



SWISS COMPETENCE CENTER for ENERGY RESEARCH  
SUPPLY of ELECTRICITY

# Annual Conference 2017

Prof. Domenico Giardini, Head SCCER-SoE

WSL, Birmensdorf

14-15 September 2017



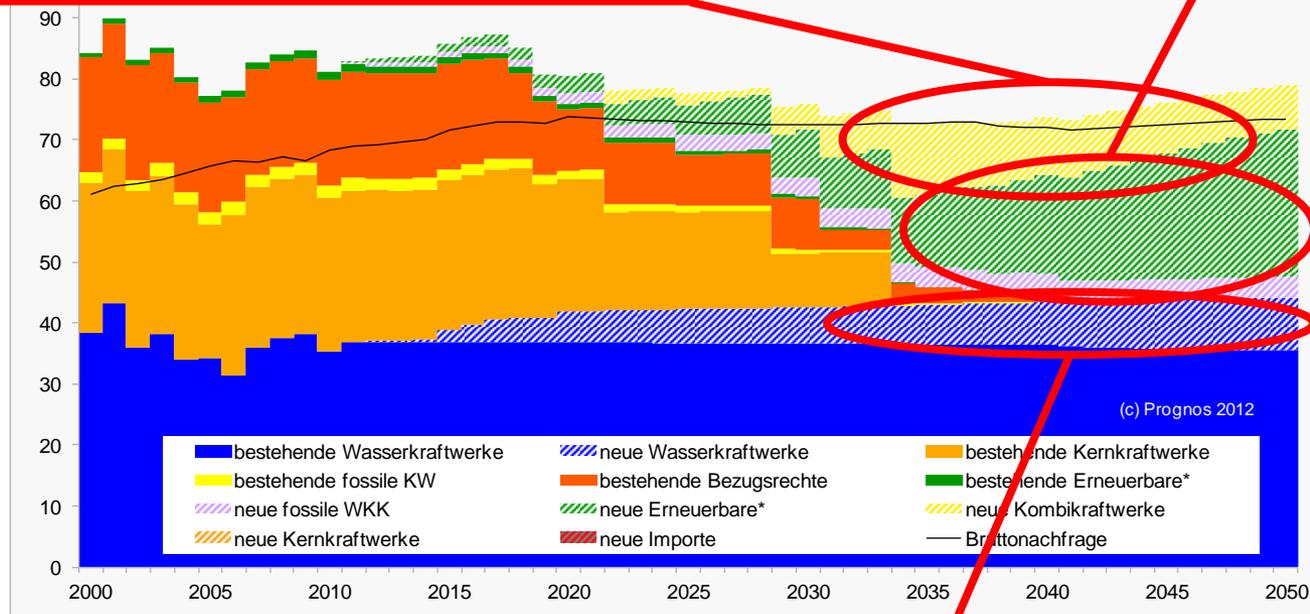
**Energy funding programme**

Swiss Competence Centers for Energy Research

# ES 2050: Targets for supply of electricity

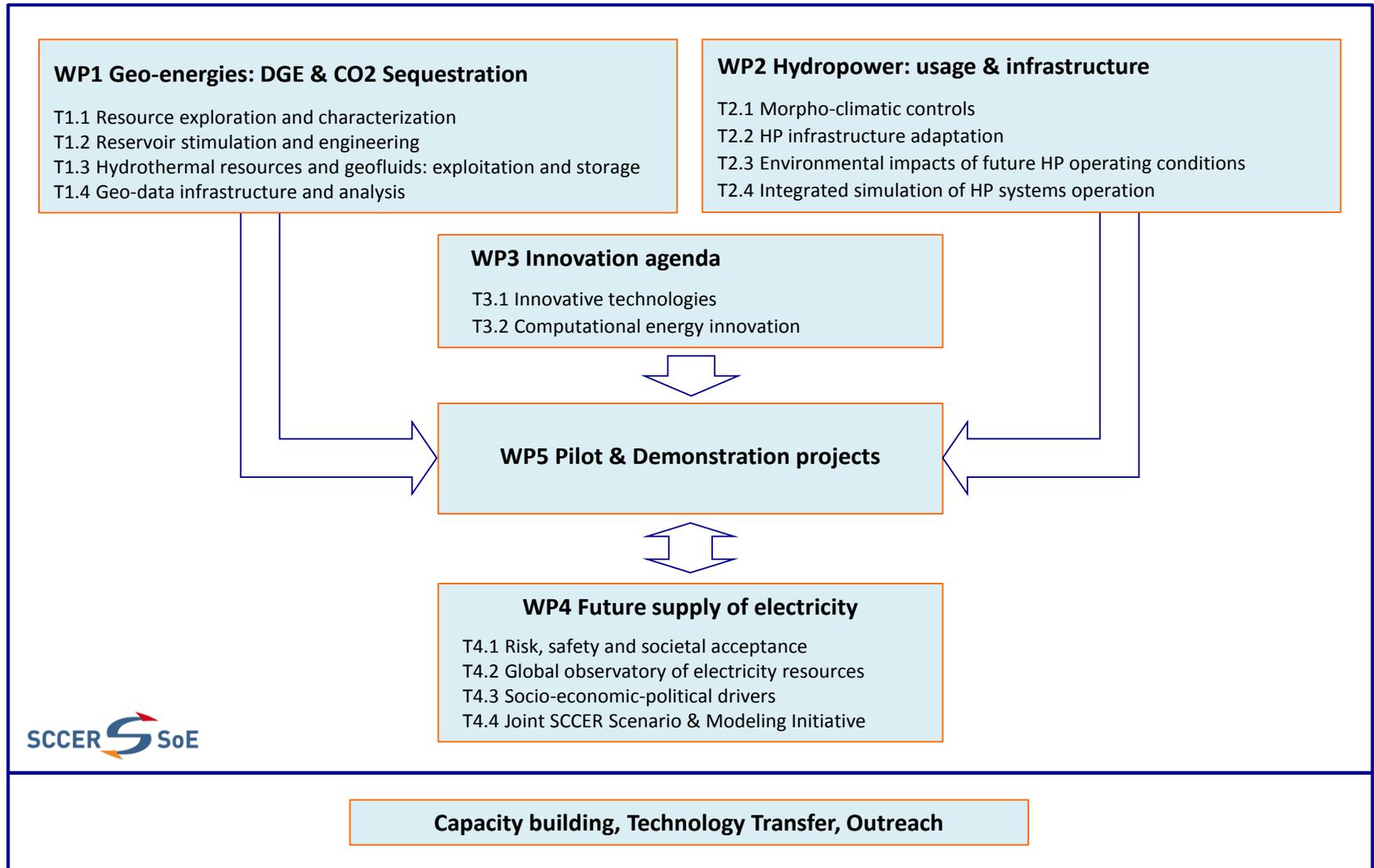
Is the geological capture of CO2 a viable measure to enable carbon-free generation of electricity from hydrocarbon resources ?

Can we extract safely the deep geothermal heat and produce at competitive costs 7% of the national baseload supply ?



Can we increase (i.e. by 10%) the present hydropower electricity production under changing demand, climate and operating conditions ?

# Phase 2: architecture



## Evaluation 2016

Evaluation 2016 very positive for SCCER-SoE:

- outperforming in capacity building, third-party funding, all financial criteria!
- roadmaps, demonstration projects, cooperation, communication, management!

Key points raised:

- Improve publication record
- Intensify training, technology transfer
- Continue increasing industry participation, especially international
- Strengthen innovation agenda
- Expand the presentation of Switzerland's energy science to the outside
- Establish processes to more systematically search for new ideas
- Maintain a constant view of the ES2050 targets

## Phase 2: scope I

Taking into account the developments achieved in Phase I and the feedback to the innovation roadmaps developed, the scope for Phase II has been expanded in a number of critical directions:

- A wider perimeter for Geo-Energies (WP1), maintaining the focus on exploration and Deep Geothermal Energy and adding new targets on usage of hydrothermal resources for direct heating and heat storage (new T1.3) and direct applications of CO<sub>2</sub> for geothermal heat exchange and sequestration.
- A refocusing of the HydroPower (WP2), with 4 Tasks and five key overarching targets:
  - a) Increase of flexibility in hydropower operation - structural and operation requirements
  - b) Update of climate change impacts on HP production and needed adaptation strategies
  - c) Extreme natural hazards and risk of HP operation
  - d) Design of new projects under uncertainties
  - e) Reservoir sedimentation and sustainable use of storage HP

## Phase 2: scope II

- A clearer focus of the innovation agenda (WP3), now including innovative technologies (T3.1) and computational energy innovation (T3.2), with the opening of a new AP in Computational Energy at USI
- A clear track for technology developments, with SCCER funding for the selected technologies for up to four years, resulting in either (i) industry support after reaching TRL 5-6 and implementation in P&D projects, or (ii) abandonment if not promising (a possible outcome for high-risk low-TRL technologies)
- A more integrated approach to the future supply of electricity (WP4), with
  - I. an expanded scope of the risk assessment activities to encompass also risk of large dams (T4.1)
  - II. a wider scope of the evaluation of global electricity resources and technologies (T4.2)
  - III. new resources and a closer integration with CREST on the socio-economic-political drivers of electricity supply (T4.3)
- A new SCCER Joint Activity on *Scenario and Modeling* (T4.4), encompassing all eight SCCERs (lead SCCER-SoE)
- A new SCCER Joint Activity on *Socio-political conditions of the extension of hydropower and geothermal energy*, complementing T4.3, with CREST (Lead) and SCCER-SoE

