

All the power to all the people: energy communities partnering with Municipalities



Chris Vrettos | REScoop.eu

27/06/2025

IMAGINE A
WORLD

WHERE ENERGY PRODUCTION
IS OWNED BY LOCAL PEOPLE.



61%

of Europeans would
be likely to join an
energy cooperative
if one were set up in
their local area

RESCOOP.EU

By 2050, 1 in 2 Europeans could be producing their own energy, covering 45% of the EU's electricity demand

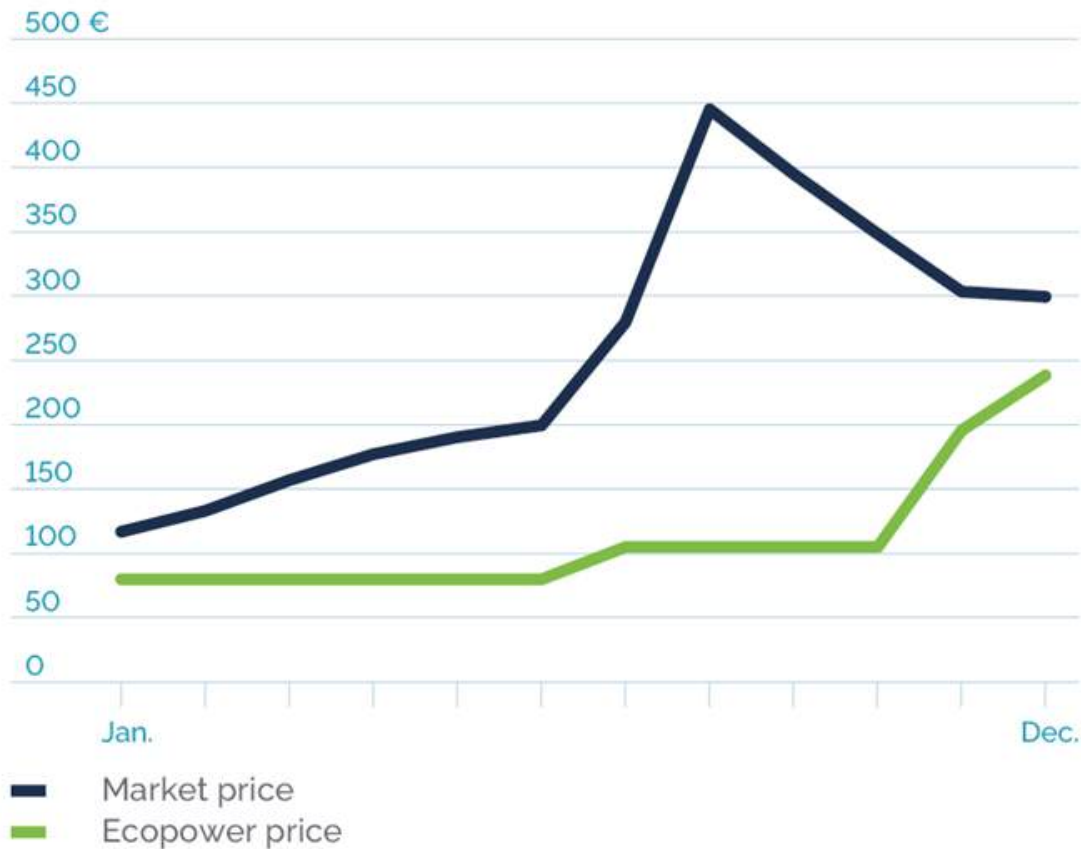
**Not just small
solar parks:
The community
energy
movement is
flourishing - and
diverse!**



