



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement N952957.
The information reflects only the project's view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

TRUST-PV: Performance and reliability of solar PV power plants

10 May 2022

David Moser

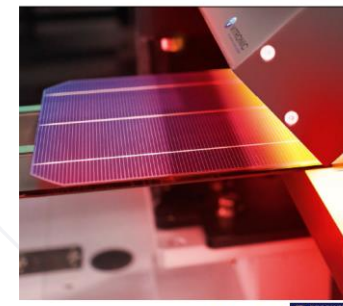
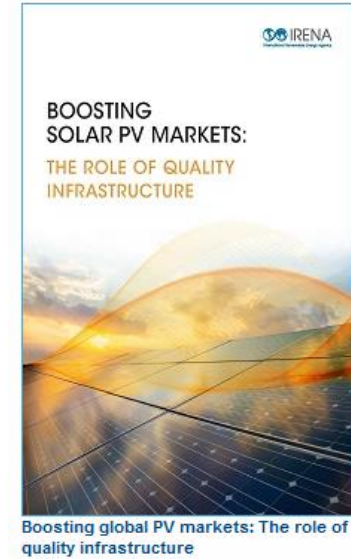
Institute for Renewable Energy

eurac
research



TRUSTPV
SOLAR PV, PERFORMANCE & RELIABILITY

THE QUEST FOR QUALITY



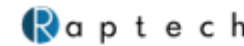
TRUST-PV PROJECT



TRUSTPV Proudly powered by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

Project Coordinator

eurac
research



Solar Monkey



Statkraft



TÜVRheinland®
Precisely Right.

Testing



Early Prototype

Advanced Prototype

Demo and Pilot sites



TRUSTPV
SOLAR PV, PERFORMANCE & RELIABILITY

09/2020

M0

M6

M12

M18

M24

M30

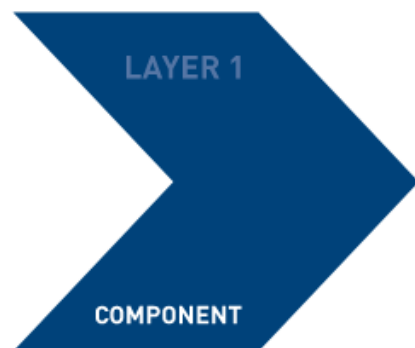
M36

M42

M48

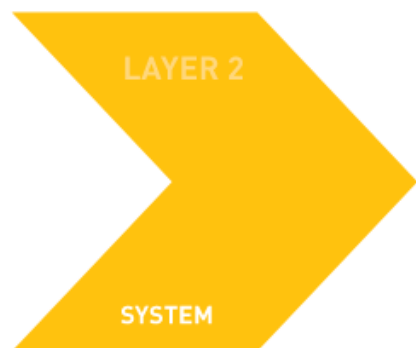
08/2024

EXPECTED RESULTS



RESULTS

- R1** Sustainable O&M & grid friendly PV components
- R2** Application & climate-tailored testing beyond existing standards
- R3** Context-sensitive PV Plant components benchmarking



RESULTS

- R4** More accurate energy yield prediction
- R5** Progressive repowering
- R6** BIM / augmented reality for improved skills of O&M operators
- R7** Wireless Sensor Networks
- R8** Automated fault diagnostic based on combined image analysis (IR/EL/UV) & electrical signatures
- R9** Large database for failure rates calculation, mitigation measures & failure rate reduction based on CPN methodology including grid
- R10** Decision support platform from fab to field



RESULTS

- R11** Fully flexible & interoperable PV systems
- R12** Advanced forecasting
- R13** Digital twin concepts

OBJECTIVES

TRUSTPV's RESULTS ENABLE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

- 1** Increase P&R & lifetime of system components.
- 2** Increase the knowledge on the performance & establish cost effective fault diagnostic models of medium size commercial-residential systems.
- 3** To increase the design accuracy & the reliability & performance of utility – large commercial systems.
- 4** To combine all the information coming from various stakeholders along the whole PV value chain into a platform for enhanced decision-making.
- 5** To allow higher PV penetration levels by improving the operational stability at the point of connection and ensure grid friendliness.
- 6** To increase the sustainability of utility – large commercial systems through progressive repowering interventions.

LAYER 1 | COMPONENTS

RESULT | 1

O&M and grid-friendly solar PV components.

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 2

Application and climate-tailored testing beyond existing standards

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 3

Context-sensitive PV plant components benchmarking based on monitoring data from over 6 GW of PV plants under operation and Big Data analytics.

