Co2mmunity
Co-producing and co-financing
renewable community energy projects

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region

EUROPEAN
REGIONAL
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FUND
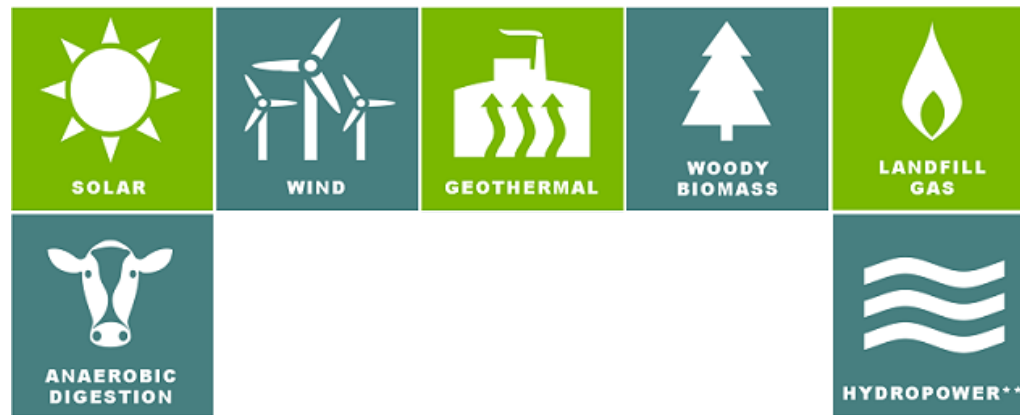EUROPEAN UNION

