



# GSEU

**GEOLOGICAL SERVICE** | **FOR EUROPE**

## **Our Contribution to the Energy Storage Landscape**

**2nd European Underground Energy Storage workshop**

**May 23-24, 2023 (Paris, FR)**

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**Serge van Gessel (TNO)**

**Jullie Hollis (EGS)**

[www.geologicalservice.eu](http://www.geologicalservice.eu)



**Funded by  
the European Union**




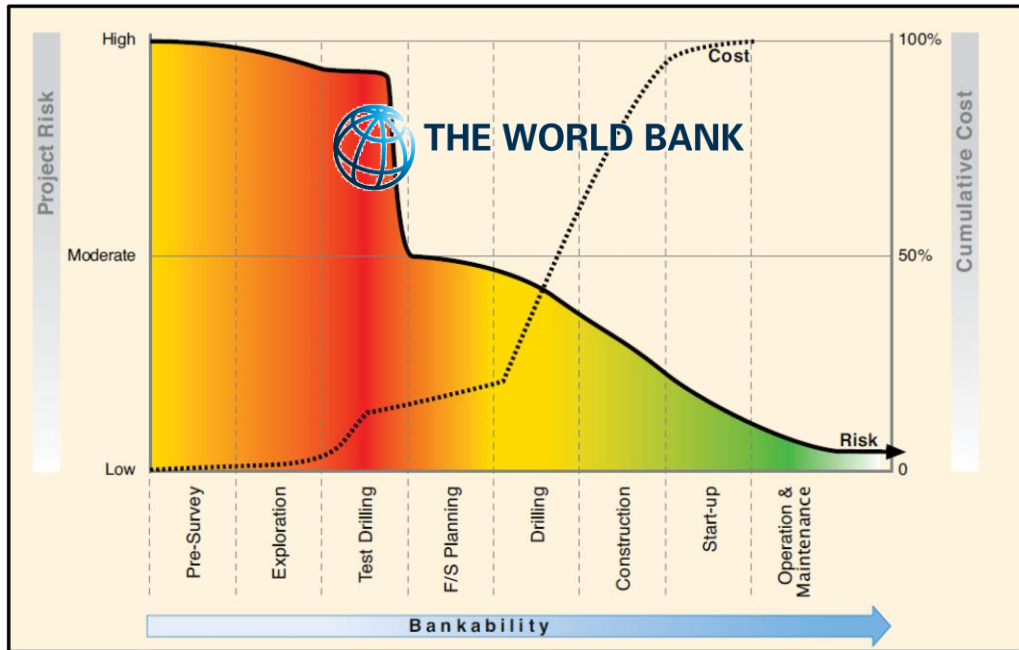


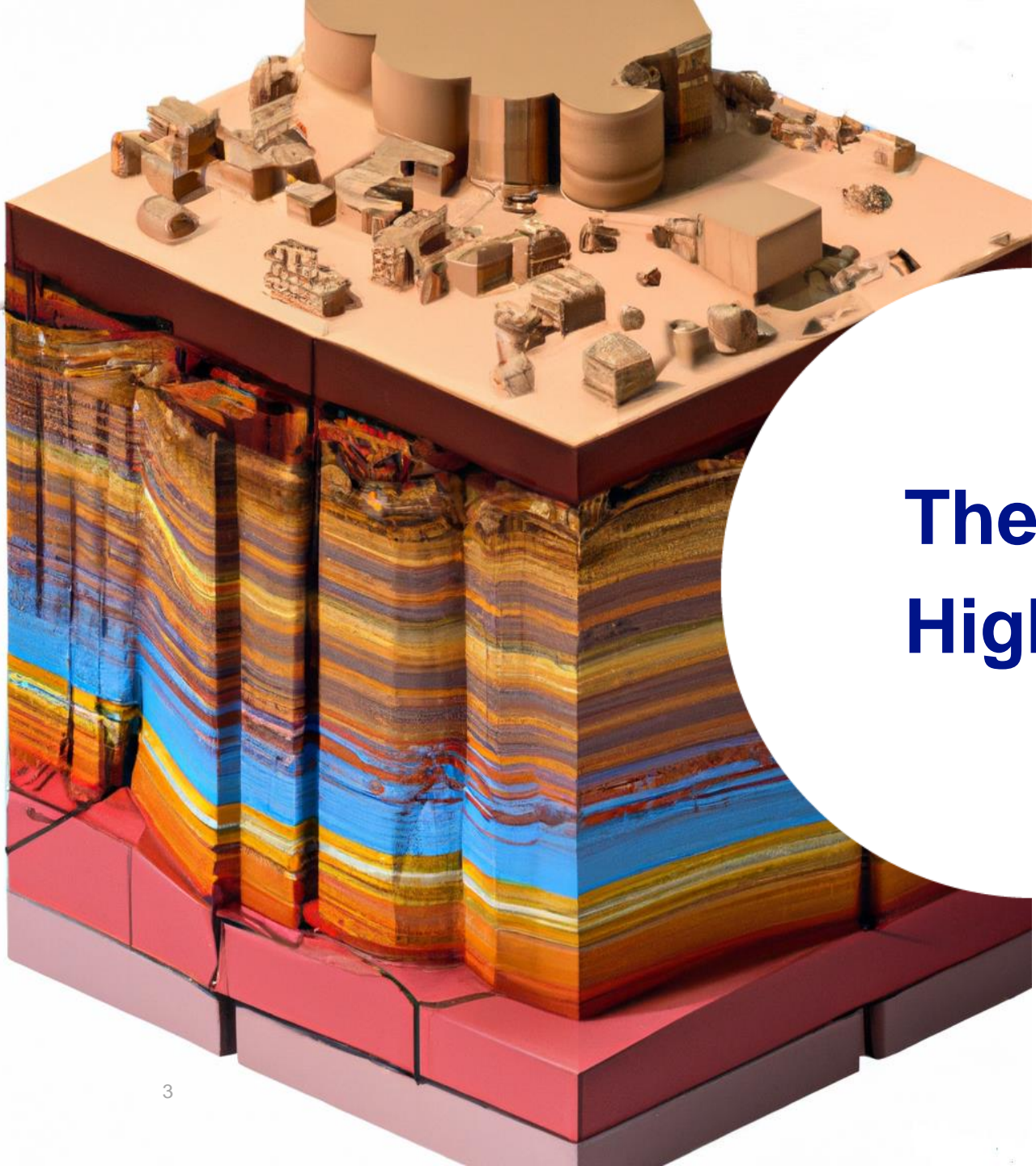
# Why a Geological Service for Europe?

**FINANCIAL TIMES**  
**EU sounds alarm on critical raw materials shortages**

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Europe's groundwater – a key resource under pressure  
**Europe's groundwater — a key resource under pressure**  
 European Environment Agency 





**There is a Critical Need for  
High-Quality Subsurface Data!**



## Objective

The overall objective of the **GSEU** project is to establish a **Geological Service for Europe** as a permanent **collaborative network of European Geological Survey Organisations**.



**GSEU** will structurally address specific challenges in the **sustainable management of the subsurface** at EU and national level.



