

MILESECURE-2050

Multidimensional Impact of the Low-carbon European Strategy on Energy Security, and Socio-Economic Dimension up to 2050 perspective

e-Newsletter No. 3, October 2014

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At a Glance

Acronym: MILESECURE-2050

Title:

Multidimensional Impact of the Low-carbon European Strategy on Energy Security, and Socio-Economic Dimension up to 2050 perspective

Call id: FP7-SSH-2012-2

Project Number: 320169

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Welcome to the third issue of the MILESECURE-2050 e-Newsletter

MILESECURE-2050 is a FP7 [SSH.2012.2.2-2](#) project funded by the European Commission. It aims to understand and overcome the political, economic and behavioural trends that led Europe to its difficulties in reducing fossil fuel consumption, and in diversifying its energy balance at rates which guarantee European energy security in the next years (2050), reduce the threat of climate change, and diminish the risk of an energy gap in the coming decades.

MILESECURE-2050 examines scenarios using multiple perspectives which extend to 2050. By doing so, the project will evaluate policy initiatives and their long-term impact on energy security. The 2050 timeframe is used to assess the legitimacy and efficacy of policies in terms of the capacity for societies to transition to energy security and also to consider the long-term socio-economic impact of such options.

This will be achieved by a comprehensive analysis of the barriers to more sustainable and secure consumer behaviour towards energy consumption based on surveys and field studies. This in turn will lead to suggestions on the formulation of new policies.

The project already passed its half-way point and there are first results to be presented. Two sections have been completed:

- ❖ [WP1](#): Analysis of energy policies, trends and existing scenarios from the national to the worldwide level;
- ❖ [WP2](#): Analysis of concrete anticipatory experiences on energy transition at the local level

and first steps in [Work package 3](#): *Societal processes for energy transition* have been carried out. MILESECURE-2050 project partners have participated in several **dissemination events** to increase the project visibility, the most significant of which was the Berlin Regional Workshop. In addition, the **MILESECURE-2050 Energy Day** was held on the occasion of the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) along with the Review Meeting and the third Project Management Committee meeting. Two MILESECURE-2050 **Special sessions** took place within the United Nations Bonn Climate Change Conference and the Low Carbon Society Research Network (LCSR-Net) Annual Meeting.

MILESECURE-2050 Consortium

The [Consortium](#) is formed by 4 Universities, 4 Research institutes and 3 SMEs, corresponding to 11 European Partners, as follows:

POLITO – Italy
MUSTS – Netherlands
PLUS – France
USAL – United Kingdom
IEn – Poland
LSC – Italy
ENEA – Italy
JRC – Belgium
ECOLOGIC – Germany
SMASH – France
EnergSys – Poland

Horizon 2020 – recent calls



Full list on the [Participant Portal](#).

EE7-2014/2015

Enhancing the capacity of public authorities to plan and implement sustainable energy policies and measures

Deadline: **04.06.2015**

EE9-2014/2015

Empowering stakeholders to assist public authorities in the definition and implementation of sustainable energy policies and measures

Deadline: **04.06.2015**

EE10-2014/2015

Consumer engagement for sustainable energy

Deadline: **04.06.2015**

EE14-2014/2015

Removing market barriers to the uptake of efficient heating and cooling solutions

Deadline: **04.06.2015**

LCE21-2015

Modelling and analysing the energy system, its transformation and impacts

Deadline: **05.05.2015**.

Three dimensions of human energy

An innovative concept of energy has been developed within the framework of the MILESECURE-2050 project. In line with Teilhard de Chardin and Amitai Etzioni's proposal several decades ago, we use a holistic approach to integrate energy forms into an overall concept of "human energy" to meet the challenge of energy security, which requires major social investments and equally significant personal involvement. This extends beyond a purely technological and temporally limited horizon expressed as a current EC concern about energy as the role of the human factor in the energy systems. Human energy can be conceived as the milieu in which different energy dimensions interact. In addition to the traditional extrasomatic energy, we can include, as a requirement of the milieu dimensions of social energy and endosomatic or personal energy. Therefore, human energy is a three dimensional phenomenon where:

- ❖ **Social energy** includes different forms of social activism that bring together, coordinate, and orient toward social actors' energy transition goals;
- ❖ **Endosomatic** (or personal) energy originates directly from the body and has the capacity to effect profound changes at the personal level in one's daily actions and convictions, in view of a more sustainable lifestyle;
- ❖ **Extrasomatic** energy is characterized by the use of natural resources through the adoption of equipment, technology or machinery, using all energy sources, whether carbon or low carbon.

