



Good and bad practices - expectations of EU rules in Germany



Katharina Habersbrunner, WECF, BBEn
Board member
9 September 2020



Community energy



BBEn

Bündnis Bürgerenergie e.V.



Self-consumption and energy communities



1. Renewable Energy Directive (RED II)

- Individual and collective self-consumption (art. 21)
- Renewable energy communities (art. 22)

2. Electricity Market Directive (EMD)

- Active consumer (art. 15)
- Citizens energy communities (art. 16)



Energy citizens have right to

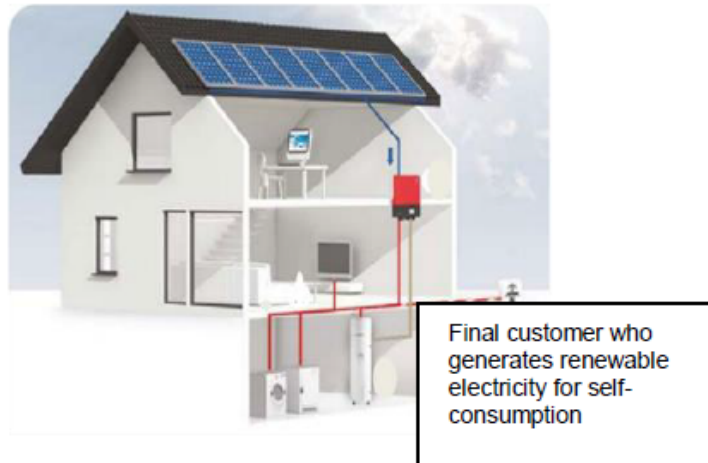
- generate
- self-consume
- store
- sell renewable energy
- access to

renewable energy and to participate in energy communities

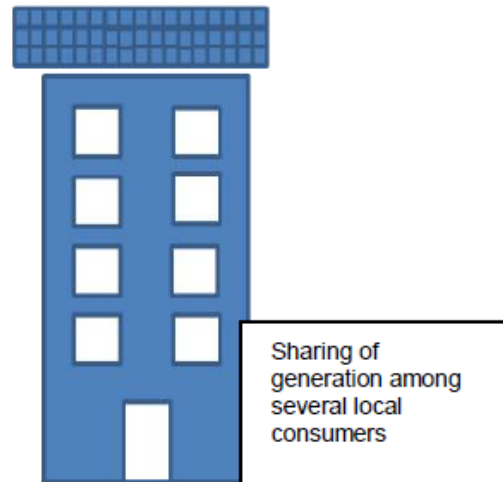
Self-consumption and energy communities



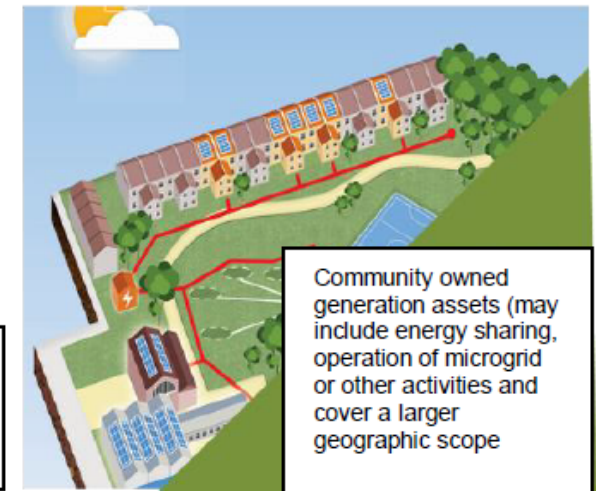
self-consumption



collective self-consumption



energy community





Auctions - status quo

- EEG 2017: Auctions for Wind onshore and ground-mounted PV farms >750kW
- Wind onshore: initial framework for „citizen energy associations“ not helpful for community energy, instead big market distortions

Results:

- Practically no new community energy projects present in the wind onshore and ground-mounted PV markets
- Official target of „diversity of actors“ is missed
- Lack of new community projects: negative effects on the public approval of new RE projects, especially wind farms

