



SEMINAR: Guidelines for Local Participation in Windpower



ONLINE & at Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, Denmark

13. OCTOBER, 2026

Community Engagement Guidelines and recommendations from World Wind Energy Association (WWEA)

Stefan Gsänger, Secretary General, WWEA



World Wind Energy Association

Presentation is part of Proceedings: https://inforse.org/europe/Enabling_windpower_through_local_trust_project.htm

Organised by **NGO Cooperation Project - Enabling Windpower through Local Trust**



**Eesti
Roheline
Liikumine**
Estonian Green Movement-FoE

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INFORSE-EUROPE
International Network for Sustainable Energy



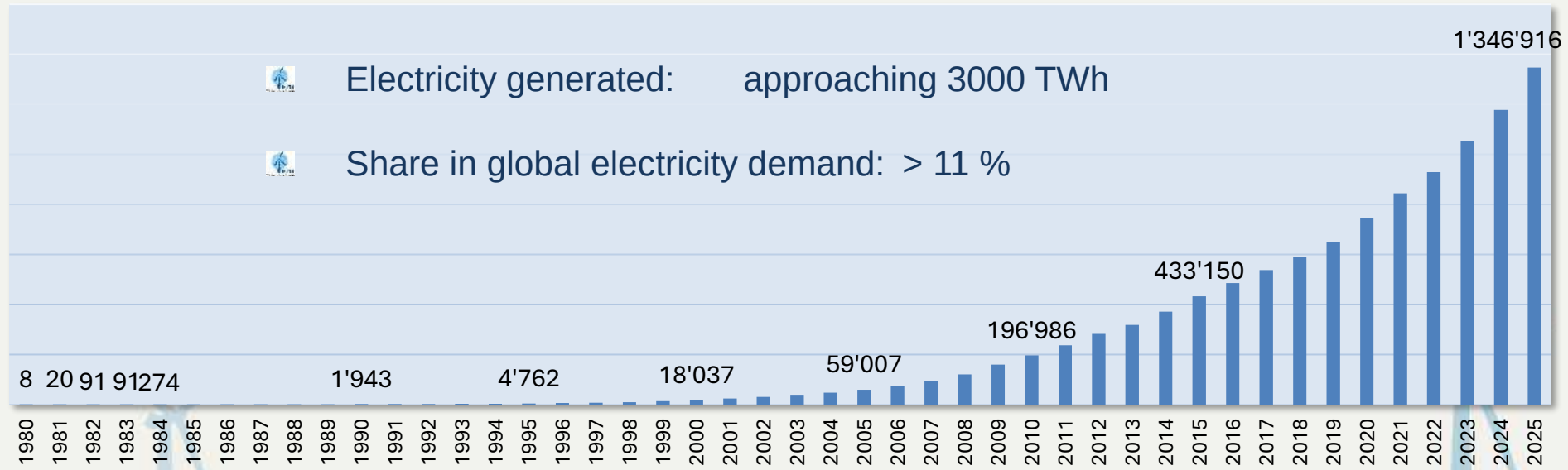
Funded by the
Nordic Council
of Ministers

The Importance of Community Benefits:

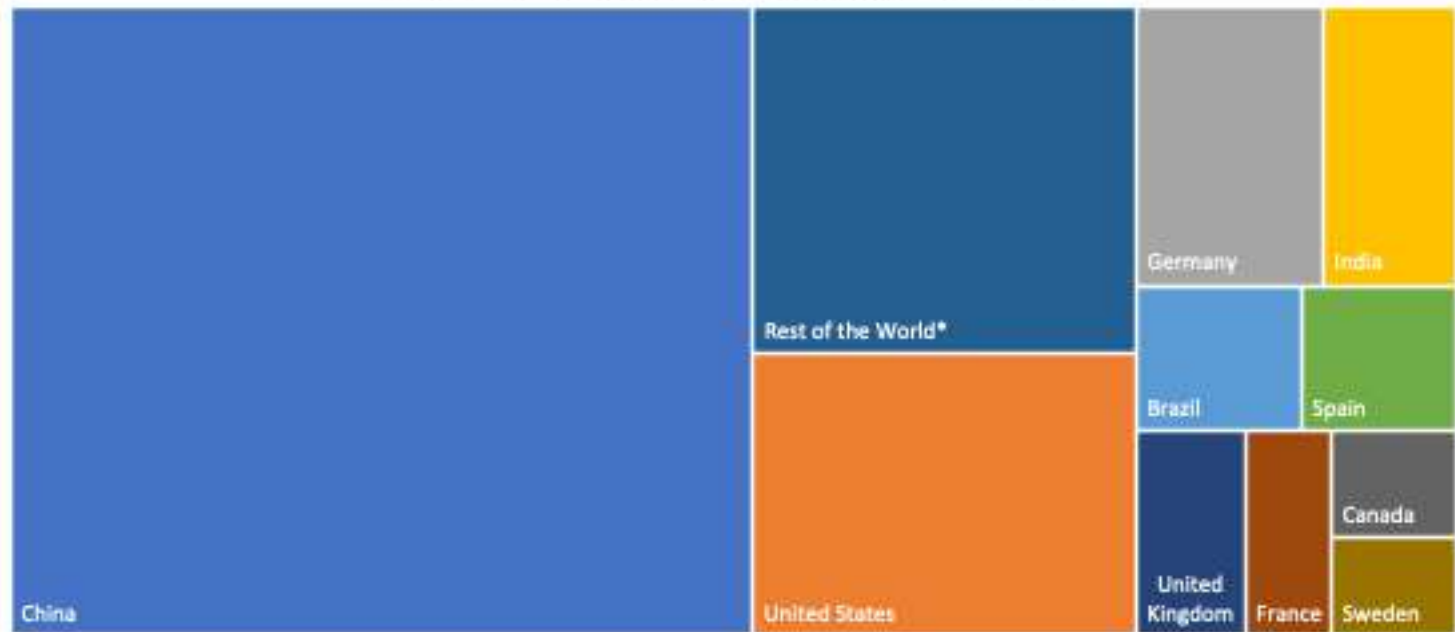
WWEA Community Engagement Guidelines

13 October 2026

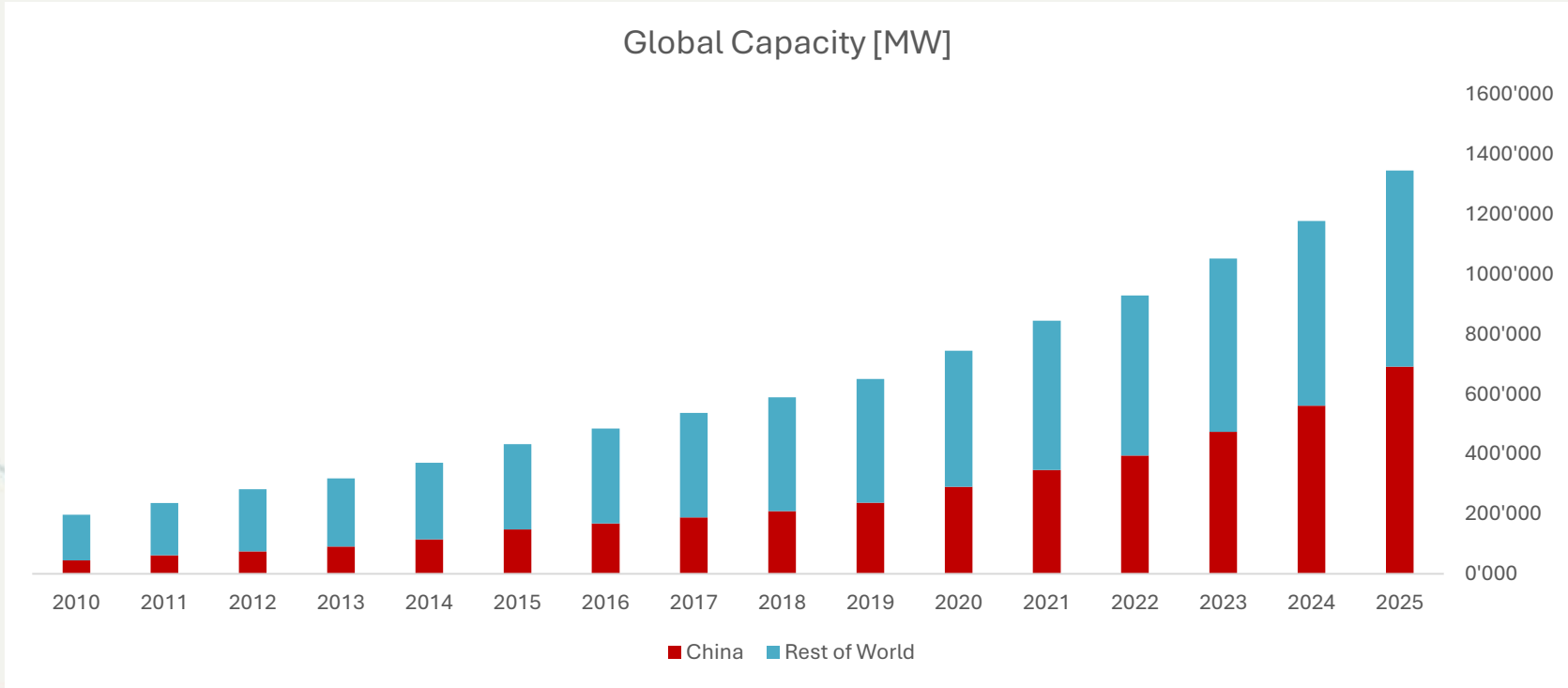
Wind Power Worldwide [MW]



