



**Cities TCP**  
Decarbonising Cities & Communities

15<sup>TH</sup> IEA  
HEAT PUMP  
CONFERENCE

VIENNA 2026

MAY 26-29, 2026  
HOFBURG, VIENNA

DECARBONISATION  
THROUGH  
INNOVATION



# HOW CAN THE HEAT PUMP COMMUNITY HELP CITIES IN THEIR MUNICIPAL HEAT PLANNING AND THEIR ENERGY TRANSITION?

Workshop @ IEA Heat Pump Conference 2026

Ingo Leusbrock (AEE INTEC)

# OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

## Why are we here? What do we want to achieve?

- Foster exchange between cities (and related stakeholders) and the more technical / R&D “heat pump community”
- Raise awareness on the actual needs of cities on what is important for cities to know to make good decisions concerning heat pump usage
- Bridge the gap between “engineer-ish” and “city-ish”
- **Possible results of the workshop**
  - Raised awareness and some eye-openers for everyone involved
  - New contacts
  - Potential follow-up ideas for cooperation, necessary knowledge exchange, etc.



# GENERAL IDEA OF THE WORKSHOP

## 2 main parts

- Part I: Pitches for setting the tone
  - 3 – 5 min
  - Different point of views
    - Cities
    - Energy suppliers
    - Energy agencies
    - Heat pump NGO
- Part II: Discussion in World Café settings
  - 2 rounds a ~20 minutes
    - Each participant can choose a table and then after 20 minutes switch to another table in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round
  - Addressing the workshop topic (*How can the heat pump community help cities?*) inspired by the perspectives presented in the pitches
    - Cities directly in their planning
    - Energy suppliers in cooperation with cities
    - (National / regional) Energy agencies and policy / funding / regulative / other aspects
    - NGOs as objective observers & knowledge providers

# AGENDA

- 14:00 – 14:05 Welcome & Introduction (Ingo Leusbrock, AEE INTEC, Austria)
- 14:05 – 14:40 Pitch presentations
  - Ingo Leusbrock, AEE INTEC, Austria
  - Herbert Hemis, MA 20 City of Vienna, Austria
  - Roman Geyer, Wien Energie, Austria
  - Wouter Kleijn & Lisa Walen, City of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  - Emina Pasic, Swedish Energy Agency, Sweden
  - Marek Miara, Heat Pumps Watch, Germany
- 14:40 – 15:40: World Café
  - Table discussions on „How can the heat pump community help cities in their municipal heat planning and their energy transition?“ from the point of views of the pitches
- 15:40 – 16:00: Summary and concluding remarks

# CITIES TCP

## Technology collaboration programme on decarbonization of cities and communities

- ... “by 2050, cities have transformed their current energy supply and mobility into CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral systems through knowledge-based and ambitious action, while simultaneously ensuring a high quality of life for and broad acceptance by their citizens.”
- The Cities TCP aims to provide
  - scientific and evidence-based information, tools, and recommendations to support urban decarbonization efforts
  - an international forum and communication channel for research and innovation-related projects on urban energy and mobility system transformation and the exchange between TCPs to share innovation in each field as well as between TCPs and practitioners to share best practices and to pool resources.

# THE CITIES TCP IN (IEA) CONTEXT



# LINK IEA CITIES TCP ↔ IEA CITIES TASK 2

**Aim Cities TCP**



- To accelerate the contribution of cities to the energy transition
- To make decarbonisation a top priority of cities

**Where can cities get active?**



Urban planning as main field of action for cities

**IEA Cities Task 2 - „Data for urban energy planning“**



Focus on urban energy planning and necessary data and workflows

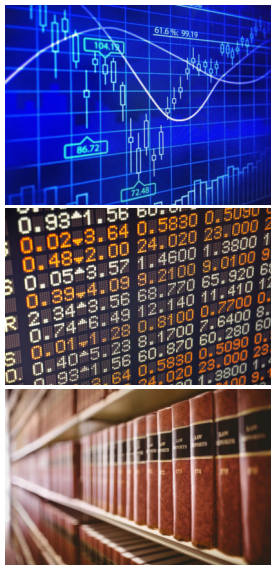
# SUBTASK STRUCTURE IEA CITIES TASK 2

## How to organize and structure our activities?



# HOW TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN R&D AND CITIES?

## R&D

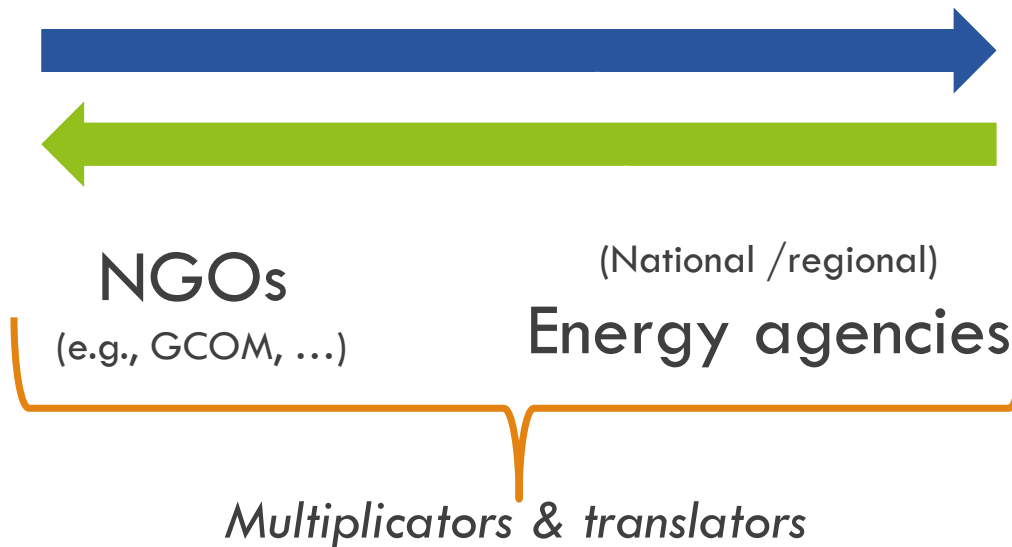


„engineer-ish“

## Cities



„city-ish“





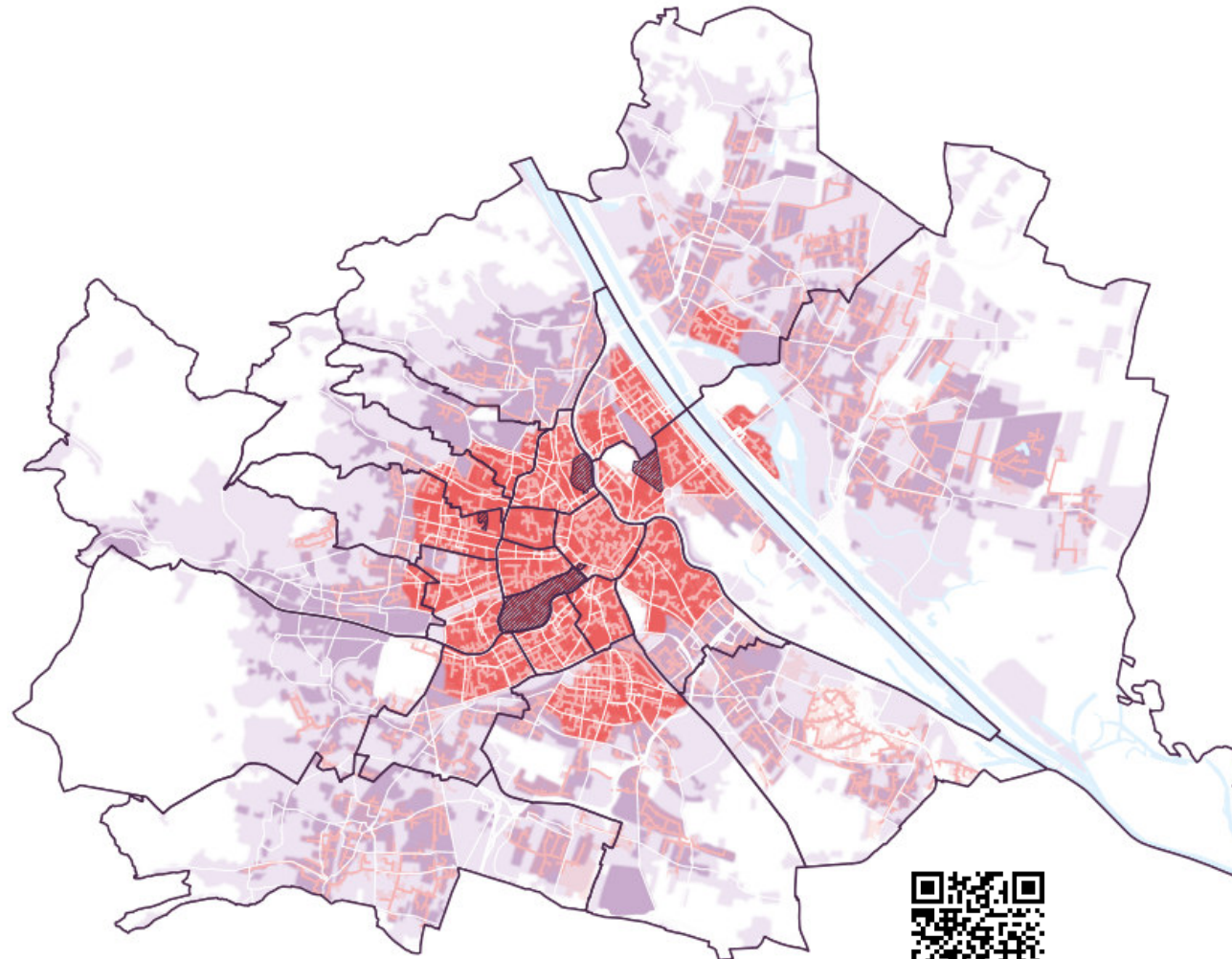
# PITCHES

- Ingo Leusbrock, AEE INTEC, Austria
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# Phase-out of gas and oil heating