## Phase 2: scope III

- A new focus (WP5) on P&D projects, with 7 P&D projects under implementation or in an advanced stage of planning, for the implementation of innovative technologies (WP3) and of the integrative approaches and solutions developed in WP1-2:

Demo-1: Flagship stimulation experiment in the Deep UnderGround Laboratory  
*ETHZ, NAGRA, UniNe*

Demo-2: Reservoir engineering for heat exchange in Haute Sorne  
*GeoEnergie Suisse, ETHZ, UniNe*

Demo-3: Geneva basin-scale hydrothermal play for heat extraction and storage  
*UniGe, UniBe, SIG*

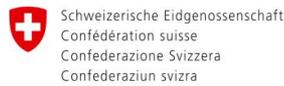
Demo-4: CO2 geological storage pilot, *ETHZ, EPFL, UniGe, UniGE*

Demo-5: Small Hydro-Power Plant, *HES-SO, WP2*

Demo-6: Controlled fine sediment release from a reservoir by a hydrodynamic mixing device, *EPFL, WP2*

Demo-7: Complex large hydropower scheme, *EPFL, WP2*

# Research partners

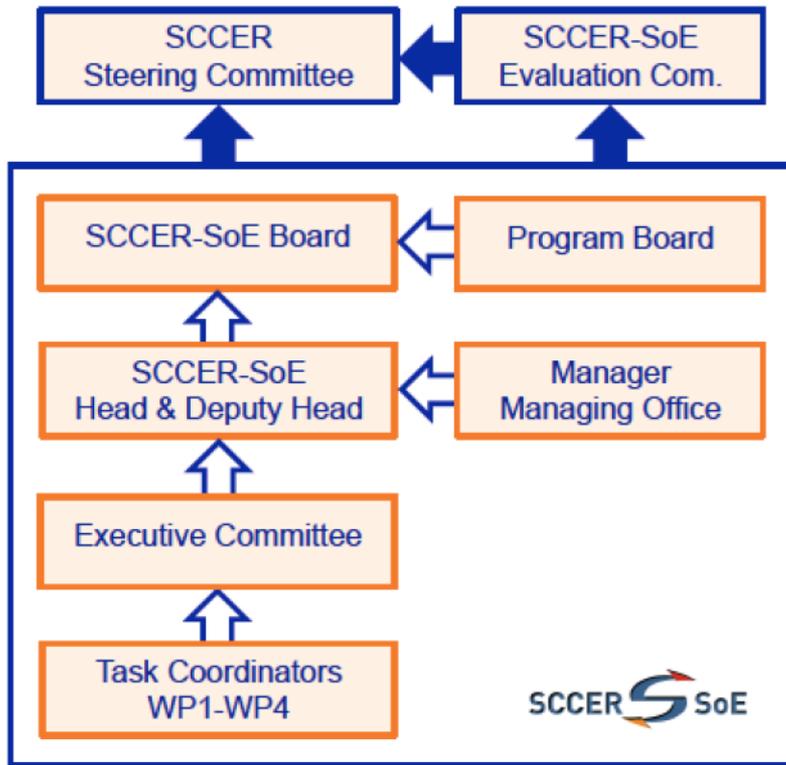


Swiss Confederation

Federal Office of Topography swisstopo  
[www.swisstopo.ch](http://www.swisstopo.ch)



# Governance



**Head** (Prof. D. Giardini, ETHZ) and  
**Deputy Head** (Prof. F. Avellan, EPFL)

**Program Manager:** Gianfranco Guidati, ETHZ

**KTT Officer:** Ueli Wieland, ETHZ

**Outreach:** Anja Tamburini, ETHZ

## Tasks Coordinators

**SCCER-SoE Board:** representatives of the Leading House (Chair), of all Academic Research Partners and of 2 Cooperation Partners (M. Ladwig, GE; P. Meier, GES)

**Program Board,** composed by representatives of all Research Partners

**Executive Committee,** composed by the Head and Deputy Head, Manager, and one representative for each of the five Work Packages:

- WP1: Dr. Th. Driesner, ETHZ (→ Prof. Lyesse Laloui, EPFL)
- WP2: Prof. A. Schleiss, EPFL (→ Prof. Robert Boes, ETHZ)
- WP3: Prof. C. Münch-Alligné (HES-SO)
- WP4: Dr. P. Burgherr (PSI)
- WP5: Prof. A. Moscariello (UNIGE)

# Budget

| Research Partner | CTI-funding  |
|------------------|--------------|
| UNIBE            | 690          |
| UNIGE            | 897          |
| UNIL             | 460          |
| UNINE            | 805          |
| USI              | 667          |
| ETHZ             | 8425         |
| EPFL             | 2461         |
| PSI              | 851          |
| EAWAG            | 483          |
| WSL              | 782          |
| HES-SO           | 1104         |
| HSR              | 230          |
| HSLU             | 345          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>18200</b> |

| Funding source            | Budget        |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| CTI-funding               | 18200         |
| Own contribution          | ~22000        |
| Competitive federal funds | ~14000        |
| Third party (e.g. EU)     | ~12000        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>~66200</b> |

} Matching funds

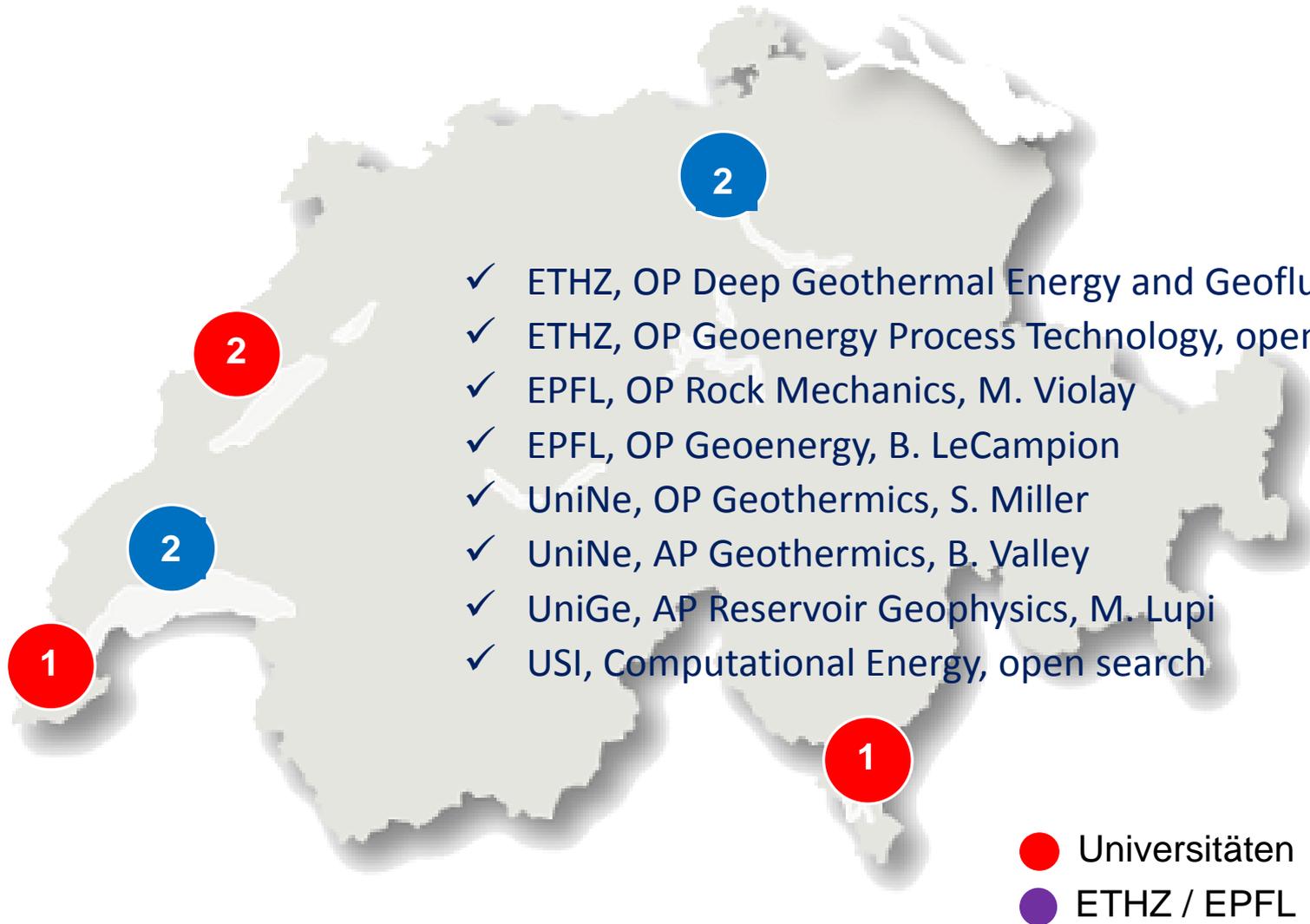
More than 60 MCHF are invested over 4 years to boost electricity production in support of the Energy Strategy 2050 !