This three-dimensional articulation of human energy enables us to grasp the effective embedding of "social" and "technical" aspects of the management of energy systems in transition, enabling a full understanding of the relevance of the human factor.

Macroregional geopolitics of energy security

After 18 months of activity, MILESECURE-2050 researchers successfully completed the first two sections of the project. The first one had three main objectives: (i) to provide a key-grid of policies, trends and scenarios concerning energy security and low carbon transition that Europe is experiencing and is likely to experience; (ii) to assess the geographical differentiation among member states in pursuing European policies and objectives towards a low carbon society and (iii) to explore different geopolitical scenarios and spatial tensions originating in investments in new technologies, infrastructures and politico-economic alliances.

These objectives informed a preliminary review of the various related concepts i.e. safety, security, resilience, risk, vulnerability, etc. – to develop a robust methodological and conceptual framework on which to build further "analysis of energy security policies, trends, and existing scenarios from the national to global level". This activity resulted in the preparation of a first partial Report on key methodological approaches in multidimensional analysis' that highlights the need for a systemic approach in tackling energy security issues, the various links existing between energy savings and energy security and the complementarity between economic and behavioural aspects of energy analysis. The report provided a detailed description of the evolution of energy policies at the supranational level since the origins of the European Union, and a review of the main trends that permeate ongoing international debates thus bridging the gap between the proposed systemic perspective on energy security and the different phases of policy-making.

Having taken stock of the existing knowledge of energy security and European energy policy, the project partners critically reviewed the most prominent long term modelling exercises with a focus on integrated modelling assessment, as identified in the first activity. Given the extent of the field, the research team focussed on models developed since the fourth IPCC Assessment Reports published in 2007. The "[Report on global and macro regional key trends and scenarios](#)" (Deliverable 1.2) provides an overview of the potential macro-regional future energy scenarios for different world macro-regions, showing that the complexity of social dynamics and transition patterns towards a low carbon society are not fully addressed by the existing Integrated Assessment models. Building on this evidence, the document provides new perspectives to assess the interdependencies between climate policies and the complexity of transition patterns and energy security issues and, constitutes a first crucial step in the development of an innovative modelling framework that will be at the heart of future project activities.

The analysis of existing macro-regional future energy scenarios provided the framework for subsequent activities, allowing the project team to narrow down the geographical focus of

Upcoming Events

Energy related events

October 8-10, 2014

7th International Scientific Conference on "Energy and Climate Change"

Athens (GR)

The event is set under the auspices of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation organization (BSEC) as it happened in all past years. The Conference aims at promoting the Green Economy issue and following its structure to bring together members and representatives from the scientific community, governmental authorities, members of parliaments, market stakeholders, banking officers and representatives from international and regional organizations.

October 28-31, 2014

14th IAEE European Energy Conference

Rome (IT)

The Conference will discuss all the issues related to European policy and its new perspectives in 8 plenary and 40 concurrent sessions that will be organized by the AIEE - Italian Association of Energy Economists and IAEE - International Association for Energy Economics, in cooperation with the Guido Carli Free International University for Social Studies - LUISS, which will host this conference.

December 11-12, 2014

7th SET Plan Conference 2014

Rome (IT)

The 7th Conference of the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan) will be organised by ENEA under the auspices of the Italian Presidency of the Council of the EU. The conference will serve as a forum for experts, researchers, producers, stakeholders and representatives of national and EU institutions to discuss future development of the SET Plan.

the analysis to the European Union. The results of a thorough analysis of the geographies of energy security in the EU and member states were used to provide a preliminary assessment of the main contemporary trends in both European and national energy policies. The resulting partial report illustrates a review of European policies and strategies for a low carbon society, their implications on environmental and energy policies, and on national and continental performances. These are interpreted in the context of a geographical analysis of current energy situations and trends at the EU level with a specific focus on three national case studies: Germany, Italy, and Poland.

