



R&Dialogue

Building a low carbon society together

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DIALOGUE FOR A NEW ENERGY SYSTEM



- Imposing, convincing, explaining or rather having a dialogue?

Building trust

- ➔ Direct interaction of the research community with civil society stakeholders and the population
- ➔ Addressing the need for mutual learning and focused actions to overcome the gaps between scientific objectives and social representations of what a low carbon development entails
- ➔ Creating a new mentality where collaboration prevails over competition, to overcome the most important challenges of our time – see also COP21
- ➔ A culture of dialogue rather than confrontation

Uniting forces of 10 countries with 16 partners

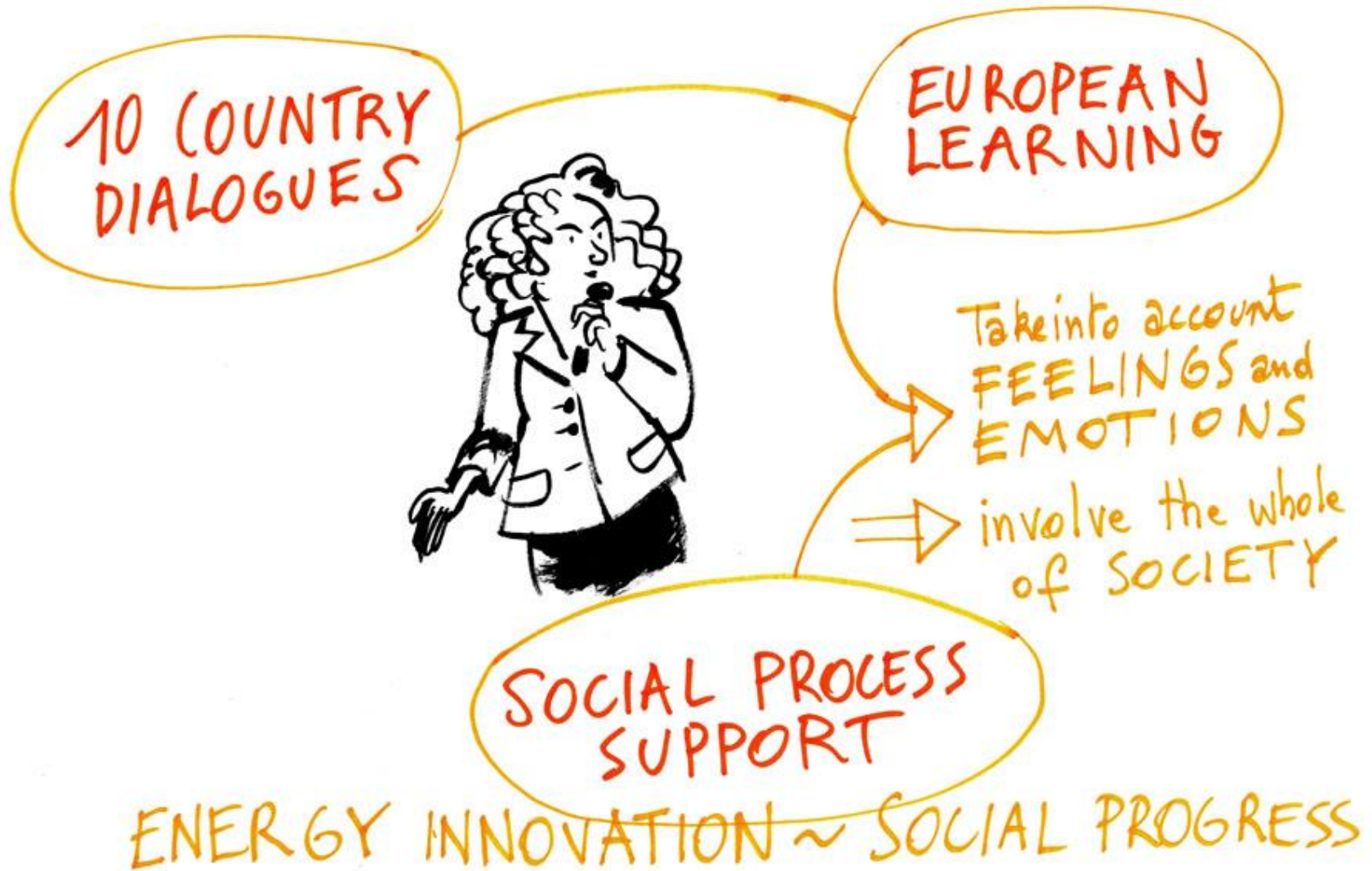


➔ ...of which 5 CO₂GeoNet members

R&Dialogue

- Research and civil society dialogue (at the level of organisations)
- Development of a joint Vision on the development of RES and CCS for a low carbon society
- Experimenting how to improve the energy dialogue and mutual learning in 10 European cultures
- Multistakeholder dialogue (all sectors)
- Psychological approach to the social process: people, relationships and emotions

