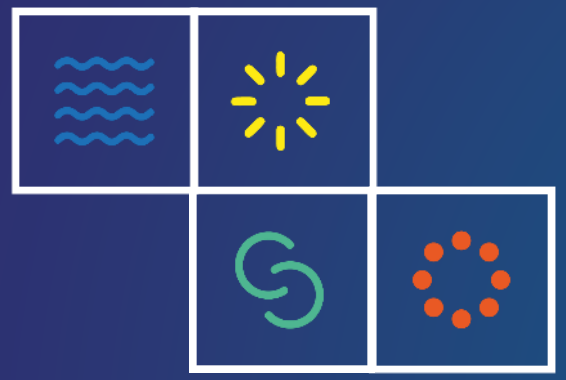


ENERGY COMMUNITIES REPOSITORY

Webinar

Taking your first steps as an energy community

13 July 2023

#EUenergycommunities

Agenda

- Introduction for starters
  Myriam Castanié

- Case study: TÜ Energiaühistu, Estonia
  Märt Helmja

- Case study: Hyperion, Greece
  Chris Vrettos

TWO INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT ENERGY COMMUNITIES:

How does the Repository support energy communities?

Policy analysis

Mapping &
impact assessment

Technical assistance &
capacity-building

What's new

Add your energy community to the map!

Coming soon…

Guidance documents

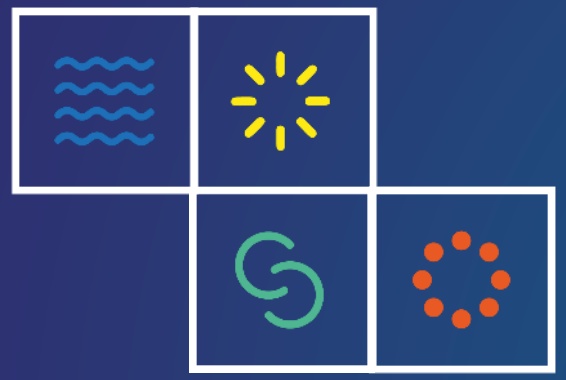
Case studies

Capacity-building workshops

Policy reports

Webinars

Final event (stay tuned!)



Taking your first steps as an energy community

#EUenergycommunities

Overview

- Legal form
- Internal governance
- Choosing your activity
- Choosing your technology
- Partnerships & outreach
- Financing
- Useful things to keep in mind

Legal form

EU definitions

National definitions

Defining the right form for you

Citizen Energy Community (CEC) Governance & Members

A legal entity that 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 micro-enterprises.

Renewable Energy Community (REC) Governance & Members

A legal entity that, in accordance with the applicable national law, is based on open and voluntary participation, autonomous, 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.

Primary purpose

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

Primary purpose

The primary purpose of a REC 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.

Legal form

EU definitions

National definitions

Defining the right form for you

- Some Member States determine which legal forms are considered an energy community, some leave it open

- Make sure to check your national legislation

Legal form

EU definitions

National definitions

Defining the right legal form for your EC

Internal governance

Governance model

Keeping your group going

- Decision-making (in line with definitions). Examples: Board of Directors, General Assembly
- Running of the EC: employees, volunteers, working groups
- Important: communications (internal, with members, with wider community)

Internal governance

Governance model

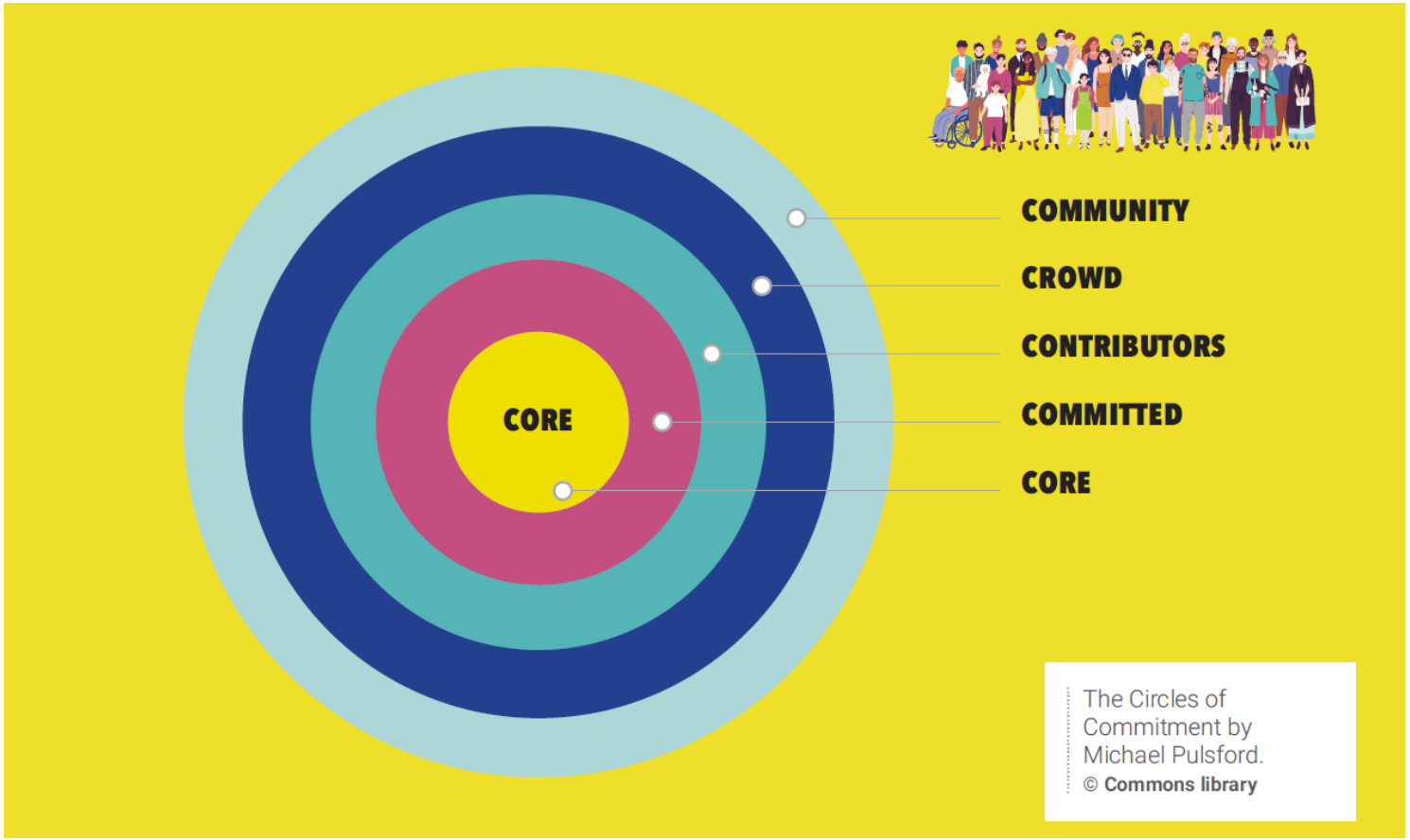
Keeping your group going

- Keeping your group going: important, not always easy (volunteers have limited time)
- Small but attainable wins are more important for motivation than big goals that will take too long

Internal governance

Governance model

Keeping your group going



Choosing your activity

List of activities

What is your objective?

Citizen Energy Community	Renewable Energy Community
• Electricity generation (RES) • Electricity distribution • Electricity supply • Consumption • Aggregation • Storage (incl. charging for EV) • Energy efficiency services • Other energy services	Activities based on RES, including • Generation • Energy efficiency • Supply • Aggregation • Mobility • Energy sharing • Self-consumption • District heating & cooling

Choosing your activity

List of activities

What is your objective?

