

UP-STAIRS Final Project Conference

Deliverable 6.5



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 891775

Project details			
Project acronym	UP-STAIRS	Start (Duration)	1 September 2020 (39)
Topic	LC-SC3-EC-1-2018-2019-2020 The role of consumers in changing the market through informed decision and collective actions		
Call identifier	H2020-LC-SC3-EE-2019	Project Number	892037
Coordinator	University College Cork – National University of Ireland Cork (TYN)		
Contact person	Pádraig Lyons	Website	https://www.h2020-upstairs.eu/

Deliverable details			
Deliverable Number	6.5	Title	Final Project Conference
Work Package	WP6: Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation activities	Dissemination level	Public
Deliverable responsible	IERC	Contributing beneficiaries	All
Due Date (M)	30.11.2023 (M39)	Submission date	29.11.2023 (M39)

History of Changes		
Version	Date (M)	Changes
1.0	29/11/2023	Final Version D6.5

Table of contents

Table of contents.....	3
List of Acronyms.....	4
1. Introduction	5
2. RE-ENERGISING Europe	6
2.1. Venue selection.....	6
2.2. Registration and promotion of the event	7
2.3. Agenda of the conference	9
2.4. UP-STAIRS dissemination material.....	12
2.5. Video and recording of the event.....	15

List of Acronyms

ESV- OÖ Energiesparverband

IEECP- Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy

IERC- International Energy Research Centre

WSED- World Sustainable Energy Days

1. Introduction

This document addresses the organisation and delivery of the UP-STAIRS project final conference. It was undertaken in line with the Grant agreement No. 892037 under the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme.

The UP-STAIRS final conference was originally expected to be held during the World Sustainable Energy Days (WSED) in Upper Austria, an event that is organised by ESV every year. However, due to the three-month extension of the project up to November 2023 and after announcing that the WSED in 2023 was taking place by the beginning of March, IERC, as project coordinator, took over the responsibility of organising the final conference.

The idea was to look for an event closer to the end of the project in order to disseminate the latest UP-STAIRS results. After exploring different options, IERC, with the approval from the rest of the UP-STAIRS partners, decided to organise a joint event in Brussels, together with other three projects from the community energy sister projects' group that were also approaching their end.

Since that moment, different meetings were scheduled monthly with the partners from BEcoop, W4RES and NRG2peers projects with the purpose of planning the final conference, deciding that this would be celebrated finally on the 25th October 2023.

With the objective of increasing the impact of the event, other three EU-funded projects (MICAT, NUDGE and newTRENDS) planned also to celebrate their final event on the day before, 24th October. In this way, it was agreed that the final conferences of the seven projects would take part of the two-day same event, called "Re-Energising Europe".

2. RE-ENERGISING Europe

2.1. Venue selection

The months of April and May were dedicated to find the most appropriate venue to host the event in Brussels. This process was more cumbersome than expected, given the low availability of premises and the high prices.

Nonetheless, after considering four different options with their respective quotations, the winner choice was finally Atelier 29, offering the best value for money. Moreover, it was located at number 29, Rue de Jacques de Lalaing, in the heart of the European quartier, giving more chances to project officers and other EU representatives to attend the event.