The definition of an EU framework of energy strategies and policies provides a basis for the last activity of the first part of the research. Here the research team scaled up the analysis to reflect on the macro-regional geopolitics of energy security and the potential tensions that could involve Europe in the global scenario. The analysis focussed on the macro-regional geopolitics of energy security and on key renewable energy mega-projects that are currently under consideration. It addresses potential geopolitical tensions around global energy in particular the availability of stable and sustainable energy sources, the global competition for energy sources, and the trend towards exhaustion of fossil fuels. All these elements are crucial in global geopolitics, and many scholars have suggested that we are entering a 'new' energy world order in which a country's energy surplus (or deficit) is a significant contributor to determining its position in the global world-system.

Main findings

This first set of activities provided a number of interesting results that form a sound foundation for the MILESECURE-2050 research team's future analysis. Key outputs are:

- ❖ the development of a comprehensive conceptual review of the various energy security approaches and methodologies for the analysis of energy systems,
- ❖ the provision of a critical assessment of the main long term macro-regional scenarios, in particular the synergies and trade-offs between environmental, economic and social issues involved in phenomena related to climate change and energy security,
- ❖ a thorough analysis of the implications and consequences of the potential transformations of energy systems in the context of energy security that informs some methodological perspectives and requirements for modelling synergies and trade-offs between climate policies and energy security issues at a global and regional levels,
- ❖ a comparison of the data, interpretations and comments presented by the main international organizations (such as IPCC, UN, Eurostat, IEA, EIA, etc.) through the lenses of the most significant energy strategies and policies developed by the EU and the member states,
- ❖ the development of qualitative maps and synthetic geographical representations of the key phenomena that characterise current EU energy security, highlighting strategic development zones, key corridors and functional-energetic macro-regions, and foreseeing the possible impact that the completion of specific renewable energy mega-projects may have on the current situation.

Overall, one could argue that the systemic approach to the analysis of energy security and climate change policies constitutes the first natural step towards the development of an effective methodology for assessing trade-offs and synergies while accounting for the plethora of technologies, processes, policies and actors that make up the global energy system. This result has been possible through the reflective integration of the contributions and expertise of the heterogeneous but cohesive MILESECURE-2050 research team and its various geographic, geopolitical and sociological approaches, technical knowledge and modelling expertise.

Comparative case studies

The MILESECURE-2050 project includes a comparative study across Europe of a set of "anticipatory experiences" (i.e. local experiences already experimenting, at least partially, on energy transition process). The approach considers the anticipatory experiences as energy systems in transition and then as social systems within which energy management is considered primarily as a social world process. This method is theoretically based on the concept of human energy articulated in three dimensions: extra somatic, endosomatic or personal, and social (see section above "The three dimensions of the human energy").

February 26-27, 2015

The 2015 Energy Transitions Conference

Joensuu (FIN)

The 2015 International and European energy law and policy conference "ENERGY TRANSITIONS" is organized by the University of Eastern Finland (UEF), in cooperation with the Centre for Climate Change, Energy and Environmental Law (CCEEL), ELRF and PEEER. The planned sessions include:

- developments in EU energy law and policy
- shale gas: regulatory developments
- upstream petroleum in Europe and internationally
- low carbon energy: renewable energy and nuclear energy - international energy disputes
- energy finance: recent issues and challenges

June 30 – July 3, 2015

11th International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE)
Leeds (UK)

The conference is organised by an interdisciplinary team from the School of Earth and Environment, School of Geography, and Leeds University Business School. Under the banner of „Transformations“, the themes of the conference include: post-growth economics; natural resources, ecosystem services and environmental quality; development, consumption and well-being; new business models and understandings of human behaviour; and theory, methods and practice of ecological economics.

23 anticipatory experiences have been analysed in depth, and key findings are summarised:

