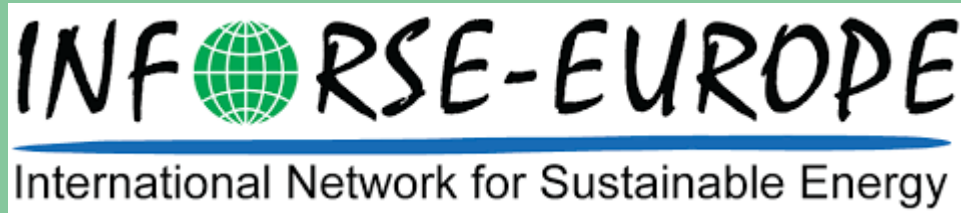




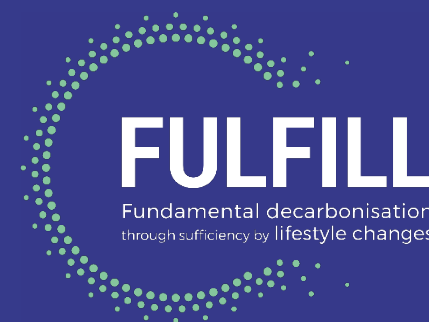
**SIDE EVENT:** 9 Dec. 2023, 15.00-16.30, Dubai. Blue Zone, B6 SE #7, #85 & ONLINE  
Organised by INFORSE, Fraunhofer ISI, Association négaWatt, SE  
Sustainable Lifestyles, Sufficiency Supporting Just Climate Action, Stronger NDCs

# Local sufficiency initiatives driven by engaged citizens and how local authorities can help making them succeed Result of surveying 50 initiatives in the FULFILL Project.

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**INFORSE-Europe**



<https://inforse.org/cop28.php>

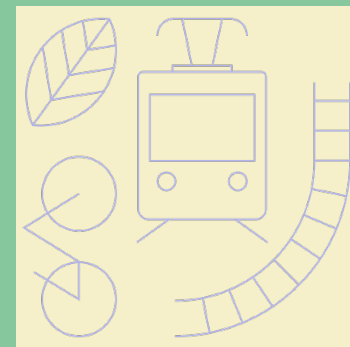
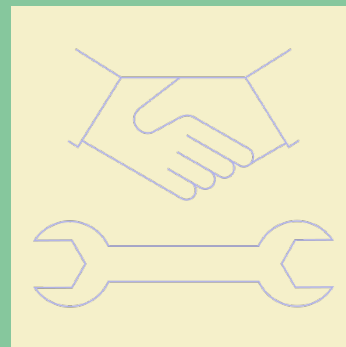


Project Funded by the Horizon 2020  
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# A Wealth of Local Sufficiency Initiatives by Citizens - Mapped 50 examples

**5 EU countries:** Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and Latvia (& India)

Rich and diverse spectrum address sufficient lifestyles in housing, mobility, consumption



# A Wealth of Local Sufficiency Initiatives by Citizens - Mapped 50 examples



# Local Citizens' Sufficiency Initiatives

## Reduce Consumption



- Reduction of waste, - packaging-free shops
- Reusing products - second-hand shops, and in exchanging and sharing shops and networks.
- Repairing - repair cafés, sewing workshops
- Recycling - converting used products into raw materials for new consumer goods
- Reducing living space with Tiny Houses
- Combining co-housing, organic agriculture, locally grown food in eco-villages / communities.

# Housing - Mobility



- **Re-use of vacant buildings or sharing of spaces.**
- They stimulate **car sharing or ride sharing**, the use of alternative modes of transport like **cargo bikes**, or new variations of **public transport**.
- They **reduce energy-intensive** delivery or material-intensive packaging of goods.
- In the food sector, they promote **new relationships between local producers and consumers**.

# Initiatives by Citizens – Good life with Less - Meaning of life

The sufficiency initiatives analysed are

*Mostly voluntary and non-profit*

**Associations and cooperatives** of civil society, but there are also **commercial sufficiency** initiatives.



People engaged in the initiatives are generally improving their **well-being** and/or finding a **meaning of life** in the initiatives.

# Inspire BUT Obstacles Support Needed

- The initiatives show many examples of sufficiency practice that can inspire sufficiency policies. BUT, they also meet many obstacles.
- They are *dependent of support from the society*, in some cases economic support, but in all cases that the *society gives them the space* needed to unfold, *physical space (venue)* as well as *space in legislation* and in *planning* and practices of local authorities.

## FULFILL Policy Brief I - Summary HOW CAN MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT LOCAL SUFFICIENCY INITIATIVES?

For the full version  
& further resources:  
[www.fulfill.sufficiency.nl/en/research](http://www.fulfill.sufficiency.nl/en/research)

FULFILL works with citizens who get together to foster sufficiency in their communities, for example, by founding cargo-bike initiatives, living in co-housing spaces or advocating for clean air. This policy brief explains how municipalities can better support local sufficiency initiatives in their strive towards more sufficient communities that benefit both the planet and the well-being of its inhabitants.

Urban sufficiency initiatives oppose unsustainable ways of thinking and acting that are dominant in society. Instead, they suggest different, less emphasized options for development. They are always endangered because they work against the prevailing rationalities and selection pressures of industrial societies. However, these pockets of alternative futures should be preserved because they could become pivotal when ecological limitations begin to shape the development of urban systems.

