

# Carbon neutral archipelago – 100% renewable energy supply for the Canary Islands

Sonja Simon, Hans Christian Gils,  
German Aerospace Center, Stuttgart

JRC - Resilience Seminar Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017



Knowledge for Tomorrow



# Objective

**Background:** Global carbon budget → 70-90% GHG reduction by 2050 is necessary → complete decarbonisation of the energy system

**Main objective:** Development of consistent and robust transformation concepts towards **100% renewable energy systems**

→ Assessing feasibility and viability

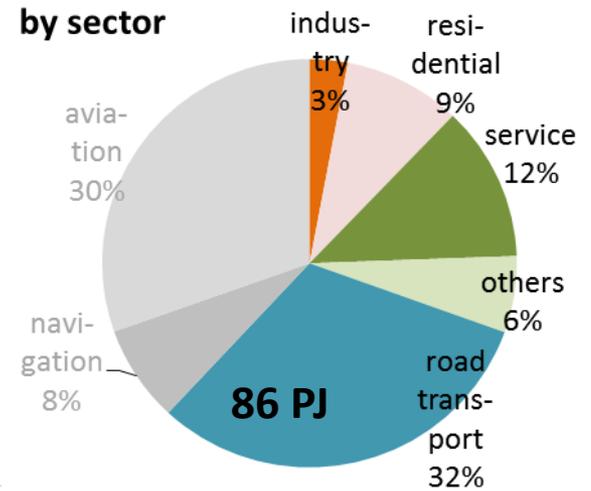
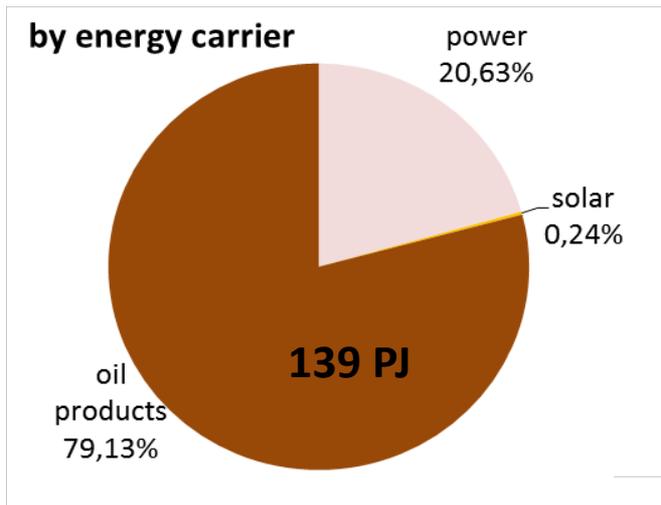
→ Transferrable methodology

→ Targeting the **Canary Islands:** remote, largely dependent on fossil fuels & mainly on imports