- ❖ Energy Transition entails a profound change: all anticipatory experiences consciously evidence a profound effect on their local realities in technological, organizational, social and personal terms. The depth of the changes is manifested, mostly, in the acute awareness that promoter groups have of the risks associated with both global and local dynamics, in the complex balances established between the different dimensions of human energy, and a mostly critical attitude towards the ways in which modern societies are organized (both generally and in terms of energy management). These positions lead to the emergence of phenomena, such as the adoption of innovative approaches and the structuring of new social configurations, which almost always lead to often radical changes in personal behaviour, the passionate participation of citizens and the emergence of charismatic leadership.
- ❖ This deep change generate a state of stress: This can be seen in the conflicts that occur within promoter groups and the social tensions between them and external parties (real estate agents, professionals, government agencies and other environmental movements), as well as forms of dissonance with the surrounding reality (e.g., rules and regulations) and friction as a result of personal resistances to change (e.g., in lifestyles).
- ❖ Therefore, a risk regime to control socio-cultural stress is needed: tensions and conflicts linked to the situation of stress are managed through a series of continuous, coordinated and simultaneous actions, such as active participation in decision making; the use of negotiation; the action of continuous communication; the strategy of institutionalization. These actions involve people as the protagonists of energy transition, and not as mere receptors. We can call this set of actions, all related to the social dimension of energy, as the "cybernetic (or self-regulatory) function".
- ❖ Despite the existence of this important risk management "regime", there still remain external threats to anticipatory experiences that endanger the local energy system and vulnerability factors inherent in anticipatory experiences that weaken the local energy system from within. Altogether, 33 types of obstacles were identified, all affecting transition dynamics and consisting of:
 - 10 external threats that endanger the local energy system (such as lack of economic/financial resources, international and national regulations that oppose/do not facilitate transition, political conflicts, movements opposed to transition, lack of maintenance networks, etc.), four of which are recurring and 6 non-recurring;
 - 23 vulnerability factors inherent in anticipatory experiences that weaken the local energy system from within (e.g., conflicts between promoters, lack of professional/technical skills among officials/experts, local bureaucracy, citizens unwilling to change their energy consumption behaviour, technical inadequacies inherent in AEs, deficiencies in maintenance, deficiencies in technical assistance, etc.), seven of which are recurring and 16 non-recurring.
- ❖ Two additional main findings can be highlighted from the comparative analysis of the anticipatory experiences:
 - a new link between the body and reality: energy transition happens simultaneously in the activation of repositioning of individuals in the context of a new energy (and social) system where the relationship between body and reality is changed;
 - a local incorporation of the energy system: in energy transition the technologies for producing, consuming and moving energy became closer and more visible, and a new covenant between people and the environment requires people to develop direct control over their energy system.

Societal processes for energy transition

The MILESECURE-2050 Consortium has honed in its research efforts on the key drivers and barriers in a post-carbon energy transition. Work currently underway will tie together the MILESECURE-2050 research already conducted on energy policies, trends, and scenarios at the macro level, and the analysis of anticipatory experiences at the local level. This new research will focus on knowledge gaps not covered by previous analyses and continue to explore societal factors that influence processes related to energy transition. Once the

MILESECURE-2050 Project planned events

February 17, 2015

1st MILESECURE-2050 International Seminar Rome (IT)

The International Conference entitled the "European Societies Facing the Energy Transition" will be jointly organized by LSC and ENEA with the aim of presenting and discussing the results of the first research outcomes from the MILESECURE-2050 European Project. The Seminar will consist of two sessions, namely:

- "The Human Factor in the Energy Transition"
- "Models and Scenarios Towards 2050"

February 18, 2015

Rome Regional Workshop Rome (IT)

The workshop will be focused on the presentation of the results of WP3 (societal processes analysis) and the ongoing activities of model development (WP4).

Special Sessions

July 13-17, 2015

AESOP 2015 Congress Prague (CZ)

MILESECURE – 2050 research team aims to organise a special session devoted to the project during the 2015 Annual Congress of the Association of European Schools of Planning Annual Congress. The session hosted within Track n.9 "Planning in support of sustainable energy futures" will be a follow-up of MILESECURE – 2050 results presentation on the occasion of the XXVII AESOP Congress that took place in Utrecht (NL) from 9 to 12 July 2014.

crucial societal factors are identified, the focus will shift to identifying the most relevant options for inducing the societal processes that could trigger energy transition.

Ecologic Institute is currently coordinating this cluster of work, which is uncovering the overlap between top-down and bottom-up factors in energy transition. The research process will use focus groups and expert interviews that give practitioners, policy makers, researchers, and other stakeholders the opportunity to articulate their perspectives on the central drivers and barriers for societal energy transformation. These inputs and the forecasting methodology will provide a qualitative narrative on energy transition, which can inform further modelling work for the project.

