



**SOLAR
MATERIALS**



Name: SOLAR MATERIALS

Country: Germany

Incorporated: 2021

Fund: Katapult Seed Fund 1

Problem:

Solar panels are the fastest growing e-waste stream in the world. From 2 million end-of-life solar panels in 2022 to up to 4 billion solar panels by 2050, recycling solar panels becomes a massive challenge. Current recycling technologies lose the functional materials silicon and silver, and only recover remaining raw materials at low quality.

Solution:

With their patented recycling technology, SOLAR MATERIALS recovers all raw materials from solar panels. The energy-efficient and low-cost process uses only thermo-mechanical processes and thus avoids the use of harmful chemicals. SOLAR MATERIALS offers customers recycling-as-a-service and sells low-carbon footprint secondary raw materials to industrial customers.

Impact:

"Our recycling solution for solar panels makes an important contribution on the way to a circular economy and the transition to renewable energy supply. Without recovery of strategic raw materials such as aluminum, silicon and silver, Europe moves from energy dependency to raw material dependency."

Fridolin Franke

Co-Founder & CEO, Solar Materials