R&DIALOGUE KEY FEATURES IN SHORT



The Vision for a Low Carbon Society

- ➔ Participative energy evolution
- ➔ Evidence based short/medium/long term planning
- ➔ Integrated European energy system
- ➔ Flexible energy mix

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A vision and action plan for a low-carbon Europe



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Dialogue time

- ➔ It takes a long time before people are in the condition to have a dialogue on the technologies, first they need to discuss the context and strategies
- ➔ A space to discuss energy choices is prior for creating the conditions for discussing the single technologies



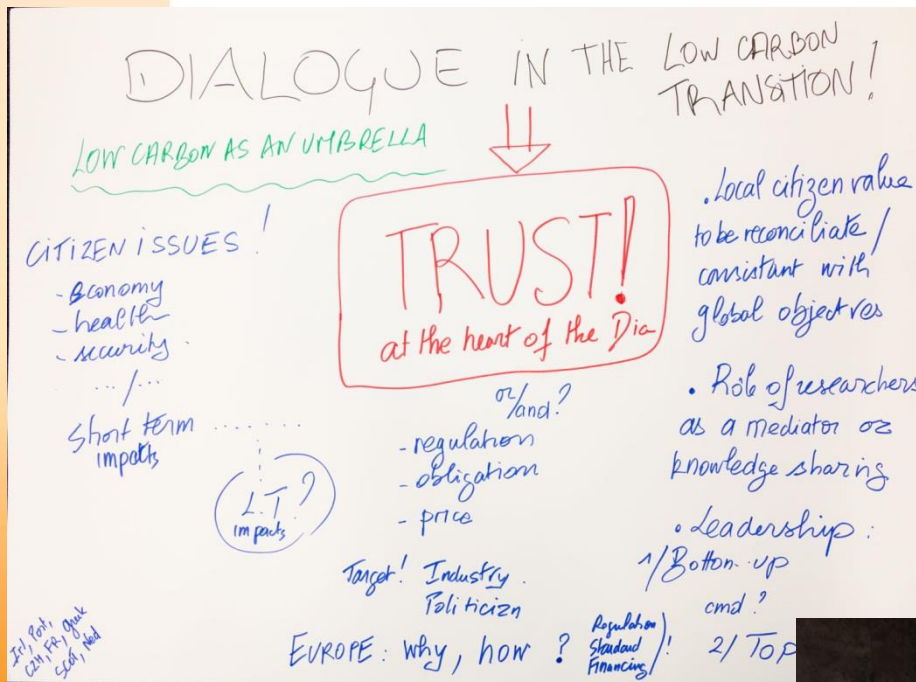
Principles for the energy dialogue (1)

- ➔ Dialogue requires time and should be seen as a long term process which thrives on long term personal commitment: continued participation to a substantial number of meetings



Principles for the energy dialogue (2)

- Common definition of the objectives
- Inclusiveness
- Listening, empathy, participation, interaction...
- Appreciation of every contribution
- Respect of every kind of knowledge and competence
- Protected dialogue spaces
- Transparency, flexibility
- Empathic and creative methods that help dissolve hierarchies of knowledge or power



Empathic and creative social processes...

«Focusing»,
«Nonviolent Communication», «Dragon Dreaming», «Design Thinking», «World Cafè»...



...to connect energy and society



Appropriate methodologies helped both technical and non technical stakeholders get involved in the energy dialogue

Building blocks for the Vision - Actions

- Continue to explore ways to innovate participation, towards the transformation of relationships between decision makers and stakeholders, including the public
- Establish more long term and inclusive multistakeholder dialogues
- Empower participation of all members and sectors of society (training and education)
- Support open discussion of underpinning **values** of energy choices to enable citizens to better understand which ones they want to support
- Promote awareness of direct and embedded energy use
- Preserve and enhance the natural capital through a circular economy

Different and common challenges across stakeholders, countries, themes...

A lot of attention is required to successfully harmonise the different approaches of the stakeholders so to enable a collaboration process



- ➔ **Finding channels of human interconnection** is a very concrete priority for the realisation of the analogous interconnection required for a unified European electricity grid and Energy Union

