

News from Europe

**The 6th CO₂GeoNet Open Forum 2011 edition
focused on CO₂ storage developments Europe-wide**

CO₂ GeoNet, Europe's Network of Excellence on the geological storage of CO₂ held their 6th Open Forum on San Servolo Island, Venice on 9th - 11th May 2011, with the 11th May dedicated to the 1st CGS Europe knowledge sharing workshop. The CO₂ GeoNet Association comprises 13 research institutes over 7 EU countries, while CGS Europe is a new coordination action that brings together CO₂ GeoNet and 21 other research institutes, thus covering 28 European countries, in order to develop a pan-European scientific body of expertise on CO₂ geological storage.

The objective of the open forum is to allow the CO₂ GeoNet members and stakeholders to interact with each other and share learnings from CO₂ storage activities. Of particular relevance to this year's open forum is the recent EU legal framework and the transposition of the CCS directive by member states into their legal framework. The deadline for completion of this is June and will be necessary if members stated wish to take part in the NER 300 funding scheme for CCS demonstration projects.

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Updates from planned European large scale demonstration projects were given, including full chain CCS demonstrations in Italy, the UK, the Netherlands, Poland and Romania as well as learnings from small scale projects and field experiments. A session on scientific developments, included some results from the RISCs project, which is a 3 year project coming to the end of its first year. The aim of this project is to look at the effects of CO₂ leakage in marine and terrestrial environments by studying natural analogues and experimentation.

There was a panel discussion at the end of the second day on sharing views on CO₂ storage development in Europe; much of the discussion emphasised the importance of demos, public communication and involving stakeholders as early as possible.

The third day was a knowledge sharing workshop on legal and regulatory issues for the implementation of the EU directive on the geological storage of CO₂. Status, progress and difficulties in the CCS directive transposition in all CGS Europe partners' countries were summarised and a few case studies were presented. The forum ended with a discussion on the most problematic scientific issues raised during the transposition process.

The forum was attended by 125 participants from 28 countries, including Japan and USA.



Programme and presentations available at: www.co2geonet.eu and www.cgseurope.net
See you next year for the 7th Open forum, 16-19 April 2012 in San Servolo, Venice.