

# REScoop.EU

EU federation of citizen energy cooperatives

Discussion

## The energy transition to energy democracy

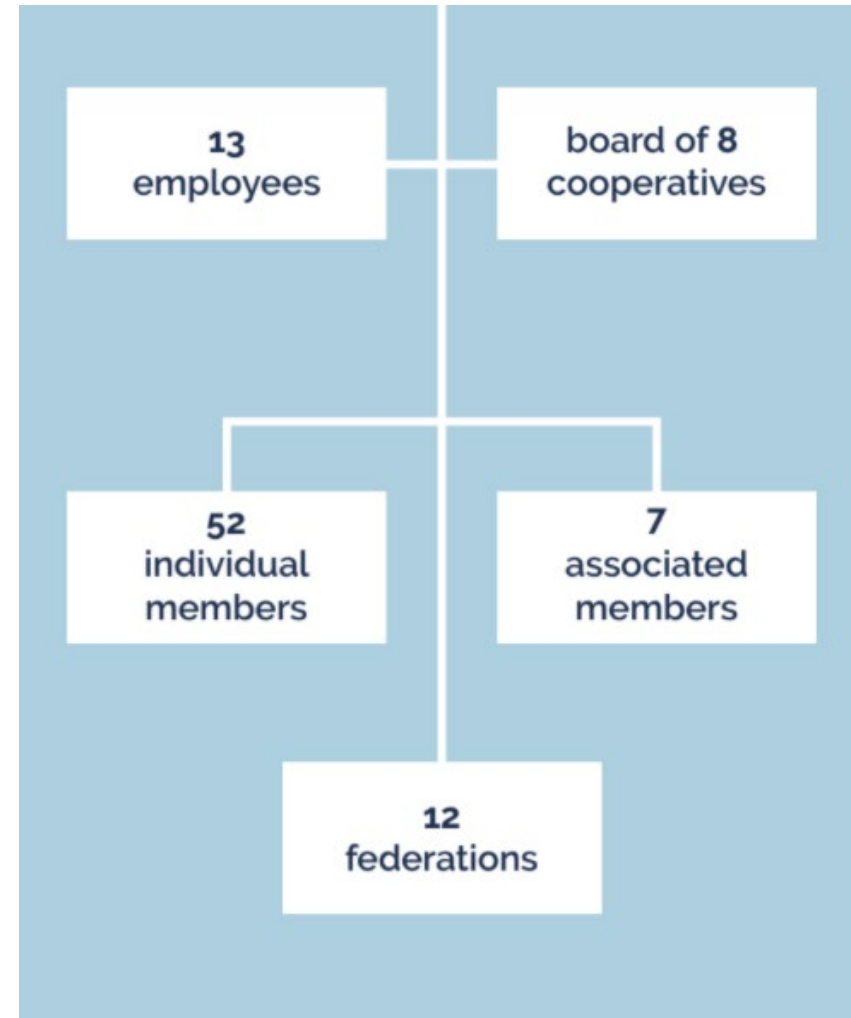
Dirk Vansintjan, president of REScoop.eu

Berlin, 'Unsere Chance'

07/06/2021



# What is REScoop.eu?



REScoops

Citizen Energy Cooperatives in Europe

35,955 views

SHARE

Community Energy projects

All items

REScoop.eu members / associate mem...