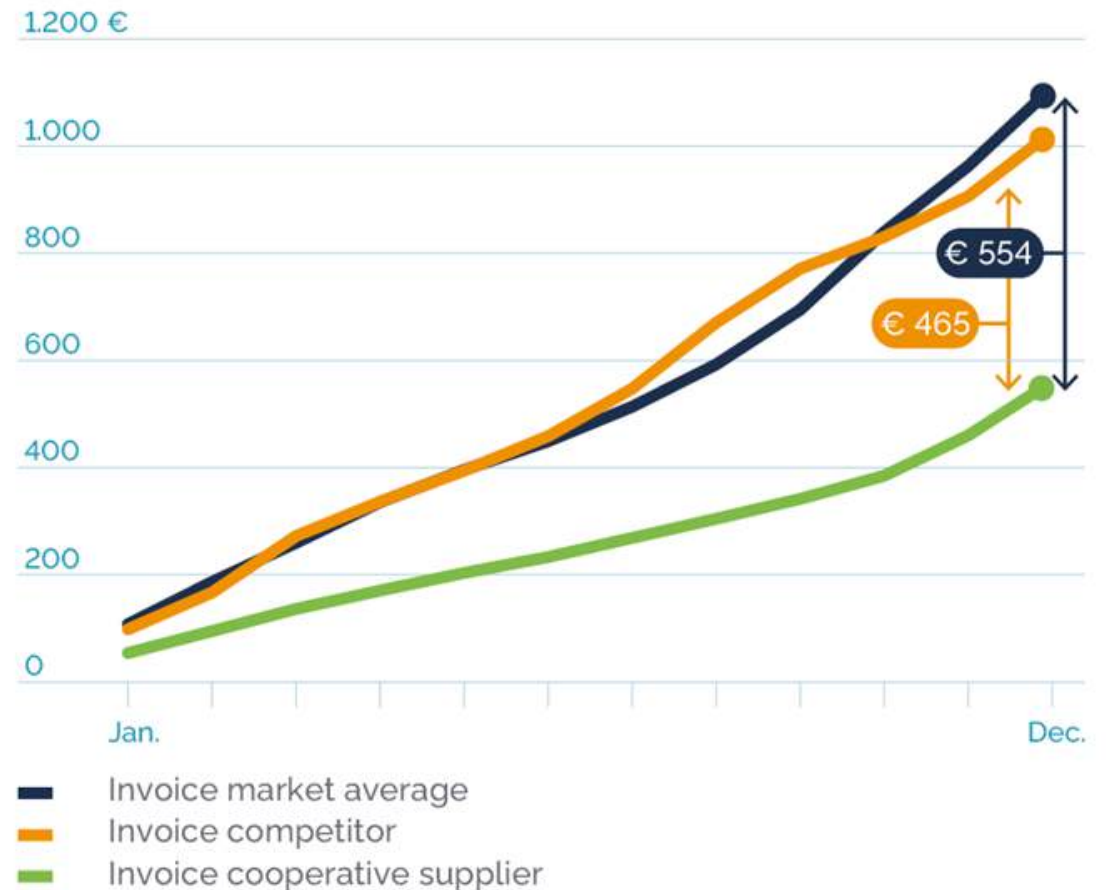
Market prices vs. cooperative prices

Cooperatives can shield their members from high volatile energy prices

Electricity price



Invoices



Helping citizen navigate the transition - the (cooperative) OSS approach

Energy Communities Tipperary Cooperative (IE)

