

Deliverable 2.9: Recommender tool for renewable energy settlements in midlands is released

The Recommender Tool has been released as a prototype and can be accessed online via www.prototype.recommendertool.ch. Since its first release in the middle of 2024, the tool has been updated several times and new features have been added. This development is still ongoing and future updated releases of the tool are already planned. The tool allows for the assessment of energy systems in communities not only in the midlands, but for every municipality in Switzerland. The tool consists of three sections. The first section contains energy-related information about the current status of the municipality (building stock, electricity, heat, mobility, emissions, resources and potentials). The second section shows an interactive map with information about each building (clickable) in regard to heating systems, PV installations and potential, and heating demand. The third section consists of a scenario generator, where various scenarios (fossil heater retrofit, solar PV integration, wind integration, future years) can be explored by the user and compared to the current status.

The tool has been presented to public stakeholders on multiple occasions and feedback has been gathered accordingly. While the tool generally has been well received and its usefulness confirmed, some weaknesses have also been identified. In particular, the information displayed for several buildings and municipalities is outdated or incorrect due to missing data needed to refine the energy model results. Although much of this data exists (e.g., from SFOE, FSO, DETEC), access is restricted for various reasons. As a result, the tool is not exploiting its accuracy potential, which may affect its effectiveness for public stakeholders and municipalities.