

novatlantis

Advent Calendar Filme für die Erde Öko-Kompass
Decentralised storage **Gemeinde-Energie-Spiegel Argovia GESA**

Annual Report 2015

Eawag municipalities **Zukunftsregion Argovia** biomass
transition of energy policy Luzern

Stadtvision 2050
Communities partners

Zürich **renewable electricity generation**
community photovoltaic systems
WSL Basel **mobility systems**
hotspot matrix

Paul Scherrer Institut

City Vision 2050

Hydrogen Service Station

novatlantis Mobility Concepts
networking

Sustainable Development

2,000-Watt Society EPFL
cities Bauforum

Sustainability at the ETH Domain

potential analysis

greenhouse gas emissions

Empa
Human Scale



novatlantis

**Sustainability at the ETH Domain –
Promotion of Transdisciplinary Science**

Scope of activities

novatlantis – Sustainability in the ETH Domain – is the interface between research (ETH Zurich, EPFL, PSI, WSL, Empa and Eawag) on the one hand and industry, society and the public sector on the other. The aim is to contribute towards the sustainable development of our society whilst taking the ecological, economic and social dimensions of sustainability into account. Broad-based pilot projects are used to promote the transfer of the latest research results for the sustainable development of cities, municipalities and regions. The basis for this is the initiation of transdisciplinary projects in close collaboration with scientists from the ETH Domain, other research institutions and companies as well as with authorities at municipal, cantonal and national level.

The main points in brief

In terms of personnel, the 2015 financial year was characterized by more new additions to the *novatlantis* team. Regina Flury von Arx, agronomist and spatial planner at NDS ETH, took over various tasks in Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia as a project manager. Cornelia Moser, a business economist with a master’s degree in Strategic Environmental Management and Policies, joined the team as a project manager for energy and mobility.

The major milestones in the 2015 financial year were the activities and projects in Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia and the practical lab for the 2000-watt society in the pilot region Basel. The two *novatlantis* construction forums on «City Vision 2050» attracted great interest, integrating contributions from the Swiss Competence Centers for Energy Research (SCCER) for the first time. In Lucerne, the construction forum was again held in col-

laboration with the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts and the Canton of Lucerne, and highlighted the topic «Buildings and areas of the future». The Zurich-based construction forum focused on the interplay between «People, buildings and sustainability».

novatlantis continued to step up its networking and PR work. *novatlantis* is now a network partner to Öko-Kompass – the environmental consultancy agency for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the City of Zurich – and will act as patron for «Research and science» at the 2016 brenet Status Seminar. *novatlantis* succeeded in making contact with further target groups by taking part in the online Advent Calendar on Sustainable Development 2015, where *novatlantis* designed what’s behind the door for the 14th of December, and sponsoring the sharing DVD «The Human Scale» on sustainable urban living.

A bigger *novatlantis* team

novatlantis added new members to its team in the 2015 financial year, Regina Flury von Arx and Cornelia Moser.

Since March 2015, Regina Flury has been responsible as a project manager for various tasks in Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia, including interviews and data processing for potential analysis in the municipalities and the Energy Accounting project. She developed a stepping stone concept for Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia and acts as webmaster for the *novatlantis* homepage.

Regina Flury studied Agronomy at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. After a year of postgraduate studies in the USA, she worked as a research associate in the International Affairs Office of the Swiss Farmers’ Union, focusing on the topics of GATT and EEA negotiations. After training as a spatial planner at NDS ETH, she worked at the Coordinating Office for Environmental Protection in the Canton of Bern Department of Construction, Transport and Energy, where she dealt with matters relating to tourism, agriculture and materials extraction. As head of the specialist environmen-

List of abbreviations

- ZURA Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia
- P+D Pilot and Demonstration
- GESA Gemeinde-Energie-Spiegel Argovia (Municipal Energy Level Argovia)
- SME Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
- SCCER Swiss Competence Centers for Energy Research

Managing Director

Dr Anna Roschewitz

Project Partners

- ETHZ
- EPFL
- PSI
- Empa
- Eawag
- WSL
- Pilot Region Basel
- Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia

Project Websites

- novatlantis.ch
- 2000watt.ch
- novatlantis-argovia.ch





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tal office for the town of Olten, she was responsible for the areas of «Energietadt» (energy town), energy consulting, mobility, combustion control, nature and environmental education. In the Urban Development department, she carried out projects to engage with and mobilise the residents in the neighborhood.

