

DeCarbCH Newsletter January 2022



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DeCarbCH Newsletter

January 2022

Dear DeCarbCH Partners,

Welcome to 2022, we hope you had a good start.

The focus of this first newsletter of the year is the [Work Package WP02](#) on **understanding legal and socio-economic integration of clean heating and cooling solutions** in Switzerland.

We present two exclusive interviews with the WP leaders from ZHAW, i.e. [Dr. Silvia Ulli-Beer and Dr. Matthias Speich on the socio-economic part](#), and [Prof. Andreas Abegg and MLaw Annette Zoller-Eckenstein on the legal part](#).

In addition, several [news articles](#) provide updates on current legal and socio-economic integration activities.

Another highlight this year is the first face-to-face **DeCarbCH Networking Conference** on April 25 and 26, 2022 at the Seminar Center Campus Sursee. Please see the [program](#) and [register here](#)

Also this year, DeCarbCH will offer regular **Lunch Talks**.

On January 18, Prof. Jörg Worlitschek (HSLU) we will speak about [Long Term Thermal Energy Storages](#), and on February 8, Dr. Stefan Schneider (UNIGE) on [Temperature Reduction in District Heating](#). Take a look at the contents and register online for free. We are hoping to see you then.

Don't forget to follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), and check out [YouTube](#), where the videos of past Lunch Talks on Pinch Analysis, Socio-Economic Challenges, Industrial Heat Pumps, and Thermal Networks are available for viewing.

We are hoping to see you at the next two Lunch Talks and at the DeCarbCH Networking Conference in April.

All the best,

[The DeCarbCH management team](#)

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1. [Interview with Dr. Silvia Ulli-Beer and Dr. Matthias Speich from the ZHAW School of Engineering](#)
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 4. [Study "SERENDIP" on decarbonization of industrial process energy](#)
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Interview with Dr. Silvia Ulli-Beer and Dr. Matthias Speich from the ZHAW School of Engineering

Silvia and Matthias are leading the socio-economic part of WP02:
Understanding legal & socio-economic integration of clean heat and cooling
solutions



Question: Could you shortly describe the topic of your work package part?

Answer S. Ulli-Beer: This WP02 is about the socio-economic perspective on integrating technical solutions for heating and cooling in Switzerland. It is about creating value for the whole "business ecosystem."

Question: Could you describe what a "business ecosystem" is?

Answer M. Speich: Such an ecosystem consists of a set of individual and independent organizations that work together with a common goal. In DeCarbCH, the common goal is to decarbonize the heating and cooling systems most efficiently and cost-effectively. The different organizations will reach this goal by contributing, for example, knowledge, technology, funds, and other resources.

S. Ulli-Beer: In addition, such an ecosystem involves many actors in the value network, including planners, manufacturers, installers, government, customers, etc. An important question is how value creation opportunities give the actors incentives to work efficiently together. Business model innovation is a keyword to streamline the activities in the ecosystem. In DeCarbCH, we specifically address both the industrial and building sectors.

Question: How does it relate to DeCarbCH?

M. Speich: Compared to the technology-oriented WPs, which provide use-specific, tailored technological solutions, our role is to facilitate their integration into application contexts and accelerate the market penetration. This is an interdisciplinary collaboration task. We will jointly define and analyze use cases to find feasible and customized solutions for the concrete application context.

(Interview continues)

[read more](#)

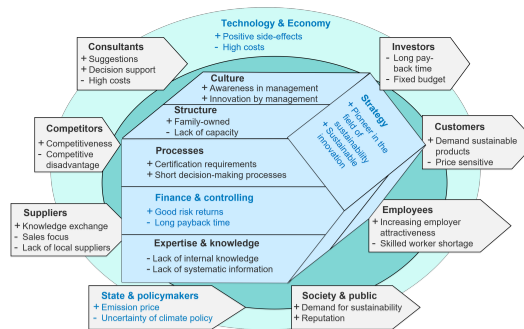
NEWS from WP02: Understanding legal and socio-economic integration of clean heat and cooling solutions



Participation in Innosuisse Flagship Project "RENOWAVE"

RENOWAVE (Massive Decarbonization of the Swiss Building Stock) develops and implements energy retrofit solutions at the building and district level

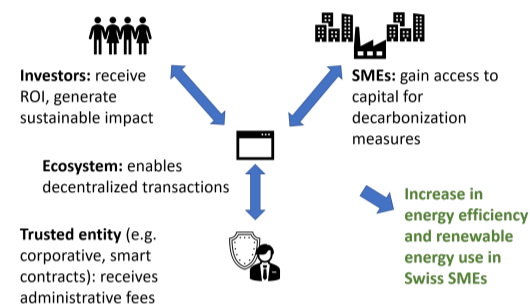
[read more](#)



Study "SERENDIP" on decarbonization of industrial process energy

Interviews were conducted with managers in 17 companies on internal and external factors that influence energy-related decisions

