



Steel, cement, chemicals: How industry heavyweights aim to become climate friendly

A research tour for journalists

from 16 Sep to 18 Sep 2019

Düsseldorf – Lixhe – Ludwigshafen – Salzgitter, Germany/Belgium

Overview

As Europe is gradually phasing out its fleet of coal-fired power plants and electric mobility is becoming increasingly attractive, industrial emissions are emerging as an urgent challenge on the road to a fully decarbonised economy.

Industry's CO₂ output represents a sizeable share of total [greenhouse gas](#) emissions. The cement, steel and chemical industries account for the lion's share:

- steel production is causing some seven per cent of global energy-related [GHG](#) emissions
- plastics production, a subsector of the chemical industry, emits around 130 million tonnes of CO₂ per year in Europe – equal to Belgium's entire annual emissions

However, reducing emissions from heavy industry is technically far more challenging than from the electricity or transport sectors. Whereas renewable power can be used directly as a substitute for fossil fuels in cars by switching to electric mobility, for example, the road to zero emissions is less straightforward in industrial sectors, such as steel, cement or chemicals. The key reason is the so-called process emissions, which are unavoidably generated in the very process of producing cement, steel or chemicals, such as ammonia.

As Europe's largest economy and industrial powerhouse, Germany plays a central role in reducing emissions from heavy industry. The country is home to [BASF](#), the world's largest chemical company; to Heidelberg Cement, the globe's second largest cement maker; and it also boasts Europe's largest and most diversified steel industry. However, Germany presently lags behind other EU countries, such as Sweden, Austria or the Netherlands, in planning and implementing pilot projects for deep emissions cuts.

Our research tour for journalists will provide insights into the state of play of [decarbonisation](#) efforts in Germany's cement, steel and chemical industries.

In meetings with leading experts, policymakers, industry and trade union representatives, and during visits to industrial facilities and innovation projects we will:

- examine how various technologies can contribute to extensive reductions in industrial [greenhouse gas](#) emissions
- ask which market conditions and political tools will be required to develop the technologies and business models needed in the long term to ensure the transition to climate neutrality in today's most emission-intensive industries.

Programme

Sunday, 15 September

Optional overnight stay in CVJM Düsseldorf Hotel & Tagung, Graf - Adolf - Straße 102, 40210 Düsseldorf

Monday, 16 September

09.00 *Coffee and tea*

Welcome, introduction & getting to know each other

- *Carel Carlowitz **Mohn***, Director Media Programmes, Clean Energy Wire
- *Timon **Wehnert***, Head of the Berlin Office, Wuppertal Institute

Location: Düsseldorf (CVJM Düsseldorf Hotel & Tagung, Graf - Adolf - Straße 102, 40210 Düsseldorf)

09.30 **Decarbonising heavy industry: Why it is relevant, which technical pathways are available and which political problems need to be addressed?**

An introduction into the topic by

- *Professor Manfred **Fischedick***, Vice President, Wuppertal Institute

Location: Düsseldorf (CVJM Düsseldorf Hotel & Tagung, Graf - Adolf - Straße 102, 40210 Düsseldorf)

11.30 *Transfer by taxi or walk to Ministry*

12.00 **Kicking out the carbon, not the industry! The risks and opportunities of tackling industrial emissions**

- *Professor Andreas **Pinkwart***, Minister of Economic Affairs, Energy, Digitisation and Innovation of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia

Location: Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Innovation, Digitalisierung und Energie des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Berger Allee 25, 40213 Düsseldorf

13.00 *Transfer to Lixhe, Belgium by bus, lunch on the bus*

15.30 **Carbon capture goes cement: The role of CCU/S on the road to Co2-neutral concrete"**

Visit of the Heidelberg Cement pilot plant in Lixhe, Belgium, operated under the EU-funded LEILAC Programme (Low Emissions Intensity Lime and Cement), presentation and discussion of Heidelberg Cement's climate policy strategy with

- tbc

Location: Lixhe, Belgium

18.00 *Transfer by bus to Ludwigshafen*

22.30 *Arrival and overnight stay at Hotel Excelsior Ludwigshafen, Lorientallee 16, 67059 Ludwigshafen*

Tuesday, 17 September

08.00 *Transfer to BASF*

09.00 **Phasing in key technologies for a climate-neutral chemical industry: What the global no. 1 chemical company can do. And where the political framework needs to be developed to make it a business case**

On-site visit of the Ludwigshafen Verbund site, the world's largest integrated chemical complex, and meetings with

- *Dr. Claus **Beckmann***, Head of Energy and Climate Policy BASF SE
- *Dr. Andreas **Bode***, Programme Leader Carbon Management R&D

Location: Ludwigshafen

13.30 *Lunch*

14.00 *Transfer to Frankfurt am Main*

15.30 **Tackling production process emissions: What should the political and regulatory framework look like? What are the policy options for Germany and the EU?**

Panel discussion with:

- *Dr. Ralf **Bartels***, Head of the Energy and Economic Policy Department, IG BCE (mining, chemical industry and energy workers union)
- *Günther **Kollmuß***, Ludwigshafen Regional Director, IG BCE (mining, chemical industry and energy workers trade union)
- *Manuel **Mohr***, Head of Political and Economic Affairs, German Cement Industry Association (VDZ)
- *Heiko **Reese***, Head of the Düsseldorf Office and Coordinator for the Steel and Metals Industry, IG Metal (metal workers union)
- *Dr. Jörg **Rothermel***, Head of the Energy, Climate and Resource Department, German Chemical Industry Association (VCI)
- *Dr. Martin **Theuringer***, Executive Director, German Steel Makers Association (Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl)
- n.n., moderator