Cornelia Moser joined *novatlantis* as a project manager in September 2015. She studied Business Economics and has a master's degree in Strategic Environmental Management & Policies. Thanks to several years of experience in the private sector and in federal administration, she can perfectly complement the sustainability competency of *novatlantis*. Cornelia Moser contributes her theoretical and practical knowledge of interdisciplinary project work as well as her expert knowledge in the fields of energy and mobility in particular. She primarily manages projects within the framework of the pilot region Basel, but is also involved in the further development of Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia and in establishing other *novatlantis* activities.

Dr. Anna Roschewitz is still the Managing Director at *novatlantis*, and Agnieszka Hamburger is responsible for accounting. The Paul Scherrer Institute is the leading house for *novatlantis*.

Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia

Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia (ZURA) was founded in 2013. It stems from a joint initiative of the Canton of Aargau, the energy suppliers IBAarau AG, Regionalwerke AG Baden and AEW Energie as well as «novatlantis – Sustainability in the ETH Domain».

In collaboration with the municipalities in the Canton of Aargau, Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia is looking to make a contribution towards the transition in energy policy, especially in the fields of energy, mobility and buildings. The partners realize pilot projects and encourage dialogue within the network of municipalities. They help disseminate knowledge and experience in energy and efficiency-related topics throughout the region.

The partners regard Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia as a practical laboratory for sustainability. New and established research results and technologies should rapidly find an application, tailored to the individual parameters and needs in the cities and municipalities.

After conducting a potential analysis in 20 interested municipalities in a bottom-up approach in 2014, the results revealed that the datasets for the determination of relevant key figures in the municipalities are very different. Moreover, it was found that key qualified and quantified figures on the expansion potential of renewable energy sources are often lacking. For a uniform calculation of an energy and carbon footprint per municipality, the collection of data would have to be developed further for the majority of the municipalities.

ZURA made progress in various different areas in the 2015 financial year. For example, two further municipalities, Wettingen and Stetten, announced their commitment to the Zukunftsregion concept. As new members, they benefit from the potential analysis in the form of a hotspot matrix as well as the corresponding figures. At an organizational level, Wolfgang Reisner from Stetten town council joined the steering group as a representative of a smaller municipality. The project team received support from the larger *novatlantis* team and also added a new member, Sabine Wirthner (IBAarau).

Pilot projects of Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia

The pilot projects were progressed further. The «Forum», conceived as a series of annual events, took place for the first time in July. Fourteen municipalities discussed the topic «Energy balances for municipalities – specific advantages and best practice». Based on the positive feedback, there are plans to hold the Forum twice a year in future.



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Potential analysis

The project «Potential analysis/ Accounting for energy and buildings» uses existing software solutions (e.g. EnerCoach, Energie-Region) for energy accounting for public buildings and accounting for the comprehensive energy and CO₂ data for the municipality. This provides support to municipalities in monitoring and visualizing the data recorded. Potential analysis forms the basis for in-depth energy and climate policy decisions in the municipality. The objective is for each municipality to know its energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and its potential in the area of renewable energies.

As in the prior year, in 2015 the municipalities were contacted directly by the cantonal municipal advisors for the Canton of Aargau on behalf of Zukunftsregion and the individual procedures were agreed. The two municipalities of Wettingen and Stetten joined in potential analysis for the first time.