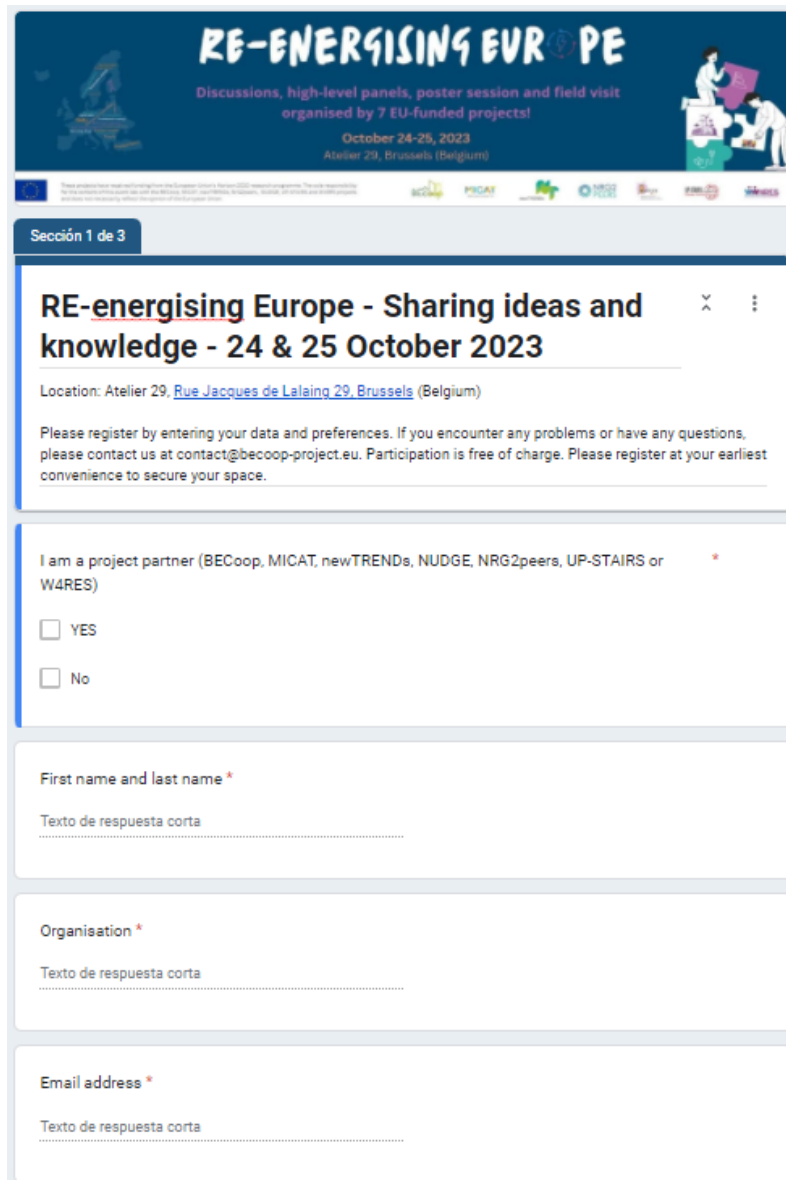
Image 1: Outside view of Atelier 29



Image 2: Inside of Atelier 29 with the audience of the event

2.2. Registration and promotion of the event

The registration of the event opened on the 20th June 2023. To this effect, a Google form composed by three different sections was created.



RE-ENERGISING EUROPE
Discussions, high-level panels, poster session and field visit
organised by 7 EU-funded projects!
October 24-25, 2023
Atelier 29, Brussels (Belgium)

Sección 1 de 3

RE-energising Europe - Sharing ideas and knowledge - 24 & 25 October 2023

Location: Atelier 29, [Rue Jacques de Lalaing 29, Brussels](#) (Belgium)

Please register by entering your data and preferences. If you encounter any problems or have any questions, please contact us at contact@becoop-project.eu. Participation is free of charge. Please register at your earliest convenience to secure your space.

I am a project partner (BECoop, MICAT, newTRENDS, NUDGE, NRG2peers, UP-STAIRS or W4RES) *

☐ YES

☐ No

First name and last name *

Texto de respuesta corta

Organisation *

Texto de respuesta corta

Email address *

Texto de respuesta corta

Image 3: RE-energising Europe event registration form

On the same day, along with the opening of the registration, all the projects involved started the dissemination campaign of the event, posting different publications on their websites and social media (LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.).



