

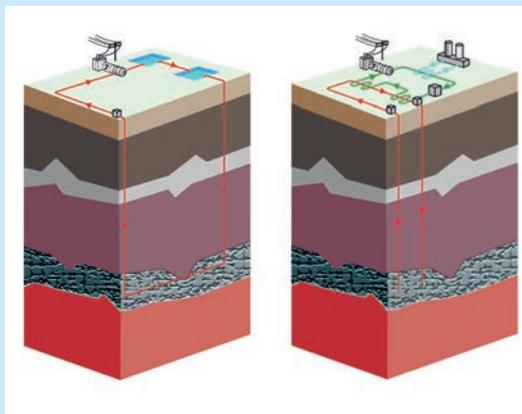
CCES News 18

Education

Teaching sustainability knowledge in a comprehensible and effective manner

In collaboration with CCES@School, the MINT-Learning Center at ETH Zurich has developed two additional new teaching units, one on geothermal energy and one on landscape genetics. The goal of CCES@School is to provide teaching materials for secondary school students that cover novel scientific knowledge on environmentally relevant issues. CCES@School ensures that teaching materials fulfill high scientific and pedagogical quality standards. This is accomplished through collaboration between experts from both fields, ensuring that not only the latest scientific findings but also recent results of empirical research on learning and instruction are integrated into the teaching units. The latter include cognitively activating forms of learning, such as inventing with contrasting cases that prompt self-explanations and the use of holistic mental model confrontations.

Here is an example for such a holistic mental model confrontation, taken from a teaching unit on geothermal energy:



Compare the lay model (left) with the expert model. What characteristics do they share? Where do you find differences? (Illustration: MINT-Learning Center, ETH Zurich)

These teaching units are disseminated by seminars for teachers as well as by the teacher education program of ETH Zurich. For further information, visit our website: www.educ.ethz.ch/lernzentrum/mint-lernzentrum.html

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The teaching units were organized as part of the GEOTHERM-1/GEOTHERM-2 project and the project GeneMig:

www.cces.ethz.ch/projects/nature/geotherm, www.cces.ethz.ch/projects/nature/geotherm-2, www.cces.ethz.ch/projects/sulu/genemig

CCES «Science meets Practice» Winter School 2017 – now open for applications!

The 7th edition of the CCES Winter School «Science meets Practice» will take place in January and February 2017. The program is designed for PhDs and postdocs to gain theory-based insights for interacting at the science-practice interface, with a new module in 2017 on basic knowledge and skills in conflict management and group dynamics. As in previous years, the added value of this winter school is the unique opportunity for hands-on application of skills through workshops with stakeholders from administration, practice and the broader society.



CCES Winter School cohort of 2015 (Photo: Carolina Adler, CCES/ETH)

To find out more, and to submit your application, visit: www.cces.ethz.ch/winterschool.

Applications close at midnight CET on Friday, September 30, 2016.

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