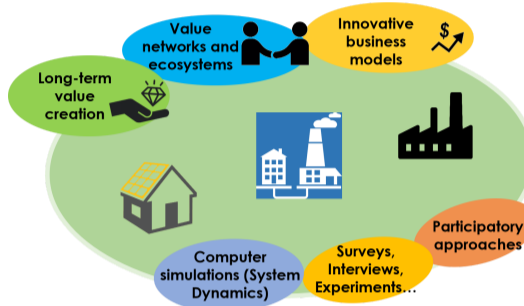
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Initial study on financing options for decarbonization solutions

Promising financing concepts are for example based on tokens, blended finance or leasing concepts

[read more](#)



Conceptual work on the business challenges of energy decarbonization

A holistic perspective and coordinated development of policy, infrastructure, and business model innovation are necessary

[read more](#)

Zurich University of Applied Sciences



DeCarbCH Topics in Teaching at ZHAW

Teaching is one of ZHAW's main focus and a key aspect of knowledge transfer from research to society

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FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

New project on Positive Energy Districts funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

The new project "Positive Energy Districts as a Suitable Instrument to Govern the Swiss Energy Transition" (PEDSET) will start in early 2022

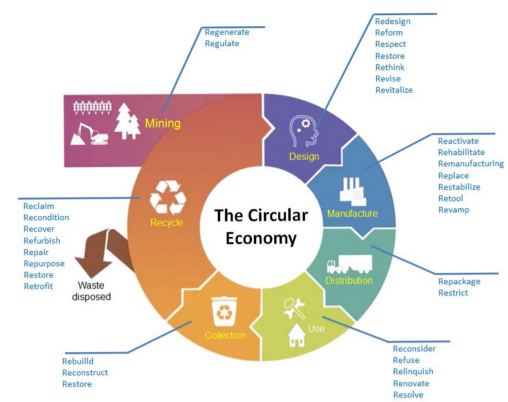
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Doctoral Studies – Annette Zoller-Eckenstein

In October 2021, MLaw Annette Zoller-Eckenstein, started working as a research assistant at ZHAW's Center for Public Commercial Law (ZOW)

[read more](#)



Legal Issues in the Context of Interdisciplinary Problems

The Center for Public Commercial Law (ZOW) at ZHAW supports the DeCarbCH project on legal issues

[read more](#)

Interview with Prof. Andreas Abegg and MLaw Annette Zoller-Eckenstein from the ZHAW School of Management and Law

Andreas and Annette are leading the legal part of WP02: Understanding legal and socio-economic integration of clean heat and cooling solutions



Zurich University of Applied Sciences



What is your research related to the DeCarbCH work package WP02 all about?

Work package WP02 analyzes the current socio-economic and legal challenges of heating and cooling solutions in Switzerland. Our legal part (Tasks 2.4 and 2.5) is mainly concerned with the analysis of the legal framework for large energy plants and the construction and operation of heating and cooling infrastructures (networks and storage).

What actors are involved from a legal perspective?

From a legal perspective, various parties are involved: First, multiple investors are interested in financing larger energy plants and, in particular, energy networks. Second, public and private companies build and operate such facilities. Third, public authorities are often involved because the energy for heating networks comes from publicly owned waste incineration plants. For example, they provide the planning and regulatory basis for energy plants and issue permits and concessions for the plants. Finally, we must consider homeowners and associations who organize their own smaller energy networks, as well as other consumers.

How does this WP relate to DeCarbCH's other WPs?

The best technical solutions for decarbonizing heating and cooling are useless if they cannot be implemented. With an analysis of the legal framework, we show which solutions can be implemented and what obstacles and unused opportunities still exist. Of course, new technologies can also lead to further legal challenges. Therefore, our part of WP02 will also include the technological solutions proposed (mainly) in WP03 and WP05, and we contribute to case studies from our implementing partners coordinated in WP06 and WP07.

Ultimately, the legal challenges are closely related to the socio-economic challenges (another part of WP02). Because if there is a legal obstacle, this leads to delays and additional expenses for permits, etc., and thus to increased costs. In addition, a lack of acceptance can also result in further legal challenges and extra costs – such as when local residents oppose a project.

(Interview continues)

[read more](#)

FURTHER NEWS



The Lunch Talks on

- *Pinch Analysis,*
- *Socio-Economical Challenges,*
- *Industrial Heat Pumps, and*
- *Thermal Networks*

are available on [YouTube](#) and the presentation slides on our

[DeCarbCH Website](#).

[read more](#)



25/26 April 2022

SWEET DeCarbCH Networking Conference 2022

25/26 April 2022 - Seminarzentrum Campus Sursee

[More details](#) and [registration](#)

[read more](#)

EVENTS

- Lunch Talk - Long term thermal energy storages

This Lunch Talk is taking place online on 18/1/2022.

[REGISTER](#)

- Lunch Talk - Temperature reduction in district heating

This Lunch Talk will be held online on 8/2/2022.

[REGISTER](#)

Any question can be sent to info@sweet-decarb.ch



DeCarbCH has received funding from the SFOE in their SWEET programme.

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