FOSTER in MED, to raise awareness about the benefits offered by solar energy in the Mediterranean region among young people. The sessions were held for more than six months as part of the FOSTER in MED project (Fostering Solar Technology in the Mediterranean Area), funded by the ENPI CBC MED European programme, which aims to promote the use of solar energy in the region.

More than 600 students from diverse technical and secondary schools of Catalonia, such as the INS Montmeló, La Salle Gracia, Vila de Gracia high-school or Pere Verges Garbí School of Esplugues de Llobregat, participated in these seminars on energy and sustainable development. These trainings helped to raise awareness among students about the benefits of solar photovoltaics energy in the Mediterranean and on the importance of developing new energy strategies in the countries of the region. Sessions had a theoretical part aimed to provide information on EU actions on the solar energy sector in the Mediterranean region, and other practical part focused on studying photovoltaic solar panels models.

Following the success of this pioneering initiative and the strong demand of other centres that couldn't benefit from this first phase of the training ASCAME, strongly committed to the sustainable economic development of the Mediterranean, will continue to provide this training in other centres of Catalonia. Awareness-raising among young people becomes essential to consolidate the implementation of solar energy in the Mediterranean, as a key sector for the socioeconomic development of the region.

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