



## **CO<sub>2</sub>GeoNet: A European Network of Excellence on Geological Storage of CO<sub>2</sub>**

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"CO<sub>2</sub>GeoNet" is a project supported by the European Commission within the 6<sup>th</sup> research framework program. It is a "Network of Excellence" (NoE) and comprises 13 European partner institutes (with BGR as German partner institute). The network itself has several objectives over the 5 year period of EC funding for integration.

The main objective is to form a durable and complimentary partnership comprising a critical mass of European key research centers whose expertise and capability becomes increasingly mutually interdependent. The initial partnership comprises 13 institutes, most of whom have a long and established history of research in geological CO<sub>2</sub> storage. It is the ultimate goal of the network to provide the authoritative body for technical, impartial, high quality information on geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub>, and in so doing enable public confidence in the technology, participate in policy, regulatory formulation and common standards.

Gaining acceptance of geological storage as a valid carbon reduction strategy has to be recognized under the Kyoto Protocol. If underground storage becomes a recognized technology for CO<sub>2</sub> storage in terms of carbon emission trading, then the input of the NoE towards monitoring and verification of storage will be vital. As there is, as yet, no dedicated legal framework for underground CO<sub>2</sub> storage anywhere in the world, the NoE will impact upon the development and provision of "best available technology" through its R&D program in the Joint Program of Activities and the dissemination of the outputs to industry, policymakers and society. These will cover CO<sub>2</sub> storage site selection, injection operations, monitoring, verification, safety and environmental protection. The Network will also contribute to training standards. These contributions

will not only impact on standards in Europe, but internationally.

Further important key objectives of the network are to identify knowledge gaps, formulate and carry out new research projects and develop tools to fill these gaps, and – on a long-term perspective – to raise external funding from national and industrial programmes in order to diversify, build and strengthen the portfolio of shared research activities.

Currently, the network covers six research areas in the multidisciplinary field of CO<sub>2</sub> storage: predictive numerical tools, rock/fluid interactions, enhanced hydrocarbon recovery, monitoring techniques, risk & uncertainty, and geological modeling.

The talk will introduce the Network of Excellence and will inform about selected research areas by presenting several projects of the network.

Literature:

[1] Homepage CO<sub>2</sub>GeoNet: [www.co2geonet.com](http://www.co2geonet.com)

[2] Schulz, H.-M. & the CO<sub>2</sub>GeoNet submarine CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring team (2006): Off-shore buoy for monitoring subaquatic CO<sub>2</sub> leakage. - Greenhouse Issue, 84: 4-6.