Integration of dialogue in current practices

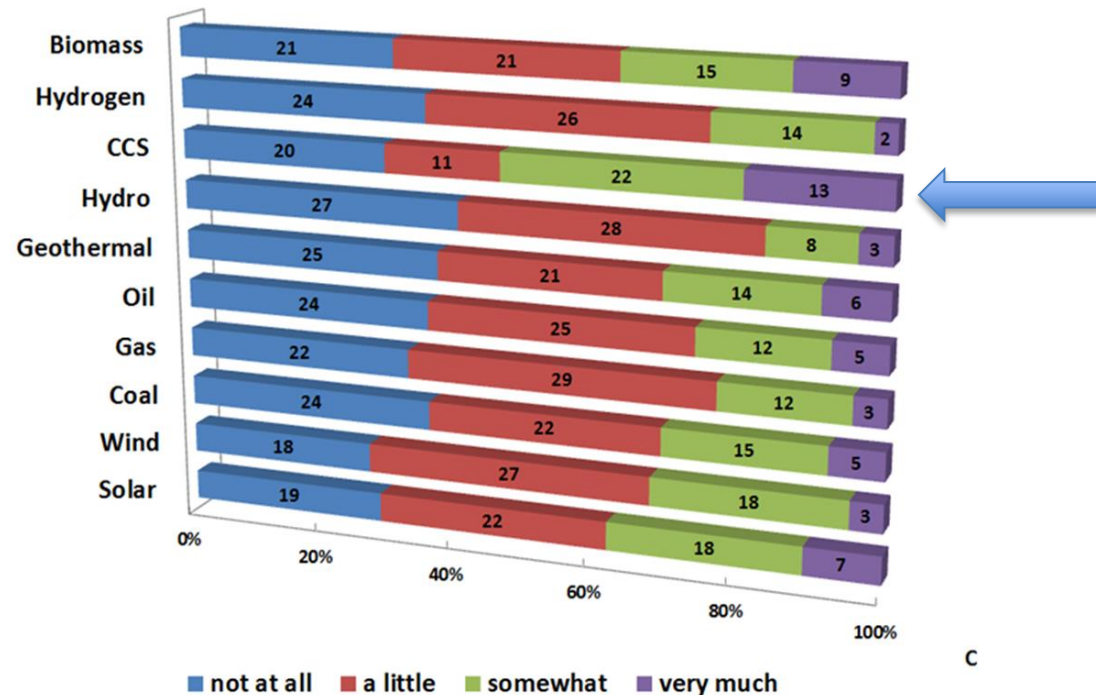
- ➔ Dialogue entails non-competitive and collaborative exchange processes with an open outcome which can be particularly challenging for some stakeholders
- ➔ However, inclusion of dialogue in societal and institutional processes could provide the psychological support needed to better face the complex challenges associated with overhauling the energy system

Identifying different levels and contexts for CCS in the wider energy picture

- Energy context (need to reduce emissions)
- Energy transition context (outphasing fossil)
- Development of renewables context (synergies with RES)
- **Being part of the energy development**
- Remember a space to discuss energy choices is a priority for creating the conditions to discuss the single technologies
- Engaging in dialogue implies that also the technology will get to be better known

Indirect learning

➔ About which of the following technologies did you learn something new during the dialogue action?



Even if technologies were not specifically discussed some learning about technologies took place. CCS ranks first (in the graphic the frequencies of answers for each category)

<http://www.rndialogue.eu/>

10 national Discussion Papers and 10 national Visions for a Low Carbon Society

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European Dialogue Report

Lessons from ten low-carbon dialogues



European Dialogue Report

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R&Dialogue Brochure

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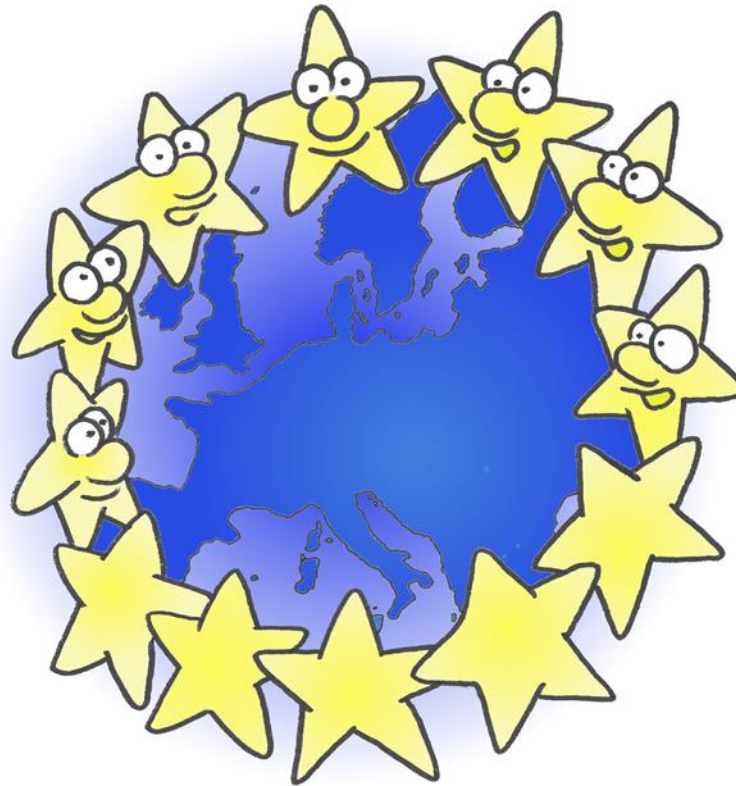
R&Dialogue experience

European Vision

Video: Exploring R&Dialogue
<https://youtu.be/2wazOEa5Jdw>



The «technical» energy Europe needs a better integration with the human side of energy, thus enabling people and stakeholders to be more involved in collaborative energy processes and projects



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