

---

# An Overview of Swiss Energy Stakeholders: *Resource Endowments, Network Structures & Policy-Related Activities*

## Metadata

Aya Kachi  
Fintan Oeri  
Adrian Rinscheid  
Mert Duygan

Last updated: May 31, 2019

---

## 1 About Data Collection

**The why.** The Energy Strategy 2050 sets ambitious targets for the future of the Swiss energy supply. Since the referendum in May 2017, many changes have been made to the political and regulatory framework of the Swiss energy system. Many actors are affected by this. In order to achieve an effective implementation of politically and economically feasible measures, it is important to understand the involvement of the different actors.

Yet our understanding of stakeholders is far more fragmented, compared to that of individual voters in the country. This is why we collect data on relevant characteristics and activities of energy actors with the following (but not limited to) goals in mind.

- *Detailed understanding and documentation of stakeholder diversity in the context of Swiss energy policy-making.*
- *Detailed understanding of the interactions of energy actors.*
- *Understanding the relationship between the activities of the energy actors and the political / regulatory outcomes.*

### **The how.**

- **Timing.** Pilot: March - April 2019. A pilot survey, followed by feedback interviews. Main panel: May 2019 - present. Dispatch in 3 waves.
- **Recruitment of participants.** We contacted 275 organizations that participated in at least 2 of the 4 energy-related consultations since 2012 (ES2050, Klimapolitik nach 2020, ES2050 (Verord.), Strommarktöffnung). All 724 organizations that participated in at least one of the above processes are being considered.
- **Sequence.** (1) An invitation letter with a project factsheet mailed to potential respondents. (2) 10 days later, an online survey link was sent by email. (3) After 2 weeks, a reminder was sent by mail with a hard-copy.

---

**The what.** Eventually we obtain a rare dataset on stakeholder characteristics and activities with 50+ survey items. The data will be analyzed by our team using quantitative and qualitative research methods. The results will be published in the form of academic publications and a research report.

## 2 Confidentiality, Anonymity and Data Usage

The information provided by each respondent is kept confidential and is used for research purposes only. Any research findings based on these data will be anonymized. We clearly state this in the invitation letter as well as in the questionnaire.

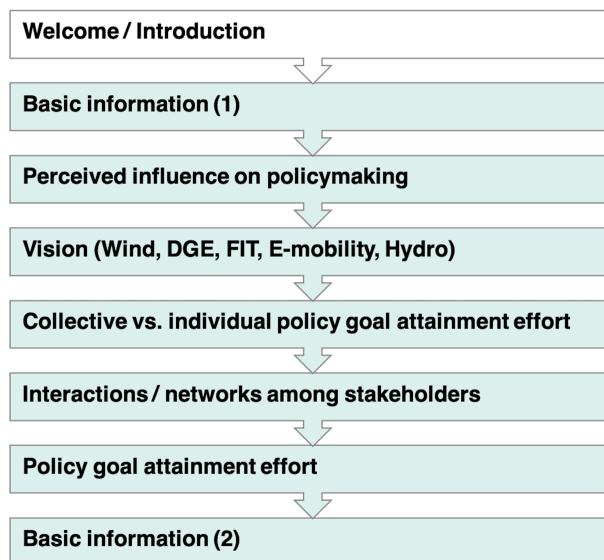
## 3 About the Team

The project is coordinated by the research group *Political Economics of Energy Policy* at the University of Basel. The team members are also affiliated with the SCCER-CREST (Swiss Competence Center for Energy Research – Society and Transition). The project is supported by the University of Basel, the University of St. Gallen and by Innosuisse.

<b>Aya Kachi</b> Coordinator	<b>Fintan Oeri</b>	<b>Mert Duygan</b>	<b>Adrian Rinscheid</b>	<b>Julia Tran</b>
Professor Uni. Basel	Ph.D. Candidate Uni. Basel	Postdoc Uni. Basel	Postdoc Uni. St.Gallen	Assistant Uni. Basel

## 4 Questionnaire Item Description

### 4.1 Summary of the survey flow



### 4.2 Detailed description by item

Table 1

Variable.name	Variable.description
UserLanguage	User Language
Q5	How many paid employees does your organization have? Please provide your details in full-time equivalents. If you do not know the exact number, please guess.
Q6	How old are the employees of your organization on average? If you do not know the answer, please guess.
Q7	What is the proportion of employees in your organization who have obtained a university degree? If you do not know the answer, please guess.
Q8	How often do employees of your organization participate in multi-day personnel development activities on average (eg internal training, professional development, executive education)? If you do not know the answer, please guess.
Q10_1	So-called "member organizations" can have both individuals (eg in the case of political parties) and/or other organizations (eg in the case of associations) as members. In non member organizations (eg companies) there are no members, only employees or involved parties. How many members of each type does your organization have? Please choose one entry for each member type. In both drop down lists, there is also the option "None". If you do not know the exact numbers, please guess. - Number of individuals:
Q10_2	Same as Q10_1 - Number of organisations:
Q13_1 - _100	Please list those organizations that you consider to be influential in Swiss energy policy of the last ten years. Please also list your own organization or individual members, if you count them among the influential organizations. (You can list as many organizations as you want. Additional text entry boxes will automatically appear. The order does not matter.) - 1