Key insights on drivers and barriers in energy transition include:

- ❖ Sequencing: to an extent, certain drivers and barriers may trigger the emergence of, or strengthen others;
- ❖ Top-down: Incentive schemes, legal frameworks, and economic instruments are considered to be the most important drivers of energy transition among experts;
- ❖ Bottom-up: Civilian engagement in energy transition processes is considered a key trigger and is often a prerequisite for creating fertile local conditions

Dissemination events

First Regional Workshop – Berlin

The first of four planned regional workshops took place on 17th September 2014 in the Wasserturm, a renovated water tower, at EUREF Campus, Berlin. The workshop Research for a Post-Carbon Future explored how energy transformation policy objectives are developed, how key drivers and barriers play a role in successful transitions, and how progress can be monitored during the societal change.

The conference showcased the state-of-the-art in socio-economic research by presenting three separate European Commission-funded projects investigating the European energy transformation, namely MILESECURE-2050, POCACITO and CECILIA 2050.

Three moderated sessions, with active participation of the audience were held:

Where do we want to go?

Setting course: the macro-level perspective, how are decarbonisation strategies developed and what contributions can be made from research?

The panel discussion, moderated by Matthias Duwe, Head of Climate, Ecologic Institute with presentations on:

- ❖ "The role of climate policy instruments at the international level" – Michael Mehling, Executive Director, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR)
- ❖ "Translating objectives into policy – insights from CECILIA2050" – Benjamin Görlach, Head Economics and Policy Assessment, Ecologic Institute
- ❖ "What elements make climate targets effective?" – Sabrina Schulz, Head of Berlin Office, E3G - Third Generation Environmentalism

How do we get there?

Barriers and Drivers in Society: structural, social, and cultural dimensions in the energy transition.

The panel discussion, moderated by Prof. Erik Bichard, Professor in Regeneration & Sustainable Development (University of Salford), with presentations on:

- ❖ "How social innovation (em)powers transition" – Prof. Derk Loorbach, Director Dutch Research Institute for Transitions (DRIFT), Erasmus University Rotterdam
- ❖ "The human factor in energy transition" – Dr. Gabriele Quinti, Laboratory of Citizenship Science



Past Events

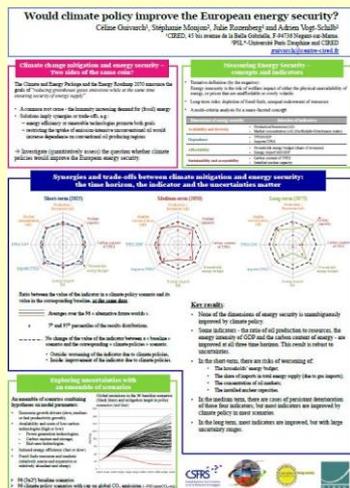
MILESECURE-2050 Poster Sessions

June 28 – July 2, 2014

WCERE 2014

Istanbul (Turkey)

The fifth World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists is a main forum for environment and resource economists around the world. The findings of a study conducted with the IMACLIM model on the energy security issues in Europe partly supported by the MILESECURE project were presented in a poster session dedicated to Climate issues. Poster presentation by: Guivarch C., Monjon, S., Vogt-Schilb, A (SMASH)., titled “*Would climate policy improve the European energy security?*”.



September 3-4, 2014

BEHAVE Energy Conference Oxford (UK)

Co-hosted by the [Energy Saving Trust](#) and [UK Energy Research Centre \(UKERC\)](#), BEHAVE 2014 is the third European conference on behaviour and energy efficiency. This year's theme was “Paradigm Shift: From Energy Efficiency to Energy Reduction through Social Change” and explored how energy efficiency can be achieved through social behavioural change. Giovanni Caiati (LSC) and Adam Pearson

- ❖ “*Bringing together top-down and bottom-up approaches*” – Prof. Patrizia Lombardi, Head of the Interuniversity Department of Urban and Regional Studies and Planning (DIST), Politecnico di Torino
- ❖ “*The importance of cultural values in the transition: insights from adaptation*” – Dr. Grit Martinez, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute



How we know how we are doing?

Progress in the real world: science-based monitoring and measuring achievements in the transition at different levels.