# From Geological Data to Policy Support

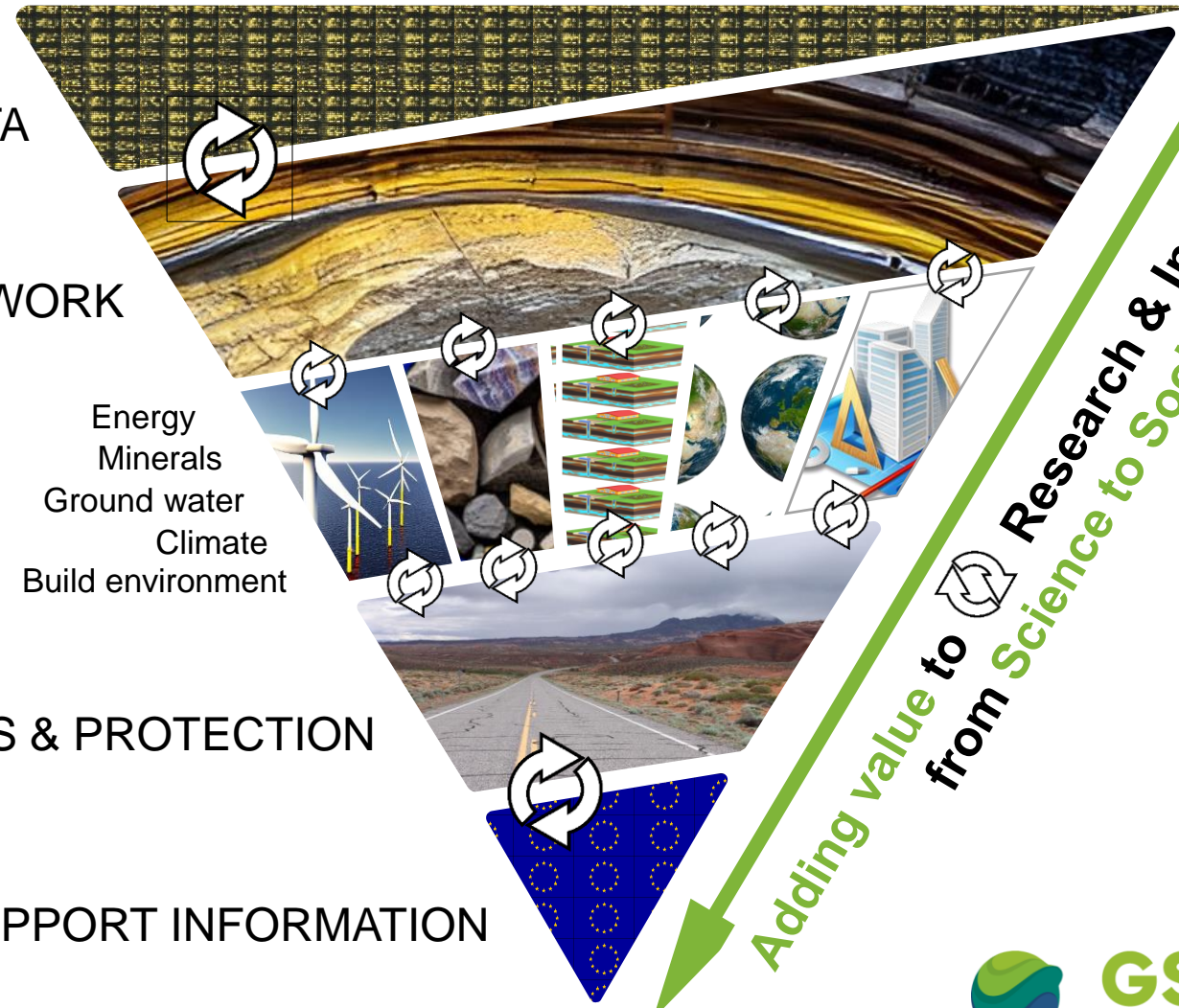
INTEROPERABLE GEOLOGICAL DATA

3D GEOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Energy  
Minerals  
Ground water  
Climate  
Build environment

IMPACTS & PROTECTION

DECISION SUPPORT INFORMATION



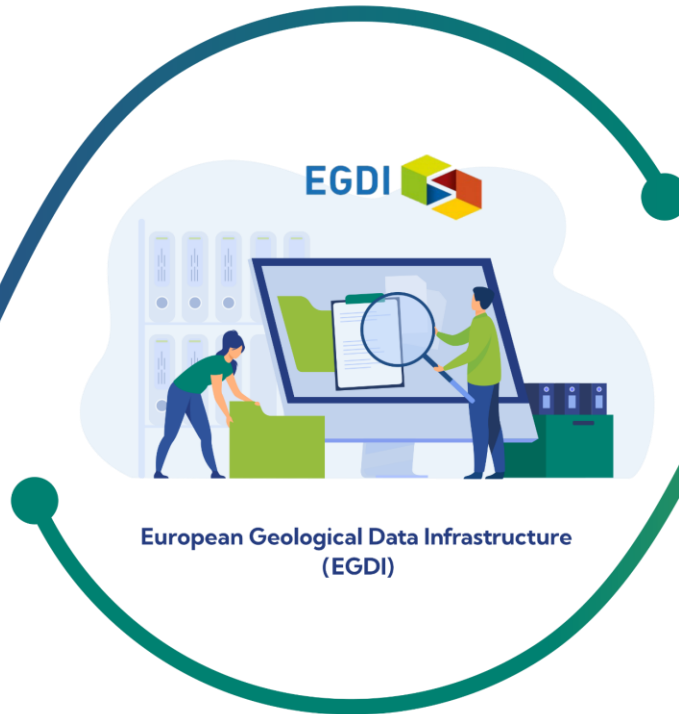
*Adding value to Research & Innovation:  
from Science to Society*



# 3 Working Groups, 1 Goal



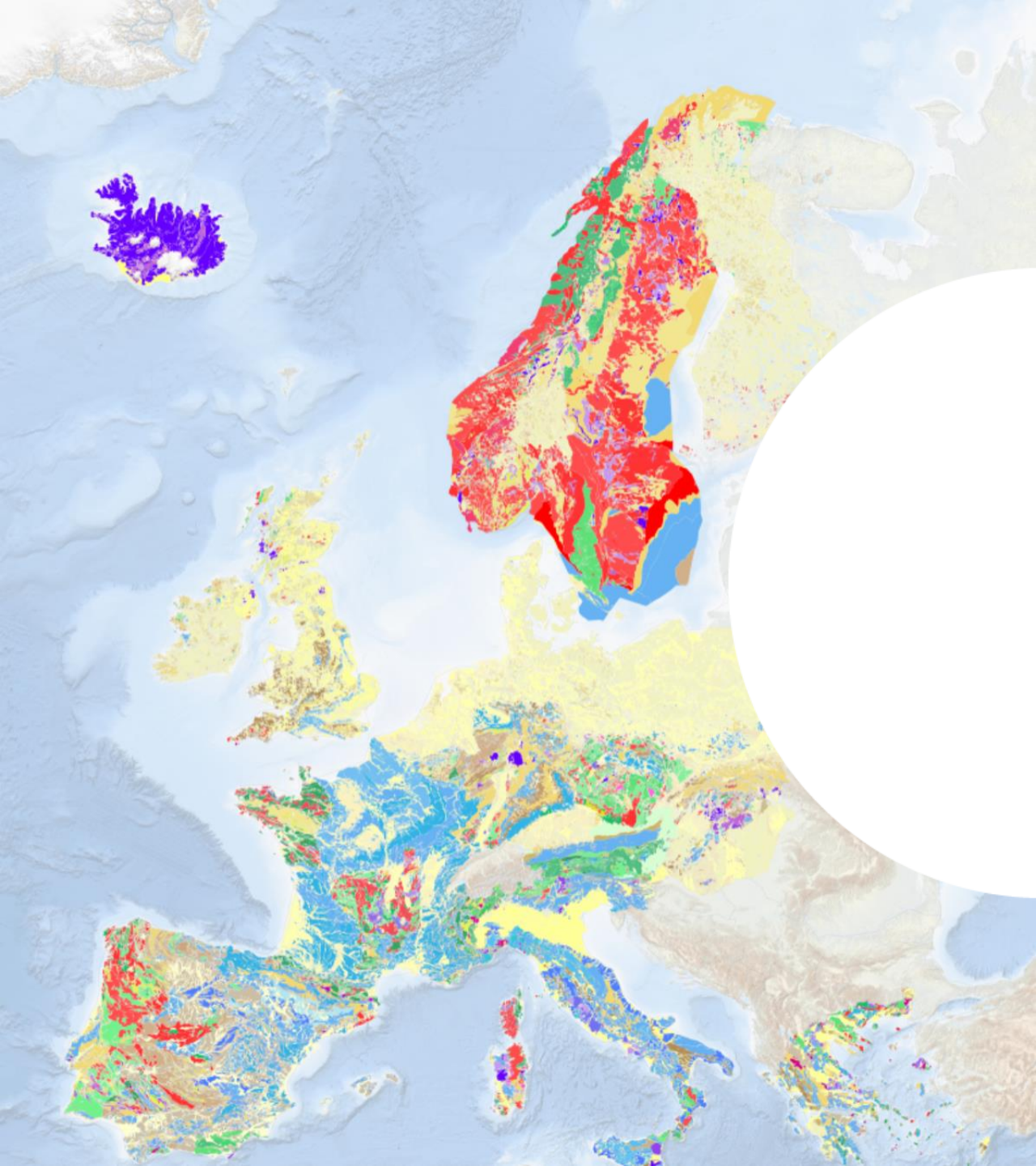
Developing Harmonised Data & Information Service



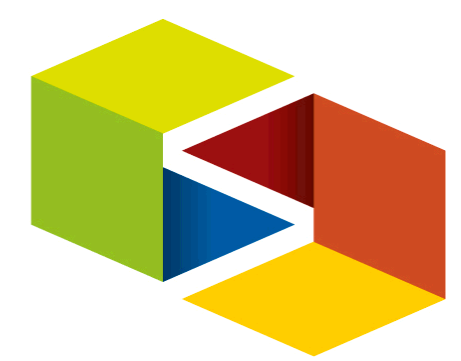
Developing Information Structure



Communication, Dissemination, Exploitation & Outreach



**EGDI**





# European Geological Data Infrastructure (EGDI)

## Data infrastructure



Web portal



2D Data



Isolated datasets



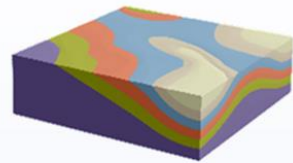
Professional users

## Knowledge infrastructure

### On-the-fly data analysis



Predictive modeling



1973 2021

3D/4D representation

### Intelligent search



Internet of things

### All types of users



<https://www.europe-geology.eu/>



**GSEU**  
GEOLOGICAL FOR  
SERVICE EUROPE





# European Geological Data Infrastructure (EGDI)

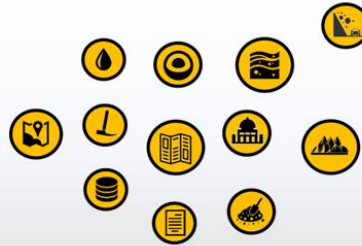
## Data infrastructure



Web portal



2D Data



Isolated datasets



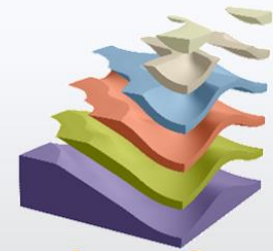
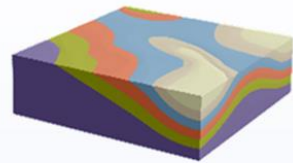
Professional users

