



## Empowering Renewable and Citizen Energy Communities

## Newsletter #2

September 2024

### Empowering Renewable and Citizen Energy Communities

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**Dear Reader,**

welcome to the second POWER-E-COM Newsletter.

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

The POWER-E-COM project aims to foster cooperation between regional/local authorities and citizens to establish energy community projects in six different European countries. By supporting the development of models and tools that facilitate the creation of Energy Communities, the project aims to empower citizens to take a more active role in the clean energy transition.

Follow us on [power-e-com.eu](http://power-e-com.eu)

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



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#### 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/>



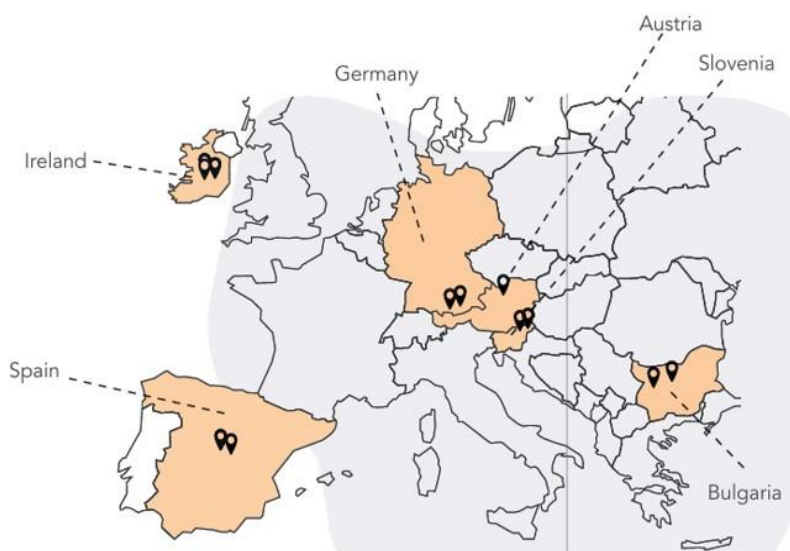
Co-funded by  
the European Union

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

## Discover our progress activities on Energy Communities

6 European countries are working together to foster cooperation between regional/local authorities and citizens to establish energy community projects.

Click on the videos below and discover the exchanged knowledge and experiences regarding Energy Communities from partners involved in POWER-E-COM. The videos show a key project activity: the Landscape Analysis and how project partners from 6 European countries analyze the national landscapes for Energy Communities.



[Sharing Insights on Energy Communities](#) - Ingo Ball (WIP, Germany)



[Spain Tackles Energy Community Challenges](#) - Francisco Puente (ESCAN, Spain)



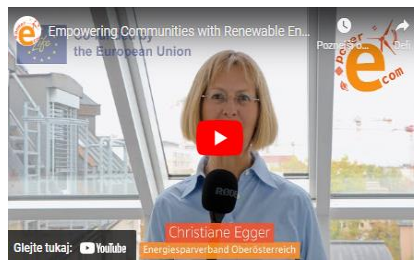
[Slovenia Embarks on Energy Community Journey](#) – Vlasta Krmelj (ENERGAP, Slovenia)



[Bulgaria Poised for Energy Community Growth](#) - Mariya Trifonova (BSERC, Bulgaria)



[Energy Communities in Ireland](#) - Seamus Hoyne (TUS, Ireland)



[Austria's Renewable Energy Push](#) – Christiane Egger (ESV, Austria)

You can find more information about the project activities on our project website <https://power-e-com.eu/> Please follow and help spread the word about @POWER-E-COM.



## Events & News

### Project meeting with a Sustainable and Digital Municipalities Conference in Rivas Vaciamadrid, Spain

At the end of May, 12 project partners and a representative of CINEA, an agency of the European Commission, met in Rivas to discuss the progress work of the POWER-E-COM project. The meeting was organised in conjunction with a conference on Digital Municipalities, which brought together Spanish energy experts and included a panel of speakers from the project.

Key takeaways from the conference:

- Energy communities are essential for achieving a sustainable energy future.
- There are many challenges and opportunities associated with establishing energy communities.
- Collaboration is key to success.



### Effecting Change for Energy Communities event in Ireland!

A high-level meeting was held with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action in Government Buildings, Dublin in March 2024. Representatives from a number of communities including Claremorris Energy Co-operative, Sustainable Community Area Network Galway and POWER-E-COM project partner Community Power, met with Minister Eamon Ryan to discuss the challenges facing community energy in Ireland.



### POWER-E-COM at the EUBCE - European Biomass Conference & Exhibition 2024!

In July Ingo Ball (WIP Renewable Energies) had the opportunity to present the project to industry and academic leaders at the EUBCE - European Biomass Conference & Exhibition 2024! He discussed about the concept of community-owned micro-grid heating systems. These concepts, known as 'village heating', are already flourishing in the Bavarian.



## Oberland Region in Germany hosted an event on Energy Communities

In July, our German project partner Energiewende Oberland hosted a successful event, bringing together energy communities, citizens, businesses and municipalities to discuss the future of energy communities in the region. The event featured insightful presentations, that provided a comprehensive overview of the legal framework and potential of energy communities, shared valuable insights into energy community experiences in the heat sector, and best practices from Austria.

### **Key takeaways from the event:**

*The event highlighted the growing interest in energy communities and their potential to contribute to a more sustainable and decentralised energy system. Participants engaged in lively discussions on the opportunities and challenges associated with both electricity and heat energy communities in the Oberland region. The event served as a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and networking. The insights gained from these discussions will inform future activities and help to create more opportunities for community engagement.*

The event was recorded live. To learn more, watch the videos of the individual presentations [HERE](#).



## POWER-E-COM was presented to energy experts from 24 EU countries

Project partner ESCAN had a fantastic opportunity to share the POWER-E-COM project with key EU energy experts from FEDARENE, the European association for regional energy agencies. FEDARENE unites 80 members from 24 EU countries, all working towards achieving the sustainable energy 2030 targets and climate neutrality for 2050. The event showcase POWER-E-COM's achievements and explore collaboration opportunities with other sustainable energy projects.



## Upcoming next steps

In the next steps partners will implement:

- Trainings and mentoring on Energy Communities.
- Stakeholders' Activation Campaigns and lunch of the Energy Community Transformations Offices (ECTOs) in partners country.
- Preparations for the development of Local Energy Communities (LECs).
- Next Project meeting planned in Slovenia.

## LET'S STAY IN CONTACT!

Follow us on the POWER-E-COM website: [power-e-com.eu](https://www.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.instagram.com/power_e_com/)



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

### Project Coordinator

Ingo Ball - WIP Renewable Energies

[ingo.ball@wip-munich.de](mailto:ingo.ball@wip-munich.de)



### Communication and Dissemination coordinator

Christiane Regauer – EWO Bürgerstiftung Energiewende Oberland

[regauer@energiewende-oberland.de](mailto:regauer@energiewende-oberland.de)

Benedikt Beinhofer - EWO Bürgerstiftung Energiewende Oberland

[beinhofer@energiewende-oberland.de](mailto:beinhofer@energiewende-oberland.de)



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