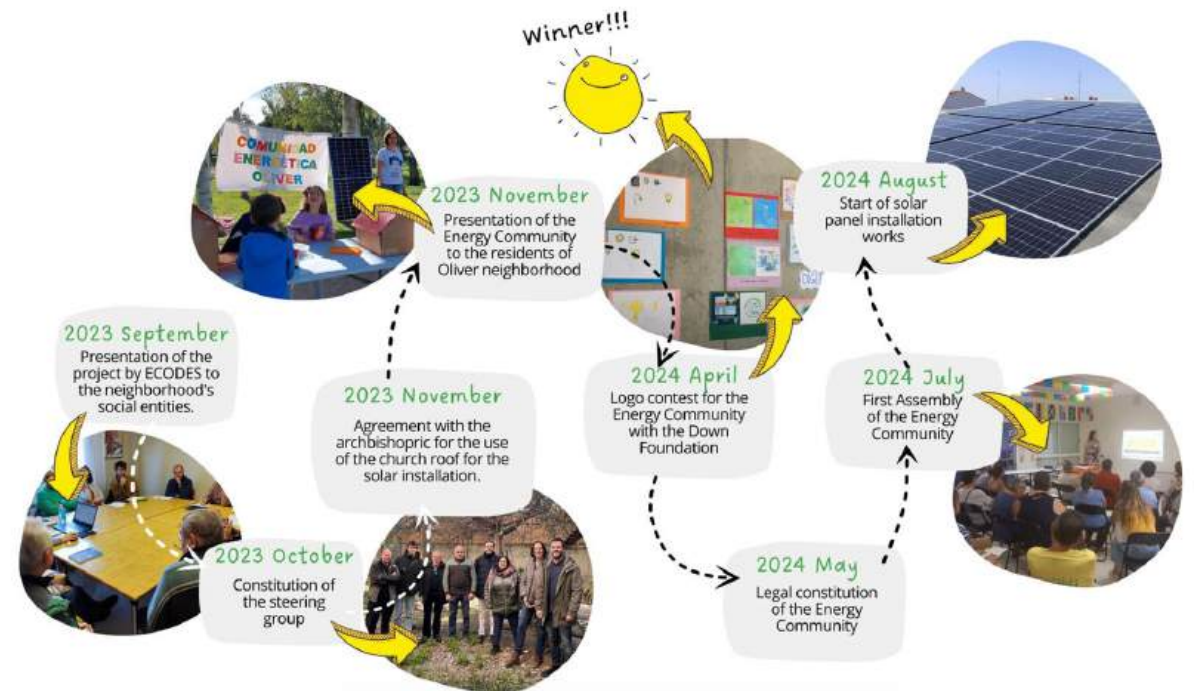
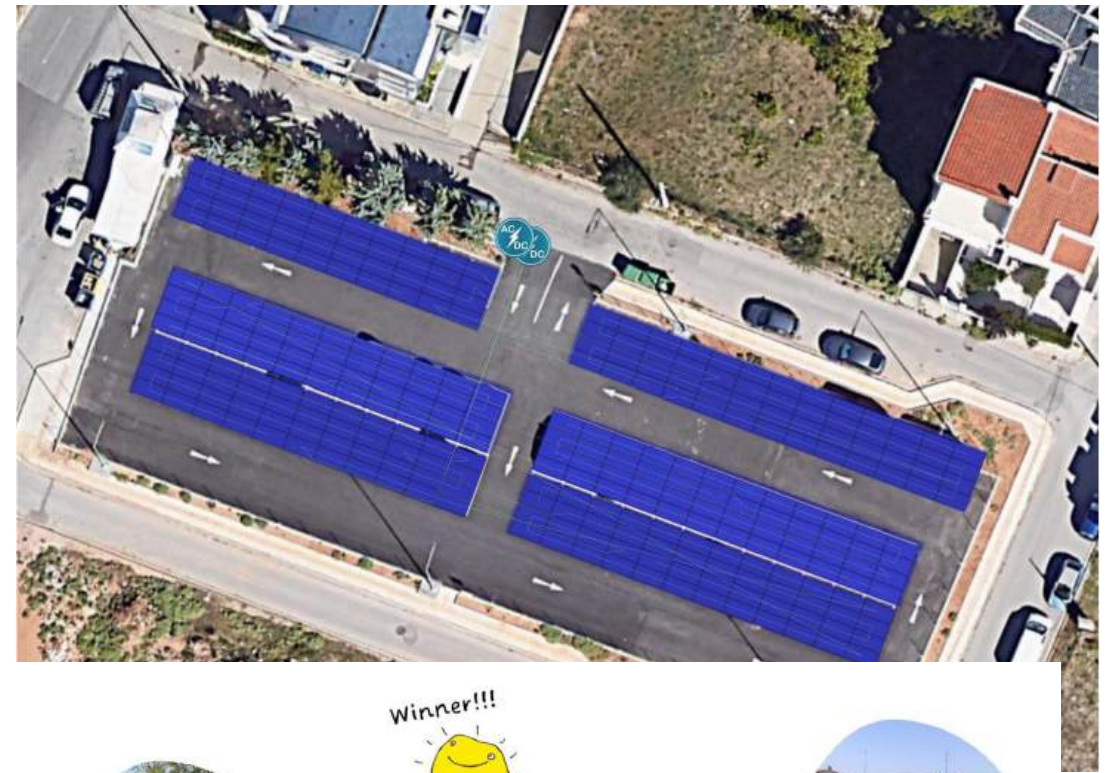
- **Complement Regional/local OSS**
- Assist in all stages of a housing retrofit (grant aid, sourcing of contractors and project overseeing)
- Between 2012 – 2019 already 827 houses renovated, leading up to **8.8 GWh in energy savings** through a **10.2 million Euro** investment