All numbers in kCHF

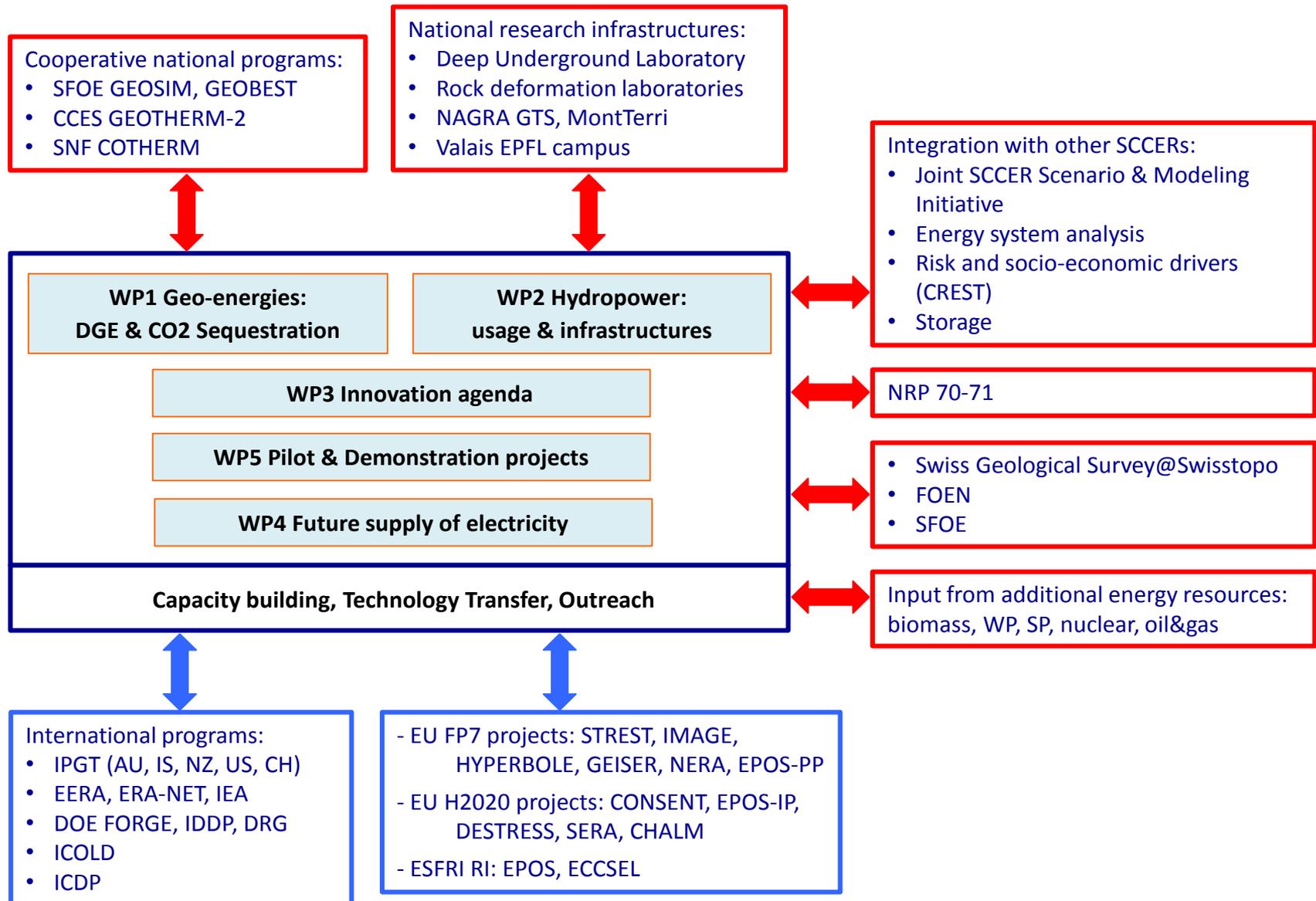
# Capacity building

|  | 2016 | 2015 |
|--|------|------|
| <b>Personnel SCCER-SoE</b>                                   |      |      |
| Head Count (HC) researchers including professors             | 247  | 240  |
| HC researchers without professors                            | 218  |      |
| Full time employee (FTE) researchers without professors      | 171  |      |
| Percentage of female researcher                              | 22 % |      |
| <b>PhD students (HC on September 1<sup>st</sup>)</b>         | 94   | 82   |
| Percentage of female PhDs                                    | 28 % | 27 % |
| Participation at the PhD school                              | 50   | 43   |
| <b>Master theses</b>   | 55   | 41   |
| Percentage of female students having written a master thesis | 38 % | 25 % |

# SCCER-SoE: 8 new AP and OP in Geo-Energies



# Integration



# Academic cooperations

**ETH**  
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

**Hes-so**

**eawag**  
aquatic research

**HSR**  
HOCHSCHULE FÜR TECHNIK  
RAPPERSWIL  
FHO Fachhochschule Ostschweiz

**unine**  
UNIVERSITÉ DE  
NEUCHÂTEL

**EPFL**  
ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

**Unil**  
UNIL | Université de Lausanne

Università  
della  
Svizzera  
Italiana

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT  
**FSI**

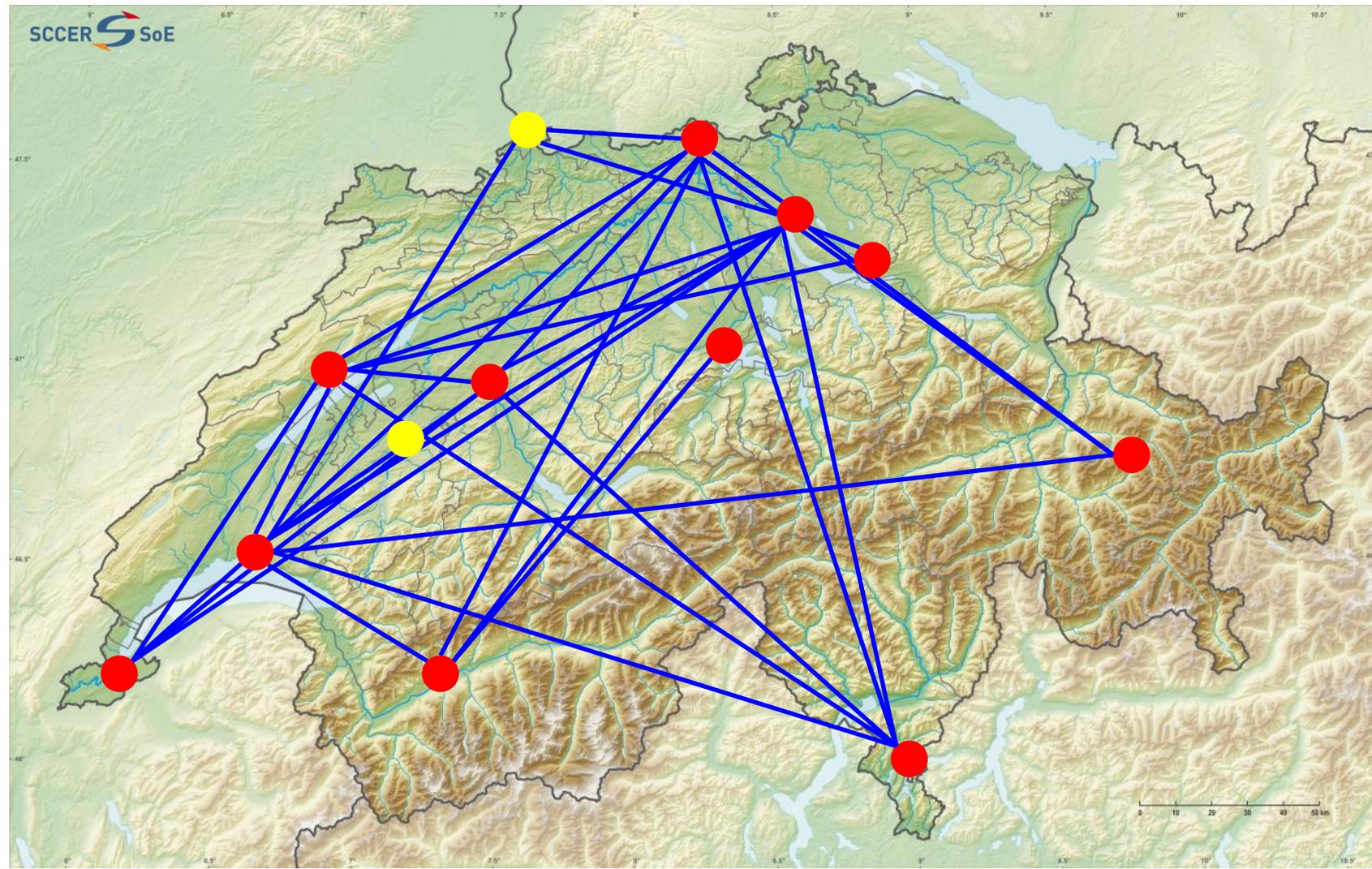
**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**  
Lucerne University of  
Applied Sciences and Arts

