

**Stakeholder Seminar:
"Engaging Civil Society in
the EU Roadmap Process"
Brussels, October 25, 2011**



**Notes of the Session: "Scenario Results & Stakeholder Engagement in Scenarios"
Presentation: Social Acceptance of Renewable Energy Innovations
by Nina Hapl Institute for Economy and the Environment, University of St Gallen**

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Presentation:

- Social acceptance of renewable energy innovations: It is remarkable that in Germany renewable energy investments are 40% private people and 11% farmers, adding up to more than 50%.
- Often social acceptance is the socio-political acceptance, effectively of the decision-makers. The other important parts are community acceptance, and market acceptance. Market acceptance consists of consumers' acceptance and investor acceptance.

Questions and answers:

Q: What is needed to make scenarios happen in real world and how are public protests taken into account?

A: (Eva Schmid): we modeled different renewable energy potentials

A: (Brigitte Knopf): Scientists are not preferring a special scenario, but are describing them

A: (Yves Marignac): We as NGOs can choose the scenario we like. NegaWatt scenarios are based on expertise from people with practical experience in energy renovations and renewable energy. It will be followed by a set of policy proposals to realize the scenarios.

A: Public acceptance will be very important in the future, with requirements of very efficient houses. Studies show that there is a local tendency, kind of cluster. Consumer behavior: some consumers choose investments with long pay-back, which is opposite to presentation. There is a segment of consumers that invest for longer period, a rational segment of consumers.

General remarks/conclusions

It is impossible to conclude on this whole day, but some comments are:

- Scenarios are often very technical and lack descriptions.
- Even more scenarios often miss the issue of public acceptance including local acceptance.

The event was organized as part of the EU FP7 Project: ENCI-LowCarb, European Network engaging Civil Society in Low Carbon Scenarios. Partners are: RAC-France, Germanwatch, INFORSE-Europe, PIK, CIRED. Event's web site, where the presentations can be downloaded: <http://www.lowcarbon-societies.eu/index.php?id=50>