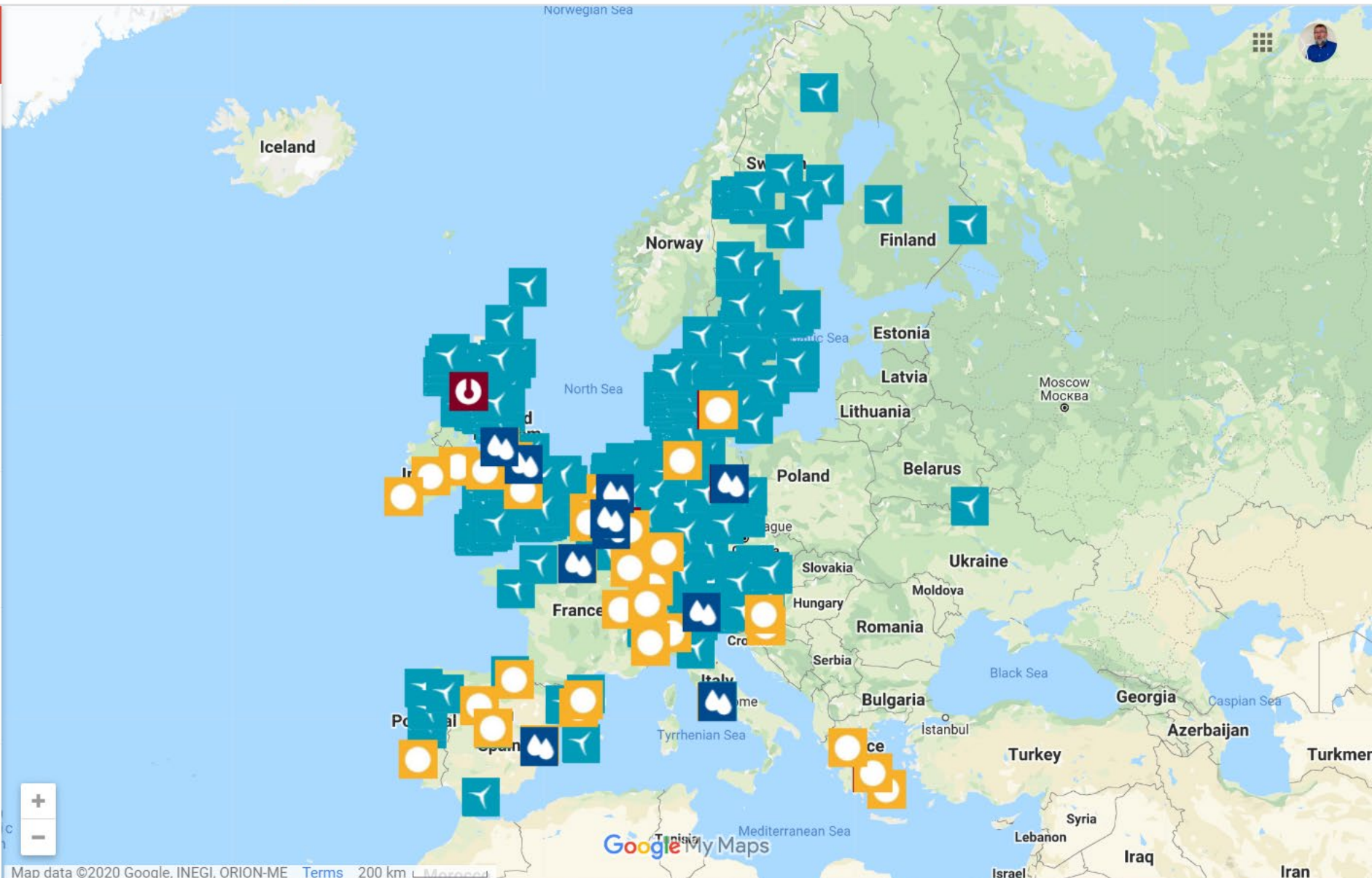
All items

REScoop.eu members/Individual rescoo...

All items

REScoop.eu Members /Federations

All items





# What is a citizen energy cooperative?

- Groups of citizens who cooperate on energy transition projects
- Legal entity is not always relevant
- 7 ICA principles
  - Voluntary and open membership
  - Democratic member control
  - Member economic participation
  - Autonomy and independence
  - Education, training and information
  - Cooperation among cooperatives





# What is a citizen energy cooperative?

- Energy transition projects includes electricity, heating, transportation and energy savings
  - Production
  - Supply
  - Distribution
  - Flexibility – storage, vpp & demand response
  - Energy monitoring
  - Energy savings
  - District heating
  - E-car sharing
  - ...



# What is a citizen energy cooperative?

- Energy transition projects
- Citizens (also local authorities, microenterprises)
- Project with collective character
- Cooperative principles
- Various activities and thus business models