Utilizing Municipal spaces for RES installations

- “Flya” energy community in Chalandri (GR)
- “Oliver” energy community in Zaragoza (ES)

Using rooftop / gray areas within cities to produce energy locally



December success story: A pioneer cooperative tackling energy poverty in Slovenia inspires its community

POSTED ON: 19/12/2024



Similar examples
in **Slovenia**
(Hratsnik)

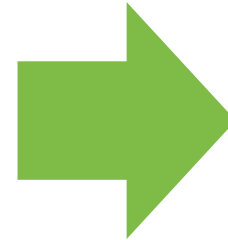
Bulgaria
(Gabrovo)

Croatia (Krizevci)

Negative bills... it's a thing!



2 x 100kwp solar parks



Εξυπηρέτηση πελατών
Καθημερινές και Σάββατο 08:00 - 21:00
Κυριακές και Αργίες 09:00 - 19:00

ΕΝΔΕΙΞΕΙΣ ΜΕΤΡΗΤΗ
ΔΙΑΣΤΗΜΑ ΚΑΤΑΝΑΛΩΣΗΣ: ΑΠΟ 15/05/2023 ΕΩΣ 15/10/2023 (185 ημέρες)
ΕΠΟΜΕΝΗ ΚΑΤΑΜΕΤΡΗΣΗ: 14/03/2024

	ΚΩΔΙΚΟΣ	ΤΕΛΕΥΤΑΙΑ	ΠΡΟΗΓΟΥΜΕΝΗ	ΣΥΝΤΕΛΕΣΤΗΣ ΚΩ/Η	ΚΑΤΑΝΑΛΩΣΗ	ΠΡΟΣΩΠΤΕΣ ΚΩ/Η	ΑΡΙΘΜΟΣ ΜΕΤΡΗΤΗ
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ΔΕΡΓΑ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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ΕΝΔΕΙΞΕΙΣ Φ/Β	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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ΣΥΜΦ. ΙΣΧΥΣ	800 ΚΩ						
						ΧΡΕΩΣΤΕΑ ΖΗΤΗΤΗ 0,00 ΚΩ	

ΑΝΑΛΥΣΗ ΧΡΕΩΣΕΩΝ ΛΟΓΑΡΙΑΣΜΟΥ
Η ανάλυση χρεώσεων λογαριασμού με την ανάλυση χρεώσεων περιόδου, μπορεί να διαφέρει λόγω ανεξάρτητων υπολοίπων, κλπ.

