



Empowering Renewable and Citizen Energy Communities

Newsletter #1

March 2024

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CONTENTS:

- POWER-E-COM
- Energy Communities in general
- Events & News
- Upcoming Event and next steps
- Contacts

Dear Reader,

welcome to the first POWER-E-COM Newsletter.

In these pages we would like to introduce you to our project and its activities, our project Consortium and some of our events and news.

Follow us on power-e-com.eu

We hope you enjoy learning more about POWER-E-COM!

POWER-E-COM aims

POWER-E-COM aims to foster the development of the energy communities by providing support and guidance to municipalities, existing energy communities, and engaged citizens.

DURATION:

01/10/2023 – 30/9/2026

Read more on
POWER-E-COM:

<http://power-e-com.eu/>



Co-funded by
the European Union

This project is a LIFE project, co-funded by the
European Union under contract n° 101120998.

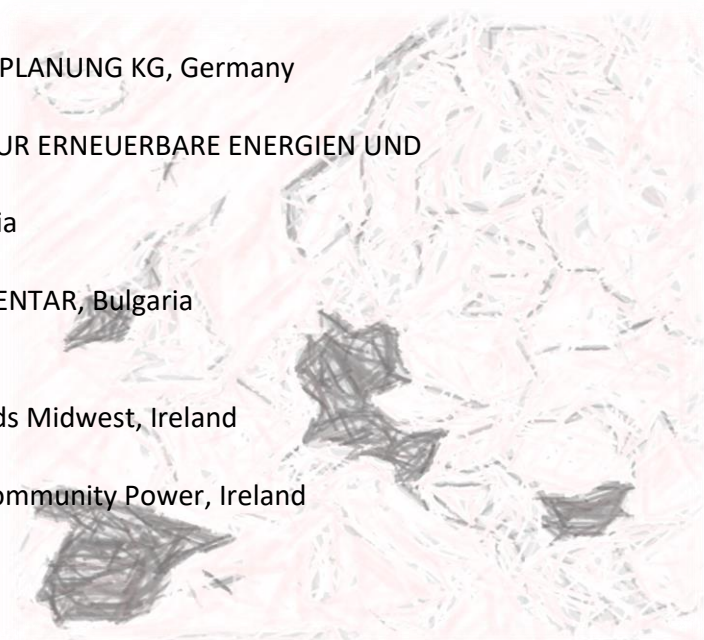
What is POWER-E-COM

Empowering Citizens and Energy Communities

We are a project group of twelve project partners, coming from six different EU countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Ireland, Slovenia, and Spain) and we are coordinated by the WIRTSCHAFT UND INFRASTRUKTUR GMBH & CO PLANUNGS KG (WIP). The project's aim is to foster the development of the Energy Communities (ECs) by providing support and guidance to municipalities, existing energy communities, and engaged citizens.

POWER-E-COM Consortium

- WIRTSCHAFT UND INFRASTRUKTUR GMBH & CO PLANUNG KG, Germany
- ESCAN SL, Spain
- ENERGIEWENDE OBERLAND BURGERSTIFTUNG FUR ERNEUERBARE ENERGIEN UND ENERGIEEINSPARUNG, Germany
- ENERGIESPARVERBAND OBEROSTERREICH, Austria
- Energy and Climate Agency of Podravje, Slovenia
- CHERNOMORSKI IZSLEDOVATELSKI ENERGIEN TSENTAR, Bulgaria
- Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid, Spain
- Municipality of Selnica ob Dravi, Slovenia
- Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest, Ireland
- Tipperary Energy Agency Limited, Ireland
- Templederry Renewable Energy Supply Ltd t/a Community Power, Ireland
- Municipality of Gabrovo, Bulgaria



POWER-E-COM Objective

Facilitate the creation and operation of ECs across Europe and enable citizens to participate in the renewable energy transition.

POWER-E-COM Approach

Develop adaptable models for the establishment of ECs, provide training and knowledge sharing, support existing ECs, engaged citizens and local authorities.

POWER-E-COM Output

Empowered citizens and municipalities to participate in a more sustainable and decentralised energy future. Energy Transformations Offices in pilot countries.

POWER-E-COM Impact

Increased access to sustainable and affordable energy.
Supportive regulatory environment for community energy initiatives.

Energy Communities in general

Energy Communities (ECs) are organized groups of people who come together with a shared goal: to generate, consume, and often share renewable energy. These communities are driven by a commitment to sustainability and a desire to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. ECs harness various renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass to produce clean energy. They often involve local residents, businesses, and institutions collaborating to install renewable energy systems, such as solar panels on rooftops or wind turbines in the community.



By promoting decentralized energy production and consumption, ECs empower individuals and communities to take control of their energy supply, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to the transition to a more sustainable energy system. In addition to environmental benefits, ECs can also bring economic advantages by creating local jobs, stimulating investment in renewable energy infrastructure, and promoting energy independence. Overall, Energy Communities represent a bottom-up approach to addressing climate change and promoting renewable energy adoption at the local level, driving positive environmental, social, and economic outcomes.

The POWER-E-COM project helps overcome the barriers that municipalities, citizen groups, or SMEs encounter to create or make their Energy Communities viable. Models and tools are being designed to facilitate the setting up of local energy communities, empowering citizens to take a proactive role in the energy transition.

Events & News

Kick-off meeting in Munich

POWER-E-COM was officially kicked off in October 2023 during a two-day meeting. All 12 consortium partners attended the meeting and shared their ideas and plans.



Working Session in Linz

In February POWER-E-COM project partners met in Linz at the OÖ Energiesparverband. They had an internal working session to brainstorm their ideas and experiences with Energy Communities and their implementations in different countries. Hearing the diverse approaches and stages of implementation of Energy Communities, challenges and opportunities in different countries was very interesting.



Discussion event with local and national authorities in Maribor in Slovenia

In January ENER GAP organized an event »Energy Communities address challenges related to the placement of wind and other energy facilities in space«. There were around 30 participants. The main message of the event, organized by the local Energy Climate Agency for Podravje - ENER GAP in Maribor, was that future projects in the field of renewable energy use will need to be planned collectively, from the outset according to the model of Energy Communities - assuming, of course, that local communities are open to such development.



Upcoming Event and next steps

Exciting Meeting Coordination Event Scheduled in Rivas, Spain

Rivas Municipality, Spain, is gearing up to host an exceptional meeting coordination event from May 27th to May 29th, 2023. The event promises a dynamic agenda, blending crucial project discussions, technical visits, and an engaging parallel conference/workshop involving Spanish stakeholders. Organized by Rivas Municipality, the event boasts the endorsement of the Mayor, who will inaugurate the conference. The event promises not only insightful discussions and networking opportunities but also the chance to explore the vibrant city of Rivas and its surroundings.

LET'S STAY IN CONTACT!

Follow us on the POWER-E-COM website: power-e-com.eu

Follow us on the social media:



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/power-e-com/>



<https://twitter.com/PowerECom2023>



https://www.instagram.com/power_e_com/



<https://www.youtube.com/@Power-E-Com-2023>

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