## Knowledge infrastructure

### On-the-fly data analysis



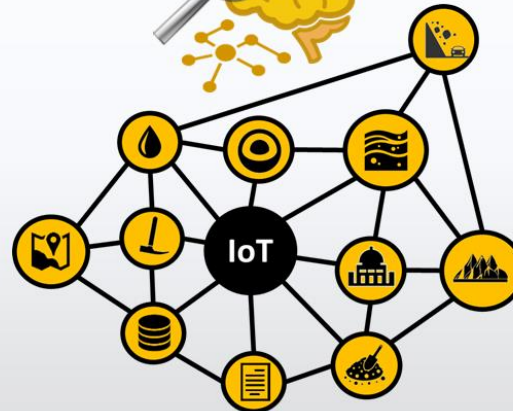
Predictive modeling



1973 2021

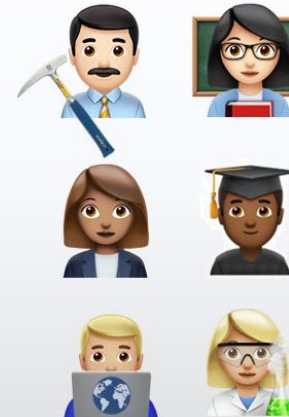
3D/4D representation

### Intelligent search



Internet of things

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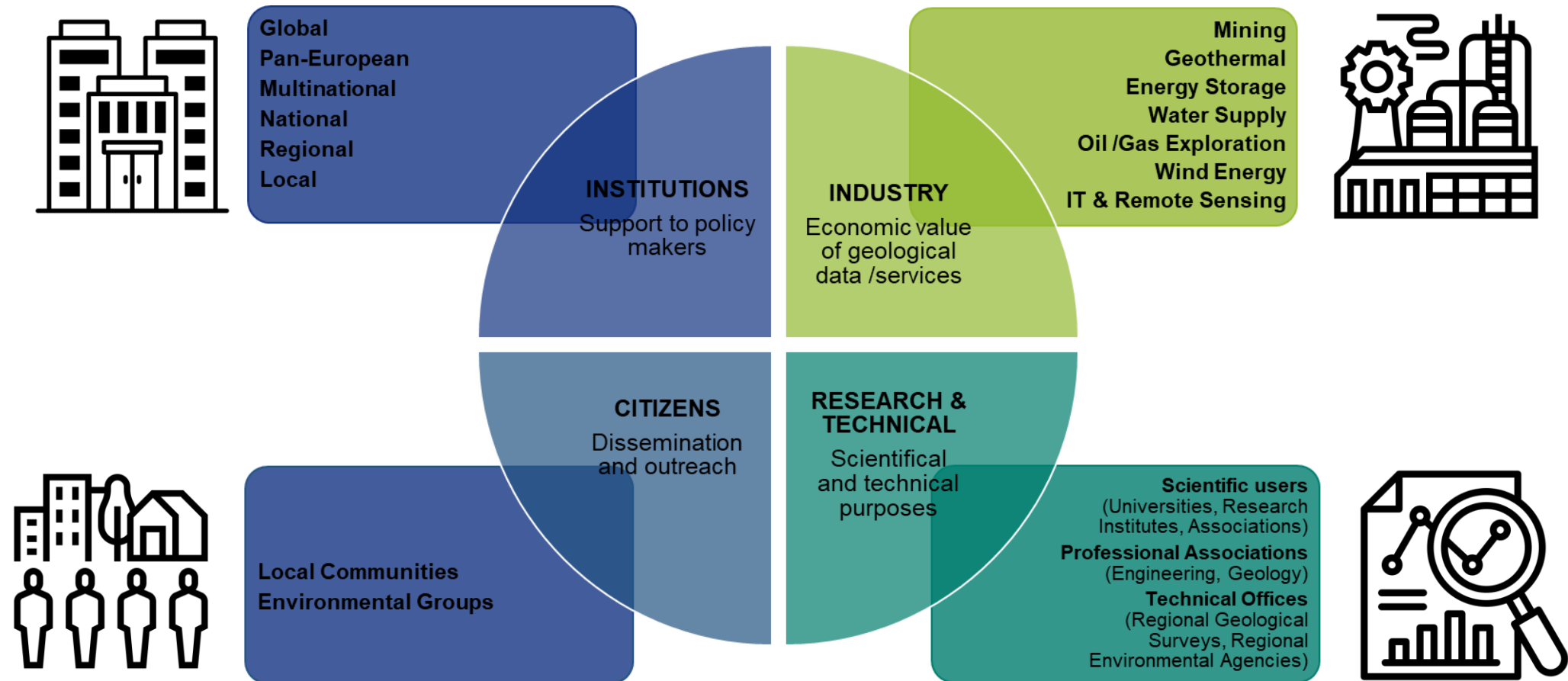


# Maximise Social Impact



# Stakeholder Engagement

We aim to inform and support a broad range of stakeholders – to raise awareness of the critical value of the earth beneath our feet and its role in a sustainable future.

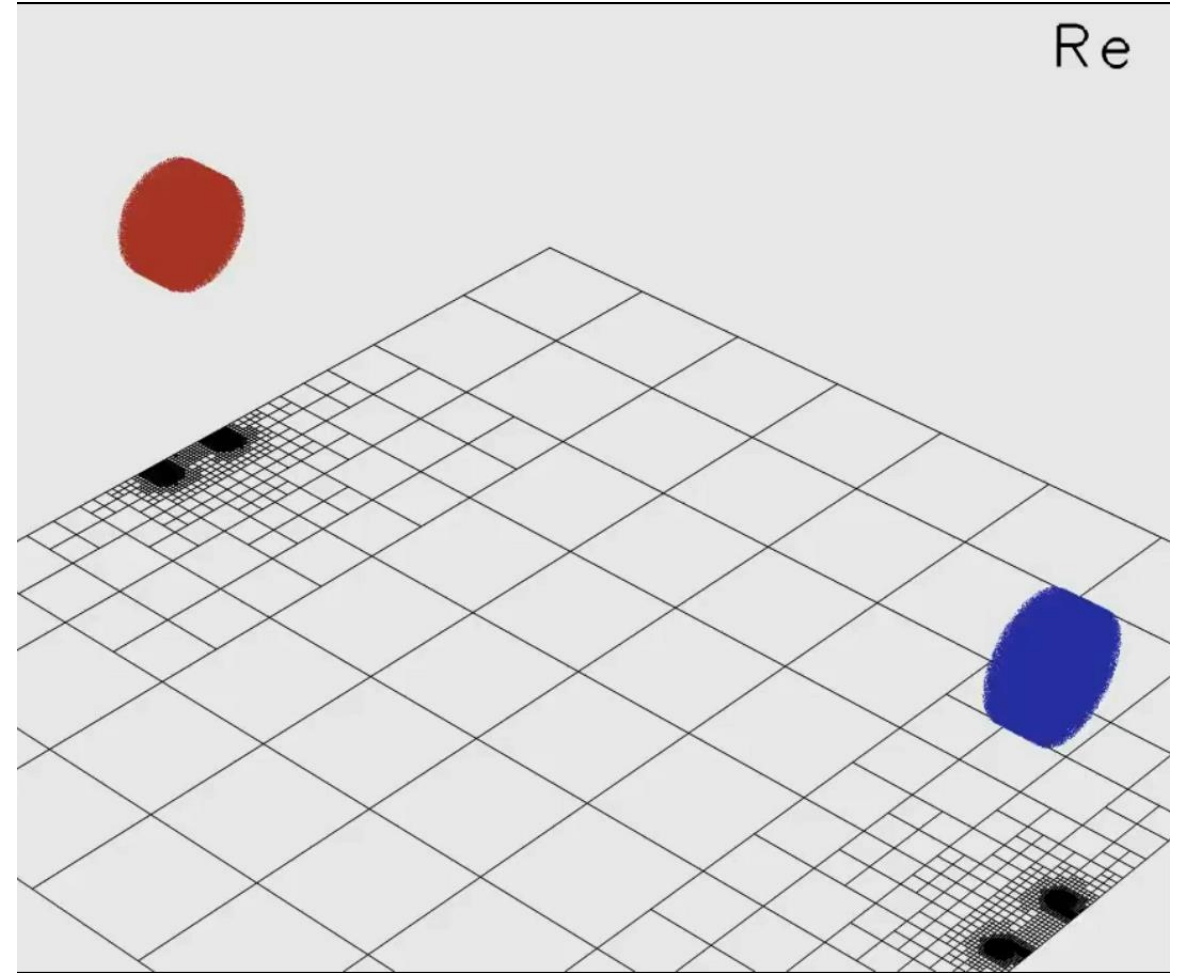
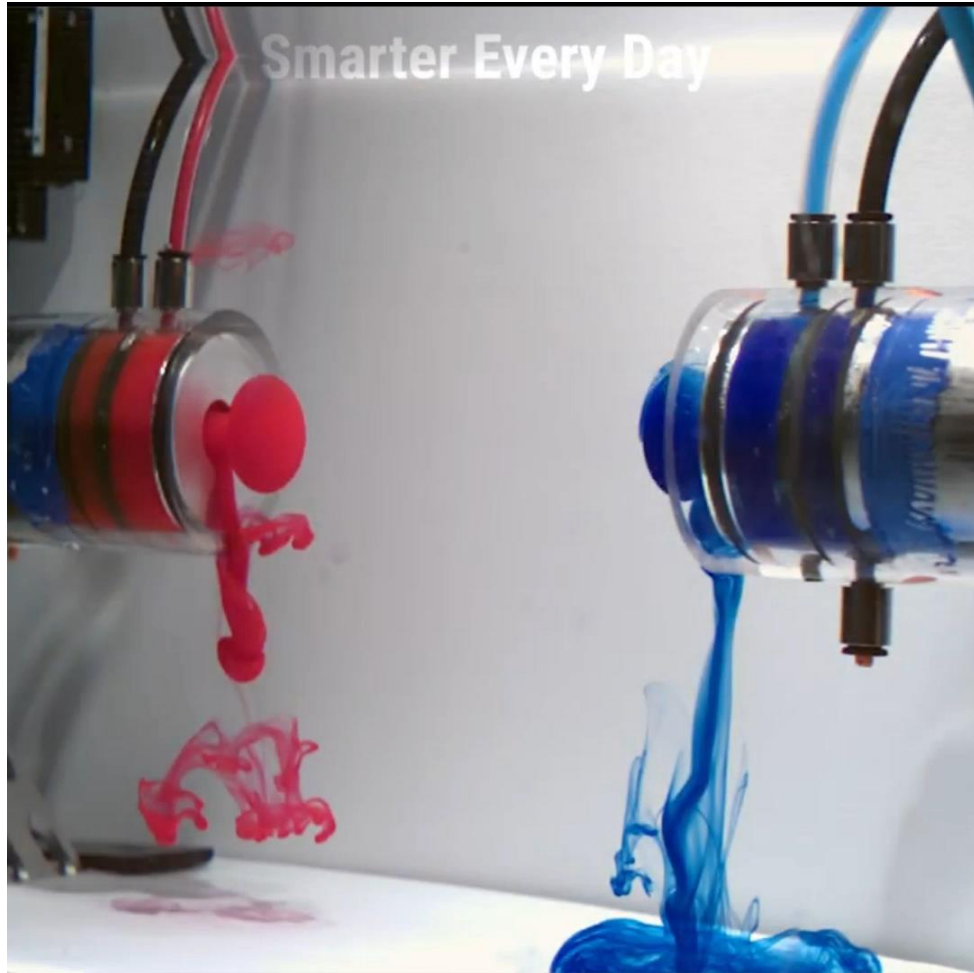