ΧΡΕΩΣΕΙΣ ΗΛΕΚΤΡΙΚΟΥ ΡΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ Πα την ανάλυση των χρεώσεων ηλεκτρικού ρεύματος και των ρυθμιζόμενων χρεώσεων παρακαλούμε δείτε τη σελίδα 4.	0,00€	ΡΥΘΜΙΖΟΜΕΝΕΣ ΧΡΕΩΣΕΙΣ Χρέωση χρήσης Συστήματος Χρέωση χρήσης Δικτύου Διανομής Υπηρεσίες Κοινής Οφείλειας Λοιπές Επιβαρύνσεις Ειδικό Τέλος Μείωσης Εκπομπών Αερίων Ρύπων	93,57€ 13,70€ 40,95€ 11,20€ 0,13€ 27,59€
ΣΥΜΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙΚΕΣ ΧΡΕΩΣΕΙΣ	0,00€		
		ΑΣΙΑ ΡΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ ΠΡΟ ΦΠΑ (€)	93,57€
ΤΕΛΗ & ΦΟΡΟΙ	-6,60€	ΠΡΟΗΓΟΥΜΕΝΕΣ ΟΦΕΙΛΕΣ	-120,18€
Αναδρομική Χρέωση Δήμων	0,00€	ΣΥΜΜΕΤΟΧΗ ΣΕ ΠΡΟΩΘΗΤΙΚΗ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑ	0,00€
Χρέωση ΕΡΤ	0,00€	ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΚΕΣ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΕΣ	0,00€
Ειδικό Τέλος 0,5%	0,35€	Smartwall	0,00€
Ειδικός Φόρος Κατανάλωσης	3,57€	Χρέωση	0,00€
ΦΠΑ -17,25x6%	-10,59€	Επιδότηση	0,00€
Τόκοι Υπερμερίας	0,00€	Penalty	0,00€
Ειδικό Τέλος ΑΠΕ	0,00€	Διάστημα	0,00€
		Λοιπές χρεώσεις υπηρεσιών	0,00€
ΜΕΙΟΝ ΕΝΑΝΤΙ ΑΣΙΑΣ ΡΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ	-272,39€	ΦΠΑ	0,00€
		Τόκοι Υπερμερίας	0,00€
		Προνομιζόμενες Οφείλες	0,00€
		Ενεργειακών Υπηρεσιών	0,00€
ΣΥΝΟΛΟ ΛΟΓΑΡΙΑΣΜΟΥ ΡΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ	-185,42€	ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΣΥΝΟΛΟ ΛΟΓΑΡΙΑΣΜΟΥ	-305,60€

Σελίδα 2 από 4

Electric car sharing

Created in 2016 by members of Som Energia

- 4,166 members
- 4,405 active car-sharing users
- 106 cars and a digital sharing platform
- in 34 municipalities, serving 66 communities



An electrical car from Som Mobilitat charging.
© Som Mobilitat

Democratic & participatory (spatial) planning

Important to tap into local knowledge -> what resources/surfaces can we use?

- Municipalities as partners

REScoop.EU

Open Letter: Nature Restoration Law: a nature-positive renewable energy transition is the only sensible way forward

Dear esteemed Environment Ministers of the EU27,

We write to you today to urge you to expedite the approval of the Nature Restoration Law. REScoop.eu, the European Federation of Citizen Energy Cooperatives, represents over 2450 energy cooperatives from across Europe, in turn representing over 1.5 million EU citizens. Members of energy cooperatives implement local renewable energy projects, motivated by a need to protect their local environment, while also tackling the planetary issue of global heating. As highlighted in the Charter of REScoop.eu¹, energy communities develop and plan their projects with as little impact to the local environment as possible. At the same time, project revenues are partially reinvested to the benefit of local ecosystems, such as in local tree planting projects.

We envision a renewable energy transition where local economies thrive by enacting participatory renewable energy projects, in close harmony with local ecosystems. Lots of examples from across Europe, from agrivoltaics to renewable community funds for nature, demonstrate that the renewable energy transition goes hand-in-hand with the protection of natural ecosystems.

The “Tinder” for energy communities & Municipalities

A free, self-paced, short (~4 hours), online course for municipal employees to get trained on community energy

After training -> accreditation and access to EU network



Upcoming Opportunities

- **Citizen Energy Package (Consultation open until September)**
- Opportunity to boost citizen energy through a new wave of supportive measures for Member States to transpose relevant directives

Citizens energy package – protecting and empowering consumers in the just transition

Have your say - Public Consultations and Feedback > Published initiatives > Citizens energy package – protecting and empowering consumers in the just transition



About this initiative

Summary A just energy transition is the one where all citizens, irrespective of where they live or how much they earn, are engaged and benefit from it. The initiative will set the vision to protect and involve consumers by enabling citizens and communities to save, produce and consume (renewable) energy; supporting vulnerable households affected by energy poverty; and turning the challenges of regions and communities affected by fossil fuel phase out into opportunities, like clean jobs creation and quality of life.

