Socio-political development of CC(U)S in the Baltic Sea Region

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Background

 There have been considerable oppositions to and/or adopting different perceptions of CCS among various stakeholders

It is important to understand the diversity of perceptions and their roots for all stakeholders, not only the public



Why stakeholders in society?

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Both laypeople and experts are affected by common cultural denominators and might have similar risk perceptions



Laypeople have somewhat ambivalent yet volatile opinions



Not disregard the impacts of individual values, benefits and interests



What are the factors?

- Trust
- Communication
- Community characteristics

Image: Economist

Culture





Trust

- Trust in government& key stakeholders is a crucial factor
- Highest trust: NGOs& research institutes
- People rely on what NGOs advocate or verify& prefer to engage with them in decision making processes



Communication

- Methods of outreach and communication, the processes of dissemination, and content of communication have different degrees of influence
- Content of communication: address people's concerns about risks of CCS and the role of renewable energy and CCS in the wider portfolio of climate change mitigation tools



Community characteristics



The Not In My Backyard (NIMBY)/Not Under My Backyard (NUMBY): too classic for the Nordic context?



Proximity, residents' economic losses or decreases in real estate value and community compensation



Culture

- More complex process: incorporating cultural factors
- E.g.: the degree of separation between groups; the society's tolerance for uncertainty and ambiguity
- Cultural orientation affects other factors such as trust



Social acceptance vs. social acceptability

- Social acceptability:
 - the combination of social acceptance and social support
 - more democratic and socially inclusive concept
- Social acceptance: a top-down concept; evaluates if stakeholders and laypeople do not actively oppose or contest technology
- Social acceptance ≠social support



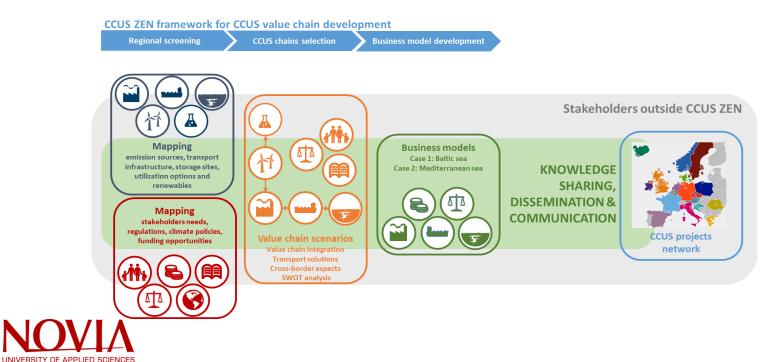
The state of play: political development

- After the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the whole process of the energy transition in the region is under shadow for the mid-term
- The approach to the energy security and security of supply needs to be revisited
- The countries of the BSR need to manage the energy crisis in the region while following their plans for decarbonisation
- CCS is an option to secure energy supply from undesired alternatives like fossil fuels for the short-term and also biomass while curbing CO₂ emissions



CCUS ZEN

CCUS Zero Emission Network



Concluding remarks

- Stakeholder acceptance: context matter
- Public opinion changing due to the war? New studies needed
- Security of supply: energy security + security



Thank you!

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