

A renewable-based power sector in the Western Balkans by 2045: Insights from scenario modelling

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Three power market scenarios were designed, modeled & analysed to compare different energy policy strategies

METHODOLOGY

SCENARIO DESIGN

- Definition of political scenarios
- Basis for power market modeling

ASSUMPTIONS

- Techno-economic parameters
- Fuel prices
- RES, coal trajectories

MODELING

- Plant dispatch & investment to 2050
- Capacity & generation mix

RESULTS

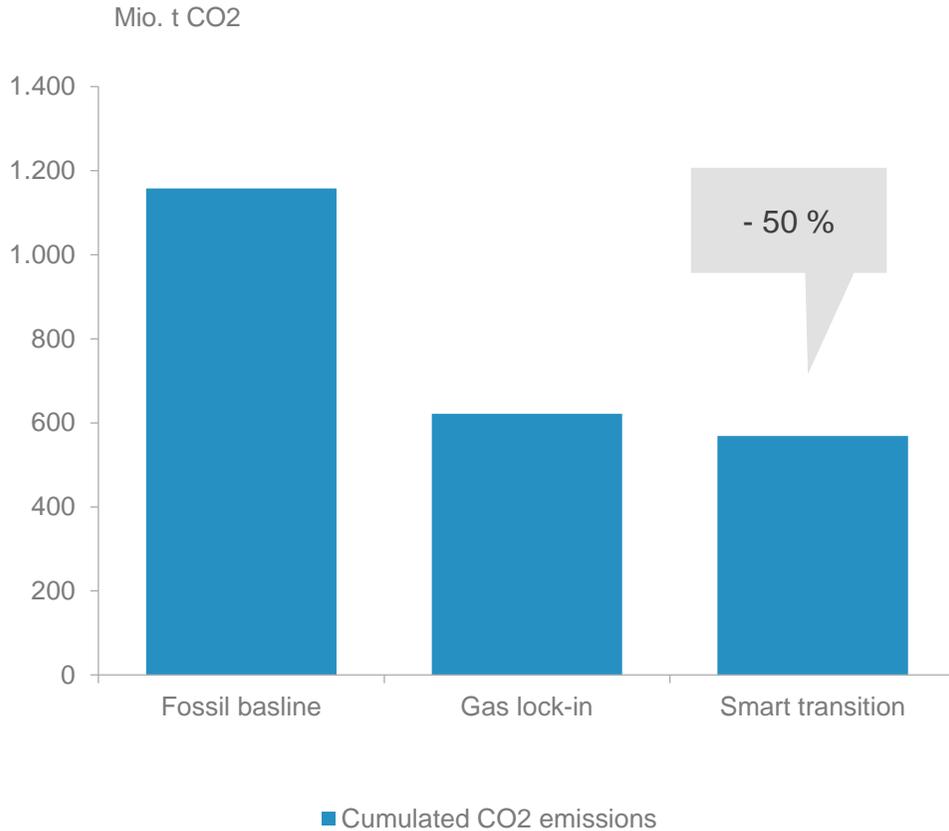
- CO₂- and other emissions
- Investment needs
- Total system costs