RE-ENERGISING EUROPE: 24-25 October 2023, Brussels

This 2-day event, organised by 7 EU-funded projects (Horizon2020), will bring together on-stage speakers from the EU institutions, from the projects as well as key players from the energy market, to discuss how the work done in the past 3 years can support RE-energising Europe. The second day is dedicated to „Energy communities and renewable energy, accelerating Europe's transition towards a climate neutral, inclusive future“ and is organised by H2020 BECOOP, NRG2PEERS, UP-STAIRS and W4RES.

- [More information](#)
- [Registration](#)

Image 4: Abstract posted on the news section of the UP-STAIRS website



Image 5 : LinkedIn post shared by the UP-STAIRS account

By the end of September (one month prior to the event), there were already 148 participants registered, exceeding the capacity of the venue by 30%. For this reason, the registration to the conference was closed and waiting list was opened. This waiting list counted on 27 people registered on the 24th October and enabled to get the after-event material.

2.3. Agenda of the conference

Images 6 and 7 show the agenda for the full event. As explained above, all the UP-STAIRS sessions took place during the second day of the event, which offered at the end an optional visit to an energy community in Brussels.

October 24

Understanding the future of energy demand and its policy implications through new societal trends, behavioural aspects and multiple benefits





Organised by MICAT, newTRENDS and NUDGE.

Event moderated by Heike Brugger, Fraunhofer ISI

10.30 – 10.45 - **Registration & welcome coffee**

10.45 - 11.00 - **Welcome and introduction** - Heike Brugger, Fraunhofer ISI

First part - Modelling, nudging and assessing future energy demand patterns

11.00 - 11.15 - **Scientific keynote** - Nives Della Valle, European Commission Joint Research Centre, Directorate of Energy, Transport and Climate - Unit of Energy Efficiency and Renewables

11.15 - 13.00 - **Modelling, nudging and assessing future energy demand patterns** - In-depth presentation of the projects' methods and findings, tools and models to understand and reduce energy demand.

Scientific audience, including Q&A - For more information about the projects, posters about tools, pilots and more will be hung in the event room.

Moderation: Filippos Anagnostopoulos, IEECP

- Meta Thuid Lotz, Fraunhofer ISI (representing newTRENDS)
- Philipp Mascherbauer, TU Wien (representing newTRENDS)
- Peter Conrade, Senior Researcher, IMEC (representing NUDGE)
- Anne Kesselring, Fraunhofer ISI (representing NUDGE)
- Frederic Berger, Fraunhofer ISI (representing MICAT)
- Felix Suerkemper, Wuppertal Institute (representing MICAT)

13.00 - 14.30 - **Networking lunch**, including poster sessions

Second part - Multiple benefits, behavioural change and new societal trends - Contributions to energy policy.

14.30 - 14.45 - **Keynote** - Margot Pinault, DG ENER, European Commission

14.45 - 15.45 - **Policy learnings from the projects**

Moderation: Giulia Pizzini, IEECP

- MICAT: Barbara Schiömann, Fraunhofer ISI
- NUDGE: Heike Brugger, Fraunhofer ISI
- newTRENDS: Maksymilian Kochanski, RIC

15.45 - 16.00 - **The Necessary Evolution of Energy Efficiency Policies for Inclusive Transitions** - Emma Mooney, International Energy Agency

16.00 - 17.00 - **Panel - The way forward for energy policy**

Moderation: Giulia Pizzini, IEECP

- Nives Della Valle, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Directorate of Energy, Transport and Climate - Unit of Energy Efficiency and Renewables
- Emma Mooney, International Energy Agency
- Roland Gladushenko, EURIMA
- Heleen Schockaert, RESCoop.eu
- Indra Van Sande, Gent city
- Alessandro Mostaccio, President of Movimento Consumatori, EESC Member and Board Member of the European Consumer Union (ECU)

17.00-18.30 - **Cocktail reception**

Image 6 : Agenda for the first day of the event

October 25

Energy communities and renewable energy, accelerating Europe's transition towards a climate neutral, inclusive future



