# Technical challenges and solutions for the integration of low-temperature resources into existing networks and buildings

Strategic Heating and Cooling Plan for Mongolia
Capacity building seminar

**Session 2:** 

03-06-2022



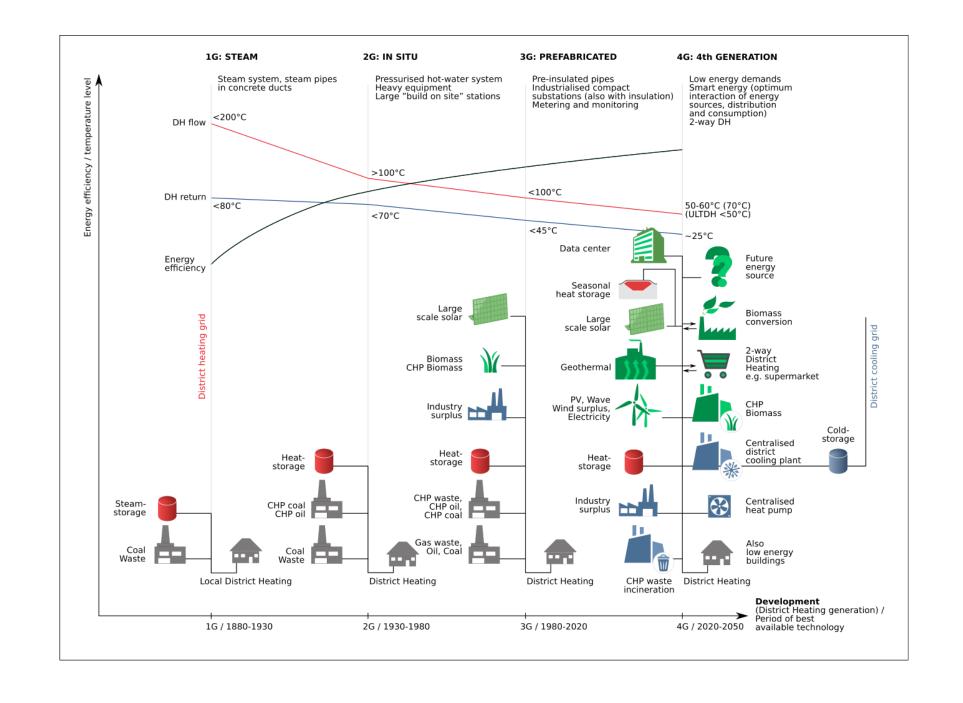
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#### Agenda

- Low temperature district heating
  - Technical aspects
  - Utilisation of renewable sources
- The role of low temperature district heating in Smart Energy Aalborg



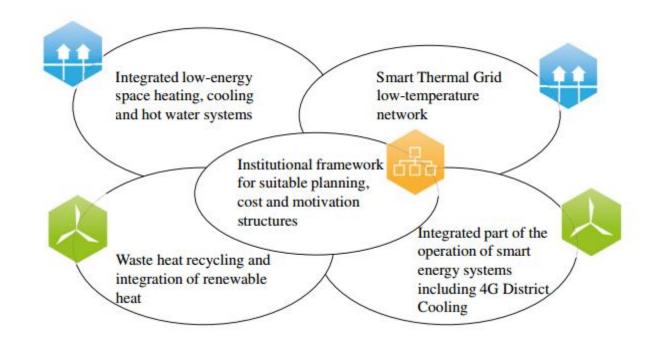




# Low temperature district heating (4<sup>th</sup> generation)

- Utilise more of the energy
- Enable use of low temperature renewable sources

http://www.4dh.dk/





## Transitioning to low temperature district heating

- Proper design of networks and consumer connections
- Right compatibility with the buildings stock
- Existing district heating systems
  - Adapting installations
  - Potential retrofitting of buildings
- New development areas and new district heating systems
  - In low energy buildings, low temperature district heating can be especially sutitable



### Compatibility with existing building stock

- Space heating
  - Poorly insulated buildings require more energy
  - Current equipment might not be scaled for low temperature district heating
    - Equipment changes
    - Renovation of the building stock
  - Introduce thermostatic valves to control comfort levels
- Domestic hot water
  - Low temperature can lead to legionella in the water tank
    - Plate heat exchanges can be a solution



#### Compatibility with existing heat network

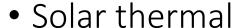
- Lower temperature can lead to higher flow rates
  - Low supply temperature requires that the return temperature is lowered too
  - From 80-40 to 50-20, still have a higher temperature difference
- New excess heat sources can require new networks
- Boosting technology can become relevant
  - To increase temperature from a supply source
  - To increase temperature certain places in the grid in cold seasons



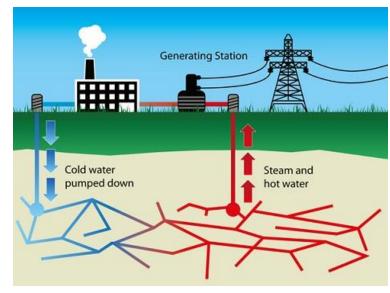
#### Integration of renewable energy

#### Geothermal

- Utilise heat either through heat pumps or directly in the network
- Most resources are low to medium temperature