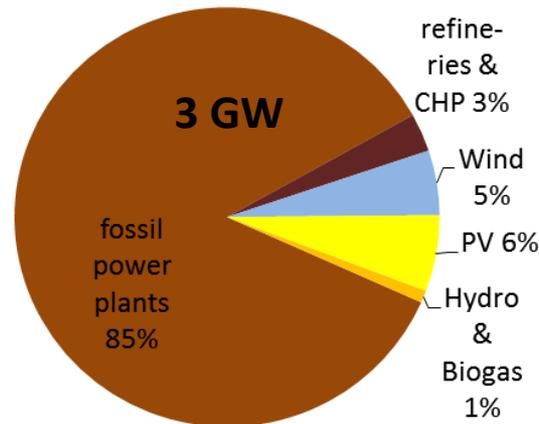


# Current status of the energy system on the Canary Islands

## Final energy demand (2015)

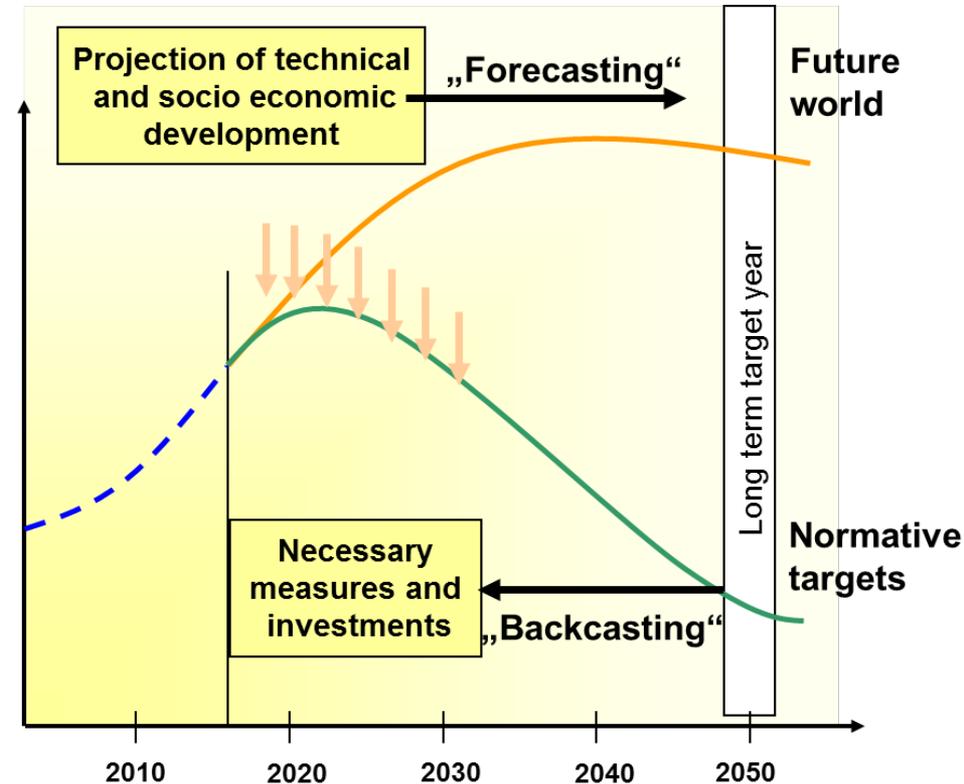


## power capacity

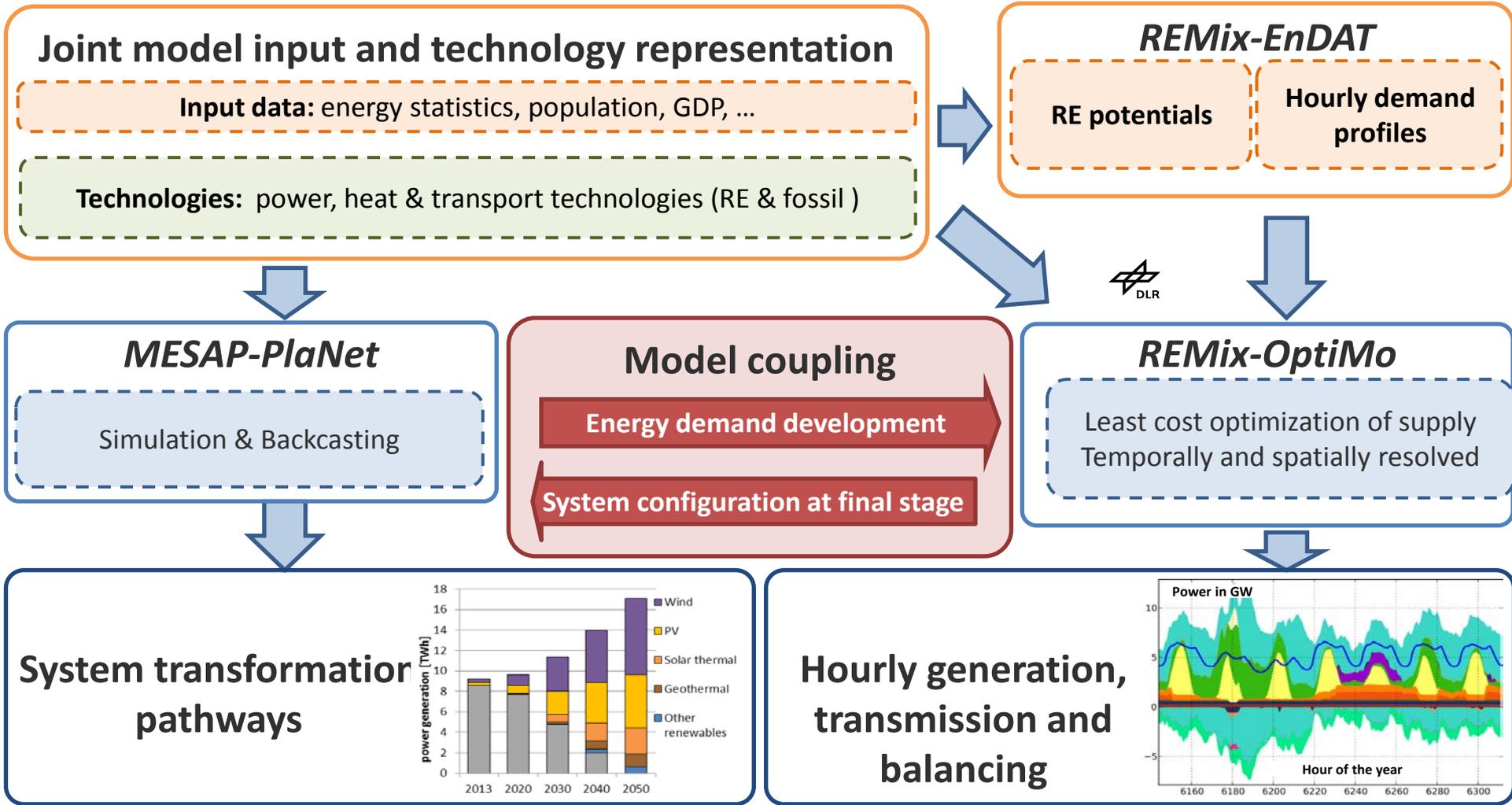


# Scenario approach: target orientation and backcasting

- Target: **100%RE** in 2050
- Including only **proven** Technologies
- Assessing effects of **sector coupling** and efficiency targets
- Optimizing demand and supply in power system with high shares of **Variable Renewable Energy (VRE)** in the target year
- **Backcasting** of transformation pathways for the heat, transport and power sectors



# Modelling approach: MESAP and REMix



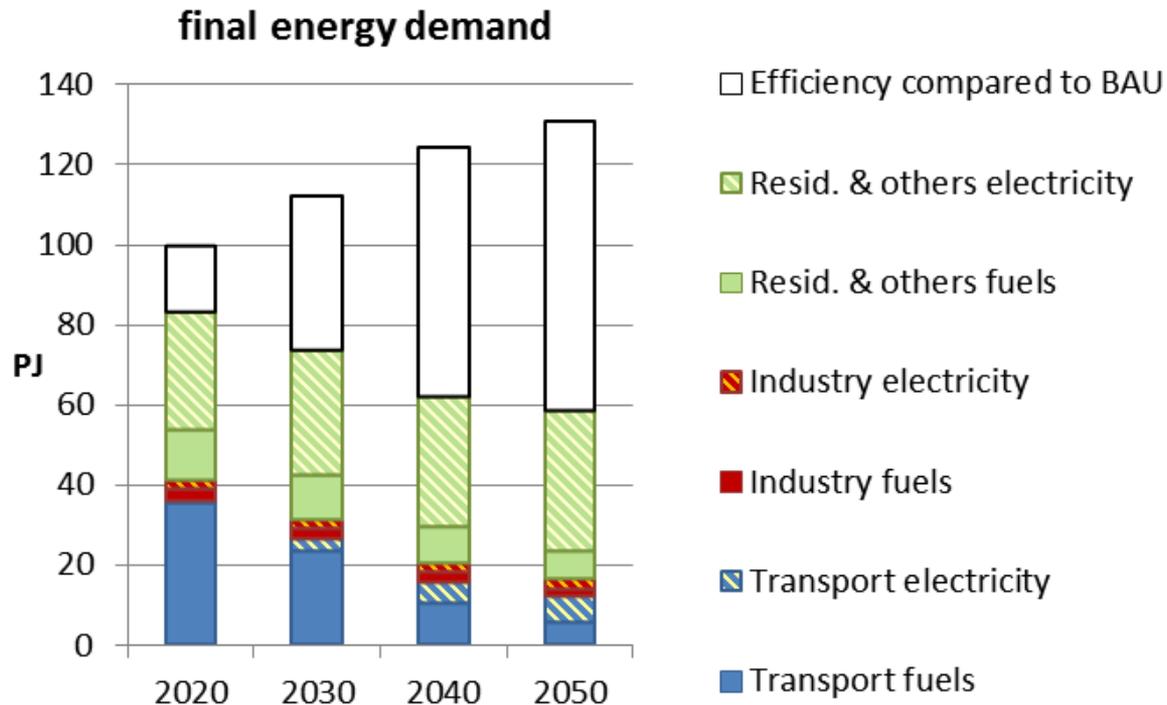
# Drivers and input data

- Population development: based on projections for Spain; considering increasing tourism
- Economic growth: Business-as-usual scenario based on developments for Spain
- Renewable energy potentials by island

	Photovoltaics	Concentrating Solar Power (CSP)	Wind onshore	Wind offshore fix	Wind offshore floating
	MW	MW (th)	MW	MW	MW
<b>El Hierro</b>	39	0	58	107	342
<b>Fuerteventura</b>	477	8892	1824	846	2592
<b>Gran Canaria</b>	2205	1523	896	332	1510
<b>La Gomera</b>	67	0	106	139	696
<b>La Palma</b>	224	0	116	171	771
<b>Lanzarote</b>	581	2157	512	589	1660
<b>Tenerife</b>	2876	0	388	428	1414
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,468</b>	<b>12,572</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>2,612</b>	<b>8,985</b>



