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EEF.NGO/13/19  
16 September 2019

ENGLISH only

27TH OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM CONCLUDING MEETING  
Session 3

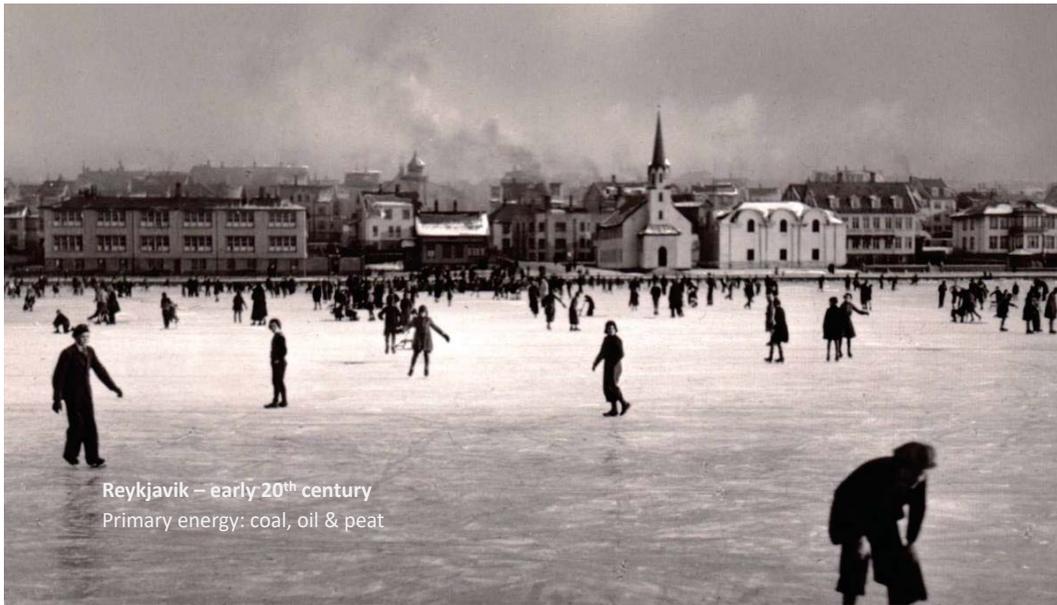


12.09.2019

**Renewable energy and energy security**  
*Iceland's energy transition*

**Sunna Björg Reynisdóttir**  
Business Development



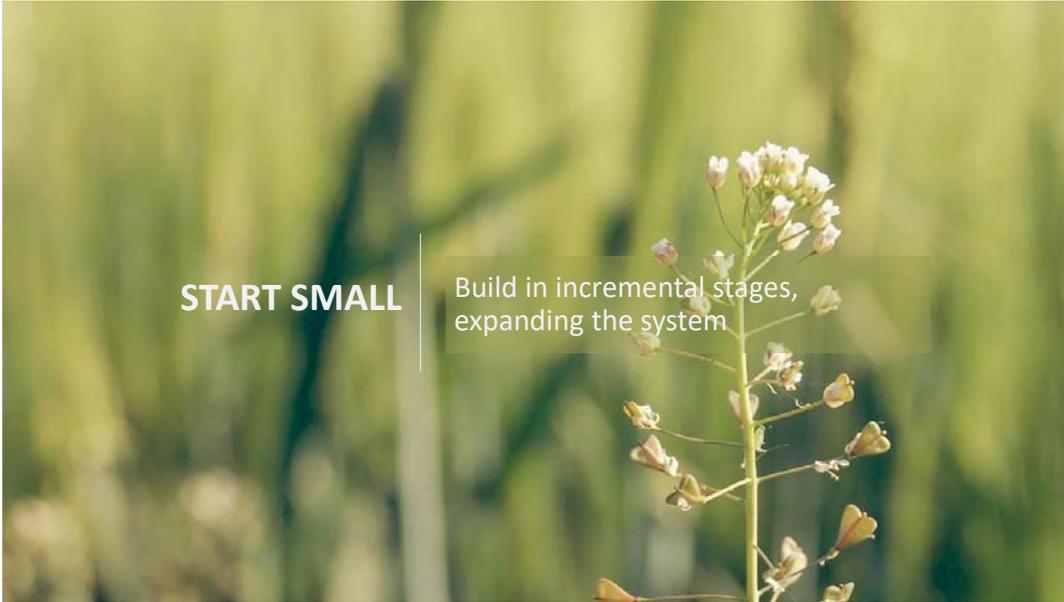


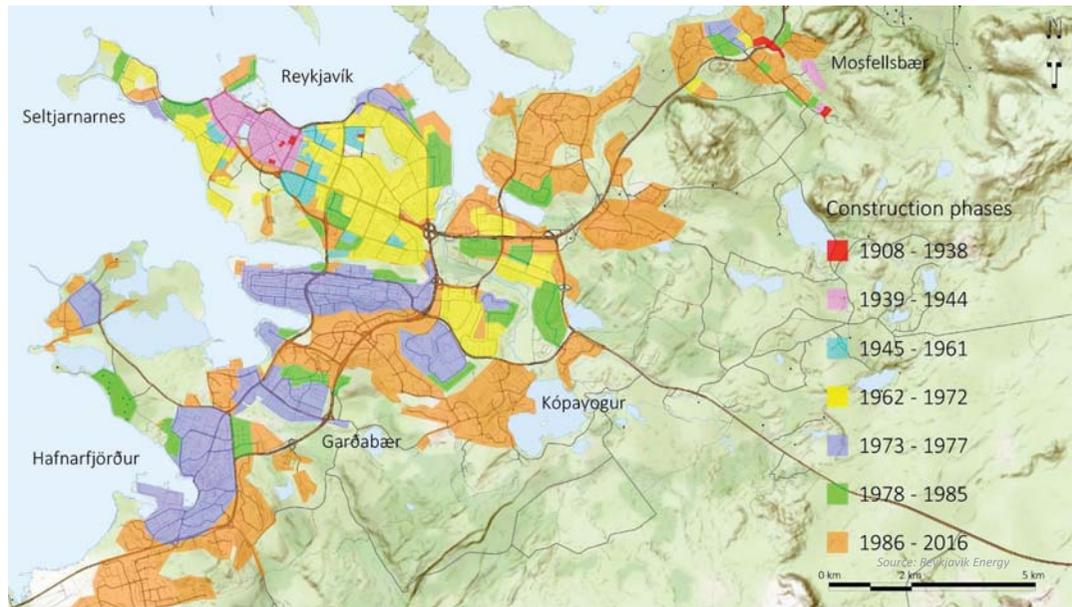
Reykjavik – early 20<sup>th</sup> century  
 Primary energy: coal, oil & peat



### Change is political

- Municipality elections in Reykjavik 1938
  - Expansion of the district heating system one of the main issues
  - “Vote district heating today”
- Reykjavik’s council member
  - “ ... I don’t think I’ve ever approved such a completely ludicrous idea as to think that water can be brought all the way to town, and that it will still be hot enough when it arrives to heat up entire buildings. You will never get me to believe that this is feasible, no matter what you can calculate.”