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The project in a nutshell

Goals, objectives & results

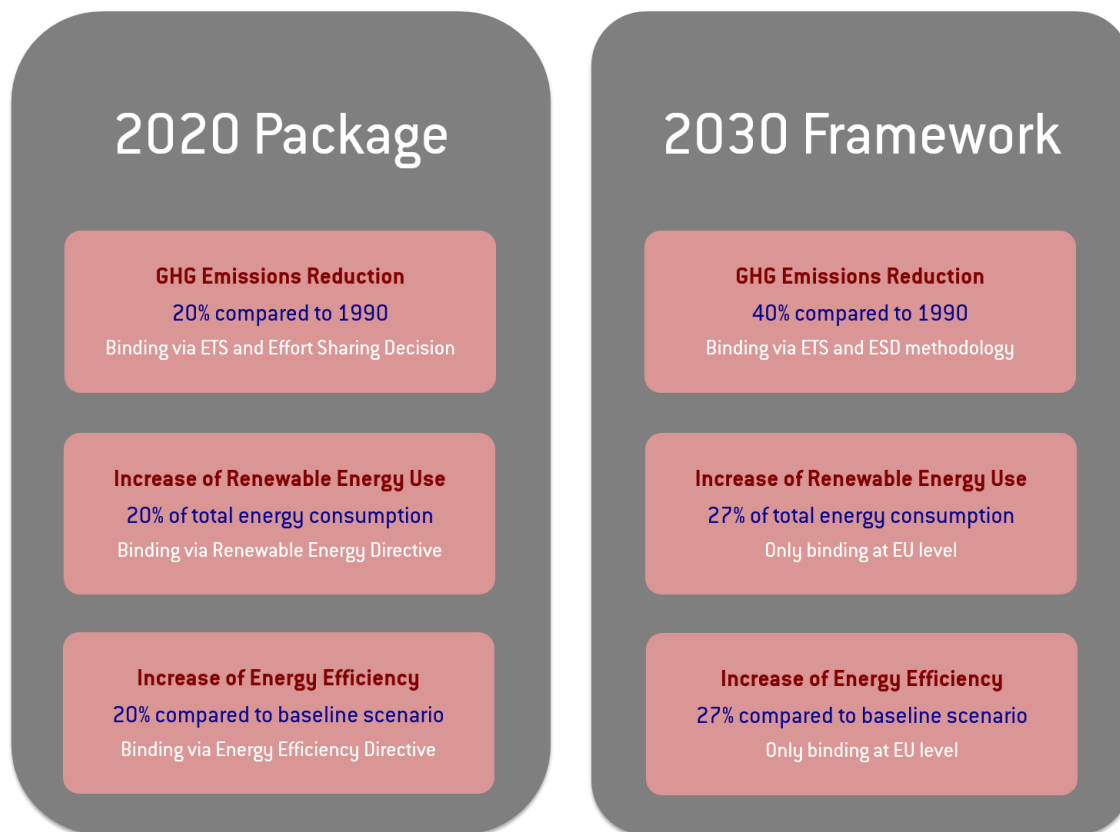Co2mmunity kick-off meeting
Kiel

Kiel 16/17 November 2017

Background
Renewable Energies

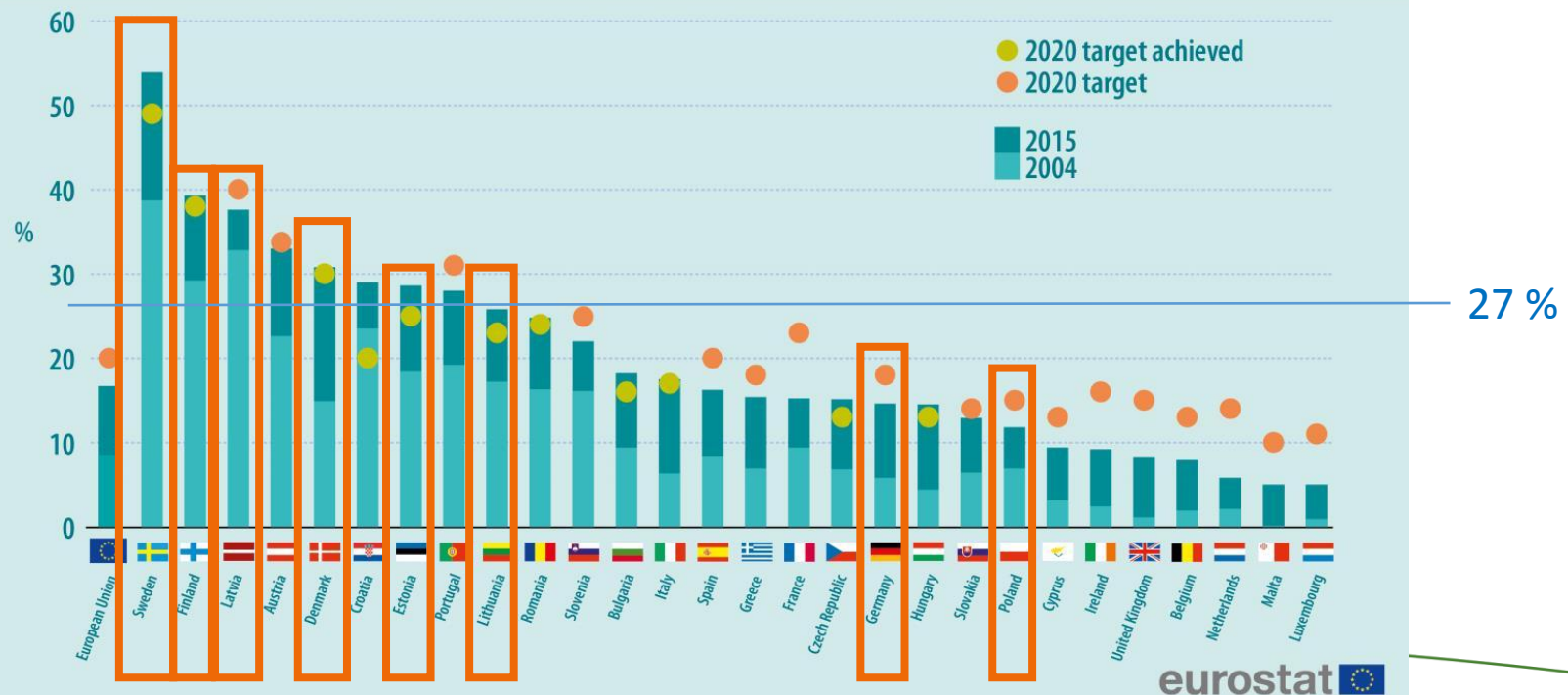SOLAR   WIND   GEOTHERMAL   WOODY BIOMASS   LANDFILL GAS

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION   HYDROPOWER**

Source: http://www.greenenergy-info.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Renewable-Energy.png