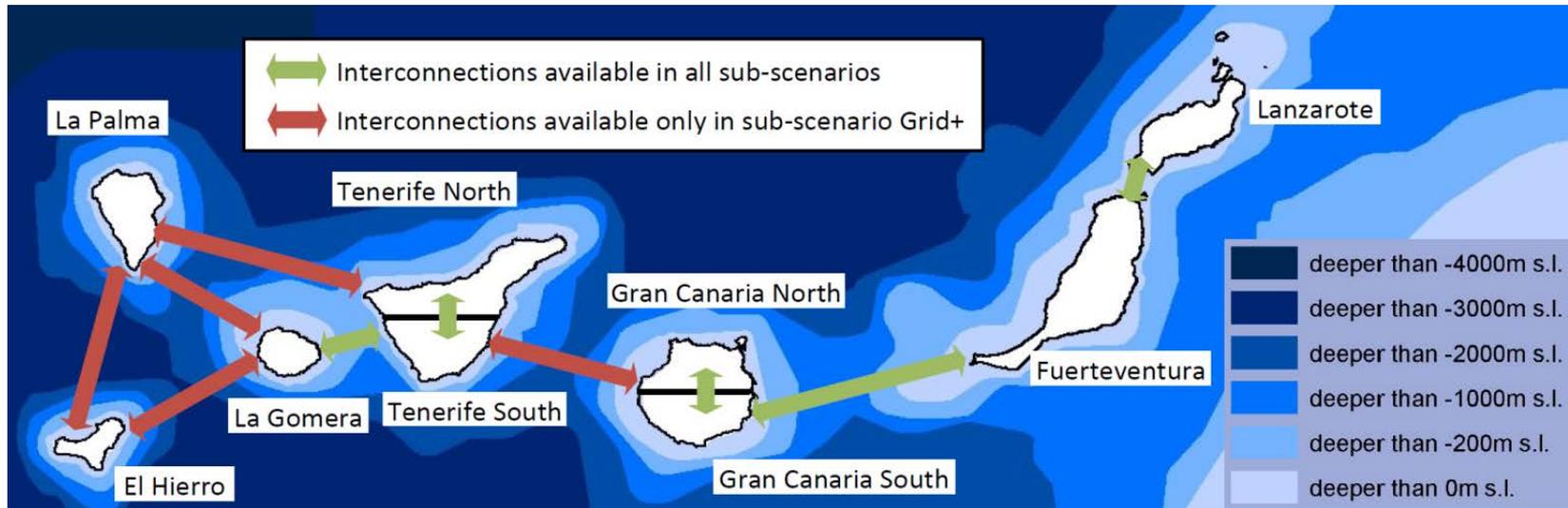
# Demand assessment



- Efficiency potentials based on best available technologies & electrification of heat and transport
- Assessing power demand for heat, transport & synthetic H<sub>2</sub>