# **Bringing the subsurface into the light Making the Invisible, Visible**



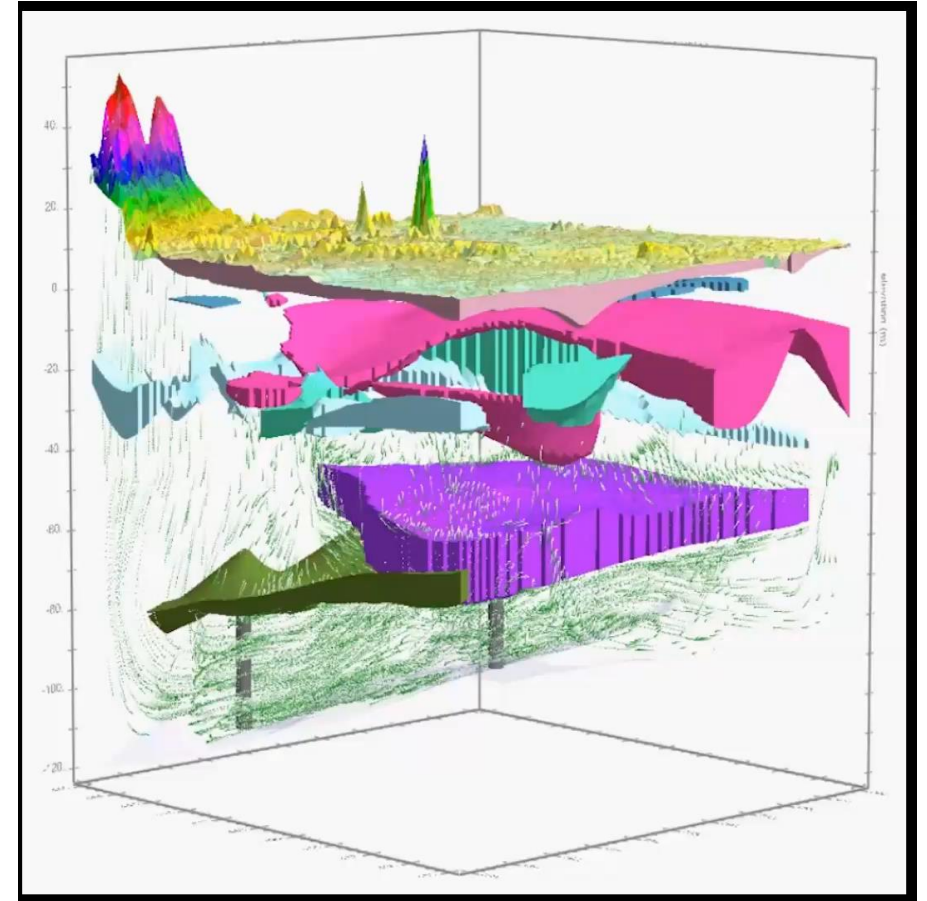
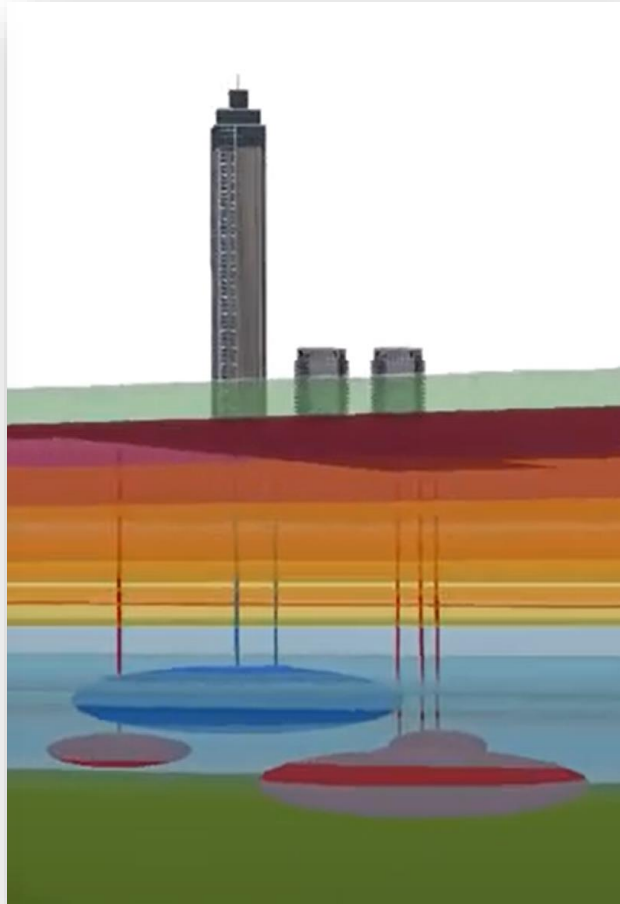
# The Visible