BAD Practices – NO Enabling Framework



Enabling framework – status quo

- EEG 2017: definition for „citizen energy association“ which is not compatible with definition of „renewable energy community“
- EEG 2017: Wind auctions: Clearing price for citizen energy associations is highest winning bid – not helpful. Predictability is needed, not higher premiums

Outlook:

- Current EEG draft: no elements of an enabling framework included
- These elements might include:
 - Better REC definition: renewable energy communities
 - Predictable premiums
 - Investment support funds
 - Non-financial support, e.g. consulting

BAD Practices – No Assessment of Barriers and Potentials



Assessment of barriers and potentials– status quo

- Governance regulation: assessment of potentials and barriers for renewable energy communities needs to be included in NECP
- German NECP does not include assessment of potentials and barriers for renewable energy communities

Outlook:

- Current EEG draft generates additional barriers (new: auctions for rooftop PV > 100kWp)

BAD Practices – No Framework for Energy Sharing



Status quo

- Art. 22 RED II is giving RECs the right to „share, within the renewable energy community, renewable energy that is produced by the production units owned by that renewable energy community”
- German energy law: need to develop a completely new form of electricity delivery via the public grid

Outlook

- Current EEG draft: no provision for energy sharing included

BAD Practices

No collective self-consumption possible



Status quo

- Art. 21 RED II is giving renewables self-consumers the right to jointly engage in activities.
- Status quo in EEG 2017: only individual self-consumption possible, tenants and other multi-apartment buildings not attractive sites for PV deployment
- “Mieterstrom” (“tenant electricity”) only a substitute and not attractive enough, because very bureaucratic and not economic

Outlook

- Current amendment for the EEG: no provision for collective self-consumption, “Mieterstrom” still not attractive enough

GOOD Practices – Strong Community



Many political voices for community energy



Bündnis Bürgerenergie and the German Co-operative federation (DGRV) have a strong network in Germany with many cooperatives, companies, foundations, associations and initiatives: high expertise and working together on making community energy stronger

Common understanding: community energy is crucial for a just, democratic and participative energy transition

GOOD Practices

No auctions for smaller Installations



Status quo:

- EEG 2017: smaller installations: no auctions needed
 - FITs for installations <100kW,
 - market premiums for installations <750kW.Installation operators are free to choose aggregator



Status quo:

- EEG 2017: installations <10kWp: self-consumption possible without obligation to pay EEG levy
- Big incentive for private home-owners to install small PV installations
- Storage prices are decreasing: good possibility to increase „autonomy rate“ for households



GOOD and BAD practice

+++ GOOD +++

- Strong community – several political voices for community energy
- FITs/market premiums for small installations, freedom to choose aggregator
- Individual self-consumption (10kW threshold)
- Increasing home storage

--- BAD ---

- Auctions also for communities (new: rooftop >100 kW)
- No enabling framework put in place
- No assessment of barriers and potentials included in NECP
- No framework for energy sharing for communities
- No collective self-consumption possible („Mieterstrom“ only a substitute)

Expectations of EU Rules



Status quo:

- Current EEG amendment: no transposition of RED II included
- Low expectations
- Political timeline: transposition postponed until after federal elections (fall of 2021)

Outlook:

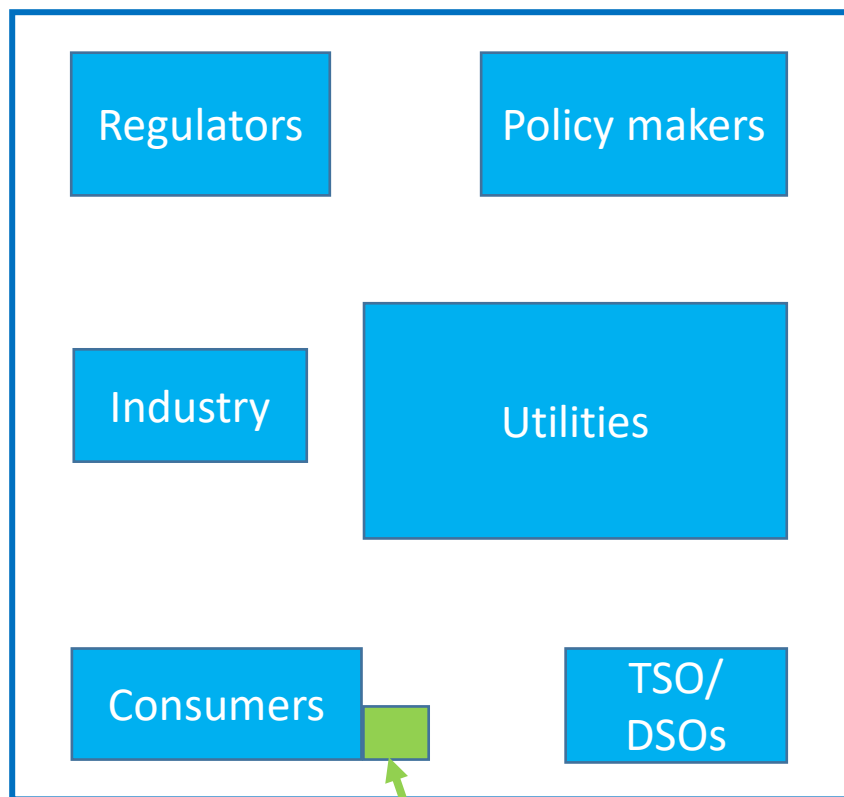
We need to fight for

- Strong prosumers (individuals and collectives)
- Strong renewable energy communities (enabling framework & energy sharing)
- High potential of energy communities and energy sharing to reach the 100% RE goal by 2030

Vision of a prosumer centered Energy Union

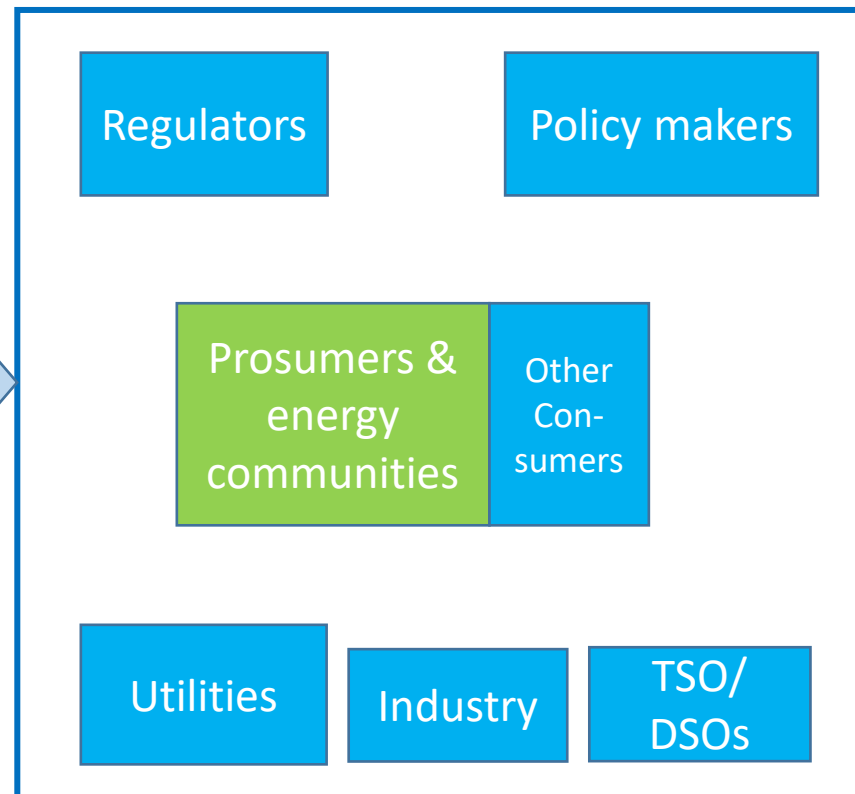


Today's typical European energy system (national)



Prosumers and energy communities

Future European Energy Union





Thank you!

Katharina Habersbrunner

Katharina.Habersbrunner@wecf.org

