



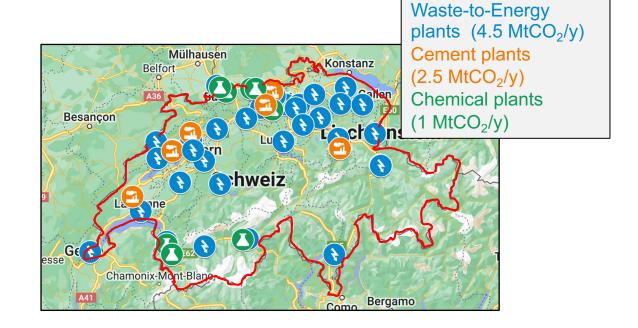
DemoUpCARMA: Carbon dioxide management solutions for a net-zero Switzerland

Viola Becattini, Marco Mazzotti December 6, 2023



Towards net-zero emissions: Carbon dioxide management solutions for Switzerland

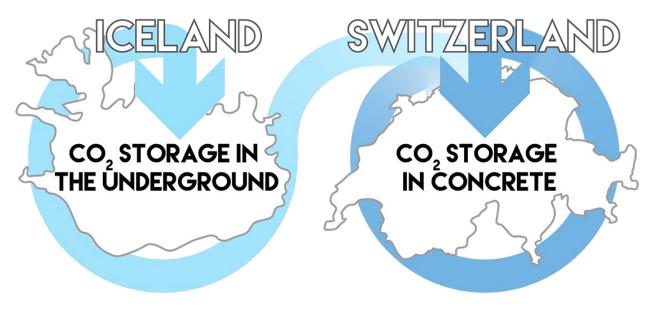
- In 2050, 7 MtCO₂ will have to be captured, transported, and stored, from small and large point sources (between 30 and 400 kt CO₂/y) spread all over the country
- CO₂ could be permanently stored:
 - In demolition concrete in Switzerland → a feasible solution, with limited capacity
 - In the underground abroad → no near-term, large-scale inland geological storage solution; need for very long supply chains to storage hubs in North Europe
- Closing the gap to meet the 2050 goal requires demonstrating and implementing solutions as early as possible







Concept and partners



















Academia, research, NGO

































Solution providers



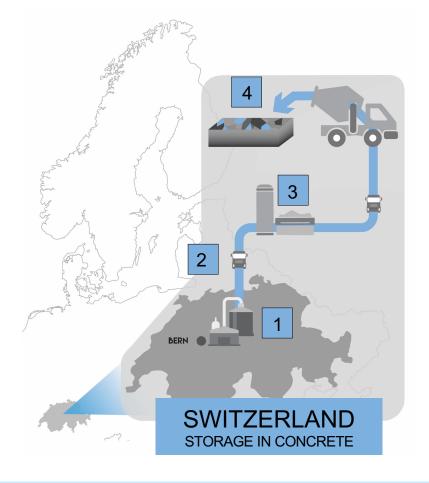




Climate tech companies



Domestic solution: CO₂ utilization and storage in demolition concrete



CO₂ capture and liquefaction at a waste-water treatment plant with biogas upgrader



CO₂ permanent storage via carbonation of recycling concrete aggregates (RCA)



CO₂ transport to concrete recycling facility and intermediate storage



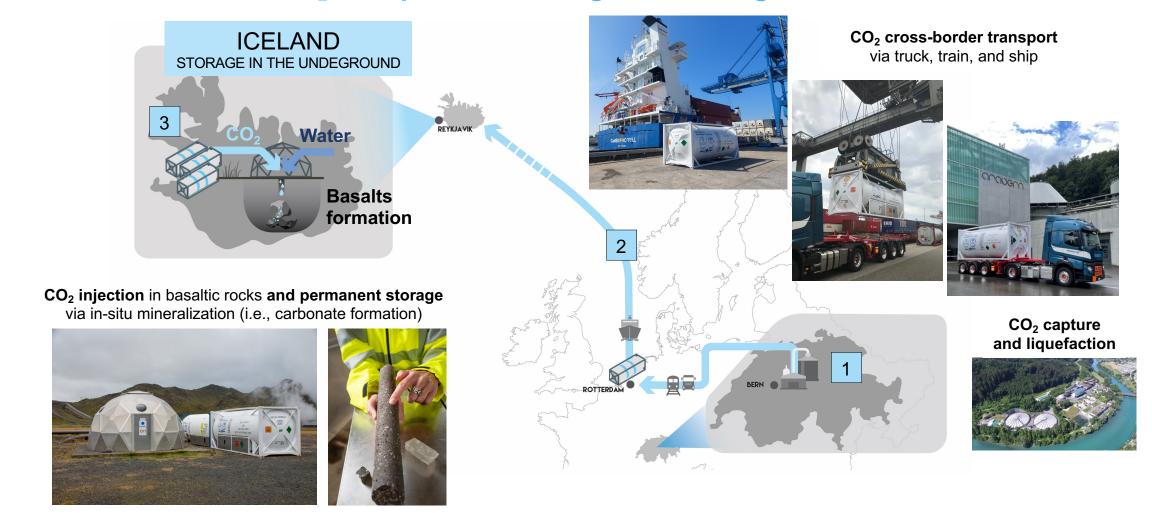
CO₂ utilization of carbonated recycling concrete for new buildings construction







International solution: CO₂ transport and underground storage

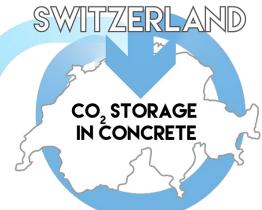




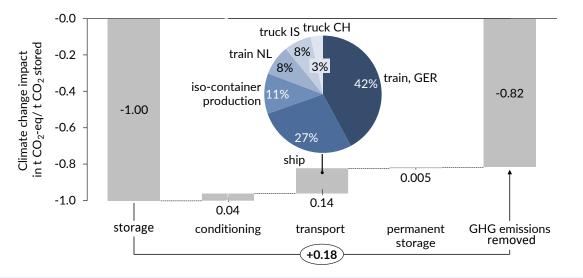
Are these solutions environmentally efficient?

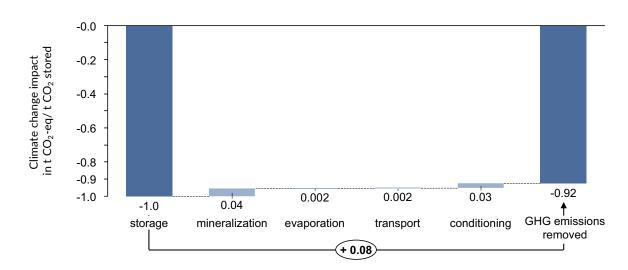
- ✓ For each ton of CO₂ stored in the Icelandic underground, 180 kgCO₂ are re-emitted
- Largest contribution due to transport, especially ship and train, in Germany
- As transport sector is decarbonized, this impact will decrease





- ✓ For each ton of CO₂ stored in recycling concrete, 80 kgCO₂ are reemitted
- Although this solution results in a lower environmental impact, it is limited by the storage capacity of concrete (up to ca. 150 000 tCO₂/y in Switzerland)



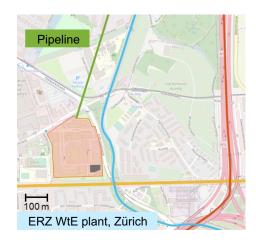




Upscaling of CO₂ management solutions: CO₂ capture, integration and transport



- Amine-based capture process (BASF, Germany)
- District heating network not affected by capture integration due to sufficient waste heat available and electricity generation enabling the use of heat pumps
- Sufficient space available for capture but not for a logistic hub

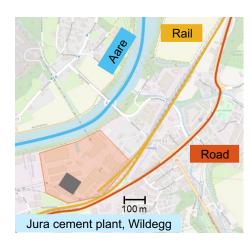


Storage at Northern Lights, Norway:

- 300-380 CHF/tCO₂
- Environmental efficiency: 75-80%
- 3.2 GJ_{th}/tCO₂
- 1.3 GJ_{el}/tCO₂



- Hot Potassium Carbonate capture process (Capsol, Norway)
- Due to limited heat available on site, electricity driven process is more suitable
- Sufficient space available on site for capture and conditioning for transport



- 220-310 CHF/tCO₂
- Environmental efficiency: 75-80%
- 0.5 GJ_{th}/tCO₂
- 2.0 GJ_{el}/tCO₂



Upscaling of CO₂ management solutions: systemic approach

Climate policies

- To precisely quantify carbon reductions and removals, a robust and modular carbon accounting infrastructure is key for unlocking revenue from carbon markets
- High-quality standards and environmental integrity needed for long-term credibility

Legal and regulatory frameworks

- Alignment between CH and EU regulations on CO₂ classification is required
- No extensive technical regulations for CO₂ pipeline transport implemented in CH so far, and no constitutional basis at the federal level

Financing mechanisms

- The cost of CO₂ management solutions is found higher than previous estimates
- No clear viable business model exists today (even for emitters under the ETS)

Social acceptance

- The **relatively small group of experts** in the field has a shared basic understanding and generally supports these solutions, more critical voices could emerge in the future
- Swiss citizens are generally unfamiliar with this topic, with acceptance and support influenced by personal and social factors





Register for the event here:

Exploring two pathways for carbon dioxide management - findings from the DemoUpCARMA project

Closing event on Wednesday, 6 December, 13.00 - 17:15 ETH Zentrum, Audi Max HG F 30

Conclusions and learnings

- The CO₂ management solutions are both technically and environmentally viable; both solutions are needed to meet climate goals
- Pilot projects enable to identify shortcomings and offer crucial insights for the establishment of a new industry
- Implementing these solutions on a large scale presents several challenges that require a systemic approach for resolution
- The project has contributed significantly to:
 - Creating a platform for national stakeholders to exchange on this topic both at country level and with international stakeholders
 - Capacity building: 30+ students engaged in CO₂ management solutions at industrial scale