
ASSESSMENT OF URBAN- SCALE POTENTIAL FOR SOLAR PV GENERATION AND CONSUMPTION

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Objective of the study

Describe a **method** for evaluating the **potential for PV** production and self consumption for the building stock of a city

Considering:

- **Irradiation**
- Orientation and **shading**
- Building energy demand and **consumption**
- **Regulation** (self-consumption (shared at building level) and net metering)
- **Economic** viability

Context & case study definition

Energy consumption in **cities: 60% to 80%** of the **global energy** use and **increasing**

On-site electricity generation potential benefits:

Reduce investment in grid infrastructure

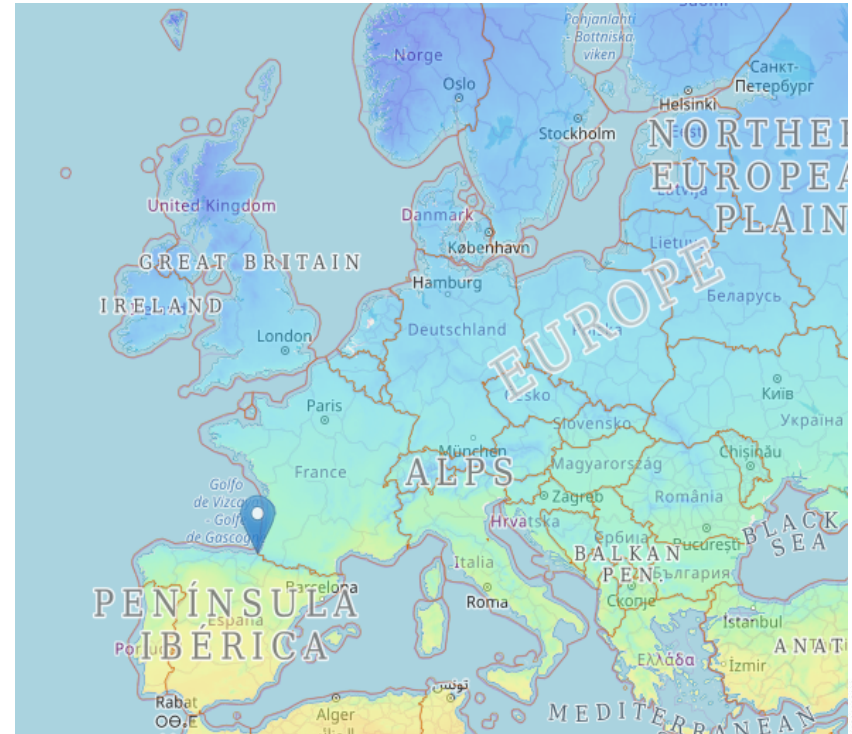
Reduce transport and distribution losses

Reduce GHG emissions

PV → most **competitive** and **adequate** technology for urban areas

Context & case study definition

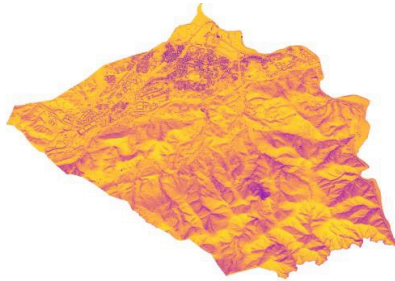
- City of **Irun**
- 61.983 inhabitants
- Predominance of 4 to 6 storey building
- Annual solar irradiation: 1.300kWh
- Actively involved in sustainability programs.



Methodology: 4 steps



Building level
**energy
characterization**



Solar map for
the municipality



**Profitability
thresholds** and
rooftop
characterization



Size optimization
based on
legislation
model

Methodology: Step 1: Energy Characterization

Building energy characterization at city level with **Enerkad** [1]

Calculation based on the city **cadaster** and degree day method:

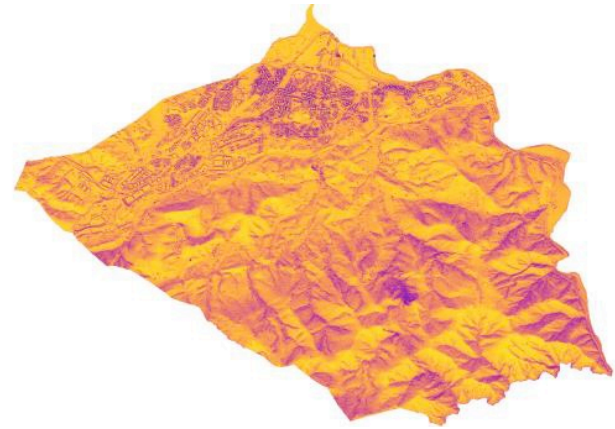
- Construction year
- Geometry

Calculates heating, cooling and electricity demand and **energy consumption**



ENERKAD

Methodology: Step 2: Solar map



Calculation of solar irradiation

Considers shading and orography

Based on filtered Digital Surface Model (**UMEP** plugin for **Qgis**) and

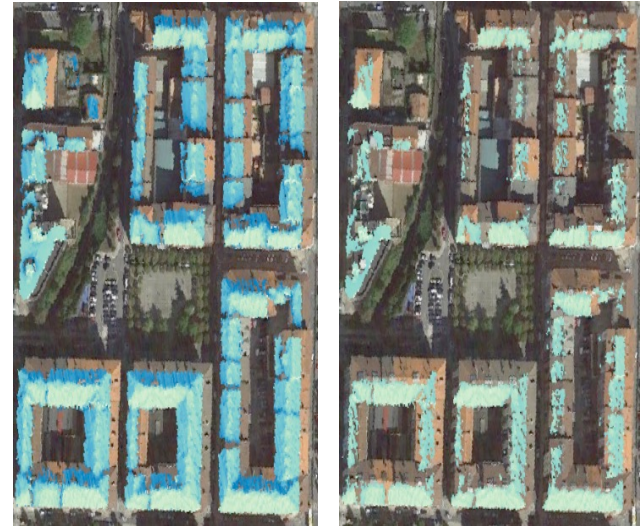
climatic file and boundary layer of the municipality.

Methodology:

Step 3: Profitability threshold and rooftop characterization

Definition of **irradiance thresholds** associated to **economic performance** and rooftop characterization

Calculation of the return of investment for a given irradiation threshold



Irradiance threshold (kWh/ m ² year)	Return of investment (years)
1100 (kWh/ m ² year)	<10 years
925 (kWh/ m ² year)	<12 years

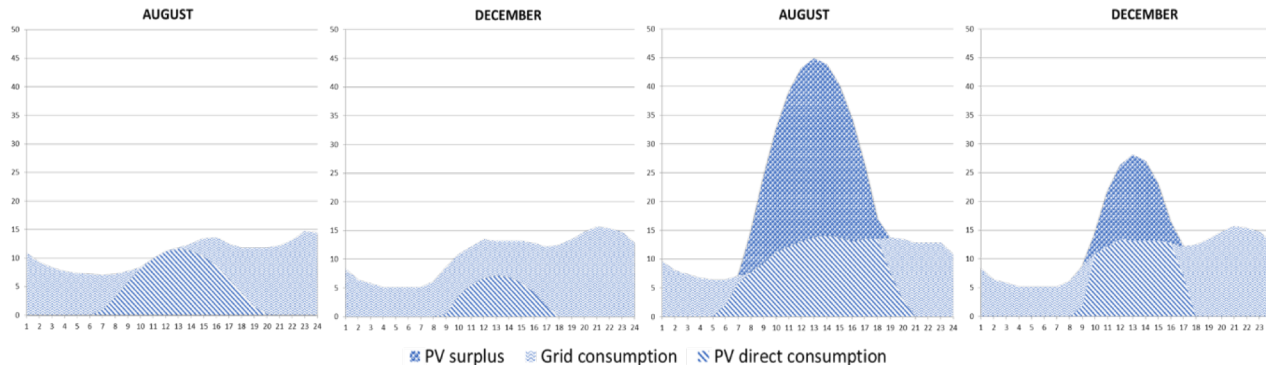
Methodology:

Step 4: Size optimization based on legislation model

PV **size optimization** based on economic performance and possible legislations

3 case studies

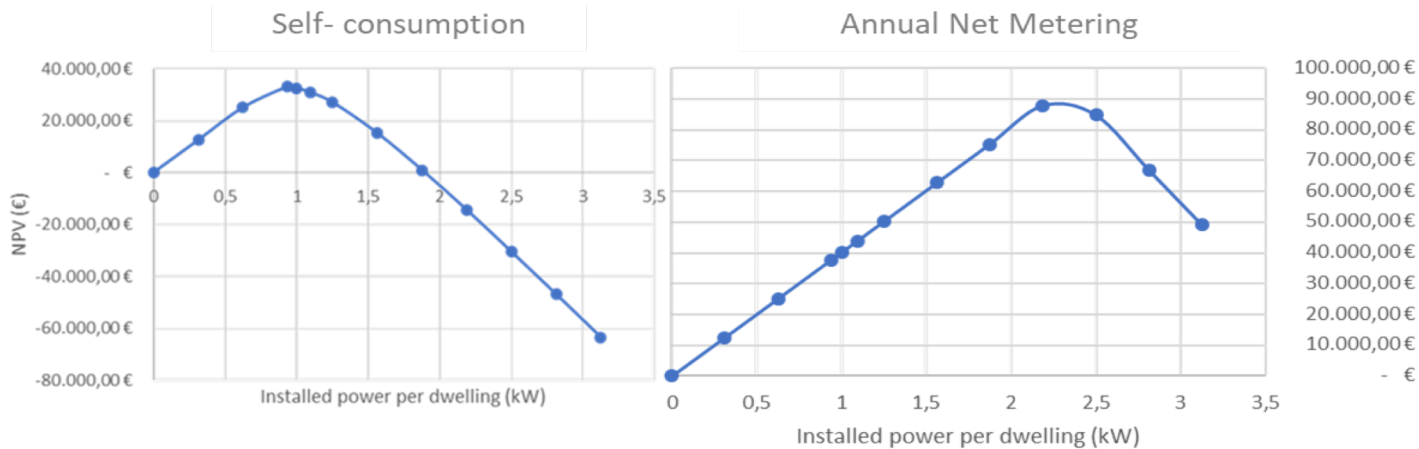
1. Self consumption (at building level)
2. Net metering
3. Theoretical maximum potential



Methodology:

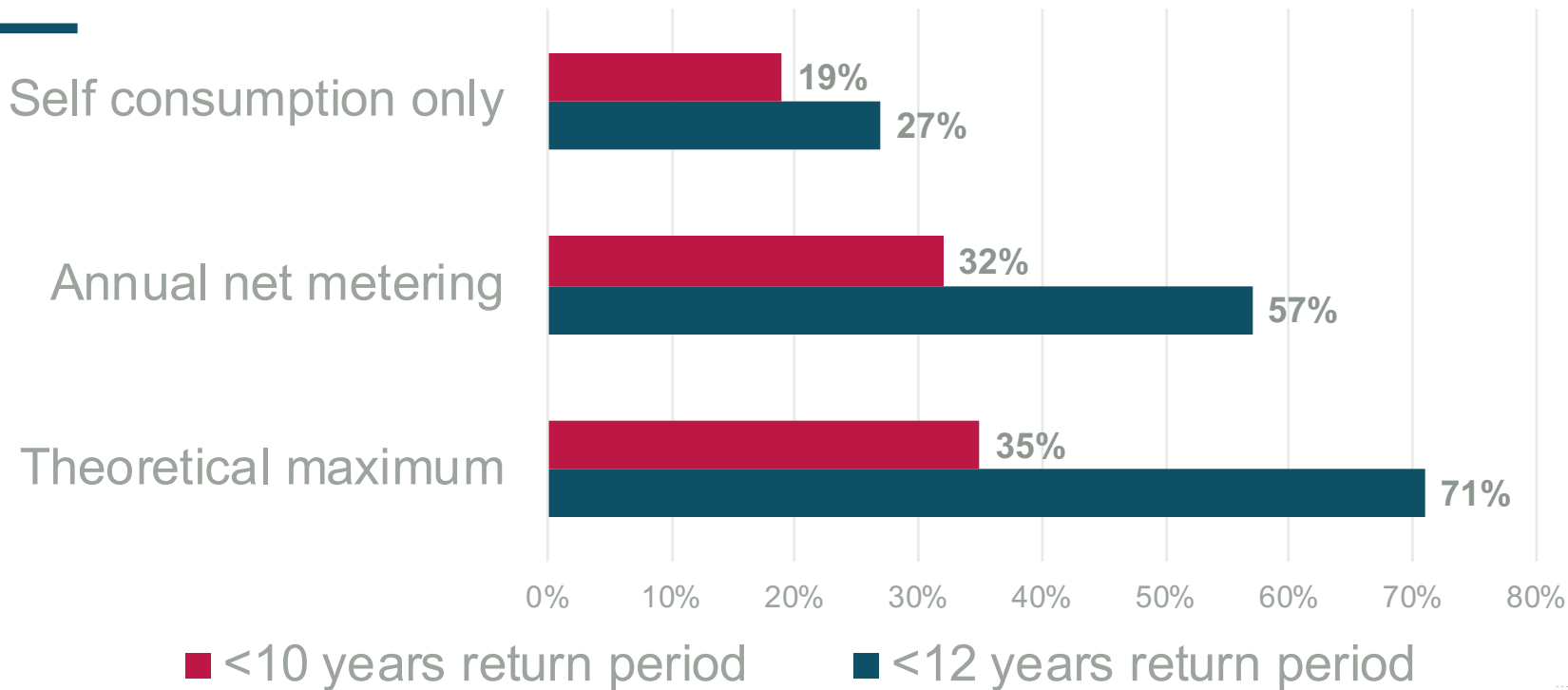
Step 4: Size optimization based on legislation model