In a short-term perspective strategic niche management (SNM) could offer protection from the full force of prevailing selection pressures within unsustainable urban systems (Kemp, et al 2000 and Kemp et al 2007). FULFILL has identified four areas of strategic niche management where municipalities can support local sufficiency initiatives:

**Resources and competences**  
Sufficiency initiatives rely on voluntary work. Cities can offer financial support and training especially in financial, administrative, and legal matters, which are usually not a core competence of local sufficiency initiatives.

**Infrastructure and legal conditions**  
Physical infrastructures, economic and legal frameworks usually promote material and energy-intensive production and consumption patterns (e.g. roads for cars, regulations on food hygiene, expansive land-use planning). Municipalities can adapt urban transport infrastructures and sometimes have scope for developing flexible responses to sufficiency objectives in other areas such as food processing and end-of-life use, planning of the built environment or land-use.

**Formal support, venues, and networking**  
Sufficiency initiatives are usually valuable organizations of benefit for the public and should be officially recognized and treated as such. They should have central contact persons and guidance when dealing with local administrators. Ideally, local networking and mutual learning among the initiatives also in cooperation with municipal staff could be encouraged, e.g. by offering venues, communication, and training facilities. Furthermore, municipalities can offer space and venues for meetings and public engagement, including collaborations with local housing cooperatives and neighbourhood associations.

**Political legitimization and communicative support**  
Many sufficiency initiatives struggle to survive. A continuous challenge is the recruiting of a voluntary and active membership. During our interactions with the initiatives, they often indicated difficulties reaching the general public. In that context, they would welcome public recognition and support. Municipalities could directly inform citizens about existing initiatives in their community, but they could also be a mediator between sufficiency initiatives and potential donors. For example, they could mediate public-private partnerships, networking, and association. Eventually, sufficiency initiatives could become partners in the planning and development of cities and towns. Sufficiency principles could be integrated in municipal strategies and planning. There is evidence that especially, the introduction of concrete targets and timetables seems to motivate cooperation, e.g. introducing carbon budgets at municipal level. Regional food cooperatives as well as repair and sharing initiatives could make valuable contributions not only to meeting climate change mitigation targets, but also to improving neighbourhoods, citizenship and social cohesion.

## Policy Brief I - Summary

# HOW CAN MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT LOCAL SUFFICIENCY INITIATIVES?

# FULFILL

Fundamental decarbonisation  
through sufficiency of lifestyle changes

# Citizens' Science Workshops

– Paris, Brussels, Barcelona

*Transport, Food, Housing and Items*

**What can I do to reduce my footprint in this area?**

**What holds me back? (Obstacles)**

**What could help me to change?**

**Chose: 2 policies & Communication strategies**



**POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS: CITIZEN SCIENCE WORKSHOP N°3**

The concept of Citizen Science in FULFILL is all about engaging citizens in the process of formulating high-quality policy recommendations that are influenced by citizens' real life experiences. The following recommendations were developed and put to a forum vote in the most recent Citizen Science Workshop in Paris on November 23-24, 2023.

- Transportation**
  - Financing rail transportation for people and goods at the EU level (e.g. public coordination for night trains across EU).
  - Mobility as a service with a focus to promote low carbon options (e.g. carsharing, bike system).
- Food**
  - Labeling and clearly showing overall carbon footprint of food products (origin chain, how/when where it was transported, list of pesticides/chemicals used). Label can be on a scale from 1-5 with colors.
  - Compulsory education on food consumption, health, and waste (i.e. eating less / better quality, gardening and growing food).
- Housing**
  - A policy that aims at simplifying regulations (for energy efficient ways to build and renovate buildings) and compressing them into a document which would be distributed to citizens, architectural schools, businesses, etc.
  - A law that promotes local cooperation that co-generates renewable energy and use energy together (prosumerism). At the EU level, but countries can choose not to implement it.
- Items**
  - Implement a 5 year guarantee on items (tax more for 2 year guarantee, tax less for 5 year guarantee).
  - Implement a "Fair product" label A - F (already exists for energy efficiency) and ban products labelled with the lowest category for the EU market.

Labelling, standards, guarantee, recycling, taxation, legislation, financial support



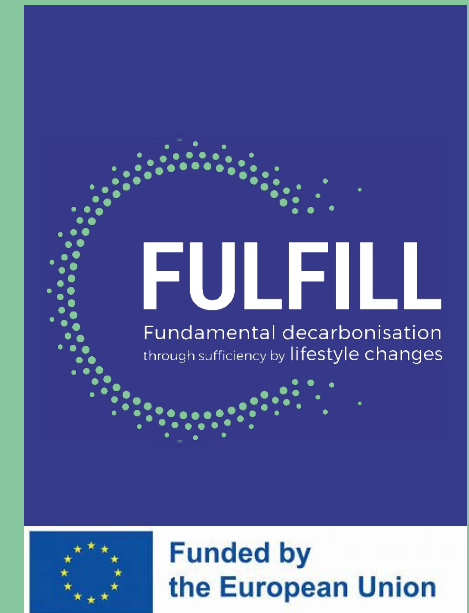
**POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS: CITIZEN SCIENCE WORKSHOP N°3**

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# Thank you

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