SCENARIOS

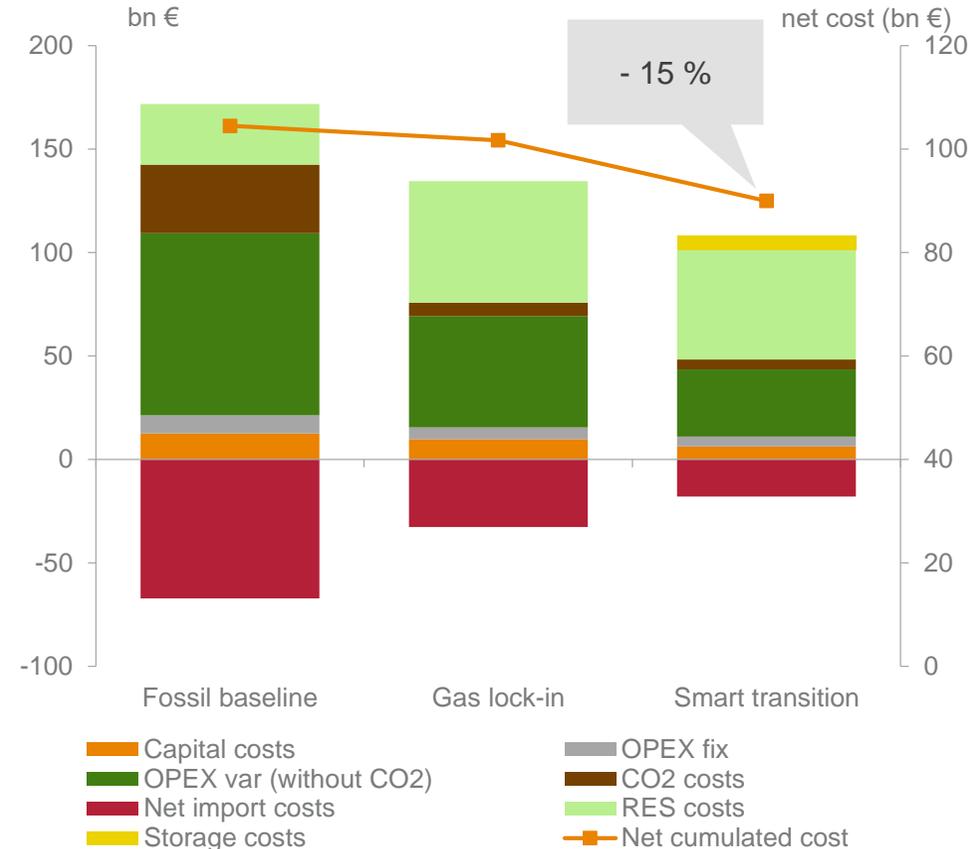
	DESCRIPTION	NET-ZERO DEADLINE	DECARBONISATION TECHNOLOGIES
FOSSIL BASELINE	Baseline scenario with current ambition level, no lignite exit, no power sector decarbonisation	-	
GAS LOCK-IN	Net-zero power sector scenario with RES & H2, early investments into fossil gas plants, late retrofit to H2	2045	 
SMART TRANSITION	Net-zero power sector scenario with RES, H2 & storages, earlier H2-readiness of gas units	2045	   

A net-zero scenario with diverse technology portfolio cuts carbon emissions while resulting in lower incremental generation costs