**HOCHSCHULE  
LUZERN**

**u<sup>b</sup>**

UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN

**WSL**



# Activity Overview of GeoEnergy

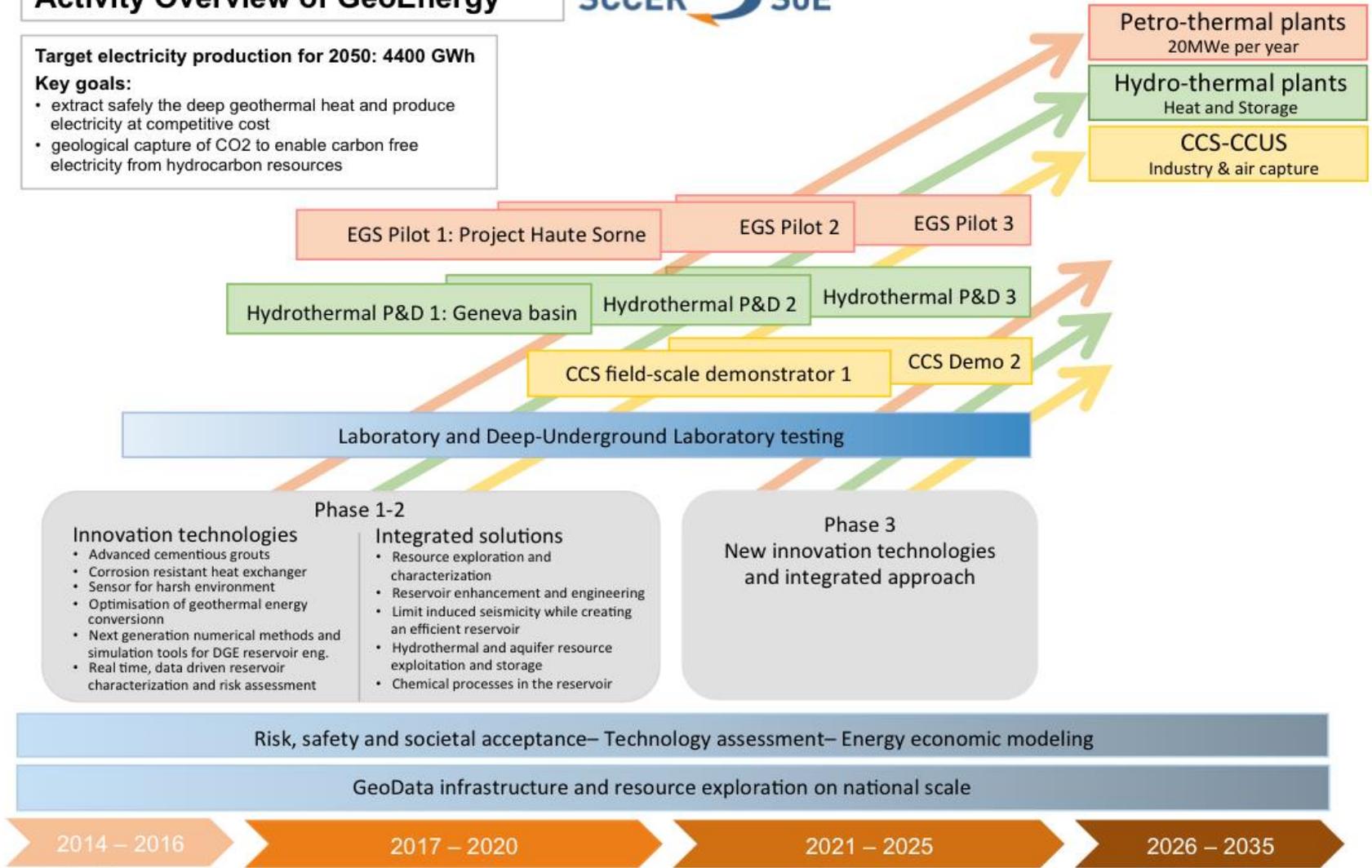


**Target electricity production for 2050: 4400 GWh**

**Key goals:**

- extract safely the deep geothermal heat and produce electricity at competitive cost
- geological capture of CO2 to enable carbon free electricity from hydrocarbon resources

System  
Concept  
Validation  
Prototyping  
Roll-out



# Activity Overview of Hydropower

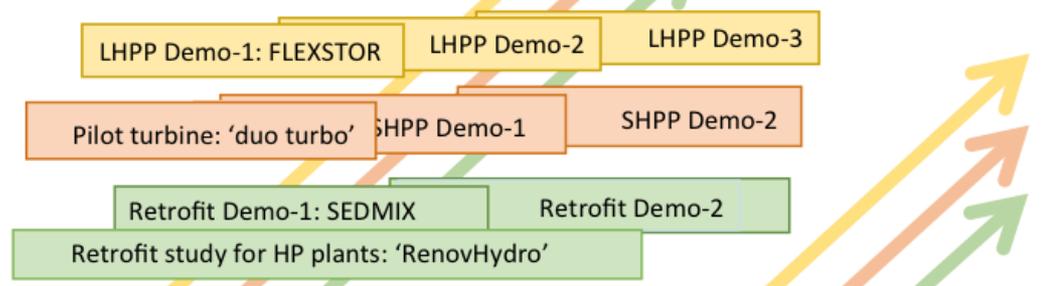


System  
Concept  
Validation  
Prototyping  
Roll-out

### Key goals:

- Increase the HP electricity production under changing demand, climate and operating condition by 3160 GWh (after investment to respect the law for residual water: -1400 GWh)
- Ensure maintenance, improvement and operation of the infrastructure in the long term future

- New Large HP Plants: +1'430 GWh until 2050
- New Small HP plants: +1'600 GWh until 2050
- Retrofit PP: +1'530 GWh until 2050



**Phase 1-2**

**Innovation Technologies**

- Glacier ice thickness survey: new glacier lakes
- Sediment evacuation systems
- Impulse waves assessment and dam safety
- Cascade reservoir flushing concept
- Reduce water losses, friction in water ways
- Optimum environmental flow
- Enhanced operating range hydro units: variable speed, predictive maintenance.
- Energy harvesting micro turbines (*Duo-Turbo*)
- HP design under uncertainties

**Innovative integrated solutions**

- Robust and flexible HP projects
- Increase of operation flexibility at existing HP
- Services to the grid: transient & part load
- Mitigation of cavitation, sedimentation and abrasion
- Safety of steel lined pressure shafts for rough operation
- Intake design for control of air entrainment and floating debris; optimum location for sediment transfer
- Dam heightening : spillways/bottom outlets and structural safety
- Impact of hydro- and thermo-peaking; innovative measures
- Improved environmental flow criteria

**Phase 3**

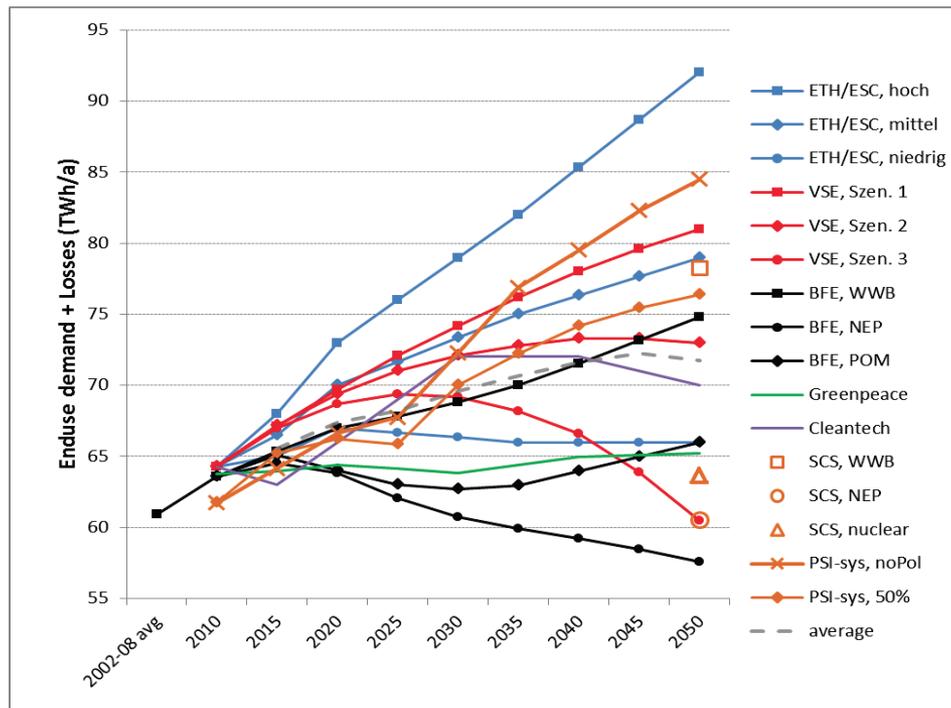
**New innovation technologies and turbine developments**

Forecast modeling of water and sediments with climate change; HP system optimization



# SCCER JA: Scenario & Modeling

- Each SCCER conducts scenario modeling in its field and has dedicated personnel in its program.
- In Phase II, a joint SCCER activity has been initiated to enable further developing and combining different models while preserving the specificity of the individual approaches.
- All SCCER equally involved, with SCCER-SoE lead
- Participation of industry (VSE)