Biomass

Biomass is a valuable resource which can be used as material or to create energy. Today's disposal channels often only use biomass either as a material (composting) or to create energy (waste incineration, wood-fired systems). The aim is to use biomass both as a material and to create energy where possible. In the case of moist biomass (farmyard manure, cuttings etc.), this is already state of the art with the fermentation technology used to produce biogas. Realizing biogas projects will herald a

change in existing disposal channels. As a result, there is a need for regional and sustainable solutions with the combined effort of the canton, the municipalities and the private sector (integrated solution). As part of the project «Biomass value flows», the information compiled in the municipalities led to the creation of a map of Aargau that shows the current recycling channels. Among others, the map shows potential in the «Suhrental» area as well as a good constellation for biomass recycling. Further clarification and discussions regarding setting up a biogas plant are taking place.

Community photovoltaic systems

The municipalities have roof surfaces that are well suited to renewable electricity generation. The project «Community photovoltaic systems» provides for a financing model by the residents where they get involved by means of an interest-free loan. Amortization of the investment is paid back using a fixed solar electricity share over 20 years – which benefits investors (price security, ecology) and the municipalities (financing). Basic materials for the project in the form of white-label documents – neutral, standardised documents – based on the successful suhrSOLAR model were produced with assistance from the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. These documents are available to all interested municipalities free of charge. This prompted Stadtwerke Zofingen to create Zofinger Solarstrom, which is precisely such a public participation model. Other municipi-

palities and public utilities are also planning to build these systems.

Mobility concept for areas

The interest of the municipalities in the project «Mobility concept for areas» was compared against existing national, cantonal and municipal offerings. It was found that the municipalities have an experienced partner for mobility concepts in the mobility platform aargauMOBIL, supported by the Canton of Aargau. The corresponding synergies are exploited and the municipalities interested receive professional advice from aargauMOBIL.

Needs-based and cost-saving mobility systems

Passenger transportation poses major challenges for many

Figure 1: The first forum of the Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia was held in July 2015.



Forum Novatlantis Argovia

Energiebilanzen für Gemeinden – konkreter Nutzen und best practice

Donnerstag, 9. Juli 2015

Restaurant Rathausgarten, Saal 1. OG
vis à vis AEW Hochhaus, Aarau





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municipalities. Cost optimization, availability and special requirements are just some of those challenges. IT platforms and smartphone apps provide effective support in the planning and implementation of new approaches for sharing and car-sharing. The project «Needs-based and cost-saving mobility systems» involved drawing up the specific needs using dialogue with stakeholders and bringing the local partners together around a table. Based on the feedback from the stakeholders, an overarching project to coordinate mobility services was set up.

Three projects were postponed in the financial year because they did not promise to be successful for various reasons:

- As far as the project «Decentralised storage of electrical energy» is concerned, an analysis of different possibilities for use showed that currently there is a lack of uses for storage pilot projects as well as a lack of economic incentives for municipalities. Consequently the project was postponed, but these two

points will be examined again in the coming years.

- The topic «Modernising in a protected townscape» originally met with interest amongst the municipalities. However, further clarification showed that this did not translate into specific modernisation plans for listed buildings owned by the municipality. As a result, the project was postponed until further notice.
- The project «100% renewable fuels» was also postponed, as the evaluation in the municipalities interested showed low chances of success. Thanks to a case study by ETH Zurich, however, it was possible to get important findings for the Aarau region in relation to electromobility and non-motorized transport. The case study for the lecture «Introduction to dealing with environmental systems» (EUUS) on the Environmental Sciences programme was carried out in collaboration with Zukunftsregion. Around 100 students worked in groups to prepare scientific, economic, legal or stakeholder analyses. The results were then compiled and used to create a systems analysis.

resources, strategic and operational planning, implementation and controlling of energy and resource-saving measures.

Complex projects such as «Biomass value flows» or «Needs-based and cost-saving mobility systems» make very high demands on the existing resources from public administration and politics, on the network and on the experience in the realization of planning projects. Such projects require an intensive preparation phase, often spanning several years, before they can be implemented.