Vienna Heating Plan 2040

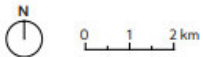
- Goal: Replacing 500.000 units heated with gas
- Around 110.000 buildings needs to decarbonised without central DH



## Vienna Heating Plan 2040

Status: May 2024

- District Heating Today  
Connection possible
- District Heating Future  
Connected areas
- District Heating Future  
Expansion planned
- "Pioniergebiete"  
Expansion in process
- Local Collective Heating  
Heating neighborhoods
- Local Individual Heating  
Heating individual buildings
- City boundary
- District boundary
- Water body
- Main streets
- Non-built-up area



Underlying data: City of Vienna – Energy planning (MA 20),  
Wien Energie, Wiener Netze  
Base map: City of Vienna – [data.wien.gv.at](https://data.wien.gv.at)



Vienna Heating Plan 2040

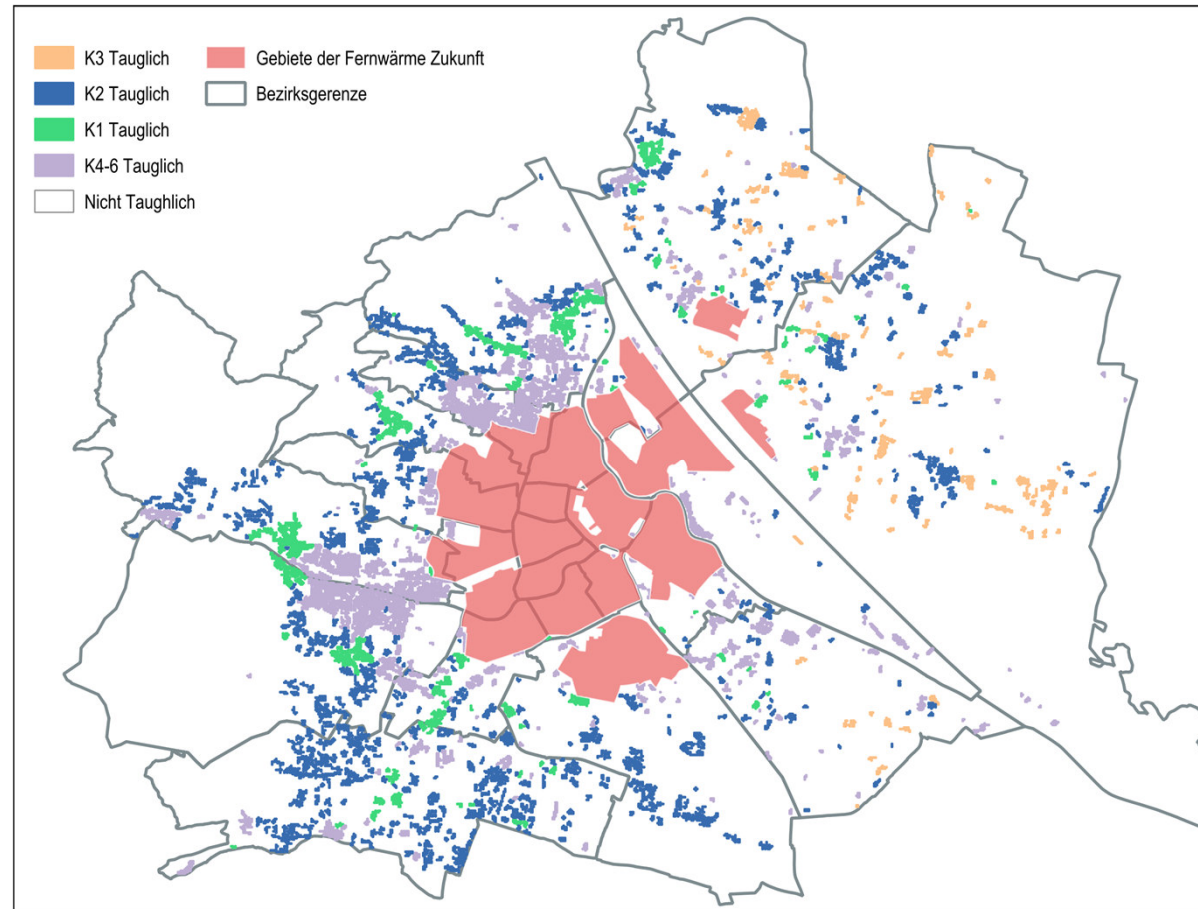


Source: <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt/waermeplan-2040/>

## Phase-out of gas and oil heating

### Vienna Heating Plan 2040

- **15.000 – 20.000 buildings** need local heating networks (DH)
- **500 – 1000 local heating networks** with different technologies



# Vienna Heating Plan 2040

## Areas in detail



### Local Collective Heating heating neighbourhoods



These areas are particularly suitable for collective heat supply via local heating networks. This is due to the **dense urban development** and **high heat demand densities** in these areas.



Local heating networks utilise locally available energy sources and are capable of **supplying several buildings at once**.

However, a **building-specific heat supply is also an option**.



### Local Individual Heating heating individual buildings



These areas are **less densely developed**. For buildings in these areas individual heating solutions using locally available renewable energy sources are recommended. **Local heating networks are also possible** in some cases.



#### Heat Pumps needed for

- Decarbonisation DH
- Local heating networks (low temperature small scale DH)
- Individual solutions
- Process heat

#### Challenges

- Power supply
- Location
- Space (even for the heat pump as well as for some sources like borehole exchangers)

# PITCHES

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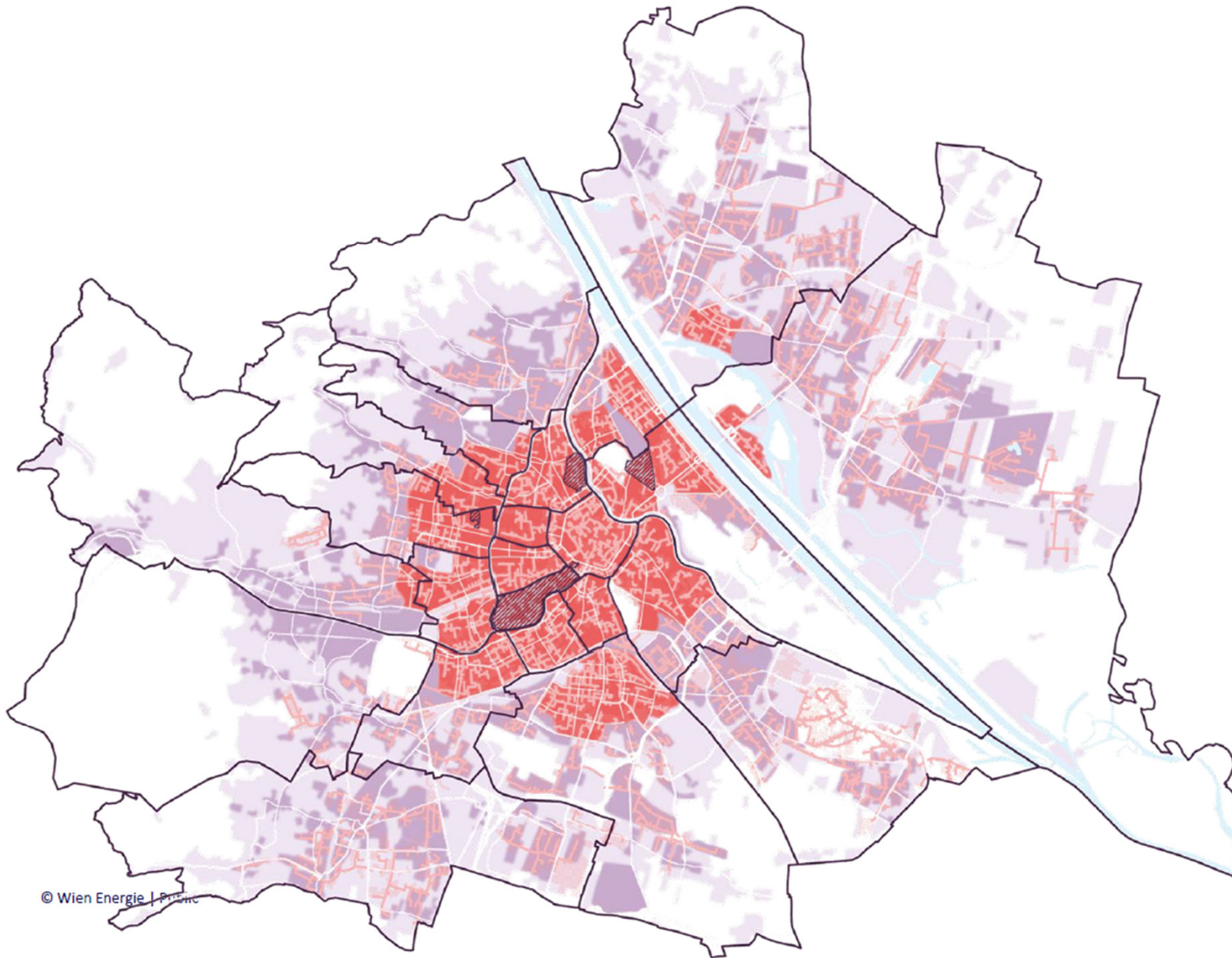
# How can the heat pump community help cities in their municipal heat planning and their energy transition?