# Producers

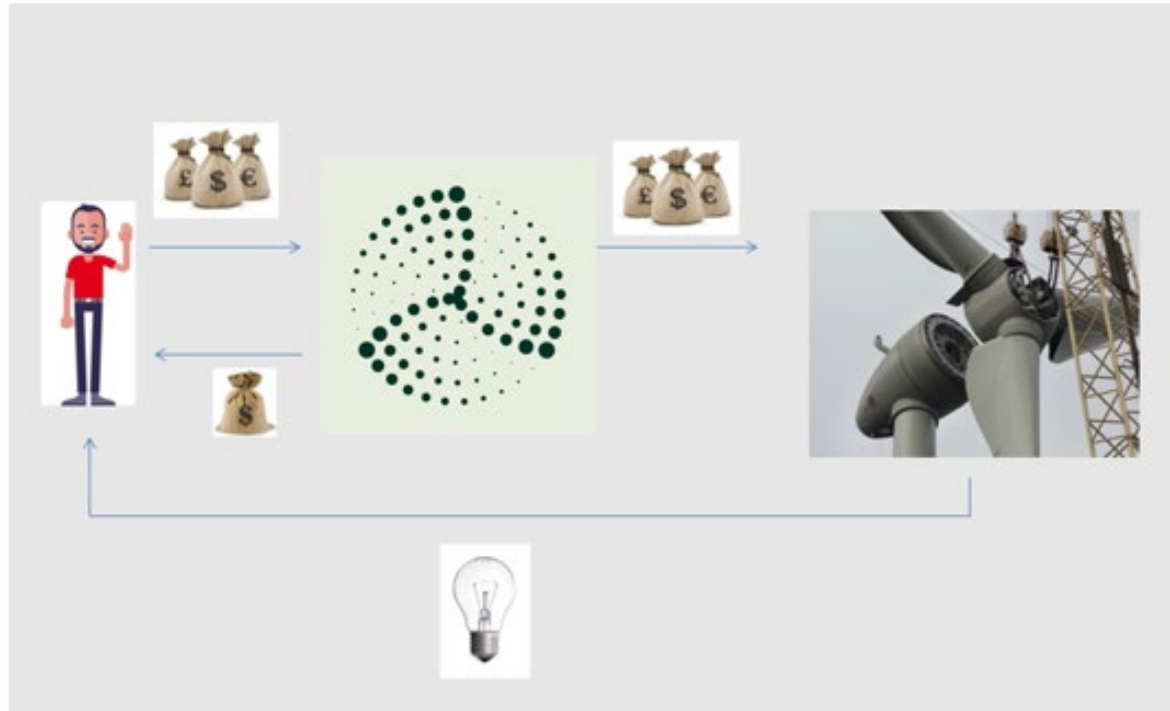




# Suppliers



# Producers & suppliers

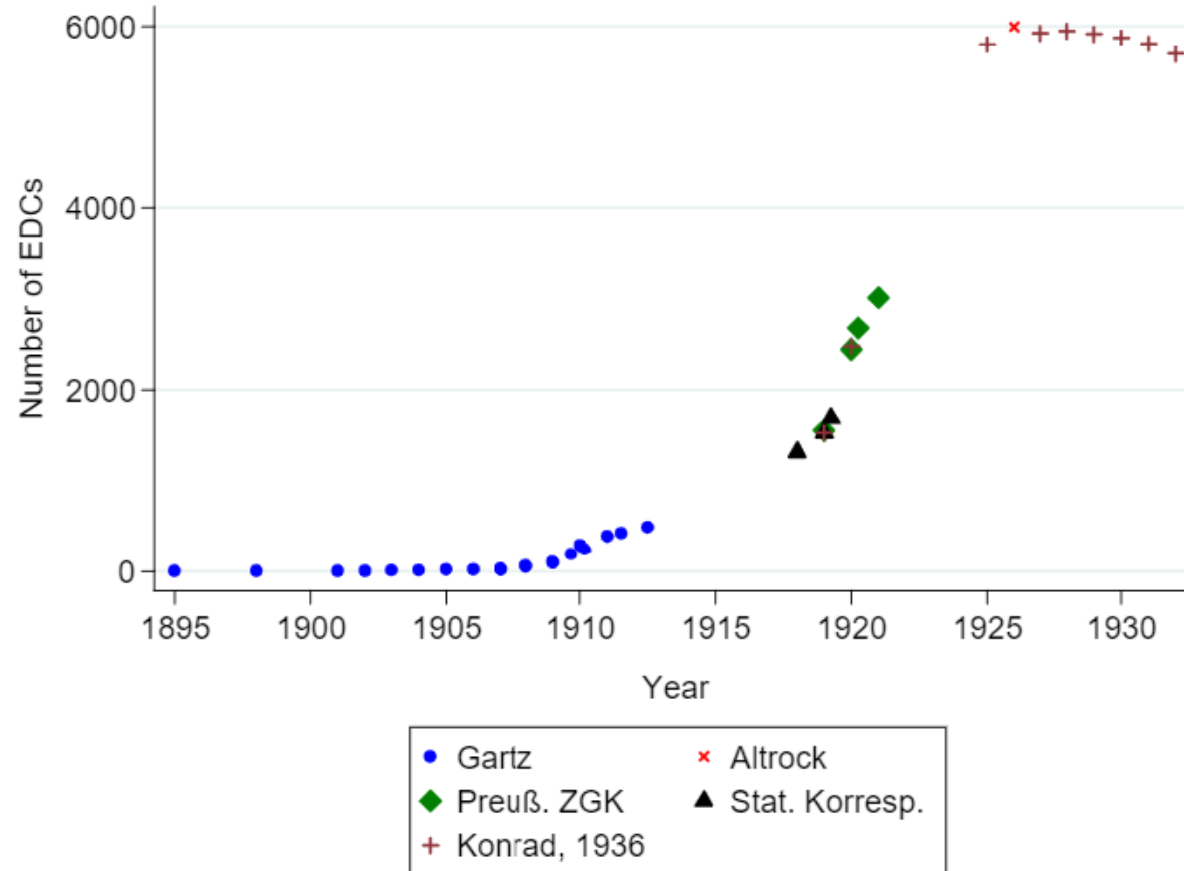


# Distribution system operators (DE)





# Energy Communities: really something new?



**Figure 1: Numbers of Electricity Distribution Cooperatives (EDCs) in Germany until 1934**

Sources: Gartz (1910, 1911, 1912); ETZ (1920a [Statistische Korrespondenz], 1920b [Preußische Zentralgenossenschaftskasse], 1921 [Preußische Zentralgenossenschaftskasse], 1926 [Altrock, 1926]); Konrad (1936).

Source: Lars Holstenkamp

# Distribution system operators (IT)



## TITEL I - BEZEICHNUNG - SITZ - DAUER

### Art. 1 (Gründung und Bezeichnung)

Die am 21. August 1921 in der Gemeinde Villnöß gegründete Genossenschaft trägt die Bezeichnung "Energiegenossenschaft Villnöß", in italienischer Übersetzung "Azienda energetica Funes Società cooperativa" und hat ihren Sitz in der Gemeinde Villnöß. Die Genossenschaft kann mit Beschluss des Verwaltungsrates Zweigstellen, Niederlassungen, Agenturen und Vertretungen auch woanders einrichten.

Das Tätigkeitsgebiet der Genossenschaft erstreckt sich auf die Gemeinde Villnöß. Mit Beschluss der



# Distribution system operators (USA)



Energy & Technology

Our Communities

The Cooperative Advantage

Our Mission

Issues & Policy

An aerial photograph of an electrical substation. Several white utility trucks with bucket lifts are positioned around a central metal structure. Workers in safety gear are visible on the equipment. Large transformers are scattered throughout the site. The ground is paved and there are some storage areas with materials.

## We Are America's Electric Cooperatives

**WE POWER 1 IN 8 AMERICANS**

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[Home](#) » [Where We Work](#) » Philippines

Today the NEA's 119 electric co-ops spread throughout the archipelago bring electricity to more than 56 million people in 36,000 rural villages and rural towns.



**FACE**

Mendoza  
Misiones  
Neuquén  
Río Negro  
Santa Fé  
Santiago del Estero  
Tierra del Fuego

Asociamos a mas de 240 cooperativas de  
14 provincias de nuestro país.

# Energy monitoring



“One person can make a difference and everyone should try.”