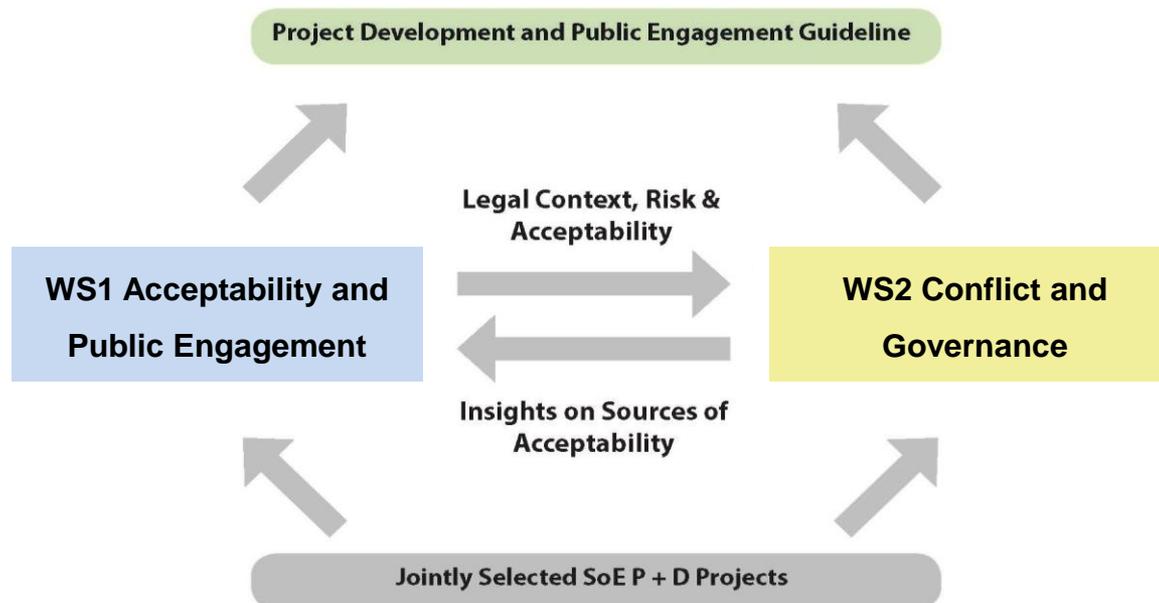


# SCCER JA: Integrated development processes for HP and DGE projects

OBJECTIVES: Provide **recommendations** how

- a. project development processes (public engagement),
- b. the legislative framework,
- c. governance structures

could be enhanced to facilitate the **resolution of conflicts** among stakeholders and thus **reduce project risks**.



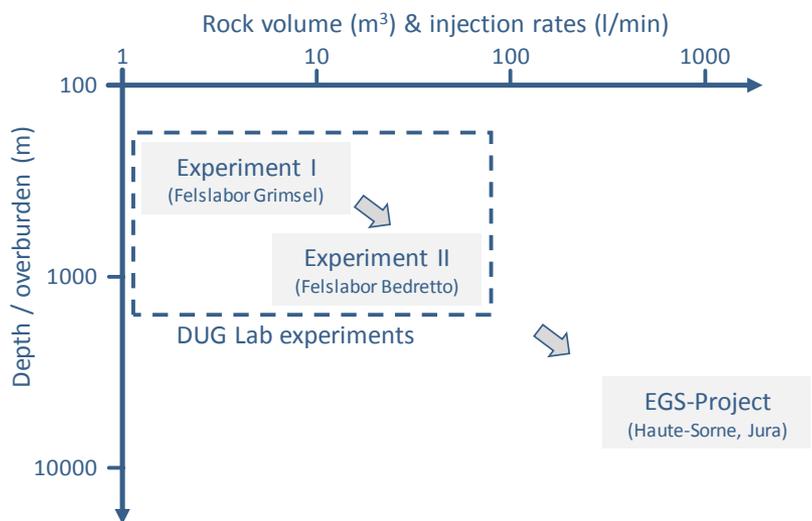


NFP70 started in November 2014 and supports PhDs for the SCCER-SoE implementation. Three cluster projects are involved:

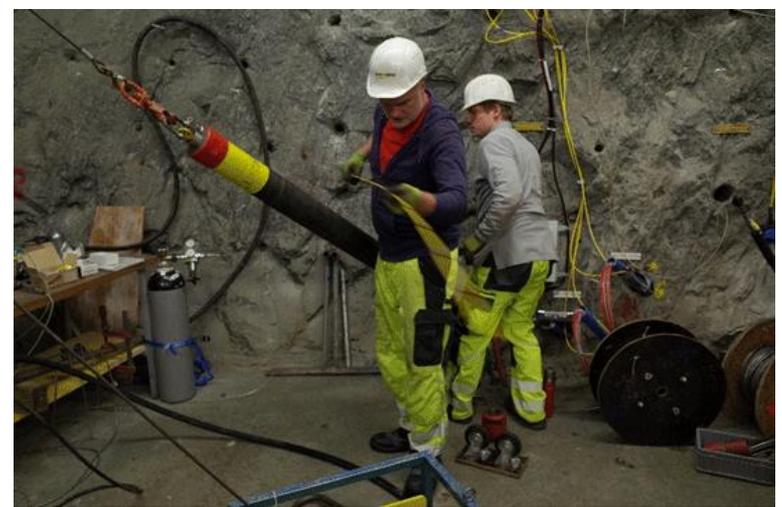
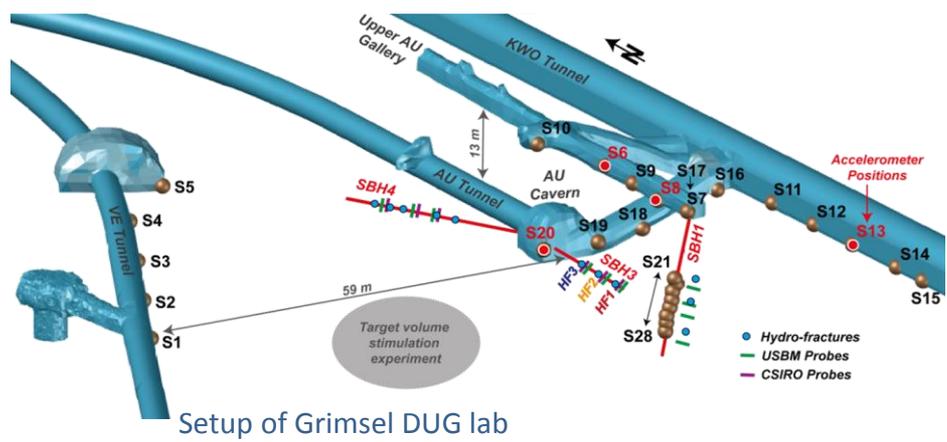
- ✓ **SoE-HPGE (Supply of Electricity – Hydropower and geoenergy)** is a cluster of seven projects supporting 20 PhD students for fundamental R&D in key SCCER-SoE domains (lead SCCER-SoE, budget 4.1M)
  - P1-P2: fundamental research in Geo-Energies
  - P3-P4: development of HydroPower operations and infrastructures
  - P5-P6: future hydropower operations
  - P7: comprehensive risk governance for both HydroPower and GeoEnergies
- ✓ **The future of Swiss HydroPower** develops an integrated assessment of the chances, threats and solutions for future HydroPower utilization and expansion (lead UniBasel, budget 1.2M)
- ✓ **Hydro-ecology and flood-plain sustainability in application** (HyApp; lead EPFL)

# Demo-1: Flagship stimulation experiment in the Deep UnderGround Laboratory

*ETHZ, NAGRA, UniNe*

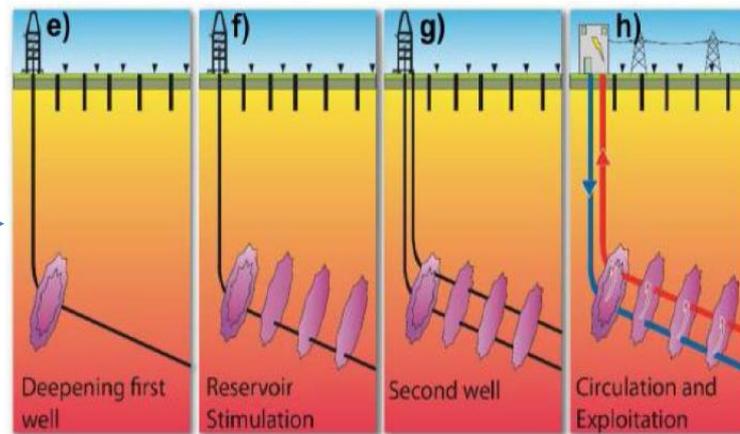
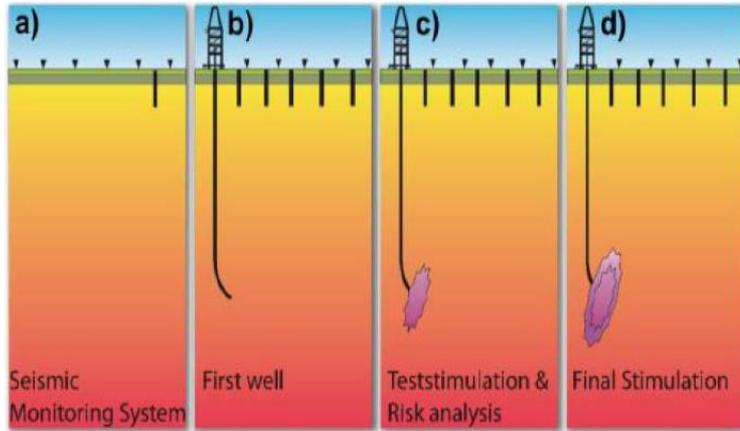


Petrothermal electricity production requires the creation of a fracture network – a geothermal heat exchanger – without triggering felt or damaging earthquakes. The technology of hydraulic stimulation is being developed in a systematic step-wise approach. After successful stimulation tests in the Grimsel DUG lab preparation are underway to scale up testing in the Bedretto tunnel.