[Read more »](#)

- Antireflective coatings with improved performance
- O&M-friendly solar PV modules considering the needs of O&M contractors such as reduced weight and reduced number of failures
- Inverter enabling semi-automated field inspection combined with UAV and forecasting
- Innovative PV modules passive cooling
- Power Plant Controller enabling grid friendliness



Inverter enabling semi-automated field inspection - EL

Reverse Power flow on the string is required during EL

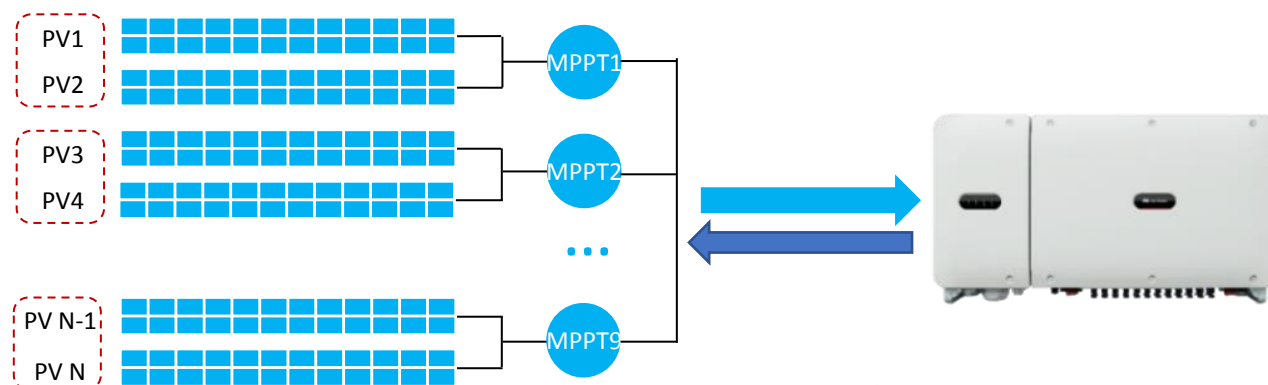
In order to provide the conditions for Electroluminescence (EL) the hardware of the current Huawei's standard string inverters must be upgraded as there is no reverse energy flow possible via the MPPT

TRUST-PV Innovation-enabled Potential

Within H2020 TRUST-PV, Huawei is researching and assessing the best ways to combine EL in an integrated-inverter-level solution (software & hardware based)

EL is enabled without extra/external hardware or cabling reconfiguration – cost-effective and user-friendly

EL Enabled Inverter with Integrated Solution – No extra equipment needed



- **Latest version based on a prototype with embedded hardware for final definition of the EL operating conditions (necessary string voltages, currents and reverse power)**
- **Latest EL software has both APP and MODBUS capabilities to ease the control management**

Inverter enabling semi-automated field inspection - EL

Electroluminescence Functionality tested in the field



- Confirmation of functionality
- Special considerations for Bi-facial modules necessary
- Next steps: combination with UAV and forecasting to find best weather for flying

LAYER 1 | COMPONENTS

RESULT | 1

O&M and grid-friendly solar PV components.

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 2

Application and climate-tailored testing beyond existing standards

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 3

Context-sensitive PV plant components benchmarking based on monitoring data from over 6 GW of PV plants under operation and Big Data analytics.

[Read more »](#)

enel
Green Power
PV component failure data
O&M ticketing data

BayWa r.e.
re.think energy
Monitoring and as-built information
Asset management data

3E
Monitoring and as-built information

Statkraft
PV component failure data
O&M ticketing data

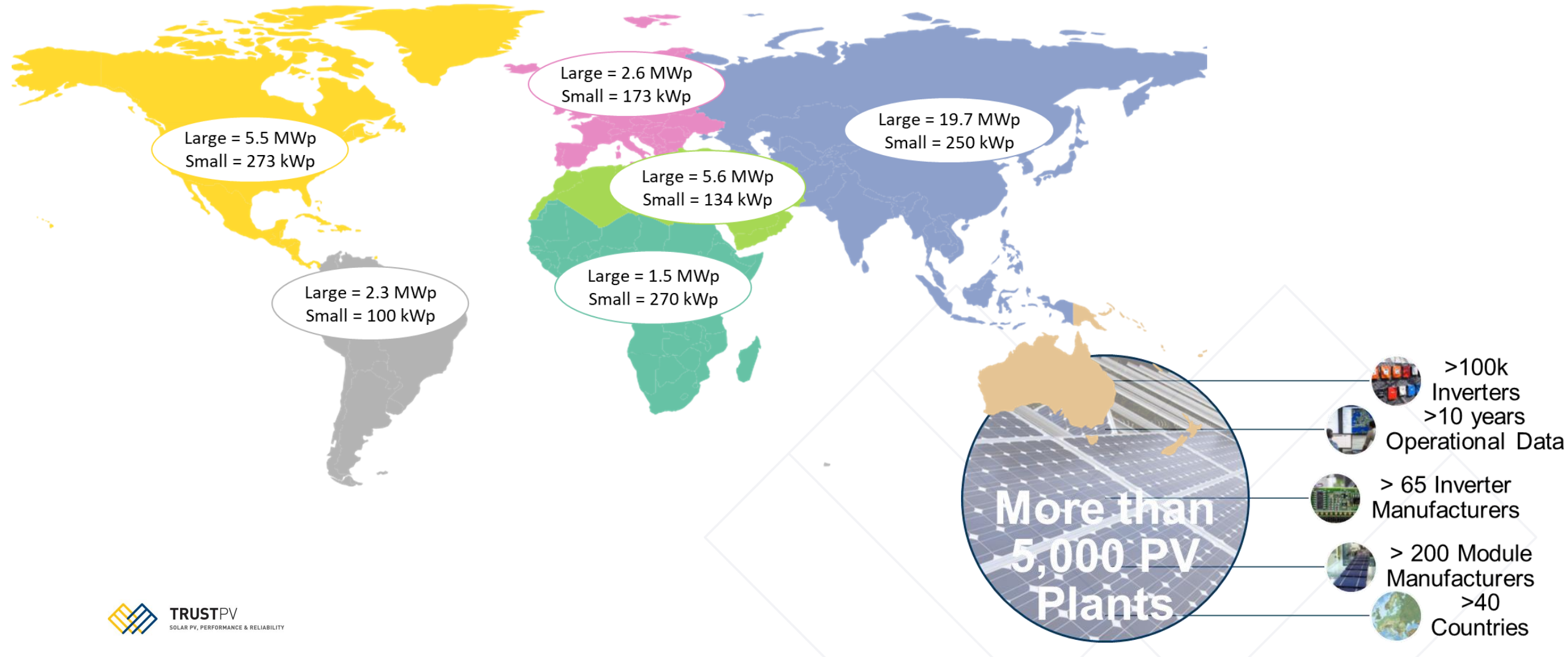
INNOSEA
An LOG Company
Monitoring data from
Floating PV plants