— John F. Kennedy



# Interactive invoicing

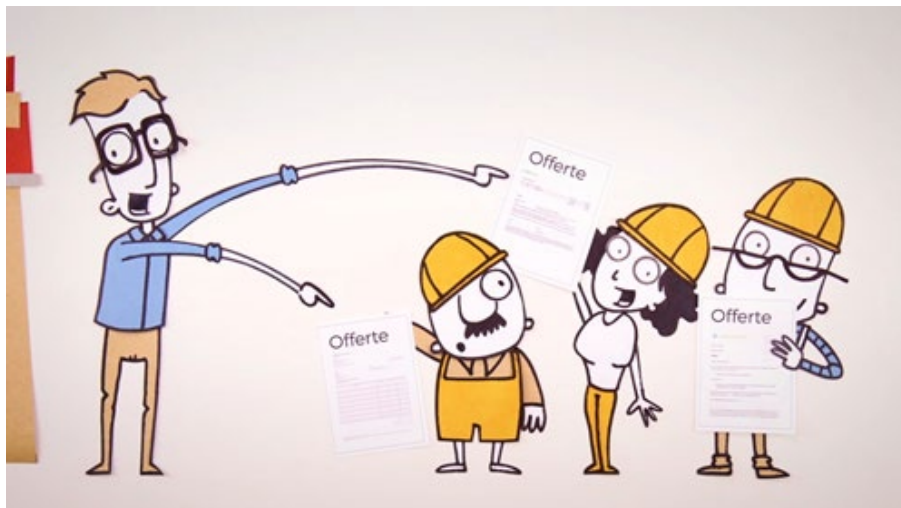


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# Collective home retrofits



# Training programmes



## GENERATION ZERO WATT

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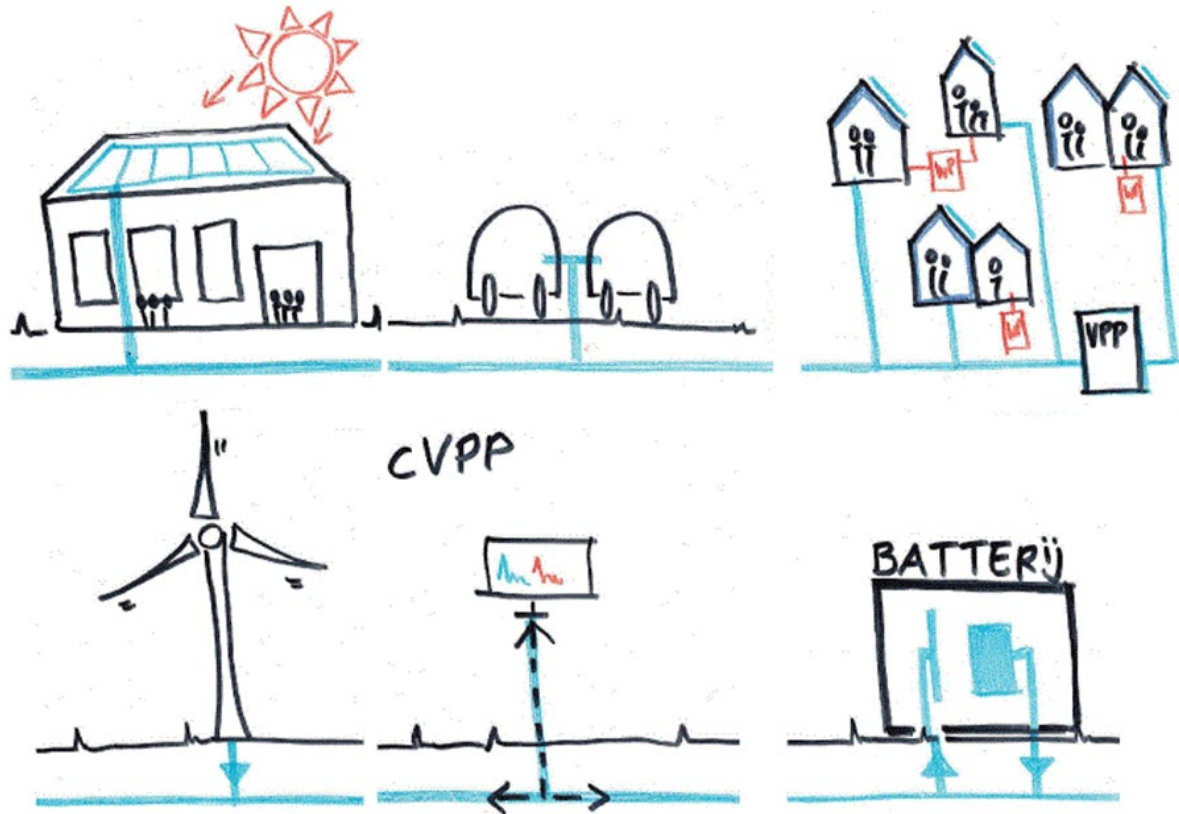


# Public street lighting

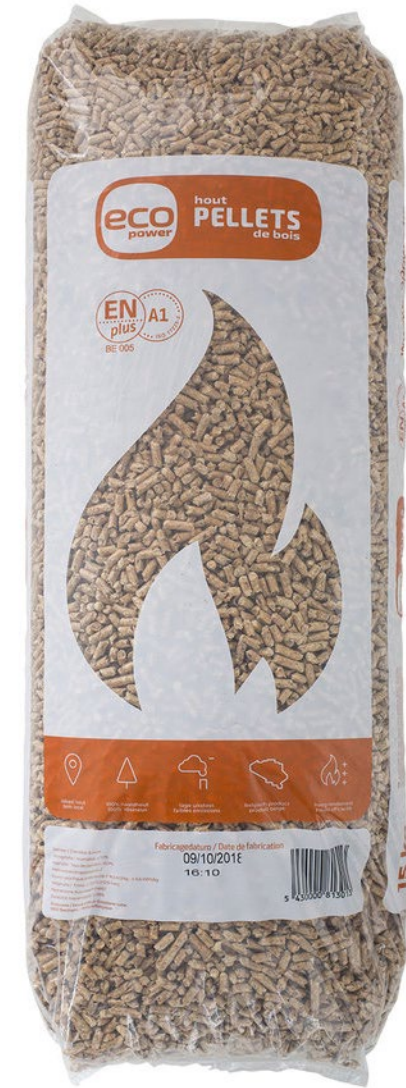
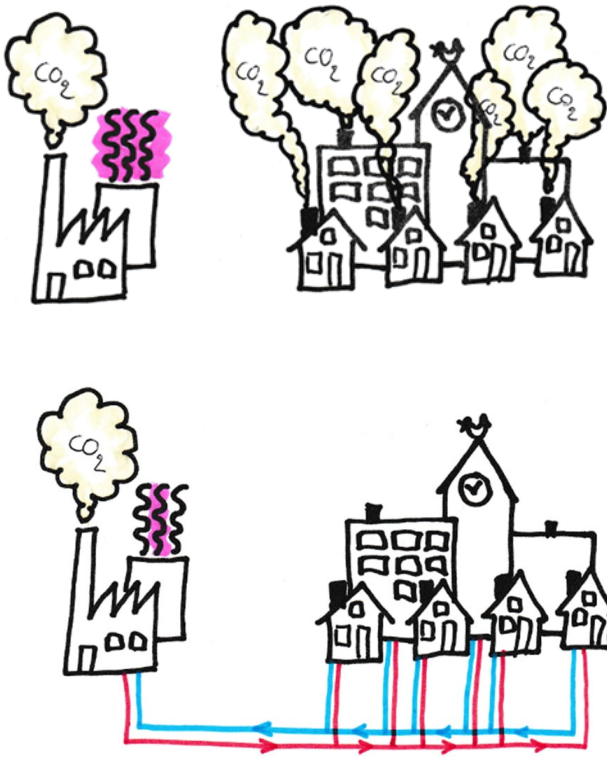




