



European Sustainable Energy Seminar

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Energy Communities and their Roles in a Just Transition. Good examples, Barriers, Next Steps on EU-Level

8 Reasons & 6 steps to Start an Energy Community
Build Your Eco-Community with Lego
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Energy Communities

Energy Communities

- Energy communities are groups of local people who produce and use energy together.
- They usually use renewable energy, such as solar or wind power.
- The energy is produced and used locally in the same area.
- This helps reduce dependence on large energy companies.
- People in the community decide together how the energy is produced and used.



8 Reasons to Start or Join a Community Energy Project

- Help fight the climate crisis.
- Keep money in your local community.
- Reduce energy poverty in your area.
- Strengthen your community neighborhood, meet new people.
- Produce your own clean renewable energy.
- Educate others about energy, climate, and
- democracy. Inspire other communities to act.
- Create the kind of sustainable world you want to live in.

Six Steps to Start

Step	Action
1. Gather people	Invite neighbours, schools, or the municipality.
2. Define goals	Aim at lower costs, CO ₂ reduction, new local jobs.
3. Map resources	Check weather conditions and available places (e.g. roofs and open space) for solar or wind projects.
4. Choose a model	Decide on an organisation form: cooperative or association.
5. Plan the system	Select technologies (like solar, wind,) and where to install them.
6. Find funding	Raise money from members, grants, or crowdfunding.

Energy Communities



Real Life Example : Dorset Community Energy

- A local energy project in the UK, producing cheaper solar electricity.
- The project was started by local citizens as a community organization.
- Solar panels were installed on the roofs of schools and public buildings in the area.
- Local people invested small amounts of money and received a small yearly return.

Energy Communities



What Worked Well

- Many schools and public buildings use solar power.
- Many local people joined and supported the project.
- Electricity prices stayed stable over time.
- Over time, the project created high financial savings for schools and public services.
- The community became stronger and more connected.





Build Your Change / Eco-Community with Lego

More info:



<https://communitypowercoalition.eu/practical-handbook/>

RESCOOP.EU

<https://www.rescoop.eu/>

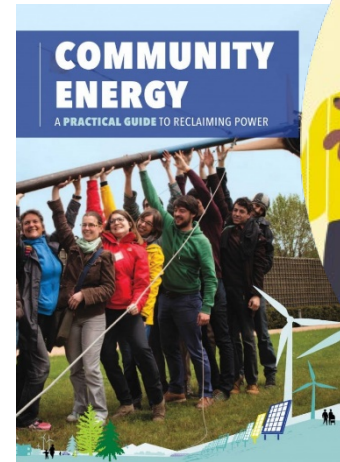
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https://inforse.org/europe/POWER_CE.htm



<https://inforse.org/europe/ELY-energy-literacy-for-youth.htm>



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