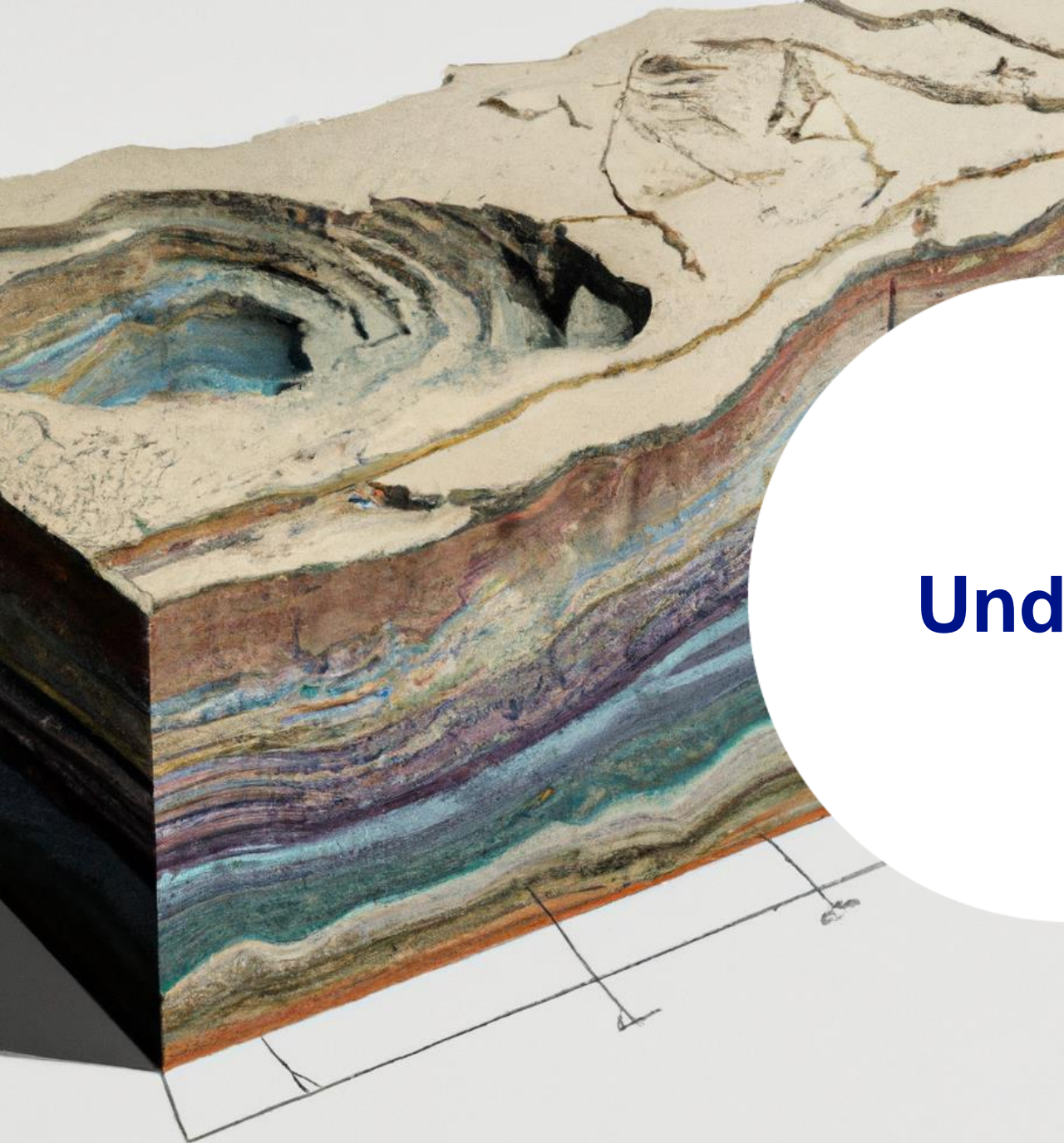


Sources: Smart Every Day – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVbdbVhzcM4&t=243s>, A. Kosior (2014) – <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compfluid.2012.01.014>



# The Invisible





# Underground Energy Storage



# Why is it Crucial to the Success of the Green Transition

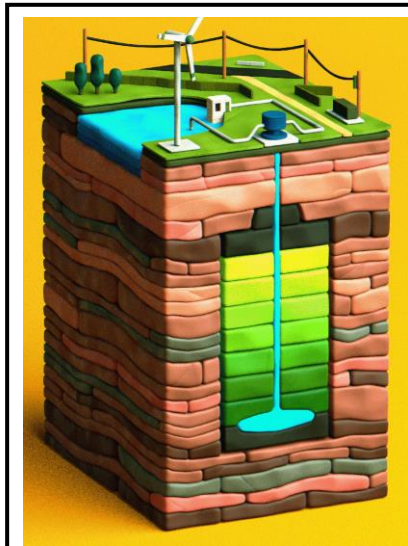
## Speeding up renewable energy – bottlenecks and how you resolve them



Scaling up renewables is crucial and beyond boosting yearly capacity additions, we also need a build-out of transmission lines grids, storage solutions and technologies that enable system flexibility.

**Forbes**

**We Have An Energy Storage Problem**



THE  
NEW YORKER

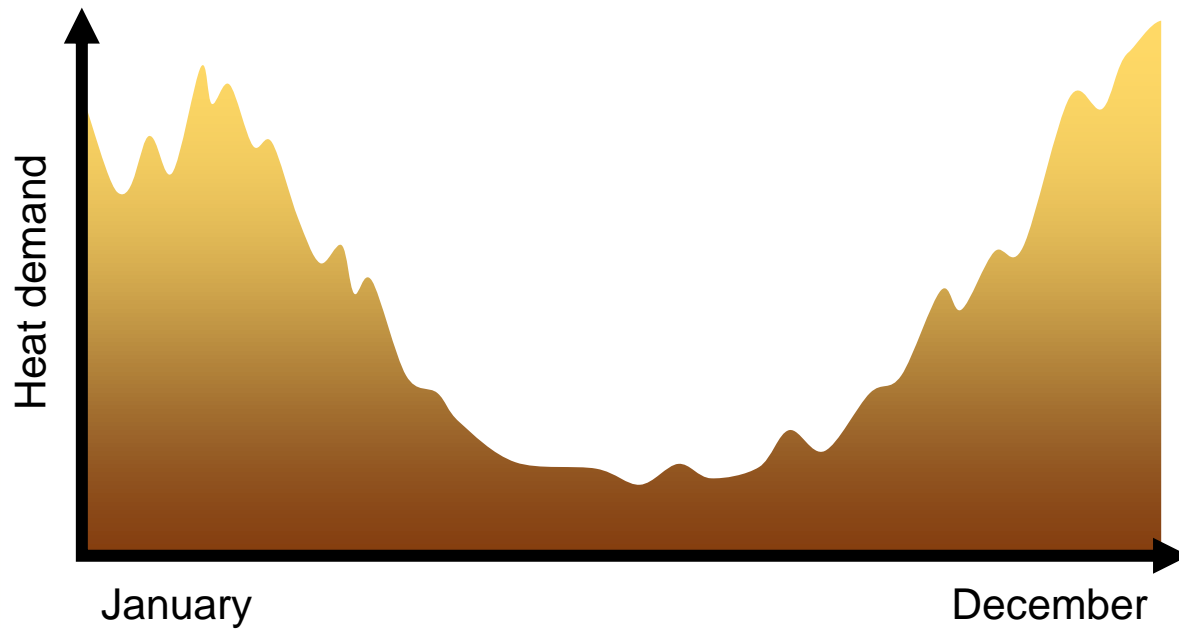
**THE RENEWABLE-  
ENERGY REVOLUTION  
WILL NEED RENEWABLE  
STORAGE**



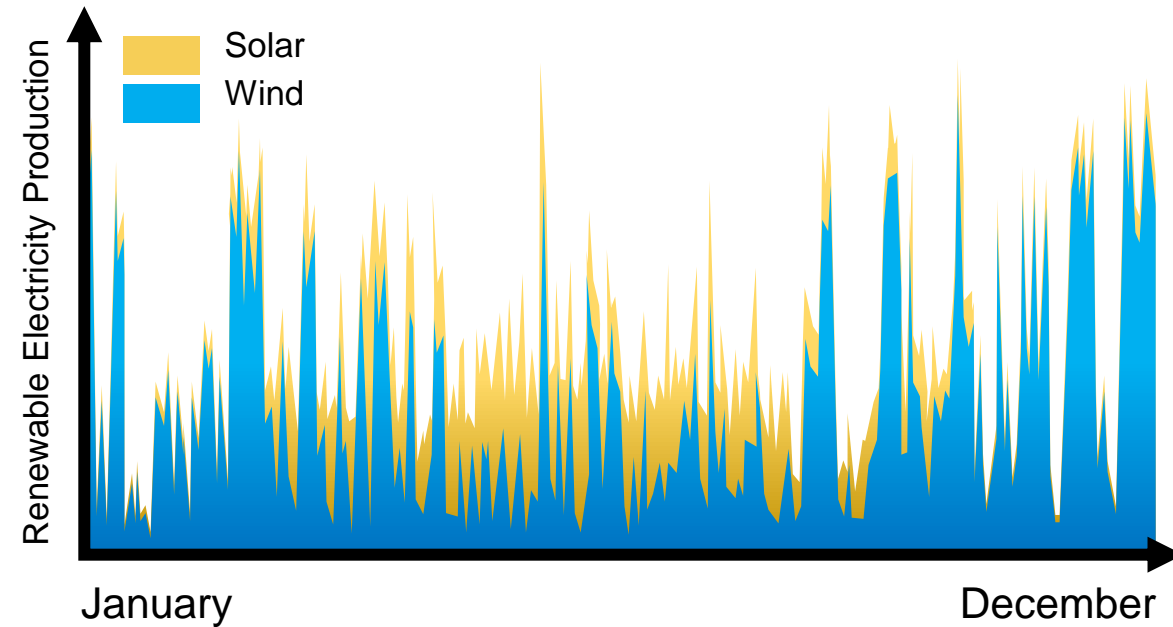


# Why is it Crucial to the Success of the Green Transition

How to match this energy demand profile ...