The aim of the ZURA-Trittsteine (stepping stones) approach is to bridge this time gap with small but significant successes through the implementation of simple measures. Fast results are to be achieved by the coordinated implementation of simple measures that can be realized in the short term and have a far-reaching effect. To do this, tried-and-tested concepts will be adopted, synergies from ongoing funding programmes will be used and the experience of trusted partners will be built on.

A conscious decision has been made with the ZURA-Trittsteine programme to do without the complex introduction of new technological developments. This aims to ensure that projects and measures can be implemented in the municipalities with an appropriate use of resources that is tailored to the size of the municipality. The programme's innovative power is based on the coordinated implementation of measures that will achieve tangible

Figure 2:
novatlantis points the way into
the future.





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results in the municipalities. This will allow for economies of scale to be exploited and will lay the foundations for positive intrinsic momentum.

The stepping stone for 2016 is currently in the evaluation phase; initial exploratory talks have already taken place with potential partners.

New project 2016: Gemeinde-Energie- Spiegel Argovia, GESA (Municipal Energy Level Argovia)

A new project is being added to the Zukunftsregion portfolio for 2016. The project was developed by *novatlantis* and is managed by *novatlantis*: «Gemeinde-Energie-Spiegel Argovia» (Municipal Energy Level Argovia). The project is called GESA for short and it provides a meaningful extension to the existing projects, perfectly complementing the ZURA-Trittsteine (stepping stones) concept.

The background to the project is that the majority of the 213 municipalities in Aargau (approximately 182 or 85 %) do not have any systematic recording of their energy and CO₂ data, neither at the public building nor at municipal level. Thus the challenge is to realize long-term, consistent and uniform monitoring of energy and CO₂ for the 213 municipalities and for the canton. To do this, the data must be mutually comparable and of high quality and thus suitable for aggregation. This is only possible by an offering at cantonal level that on the one hand offers added value for the municipalities and on the other hand

provides the canton with the basis necessary to monitor the achievement of its own energy goals while at the same time supporting the various goals of the energy strategy (including energy planning).

To achieve this, the GESA pilot project comprises two sub-projects: «Datasets» and «Practical testing». The first sub-project, «Datasets», involves putting together an overview of the existing datasets and answering fundamental issues about the design of the project. The objective is to recognise and describe significant points relating to data collection, data storage and possible process design that are relevant for implementation. In the second sub-project, «Practical testing», the data model developed will be tested in four pilot municipalities. The results from these two sub-projects will serve to develop recommendations on how to proceed at municipal and cantonal level.

Accompanying research on Zukunfts- region

In line with its definition, Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia focuses its activities on the Canton of Aargau. However, it is likely that important findings from the collaboration at municipal level and the Potential Analysis project in terms of handling energy and CO₂ data for public buildings or municipalities can be applied to other municipalities. This poses the question surrounding the overarching success factors of energy accounting for buildings and energy and CO₂ accounting in towns and municipali-

ties. *novatlantis* has developed a concept for an accompanying research project to answer this question.

The project aims to examine the success factors for active participation of municipalities in programmes to promote sustainability and energy efficiency, such as «Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia» or «Energienstadt», and to look in more detail at the requisite framework conditions for introducing and putting a value on energy and CO₂ accounting in towns and municipalities. The first step is to get an overview of the different accounting methods, how common they are at present and what role they play in municipal, cantonal and national energy and climate strategies. The second part will involve empirical accompanying research and will take the form of examining decision-making processes in favour of or against taking part in programmes as well as the implementation processes using the example of energy and CO₂ accounting in municipalities. The objective is to name and assess the benefits, accommodating factors or obstacles, additional expenses and costs as well as other stumbling blocks.