Topic Energy

Type of act Communication

Category Commission Work Programme, REFIT

Call for evidence

Setting political objectives for co-ownership

- A study from 2019 estimated that **52%** of the existing installed wind capacity in Denmark in December 2016 was owned through some kind of citizen ownership model.
- **Ærø island:** 6 wind turbines owned by **650 local shareholders** (more than 10% of the inhabitants on the island) and a local fund
 - reinvesting revenues to local renewable



Image: Thomas Rousing

.In the Netherlands, its National Climate Pact (Klimaatakkoord) contains a non-binding policy objective of **including 50 percent ownership in all new onshore wind and PV projects.**

Wallonia's Wind Agreement (Pax Olienica) requires new wind projects to be open at least 24.999 percent to citizens and municipalities, respectively.

Funding Opportunity Coming

- European Energy Communities Facility

- Purpose: Empower and support the development of energy communities across Europe.
- Funding: €7 million in lump-sum grants

Target: At least 140 energy community projects

Support Includes:

- Financial assistance for developing solid business plans (45.000 approx. for each successful application)
- Capacity-building programs
- Tailored training and resources

Application Calls:

- **First call: Opened 2 June 2025**
- Second call: Planned for September 2026

Eligibility: Energy communities in 29 European countries (+ N. Macedonia)



Funding Opportunity Coming -Western Balkans Support Initiative

DG REGIO is preparing a 1,5 million euro project called the "Western Balkans Support Initiative".

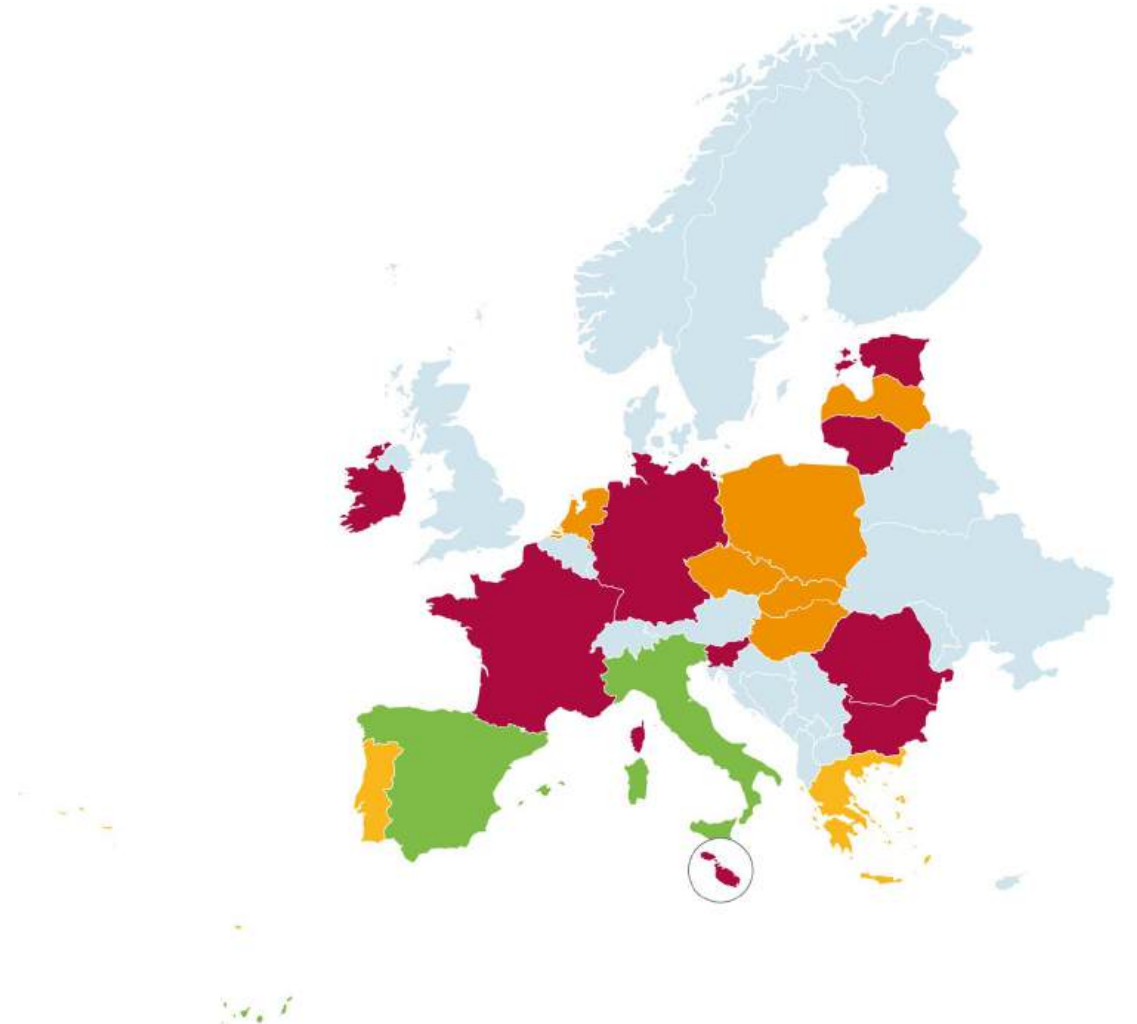
*This will provide 3-levels of support to **lighthouse energy communities** in the WB5 countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia): + Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Greece*