# Flexibility, demand response and VPP

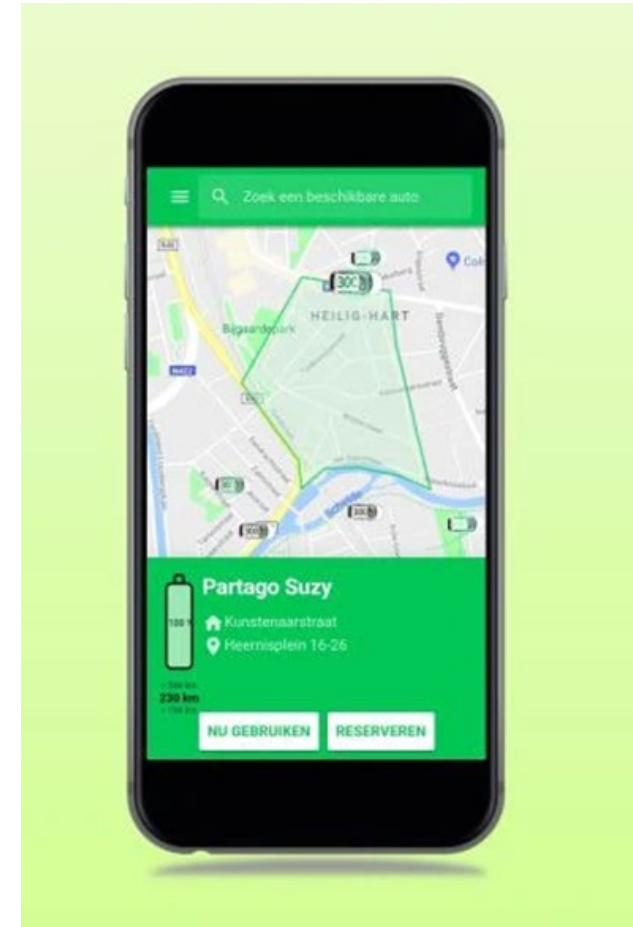


# Heating





# E-carsharing





# A federation: to do what?

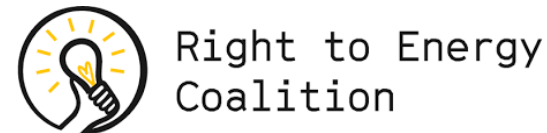
Through REScoop.eu, we wish to make our voices heard in the European energy debate. Citizens after all are the ones who will be paying for the transition to a more sustainable energy system. REScoop.eu empowers them and wants to achieve energy democracy.

Our federation has four well-defined objectives:

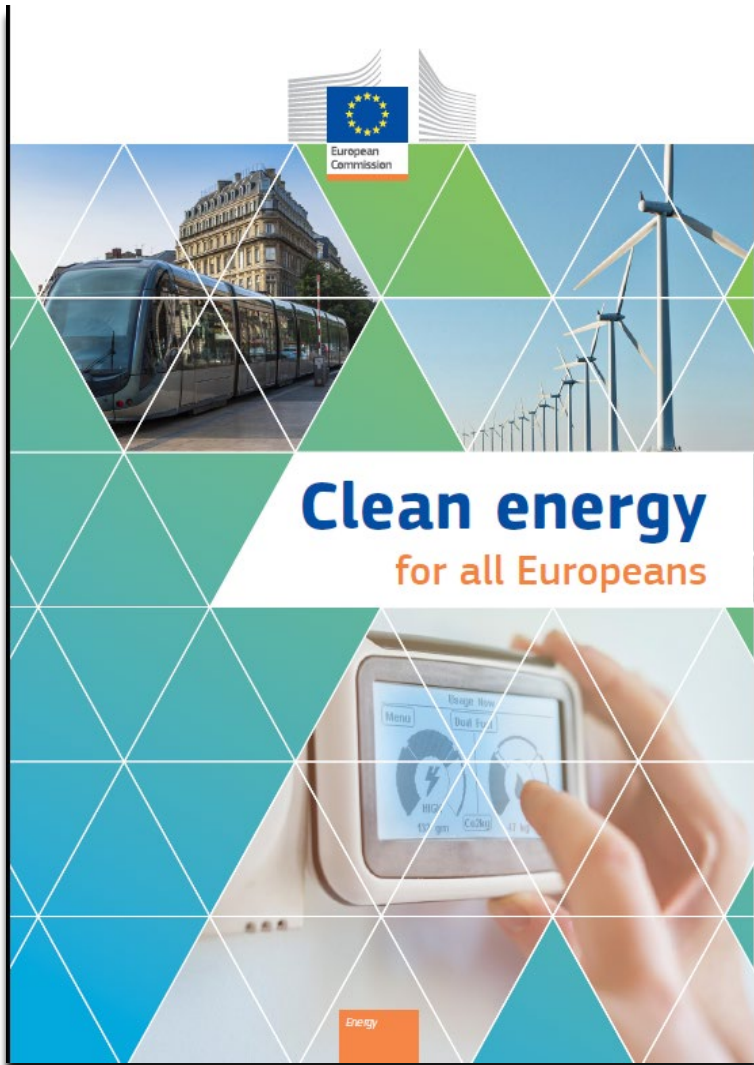
- We represent the voice of citizens and citizen energy cooperatives to European policy makers
- We support the start-up of new REScoops and provide them with useful tools and contacts
- We provide services for the European REScoops, e.g. we are currently working on a financial tool
- We promote the REScoop business model throughout Europe

# Collaborations with others

- Community Power Coalition
- Cooperatives Europe
- Coalition for Energy Savings
- BRIDGE
- Right to Energy Coalition
- European Climate Foundation



# European Commission: CE4AE



The Commission published its Communication on Energy Union on February 25, 2015 [COM (2015) 80 final]. This Communication calls for a fundamental transformation of Europe's energy system: to speak globally with one voice; to, *inter alia*, build a sustainable, low-carbon and climate-friendly economy that is designed to last; where energy flows freely across borders, based on competition and the best possible use of resources; **with citizens at its core, where citizens take ownership of the energy transition**, benefit from new technologies to reduce their bills, participate actively in the market, and where vulnerable consumers are protected.



# Definitions in CEP Europeans directives

## Citizens energy community

a legal entity:

which is based on voluntary and open participation, effectively controlled by shareholders or members who are natural persons, local authorities, including municipalities, or small enterprises and microenterprises.

The primary purpose of a citizens energy community is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits for its members or the local areas where it operates rather than financial profits.

A citizens energy community can be engaged in electricity generation, distribution and supply, consumption, aggregation, storage or energy efficiency services, generation of renewable electricity, charging services for electric vehicles or provide other energy services to its shareholders or members.