The panel discussion, moderated by Anke Herold, Research Coordinator International Climate Policy, Öko Institut – Institute for Applied Ecology, with presentations on:

- ❖ “*Tracking transition at the European level*” – Paul McAleavey, Head of Air & Climate Change Programme, European Environment Agency (EEA)
- ❖ “*Performance monitoring in the covenant of mayors and at different levels of EU governance*” – Dr. Silvia Rivas-Calvete, European Commission Joint Research Centre
- ❖ “*Progress at the city level: an inventory approach*” – Prof. Dr. Kristine Kern, University of Potsdam and Leibniz Institute for Regional Development and Structural Planning (IRS)
- ❖ “*A post-carbon city index*” – Max Grünig, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute

The conference was closed by R. Andreas Kraemer Director of Ecologic Institute with a concluding speech on the imperatives for supporting a sustainable future.

MILESECURE-2050 Energy Day – Brussels

The first **Project Review Meeting** was organized in Brussels on 23rd - 24th June 2014 with the participation of the European Union Project Officer Domenico Rossetti di Valdalbero. The meeting was held at the ENEA Headquarters in coordination with the [Project Management Committee \(PMC\)](#) and Steering Committee (SC) Meeting. Taking advantage of the contemporaneity of the [EU Sustainable Week](#) (EUSEW, 23-27 June 2014), a special [MILESECURE-2050 Energy Day](#)



was organized by the Consortium partners to present the outcomes of the project to a large European audience.



Steve Curwell (Heys Environmental Consultants Ltd - UK). At the conclusion of the event, the Engerati network (www.engerati.com) interviewed Giancarlo Cotella (POLITO) on the meaning and contents of the MILESECURE-2050 project. The interview is available [on-line](#).

Two presentations summarised the main findings from the first part of the project: Giancarlo Cotella (POLITO) presented “*The Energy Security Trends and Strategies in the European Territorial Cohesion*”, and Gabriele Quinti (LSC) illustrated the role of “*The Human Factor in Energy Transition*”.

The subsequent discussion panel included European experts: Dr. Walter Wehrmeyer (Centre for Environmental Strategy, University of Surrey), Prof. Evasio Lavagno, (Politecnico di Torino) and Prof.

(ECOLOGIC) presented the poster titled “*The role of behaviours in Energy Transition: The holistic approach of Human Energy*” (Caiati G, Quinti G, Pearson A.).

September 29 - October 1, 2014

LET'S Conference

Bologna (IT)

Leading Enabling

Technologies for Societal

Challenges is an international

Conference organized in the

context of the Italian Presidency

of the Council of the EU, with the

Patronage of the Ministry of

Education, University and

Research, the Ministry of

Economic Development and the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and

supported by EU Funding for

Research and Innovation.

A poster showing the ongoing

MILESECURE-2050 research

project was presented by

POLITO Team.

UNFCCC SB40 Side Event – Bonn

Ecologic was welcomed to deliver a side event on “*European Union Climate and Energy Policy - Tradeoffs and Synergies*” on the occasion of the **UN Climate Change Conference (SB40)**, part of the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** that ran from June 5th to June 16th in Bonn, Germany. The **Special session** held on 14th June 2014 combined research output from MILESECURE-2050 and another project Ecologic Institute is involved in, CECILIA 2050.

The Ecologic speakers delivered the following presentations:

- ❖ European Union climate and energy policy – trade-offs and synergies
- ❖ Mitigating climate change and securing energy supply – large scale renewables projects vs. decentralized local approaches
- ❖ How does the current EU climate policy mix perform?
- ❖ The social dimension of large-scale renewable energy projects in North Africa and potential means for EU climate and energy policy.

LCS-R Net 6th Annual meeting – Rome

The **Low Carbon Society Research Network** Annual Meeting was held in Rome on 1-2 October 2014. Within the Parallel Session 3-2 entitled “*Building consensus to support climate change policies: genuine public engagement & bottom up local low carbon initiatives*” a slot was reserved to the MILESECURE-2050 project, with the participation and a presentation by Project Coordinator Patrizia Lombardi.

The next issue of the MILESECURE – 2050 e-Newsletter will be released in February 2015. Information about upcoming energy and project events and final results from the Work package 3 “Societal processes for energy transition” will be presented. In-depth analysis of our model development will be also provided.

We invite you to subscribe to our newsletter and stay updated on the latest project developments by clicking [here](#).

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