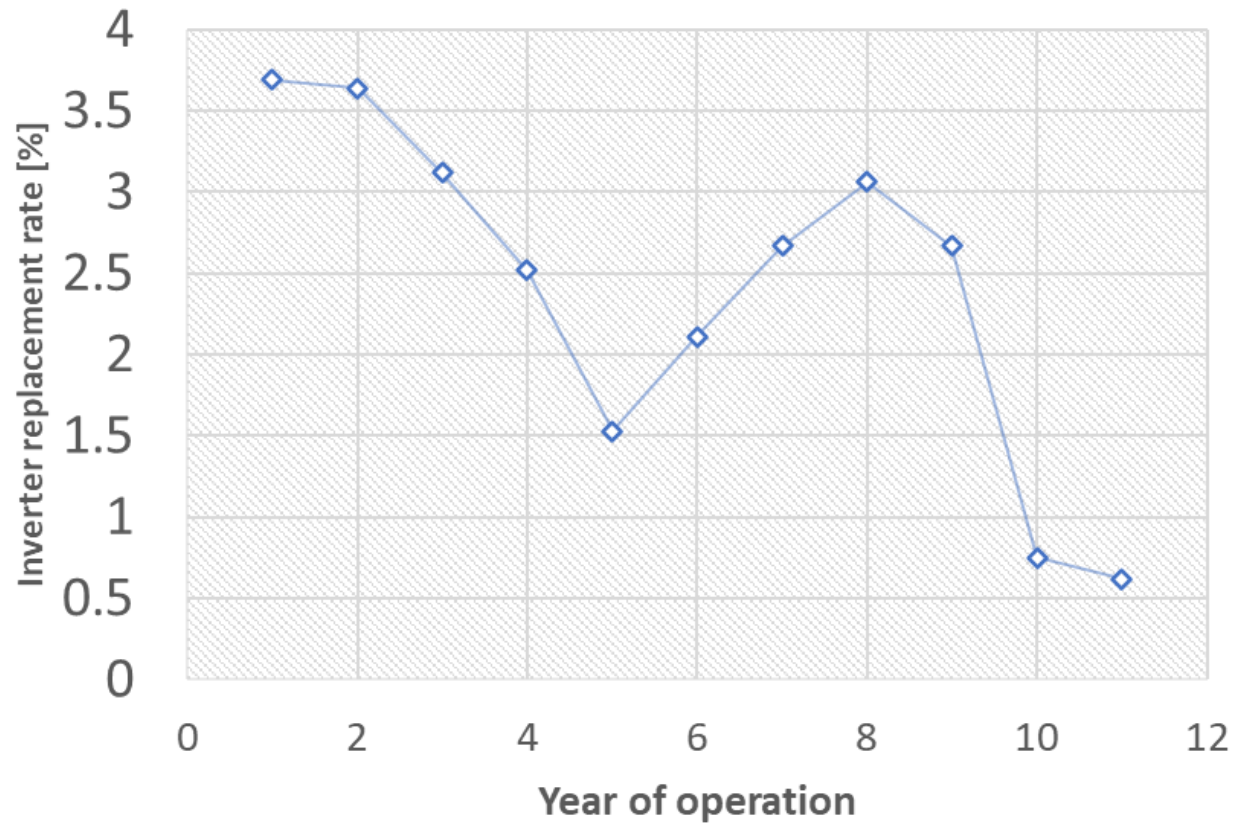
- More than 7 GW of connected assets
- Metadata
- Monitoring data
- O&M data