The empirical accompanying research will be geared to the processes in the municipalities. They will record energy consumption between the heating periods and ideally update them every year. An examination of the first data recorded and the first update will thus run over two years. Together with the basic and consolidation phases, the total project duration is three years and will

Websites

More information about the projects in the Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia is available at:
www.novatlantis-argovia.ch

More information about the projects in the pilot region Basel is available at:
www.2000-watt.bs.ch

To find out more about the «Excellence Publique» prize, visit:
www.sgvm.ch/excellence-publique-2015

More information on the Öko-Kompass is available at:
www.stadt-zuerich.ch/oeko-kompass

More information on Films for the Earth is available at:
www.filmefuerdieerde.org

More information on *brenet* is available at:
www.brenet.ch

More information on the *advent calendar* is available at:
www.online-adventskalender.info/2015/

More information about *novatlantis* and its projects and activities is available at:
www.novatlantis.ch



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lead to a closing report as well as a «Solutions for meaningful energy and CO₂ accounting for municipalities» toolkit with best practice examples for municipalities. With those tools and the in-depth knowledge of the leverage effects at municipal level, the project will contribute to enabling municipalities to better exploit their potential for achieving the objectives of Energy Strategy 2050.

This three-year accompanying research on ZURA will be funded by a foundation and will commence at the beginning of 2016.

Basel as a pilot region for the 2000-Watt society

More than ten years ago, *novatlantis* – Sustainability at the ETH Domain developed a visionary model of a sustainable energy future with the «2000-Watt Society». Pilot regions were sought that were willing to put the latest research results into practice. Conversely, these regions were also tasked to bring specific questions to the research institutes. The Canton of Basel-Stadt agreed to this collaboration. Thanks to a network of science, industry and public administration, a «practical laboratory for sustainability» with different pilot and demonstration projects in the fields of construction, mobility and spatial development took shape.

The Great Council approved various loans to the tune of CHF 3.9 million between 2003 and 2012 to initiate and promote «flagship projects». Thanks to these funds, a vast

range of pilot and demonstration projects (P+D projects) were developed in the canton. The Great Council granted another loan of CHF 2.6 million for 2013 to 2016. As a result, the broad-based network that has been established between research institutes, companies and public administration in recent years can remain active.

In collaboration with the research institutes and in consultation with the Construction and Transport Department (BVD) and Industrielle Werke Basel (IWB), the Department of Economics, Social Affairs and Environment (WSU) in charge identified topics to be developed further in the pilot region. As P+D projects, they contribute towards the transfer of research and development into practice.

For the current period from 2013 to 2016, eleven projects were proposed in the topic areas of construction, renewable energies and vehicles. They are designed to highlight how Basel can continue on its path towards the 2000-Watt society. The Office for Environment and Energy, the FHNW's Institute of Energy in Construction, *novatlantis* and Sustainserv GmbH are responsible for realizing the projects.

Projects in the fields of construction and renewable energies:

- Prefabricated Façade Modules
- High-Performance Insulating Plaster
- Solar Façades
- Network Optimization with Buildings
- Local Electricity Storage

Projects in the field of vehicles:

- Hydrogen Service Station for a small fleet of fuel-cell vehicles
- Hydrogen Admixture to Natural Gas
- Electromobility – public, battery-operated electric buses
- Natural Gas Hybrid – vehicle concept for various vehicle classes

Other projects:

- Local Energy Hub
- River Water Usage – Thermal Use of the Rhine

After the eleven projects were planned in more depth and their feasibility studied in 2013, seven of the projects were launched in the following year. Three existing pilot studies and the project «Prefabricated Façade Module» have still not started, as an investor is yet to be found.

The «Energiedrehscheibe» (Local Energy Hub) project led by *novatlantis* as part of the IDEAS4Cities initiative (Integration of Decentralized Energy Adaptive Systems for Cities) was continued in 2015 as planned – also thanks to the good collaboration with the project partner Industrielle Werke Basel IWB. The project provides for the creation of a cost-optimized model of the energy system in Basel that contains information on supply and demand right down to neighborhood level. The aim of the project is to simulate, based on the data available, different scenarios with centralised and decentralised energy production and storage and to examine aspects such as sustainability, costs, flexibility and modularity. Model vari-



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ables include CO₂ levies, feed-in tariffs, renovation potential as well as fuel prices. A first basic model will be available in the spring of 2016. There are plans to use the data model to make recommendations for IWB and for the Canton of Basel-Stadt and if applicable to implement these recommendations in subsequent pilot projects.