All CEP directives should be implemented by mid 2021: what about Latvia?

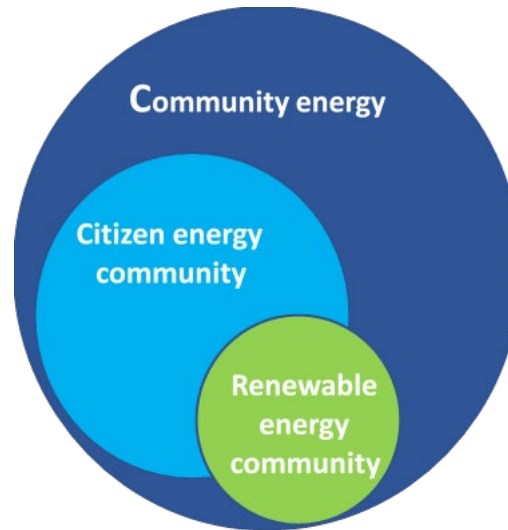
## Renewable energy community

a legal entity:

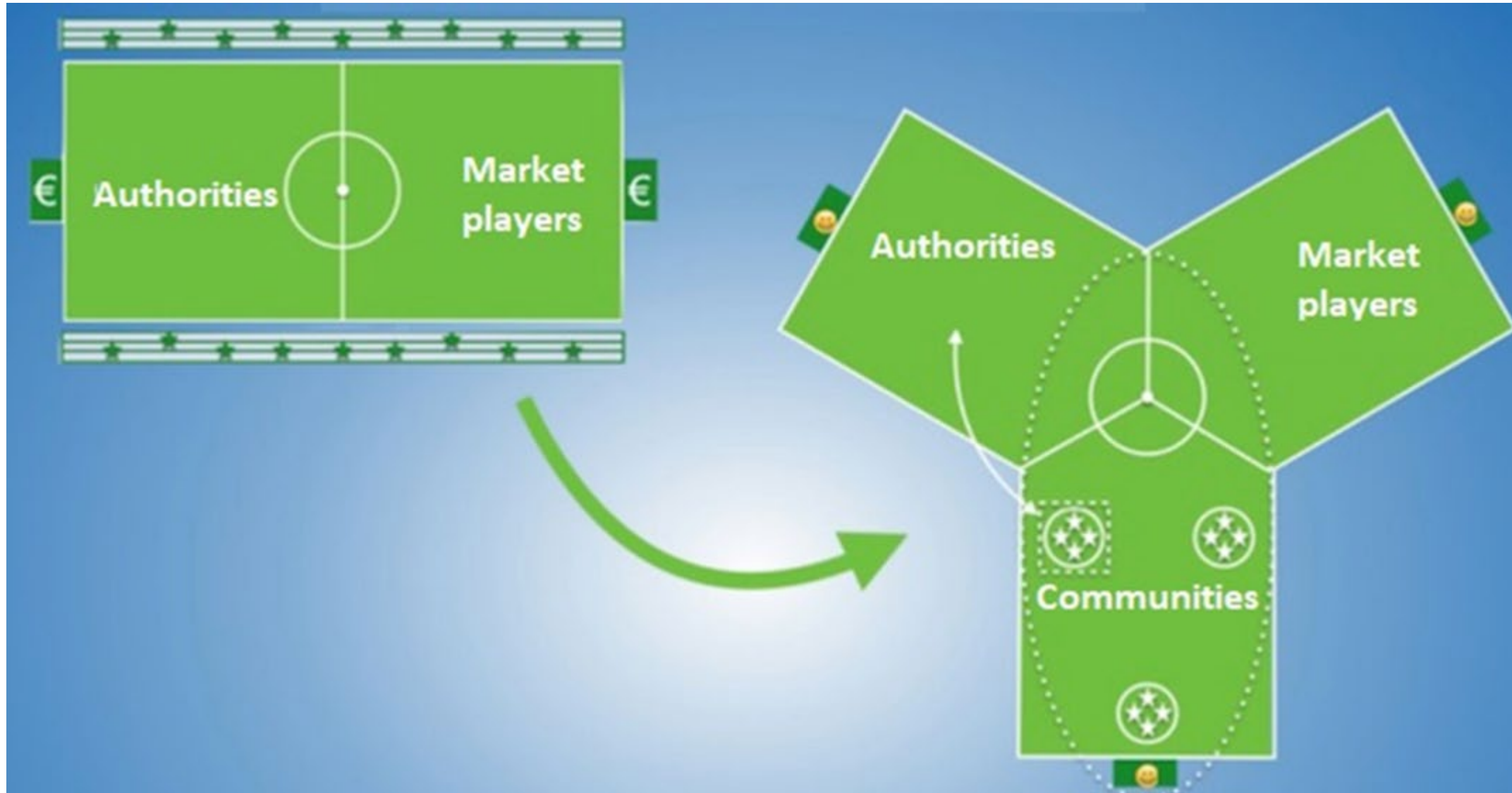
which, in accordance with the applicable national law, is based on open and voluntary participation, is autonomous, and is effectively controlled by shareholders or members that are located in the proximity of the renewable energy projects that are owned and developed by that legal entity;

the shareholders or members of which are natural persons, SMEs or local authorities, including municipalities;

the primary purpose of which is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits for its shareholders or members or for the local areas where it operates, rather than financial profits.



For many this seems a new player, game and a field



# How can EU-MS support energy communities?

Following the EU's Clean Energy for All Europeans legislative package, EU Member States are currently working on transposing the definitions of Renewable Energy Communities and Citizen Energy Communities into their national laws.

If done right, these definitions will allow citizens to become active participants in and owners of the energy transition, and will make community energy projects flourish throughout Europe.

But how can openness, democratic governance and autonomy be reflected in national level definitions of energy communities?

REScoop.EU



## **Energy Communities under the Clean Energy Package**

Transposition Guidance



# How can EU-MS support energy communities?



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## Example 30: Revolving funds to help de-risk investment in community renewables projects

A number of different funds have been established in the UK in order to help community energy projects get off the ground.