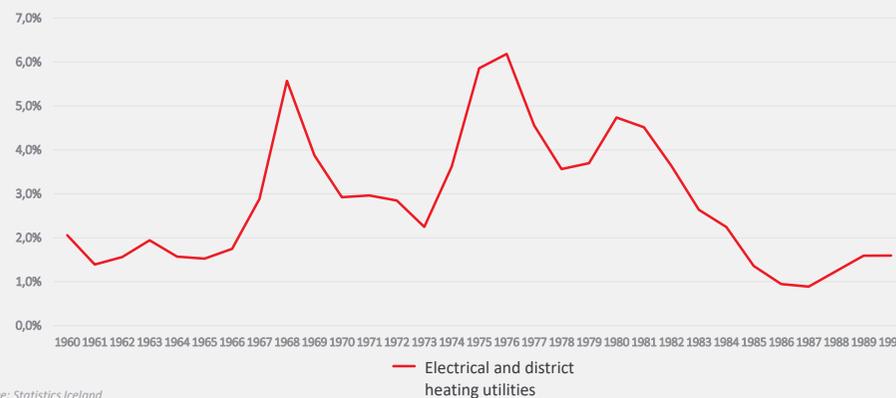




## Was it so difficult?



Investments as share of GDP - 1960-1990

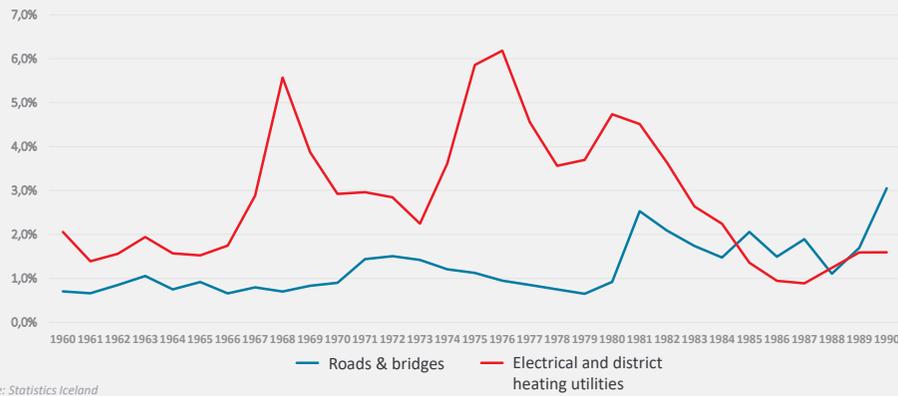


Source: Statistics Iceland

## Was it so difficult?

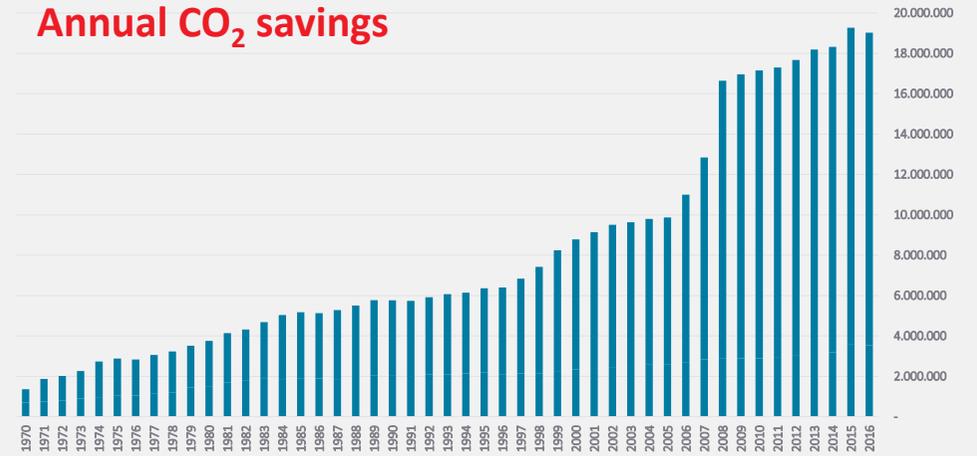


Investments as share of GDP - 1960-1990

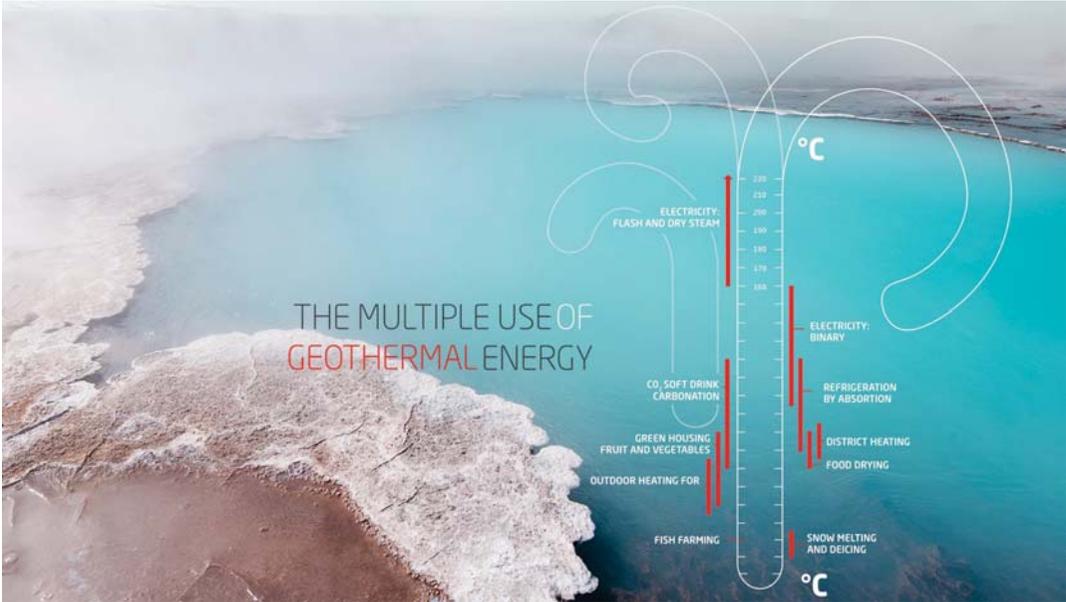


Source: Statistics Iceland

## Annual CO<sub>2</sub> savings



Source: Samorka

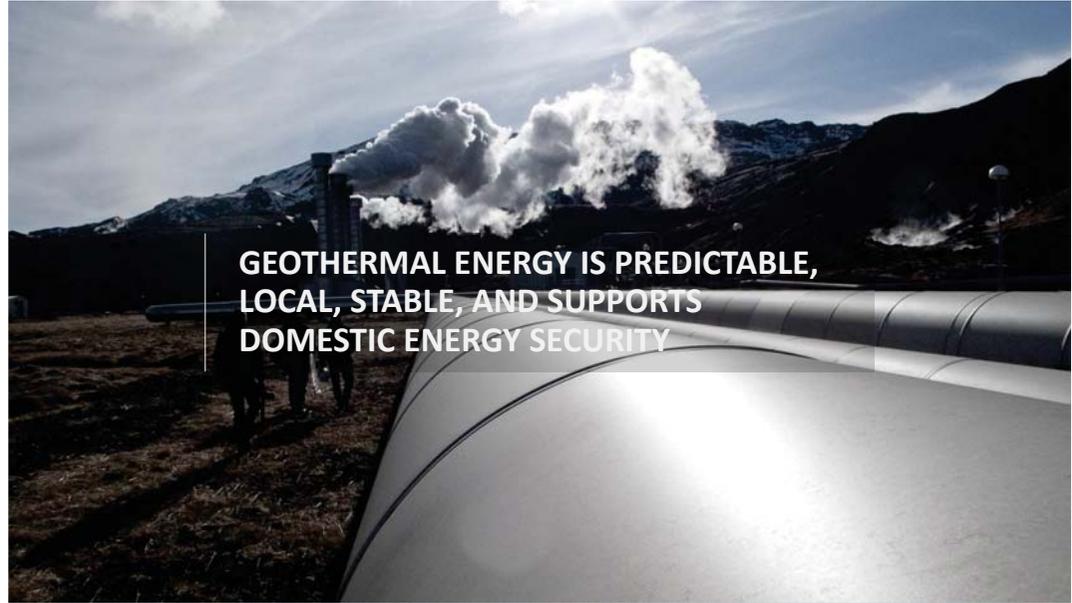




## Beyond heating

*Increased quality of life*

- Geothermal spa & lagoons
- Public swimming pools
- Increased food security
  - Greenhouses
  - Fish farming
- Innovation & Start ups
  - GeoSilica
  - Saltverk
  - BioEffect



**GEOHERMAL ENERGY IS PREDICTABLE,  
LOCAL, STABLE, AND SUPPORTS  
DOMESTIC ENERGY SECURITY**

27.April-  
1.May 2020



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**Sustainable  
District  
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Conference**  
October 23-25, 2019, Iceland



**Thank you**

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