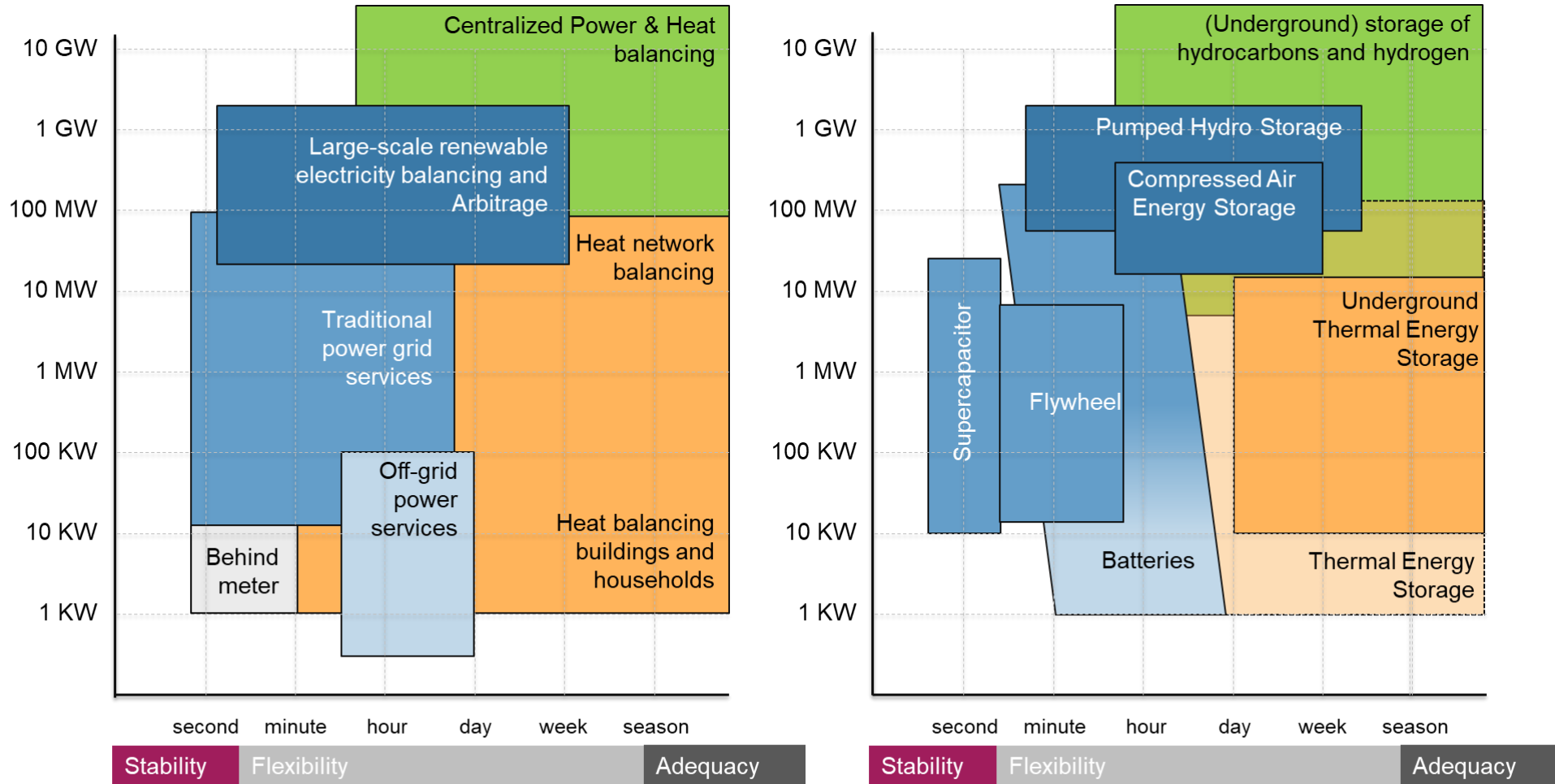
... with this energy production profile...



...without fossil fuels?



# Energy Systems Services & Storage





## Storage tanks

LNG  
HYDROGEN  
OIL / GASOIL  
LIQUID AIR  
HEAT



## Surface Electrical

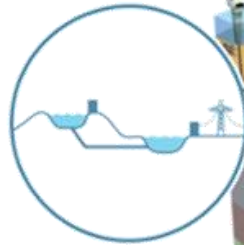
BATTERIES (DIVERSE SOORTEN)  
FLY WHEELS  
CAPACITORS  
SUPERCONDUCTIVE MAGNETS



Surface storage

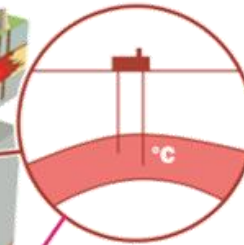
## (Elevated\*) Lakes Island Basins

PUMP ACCUMULATION  
(SURFACE WATER)



## Aquifers

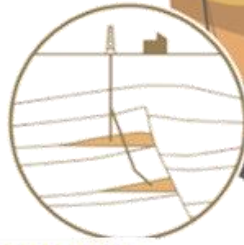
HOT/COLD WATER  
NATURAL GAS  
HYDROGEN  
COMPRESSED AIR/NITROGEN  
CO2  
BRINE



Underground storage

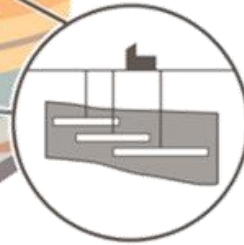
## Depleted Oil & Gas Fields

NATURAL GAS  
HYDROGEN  
COMPRESSED AIR/NITROGEN  
CO2  
PRODUCTION WATER / BRINE



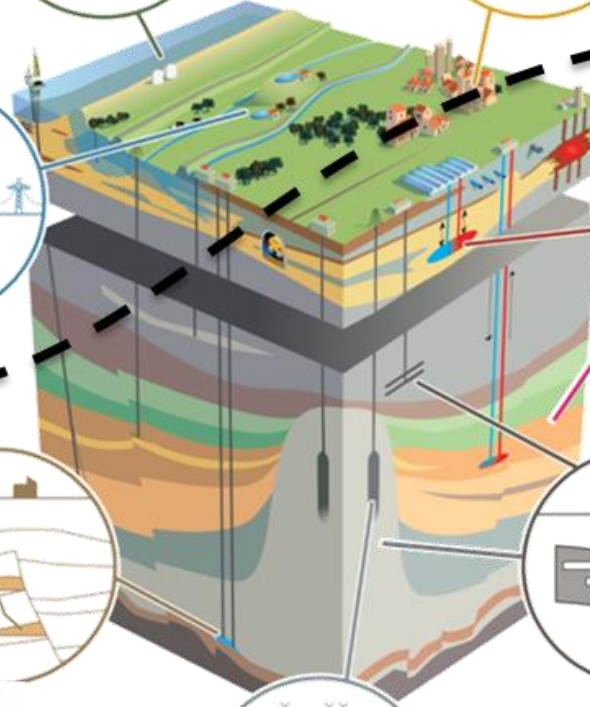
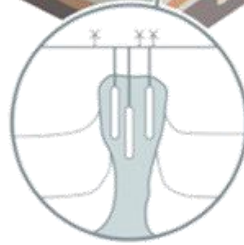
## Mines, Tunnels, Cavities

HOT/COLD WATER  
PUMP ACCUMULATION (WATER/BRINE)  
RADIOACTIVE & OTHER WASTE  
(NATURAL GAS \*)  
(COMPRESSED AIR/NITROGEN \*)



## Salt Caverns

NATURAL GAS  
HYDROGEN  
COMPRESSED AIR/NITROGEN  
GASOIL  
BRINE  
HELIUM





# What is Stopping/Slowing Down a Large-Scale Deployment of UES?



**Cost:** UES needs excavation, drilling, and infrastructures.



**Limited Geographic Availability:** EUS requires specific geological formations.



**Regulatory Hurdles:** the development and deployment of underground energy storage facilities require permits and approvals from various regulatory agencies (time-consuming and costly).



**Public Perception:** the public may be concerned about the safety and environmental impact of underground energy storage, which can make it difficult to gain support for new projects.



## How can the GSEU help?



**Cost:** The GSEU can use its knowledge to identify suitable sites for UES that are cost-effective to develop.



**Limited Geographic Availability:** GSEU's partners can conduct geological surveys to identify suitable formations for large-scale deployment UES.



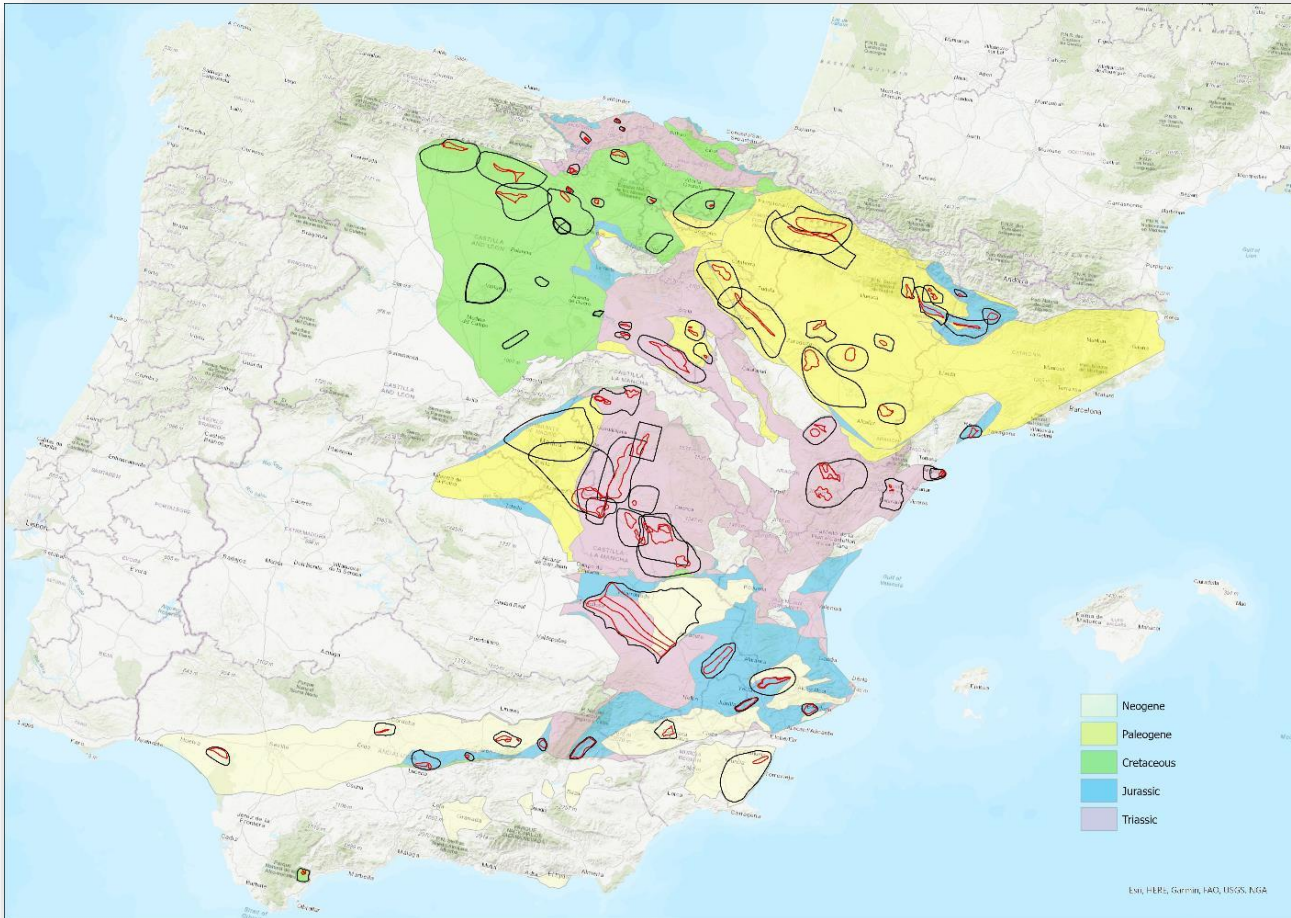
**Regulatory Hurdles:** the GSEU can provide guidance and support for the regulatory approval process. By working with regulatory agencies, we can help streamline the approval process and ensure that underground energy storage projects meet all necessary safety and environmental standards.