- Seasonal by nature
- Potential for large thermal storages
- Requires space







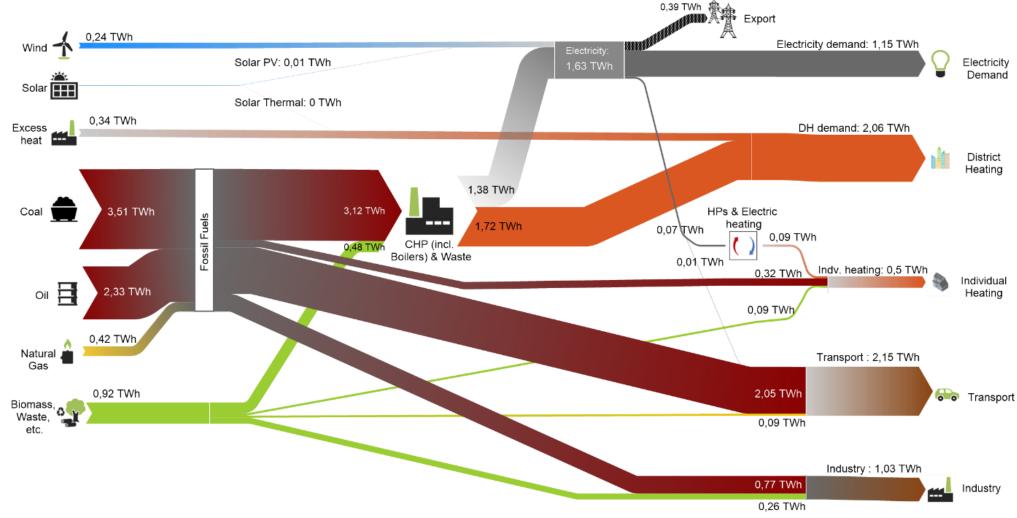
### 4GDH's role in Smart Energy Aalborg

- The goal is to transition Aalborg to 100% renewable energy
- Utilising the principles of smart energy systems and low temperature district heating
- Current system is 3<sup>rd</sup> generation district heating





Current system in Aalborg





#### Transitioning to renewable energy

 The transition has to be done in away that does not limit other countries, cities and municipalities to transition to renewable energy

- Limiting biomass use
- Including transport based on both local and global transportation
- Defining the industrial demand related to inhabitants



# Included benefits from low temperature district heating

Low temperature district heating is a key part of the vision

- Allows for better efficiencies in heat pumps
- Allows for lower losses in the district heating grid

It requires investments in energy savings in the buildings



#### Industrial waste heat

- Low temperature district heating enables increased use of industrial waste heat
- Cement industry in Aalborg
  - Currently 20% of the heat demand
- In total a potential to increase from 1200 TJ to 3100 TJ
  - We use 2600 TJ

	Projekt	Investering	Merproduktion (ift. 2016 produktion)
Forbedre	Levere hele året ved 65°C (VG1 + VG2)	Ingen	500 TJ
udnyttelse af overskudsvarme	Optimering af eksisterende anlæg VG1	Investering ikke beregnet	313 TJ
ved eksisterende anlæg	Optimering af eksisterende anlæg VG2	Investering ikke beregnet	75 TJ
Øge potentialet af overskudsvarme	Projekt 1: Varmegenvinding fra den grå ovn (grå cement)	DKK 48 mio.	350 TJ
ved investering i ny teknologi/anlæg	Projekt 3: Sænkning af returtemperaturen ved installation af varmepumpe (VG1)	DKK 16 – 25 mio.	3GDH: 122 TJ
	Projekt 4: Opsamling af strålevarme fra de hvide ovne med varmeskjolde	Forsigtigt skøn: DKK 225 mio.	540 – 610 TJ
	Projekt 5: Udnyttelse af varme fra filtratvand med varmepumpe	DKK 7 – 9 mio.	3GDH: 45 TJ

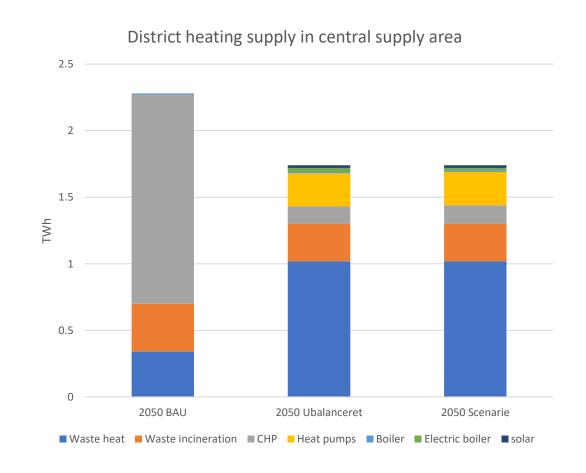
Tabel 2 - Nye overskudsvarmepotentialer ved Aalborg Portland [Aalborg Portland, 2018]



