EUSALP AG9 Energy series 2021

WEBINAR: LOCAL ENERGY COMMUNITIES - A WIN FOR ALL IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION

17 November 2021 10h – 12h

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CONTEXT – LOCAL ENERGY COMMUNITIES – A WIN FOR ALL IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION

The SUERA Action Group 9, co-lead by AURA-EE and CasaClima, in the framework of the French Presidency of EUSALP, is organizing the fifth annual conference on energy transition in the Alps. It will be divided into three separate seminars on hot topics in energy and sustainability on regional and transnational level: hydrogen as an energy vector in transport, local energy communities, and the perspectives of the new European Bauhaus for a carbon-neutral future.

Local energy communities are at the forefront of the Energy Transition in Europe and in the Alpine regions. While Member States are in the process of transposing the RESII directive into national laws, several initiatives are being launched to support the creation of local energy communities providing various types of energy services. The second seminar aims at presenting concrete initiatives in Alpine territories and discuss key opportunities and challenges. Based on the findings of the ALPGRIDS Alpine Space project, a roundtable discussion will address policy gaps and reflect on supportive policy measures and instruments. It is mainly intended to all institutions, stakeholders and researchers directly or indirectly involved in local energy communities.
Session 1: Local Energy Communities in the Alps

Moderator: Patrick BIARD, AURA-EE, ALPGRIDS project coordinator

10h00 – 11h00

Welcome and interactive session with audience: Patrick BIARD, AURA-EE

Keynote speech: Ludwig KARG, BAUM

Energy Communities as a part of the Clean Energy Package:

Art. 22 of the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources on “Renewable Energy Communities” (RED II) | national transposition by June 30, 2021

**A Renewable Energy Community (REC) is a legal entity**
(a) which, in accordance with the applicable national law, is based on open and voluntary participation, is autonomous, and is effectively controlled by shareholders or members that are located in the proximity of the renewable energy projects that are owned and developed by that legal entity;
(b) the shareholders or members of which are natural persons, SMEs or local authorities, including municipalities;
(c) the primary purpose of which is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits for its shareholders or members or for the local areas where it operates, rather than financial profits;

Art. 16 of the Directive on the Internal Market for Electricity Directive on “Citizen Energy Communities” (EMD) | national transposition by December 31, 2020

**A Citizen Energy Community (CEC) is a legal entity**
which is based on voluntary and open participation, effectively controlled by shareholders or members who are natural persons, local authorities, including municipalities, or small enterprises and microenterprises.
The primary purpose is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits for its members or the local areas where it operates rather than financial profits. A citizens energy community can be engaged in electricity generation, distribution and supply, consumption, aggregation, storage or energy efficiency services, generation of renewable electricity, charging services for electric vehicles or provide other energy services to its shareholders or members.

Showcasing projects and initiatives supporting the development of local energy communities in the Alps
**See the Ppt presentation**
- SHREC (Interreg Europe): **Silvio DE NIGRIS**, Piemonte Region
- TRENTINO initiative: **Sara VERONES**, Provincia Autonoma di Trento
- ALPGRIDS (Alpine Space): **Patrick BIARD**, AURA-EE
- DECIDE (H2020): **Ludwig KARG**, BAUM

- **DSOs perspectives on energy communities**: **Remy GARAUDE**, ENEDIS

**Collective self-consumption by ENEDIS at a glance:**

### THE DSO AS A PILLAR OF THE CSC
- All of the participants are connected to the public distribution network in standard conditions, the energy exchanges are simply virtual and do not necessitate any specific or direct join.
- A reliable and high-quality electricity supply, even in the absence of local production.

### CERTIFICATION AND DATA EXCHANGES WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS
- Thanks to Enedis’ measures, calculations (self-consumption, supplier complement and surplus production), and data releases to the main stakeholders of the CSC operation, the final customers can save money on their energy bill.
- So as to simplify the data interactions with the PMO, Enedis improves its IS tools dedicated to the CSC and its interfaces **destined** to all types of PMO.

### EVERYWHERE IN FRANCE
- In close relationships with the PMO, Enedis assists the initiation, the launch and the follow-up of the CSC operation.
- A reception desk by administrative department for all kind of question about a CSC project.
- A regular monitoring of the actual operations thanks to dedicated and trained points of contact.

**Q&A session**

Florian Rothmoser: is collective self-consumption in France supported by lower taxes or lower grid fees?

Remy Garaude (ENEDIS): this is an on-going discussion with the national regulator. Your question is very relevant. When consumers are within a self-consumption scheme, they use grid a little bit less. But if there is something going wrong with the local generation, they will use the grid full scheme. The grid is thus a kind of “insurance” and it is not use in a normal way. It is thus not an easy question; it is still ongoing. ENEDIS is involved in this discussion.

Giorgio Piazza (University of Genoa): The percentage of energy each client can use from res plant is it set during the constitution of the CSC? If so if a client consumes less than the agreed amount, the energy is not shared between the members’, right?

Remy Garaude (ENEDIS): currently, no. If I have not consumed my 50% of electricity, the remaining part will go the grid and will not be consumed by my neighbours. We are currently looking for solutions to tackle this issue.
Session 2: Alpine Policy Roundtable on energy communities

Moderators: Patrick BIARD, AURA-EE and Alessandro MAZZESCHI, Municipality of Udine

11h00 – 12h00

- Introduction, Patrick BIARD, AURA-EE and Alessandro MAZZESCHI, Municipality of Udine
- Policy gaps and policy instruments: key findings of the ALPGRIDS project

See the Ppt presentation

  o Policy gaps at National level: Noémie POIZE, AURA-EE & Thomas NACHT, 4WARDENERGY
  o Policy instruments and policy measures at regional & local levels: Alessandro MAZZESCHI, Municipality of Udine

- Panel discussion about ALPGRIDS findings and policy recommendations: ALPGRIDS project partners and observers with feedback from the audience
  - Complexity of administrative procedures (for the regulation of self-sufficient community the investor needs almost three times more documentation than in the case of individual self-sufficiency).
  - Long waiting periods for obtaining consent for the connection of power plants by electricity distributors and in many cases refusing consents due to network incapacity
  - Increased investments in strengthening already built networks and investments in intelligent networks with new technologies that take into account the dynamic demands of consumption and planned diversified production
  - Eliminate administrative requirements and barriers for customers that prevent them from choosing to participate in collective self-sufficiency or Energy communities

See the results on the Padlet: https://it.padlet.com/ecosenza/EUSALP_Energy_Conference

- Closing