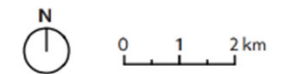


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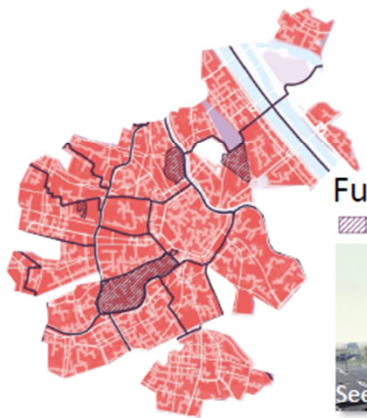


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Underlying data: City of Vienna – Energy planning (MA 20),  
Wien Energie, Wiener Netze  
Base map: City of Vienna – [data.wien.gv.at](https://data.wien.gv.at)

# District Heating

Focus: Densely built-up existing stock



## Further Information:

**Pioniergebiete**  
Flächendeckender Ausbau in Umsetzung

**Pioniergebiete Wien -**  
„Große Chance für die Fernwärme, aber auch eine große Herausforderung!“

DI/DT/TH Michaela Deutsch  
Ing. Dominik Pernsteiner, MSc.

See Presentation DH-Days 2024

Wiener Wärmeplan 2040  
im Kontext des 'Raus aus Gas'-Programms  
Herbert Hems, Stadt Wien - Energieplanung (MA20)

Stadt Wien

**Fernwärmeausbauplanung**  
Ing. Dominik Pernsteiner, MSc.

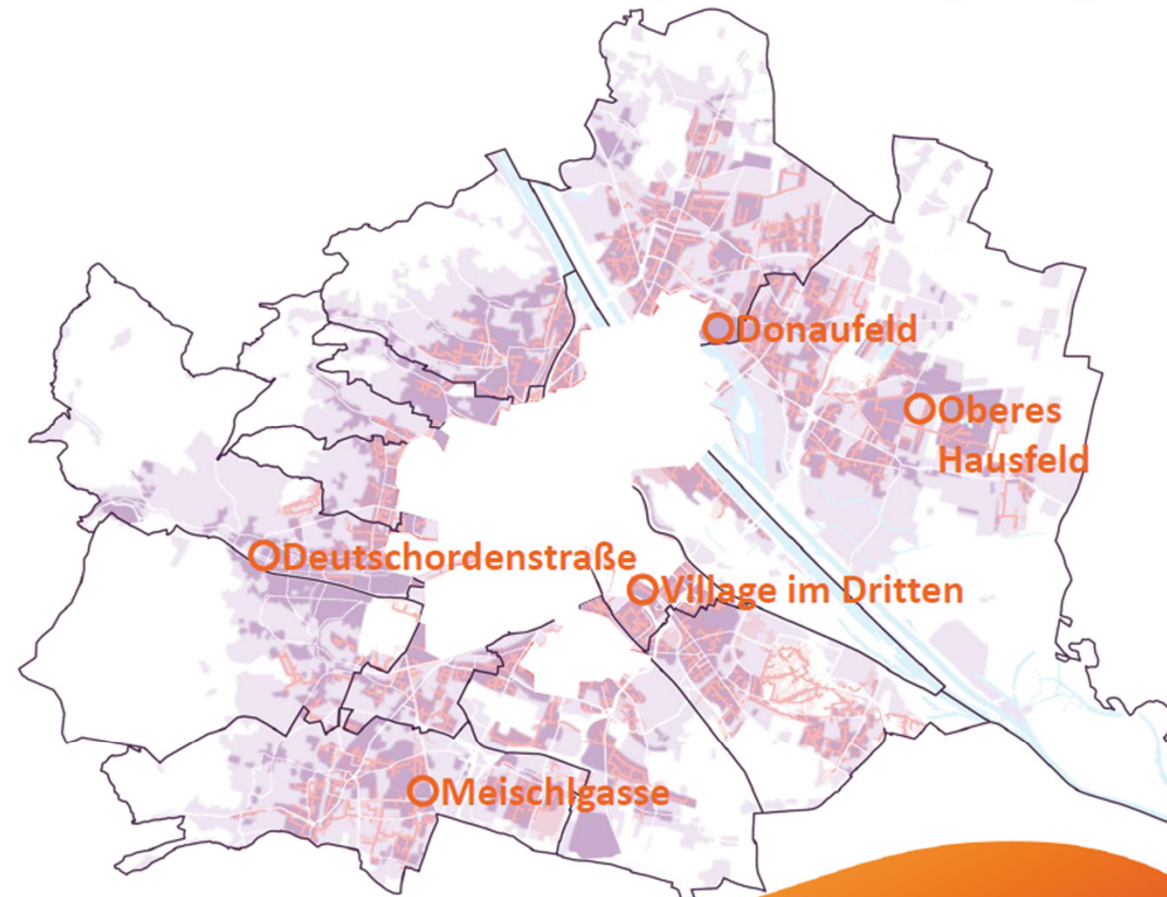
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# Innovative Heating Networks

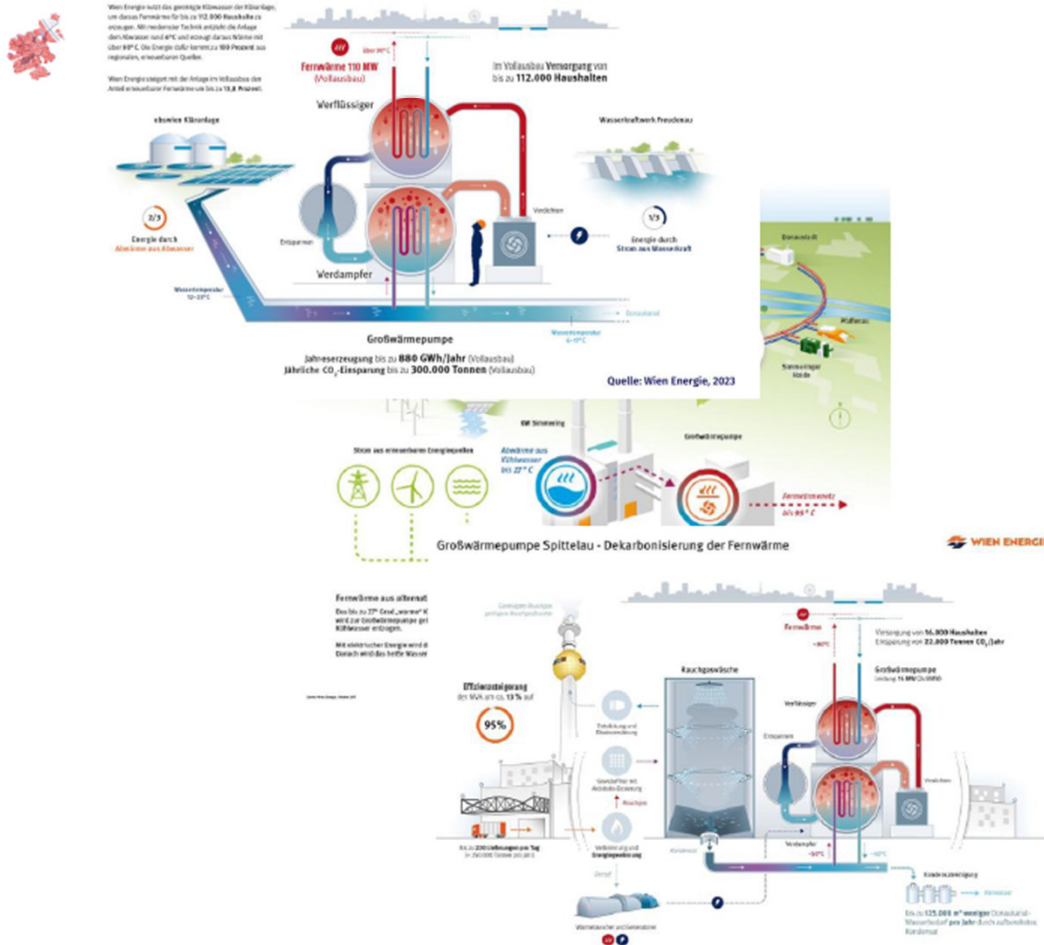
Focus: District solutions for new developments and existing buildings



November 5, 2025

# District Heating

Large-scale heat pumps (MW scale)



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# Innovative Heating Networks

Decentralized heat pumps (multiple units in the hundreds of kW range)



## Challenges

Heat, electricity, storage, and networks need to be planned simultaneously

HPs strongly depend on:

- Electricity availability
- Temperature levels
- Availability of urban heat sources

### Multi-stakeholder system

(Real estate developers, Investors, City authorities, Utilities, End users)

### Regulation & permitting

Large-scale heat pumps require:

**access to urban sources** (wastewater, water bodies) and **space** in public areas

Processes are: Time-consuming, not standardized, cross-sectoral laws (water, energy, building etc.)

### Economic viability & investment risk

- High upfront investment costs
- Uncertain framework conditions (e.g., electricity prices, grid tariffs)
- Split incentives (investor vs. user)

## Pain points

*Are we fully equipped – in terms of planning and governance – to scale heat pumps effectively in urban contexts?*

1. Heat pumps have proven their capability in complex systems – what are the main non-technical factors that currently slow down project implementation?

2. Where do you see the key bottlenecks today: in regulatory frameworks, coordination processes, or stakeholder alignment?

3. What should be the role of cities in shaping heating solutions – setting direction, enabling frameworks, or leaving it primarily to the market?



