

## A feasibility study on solar district heating in China

Junpeng Huang / Beiijng, 18 Oct 2016

Integration of District Heating in a Sustainable Energy System



In 2013, in China, there're

# 366 thousand people died earlier due to coalburning pollution

Source: Tsinghua University and Health Impact Research Institute (HEI), Research report on the burden of disease caused by China's coal and other major air pollution



# **Space heating in China**

Lessons from demo solar heating projects

Denmark's experience

Key success factor for SDH



### **Huge heating demand in China**

- 400 million population
- 16 provinces +
- Hot topic: Southern heating

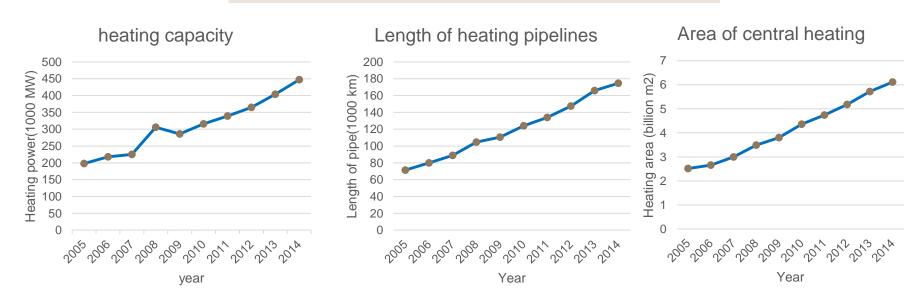






Space heating demand increasing rapidly with the urbanization in the past 10 years.

### China District heating current situation(By 2014)

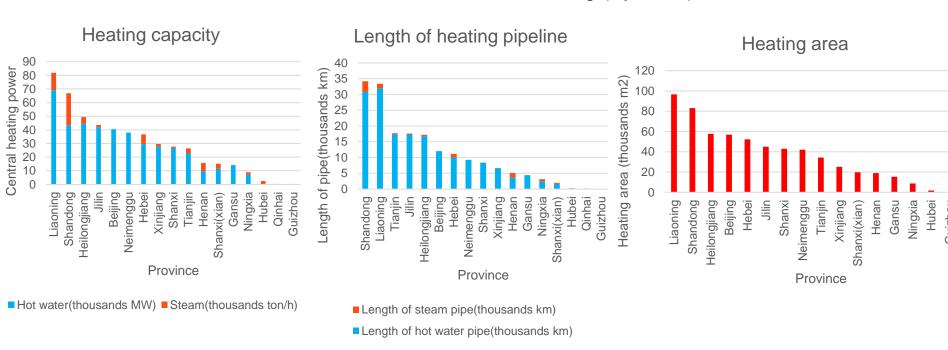


Source: the National Bureau of Statistics



The three northeastern provinces (Heilongjiang, Liaoning, Jilin), Beijing and Shandong Province are the Top5 areas by the scale of district heating.

### Scale of 16 Provinces District heating (By 2014)



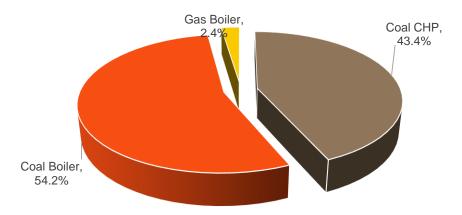
Source: the National Bureau of Statistics



### Coal is the major energy source for space heating in China

 By 2014, coal for district heating: 130 millions ton, 52% of the total building energy consumption

### Energy Structure of District Heating in China





Space heating in China

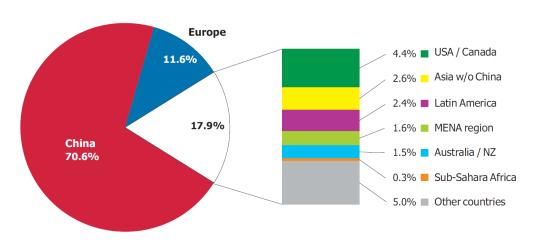
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# Lessons from demo solar heating projects





The vast majority of the total capacity in operation was installed in *China* (43.5 million m2 in 2015), which accounted for 70.6% of the total installed capacity.

But no more than 0.3% been used for solar heating.

Source: IEA SHC 2015

1985 – 2014 China-EU Collectors installation area for solar heating



# Lessons from demo solar heating projects



### Solar heating demo projects in Beijing:

• Still using coal burning stove as primary heating source.













# Lessons from demo solar heating projects



### **Complains from the villagers:**

- Overheating in summer, not warm in winter;
- Easy to failure, maintenance is difficult, technical support is not enough; (lack knowledge to maintain the system for villagers)
- Leaking in the pipelines and water tanks;
- Many all glass vacuum tube solar collectors broken in first year.

### **Praises from the villagers:**

Saving money, from 8 tons coal to 4 tons coal annually.

