# Bank Financing Solar PV

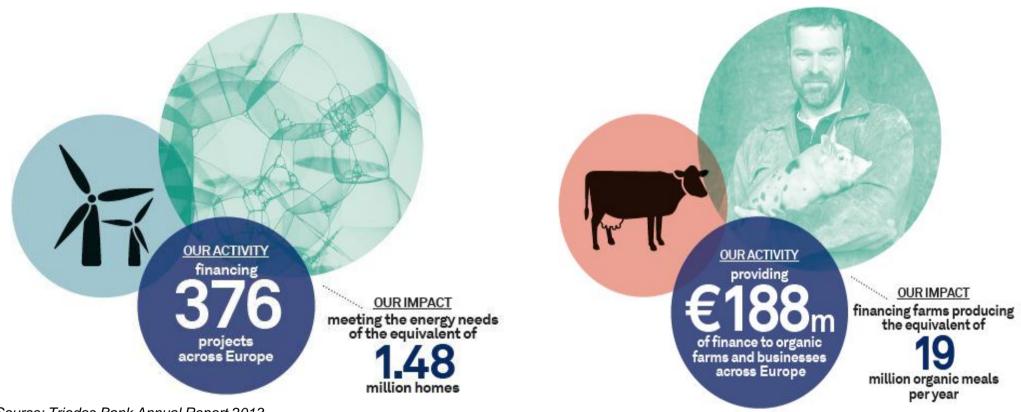
Ireland's Solar Energy Future – Cork 29th January 2016



#### Content

- 1. Triodos Bank Group Overview
- 2. Examples of types of solar projects financed
- 3. Raising Equity from the Crowd
- 4. Bank Funding Good Practice tips
- 5. EPC contract
- 6. O&M contract
- 7. Module suppliers
- 8. Inverter suppliers

## **Triodos Bank Group** What makes us different?



- Source: Triodos Bank Annual Report 2013
  - Ethos is to connect savers with borrowers in a transparent way
  - 100% of Triodos Bank loans and investments benefit sustainable projects

## Triodos Bank Group Ireland offering

# • Active in IR since 2003 – currently have 9 projects

- Sectors
  - Wind
  - Hydro
  - Solar
  - Biomass
  - Energy efficiency
- Offering
  - Project finance loans from €2 to €20 million
  - Construction + long term amortising loan
  - Fixed pricing: Construction finance plus term of loan
  - No cash sweeps

#### Environment sector portfolio

	€million
Wind	534.1
Solar	556.2
Hydro	8.5
Biomass	49.8
Other	14.2
Total	1,163

Solar Wind Biomass Hydro Other Group portfolio experience of Group across of number of

#### Triodos 🕲 Bank

shows strong

different sectors

### **EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS TRIODOS HAS FINANCED**

## **Triodos Bank Group** Roof mounted solar project

#### Worthy Farm, Glastonbury



Approx. 80% of energy generated is used by the dairy farm, remainder exported to the grid
At the time the second largest solar array in the country

• Triodos worked closely with Michael to agree a loan structure that suited the solar project without interfering with his farming business

In 2010 Triodos provided funding for Michael Eavis, the farmer behind the Glastonbury Festival, to put a 200 kWp solar array on the roof of his cow shed, the dubbed the "Mootel"



The Triodos Team at Worthy Farm, October 2010



## **Triodos Bank Group** On farm solar project

#### Farm Power Apollo, Bourne Park

- Triodos re-financed a project at Bourne Park to supply energy to an anaerobic digestion plant on a neighbouring farm
- Energy supplied for a higher price than that achieved that by selling wholesale to the grid via a PPA
- Farm Power Apollo, ANESCO and Opus Energy have partnered to install and commission one of the UK's first commercial-scale solar battery units.