# Demo-2: Reservoir engineering for heat exchange in Haute Sorne

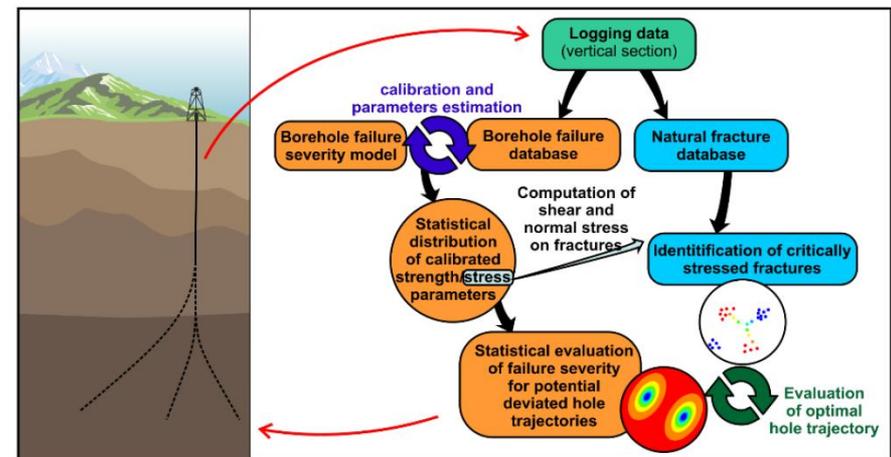
*GeoEnergie Suisse, ETHZ, UniNe*



Single hydraulic injection is not the most efficient way to create permeability while limiting induced microseismicity

Multistage hydraulic stimulation enabled by directional drilling and zonal isolation could be more appropriated.

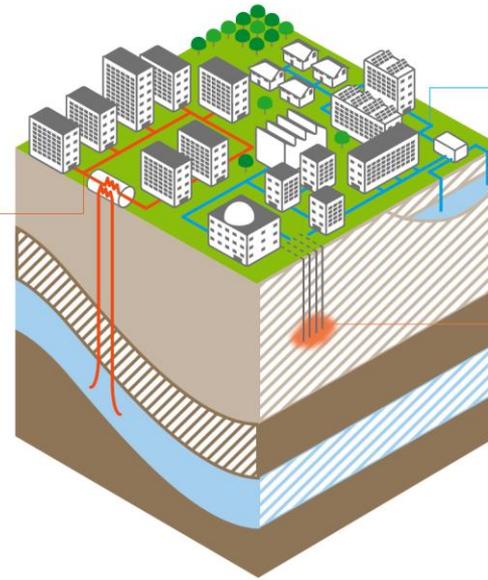
Requires workflow for efficient analyses of data from the vertical well section to minimize risk and optimize trajectory.



# Demo-3: Geneva basin-scale hydrothermal play for heat extraction and storage

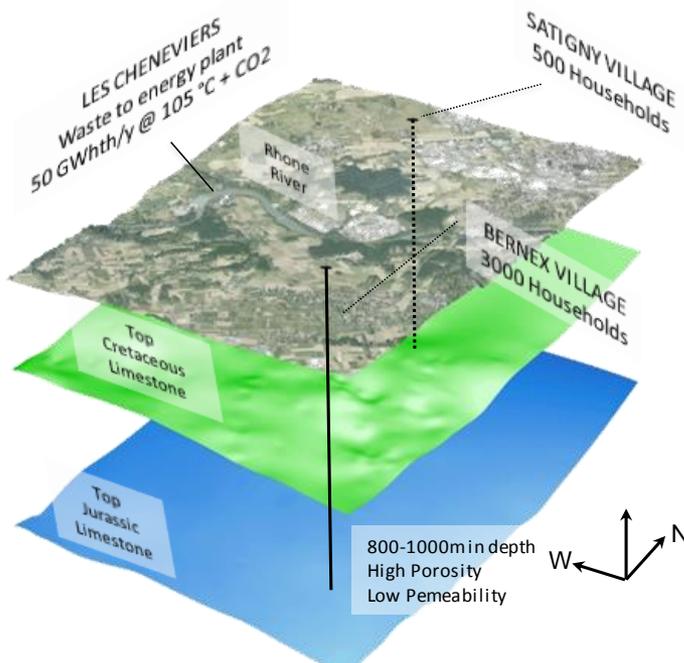
*UniGe, UniBe, SIG*

Medium-deep geothermal can provide heat for direct use, also for older buildings that require higher temperature



Shallow geothermal provides heat or cooling for new buildings using heat pumps. Storage of heat and cold is also possible

The underground – both rocks and aquifers – can be used for thermal energy storage

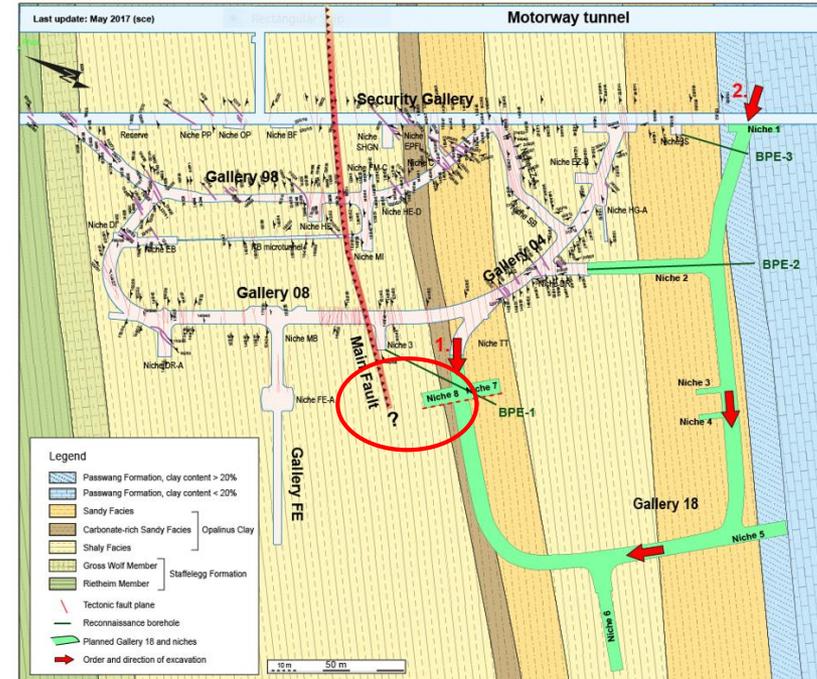
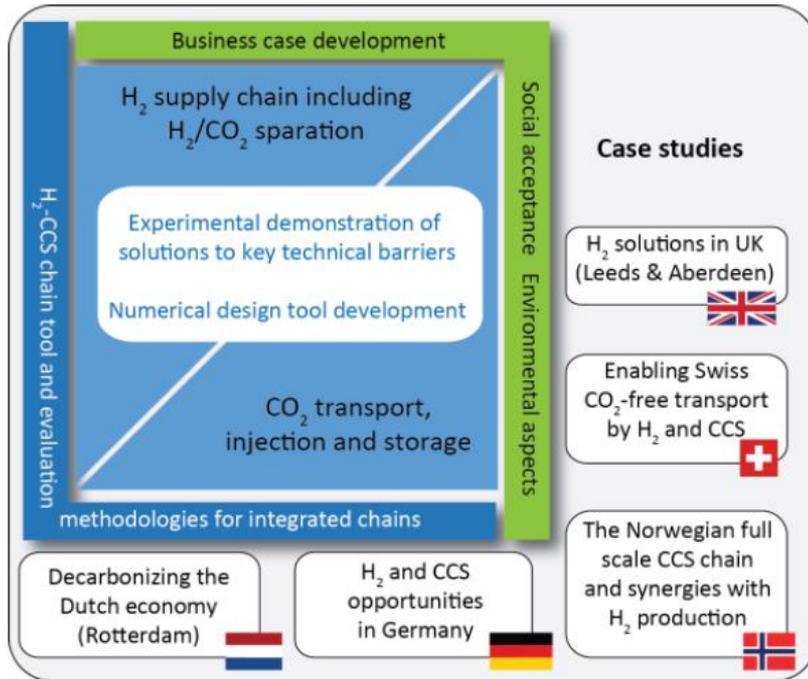


