

# Why Pension Funds Need to Invest in Renewable Energy



**Interview with: Gunter Grabner, Chief Executive Officer, PV Invest**

"Long-term investors need to focus more on global trends such as climate change, population growth and energy demand. What influences the world in its foundations also influences the global economy. That is why investing in renewable energy makes sense," suggests Gunter Grabner, Chief Executive Officer, **PV Invest**.

From a sponsor company at the **marcusevans European Pensions & Investments Summit 2013**, in Montreux, Switzerland, 22 - 24 April, Grabner discusses why photovoltaic (PV) **investments** can be low risk and inflation proof.

## **Why should investors consider investing in renewable energies?**

The biggest problem funds face today is how to generate a safe, steady return and long-term income for investors. To generate returns, I am convinced that they need to take world problems into consideration. We keep discussing short-term effects, if stock markets are going up or down, but our real problems stem from population growth and pollution. How will mankind survive? How will population growth affect financial markets? How long till we run out of oil? What will replace oil?

Investors who are beginning to invest in renewable energy will benefit from the best approach for their funds and will consequently also achieve the best outcome. At the same time it will also be crucial to identify those assets that are able to provide value to the world population. There is no alternative to renewable energy.

## **How should they approach this asset class?**

There are two possibilities in my opinion. One is to go into the field by accident, by owning a plant that may also end up producing renewable energy. The other way, what we are offering, is to buy bonds issued by a company that is producing renewable energy. It is very safe to invest in renewable energy, as long as you are not investing in companies that are producing PV panels, for example, but instead in those companies actually producing the energy.

The income we generate is from electricity sales, a long-term steady income. So we can guarantee long-term steady interest rates, which we pay on our bonds. This concept could be very interesting for long-term investors like pension funds.

## **What innovative financial solutions can you suggest for investors to minimise risk?**

We are considering the issue of a bond that offers the investor a unique degree of flexibility as he will be able to choose how long he wants to stay invested! By choosing one out of several exit scenarios, our investors will have the option of customising a renewable energy bond according to their investment needs. On the other hand, the longer an investor decides to stay invested the more he will benefit from long-term steady returns in a sustainable industry.

## **Any final comments?**

The demand for electricity is not going to decrease. If you are in the energy business, you will always be on the safe side, and renewable sources are even better than that. Investing in renewable energy makes sense to **pension funds** because they invest for the long-term. In addition, the energy market has proved to be low risk and inflation proof.

There is no alternative to renewable energy

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Please note that the Summit is a closed business event and the number of participants strictly limited.

## About the European Pensions & Investments Summit 2013

This unique forum will take place at the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, Montreux, Switzerland, 22 - 24 April 2013. Offering much more than any conference, exhibition or trade show, this exclusive meeting will bring together esteemed industry thought leaders and solution providers to a highly focused and interactive networking event. The Summit includes visionary presentations and interactive forums on geopolitical risks in the global economy, finding opportunities for steady returns in recalibrating markets and rethinking pension products to deliver sustainable benefits in a new systemic context.

[www.epi-summit.com](http://www.epi-summit.com)

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## About PV Invest

PV-Invest has successfully realised photovoltaic investments of EUR 22 mil over the last 4 years. All projects were accomplished on schedule, producing electricity yields exceeding calculations! Our pv-plants are fully financed through bond issues of EUR 4.5 mil and bank loans. As a solar electricity producing company we offer sustainable and profitable investments to private and institutional investors.

[www.pv-invest.at](http://www.pv-invest.at)

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