

### **Dr Jeremy Leggett, Chief Executive, solarcentury**

Jeremy Leggett is Chief Executive of solarcentury, the UK's largest solar solutions company, winner of multiple awards for innovation and sustainability. After a D.Phil in earth sciences at Oxford, Jeremy began his career at Imperial College consulting for the oil industry and researching earth history. He won two major international awards for his research on the history of oceans. His work on oil source rocks was funded by BP and Shell.

In a second career as an environmental campaigner for Greenpeace International, he won the US Climate Institute's Award for Advancing Understanding, at which time the Washington Post described him as "one of the half-dozen experts most responsible for putting climate change on the international agenda." In his third career, as a social entrepreneur, he is - in addition to his solarcentury role - a director of the world's first private equity fund for renewable energy, Bank Sarasin's New Energies Invest AG, and was a member of the UK Government's Renewables Advisory Board from 2003-6.

His critically-acclaimed account of the first ten years of global warming, *The Carbon War*, was published by Penguin in 1999. The Sunday Times called it "*the best book yet on the politics of global warming*," and the Daily Mail described it as "*a page-turning story in racy prose ...The final chapter...is not only nail biting, but moves the reader to tears*." His second book, conflating peak oil and climate change, was published in 2005 as *The Empty Tank* by Random House in the US, and *Half Gone* by Portobello Books in the rest of the world. The Independent described it as "*a compelling must-read for politicians, pundits and punters alike*," and the Sunday Times found it to be "*a fast-moving, easily readable polemic whose unashamed populism doesn't obscure the weight of its arguments*." The Financial Times has described Leggett as having "*done more to change attitudes towards the (solar) resource than almost any other individual*," and Time magazine – confused among other things by an absence of grey hair – has profiled him as "*one of the next generation of young leaders*."