In the case of the Hydrogen Service Station project managed by Sustainserv GmbH, *novatlantis* actively contacted project partners in the second half of 2015 to clarify whether there was demand for scientific accompanying research for the project alongside the infrastructure project. Initial feedback showed that topics such as community acceptance and participation, environmental and economic aspects or the analysis of energy chains using a real-life example could be interesting research topics for researchers at PSI, Empa and other research organizations contacted. It is also necessary to clarify to what extent a collaboration with the existing hydrogen projects at PSI («Energy System Integration Platform») and at Empa («Move» Platform) might make sense. Preliminary clarification has been concluded, but delays in the infrastructure project have meant that the accompanying research has not yet started. In-depth clarification for carrying out the accompanying research will commence as soon as there is a specific timeframe for implementation of the infrastructure project.

Series of events – the *novatlantis* construction forum «City Vision 2050»

The *novatlantis* Construction Forum – Platform for Sustainable Construction – is a series of events where the latest developments from the university sector and from sustainable building in practice are presented and discussed. It is geared towards those responsible for the real estate portfolios of private and institutional investors, pension funds, authorities, building contractors and architecture and planning firms.

The *novatlantis* construction forums on «City Vision 2050» met with great interest. In Lucerne, the construction forum was again held in collaboration with the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts and the Canton of Lucerne, where the topic was «Buildings and areas of the future». The Zurich-based construction forum focused on the interplay between «People, buildings and sustainability». Poster and product exhibitions in the form of innovation drinks receptions promoted the knowledge transfer from research to practice and offered welcome opportunities for networking. With the active participation of two Swiss Competence Centers for Energy Research (SCCER) in the two construction forums, it was also possible to contribute to the transfer of knowledge and technology.

The talks, posters and photographs at the construction forums can be downloaded from www.novatlantis.ch. *novatlantis* also reports on every event in the form of brief articles published in journals and on the homepage. Various sponsors from the private and public sectors provided financial support to the *novatlantis* construction forums.

Figure 3: Networking is an important part of the *novatlantis* construction forums.





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novatlantis construction forum Lucerne: Sustainable energy concepts as success factors for buildings and areas of the future

January 2015 marked the second occasion of a *novatlantis* construction forum held in Lucerne in collaboration with the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts and the Canton of Lucerne. The topic, «Buildings and areas of the future», met with a great deal of interest from the specialist audience and resulted in a sold-

out event. The three partner institutions will also continue their collaboration in 2016 and plan to establish the *novatlantis* construction forum Lucerne as an annual series of events.

The *novatlantis* construction forum Lucerne examined the question of how sustainable energy concepts can become

success factors for buildings and areas of the future. The event centred on talks by different stakeholders who presented technical and organizational approaches to specific projects from the perspective of politicians, the public administration, the private sector and research. SCCER Heat & Electricity Storage was also presented at the event. An attractive innovation drinks reception with posters and exhibitions from research and practice as well as a podium discussion rounded off the occasion.

Figure 4:
Interested listeners at the *novatlantis* construction forum Lucerne 2015.



novatlantis construction forum Zurich: Giving quality of life with sustainable construction

At the end of August 2015, more than 100 experts convened for the *novatlantis* construction forum Zurich at ETH Zurich, which has been firmly established for several years now. They focused on the question of how sustainable urban and neighborhood development can be realized together with the residents. The talks and discussions examined the main issue of how to succeed in creating buildings that are future-proof and that appeal to

people at the same time. It became clear that much communication is needed in order to do this. In a brief presentation, SCCER Future Energy Efficient Buildings & Districts (FEED&D) was introduced.

