

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy



Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie,
l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile

Intra-EU exchange on long-term climate strategies and decarbonisation scenarios

Maria Rosa Virdis, SSPT-MET ENEA

**Country Workshop –Italy
Roma, 5 June, 2019**

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Policy context

- A number of existing political impulses combine to make long-term climate strategies a topic of immediate interest to many national-level policy-makers in the EU:
- **The Paris Agreement's Article 4.19**, which explicitly calls for the development of long-term climate protection strategies by all parties, to
- the proposed EU **Regulation for the Governance of the Energy Union**, which would require Member States to develop comparable long-term climate energy strategies for 2050 and beyond, by 2020.
- Yet, only a minority of EU Member States has formulated a national long-term climate strategy and the existing ones differ in scope and level of detail.
- This project seeks to fill gaps in the landscape of existing political processes and support the national planning processes by fostering a community of experts and policy-makers for the promotion of long-term climate strategies as a tool to guide the low-carbon transformation in Europe.

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Intra-EU exchange on long-term climate strategies and decarbonisation scenarios

- **“Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy”** is a project that brings together policymakers from EU Member States, as well as technical experts and energy/climate modellers in **two parallel dialogue fora with one overarching goal:**
 - exchanging experiences, knowledge and best practices on long-term climate strategies and decarbonisation scenarios that underpin such strategies.**
- **The main objective to facilitate intra-EU exchange** and foster the creation of tools, know-how and networks essential to develop effective and ambitious **national long-term climate policy frameworks** as a tool to guide a successful transition to a **low-carbon economy**.
- The project consists of a number of separate workshops for policymakers and modelling experts from across Europe, a series of dissemination events unfolding across 2018 and 2019 – as well as a series of written outputs on the topics under discussion.

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy



Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie,
l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile

Objectives

- **Exchange experience on long-term planning:** The project will cater for information needs of Member States in the process of creating long-term climate strategies. It aims to provide policymakers with a solid foundation on planning, preparing and implementing such plans. National policymakers will gain new capacity and lessons learned to immediate use in national climate planning, including also in the NECPs and in preparation for the possibility of additional 2050 planning commitments.
- **Empirically robust strategies:** The Technical Dialogue will identify knowledge gaps and address them through a peer-to-peer exchange among technical experts. The generated knowledge will enhance the validity and robustness of Member State decarbonisation scenarios that are the basis for long-term mitigation pathways.
- **Bridging policy and science:** Importantly, insights gained from each forum are summarised and disseminated in the parallel forum through input briefings and written syntheses of previous meetings—in other words, political representatives will gain access to expert technical knowledge, while the modelling and scientific community will benefit from exposure to the ongoing political discussions.

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Partners

- The project is led by the **Ecologic Institute** in cooperation with
 - **Fraunhofer ISI, Energiaklub, Association négaWatt, Oeko-Institut (DE),**
 - **IDDR (FR), WiseEuropa (PL), ENEA (IT), DTU (DK)**
- These nine partners represent research organisations, climate governance experts, modellers and scenario builders from across Europe.
- In addition, a number of policymakers from across Member States, including representatives of environmental and economic development ministries and environmental agencies are involved.
- The project "Intra-EU Exchange to Raise Awareness and Build Capacity on Long-term Climate Strategies" is financed by the [European Climate Initiative \(EUKI\)](#).
- EUKI is a project financing instrument by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUB).
- Goal of the EUKI to foster climate cooperation within the European Union in order to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. It does so through strengthening a cross-border dialogue and cooperation as well as exchange of knowledge and experience.

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Project design and outputs

The project consists of three closely interdependent elements:

- **Policy-Maker Platform (PMP)** – a dialogue forum for governmental representatives.
- **The Technical Dialogue (TD)** – an exchange forum for technical experts and modellers supporting the development of long-term strategies

the PMP and the TD serve as two parallel dialogue fora, allowing the governmental representatives and technical experts to exchange experiences and best practices within and between the groups.

- **The Outreach Module**, through some country events and webinars, presents insights from the two fora to a broader audience and feeds inputs from other interested stakeholders into the ongoing discussions.
- **Three PMP and TD meetings** (back to back) were held, and brought together representatives of nearly twenty research institutes from more than half of all EU Member States as well as the European Commission and the EEA.
- **The project's events were accompanied by a series of publications** on the current state of strategy development and key issues in long-term, climate-related economic modelling.