#### Heat pumps and geothermal

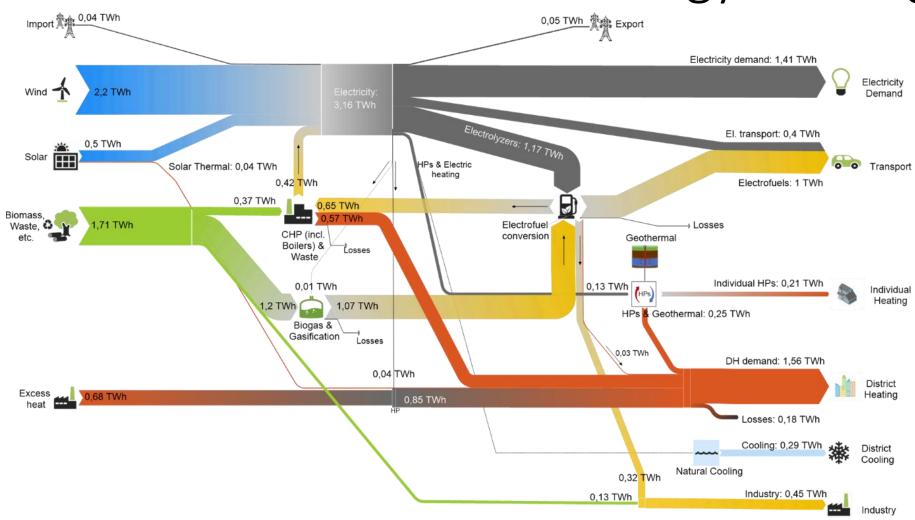
- Utilise 100 MW thermal capacity on heat pumps
  - Can be seawater heat pumps or geothermal
- 20 MW heat pumps running on waste heat from industry

Utilisation of a large 40 GWh seasonal storage





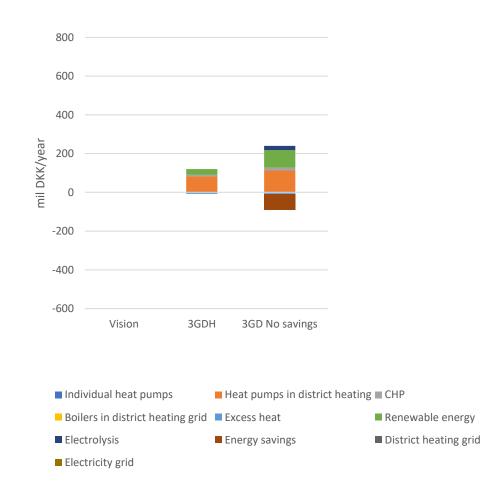
## The 100% renewable Smart Energy Aalborg





## If no low temperature district heating

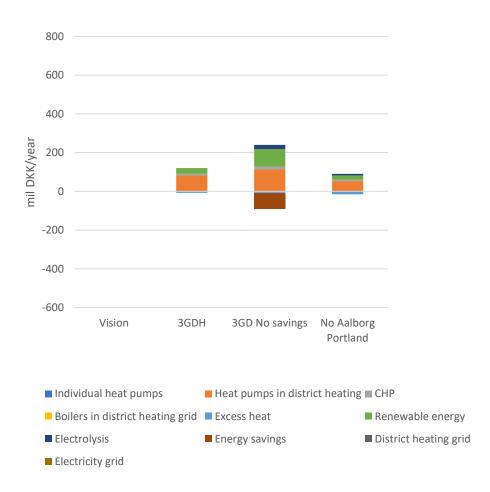
- We do not gain benefits from reduced losses and increased efficiencies
- Result of not achieving savings





#### If no industrial excess heat

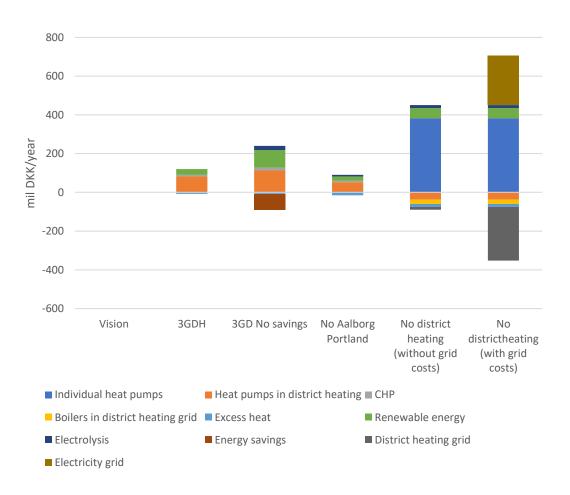
 We might not be able to rely so much on excess heat from the cement industry





#### If no district heating

 If we do not have district heating, what is the consequence of changing to individual heat pumps





#### Summary

• It is technical possible

• It gives technical and socio-economic benefits

It requires planning