Wind Power Capacity by Country End of 2025

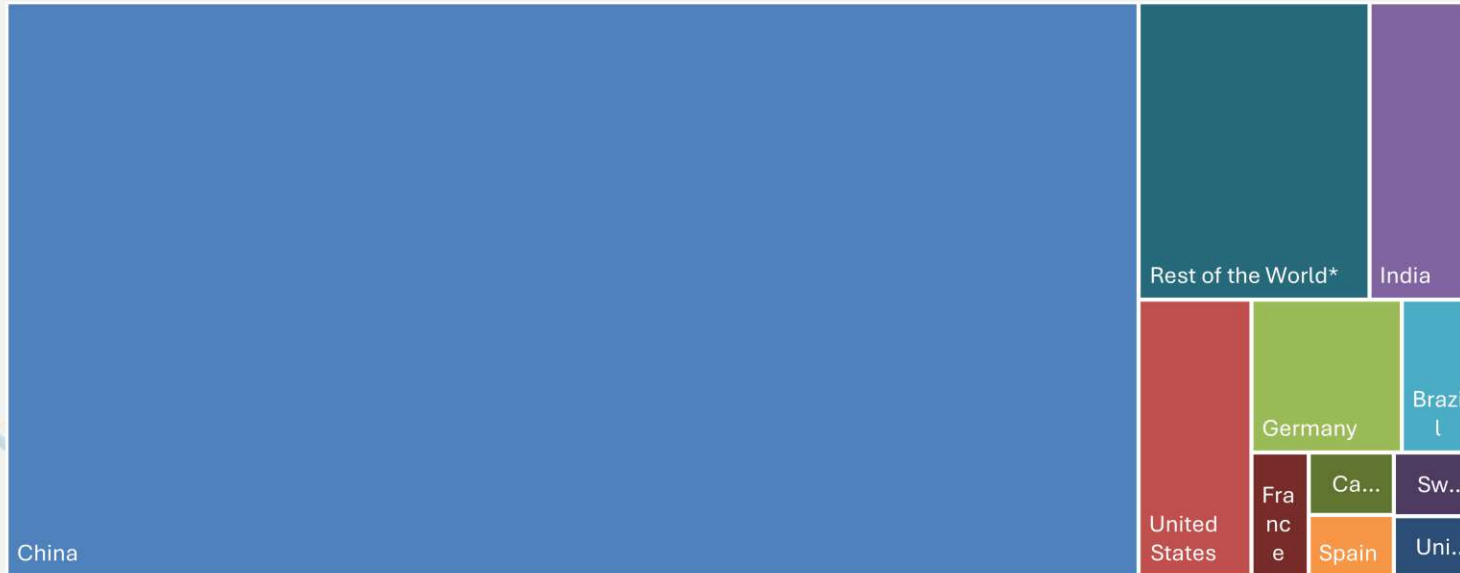


The Role of China



Global Market Status

Wind Power Capacity Added in 2025 by Country



From Centralised to Decentralised Renewable Energy



CENTRALIZED ENERGY SYSTEM

Few large power plants generate electricity



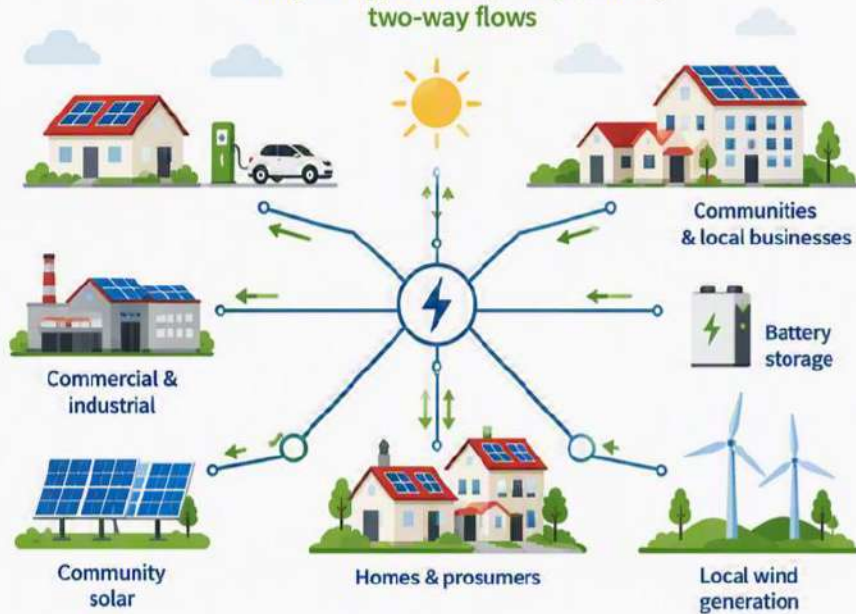
Electricity flows in one direction

Long-distance transmission and distribution

Consumers with limited choice

DECENTRALISED RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

Many energy sources, many owners, two-way flows



Communities & local businesses

Battery storage

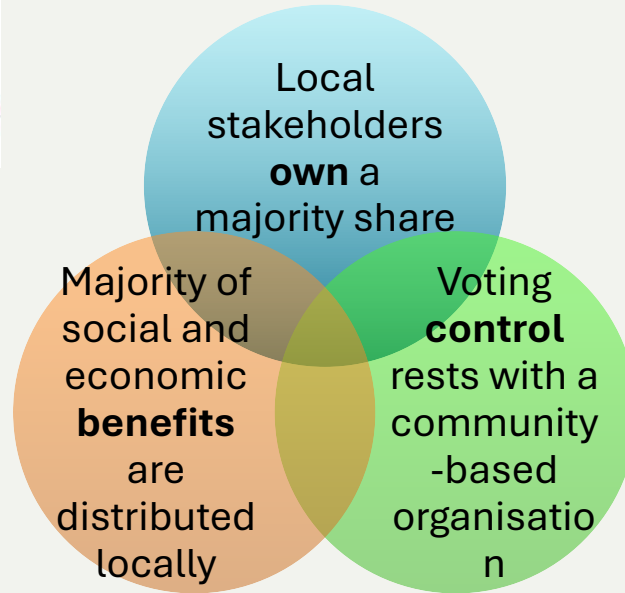
Commercial & industrial

Community solar

Homes & prosumers

Local wind generation

What is Community Power



“A local individual or a group of local stakeholders, whether they are farmers, cooperatives, independent power producers, financial institutions, municipalities, schools, etc., own, immediately or eventually, the majority or all of a project.”

Benefits of Community Energy

Environmental, social and economic value created through community ownership and participation in energy systems.



The Community Engagement Guidelines – Purpose:

- Develop standards based on best practices around the world
- Connect with important stakeholders and governments
- Introduce guidelines in international and national wind policies
- Set up a permanent monitoring process

<https://wwindea.org/WWEA-community-engagement-guidelines-2025>



The Community Engagement Guidelines – Key Elements:

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS

BENEFIT-SHARING MECHANISMS

GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM)

COMPLIANCE, MONITORING, AND LENDER ALIGNMENT



