



The skill transition for the energy transition – what does the district heating and cooling sector need?

Workshop

ISEC 2026, Messecongress Graz

15. April 2026, 15:45-17:15



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The skill transition for the energy transition – what does the district heating and cooling sector need?

The energy transition requires not only innovative technologies but, above all, a skilled workforce capable of planning, developing and operating future-proof heating and cooling systems while incorporating European and national legislation and climate ambitions in their daily work. The workshop “*The skill transition for the energy transition – what does the district heating and cooling sector need?*” addresses this challenge by examining current gaps and emerging solutions in training and education for the DHC sector.

In short expert pitches, representatives from Austria, Germany, and European initiatives will present concrete qualification programmes - ranging from training for blue collar workers to new academic curricula – transnational training programmes and needs for LowT-grids. In the subsequent World Café, participants will jointly discuss how DHC can be strengthened in education and training.

This workshop offers a unique opportunity to bring together international experience, link with ongoing initiatives such as Skills4DHC and the DHC academy and jointly shape a skilled and forward-looking DHC workforce.

Agenda

15:45	Introduction	Sabrina Metz, AEE INTEC
15:50	Expert pitches Austrian vocational training programme for district heating technicians Skills4DHC - Skills, Qualification and Recruitment of Professionals for the DHC sector Training and recruitment initiatives in Germany Academic teaching for a Decarbonized District Heating: First Insights from the EU Life Skills4DHC Project Training and knowledge transfer needed for LowT-grids International knowledge transfer activities in the DHC sector	Katalin-Andrea Griessmair-Farkas, FGW Dominik Rutz, WIP Thomas Pauschinger, AGFW Alice Dénarié, POLIMI David Bertermann, Soil2Heat Sara Comparetto, Euroheat & Power
16:15	How can DHC be strengthened in education and training? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Academics - White Collars - Blue Collars - Political and Organisational Framework 	World Café in two discussion rounds
16:55	Results of the World Café	Table hosts
17:10	Outlook	Sabrina Metz, AEE INTEC

Registration for the ISEC-Conference:

<https://isec-conference.at>



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