In the accompanying exhibition, the City of Zurich presented two specific offerings, thus demonstrating how dialogue with the users of buildings can work: The authorities use an «energy coaching» service

to target building contractors and companies and encourage them to increase energy efficiency in construction and renovation. «Öko-Kompass» is an advisory offering for SMEs that want to get information directly at their own location concerning specifically what they can do for the environment while at the same time saving money. Around 600 firms in the City of Zurich have already made use of this advisory service.



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Network and PR work

novatlantis stepped up its networking and PR work in the financial year. novatlantis is now a network partner of Öko-Kompass – the environmental consultancy agency for SMEs in the City of Zurich – and will act as patron for «Research and Science» at the 2016 brenet Status Seminar. By taking part in the online Advent Calendar on Sustainable Development 2015, where novatlantis designed what is behind the door on 14th of December, and sponsoring the sharing DVD «The Human Scale» on sustainable urban living, novatlantis succeeded in reaching out to further target groups.

novatlantis as a network partner to Öko-Kompass

novatlantis is the new network partner of Öko-Kompass, the environmental consultancy agency for SMEs in the City of Zurich. One reason for this is that the undertakings from the energy, finance and construction sector complement novatlantis' network perfectly. Secondly, a broader application of Öko-Kompass is planned, and an SME advisory service could

also be of interest to Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia.

Based on the motto «Good for the environment, good for business», the City of Zurich has been offering environmental advice that is specially tailored to small and medium-sized enterprises since 2009 in the form of the Öko-Kompass («eco compass»). Specialists

come on site to show how companies can save resources, leverage efficiency potential and reduce operating costs.

The Öko-Kompass achieved memorable success in the financial year, winning 2nd place in the «Excellence Publique» prize in the category for Intelligent Saving. This national competition is held annually by the Swiss Society of Administrative Sciences (SSAS) and awards innovation in public administration.

Patronage of «Research and Science» at the brenet Status Seminar

On September 8 and 9, 2016, the Building and Renewable Energies Network of Technology (brenet) will hold the 19th Status Seminar at ETH Zurich. Findings by Swiss-based researchers and innovations in the area of buildings and settlements with a focus on energy and environmental topics will be presented and discussed. The conference is designed for specialists from industry, research and the authorities as well as engineering and architecture firms. novatlantis has assumed the patronage of «Research and Science» for this important event.

Online advent calendar on sustainable development 2015

On 24 different days in December, the online Advent Calendar on Sustainable Development 2015 showcases innovative projects and specific initiatives for promoting responsible business and action.



Live chats with dedicated personalities from the fields of business, politics and science invite the public to get involved. A current book related to the topic of the day is presented each day. In the «Tips for Kids» area, children



Figure 5: Corinne Moser gives a speech at the novatlantis construction forum 2015 on a project of the National Research Programme 71 «Managing Energy Consumption».

Figure 6: novatlantis designs for the first time a door of the Sustainable Development Advent Calendar.



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and families can get inspiration for trips, games and things to make. With a little luck, the participants in the daily quiz can win selected sustainable gifts. The central topics in 2015 include new approaches in the circular economy, contributions on the transition in energy policy and on the Climate Conference in Paris as well as the inclusion of people whose access to the labour market is impeded for various reasons.

novatlantis designed what is behind the door on 14th December 2015 with information about our sustainability platform, the next Construction Forum on the topic of «City Vision 2050 – building and mobility» in January 2016 in Lucerne as well as the projects in our focus regions «Pilot Region Basel» and «Zukunftsregion Novatlantis Argovia».

Sharing DVD «The Human Scale»

Last year, *novatlantis* entered into a partnership with the association «Films for the Earth» for the national film festival with the aim of disseminating knowledge and raising awareness of sustainability issues. Following on from that, *novatlantis* sponsored the sharing DVD «The Human Scale» in the 2015 financial year. This impressive plea for a greener, calmer and more human city focuses on sustainable urban living for human beings, making it the perfect give-away for the Construction Forums on «City Vision 2050» and for various projects in the two focus regions.

Figure 7:
A Chinese sports field, a glance in the trailer of the film «The Human Scale».