---

Q14.1.1 - Q14.100.1	Listed are the organizations you mentioned that have influence on Swiss energy policy. Please choose the most influential organizations; on the one hand with respect to Swiss energy policy in general and on the other hand with respect to the energy strategy 2050 (ES2050) specifically. In both cases you can choose up to five organizations; however it is also possible to choose fewer. Energy strategy 2050 refers to new Energy Act, which was drafted by the Federal Council in 2011/2012 and submitted to consultation at the end of 2012. Between 2013 and 2016, the parliament discussed the law and the Swiss electorate approved it in 2017. - 1 - Swiss energy policy in general
Q14.1.2 - Q14.100.2	Same as Q14_x_1 - Specifically on ES2050
Q16	Please assess the influence of your organization on Swiss energy policy.
Q19	According to the Energy Strategy 2050, around 800-900 wind turbines need to be constructed in Switzerland by 2050. All things considered at this moment, from your organization's point of view, does this target look realistic or unrealistic?
Q20.1	Regardless of your answer above, which of the following do you see as the biggest challenges to achieve this goal? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - High investment costs.
Q20.2	- Selected Choice - High energy costs.
Q20.3	- Selected Choice - Environmental risks.
Q20.4	- Selected Choice - Technical implementation.
Q20.5	- Selected Choice - Opposition by citizens.
Q20.6	- Selected Choice - Opposition by interest groups.
Q20.7	- Selected Choice - Political/regulatory risks.
Q20.8	- Selected Choice - The electricity grid is not ready.
Q20.9	- Selected Choice - Further challenges:
Q20.9_TEXT	Further challenges specified
Q22	According to the Energy Strategy 2050, deep geothermal energy (DGE) is a viable option to produce baseload electricity. All things considered at this moment, from your organization's point of view, does a substantial increase in electricity generation capacity by DGE look realistic or more unrealistic?
Q23.1	Regardless of your answer above, which of the following do you see as the biggest challenges for an increase of deep geothermal energy? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - High investment costs.
Q23.2	- Selected Choice - High operational costs.
Q23.3	- Selected Choice - Seismic risk.
Q23.4	- Selected Choice - Exploration risk.
Q23.5	- Selected Choice - Opposition by citizens.
Q23.6	- Selected Choice - Opposition by interest groups.
Q23.7	- Selected Choice - Policy/regulatory risks.
Q23.8	- Selected Choice - The electricity grid is not ready
Q23.9	- Selected Choice - Further technical risks:
Q23.10	- Selected Choice - Further challenges:
Q23.9_TEXT	Further technical risks specified
Q23.10_TEXT	Further challenges specified
Q25	According to the Energy Strategy 2050, feed-in tariffs for renewable energies will be phased out in 2022, and investment contributions and one-time payments will be phased out in 2030. All things considered at this moment, from your organization's point of view, do you think it is realistic that the targets of the Energy Strategy 2050 will be attained in this policy environment?
Q26.1	Regardless of your answer above, which of the following options should be considered to support the expansion of renewable energies in Switzerland? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - Extension of feed-in tariffs beyond 2022 (all technologies).
Q26.2	- Selected Choice - Extension of feed-in tariffs beyond 2022, but only for the following technologies:
Q26.3	- Selected Choice - New market premium model from 2023.
Q26.4	- Selected Choice - Other policy measures:

---

Q26_2_TEXT	Technnologies specified
Q26_4_TEXT	Other policy measures specified
Q28	According to the recently published roadmap for the promotion of electric mobility, the share of electric vehicles of newly registered cars ought to reach 15 percent in 2022. All things considered at this moment, from your organization's point of view, does this target look realistic or unrealistic?
Q29_1	Regardless of your answer above, which of the following do you see as the biggest challenges to reach this goal? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - Technological maturity.
Q29_2	- Selected Choice - Environmental risks.
Q29_3	- Selected Choice - High investment costs.
Q29_4	- Selected Choice - Low acceptance of electric vehicles by consumers.
Q29_5	- Selected Choice - Information deficits of consumers.
Q29_6	- Selected Choice - Weak infrastructure for electric vehicles.
Q29_7	- Selected Choice - Opposition by interest groups.
Q29_8	- Selected Choice - Lacking support by car dealers.
Q29_9	- Selected Choice - Policy/regulatory risk.
Q29_10	- Selected Choice - Further challenges:
Q29_10_TEXT	Further challenges specified
Q31_1	Hydropower represents an important part of the Swiss electricity generation mix. All things considered at this moment, does your organisation consider the following measures to expand HP capacity in Switzerland to be realistic? (Please indicate for each measure, wheater you consider it to be 'Completely realistic', 'Rather realistic', 'Rather unrealistic' or 'Completely unrealistic'.) - New pumped storage hydropower.
Q31_2	- New small hydropower plants.
Q31_3	- Expansion of existing plants.
Q31_4	- Modernization of existing plants.
Q32_1	Regardless of your answer above, which of the following do you see as the biggest challenges for the expansion of hydropower generation capacity? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - High investment costs.
Q32_2	- Selected Choice - High operational costs.
Q32_3	- Selected Choice - High maintenance costs.
Q32_4	- Selected Choice - Environmental risks.
Q32_5	- Selected Choice - Technical implementation.
Q32_6	- Selected Choice - Opposition by citizens.
Q32_7	- Selected Choice - Opposition by interest groups.
Q32_8	- Selected Choice - Policy/regulatory risks.
Q32_9	- Selected Choice - Lacking regulatory coordination.
Q32_10	- Selected Choice - The electricity grid is not ready.
Q32_11	- Selected Choice - Further technical risks:
Q32_12	- Selected Choice - Further challenges:
Q32_11_TEXT	Further technical risks specified
Q32_12_TEXT	Further challenges specified
Q35_1	When you think about Swiss energy policy in general: has your organization undertaken the following activities as a collective and/or as an individual organization over the last ten years? - Definition of a political strategy regarding specific legislation.
Q35_2	- Communication of information and political views to policy makers and/or administration.
Q35_3	- Financial support of politicians.
Q35_4	- Funding of institutions eg political committees, parties and/or activities eg research.
Q35_5	- Thematisation in the public sphere eg media contributions, signatures collection.
Q36	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In Swiss energy policy, our organization is, in principle, willing to adjust its political demands, if this is necessary to enable collaboration with other organizations.

---

Q37_1	In 2011/2012, the Federal Council drafted a new energy law, the so-called Energy Strategy 2050 (ES2050). A consultation took place on the first package of measures in 2012/2013, in the years 2013 to 2016 the Parliament discussed it and in 2017 it was approved by the majority of the Swiss electorate. As part of the ES2050 legislative process, did your organization undertake the following activities as a collective and/or as an individual organization? - Definition of a political strategy regarding proposed legislation.
Q37_2	- Communication of information and political views to policy makers and/or administration.
Q37_3	- Funding of institutions eg political committees, parties and/or activities eg research.
Q37_4	- Thematisation in the public sphere eg media contributions, signatures collection
Q38	When representing interests as a collective, adjustments to one's own demands are sometimes necessary in order to make cooperation with other organizations possible. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement with regard to the policy process of the ES2050? My organisation would have had to adapt its political demands, to be able to cooperate (more closely) with other organisations.
Q42_5500 - Q42_5599	As a reminder, collective representation of interests is defined as activities in which two or more actors agree on political positions, which are represented in consultation with each other. Please list those organizations with which your organization has represented its interests collectively in legislative processes of Swiss energy policy over the last ten years. (You can list as many organizations as you want. Additional text entry boxes will automatically appear. Please list only those partners who are not members of your organization. The order does not matter.) - 1
Q44_1_1 - Q44_100_1	Scientific, technical and political information plays an important role in energy policy. With which organisation do you exchange such information with respect to the Swiss energy policy of the last ten years? Below you can find those organizations with which your organization has represented interests in the collective in the past. Please indicate those organisations in the list, with which you not only represented interestes collectively but also exchanged information. - 1 - With these organizations, your organization has exchanged information:
Q45_1 - _100	However, information can also be exchanged with organizations without representing interests together. Such information may be exchanged between like-minded organizations as well as with representatives of the counterparty. Please list additional organizations with which your organization exchanged information in the context of Swiss energy policy of the last ten years. (You can list as many actors as you want. Additional text entry boxes will automatically appear. Please list only those partners who are not members of your organization. The order does not matter.) - 1
Q48	How important is political interest representation for your organization?
Q49_1	Political representation of interests takes place in different phases. What proportion of time and financial resources does your organization devote to different phases in a typical national energy legislative process without a referendum? Please select the shares so it adds up to 100%. - Preparation phase (eg consultation process):
Q49_2	- Parliamentary phase (eg communication with parliamentarians):
Q49_3	- Other, namely:
Q49_3_TEXT	Other - specify
Q50_1	Please think about a typical legislative process of national energy policy, which concludes in a referendum. What proportion of time and financial resources does your organization devote to different phases within such a legislative process? Please select the shares so it adds up to a total of 100%. - Preparation phase (eg consultation process):
Q50_2	- Parliamentary phase eg communication with parliamentarians:
Q50_3	- Referendum phase eg campaign work:

---

Q50_4	- Other, namely:
Q50_4_TEXT	Others - specify
Q51	Is your organization competing with other organizations to recruit new members, raise income through donations, or secure funding?
Q52_1	Has your organisation pursued the following activities during the last ten years? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - Informal exchange with politicians.
Q52_2	- Selected Choice - Mandating other organizations or experts to follow the political events or actively represent interests of the organisation.
Q52_3	- Selected Choice - Accessing non-public parts of the national parliament building Wandelhalle.
Q52_4	- Selected Choice - Participation in hearings of parliamentary commissions.
Q52_5	- Selected Choice - Participation in an official working/expert group to draft new legislation.
Q52_6	- Selected Choice - Preparation and publication of political opinions and position papers.
Q52_7	- Selected Choice - Financing or conducting research.
Q52_8	- Selected Choice - Active involvement in media debates eg opinion articles or interviews in print media, radio, television, etc..
Q52_9	- Selected Choice - Communication with the public via digital media eg Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc..
Q52_10	- Selected Choice - Organization of expert conferences and/or public debates.
Q52_11	- Selected Choice - Funding of political advertising.
Q52_12	- Selected Choice - Funding and/or collection of signatures.
Q52_13	- Selected Choice - Demonstration call.
Q52_14	- Selected Choice - Other:
Q52_14_TEXT	Others - specify
Q53_1	Please indicate how many employees in your organisation are commissioned to follow political events in general (not only energy specific) or actively represent interests of the organisation (in full-time equivalents). Please also indicate how many different internal business units employ such employees. If you do not know the exact answers, we ask you to estimate as accurately as possible. - Number of employees :
Q53_2	Same as Q53_1 - Number of business units:
Q56_1	During the last ten years, in which areas was your organization at least at some point active? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - Hydropower.
Q56_2	- Selected Choice - Nuclear energy.
Q56_3	- Selected Choice - Solar energy.
Q56_4	- Selected Choice - Wind energy.
Q56_5	- Selected Choice - Deep geothermal energy.
Q56_6	- Selected Choice - Other energy production.
Q56_7	- Selected Choice - Energy efficiency.
Q56_8	- Selected Choice - Trade of electricity.
Q56_9	- Selected Choice - Natural science research on energy.
Q56_10	- Selected Choice - Economic modeling research on Energy.
Q56_11	- Selected Choice - Social science research on energy.
Q56_12	- Selected Choice - Consumer information.
Q56_13	- Selected Choice - Transport/mobility.
Q56_14	- Selected Choice - International economic cooperation and development.
Q56_15	- Selected Choice - Other:
Q56_15_TEXT	Others - specify
Q57	In which year was your organization founded?
Q58	How many regional/local branches does your organization have?
Q60	Do representatives of these local branches have a say in your organization's policy stance on issues of national interest, such as the ES2050?

---

Q61	Organizations can make decisions in different ways, such as unanimity among members or board members, or other voting procedures. Please indicate what kind of decision-making is mainly used for important decisions in your organization. - Selected Choice
Q61_6_TEXT	Others - specify
Q62_1	What sources of funding are relevant to your organization? (Multiple answers possible) - Selected Choice - Individual donors (members, etc.).
Q62_2	- Selected Choice - Products sales.
Q62_3	- Selected Choice - Donations from foundations.
Q62_4	- Selected Choice - Financing by economic operators.
Q62_5	- Selected Choice - Government grants including from international government organizations.
Q62_6	- Selected Choice - Other:
Q62_9999	- Selected Choice - No information.
Q62_6_TEXT	Others - specify
Q63	What is the annual budget of your organization? If you do not know the answer, please guess.
Q65	You have clicked that you do not want to provide any details about the annual budget of your organization. We would like to point out once again that your information is treated absolutely confidentially and in publications conclusions with regard to your organization are in no way possible. By clicking on your budget category you would provide information that is central to our research results. Of course, if you do not want to provide any information, we respect this.
Q66	What is the annual budget of your organization for political purposes (eg for political advocacy, information brokerage, campaign financing, etc.)? If you do not know the answer, please guess.
Q68	You have clicked that you do not want to provide any information about your organization's annual political budget. We would like to point out once again that your information is treated absolutely confidentially and in publications conclusions with regard to your organization are in no way possible. By clicking on your budget category you would provide information that is central to our research results. Of course, if you do not want to provide any information, we respect this.
Q69	What position do you hold in your organization?
Q70	How many years have you been working for your organization?
Q72	You have the opportunity to be informed about the results of our analysis. If you would like to receive such a scientific report, please enter your email address here.

---