

University of Stuttgart
Institute for Energy Efficiency
in Production EEP

Framing the ambition of carbon neutrality

Group of Experts on Energy
Efficiency
-Seventh session
22 and 25 September 2020

**Stefan M.
Buettner**



I. Defining carbon neutrality

An important, but unclear definition

- Carbon
 - CO₂ is not the only Greenhouse Gas (GHG)
 - Other gases, such as methane or nitrous oxide, also contribute to climate change
 - Do we count these other gases?
- Neutrality:
 - *Absolute vs. Net*
 - Absolute: no emissions remaining
 - Net: emissions are balanced out through compensatory measures

Ib. Defining carbon neutrality

Other “Neutralities”

- *Climate* neutrality:
 - Considers all GHGs
 - Only considers change to climate
- *Environmental* neutrality
 - Considers any substances harmful to the environment
 - Such as pesticides, soot, particulates etc.
- Important to conceptualize and address carbon, climate and environmental neutralities and succinctly distinguish which is being targeted

II. Necessity of establishing clarity on the target variable

- How will decision makers be able to make decisions if the issue to decide or act upon itself is not sufficiently clear?
 - Mutual understanding on targets and definitions is key.
- The “*do you know what I mean?*” problem:
 - Stakeholder both agree, but agree to different terms

- In practice, climate and environmental neutrality are often confused with one another, as are carbon and climate neutrality.
 - Further illustrates the importance of mutual understanding

III. The hidden long-term relevance of Industry

Why Industry and Manufacturing matter to the Climate

- Industry accounted for approximately 18% of global GHG emissions in 2018
 - In Germany, that number jumps to 23% (1/3rd process emissions)
- Long-Term:
 - What Industry decides today, impacts everything else tomorrow
 - Example:
 - What power plants are built, how buildings are constructed, which cars are manufactured.
 - These can have long lifespans, which contribute more emissions during said lifetimes than during the manufacturing process

IV. Carbon neutrality in industry

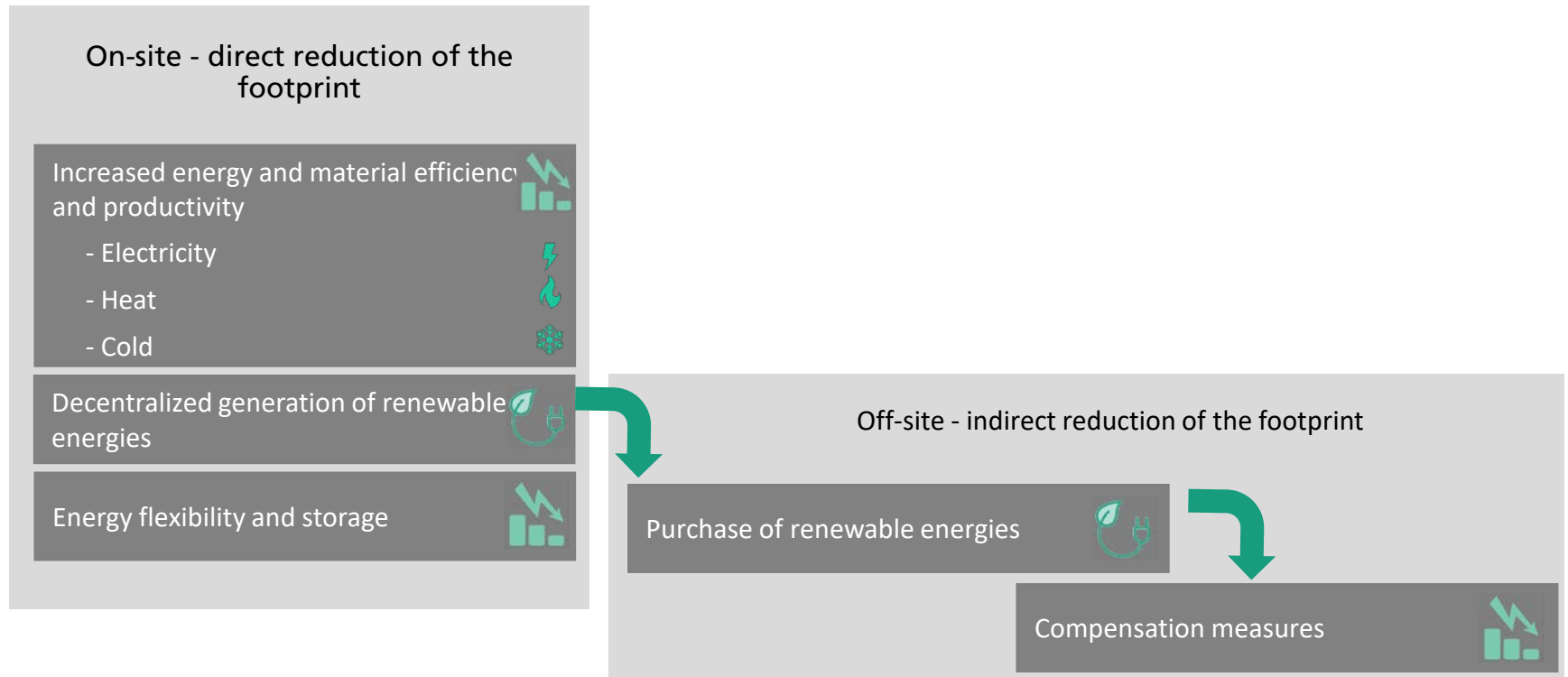
Why Industry and Manufacturing matter to the Climate