**WIEN ENERGIE**



**WIENER  
STADTWERKE  
GRUPPE**

**DIE ENERGIE VON WIEN**





# PITCHES

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  - [l.walen@amsterdam.nl](mailto:l.walen@amsterdam.nl)
- Emina Pasic, Swedish Energy Agency, Sweden
- Marek Miara, Heat Pumps Watch, Germany



Gemeente  
Amsterdam

# Heat pumps in Amsterdam

*Real-world examples*

26-5-2026





*Lisa Walen*



*Wouter Kleijn*



Natural gas-free  
by 2040



Communities



Policies

Regulation

- Ex 1: Experimenting with ground source heat pumps
- Ex 2: Heat pump advisor
- Ex 3: Hybrid heat pump subsidy

- Ex 1: No permit for placing heat pumps on flat roof
- Ex 2: Easier permits for monumental buildings







## **But... there are still a few major challenges**

- Size of heat pumps in small apartment
- Grid congestion heat pumps
- Noise pollution

**Come join us at the world café!**



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## Workshop: “How can the heat pump community help cities in their municipal heat planning and their energy transition?”

Emina Pasic, Vice Chair DUT PED Transition Pathway/ IEA HPT ExCo delegate Sweden



# About

## **DUT 's Vision**

A climate neutral and resilient urban future for all



## **DUT 's Mission**

To fund transformative research and innovation to build capacities of urban stakeholders and empower them to drive urban transitions in Europe and beyond.

The Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) Partnership to a sustainable future is **an intergovernmental research and innovation programme.**

DUT is shaping and managing a **transnational innovation ecosystem on urban transitions.**

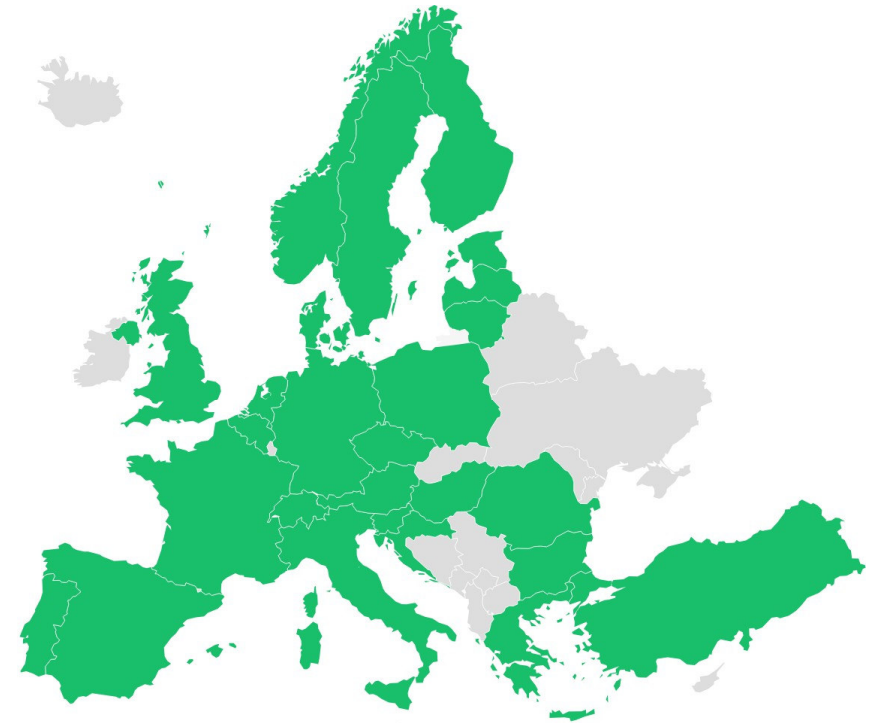
# The DUT Partnership

Shaping and managing a transnational innovation eco-system on urban transitions

**Public-public partnership** for research and innovation, co-funded and co-created by **70 partners** from **31 countries**, and the European Commission

**Core activity: 7 R&I calls** – 450 M EUR budget

- 2022-2024 DUT calls:
  - **136 projects**
  - **261 participating cities**
  - **53 Cities Mission cities**
- **2022 projects in final year of implementation**
- **2026 call under preparation**
- **Remaining calls: 2027, 2028** (*maybe additional ones – tbc*)



Created with Datawrapper

**+ Tunisia and South Korea as of summer 2025**

# Global Funding Agencies

## Global Funding Agencies involved in DUT since 2022

JST (Japan)  
FAPESP (Brazil/Sao Paulo)  
FRQ (Canada/Quebec)  
KAIA (Republic of Korea)  
NSTC (Chinese Taipei)  
Tunisia (MHESR)

## Additional Global Funding Agencies interested in DUT Call 2026

ANII (Uruguay)  
CONFAP (Brazil)  
Enterprise Singapore  
KIAT (Republic of Korea)  
Montenegro (Ministry)  
NRC (Canada)

## Global Project Partners involved in DUT (beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries) Total 29

### Brazil (3)

Non-profit (1), University (2)

### Canada (10)

Business-SME (2), City (1), Governmental (1)  
Non-profit (2), University (5)

### Chinese-Taipei (7)

Business-Large Industry (1), Non-profit (1),  
University (5)

### India (1)

University (1)

### Japan (3)

City (1), University (2)

### Republic of Korea (12)

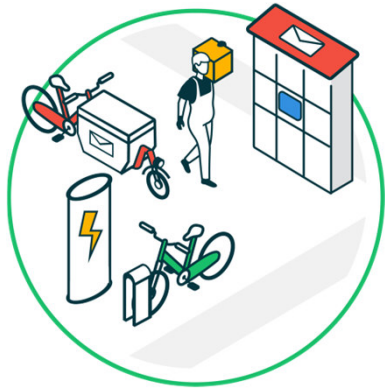
Business-Large Industry (1), Business-SME (1), City (2), University (8)

### United States of America (3)

Non-profit (2), Private/Public Research Institute (1)

# DUT builds on three Transition Pathways

DUT-partnership accelerate urban transitions  
by focusing on three thematic priorities



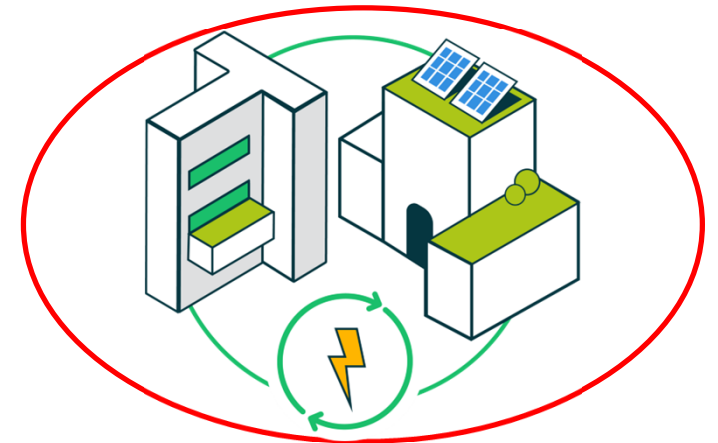
## The 15-minute City

Boosting sustainable  
mobility and proximity in  
connected neighbourhoods



## Circular Urban Economies

Enabling regenerative urbanism  
and resource circularity



## Positive Energy Districts

Pioneering climate-neutral,  
resilient and socially just  
energy systems

# The Positive Energy Districts Transition Pathway

The Positive Energy Districts Transition Pathway (PED TP) aims to develop innovative solutions for planning, large-scale implementation, and replication of PEDs across Europe's urban and peri-urban areas.

By combining energy efficiency, renewable energy production, and energy flexibility at the local level, PEDs offer and contribute to affordable energy systems, affordable quality housing, and competitive, resilient and inclusive local economies for cities through energy communities, contributing to European goals such as the SET Plan and the EU Mission on Climate-neutral and Smart Cities.



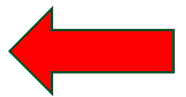
# Positive Energy Districts Call Topics



**1** Driving a just transition: PED strategies in social and subsidised housing

**2** Ensuring positive socio-economic impact: PEDs in local economies and energy markets

**3** PEDs in urban heating and cooling strategies



# LTDE- repBC

Replicable business case for the multi-level integration of low-temperature district heating and cooling grids



## **CATEGORY**

Project

## **CALL**

DUT Call 2024

## **DURATION**

January 2026 –  
December 2028

## **PROJECT COORDINATOR**

Vienna University of  
Economics and  
Business

The project aims at **advancing the multi-level integration** of low temperature district heating and cooling grids as part of the urban energy transition.

Low temperature district energy (LTDE) solutions are different from conventional district energy solutions in that they are green, **non-combusting solutions for heating and cooling** (for example sewage water, shallow geothermal energy, waste heat from cooling and air conditioning processes, urban infrastructures and buildings).

The solutions often encompass the **use of heat pumps** for ensuring sufficient temperature levels to meet the heating and cooling demand all year, i.e. the solutions couple the sectors of heat and power

Participating Countries :

**Austria, Denmark, Sweden , Switzerland**

### **FUNDED PROJECT PARTNERS**

AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH, e7 Energie Markt Analyse GmbH, Lunds universitet, VIA University College, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften

### **ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED**

4-leaf Consulting A/S, Eksta Bostads AB, Stadt Wien, Stadt Winterthur, Sustain Solutions ApS, Swisspower AG, Termonet Danmark, TIWAG-Next Energy Solutions GmbH

# PED innovation examples

## 1. POSEIDON: *POSEIDON Tool*

Software tool for municipal-level energy planning in the Mediterranean

- Overcomes the challenge of evaluating PED city scenarios where detailed data is scarce, drawing on OpenStreetMap (OSM) data to create 3D models for analysis
- **Type:** Technologies and infrastructure (Software tool)
- **Target group:** Municipal Technical Staff & Urban Planners

## 2. MAKING PEDs: *Visualization Web Platform*

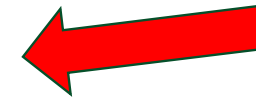
Interactive Digital Twin interface for decision support (Web Platform).