Choosing your technology

- Consider your environment (natural, social & regulatory) to see what makes most sense for you

Partnerships & outreach

Local Authorities

Schools, SMEs,
sports clubs

Partnerships & outreach

- Work on establishing a good relationship with your local DSO
- Other communities can
  - provide solutions for similar barriers; provide technical assistance or perform more complex activities on behalf of your community (balancing, supply).
  - help get funding applications off the ground, or pool resources for joint purchasing for instance

Partnerships & outreach

Financing

- Different ways of financing your project:
  - Grants
  - Crowdfunding
  - Bank loans
  - Leasing
  - Partnerships
  - Etc.
- Make a good business plan to make your case

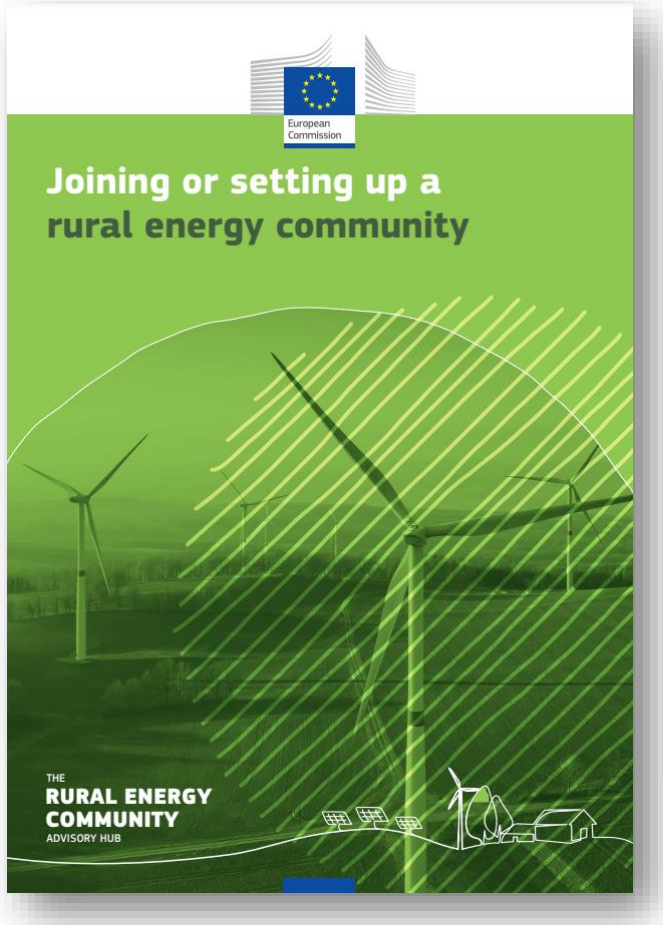
General elements to keep in mind

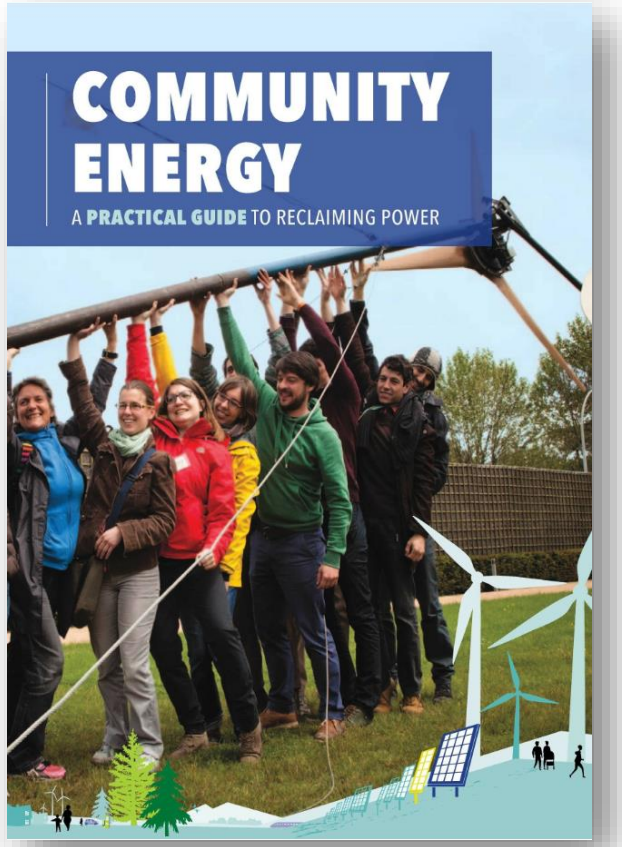
Bringing various actors on board

Involve your entire community

Useful resources

- Energy Communities Repository Toolbox
- Rural Energy Community Advisory Hub guidance document
- Community Energy Handbook (available in 11 EU languages)





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THANK YOU!

Contact us:
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