**Public Perception:** the GSEU can contribute to public outreach efforts by providing information on the safety and environmental impact of underground energy storage. Our partners, by engaging with local communities and stakeholders, can help address concerns and build support for underground energy storage projects.



# EGDI – Providing pan-EU map of UES potential in Europe: our approach



**Level 1** – Minimum information about all UES sites in Europe

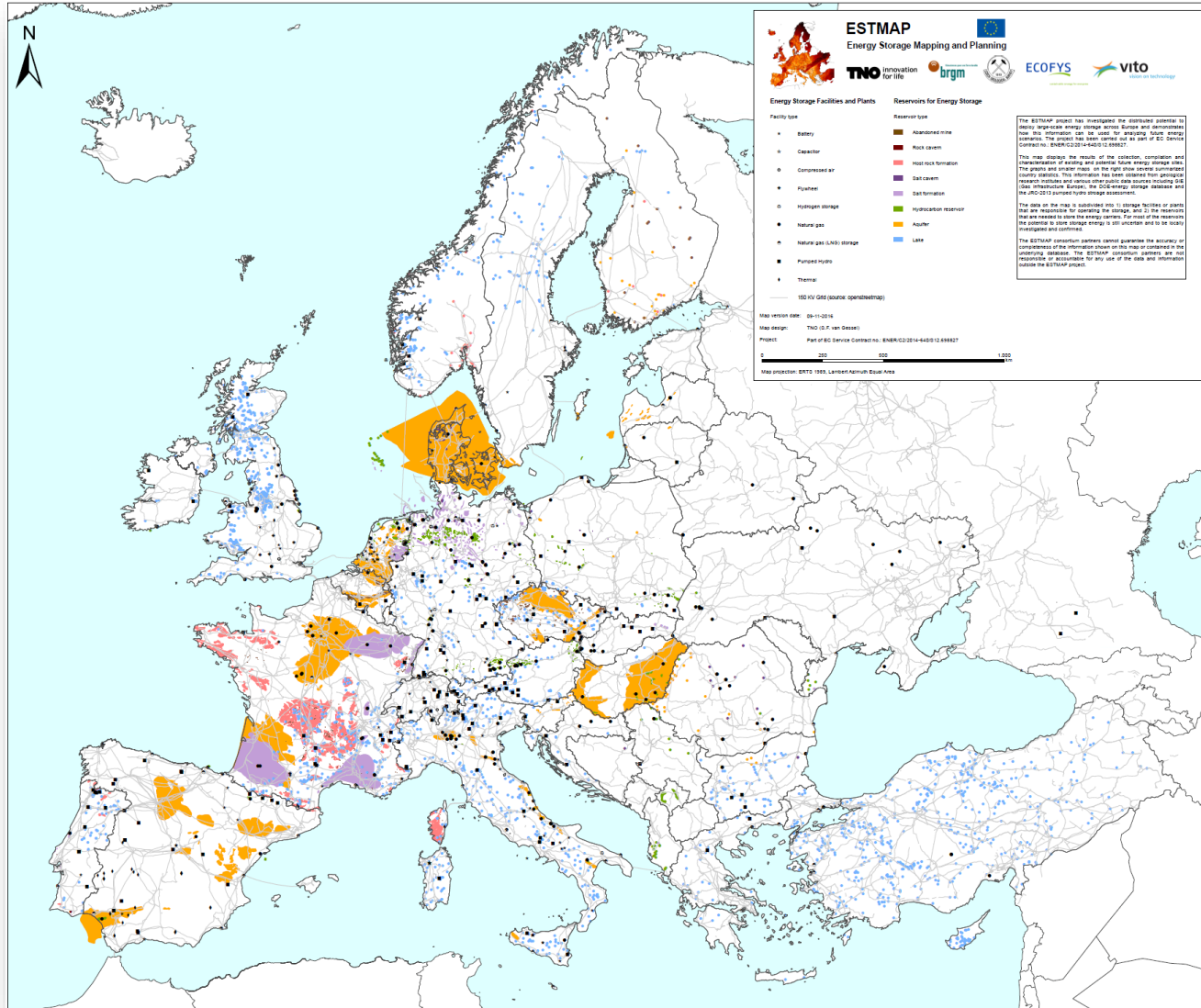
- Definition of the polygons of the formation's layers from isobaths maps
- Definition of storage units' polygons by grouping favorable structures
- Definition of traps polygons from the defined structures

**Level 2** – Covering all the EU with Level 1 maps

**Level 3** – Defining more detailed maps with more information and local studies



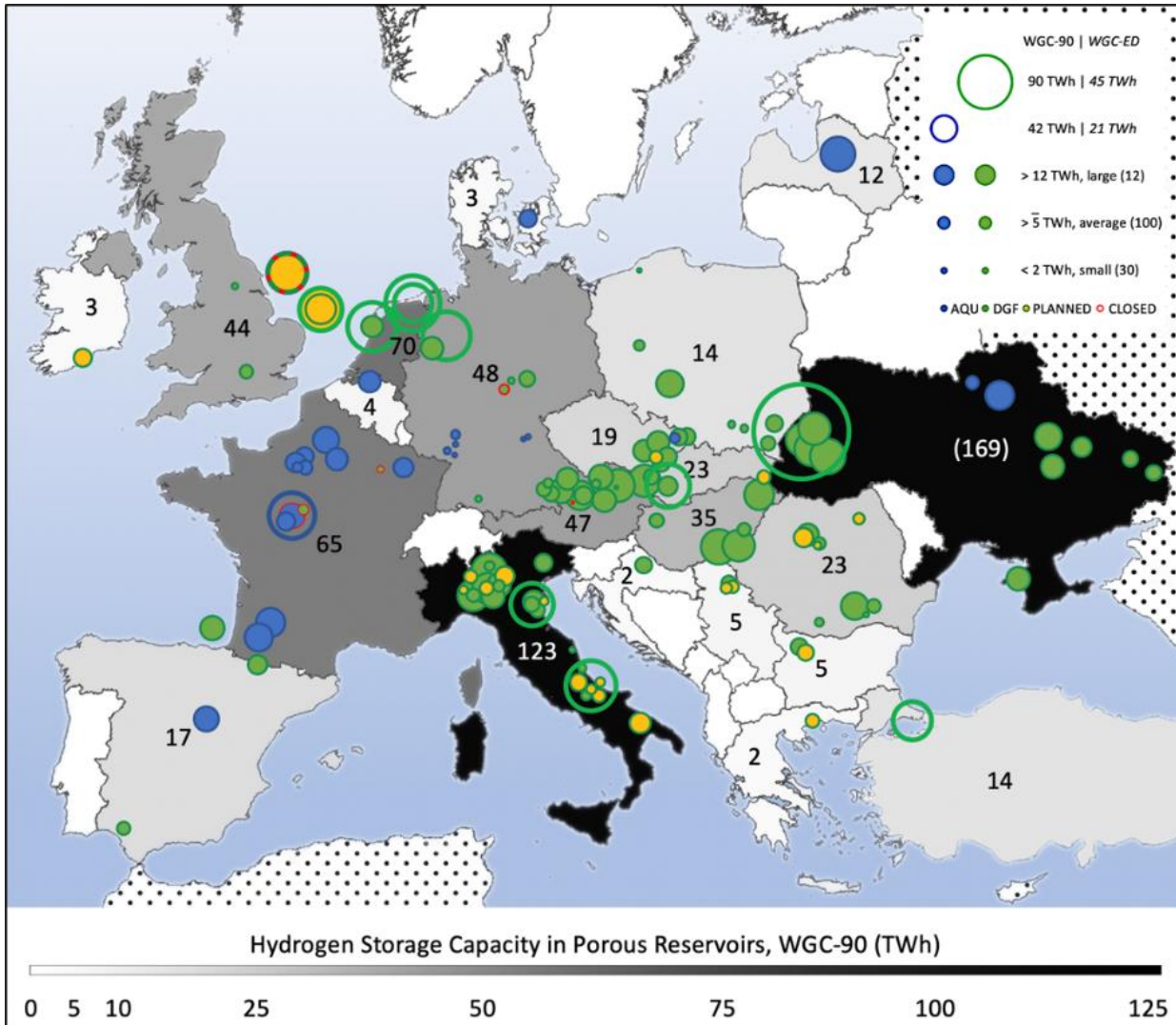
# EGDI – Energy Storage Mapping & Planning