- Central hub platform overcomes the complexity of stakeholder engagement in PED and facilitates participatory decision-making. It provides a user-friendly interface that integrates 3D city models, a Decision Support System (DSS), and calculation model: carbon footprint analysis - allowing users to visualize and select different PED development scenarios.
- **Type:** Technologies and infrastructure
- **Target group:** Public Sector (Municipalities), Consultancy Firms, and Citizens

## 3. FLEdge: *Hierarchical Management System*

Decentralized hardware and software ecosystem for energy flexibility management.

- Supports energy flow optimization from the building level to the city level. It provides a solution through two components: the Edge-Energy Management device (hardware), installed at the building level to support local optimization (i.e. load shifting), and Edge-Energy Management Nodes (software), which coordinate flexibility at neighborhood and district levels.
- **Type:** Technologies and infrastructure (Hardware/Software)
- **Target group:** Building Managers, Grid Operators, and City Authorities



## 4. HeatCoop: *Model Handbook*

Comprehensive guide for establishing urban heating cooperatives.

- Overcomes the barriers to establishing resident-owned heating solutions, offering a model supporting replication initiatives. It provides a solution that combines the heat cooperative administrative model (organizational structure and legal frameworks) with the appropriate business/financial model. Includes tools for cash flow and risk assessment to help cooperatives, investors, and regulators evaluate viability.
- **Type:** Business models and tools; Governance and Policy
- **Target group:** Cooperative Founders, Banks/Investors, and Regulators

## 5. DigiTwins4PEDs: *Energy Data Standard (ADE 2.0)*

Standardized data model for 3D city energy information.

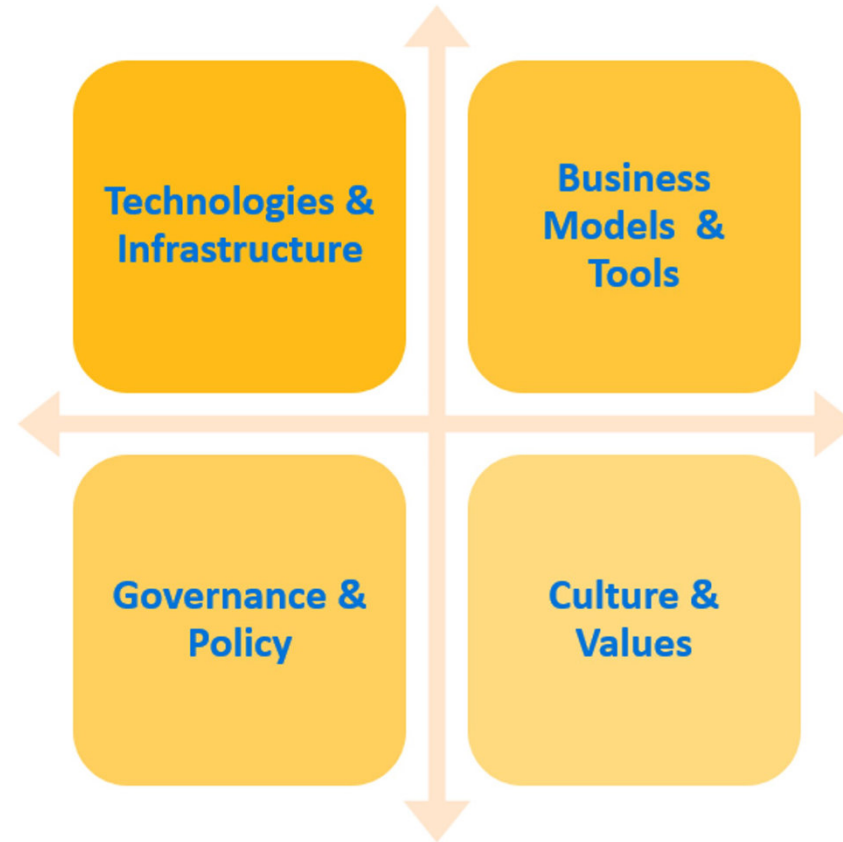
- Addresses the interoperability and data exchange challenges between different simulation tools and city models. It builds on the existing CityGML standard with an updated Application Domain Extension (Energy ADE version 2.0). This standard defines how complex energy information is stored and exchanged, allowing energy data to be visualized consistently across different geographic scales.
- **Type:** Technologies and infrastructure (Data Standard)
- **Target group:** Software Developers, Urban Modelers, and Researchers

# The DUT Approach to Urban Transitions



# Driving Systemic Urban Change - Dimensions of Urban Impact

Jointly with  
cities

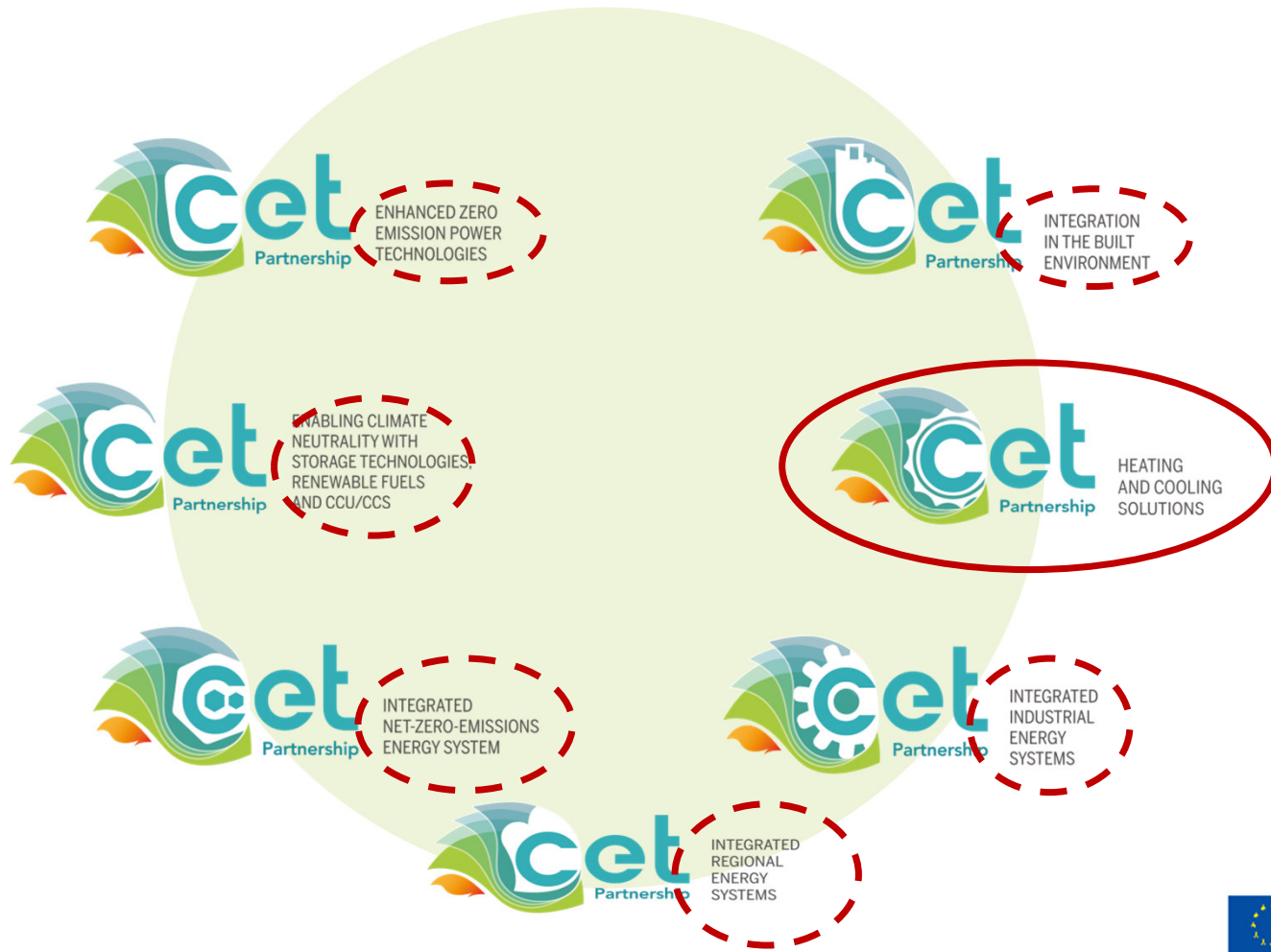


# Massive Funding for Clean Energy Transition (2022–2027)

**CETPartnership mobilises over €1 billion overall for clean energy, research and innovation**

- Total annual budget: Over **€100 million** from over 40 funding organisations and with co-funding from the EU.
- Total funding for the 2022–2027 period: **Over €700 million**, over the course of the 6-year program include EU-funding.
- **30+ countries involved.** Includes EU member states, associated countries, and global partners from both Asia and North America.

# Overview of TRIs



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# Funding opportunity



Driving Urban  
Transitions



Cities TCP  
Decarbonising Cities & Communities



European  
Commission

# About MICalls

Mission Innovation members and funders collaborate through MICalls to drive global RD&I.

## What is Mission Innovation?

Mission Innovation (MI) is a global initiative of 23 countries and the European Commission working to catalyze investment in clean energy research, development, and demonstration to make clean energy affordable, attractive, and accessible to all. Through MICalls, MI members collaborate on joint funding calls to accelerate clean energy innovation worldwide.

# The MICall Series

The MICall series represents a coordinated effort among Mission Innovation member countries to jointly fund international RD&I projects. Since MICall19, this collaborative approach has grown from 16 participating countries to over 40, with cumulative funding exceeding \$700 million across hundreds of selected projects.