The Community Engagement Guidelines – Key Elements:

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Transparency and Disclosure
- Early and Continuous Engagement
- Inclusivity, Gender Equality, and Protection of Vulnerable Groups
- Respect for Local Cultural, Social, and Political Contexts
- Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing
- Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)
- Monitoring, Reporting, and Accountability



The Community Engagement Guidelines – Key Elements:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS REQUIREMENTS (PROJECT LIFECYCLE)

- Pre-Feasibility and Planning Stage
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Stage
- Permitting and Design Stage
- Construction Stage
- Operational Stage
- Decommissioning and Legacy Management



SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS

„Conduct a dedicated marine stakeholder mapping exercise to identify all users of coastal and marine areas potentially affected by the project, including:

- Small-scale and industrial fishers
- Port authorities and shipping operators
- Indigenous and coastal communities
- Tourism-based businesses
- Environmental NGOs and marine research institutions“



IRENA: Member of the Steering Group of the Coalition for Action

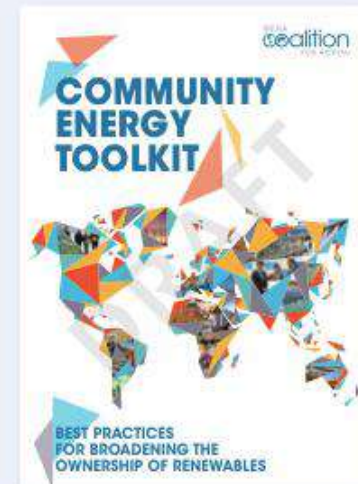
„Community Energy/Empowering People and Communities“ Group of the IRENA Coalition for Action chaired by WWEA

Community engagement **legislation** database

Repowering working group to conclude report

Minigrid task force

Coalition for Action white paper series – Broadening the ownership of renewables





&  **100%**
RENEWABLES

Symphony of the Renewables

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Thank you very much!