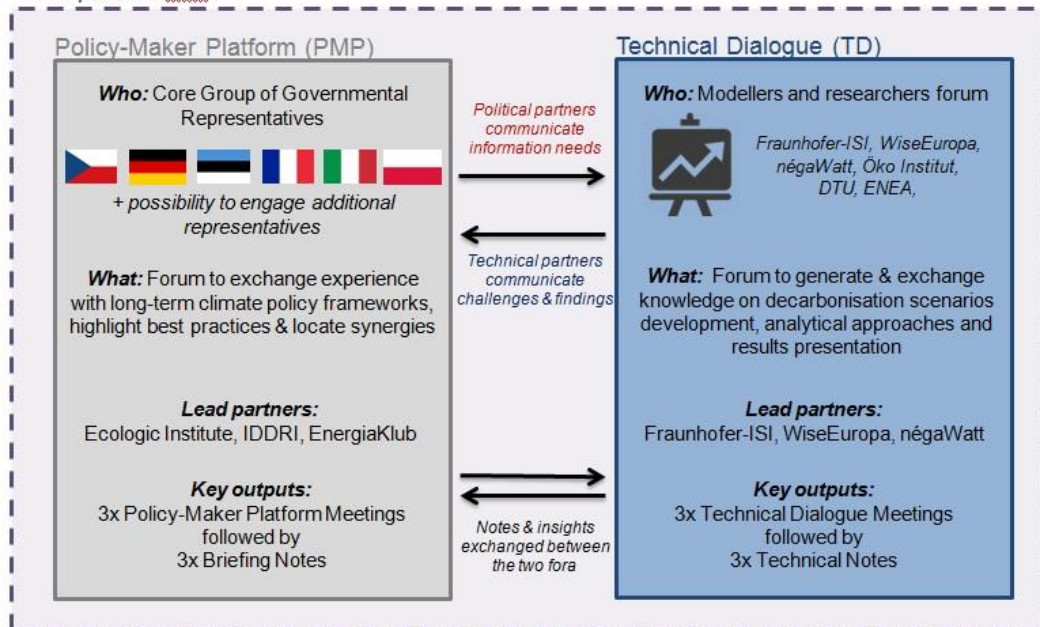
Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy



Intra-EU exchange on long-term climate strategies and decarbonisation scenarios



Two parallel fora:



Outreach module

Presenting insights from PMP & TD to a broader audience ↔ Audience inputs from events and webinars feed into ongoing discussions

Events: SB48 & COP24 side events; National events (FR, IT, PL); Webinars; Final conference

Publications: Written notes connecting PMP & TD findings; Handbook summarising all insights



Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Key insights from the project

Long term strategies an essential tool to transform economies towards net zero emissions :

- 12 EU countries have developed a LT Strategy, the rest are doing it now.
- An EU framework strategy is still missing and the relationship between national and EU strategy unclear. There is also a time discrepancy. The Regulation on the Governance provides limited guidance.
- A variety of approaches, analytical tools and legal shapes have been adopted, but countries who have developed a plan have a sense of the Long term trajectory, can devise a strategy to 2030 a coherent with 2050 goals, are better placed to understand and manage the technological, distributive and social challenges ahead
- Use of models in developing the technical analysis can be very useful in providing insights, but an issue of transparency remains and how their results are communicated can be crucial.
- Transparency in assumptions and input data is paramount, shared information can help harmonize results across countries and with respect to EU scenarios
- LT strategies aim at -80% to -90% emission reductions w.r. to 1990 but technological and social implications of net zero not fully understood.
- Following an inclusive process with strong public engagement is very important
- Successful implementation of strategies requires social acceptance but distributional impacts (costs and benefits) from climate action need to be well understood and separated from unavoidable structural economic change.

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy

Project outputs

All project publications are available at climatedialogue.eu/outputs

2050 Climate Strategies in EU Countries: State of Play. Iwaszuk, E., Duwe, M. (2018) -

<https://tinyurl.com/2050strategiesEU>

Low-emission mobility & transport, Blanck, R., Gnann, T., Plötz, P. (2018) -

<https://tinyurl.com/2050Transport>

Transparency of Modelling, Wiese, F. (2018) - <https://tinyurl.com/2050Transparency>

Modelling at EU and MS level, Duscha, V., Lehmann, S., (2018) -<https://tinyurl.com/2050EUMS>

Developing policy-relevant narratives underlying long-term climate strategies, Voss-Stemping, J. (2018) -

<https://tinyurl.com/2050Narratives>

Modelling net zero emissions, Emele, L., Marignac, Y., Petrovic, S., (2019) -

<https://tinyurl.com/2050NetZero>

One page overview: National Long-Term Climate Strategies in the EU28 -<https://tinyurl.com/LTSMatrix>

Climate Recon 2050: Dialogues on Pathways and Policy



Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie,
l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile

Thank you for your attention

Mariorosa.virdis@enea.it