CONTEXT SENSITIVE BENCHMARKING

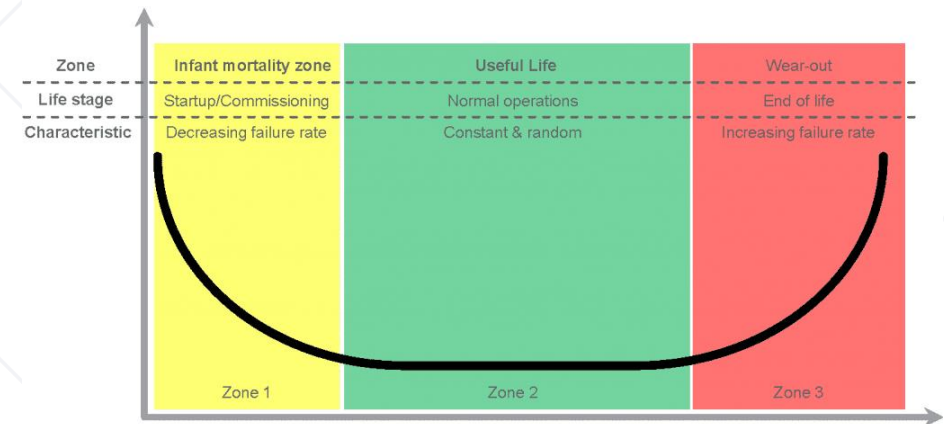
World map with average plant DC capacity per world region



CONTEXT SENSITIVE BENCHMARKING: Inverter replacement rate



- Bathtub curve based on actual measured big data
 - One of the first of its kind for inverters
- Not yet a clear sign of entering zone 2 after 10 years
 - Caution with later operation years as data size becomes more limited
- No explanation on why an inverter is replaced



LAYER 2 | SYSTEM

RESULT | 4

More accurate energy yield prediction for PV systems with novel technologies and system layout.

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 7

Wireless Sensor Networks using Narrowband Internet of Things (IoT) and 5G technology for on-site sensors such as energy meters for combined AI – physics based diagnostic

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 10

Decision support platform from fab to field

[Read more »](#)



RESULT | 5

Progressive Repowering.

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 8

Automated fault diagnostic based on combined image analysis (PL/IR/EL/UV) and electrical signatures

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 6

Augmented Reality for improved skills of O&M operators and disruptive concepts for PV systems engineering.

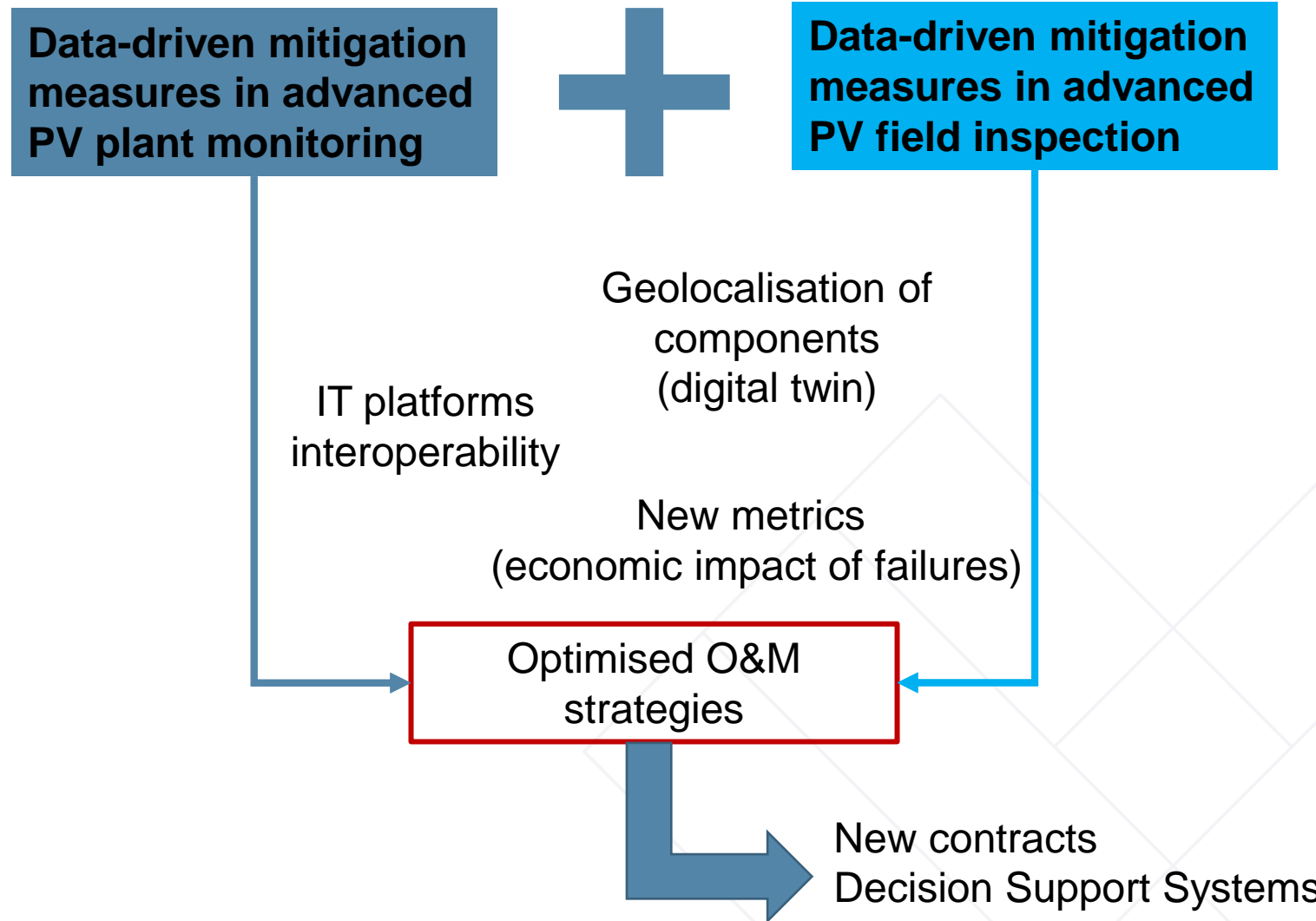
[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 9