- Working towards carbon (or climate) neutrality effectively requires assessing the status quo.
- What has to be understood:
 - How effective are current policies considered to facilitate an increase in energy efficiency in industry?
 - What measures, if any, are being taken by companies to reduce their carbon footprint?
 - Are energy, resource and carbon footprint being considered during product development?
 - What GHG reduction do companies aim for within the next 5 years?
 - Impact of Covid-19

IV. Carbon neutrality in industry

- Goal: Industry and Policymakers can be on the same page regarding climate strategies
 - Example: If companies aim to decarbonise by largely switching to renewable electricity, this may lead to a demand overshoot: the increase in renewable electricity is not sufficiently high to satisfy the increase in demand for renewable electricity
- Recommendation:
 - (1) to reduce energy and resource consumption and then
 - (2) to substitute from renewable sources, before
 - (3) compensating what is left

IVb. Carbon neutrality in industry -neutral



V. Conclusion

What is needed

- A clear definition and mutual understanding of the target variable
- The industrial sector is varied in different dimensions. The sector has a pivotal role in enabling us to achieve the goal set
- Understanding the sectors' actions, plans and ambitions
 - This is where the *Energy Efficiency Barometer of Industry* comes in
 - Sheds light on the current realities in manufacturing across all company sizes, 27 manufacturing sectors and different energy intensities across the ECE region
- Experts' and Countries' support in reaching out to companies across the ECE constituency to gather status quo evidence

The #EEBarometer covers 88 countries in 10 languages

United Kingdom:



Italy:



Associazione dei costruttori e distributori di impianti di cogenerazione

Germany:



Canada:



Sweden:



United States:



Latvia:



Poland:



Mexico:



Slovenia:



Launching the #EEBarometer
www.eep.uni-stuttgart.de/eee



- Country specific barometer and economic indicator
- Country specific barometer
- Global barometer in widely used languages
- Global barometer in English, French, Spanish, Russian or German

Spain:



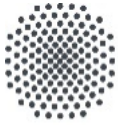
Austria:



Global: ENERGY EFFICIENCY in Industrial Processes



English · Spanish · French · Russian · German



University of Stuttgart
Institute for Energy Efficiency
in Production EEP

Thank You!

Dipl.-Volkswirt

Stefan M. Buettner

*Director, Global Strategy & Impact
Chair, UNECE Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency*



E-Mail Stefan.buettner@eep.uni-stuttgart.de

Telephone +49 (0) 711 970 - 1156



 www.eep.uni-stuttgart.de/en/

 www.ipa.fraunhofer.de/en/expertise/efficiency-systems.html

 [@StefanMBuettner](https://twitter.com/StefanMBuettner)

 [/in/stefan-m-buettner](https://www.linkedin.com/in/stefan-m-buettner)

