

ROSTOCK

Long-term planning, a broad coalition of actors
and political commitment are key to local climate action

Rostock is a medium-sized city (203,673 inhabitants) on the north-east coast of Germany.

Its main economic sectors are tourism, services and technologies. A major challenge is the unemployment rate - at 11.5% in 2014. GDP per capita is €30,628.



Activities for climate change mitigation

A key component of Rostock's climate protection activities is the so-called 'Masterplan process' (2012-2016).

Objectives of the Masterplan:

- Reduce energy demand by 50% by 2050
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by 95% (base year: 1990)

Main actors:

- The 'Climate Protection Control Centre' of the Agency for the Environment
- The Energy Alliance, which includes actors from the energy sector and energy consumers (e.g. the municipal utilities; the biggest local residential building cooperative; etc).

POCACITO process in Rostock

Sufficiency should be communicated as a message for the good life and having sufficient time.

Discussion at the POCACITO Workshop

The POCACITO participation process built on these ongoing activities. Four workshops were held:



- Visioning: a 'Rostock 2050' vision was developed
- Backcasting: how to achieve this vision
- Sensitivity: in-depth discussion of measures to realise this vision
- Next steps: results of the POCACITO modelling exercise and the next steps in Rostock's post-carbon process

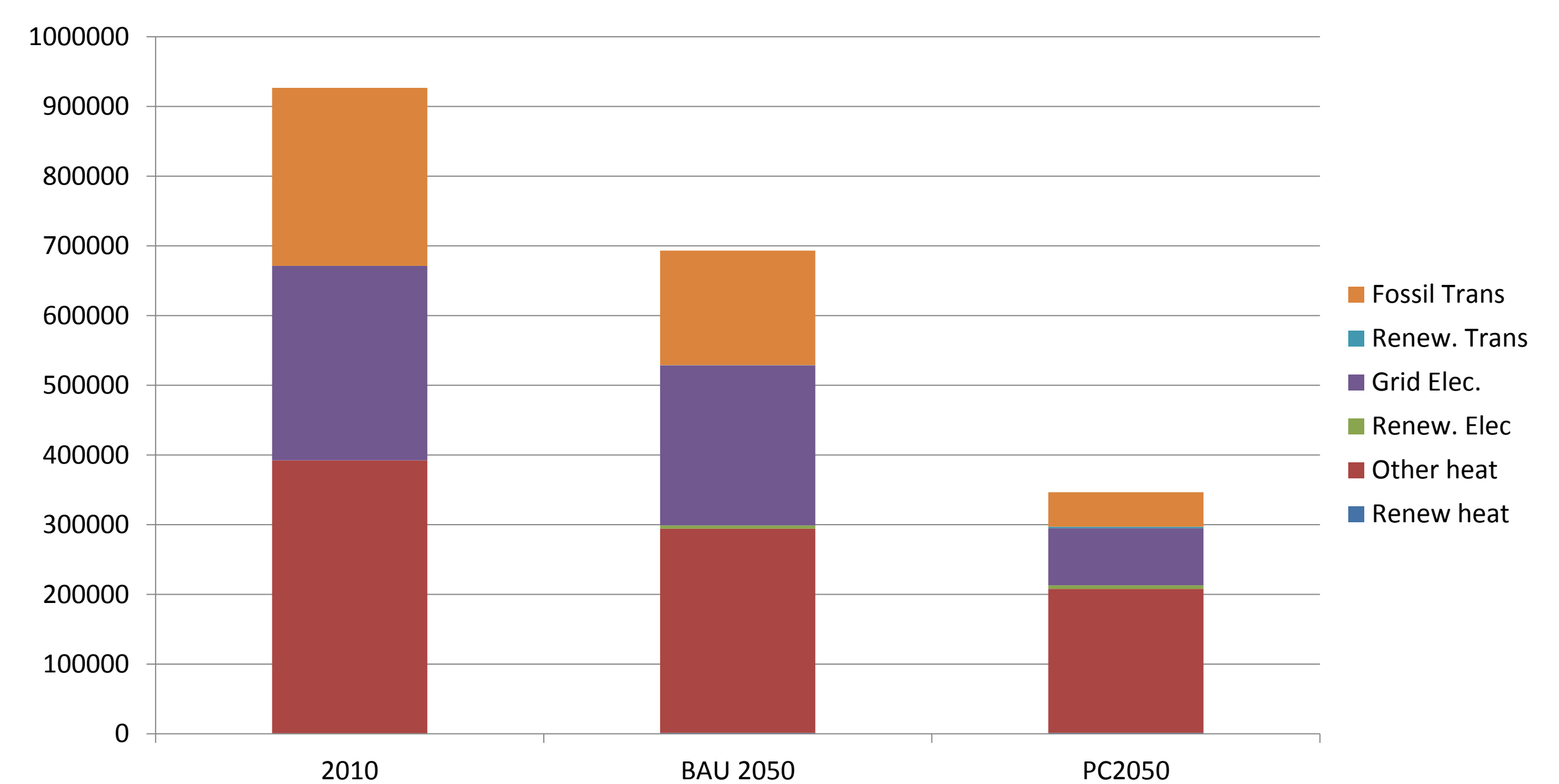
The main action fields identified were: economy and jobs, mobility, consumption and waste, quality of life for all, demographic change and old age poverty, affordable housing vs. public green space, energy sources, efficiency and connection to the surrounding region.

Will Rostock achieve its climate goals?

Existing and planned measures were modelled in POCACITO under a business-as-usual (BAU) and post-carbon 2050 scenario.

Some results:

- Energy consumption in the post-carbon scenario is 22.2% lower than under BAU
- Greenhouse gas emissions are 693,000 tCO₂e (3.22 tCO₂e /cap.) under BAU and 346,700 tCO₂e (1.58 tCO₂e/cap) under the post-carbon scenario
- A major and growing part of emissions and approx. 90% of environmental impacts do not materialise within Rostock, but outside due to consumption—from this standpoint emissions are expected to rise!



Greenhouse gas emissions under the two scenarios

Where should Rostock act?

- Within Rostock: heating (efficiency, renewable heat), electricity, transport (consequences of e-mobility) and creating a compact city
- To reduce the impact of consumption: fostering the local economy and a circular economy, reducing the environmental effects of e-mobility and supporting a change in diets to lower the impact of food consumption and production.

POCACITO – Post-Carbon-Cities of Tomorrow – is a European research project that studies the decarbonisation of European cities. Key to the project was participation in ten case study cities, in which participants developed a common post-carbon vision for their city in 2050.

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