Large database for failure rates calculation, mitigation measures and failure rate reduction functional to a fully integrated CPN methodology including grid and novel PV plant design

[Read more »](#)

DATA DRIVEN QUALITY MANAGEMENT



RISK MATRIX: TAXONOMY (OR ONTOLOGY)

Failure appearance in PV plant

Creation of ticket in SCADA system

Classification of failure according to TRUST PV's Risk Matrix

Resolution of failure

Statistical analysis of failure (CPN)

Risk Matrix Update

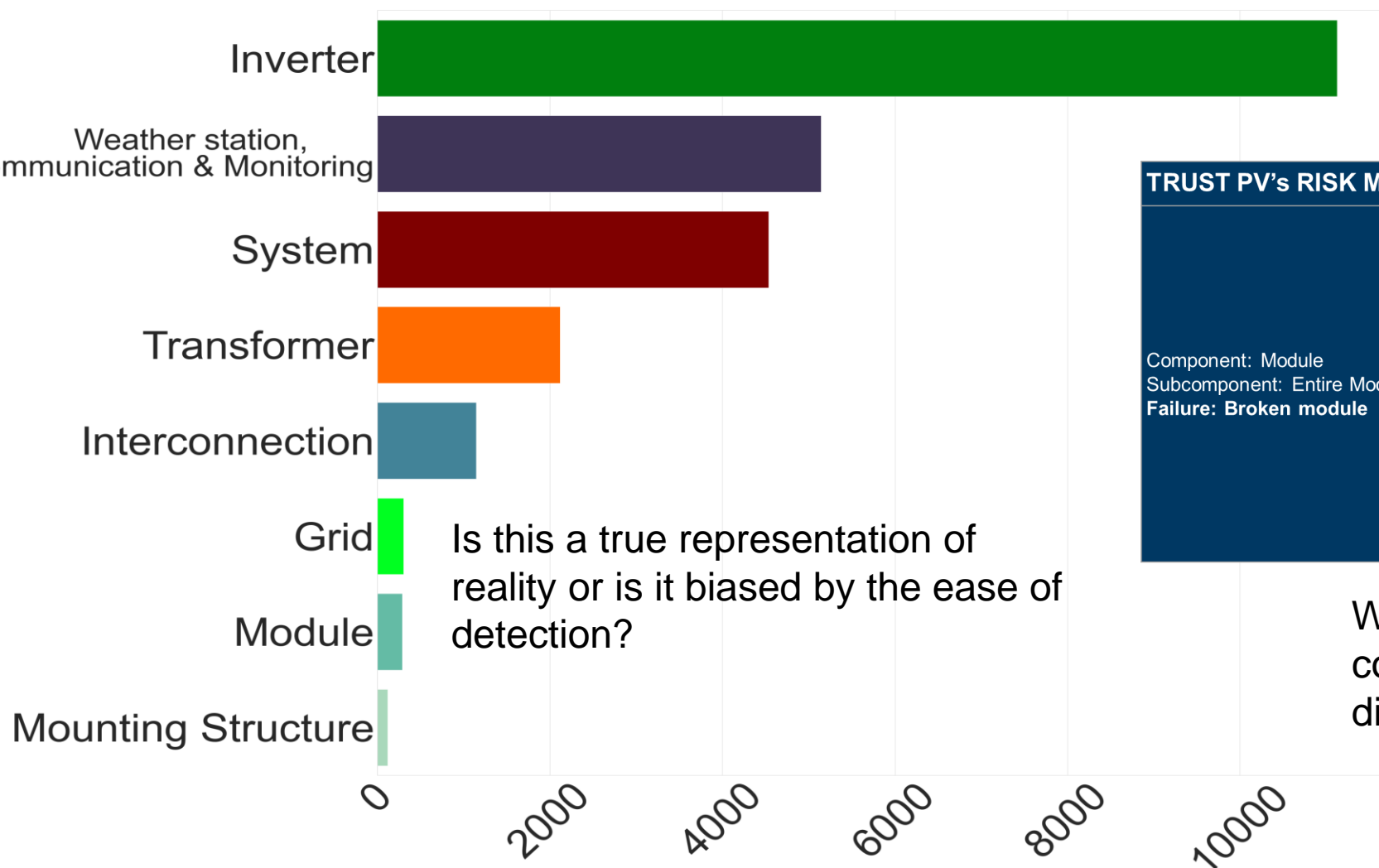
Ticket Alignment

COMPONENT	FAILURE ID	RESULT: SUB COMPONENT/FAILURE/DESCRIPTION
SCROLL CHOICES BELOW (VIEWER WILL SELECT ONE FROM BELOW & 'CLICK')	SCROLL CHOICES BELOW (VIEWER WILL SELECT ONE FROM BELOW & 'CLICK')	RESULT WINDOW BELOW (ONLY ONE RESULT WILL BE SHOWN AS THERE IS ONLY ONE RESULT PER FAILURE ID)
<div>MODULE</div>	<div>MOD.14</div>	<div>SUB COMPONENT: CELL FAILURE: Breakage DESCRIPTION: Cell cracks of type B and C, power is not necessarily down to zero</div>
<div>Grid</div> <div>Interconnection</div> <div>Inverter</div> <div>Module</div> <div>Weather station, Communication & Monitoring</div> <div>Mounting Structure</div> <div>System</div> <div>Transformer</div>	<div>Mod.1</div> <div>Mod.2</div> <div>Mod.3</div> <div>Mod.4</div> <div>Mod.5</div> <div>Mod.6</div> <div>Mod.7</div> <div>Mod.8</div> <div>Mod.9</div> <div>Mod.10</div> <div>Mod.11</div> <div>Mod.12</div> <div>Mod.13</div> <div>Mod.14</div> <div>Mod.15</div> <div>Mod.16</div> <div>Mod.17</div> <div>Mod.18</div> <div>Mod.19</div> <div>Mod.20</div> <div>Mod.21</div> <div>Mod.22</div> <div>etc.....</div>	

>30,000 tickets of >100 PV plants aligned



RISK MATRIX



TRUST PV's RISK MATRIX	O&M TICKETS
Component: Module Subcomponent: Entire Module Failure: Broken module	Damaged PV Module Found broken panel Faulty panel Isolated broken panels 2 broken panels found at string X PV panel outage String isolated due to broken panel Damaged panel Damaged module Broken module Faulty module Module broken Smashed module

What is the level of detail at component level? Need of common dictionary

LAYER 3 | POINT OF CONNECTION

RESULT | 11

Fully flexible and interoperable PV plants solutions

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 12

Use of forecasting for advanced diagnostic and grid dispatch

[Read more »](#)