- On Surface Sites
- Subsurface Sites
- Existing and Potential Sites
- Standardized Database
- Technology KPI's
- Application in EU systems models



# EGDI – Hydrogen Storage Capacity in Porous Reservoirs



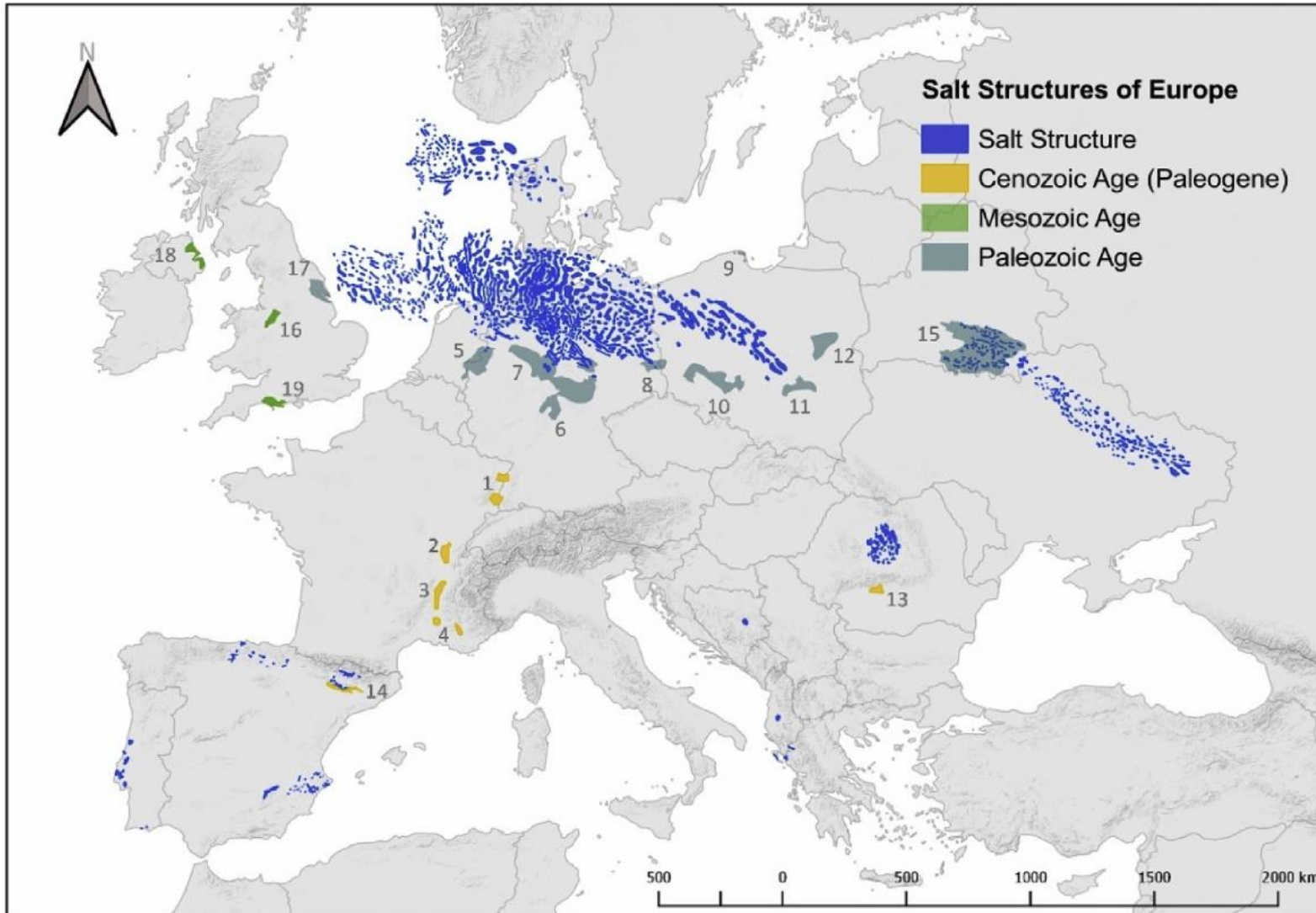
- Less advanced: pre-demonstration stage
- Many complexities (flow, recovery, quality)
- Larger capacities (typically 10-20x bigger than a cavern)
- Cushion gas requirements!
- Widespread potential

H2020 – HyUSPR: Cavanagh, AJ, Yousefi, SH, Wilkinson, M & Groenberg, RM. 2022: Hydrogen storage potential of existing European gas storage sites in depleted gas fields and aquifers.





# EGDI – Hydrogen Storage Capacity Salt Caverns

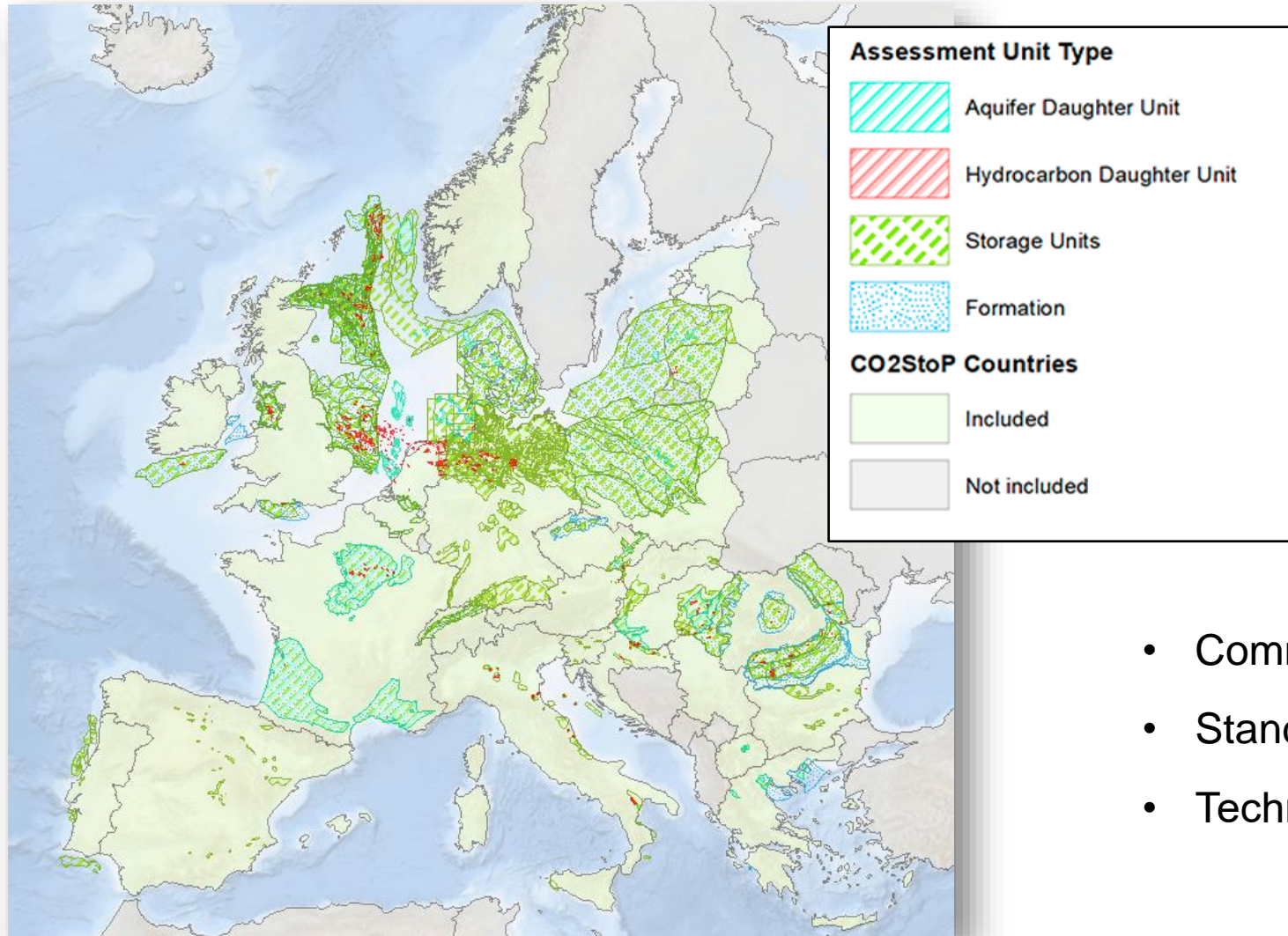


- Advanced stage: feasibility demonstrated
- Less complex than depleted reservoirs
- Smaller capacity (but scalable)
- Limited to specific regions

Caglayan, D.G., Weber, N., Heinrichs, H.U., Linßen, J., Robinus, M., Kukla, P.A., Stolten, D., 2020. Technical potential of salt caverns for hydrogenstorage in Europe



# EGDI – CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Potential in Europe

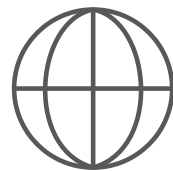


- Common Assessment Methodologies
- Standardized Database
- Technology KPI's



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