In Scotland, there are a number of funding opportunities provided under the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). First, local non-profit community groups, community benefit societies and cooperatives, housing associations, faith groups and local authorities are eligible to receive up to GBP25k enablement grants, which can fund feasibility for energy systems or renewable energy projects, investigation of shared ownership opportunities or work to maximise the impact of community benefit societies with renewable energy projects. Second, these groups, along with rural businesses, are eligible to receive a loan of up to GBP150k for renewable energy projects with a reasonable chance of success. The loans can include a write-off facility that allows development risk to be mitigated.

# REScoop.eu monitor the transposition

- ECCO Interreg NWE project
- cVPP Interreg NWE project
- COME RES Horizon 2020 project
- European Climate foundation
- ...

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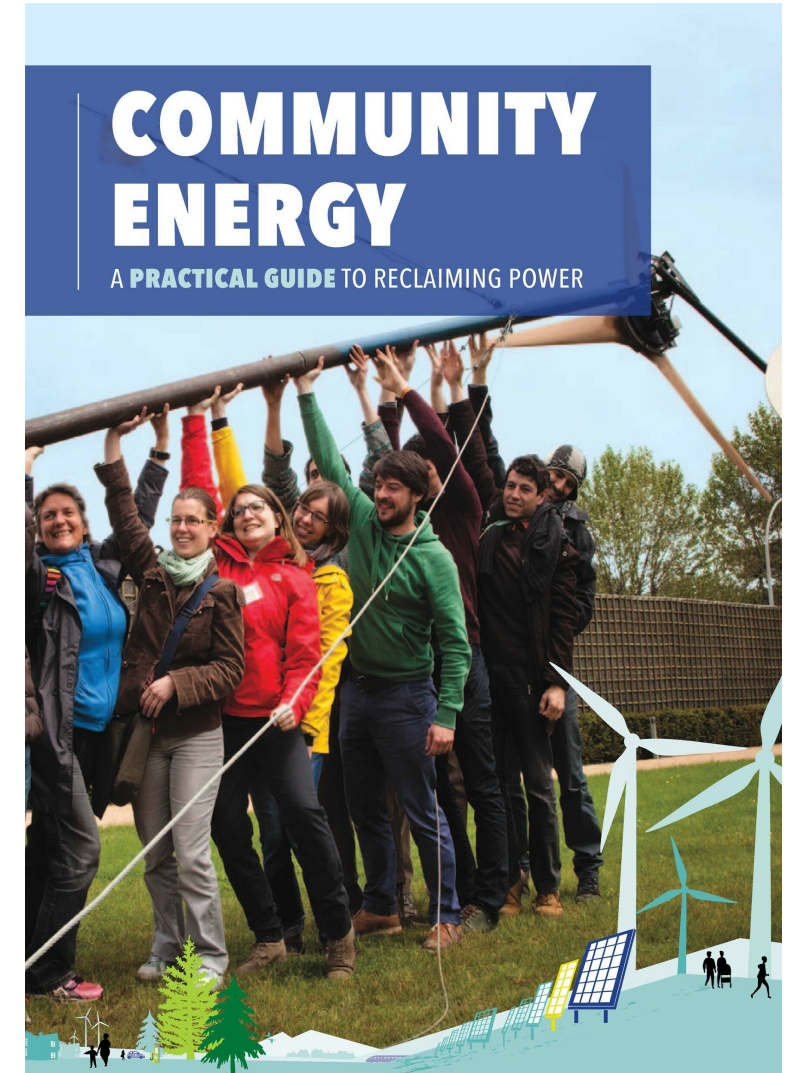


## **Energy Communities under the Clean Energy Package**

Transposition Guidance

# REScoop.eu+FOEE+Energy Cities help energy communities

- Practical guide
- <https://www.rescoop.eu/toolbox/community-energy-a-practical-guide-to-reclaiming-power> COME RES Horizon 2020 project
- Support European Climate foundation to reach out
- Movie Patagonia to promote CE worldwide







Horizon 2020  
Programme

# Ongoing Horizon 2020 projects



Compile



Advancing Renewable  
Energy Communities

AGRO  
FOSSIL  
FREE



RE/SOURCED



REScoop  
VPP

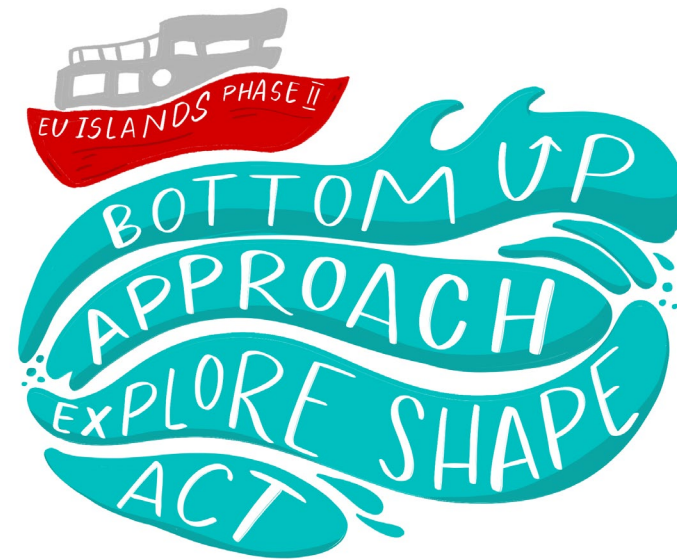
CNENET  
one network for Europe



# Ongoing service contract



2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the CE4EU Islands Secretariat