## Demo project: Seasonal heat storage from waste to energy plant

- Exploration wells to be drilled in Q4/2017 and 2018
- Target the Cretaceous limestone located at 800-1000 m depth
- Objectives:
  - Characterize geological and petrophysical anisotropies
  - Increase subsurface knowledge for future extended drilling campaign
  - Industry and University collaboration to optimize positioning of the well
  - Predictive 3D reservoir modelling
  - Economic Assessment of the Heat Storage Potential

# Demo-4: CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage pilot

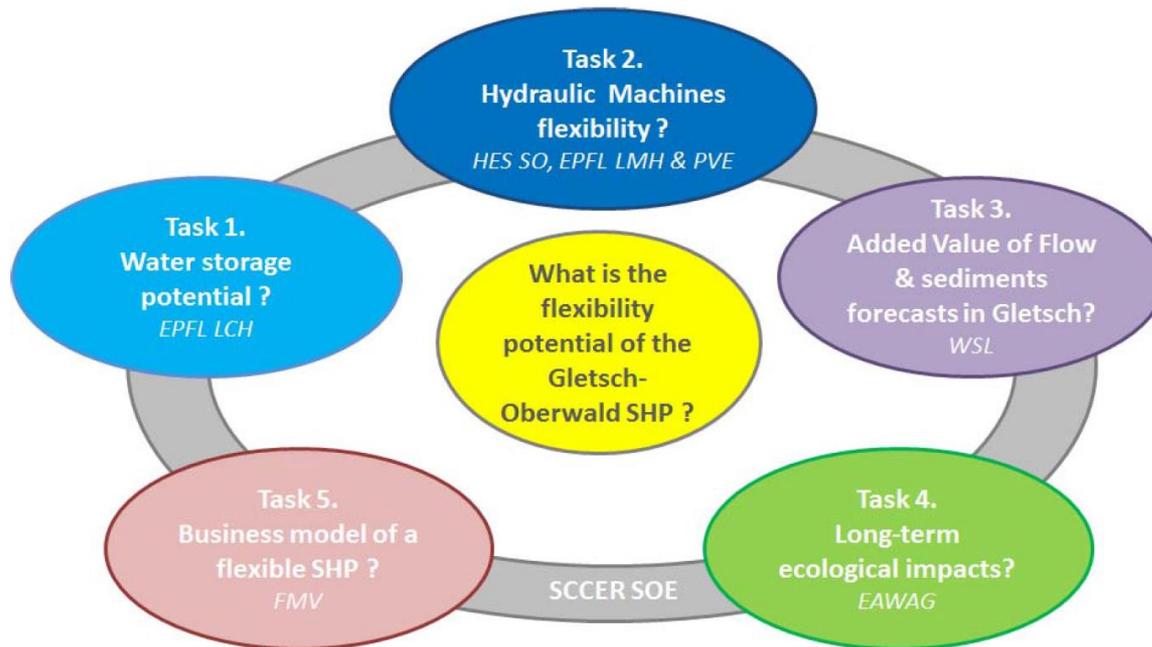
## ETHZ, EPFL, UniGe, UniGE



The SCCER participates in the European ELEGANCY project via a BFE-funded P&D project. The overall mission of ELEGANCY is to provide clean H<sub>2</sub> for heat and mobility based on steam-methane-reforming. CO<sub>2</sub> storage is an essential part of this concept. Underground experiments at the Mt Terri Lab will study the potential CO<sub>2</sub> migration through a fault in the caprock and the effects of fault activation. This is complemented by lab experiments on rock samples, modelling of injection and CO<sub>2</sub> migration and the identification of suitable regions in the Swiss sedimentary basin.

# Demo-5: Small Hydro-Power Plant

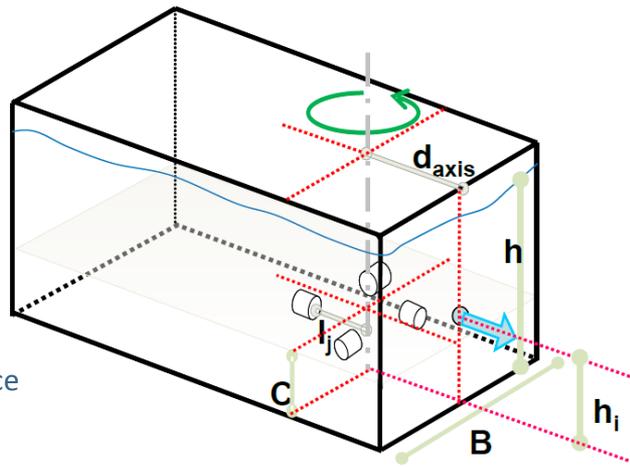
## HESSO, EPFL, eawag, WSL, FMV



- The objective is to show the ability of a small hydropower station to produce clean energy while offering ancillary services
- How can intra-day, intra-week or intra-monthly storage be added?
  - What are the consequences of enlarging the operational range?
  - What is the added-value of meteorological forecasts in terms of power generation and prediction of sediment inflows?
  - What are the consequences of a more flexible operation to the downstream river reach (e.g. hydropeaking)?

# Demo-6: Controlled fine sediment release from a reservoir by a hydrodynamic mixing device

EPFL



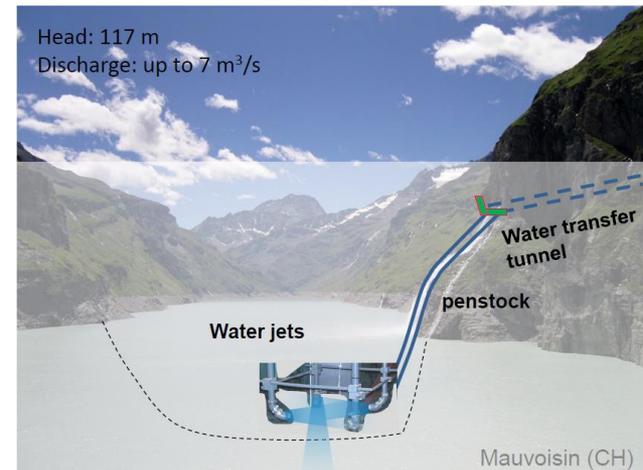
Principle of SEDMIX device

Reservoir sedimentation reduces storage volume and can create safety problems

A stirring device re-suspends fine sediments that can be removed with the flow through the power intakes. The SEDMIX prototype will be tested in the Trift reservoir.



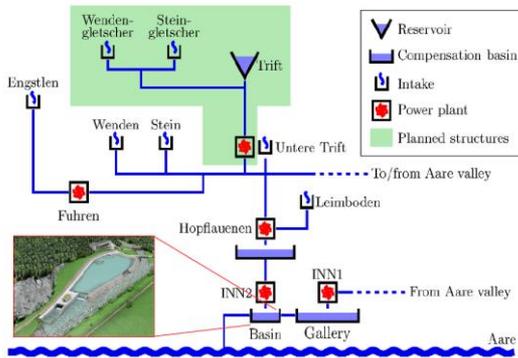
Prototype



Possible implementation

# Demo-7: Complex large hydropower scheme (Flexstor)

EPFL, ETHZ, eawag, WSL, HESSO, KWO

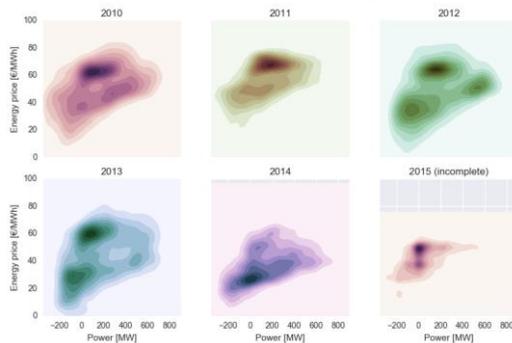


Hydropower projects face new issues linked with operation flexibility and sediment management, impacting their intra-day/annual competitive profile.

The FLEXSTOR projects addresses these issues in a systematic way.