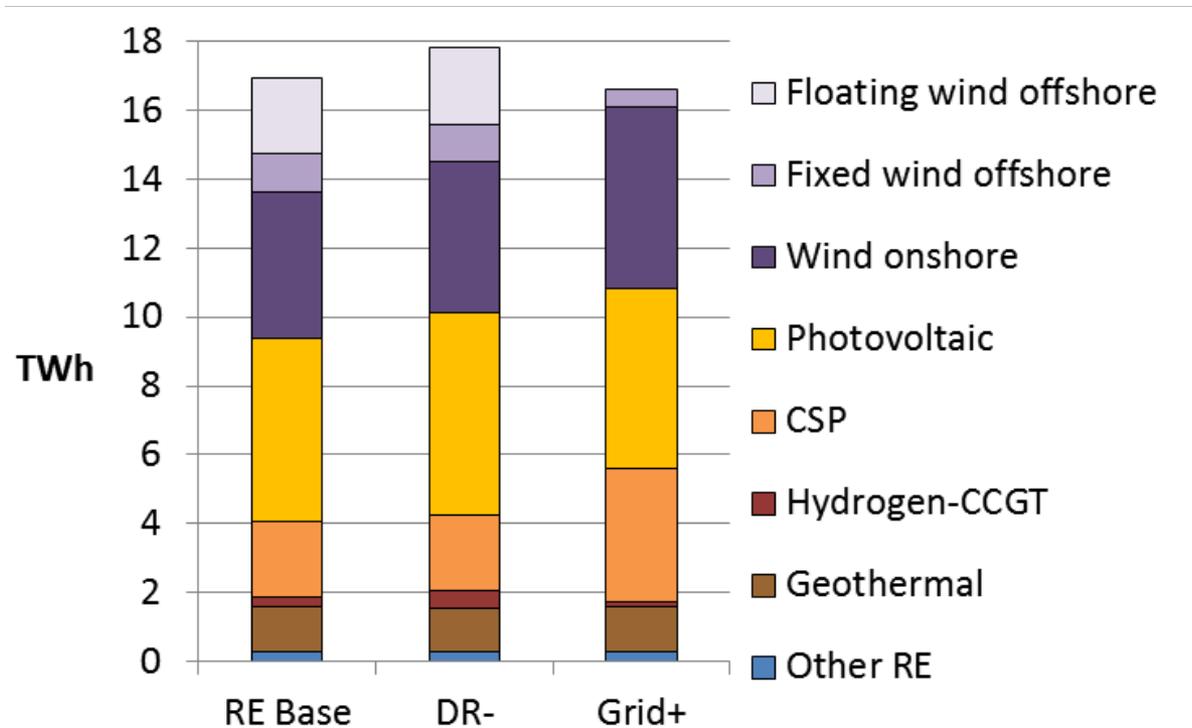
# Optimization for the Canary Islands



- Limited potential for hydro, wave, geothermal and biomass (total 2.5 GW)
- Sub-Scenarios targeting effects of
  - existing and planned power grid (RE Base)
  - demand response (DR-)
  - additional grid connections (Grid+)



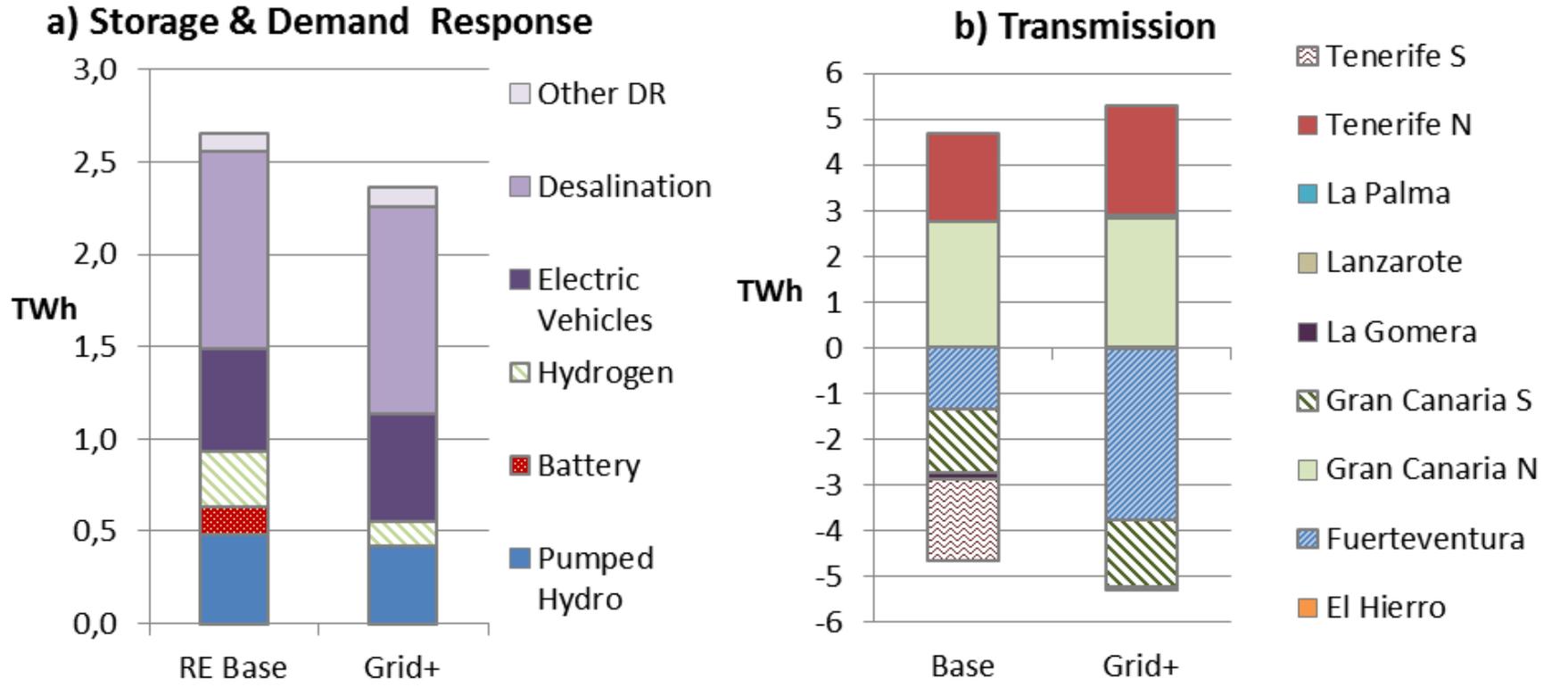
# Optimization results power supply for 2050