RESULT | 13

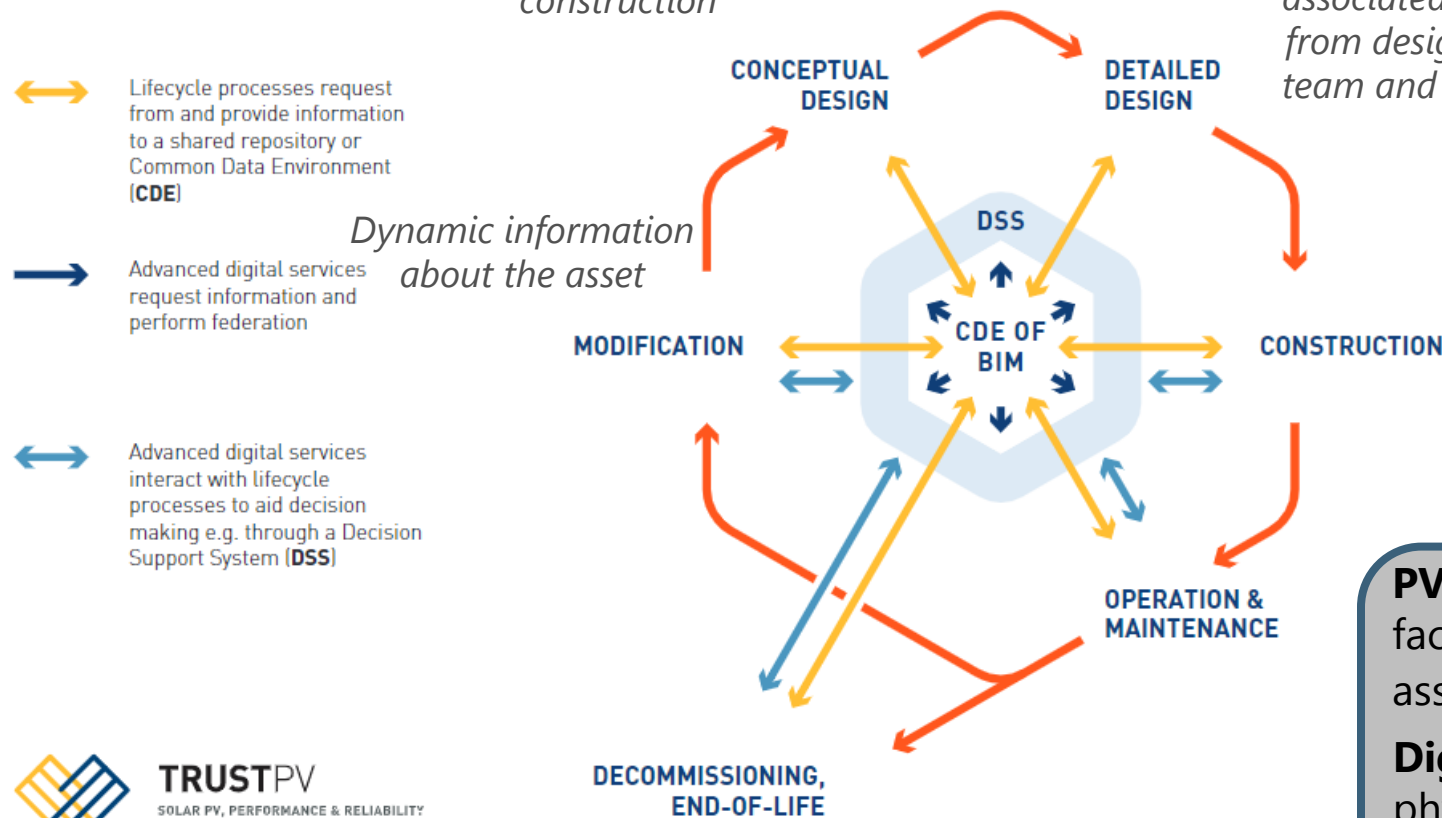
Enhanced Digital Twin concept

[Read more »](#)

VALUE CHAIN APPROACH: management, sharing and federation of PV asset information throughout the lifecycle

Virtual construction of a facility prior to its actual physical construction

Bridge the information loss associated with handling a project from design team, to construction team and to asset owner/operator



Building Information Model (BIM) requirements and design for the operational phase
September / 2021

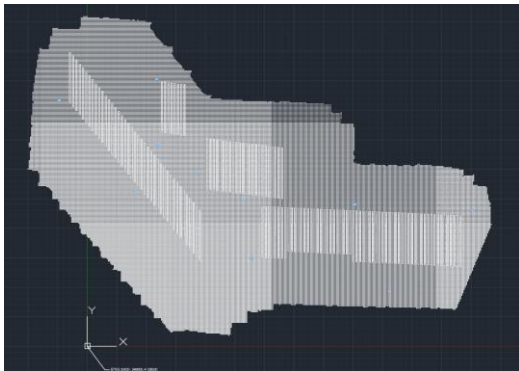
Report available