WP1: Minimize hydropeaking impact through optimization of basins and PP schedules

WP2: Quantify impulse waves through small/large scale testing



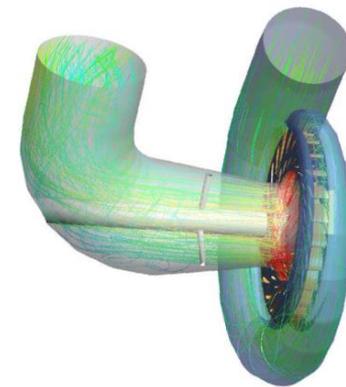
WP3: Optimize storage management under future market/climate scenarios



WP4: Holistic approach to optimize cascade sediment flushing



WP5: Suspended sediment and turbine wear monitoring



WP6: Identify start/stop paths preventing instabilities



**Grimsel, 2015**

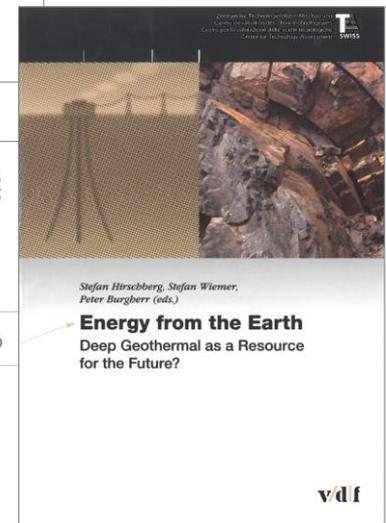
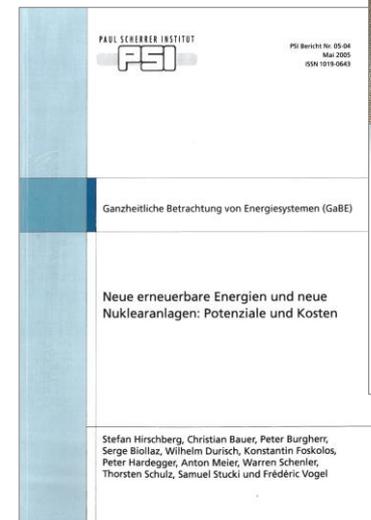
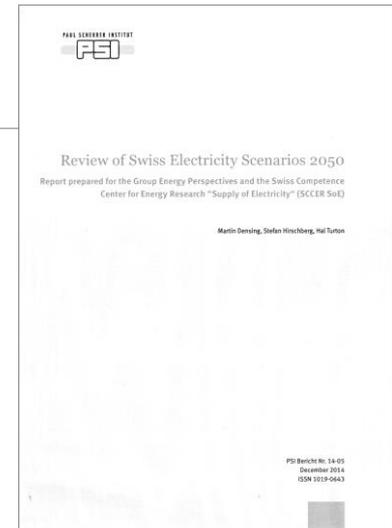
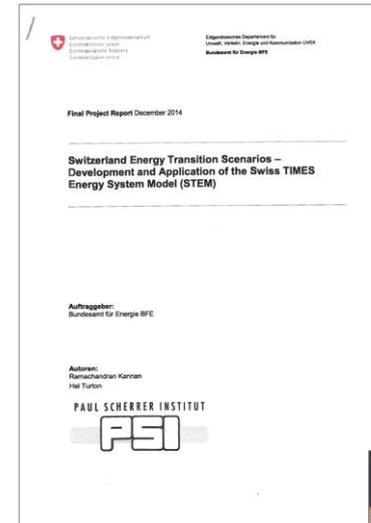
**Leukerbad, 2016**



→ SCCER School on Energy Transition @ Engelberg, 17-20 October 2017

# Technical Reports

- ✓ *Review of Swiss Electricity Scenarios 2050*  
Densing, Hirschberg & Turton, SCCER-SoE, PSI Bericht Nr.14-05, 2014
- ✓ *Switzerland Energy Transition Scenarios*  
Kannan & Turton, PSI, BFE SI/500517-01/8100087, 2014
- ✓ *Energy from the Earth: Deep Geothermal as a Resource for the Future?*  
Hirschberg, Wiemer & Burgherr eds., TA Swiss, DOI 10.3218/3655-8, 2015
- ✓ *Potentiale, Kosten und Umweltbewertung von Stromproduktions-technologien,*  
Hirschberg et al., PSI & SCCER-SoE, exp. fall 2017



# Annual conferences

- ✓ 2015 Neuchatel; 2016 Sion
- ✓ Highly successful, with over 250 participants
- ✓ Interaction with stakeholders: industry, federal offices, policy makers
- ✓ Science presented in posters, building the annual Science Report

## SCCER-SoE Science Report



2015

## SCCER-SoE Science Report



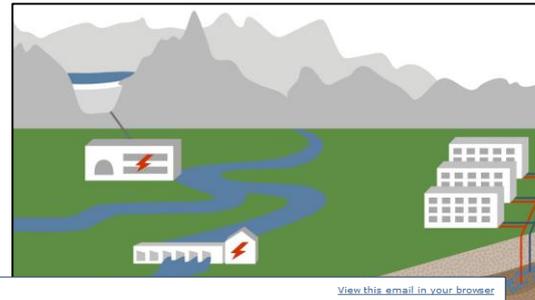
2016

- The Annual Conference 2017, hosted by WSL in Birmensdorf, with over 140 registered posters, promises to be even more successful !

# Communication & Outreach

## Additional activities:

- ✓ New web site, with highlights, news, events
- ✓ Blog, 1/m, 1'500 readers
- ✓ Internal newsletter, 3/yr
- ✓ External newsletter, 3/yr, 400 recipients
- ✓ Brochures, SCCER-SoE flyer, CTI SCCER flyer
- ✓ Media events
- ✓ Media releases



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SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY

In cooperation with the CTI

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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation  
Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI

### Internal Newsletter - December 2016

The year is coming to an end and so do... which began three years ago. But before... second phase with many new projects... holidays including a lot of time to fully r...

### Blog

The SCCER-SoE launched its new blog in order to regularly provide exclusive insights and opinions on current developments in the field of geo-energy and hydropower in Switzerland.

Feel free to recommend our blog to interested people and share the current post on Facebook, Twitter & Co.

#### #6 Geothermal storage for our cities

22 December 2016 - by Ueli Wieland

For thirty years, geothermal probes and heat pumps have provided an effective alternative for heating houses with oil. Switzerland is a frontrunner in this field. I have used a geothermal probe at home for seven years and had nothing but good experiences. Despite their success, the sales of geothermal probes have stagnated for the first time since 2015. This is due to the interference of multiple probes in close proximity. So what now?

[Read more in English](#)  
[Auf Deutsch anschauen](#)  
[Lire plus en français](#)

#### #5 How can we deal with sediments to keep hydropower sustainable?

16 November 2016 - by Robert Boes

Hydropower is the most important source of renewable electric energy worldwide, but it's not uncommon that it has to face a serious challenge: sediments that get deposited in storage lakes or increase the erosion of hydraulic turbines. Many countermeasures can be taken to minimize these negative effects, but they need to be optimized site-specifically. To keep hydropower plants operational for as long as possible, researchers are developing new methods of monitoring sediments in real time, while also expanding their knowledge on how sediments are transported, deposited, and removed and how machinery is subject to sediment-induced wear.

Neues Forschungs-Projekt soll Geothermie salonfähig machen

Donnerstag, 8. September 2016, 9:45 Uhr  
Mirjam Spreiter

Erdbeben oder falsche Annahmen: Die Geothermie in der Schweiz stand bislang unter einem schlechten Stern. Das soll sich jetzt ändern. ETH-Forscher arbeiten im Felslabor Grimsel daran, die Nebenwirkungen der erneuerbaren Energie auf ein zu beschränken.

1:47 min, aus Tagesschau vom 7.9.2016

### Der Zukunft entgegen

...age, die Zukunft gehört den Jungen. Deswegen macht einer von ihnen... takt dieses Newsletters mit einem Bericht über die PhD School in... ad. In der Rubrik, 'Einblick' erfahren Sie mehr über aktuelle... ngsaktivitäten mit grosser Bedeutung für die zukünftige Wasserkraft... s noch junge EU-Projekt DESTRESS, und über das ISC-Projekt im... guter L... ommen...

Programme d'encouragement Energie

L'avenir énergétique.

Hydraulische Stimulationsexperimente mitten im Berg

Dieser Forscher schlägt We...

Erschütternde Erkenntnisse

Des solutions pour la géothermie profonde

Die Suche nach dem Durchbruch bei der Geothermie

# New energy law provides strong support to HP and DGE

| Aujourd'hui   | Dans SE 2050   |
|---|--|
| Garantie de risques pour forages (< 50%)<br>(art. 35 loi sur l'énergie)   | Garantie de risques pour forages (< 60%),<br>intégrant les études préalables<br>(notamment géophysique)    |
|   | Subvention à l'exploration (< 60%),<br>intégrant les études préalables                                     |
| Rétribution à prix coûtant de l'électricité<br>géothermique (40 ct / kWh)   | Idem   |
| Electricité   | Chaleur  |
| Prélèvement de maximum 0,1 ct / kWh<br>électrique vendu (sur 2,3 ct / kWh au total)<br>(art. 38 al.1 loi sur l'énergie) | Max. 30 mio / an, sur la base de la<br>rétrocession financière de la taxe sur le<br>CO2 (sur max. 450 mio) |

→ Approved by Parliament on 30.9.2016, referendum passed in May 2017 !



# Outlook beyond 2020

- ✓ The SCCER program is
  - unique in the Swiss research area, providing the opportunity for focused R&D and integrating all the key strengths and partners from ETHD, UNIES, UAS, industry and Federal Offices
  - complementary to the research programs of SNF, schools, EU
  - successful in reaching the targets
  - working on longer-term roadmaps (to 2025 for SoE)
- ✓ Reaching the 2050 targets will require a continuous effort beyond 2020  
→ The need for coordinated, focused R&D will remain!
- ✓ With the beginning of Phase 2, the strategic evaluation of the SCCER program will be conducted to define strategy, structure, focus and resources for a follow-up program/center/institute/FA beyond 2020.
- ✓ This definition should be completed by early 2018, for inclusion in the Law of Education 2021-2024 → a first meeting should be organized in spring 2017 with all relevant stakeholders: participating schools (ETHD, UNIES, UAS), CTI, SNF, BFE, SCCER Heads.
- ✓ Input from SCCER-SoE Kick-off event