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Background
Renewable Energies & EU/BSR policy

2020 Package

GHG Emissions Reduction
20% compared to 1990
Binding via ETS and Effort Sharing Decision

Increase of Renewable Energy Use
20% of total energy consumption
Binding via Renewable Energy Directive

Increase of Energy Efficiency
20% compared to baseline scenario
Binding via Energy Efficiency Directive

2030 Framework

GHG Emissions Reduction
40% compared to 1990
Binding via ETS and ESD methodology

Increase of Renewable Energy Use
27% of total energy consumption
Only binding at EU level

Increase of Energy Efficiency
27% compared to baseline scenario
Only binding at EU level

Source: http://bruegel.org/2015/09/the-eu-2030-climate-and-energy-framework-keeping-up-pressure-on-governance-structures/

Background

Share of energy from renewable sources in the EU Member States

(in % of gross final energy consumption)

- ● 2020 target achieved
- ● 2020 target
- ■ 2015
- ■ 2004

27 %

eurostat

Source: https://www.boell.de/sites/default/files/uploads/2015/11/eu_multi_speed_europe.png

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Background

EU Renewable Energy installations: Megawatts / million head of population

Country	Value
Germany	966
Denmark	956
Spain	598
Sweden	561
Portugal	517
Ireland	483
Italy	453
Belgium	452
Greece	424
Austria	333
Luxembourg	280
United Kingdom	257
Bulgaria	237
Netherlands	234
Estonia	232
Cyprus	232
France	231
Romania	228
Czech Republic	224
Malta	135
Slovenia	123
Lithuania	120
Finland	114
Slovakia	110
Poland	100
Croatia	89
Hungary	37
Latvia	34
Total EU 28 2014	427

Source: https://edmhdotme.wordpress.com/european-renewable-energy-costs-and-performance-2014/

Energy balance for the leading RE country
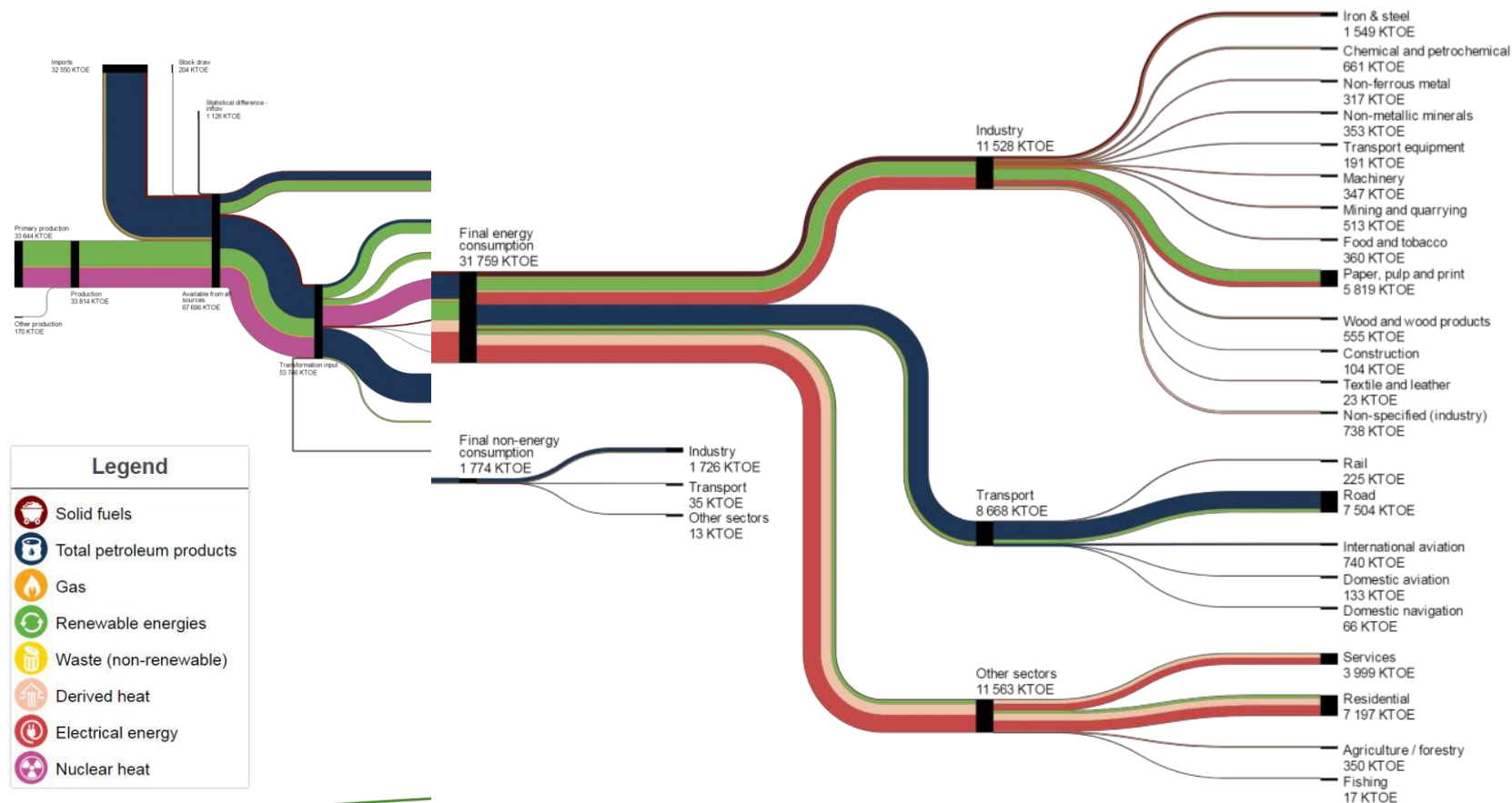
Source: eurostst (2017): Energy balance sheets

Background
Community Energy

Active participation of local communities by
co-financing, co-developing, and co-operating
renewable energy plants

Background
Community Energy

fosters sustainable energy distribution, like local smart grids or local heating networks, and have high social acceptance due to **active communication**, **transparent decision-making**, and **local benefit sharing**.

Background
Community Energy

- ✓ Highly efficient allocation of supply and demand in distributed systems;
- ✓ long investment horizons and lower return expectations;
- ✓ higher social acceptance;
- ✓ potential to create regional added value.

- – insufficient formalised business models with civic engagement;
- – lack of integrated knowledge and know-how regarding legal, economic, and/or technical aspects or RE/CE;
- – no comprehensive documents on CE.

Project Structure

	Title	Goal
WP 1 Leader: PP1 — Budget: 20%	Project management and administration	n/a
WP 2 Leader: PP1 — Budget: 10%	Developing a CE knowledge base for the BSR	Providing a solid and substantial knowledge base for CE stakeholders in the BSR
WP 3 Leader: PP4 — Budget: 45%	Facilitating CE projects with the RENCOP model	Facilitate/initiate CE by running the RENCOP model in all partner regions
WP 4 Leader: PP8 — Budget: 25%	Bringing CE on the socio-political agenda	Facilitating a favorable (legislative) environment for CE projects by making policy recommendations enabling legislative change; Inform policymakers on possibilities and potentials of CE in the BSR, empowering them to put forward enabling legislative frameworks

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The RENCOP – Renewable Energy Cooperative Partnership

- are the places where all target groups meet
- are established at early stage in each partner region
- are 'run' by a "street worker" responsible for the set-up and management of the RENCOP
- are composed of project partners and associated partners as well as stakeholders from all target groups (e.g. municipal energy manager, district/regional administrations, regional energy agency, energy utilities, citizen association for sustainability, energy NGO)
- will develop supportive measures, like policy instruments, consultancy initiatives, to also influence ERDF-OPs, or RIS3

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The RENCOP idea

(1) Bring together local actors in order to **institutionalize capacity and knowledge** of regional stakeholders, empowering them to facilitate CE projects in their regions.
Facilitate the exchange and transfer of knowledge and best practices transnationally among regional RENCOPs.

(2) RENCOPs are a tool for **catalysing CE on the ground in each partner region**. The transnational value lies in the **exchange of knowledge and best practices between the regional RENCOPs** as well as in the facilitation of a **catching up** process between frontrunners and followers.

(3) There is no uniform model of a RENCOP stakeholder composition. Which actors will be involved will vary as this depends upon the **specific regional context**. Project partners are seen as RENCOP catalysts for their region. The partners are in charge to identify the relevant actors for their region, as they know who is important to involve.

(4) The RENCOP's work successfully terminates once the respective regional/national outputs and transnational RENCOP outputs are delivered. The "**RENCOP model**" will remain as tool for future CE initiatives in the BSR.

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Co2mmunity will
(1) enable a transnational exchange about CE opportunities,
(2) bring together frontrunners and followers,
(3) support various CE stakeholders to anchor CE in energy strategies, and thereby
(4) enhance institutional capacities for CE of the following target groups…

Target Groups

	Needs/lacks
Municipalities	Lacking: (i) methodology for developing CE projects; (ii) consciousness for an integrated, cross-sectorial approach to energy and environment; (iii) capacity/experience for mobilizing and/or moderating citizens
Institutions responsible for regional energy planning and ERDF Operational Programmes	Lacking: (i) institutional capacity to monitor the implementation of plans; (ii) adequate instruments (e.g. funding schemes, ideas for institutionalising CE support, legal issues) to encourage civic engagement in RE production
Political decision-makers responsible for energy issues in the BSR	Lacking awareness and knowledge about CE possibilities and potentials
Energy and citizen's associations	Lacking: (i) knowledge about existing CE possibilities and potentials (e.g. good practices how to self organise, how to finance RE projects, how to initiate projects); (ii) empowerment through political stakeholders; (iii) ability to overcome challenges of acceptance (e.g. NIMBYism)

Addressing the needs/lacks

Build a CE knowledge base for the BSR and connect relevant stakeholders to enhance their institutional capacities for facilitating CE projects

- sound analyses of CE drivers and barriers, of existing CE initiatives, and best practices;
- jointly developing, implementing and testing the so-called RENCOP model as tool for CE development in the BSR and potentially beyond;
- upscaling the RENCOP experience to the socio-political agenda through mutual bottom-up development of national handbooks as well as regional and BSR-wide policy recommendations.

Our Partnership

Kiel University	🇩🇪	DE
Green City Energy AG	🇩🇪	DE
Heinrich-Böll Foundation Schleswig-Holstein e.V.	🇩🇪	DE
Municipality of Middelfart	🇩🇰	DK
Tartu Regional Energy Agency	🇪🇪	EE
Aalto University Foundation sr	🇫🇮	FI
Green Net Finland	🇫🇮	FI
Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia	🇫🇮	FI
Thermopolis Ltd – Energy Agency of South Ostrobothnia	🇫🇮	FI
~~**Environmental Development Association**~~	🇱🇻	~~LV~~
Riga Planning Region	🇱🇻	LV
Kaunas Regional Energy Agency	🇱🇹	LT
Lithuanian Energy Institute	🇱🇹	LT
Foundation for Sustainable Energy	🇵🇱	PL
Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden	🇸🇪	SE
Lund University	🇸🇪	SE

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Project Structure

WP 2: Developing a CE knowledge base for the BSR
Leader: PP1

A

| Ex-ante Identification of CE drivers and barriers (PP16) | Creating and maintaining an online CE data base (P13) | Developing a joint perspective on Community Energy best practises and challenges in BSR (PP6) | Process analysis of establishing RENCOPs and learning from it (PP16) |

WP 3: Facilitating CE projects with the RENCOP model
Leader: PP4

A

| Involving CE stakeholders in each partner region (PP7) *Setting up RENCOPs* | Stimulating CE projects in partner regions (PP3) *Regional RENCOP work* | Transnationally further developing RENCOPs (PP2) *Transnational RENCOP activities* | Disseminating RENCOP model and experiences beyond partner regions (PP15) *Making the RENCOP model durable* |

WP 4: Bringing CE on the socio-political agenda
Leader: PP8

A

| Developing country-specific CE handbooks (PP9) | Developing national and regional policy recommendations (PP5) | Developing BSR-wide policy recommendations (PP8) |

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WP 2: Developing a CE knowledge base for the BSR
Leader: PP1

A
Ex-ante Identification of CE drivers and barriers (PP16)	Creating and maintaining an online CE data base (P13)	Developing a joint perspective on Community Energy best practises and challenges in BSR (PP6)	Process analysis of establishing RENCOPs and learning from it (PP16)

O
Scientific review paper on CE drivers and barriers	Online database of CE projects and initiatives in the BSR (focus on partner regions).	Synthesis report about current situation of CE in BSR including best practice compilation	Scientific articles on lessons from the RENCOPs

WP 3: Facilitating CE projects with the RENCOP model
Leader: PP4

A
Involving CE stakeholders in each partner region (PP7) *Setting up RENCOPs*	Stimulating CE projects in partner regions (PP3) *Regional RENCOP work*	Transnationally further developing RENCOPs (PP2): *Transnational RENCOP activities*	Disseminating RENCOP model and experiences beyond partner regions (PP15): *Making the RENCOP model durable*

O
Regional stakeholder map from each partner region, stakeholder analysis and stakeholder RENCOP	Guideline for participatory mobilization process to set up RENCOP	Transnational CE partner agreement	RENCOP roadmap for municipalities and regional actors across the BSR

WP 4: Bringing CE on the socio-political agenda
Leader: PP8

A
Developing country-specific CE handbooks (PP9)	Developing national and regional policy recommendations (PP5)	Developing BSR-wide policy recommendations (PP8)

O
8 country-specific handbooks for CE for municipalities and citizens' associations	White paper for national and regional stakeholders to support/initiate CE projects	Policy paper for BSR energy stakeholders/actors

Project Timeline

		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
WP2 *CE knowledge base*	GoA 2.1		O2.1				
	GoA 2.2		O2.2				O2.2
	GoA 2.3			O2.3			
	GoA 2.4			O2.4			O2.4
WP3 *Facilitate CE*	GoA 3.1		O3.1				
	GoA 3.2					O3.2	
	GoA 3.3					O3.3	
	GoA 3.4						O3.4
WP4 *Socio-political agenda*	GoA 4.1					O4.1	
	GoA 4.2						O4.2
	GoA 4.3						O4.3

MEETINGS	(1) Kick-off: PP1	(3) Project meeting 1: PP12	(4) Project meeting 2: PP10 & PP11	(5) Project meeting 3: PP14	(7) Project meeting 4: PP15	(9) Final conference: PP11
	(2) Best practice: PP3 & PP4			(6) RENCOP meeting: PP6, PP7, PP8 & PP9	(8) "political" meeting: PP5	

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Co2mmunity's contribution to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

(1) <u>Connect the Region</u>

a) Reliable energy markets.
RENCOPs will lead to more CE initiatives → higher deployment of RE in all partner regions. This will:

- "improve the security of energy supply, particularly in the eastern Baltic Sea region"

- "facilitate the diversification of energy sources"

- "contribute to economic growth by improving the competitiveness of the region and encourage investments in clean renewable energy, and energy efficiency", and

- "contribute to the overall reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutant through ... increased use of clean renewable energies"

b) Connecting people in the region.
RENCOPs will be established and brought to the BSR as a model for a new CE facilitating platform. RENCOPs also build on platforms existing in the region, thereby "improving cooperation between the actors involved...by setting-up new networks and new platforms of cooperation, or by strengthening the existing ones"

Co2mmunity's contribution to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

(2) <u>Increase Prosperity</u>

a) EUSBSR contributing to the implementation of Europe 2020 Strategy.
    Co2mmunity is fundamentally supporting and related to energy the EU202020 targets.

b) Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.
    In all WPs Co2mmunity follows an approach of transnational learning through an exchange of best practices and experiences, bringing together local, regional, national and BSR-wide actors to cooperate.

    CE projects as issue of exchange "are proven to be economically, social and environmentally sustainable".

    In line with PA Energy of the EUSBSR goals the project leads to

    - promotion of developing sustainable energy;

    - long-lasting exchange of information and best practices in the BSR;

    - further development of BSR-wide roadmaps for RE;

    - Enabling all target groups and places to realize their territorial capital for implementing optimum solutions for long-term development and transfer this knowledge transnationally (Territorial Agenda 2020).

    → adding a social dimension to the discussion about renewable energies through actively engaging citizens to taking part in the development of energy projects on the ground.