## CALL TOPICS

# What MICall26 funds

MICall26 is delivered through two co-funded European partnerships covering clean energy systems and climate-neutral cities. The CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 (the fifth annual call) is now published, with its launch event on 26 May 2026. Below are all the call modules and topics open under MICall26.

## CALL TIMELINES

# Two calls, one MICall26

MICall26 is delivered through the CETPartnership Joint Call 2026 and the DUT Call 2026. Each network runs its own timeline — track both below.

### Joint Call 2026

[Official call page](#)

- 26 MAY 2026  
**Launch event**  
**NOW**
- 8 JUN 2026  
Pre-proposals open
- 9 SEP 2026  
Q&A session
- 8 OCT 2026  
Pre-proposals close
- JAN 2027  
Full proposals open
- MAR 2027  
Full proposals close
- END JUN 2027  
Funding decisions
- SEP–DEC 2027  
Projects start

### DUT Call 2026

[Official call page](#)

- JUN 2026  
Preliminary call topics shared
- JUL 2026  
Draft call text
- 1 SEP 2026  
Stage 1 opens (pre-proposals)
- 17 NOV 2026  
Stage 1 closes
- FEB 2027  
Stage 2 opens (full proposals)
- 15 APR 2027  
Stage 2 closes
- JUL 2027  
Funding decision announced
- END 2027 / EARLY 2028  
Projects start

[MI Call Series - Mission Innovation \(mission-innovation.net\)](http://mission-innovation.net)

[Clean Energy Transition Partnership \(cetpartnership.eu\)](http://cetpartnership.eu)

[Driving Urban Transitions to a sustainable future - DUT Partnership](#)



E: [secretariat@mission-innovation.net](mailto:secretariat@mission-innovation.net)

T: +44 (0)000 002233

W: [www.mission-innovation.net](http://www.mission-innovation.net)



For more info about MICalls or MI PFD,  
please contact Funders Dialogue team:

**For DUT Partnership related questions:**

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**For CETPartnership related questions:**

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**Fredrik Lundström** - [Fredrik.Lundstrom@energimyndigheten.se](mailto:Fredrik.Lundstrom@energimyndigheten.se)





# PITCHES

- Ingo Leusbrock, AEE INTEC, Austria
- Herbert Hemis, MA 20 City of Vienna, Austria
- Roman Geyer, Wien Energie, Austria
- Wouter Kleijn & Lisa Walen, City of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Emina Pasic, Swedish Energy Agency, Sweden
- Marek Miara, Heat Pumps Watch, Germany
  - [marek.miara@heatpumpswatch.org](mailto:marek.miara@heatpumpswatch.org)



Nearly half of Europeans live in  
multi-family buildings.

Heat pump adoption in new MFBs remains  
below 20%.

Dense urban  
situations

Domestic hot water

Noise  
restrictions

Limited space

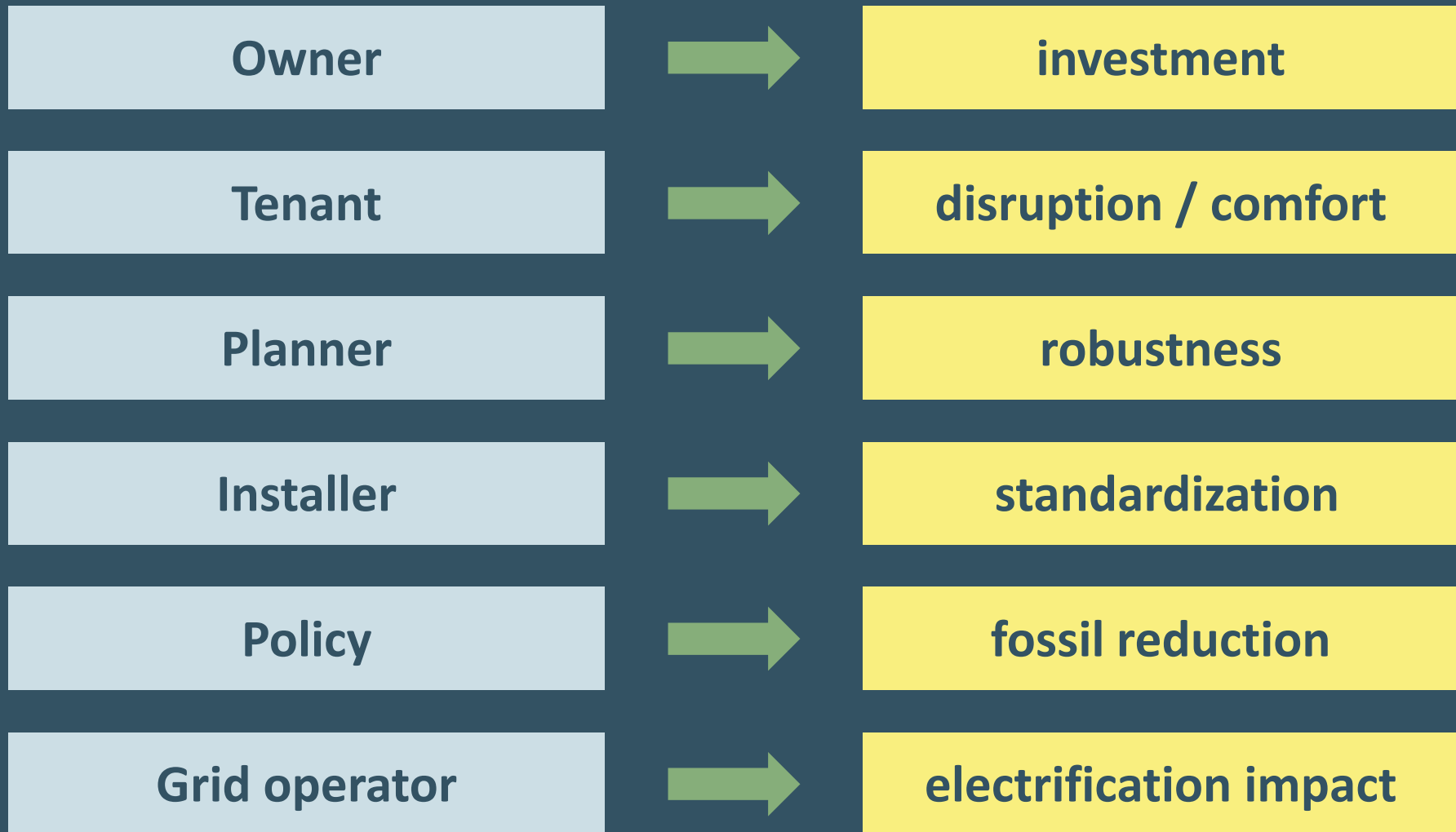
Split ownership

Many stakeholders

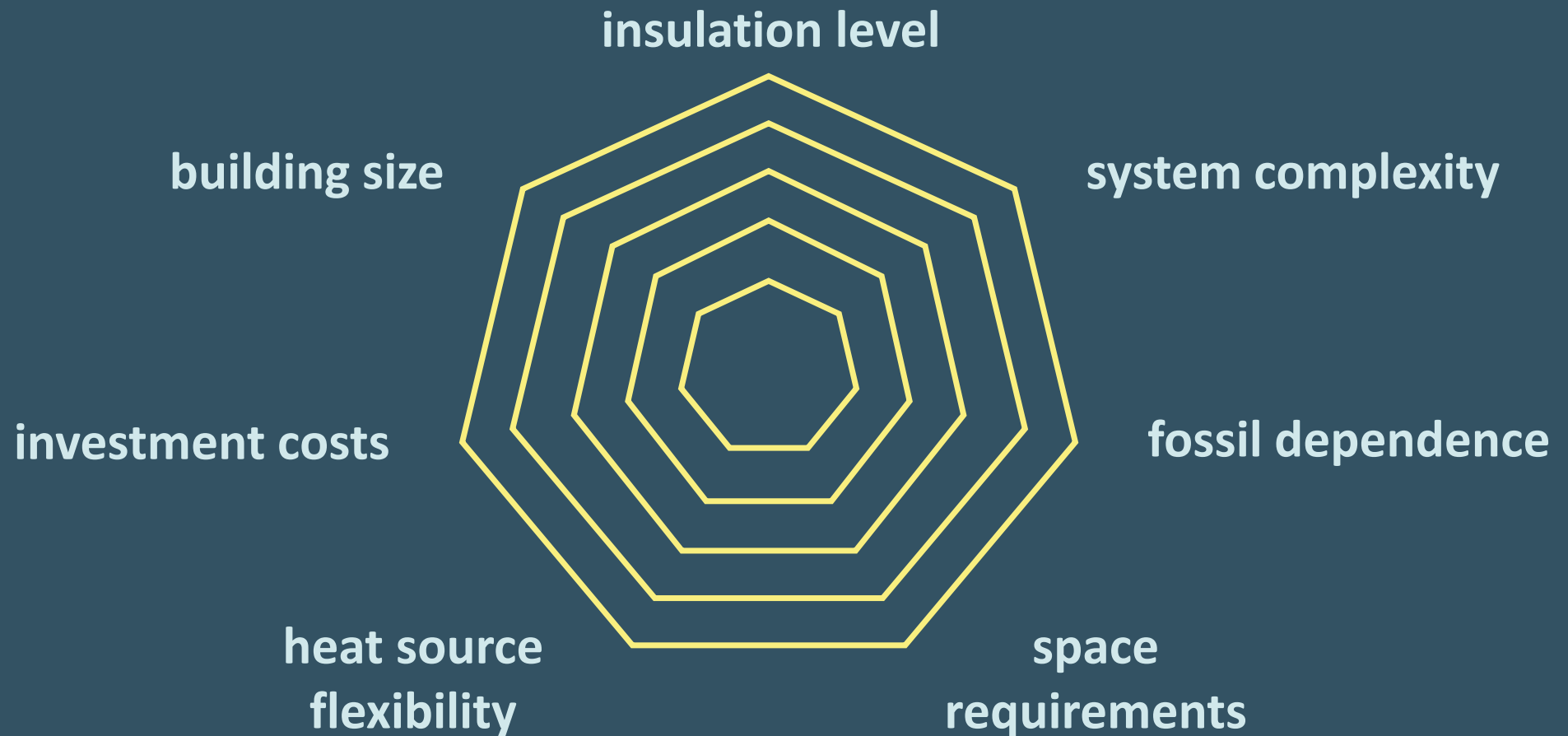
The problem is no longer finding a solution.