- *Self-consumption: 29% of the building demand*
- *Net metering: 100% of the building demand*
- *Theoretical maximum potential: 100% available building roof surface*



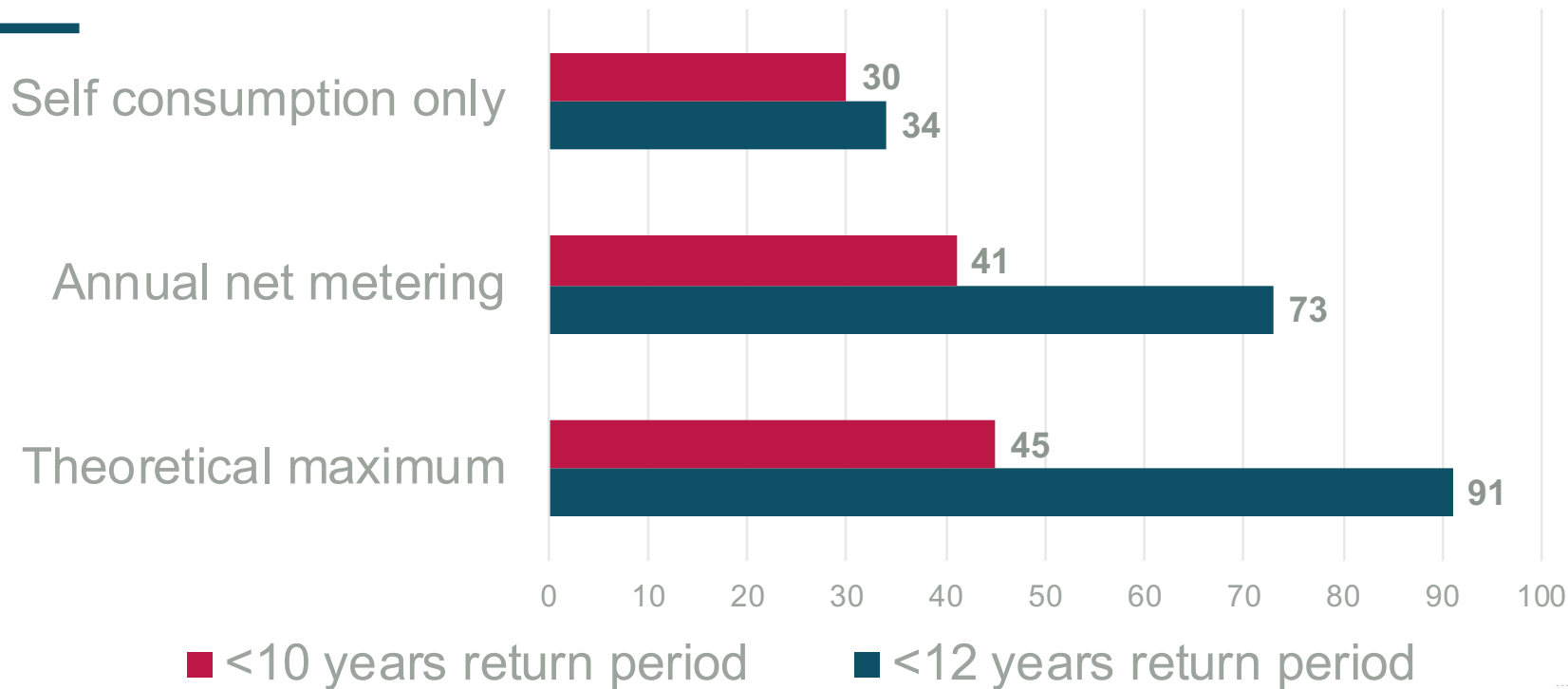
Results

Percentage of installable rooftop surface in the city



Results

Approximate installable power [MW]



Results

Solar power energy share. Percentage of building stock **electricity consumption fed by solar PV.**

Threshold	Theoretical maximum	Self-consumption only	Annual net metering
1100 kWh/m ² .year	32%	17%	29%
925 kWh/m ² .year	59%	24%	48%

Results

Solar power energy share. Percentage of building stock **electricity consumption fed by solar PV.**

Threshold	Theoretical maximum	Self-consumption only	Annual net metering
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Conclusions

Importance of a **well oriented regulation** for renewable energy integration

Policy makers

- Possible to understand the impacts of each regulatory framework

Consumers

- Can identify the potential of their own buildings
- Shows a great potential for building integrated PV

Public administration

- Realistic view of PV potential to analyze promotion mechanisms

Thank you



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