### Major Next steps from the site survey:

- 1. Flat plate solar collector is better than all glass vacuum tube solar collector.
- Central installation better than individual installation.
- Seasonal heat storage is necessary for improving solar fraction and reducing failure rate.



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# Denmark's experience



### Something difficulty to learn:

- Special Danish business model
  - high fossil energy tax
  - low lending rates
  - vast and cheap land
  - collectively owned heating company

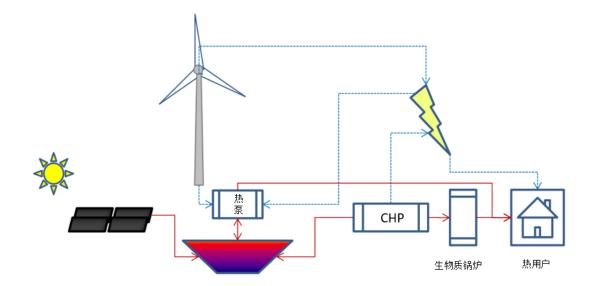


# Denmark's experience



### Something easy to learn:

- Technologies
  - Seasonal heat storage
  - High efficient large flat plate solar collectors
  - Combined energy system design and operation





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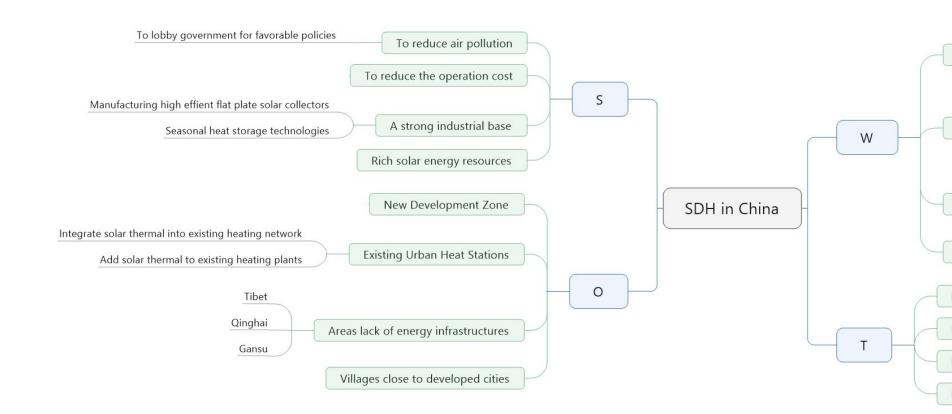
Denmark's experience

**Key success factors for SDH** 

# **Key success factors for SDH**



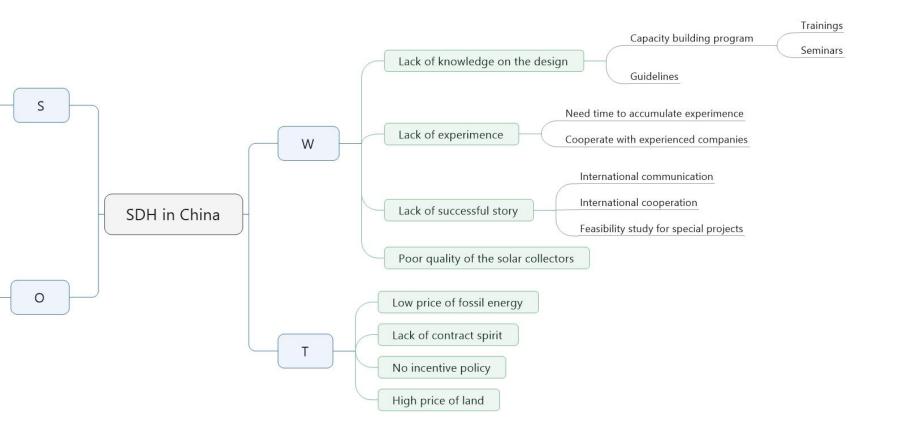
# SWOT analysis for solar thermal industry on the development of SDH in China



# **Key success factors for SDH**



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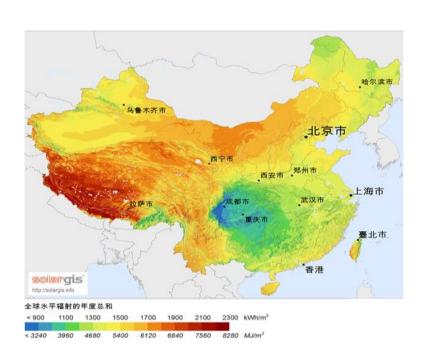
1. Rich solar energy resources



2. Enough installation area



- 3. Reliable technologies
- 4. Long term investment





- 1. Quantitative research on the market potential of SDH in China
- 2. Quantitative research on the pay back time for different SDH solutions
- 3. Technical and economic analysis for SDH projects in typical climate zone.
  - A. Theoretical research
  - B. Demo projects



# Thank you

For more information please contact Joseph. Huang@copperalliance.asia