

Co2mmunity

Co-producing and co-financing renewable community energy projects

What is Community Energy?

Community energy (CE) projects offer enhanced opportunities for the production of renewable energies (RE). This varies depending on what local sources are available such as wind, solar, biomass, hydro power, and geothermal. Together through active participation of local communities, citizens are enabled to co-produce and co-finance RE plants, thereby fostering sustainable energy distribution, like local heating networks or bio gas filling stations. Through active communication, transparent decision-making, and local benefit sharing CE projects have been highly accepted by society. This results in a highly promising expansion of the CE approach, thus increasing the shares of RE in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR).

What Will We Do?

Renewable ENergy COoperative Partnerships (RENCOPs) are at the core of Co2mmunity. In each partner region, Co2mmunity will initiate and manage such RENCORPs to initiate and support CE projects. The transnational exchange of RENCOPs will result in a RENCOP roadmap that will enhance the capacity of local, regional, and BSR-wide actors to foster CE across the region. Co2mmunity will also develop a synthesis report on the current state of CE in the BSR, including a best practice compilation and an overview of transferable CE success factors. Another main output will be locally specific CE handbooks and white papers for public stakeholders.



Project Partnership

The project consortium comprises 15 active project partners from all 8 EU countries surrounding the BSR. Some partners are local authorities responsible for regional programmes and strategies which can allocate funds for activities regarding RE production. Other partners are responsible for the implementation of energy strategies and projects at the regional scale while others are experienced in facilitating the implementation of CE projects. In addition, some partners are experts regarding transnational comparative research and learning experiences.

Who Benefits From Our Project?

Municipalities, institutions responsible for regional energy planning, political decision-makers, and energy and citizen's associations will all benefit from Co2mmunity. Until now, no comprehensive documents about CE in the BSR exist, neither on pure information nor on implementation guidelines. Co2mmunity's objectives are to create this CE knowledge base and to enhance the institutional capacities of these actors through the RENCOP model for facilitating CE projects.

Lead partner: Kiel University, Dept. of Geography



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