Location: Verband der Chemischen Industrie e.V., Mainzer Landstraße 55, 60329 Frankfurt am Main

18.00 *Dinner*

19.00 *Transfer to and overnight stay in Hotel Schere, Breite Straße 24, 37154 Northeim*

Wednesday, 18 June

08.00 *Transfer by bus*

09.00 **The wood way: Taking the out-of-the-box approach to emissions reductions for building and raw materials**

- Visit of the Thünen Institute of Wood Research
- Visit of the Fraunhofer Institute for Wood Research, Wilhelm-Klauditz-Institut WKI specialising in natural-fiber composites, recycling procedures and the use of organic building materials and wood in construction

Location: tbc

11.30 *Lunch*

12.30 *Transfer by bus to Salzgitter AG*

13.00 **Reinventing steel-making with the SALCOS project: A promising project or just a desirable vision?**

Meeting with managers of Salzgitter AG and on-site visit of the steel-making facilities

Location: Salzgitter AG

16.00 *Transfer to Hanover Central Station, end of the programme*

Organisational details

What languages will be spoken?

Presentations during the workshop will be either in English or in German. English-German simultaneous interpretation will be provided where necessary.

What about travel arrangements?

Local transport *during the workshop* will be organised by the Clean Energy Wire. Participants are kindly asked to organise their own travel to Düsseldorf Central Station and from Hanover Central Station.

The official programme will start early in the morning on Monday, September 16th. As the tour will take the group to different places, ideally your arrival in Germany would be on Sunday, September 15 and with an overnight in a hotel nearby Düsseldorf Central Station. If you require a room from Sunday to Monday, please let us know. The official programme will end on Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Hanover Central Station.

Clean Energy Wire will also reimburse the costs of an overnight stay (economy class) from Wednesday to Thursday if your travel options force you to stay overnight.

Is there a possibility for individual research?

If you are interested in extending the study tour for individual research, please contact the Clean Energy Wire. We will support you in finding the most relevant experts, stakeholders, and locations for your questions.

What about quotes and interviews?

We work on the basis that statements made by participants can be quoted by the journalists present in their media reports. As a rule, conversations are “on the record”.

If speakers do not want to be quoted, we ask them to inform the participating journalists where this is the case. Remarks may then be made “off the record” and will not be quoted.

In Germany, it is common practice for journalists to seek authorisation for quotes before using them. Speakers are asked to advise participating journalists if they would like to check quotes before publication.

What about photos, videos and audio recordings?

We respect journalists’ fundamental right not to disclose the sources of their research. Some of the participants also come from countries where press freedom is under threat and where journalists are prosecuted. As a safeguard to participants’ rights and their well-

being, we kindly ask you not to take any photos or to make any film or audio recordings on which participants can be individually identified.

If you would like to take photos or make audio or video recordings of our visit, please approach a staff member for Clean Energy Wire so that we can agree on safe and workable solutions. As Clean Energy Wire staff, we are happy to appear in any documentation of our visit.

For all photos of speakers or photos taken at locations and during on-site visits, please respect the specific requirements made.

For all other questions on organisational issues please check the [FAQ section here](#) or get in touch with us at:

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[#CLEWontour](#)

About the organisers

Clean Energy Wire

Germany's transformation of its energy system from fossil fuels and nuclear power to one based on renewables and efficiency is one of the country's defining stories. The move to a climate-friendly economy has far-reaching implications: The Energiewende changes not only markets and business models but reaches deep into society and well beyond Germany's borders. This creates many fascinating stories and requires strong journalism to keep track of the progress and inform the debates.

What we do: Clean Energy Wire CLEW produces and facilitates top-quality journalism about the energy transition in Germany and beyond. Our [CLEW Journalism Network](#) fosters cross-border cooperation among reporters covering the move towards a climate-friendly society.

Why we do it: A global energy transition is the key to getting the climate crisis under control. As a real-world laboratory, renewable energy pioneer Germany showcases what the shift to a climate-friendly future means for citizens, businesses and society as a whole. Good journalism is central to drawing the right conclusions from the experience of Europe's biggest economy, and to inform the public debate across the globe.

Who pays for it: As a non-profit organisation, Clean Energy Wire CLEW can offer its services free of charge thanks to its funders, [Stiftung Mercator](#) and the [European Climate Foundation](#). The annual budget for both projects together is on average 1.01 million euros for the funding phase 2017-2021.

www.cleanenergywire.org

Wuppertal Institute

"The Wuppertal Institute undertakes research and develops models, strategies and instruments for transitions to a sustainable development at local, national and international level. Sustainability research at the Wuppertal Institute focuses on the resources, climate and energy related challenges and their relation to economy and society. Special emphasis is put on analysing and stimulating innovations that decouple economic growth and wealth from natural resource use."

This is how the Wuppertal Institute's mission statement describes the institute's activities. Research focus are the transition processes towards a sustainable development. Based on scientific disciplinary findings, the research conducted towards this end combines its approaches to generate practical and actor-oriented solutions. Problems, solutions and networks are equally focused on global, national and regional/local levels.

The Wuppertal Institute is a non-profit organisation. Its core budget is funded by the federal state of North-Rhine Westphalia. It has some 220 staff.

www.wupperinst.org