The problem is choosing the right one.

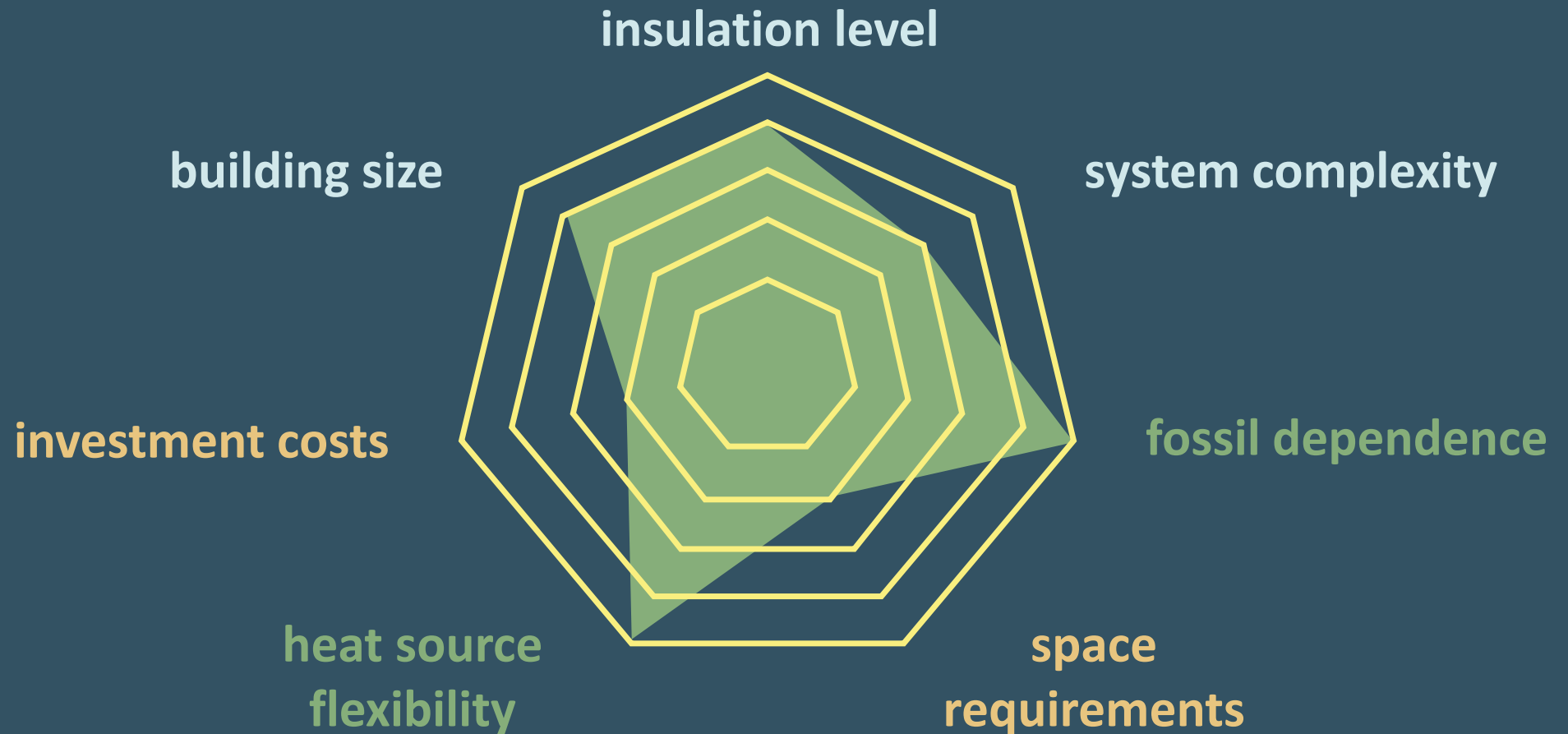
## Different stakeholders optimize for different things



Solutions can be compared multidimensionally.



Suitability depends on context.



The question is no longer  
“Can it work?”

The question is  
“How can it scale?”

# SETUP WORLD CAFE

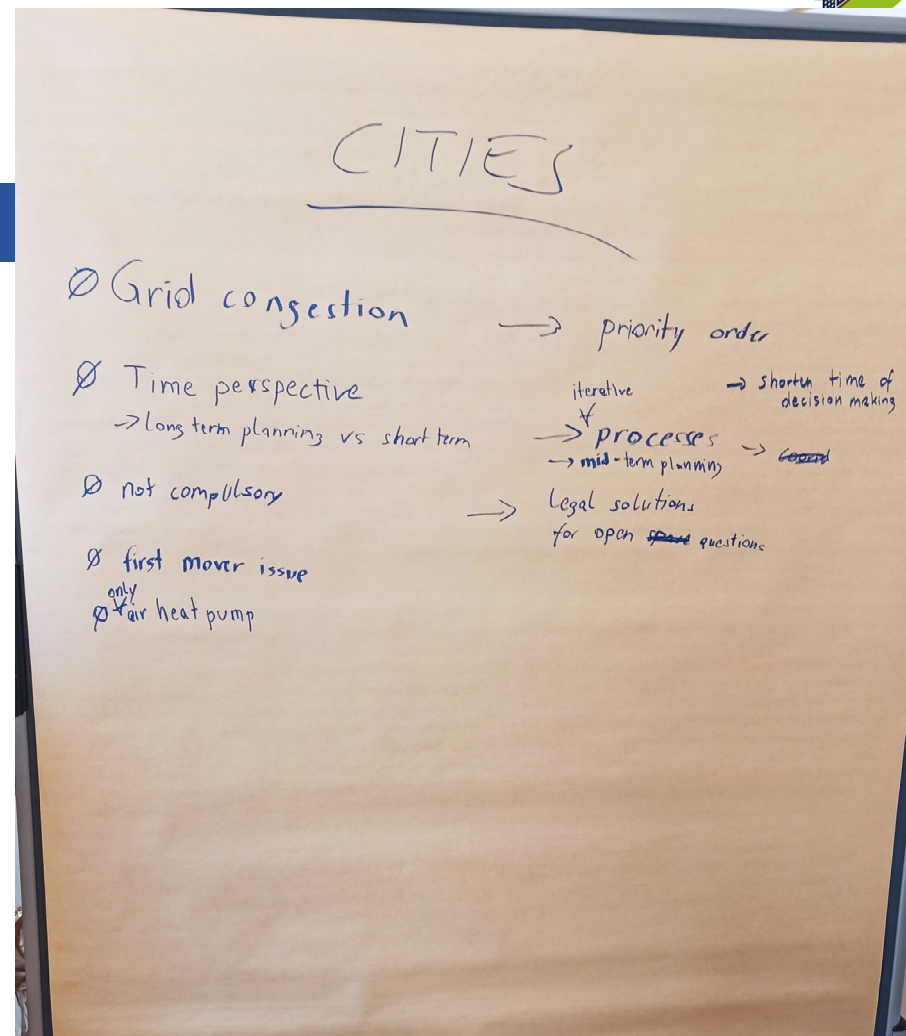
- We will have 2 rounds of discussion of ~ 20 minutes
  - 2–3 min introduction/ recap, 12–15 min discussion, final 2–3 min synthesis and note-taking
- The participants choose one table of their liking each round (and may also move around in between)
- Flipcharts, post-its, pens etc. will be available at the tables.
  - Please write down your main points of the discussion
- Possible guiding questions for your discussion may be
  - What are the biggest current barriers for large-scale heat pump deployment in cities?
  - What do cities need from the heat pump community?
  - What does the heat pump community need from cities?
  - Which data, tools or governance structures are currently missing?
  - Which cooperation models appear promising?