- PV and Onshore wind potentials are exploited to a large extent
- Additional inter-island grid connections favour CSP & onshore wind and reduce floating offshore wind installations



# Results power supply: Canary Islands 2050

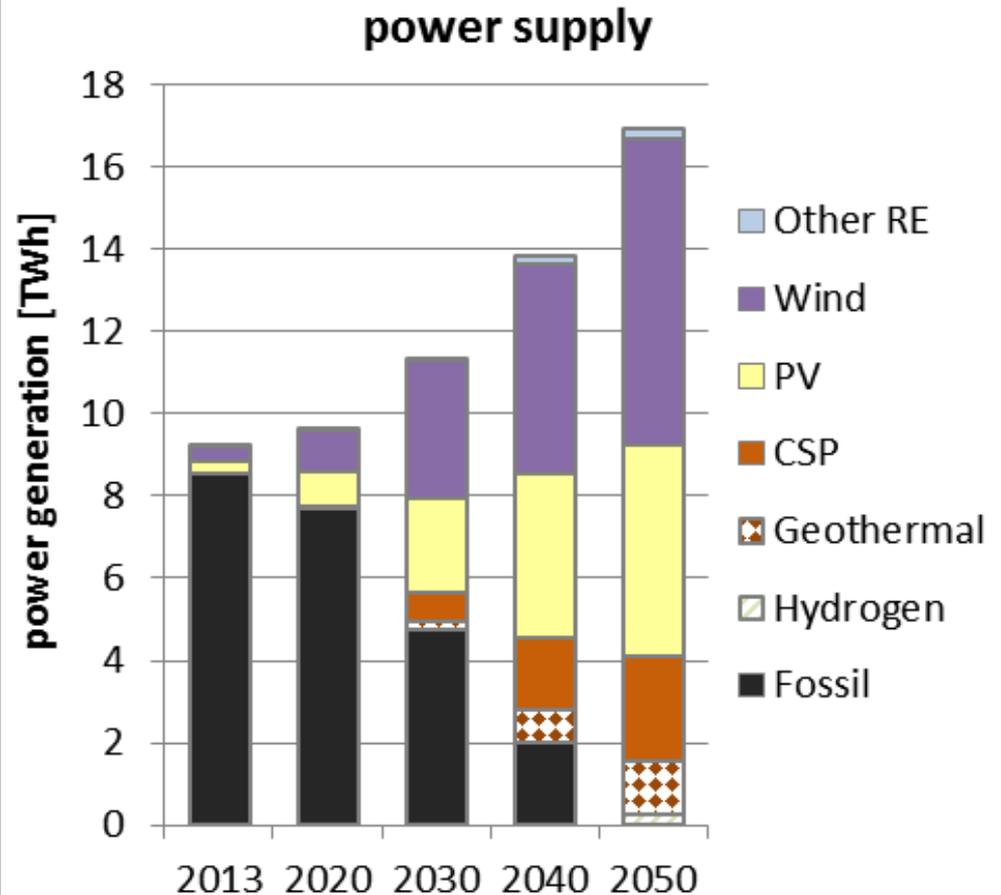


- 25 % of total power production is transmitted to other regions
- Grid expansion taps wind potential in Fuerteventura & provides a potential to reduce system costs by 15%