Cumulated CO₂ emissions 2022-2050

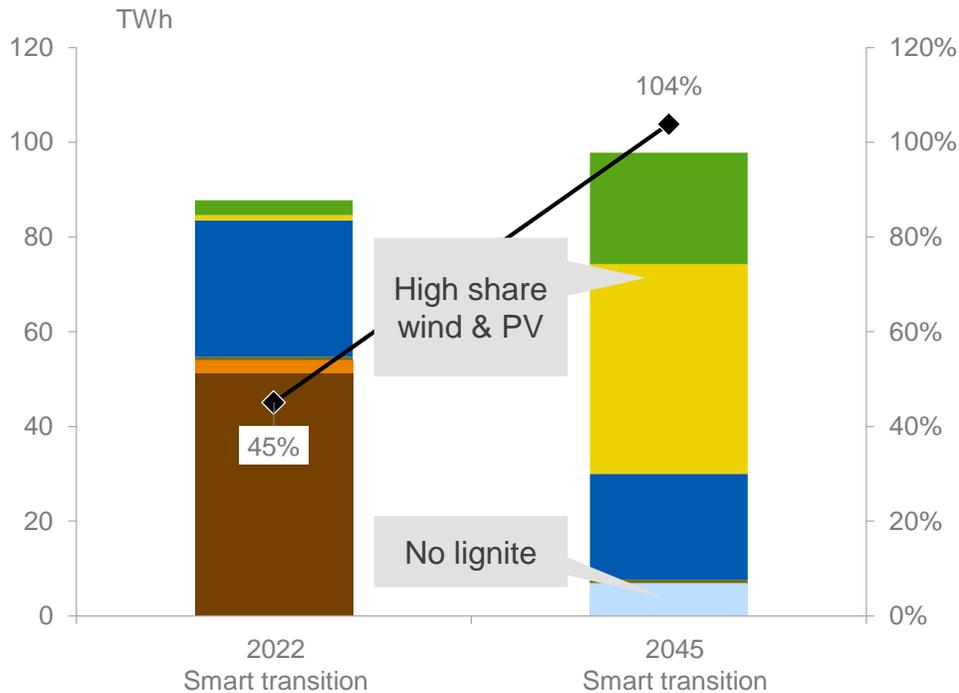


Incremental generation costs 2022-2050

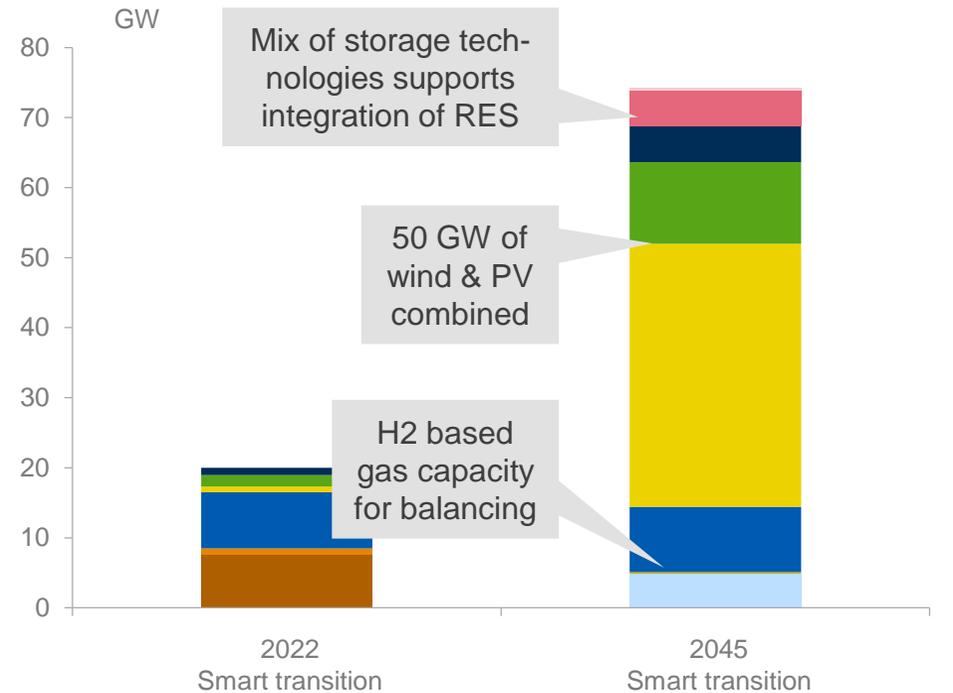


RES & storage based power system delivering these results implies adding roughly 50 GW of onshore wind and PV capacities in the next three decades

Generation mix in Smart transition sc.



Capacity mix in Smart transition sc.

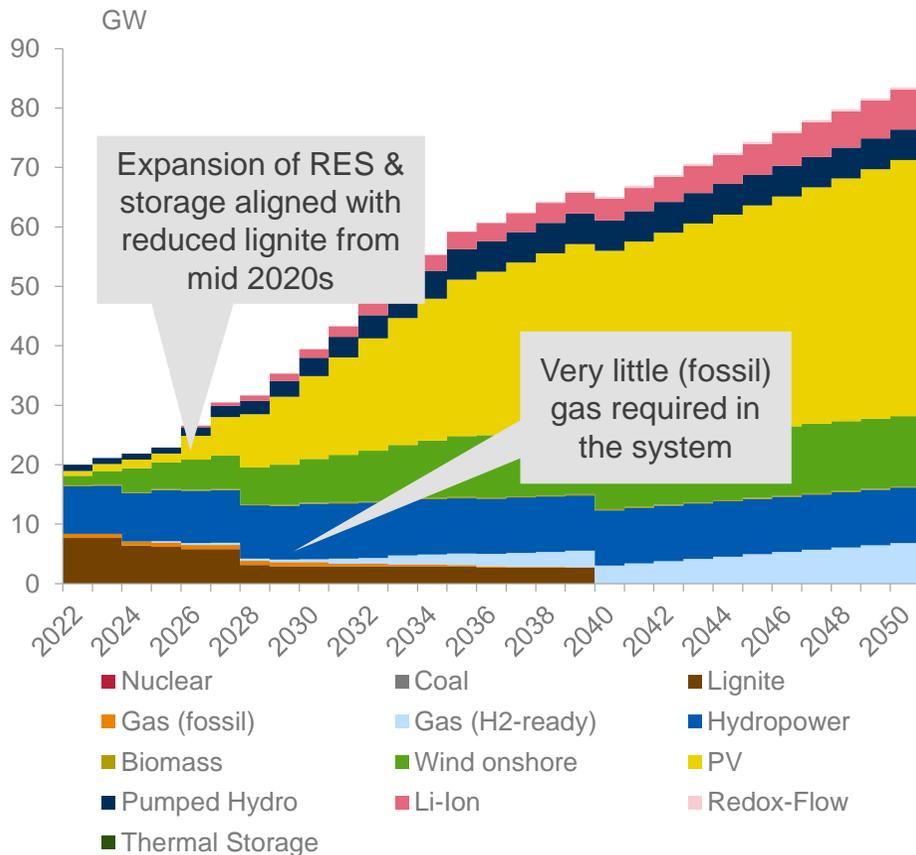


- Lignite
- Gas (Fossil)
- Gas (H2)
- Biomass
- Hydropower
- PV
- Wind onshore
- RES-share (%)