# WORLD CAFE TABLES

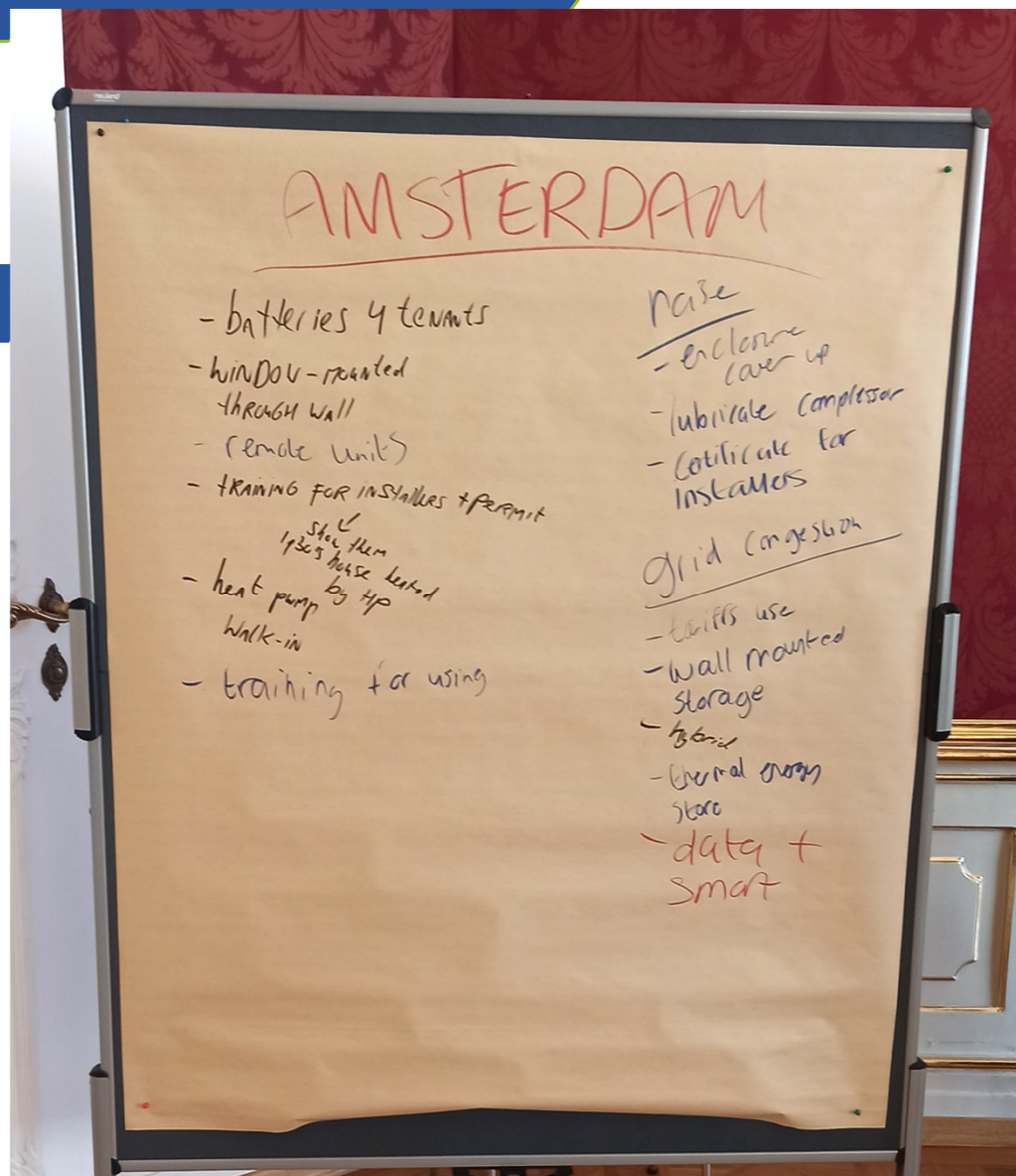
- Table 1 (“Cities perspective (I)”)
  - Herbert Hemis, MA 20 City of Vienna, Austria
- Table 2 (“Cities perspective (II)”)
  - Wouter Kleijn & Lisa Walen, City of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Table 3 (“Energy Supplier perspective”)
  - Roman Geyer, Wien Energie, Austria
- Table 4 (“Policy perspective (I)”)
  - Emina Pasic, Swedish Energy Agency, Sweden
- Table 5 (“Policy perspective (II)”)
  - Marek Miara, Heat Pumps Watch, Germany



# WORLD CAFE TABLE 1

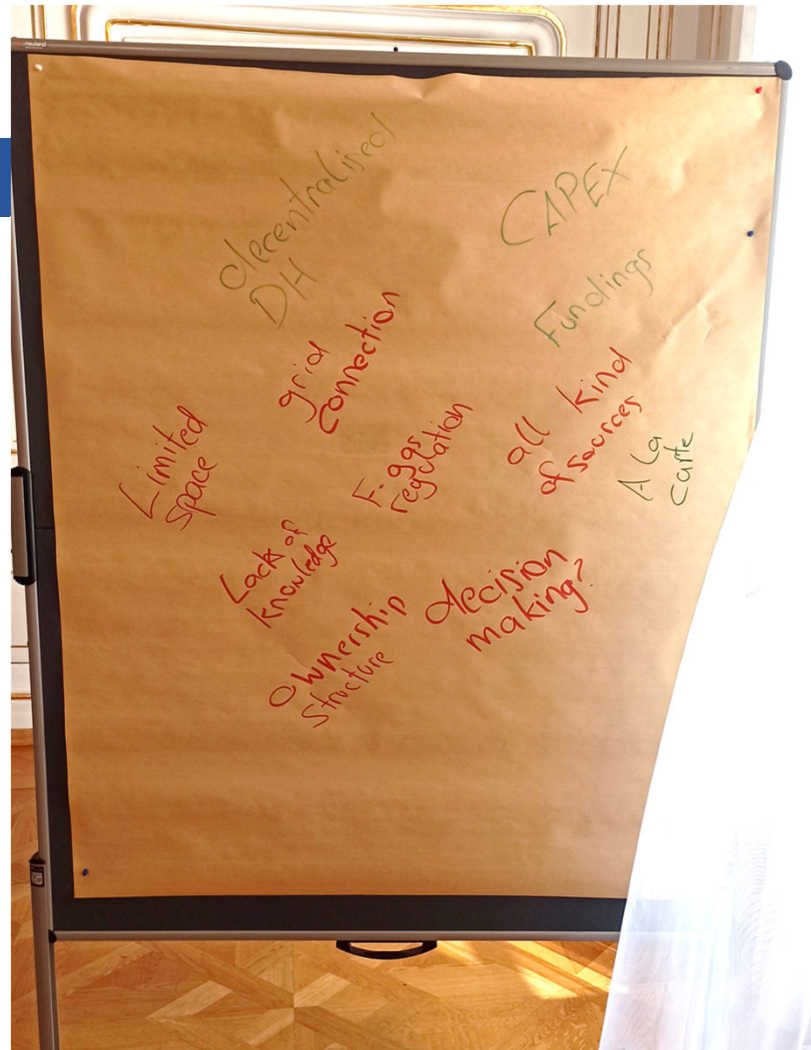


## WORLD CAFE TABLE 2

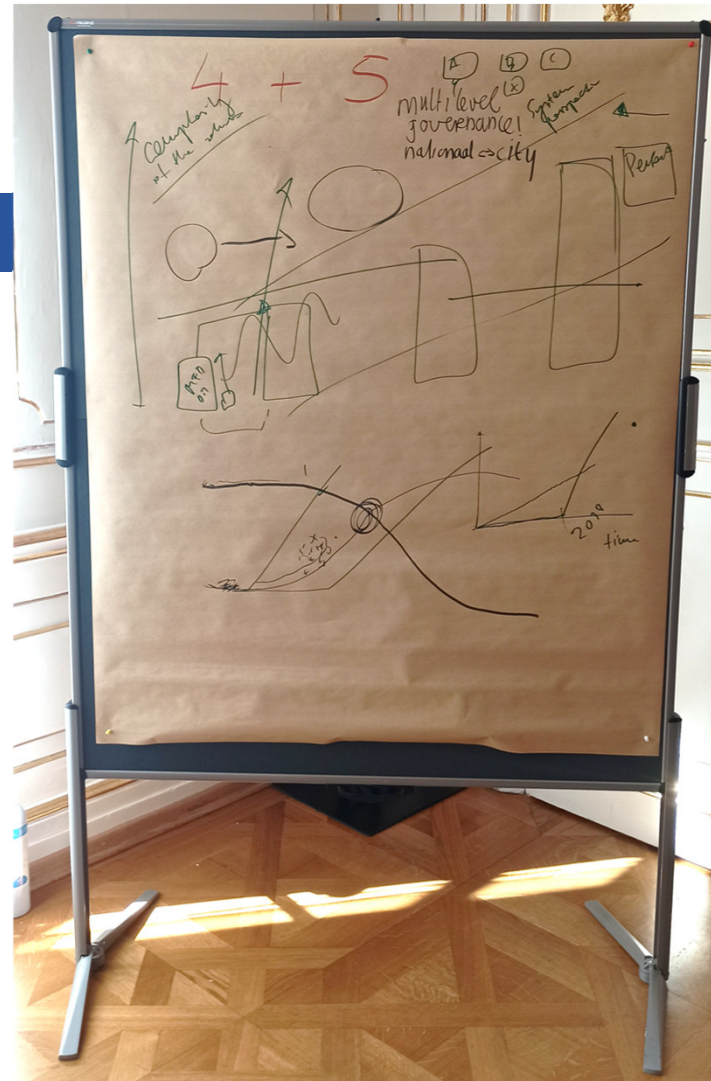




# WORLD CAFE TABLE 3



# WORLD CAFE TABLE 4





# CONTACT DETAILS

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- Marek Miara, Heat Pumps Watch, Germany
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# FURTHER TASKS WITHIN THE CITIES TCP

- Task 1: Collaboration, Cooperation and Knowledge
  - “Cities TCP Secretariat”
- Task 3: Multiple Benefits and Blended Finance
  - Task Manager: Dennis Kerkhoven, YesAndMore
- Task 4: Climate Neutral Districts
  - Task Manager: Karthik Bhat, University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien
- Task 5: Resilient and Sustainable Cooling in Cities
  - Task Manager: Peter Holzer, Institute of Building Research & Innovation



# INTERESTED? CONTACT ME!

The more, the merrier!

- Website
  - <https://cities-tcp.org/tasks-tcp-cities/task-2-urban-energy-planning/>
  - 16 fact sheets already available
  - Videos on fact sheets: [Link](#)
  - Webinars and action learning groups coming up!
  - Next interim online meeting: [23.06.2026 13:00](#)
- Ingo Leusbrock
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