- Helping them establish a business & financial plan*
- Funding actual project costs (eg PVs, storage)*

Community energy projects involving Municipalities are eligible

Social Climate Plans Tracker

- **Monitoring the new Social Climate Fund** -> 87 billion euros for clean transport, renovations & heating and cooling solutions
- **Opportunity for collaboration between Municipalities & energy communities** to tackle energy poverty
- **Soft Launch of Tracker 30/6:** Estonia, Poland, Italy, Latvia and 1-2 more countries



An actionable checklist for Managing Authorities

- Leverage OSS & make application processes simple
- Support renovations
 - **Czech Social Climate Plan** builds on a measure from the Recovery Plan
 - recognises potential of energy communities to promote renovations

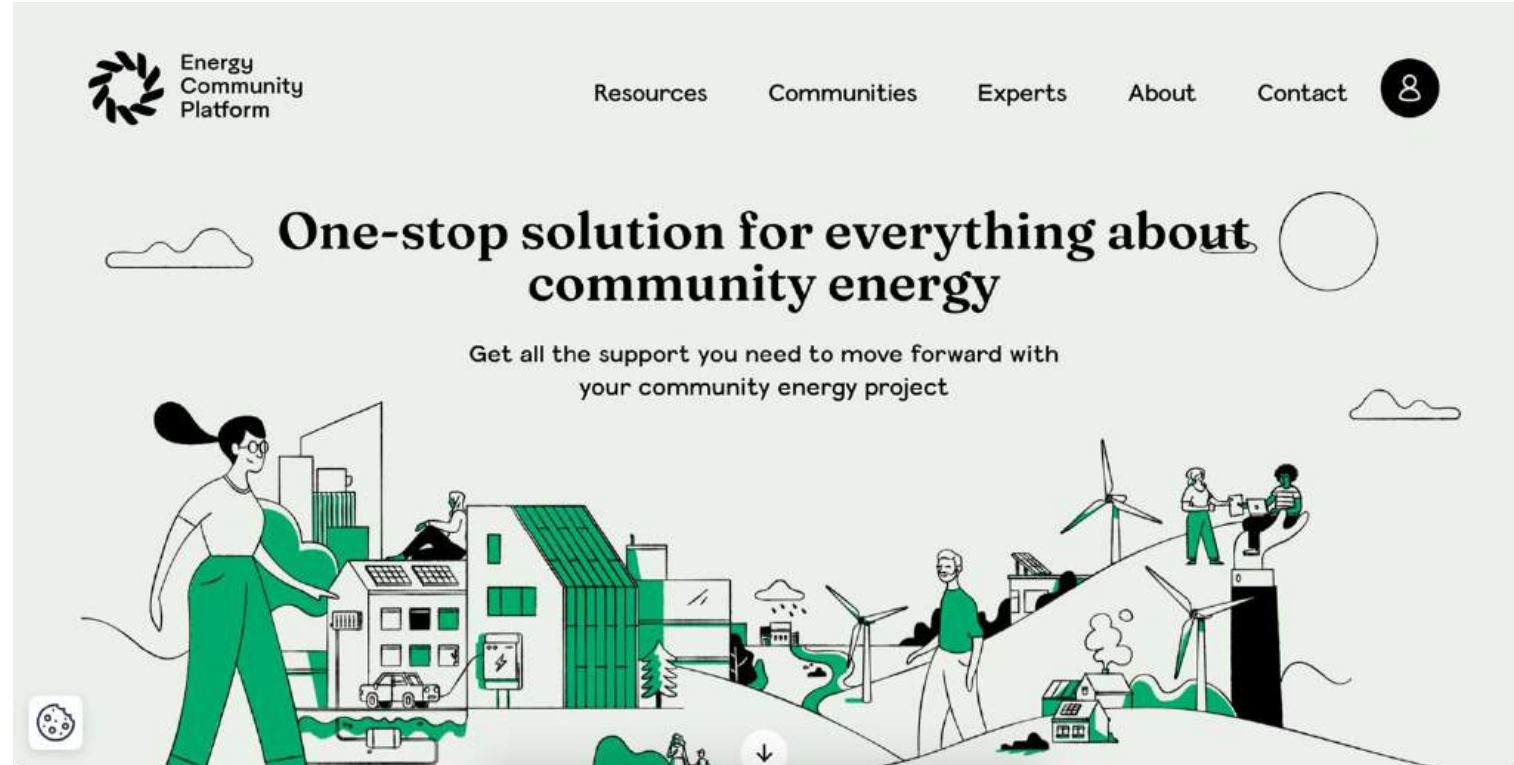
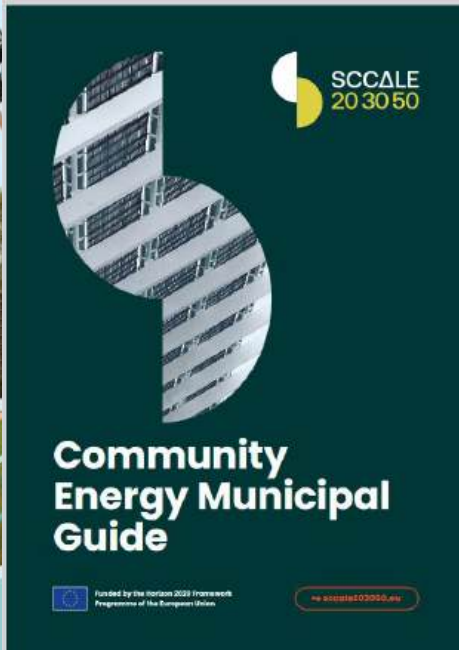
Spanish & Polish Social Climate Plans plan to promote energy communities

Reforming with purpose:

A checklist of reforms and investments for the EU's national social climate plans



Energy Community Platform: OSS for EnCom resources



Renewables have saved
european consumers 100+
billion between 2021-2023

- Lowering prices, building
energy security, tackling
climate change

if we wait for the government
it will be too late...



...if we act as individuals
it will be too little...



...if we act as communities
it might just
be enough...



QUOTE BY ROB HOPKINS IN 'FROM WHAT IS TO WHAT IF' @brenna-quinlan

REScoop.EU

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www.rescoop.eu