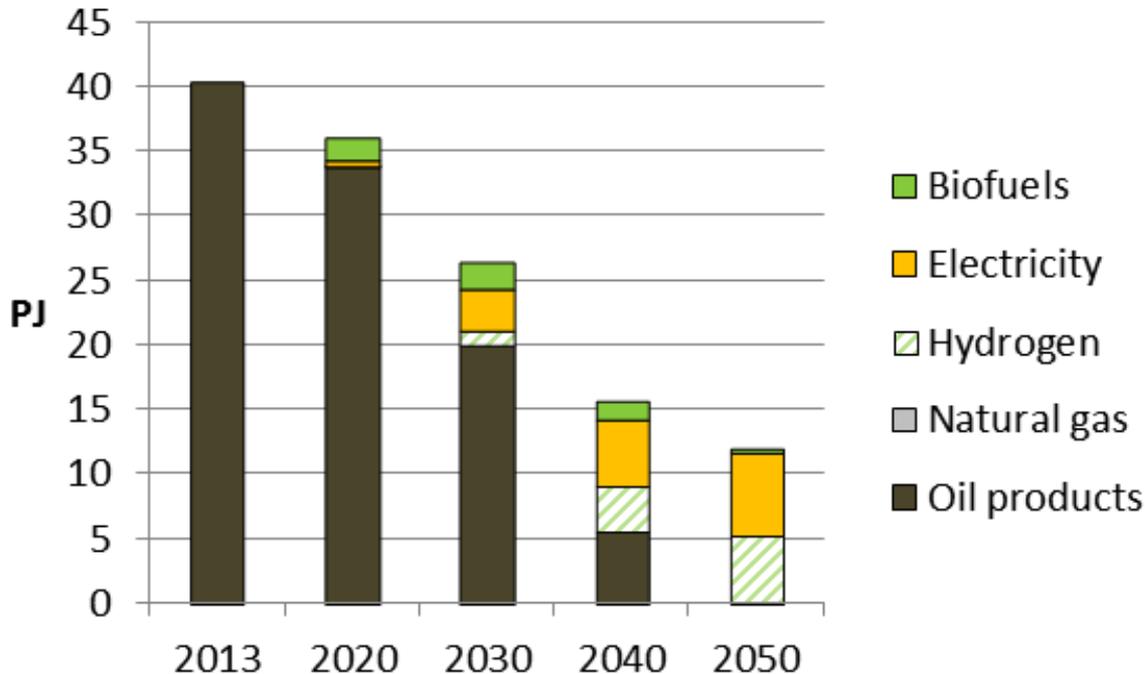


# Transformation pathways for the power sector (RE Base)

- Significant expansion of wind & PV necessary before 2030
- Early diversification is important
- Relevant shares of dispatchable power generation necessary from 2030 on in order to phase out fossil power
  - Geothermal
  - CSP
  - RE Hydrogen



# Transformation pathways for road transport

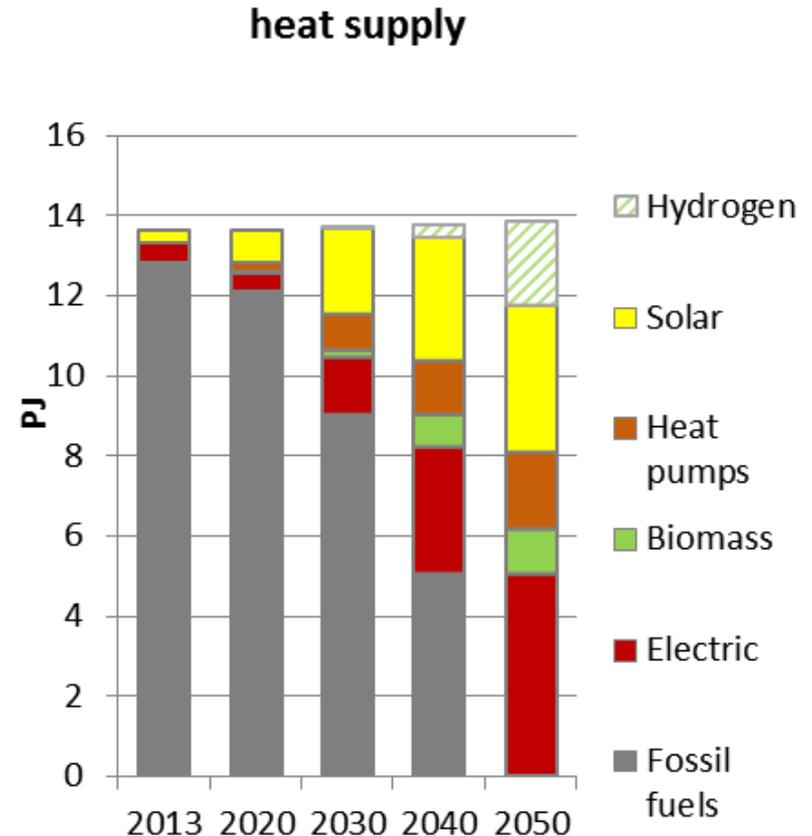


- Reduction of energy demand by electrification
- Short distances on the islands ideal for replacing internal combustion engines (ICE) in individual road traffic with electric vehicles (EV)
- Biofuels (from imports) only for transition
- Hydrogen from VRE for heavy duty vehicles