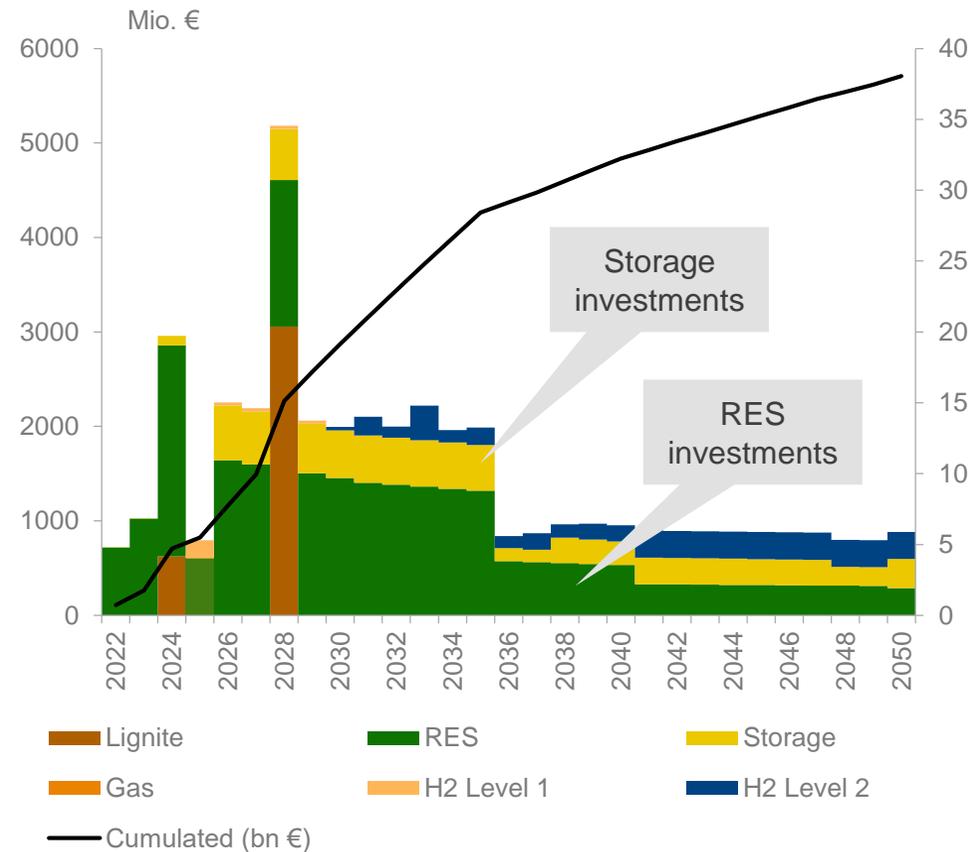
- Lignite
- Gas (fossil)
- Gas (H2-ready)
- Hydropower
- PV
- Wind onshore
- Biomass
- Pumped Hydro
- Li-Ion
- Redox-Flow

RES capacity expansion & respective investments into the power sector transition concentrate within the next 1.5 decades

Capacities in Smart transition sc.



Investments in Smart transition sc.



Conclusions

Power market decarbonisation by 2045 is possible and cost efficient

- A decarbonisation of the power sector by 2045 is possible while saving costs. The energy transition scenarios cut cumulated CO₂ emissions by half (46-51%) while reducing overall generation costs by ~3-15% (compared to the baseline scenario). Security of supply is ensured in the energy transition scenarios.

Vast amounts of RES are required for the transition

- Installations of wind onshore and PV, today combined at below 5 GW in the region, will provide the majority of electricity in a net-zero scenario in the mid and long run, balanced with storage solutions
- Combined capacity of onshore wind and PV will have to increase more than tenfold

RES capacity expansion & investments concentrate in the next decades

- In order to align with a sensible lignite reduction path of lignite generation, around 3 GW p.a. of wind onshore and PV, have to be added in the decade between to 2035
- A framework for facilitating required investments is thus necessary, the sooner the better

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