PV BIM = Digital repository to facilitate the storage, modification and exchange of all PV asset information throughout the entire PV lifecycle

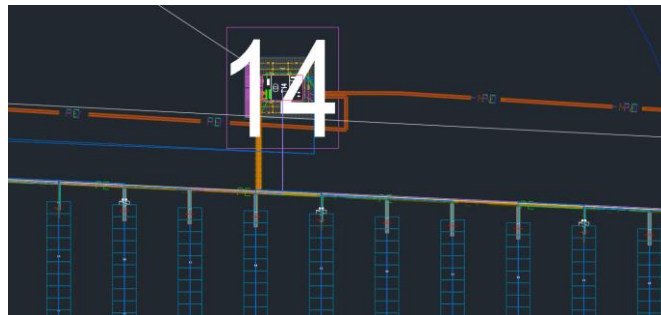
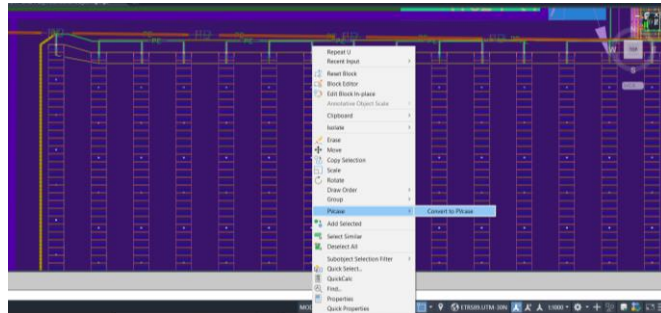
Digital Twin = parametrized 3D model, containing all physical information needed to simulate the behavior and performance of the real PV plant it represents

AUTOMATED DIGITAL TWIN CREATION

Drone survey → AutoCAD 3D



PV design software: electrical devices + connections

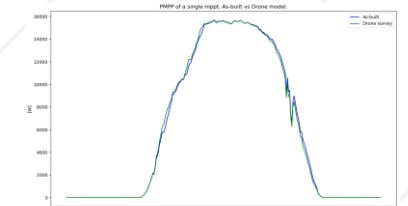
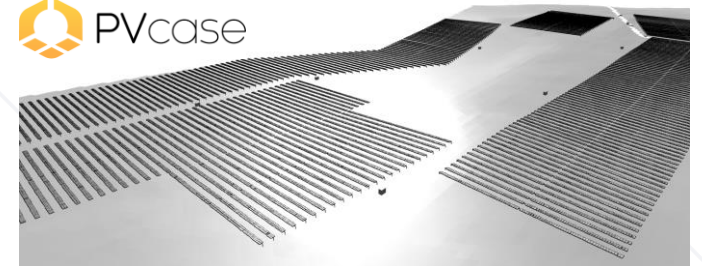