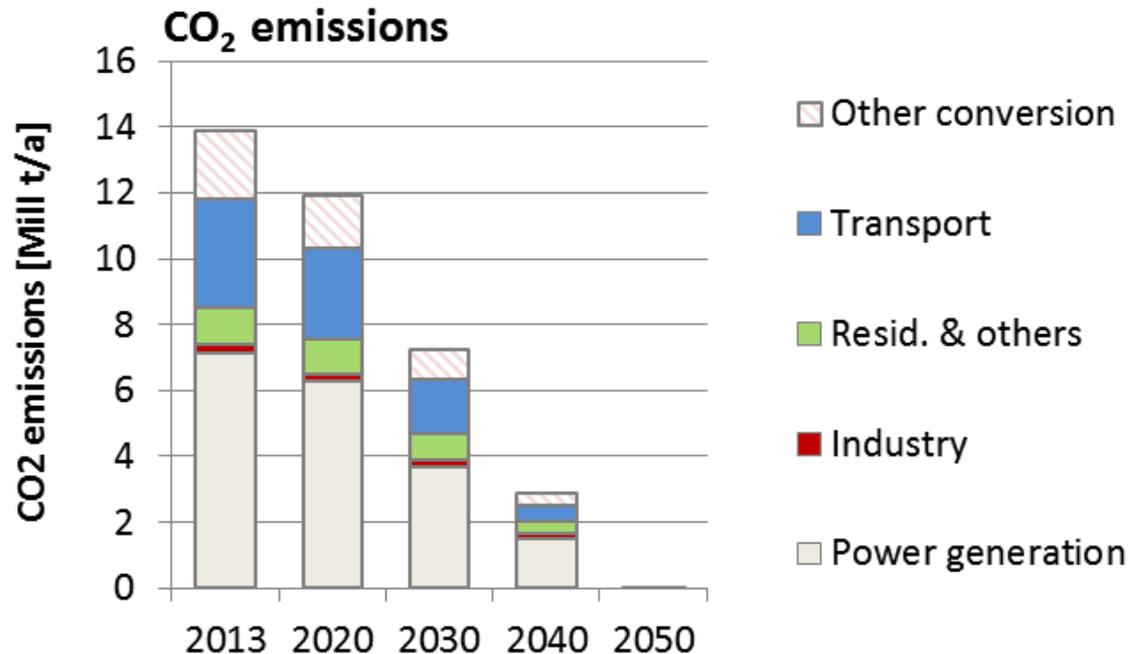


# Transformation pathways for the heat sector

- Electric heat supply necessary to transform the complete system
- Hot water & heating for residential and service: heat pumps and solar
- Efficient CHP from Biomass
- High temperature process heat → hydrogen, if biomass is not available



# Resulting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and costs



- Phase out of direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050
- In the power sector 70% of VRE are backed up by CSP and grid extension at costs of around 17-20 €/ct/kWh
- Additional storage and grid infrastructures account for 1/3 of the costs



# Conclusions

- Scenarios provide insight, what is necessary to completely phase out CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Island energy systems
- Sector coupling (EV, hydrogen, heat storage) is essential to tap VRE potential
- Grid extensions are essential for cost efficiency
- Secured capacity from CSP, geothermal and H2 reconversion

**Our results show, that the Canary Islands can completely provide their own heat and road transport supply as well as an increase power demand can be securely supplied by RE in 2050**



## Publications:

Gils, H.C. and Simon, S. (2017) Carbon neutral archipelago – 100% renewable energy supply for the Canary Islands, Applied Energy, 188: 342-355. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2016.12.023>

Gils, H. C.; Scholz, Y.; Pregger, T.; Luca de Tena, D.; Heide, D., Integrated modelling of variable renewable energy-based power supply in Europe. Energy 2017, 123, 173-188. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2017.01.115>.

Krewitt, W., Teske, S., Simon, S., Pregger, T., Graus, W., Blomen, E., et al. (2009) Energy [R]evolution 2008 - a sustainable world energy perspective. Energy Policy;37: 5764-75. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2009.08.042>

Krewitt, W., Simon, S., Graus, W., Teske, S., Zervos, A., Schäfer, O. (2007) The 2°C scenario - A sustainable world energy perspective. Energy Policy;35: 4969-80. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2007.04.034>

## Contact:

Dr. Sonja Simon

German Aerospace Center, Stuttgart, Germany

Sonja.Simon@dlr.de



# Thank you very much for your attention!

## **Aknowledgements:**

This project was partially funded by Greenpeace Spain within the Energy [R]evolution project series. The modeling of the Canary Islands power system relied on input data from Red Eléctrica de España, Endesa Energía SA & Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias

