



28. April, 2012

## Water desalination through the sun - International guests are surprised

Wierthe. Countries like Saudi-Arabia and Malaysia cannot complain about missing oil- and gas reserves. But their shortage relates to technological knowledge about wind- and solar energy. Therefore visitors from these countries arrived in Wierthe and were shown water desalination equipment powered by solar energy.

Members of the "International Research Center for Renewable Energy" (IFEED), welcomed Environmental Expert Abdulslam A. Al Rewaished from Saudi-Arabia and Professor Thamer Ahmad Mohammad of Engineer Science, University Putra, Malaysia.

IFEED director Professor Nasir El Bassam introduced to both guests a desalination module, powered by solar. "Normally, these modules are oil- and gas powered," the director explained. Out of 100 liters of water, one could receive 30 to 40 percent drinking water. "Countries with an average temperature of 30°C, the model should produce daily 160 liters, and at 20°C it would be 128 liters drinking water", El Bassam added.

This means, the countries of the guests could produce more water, than in Germany. "This equipment could be very important in these countries", emphasized the IFEED director.

In Germany, renewable energy production amounts up to 12 percent, in Saudi-Arabia up to 0.5 percent and Malaysia 1.0 percent. "In these countries it's always warm; they have great potentials", El Bassam said; the guests agreed. Environmental Expert Abdulsalam A. Al Rewaished presented around 10 percent of renewable energy as a goal for 2020. "We want to learn from the Germans", he pointed out.

That's the key, learning. In the near future, a cooperation agreement with central points of technology sharing, training opportunities and joint projects will proceed.

"We have a training center right here, and we have the workplaces and the experts", emphasized Frank Ziegler, manager of the "Solar- and Haustechnik". Also Mr. Ralf Werner from the City of Vechelde and IFEED vice-president Jürgen Mandel participated in the visit at the Solar Park.



Viewing the Desalination equipment, powered by solar energy (from the left):

Frank Ziegler, manager of the "Solar- and Haustechnik", IFEED director professor Nasir EL Bassam, Professor Thamer Ahmad Mohammad, University Putra, Malaysia, Environmental Expert Abdulsalam A. Al Rewaished from Saudi-Arabia, IFEED Vice-president Jürgen Mandel and Mr. Ralf Werner from the City of Vechelde.