#### Community solar project

#### Chelwood Solar Farm, Chelwood, North Somerset

- Community owned 5MW project
- •£2.5million raised through a community share offer
- remainder funded by Triodos debt
- Surplus income is invested in the Chelwood Community Benefit Fund – forecasted at an averaged of £48,000 per year over the life of the project





Chelwood Community Energy Ltd Community Benefit Society Project Company run by community leaders; shares owned by local individuals

Chelwood Solar Limited

## Triodos Bank Group Supply large businesses – e.g. Bristol Water

**Solaris Real** 

•A 3MW ground mounted project at Purton Water Treatment Works



•one of two key strategic sites owned and managed by Bristol Water Plc to supply the city of Bristol and its surrounding area with clean water

•100% of energy output supplied to Bristol Water Plc



## **Triodos Bank Group** Ground mounted power plant

## **Folly Farm**

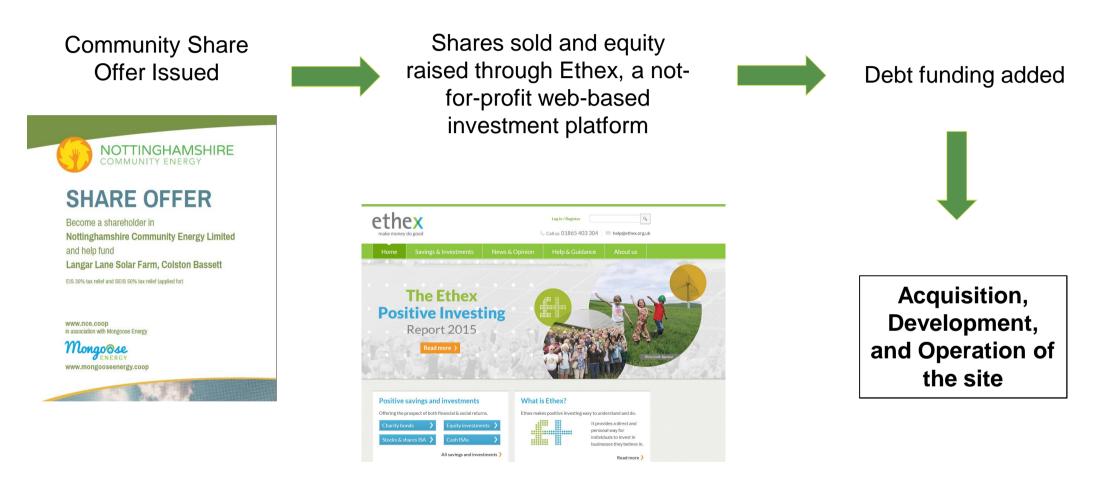
• commitment of over £9million by the bank

- financing the acquisition of a 13.1 MW ground mounted solar farm near Long Marston, Buckinghamshire
- site commissioned in 2015
- worked with companies from Denmark and Germany to see the project come to fruition



### **FUNDING MECHANISMS**

## Crowd funding and Community Share Offer

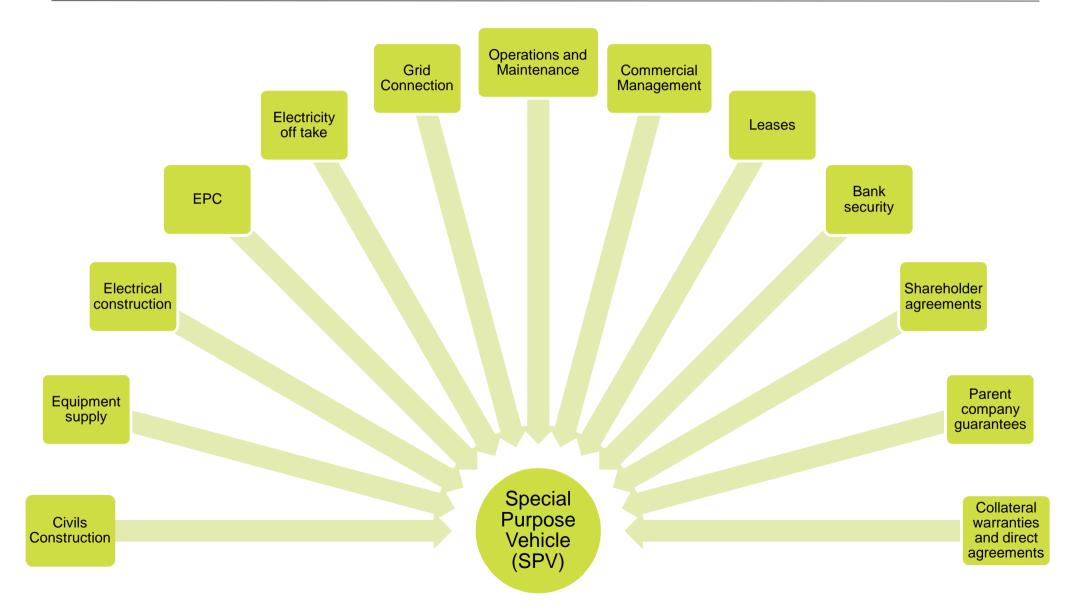


Bank funding - Good practice

- Investment readiness
  - Strong governance
  - Bankability
  - Sponsor and/or community support

- Bank funding = "begin with the end in mind"
  - Engage with your bank early and develop a relationship
  - Work with experienced advisors who understand Bank requirements
  - Property, property, property....
  - Choose technology and supplier carefully
  - Strong understanding of RE resource
  - Clear electricity marketing strategy

#### Project finance - contracts involved



## **EPC, O&M and Equipment Suppliers**

## Triodos Bank Group EPC contract terms

• Contractor must be a reputable company and of decent credit covenant

Some key contract terms:

- an obligation on the Contractor to ensure that the Works shall achieve full accreditation under the subsidy regime
- 24 month Warranty Period during which the Contractor is guaranteeing the performance of the system (a given "Performance Ratio" or PR)
- the EPC contractor is to Guarantee the PR with full Liquidated Damages NPV compensation for future loss of electricity and subsidy revenues up to a given cap and with the ability to reject the plant past a minimum guaranteed level.

#### O&M contract terms

 Contractor must be a reputable company, provide O&M as core part of its business model and of decent credit covenant

Some key contract terms:

- Range of service scope options up to full maintenance services including preventative and corrective maintenance, cleaning of panels, and maintenance and operational reporting services, in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer O&M manuals, legal and regulatory requirements, insurance requirements and reasonable operating practice
- Overall liability under the contract is generally capped at 100% of the annual price under the O&M
- Compensation paid for failure to achieve Guaranteed Availability/PR for up to 100% of O&M contract price

#### Module suppliers and technology

- Technology "families" crystalline silicon, thin film silicon, thin film non-silicon
- Our view is that all technology families are bankable but not all suppliers bankable

#### Key issues

- 1,000 modules suppliers in the world?! How many will survive?
- Product and Output Warranties provided but what are they worth?
- Key to managing risk is quality of equipment manufacturing and its transportation and installation
- Robust testing at factory and on delivery is key

Who to chose?

- What does "Tier 1" mean?
- What is a "White List"?

#### Inverter suppliers and technology

- 3 technology "families" micro, string and central inverters
- Inverters must "fit" with the specifications of the panels and grid
- Credit standing of Supplier is key
- Global supply market is evolving rise of the Chinese ; impact on establishment?
- Value of money analysis of extended warranties can be done
- Failure profile of inverters needs to be agreed with Technical Advisor

### **Contact details**



Philip Bazin Environment Team Manager + 44 (0)117 980 9647 philip.bazin@triodos.co.uk

triodos.co.uk
 twitter.com/triodosuk
 facebook.com/triodosbankuk

#### Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AS

Triodos Bank NV, incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands with limited liability registered in England and Wales BR3012. Authorised by the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) for the conduct of UK business.