Functional Digital twin vs as-built



Available soon

Functional digital twin



CONCLUSIONS

TRUST-PV is developing:

- Approaches to ensure and measure quality of components, systems and projects
- New metrics to quantify the impact of decisions taken over the lifetime of a PV project
- Methodologies to break silos between stakeholders by evaluating the impact of decision taken during a phase on the next phases and developing O&M friendly components
- Interoperable digital solution to carry information along the value chain (eliminate work repetition)
- Standardisation of data format and collected data (metadata / PV plant passport, product data, monitoring data, ticketing, common dictionaries, etc)

Solar bankability must be based on hard facts / data and is an approach that heavily relies on data / quantification of quality

THANK YOU!

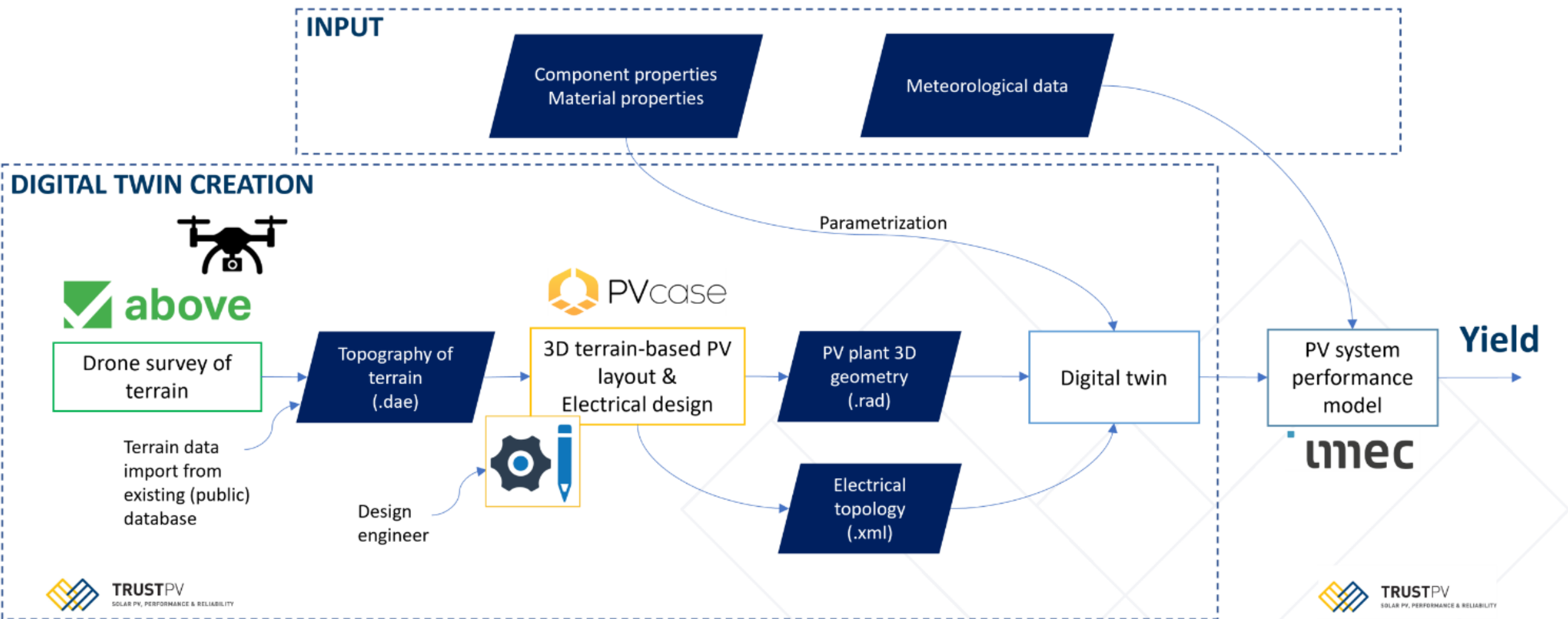
PROJECT PARTNERS



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement N952957. The information reflects only the project's view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

DIGITAL TWIN CREATION WORKFLOW: NEW PV PLANT

**Input from datasheets, external databases, manufacturers, BIM...*



DIGITAL TWIN CREATION WORKFLOW: EXISTING PV PLANT

**Input from datasheets, external databases, as-built documentation, BIM...*

INPUT

Electrical layout
Information

Component properties
Material properties

Meteorological data

DIGITAL TWIN CREATION



Drone survey and
photogrammetry
of existing site

Raw 3D
geometry
(.dae)



Generation of full
PV plant model

PV plant 3D
geometry
(.rad)

Electrical
hierarchy
(.xml)

Parametrization

Digital twin

PV system
performance
model

Yield

umec