©Agata Smok





# Ongoing Interreg projects



**Interreg**   
North-West Europe  
**cVPP**  
European Regional Development Fund

**Interreg**   
North-West Europe  
**STEPS**  
European Regional Development Fund





European  
Climate  
Foundation

# Ongoing ECF projects

ECF Citizen-Led Renovation

ECF Definition

ECF Communication



# And... an ongoing EUKI project



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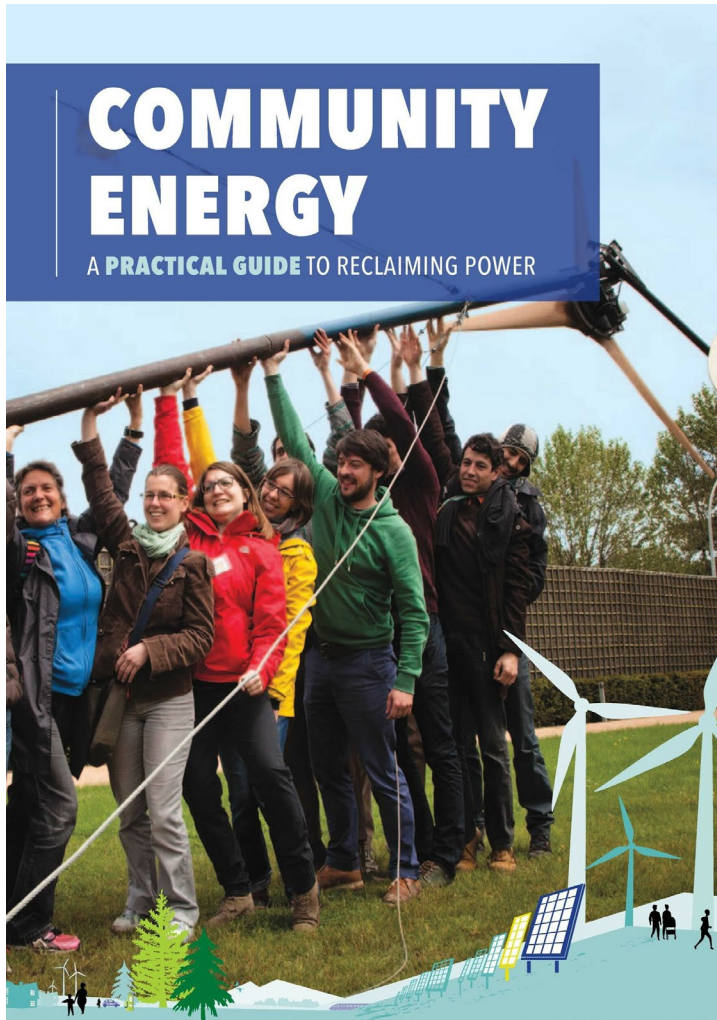


European  
Climate Initiative  
EUKI

based on a decision of the German Bundestag



# Publications



## Q&A: What are 'citizen' and 'renewable' energy communities?

### Introduction

The final Clean Energy Package (CEP) contains two definitions of energy community: Citizen Energy Community (CEC) which is contained in Directive (EU) 2019/944 (recast Electricity Directive), and Renewable Energy Community (REC), which is contained in Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (the recast Renewable Energy Directive). They are similar, but not totally consistent.

Add comments with h1g tools

#### Article 2(16) Recast Renewable Energy Directive 'Renewable Energy Community'

A legal entity:

#### Article 2(11) Recast Electricity Directive 'Citizen Energy Community'

A legal entity that:

8 policy papers

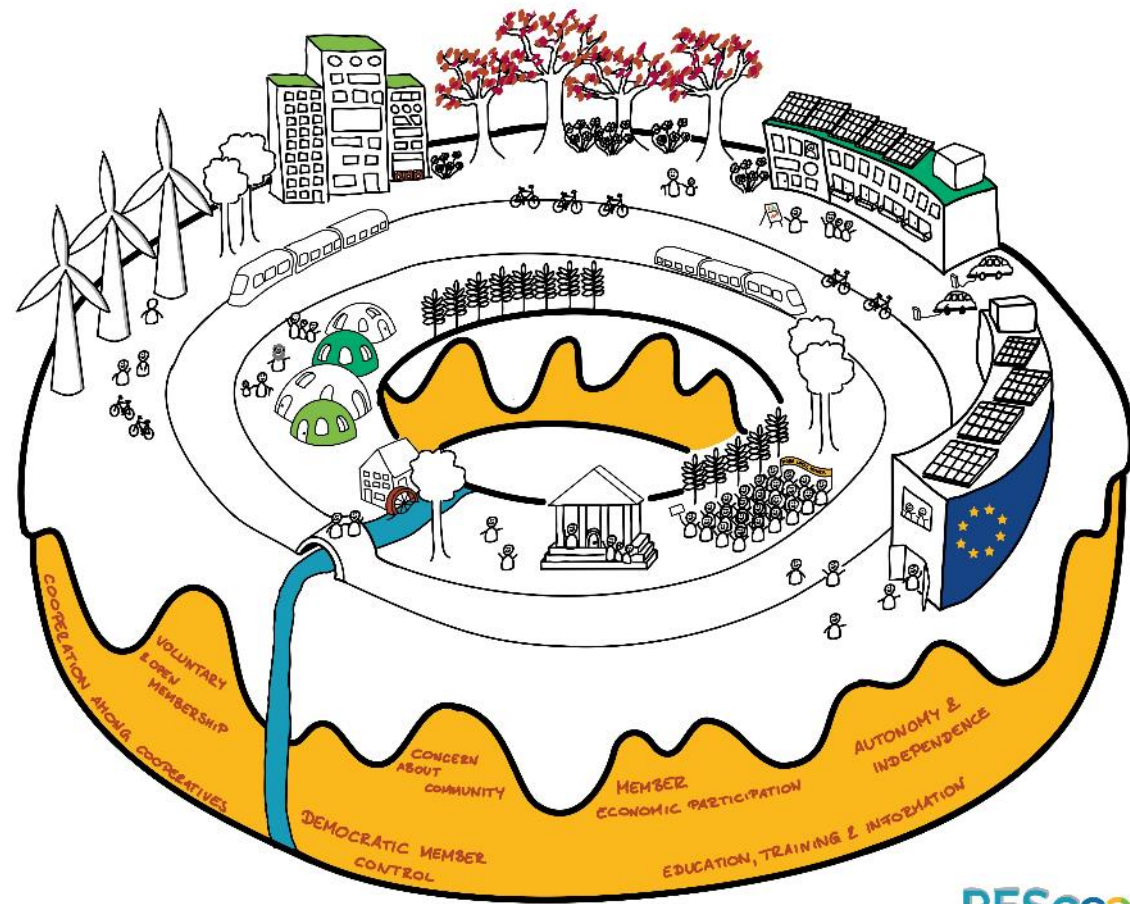
6 press releases

2 books

72 web articles



# How to communicate REScoop.eu's vision?



REScoop's  
EU 2050

# REScoop.EU

[www.rescoop.eu](http://www.rescoop.eu)

[info@rescoop.eu](mailto:info@rescoop.eu)

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