Organised by BECoop, NRG2PEERS, UP-STAIRS and W4RES

Master of ceremony: Ioannis Konstantas, Q-PLAN

8.45 - 9.00 - **Registration & welcome coffee**

9.00 - 9.15 - **Keynote** - Adela Tesarova, European Commission, DG Energy, Head of Unit for Consumers, Local Initiatives and Just Transition

9.15 - 9.40 - **Skill up! RECs, RES, inclusivity: What are we talking about? Fire pitching of the 4 projects**

- Dimitrios Chapizanis, White Research (representing BECoop)
- Simona D'Oca, Huygen Engineers and Consultants (representing NRG2peers)
- Lorena Sánchez Relano, IERC (representing UP-STAIRS)
- Giulia Zendron, White Research (representing W4RES)

9.40 - 11.00 - **Policy panel: Driving a clean energy transition through tapping the biomass potential, boosting rescops and empowering women as agents of change: discussing the projects' recommendations**

Moderation: Pádraig Lyons, IERC

Fire pitch by project representatives:

- Diana Süßer, IEECP (for BECoop)
- Anna Klöpper, UIPI (for NRG2Peers)
- Paweł Gilewski, Polish National Energy Conservation Agency (KAPE) (for UP-STAIRS)
- Elsebeth Terkelsen, European Green Cities (for W4RES)

Panel:

- Jutta Paulus, EU Parliament
- Stavroula Pappa, REScoop.eu
- Adela Tesarova, European Commission, DG Energy

11.00 - 11.15 - **Coffee break**

11.15 - 12.15 - **Get inspired - Innovative Approaches, Success stories from the RES and RHC ecosystems**

Moderation: Dara Turnbull, Housing Europe

- BECoop - From your morning coffee to heat: Vasilis Filippou (ESEK)
- NRG2peers - Lessons learnt from the pilot sites: Eelke Kingma (Schoonschip)
- UP-STAIRS - One-Stop-Shops to empower community energy: Ivanka Pandelieva-Dimova (Sofia Energy Centre)
- W4RES - Elke Weidenfelder (Steinbeis Europa Zentrum) and Carina Holzapfel (H2MC)

12.15 - 13.30 - **Lunch + poster session**

13.30 - 14.30 - **The legacy of our projects / Looking forward - Once our projects end: what comes next? How can we replicate our projects' findings/work?**

Moderation: Dimitrios Chapizanis, White Research

- W4RES: Ioannis Konstantas, Q-PLAN - The next steps for W4RES in terms of gender awareness in RES - The way to an inclusive energy transition
- NRG2peers: Paco Jofra, Ecoserveis Association
- UP-STAIRS: Stefan Kop, Spectral & Sylvia Breukers, Dune Works - Tool and follow-up projects.
- BECoop: Kostas Dasopoulos, Q-PLAN - Adjusted Business Model Canvas for REScoops

14.30 - 15.30 - **Networking session**

- W4RES co-creation workshop "DIY Gender Equal RES sector: Dive into practice with W4RES towards a gender equal RHC and RES sector". Register [here](#) (the number of seats is limited).
- Poster presentations, world café discussions, access to computers to play with our tools, etc.

15.30 - 18.00 - **Visit to an energy community**

Visit of the new citizen energy community in low-income housing near Gare du Midi (Brussels).

https://overdusud.be/sunsud_vlogaert/

The number of seats is limited. Register [here](#) (only if you are sure to attend.).

Image 7 : Agenda for the second day of the event

Images below (8, 9, 10 and 11) show the different speakers from the UP-STAIRS consortium that participated in four different sessions of the conference, introducing the project and presenting the outcomes achieved.



Images 8 & 9 (from left to right): Introduction to the UP-STAIRS project and participation of UP-STAIRS in “The legacy of our projects” session



Image 10 : Participation of UP-STAIRS in the policy session



Image11 : Presentation of the UP-STAIRS pilots results

2.4. UP-STAIRS dissemination material

For the event, 140 copies of the UP-STAIRS leaflet were printed to put inside the bags that were distributed as part of the welcome pack to the conference.

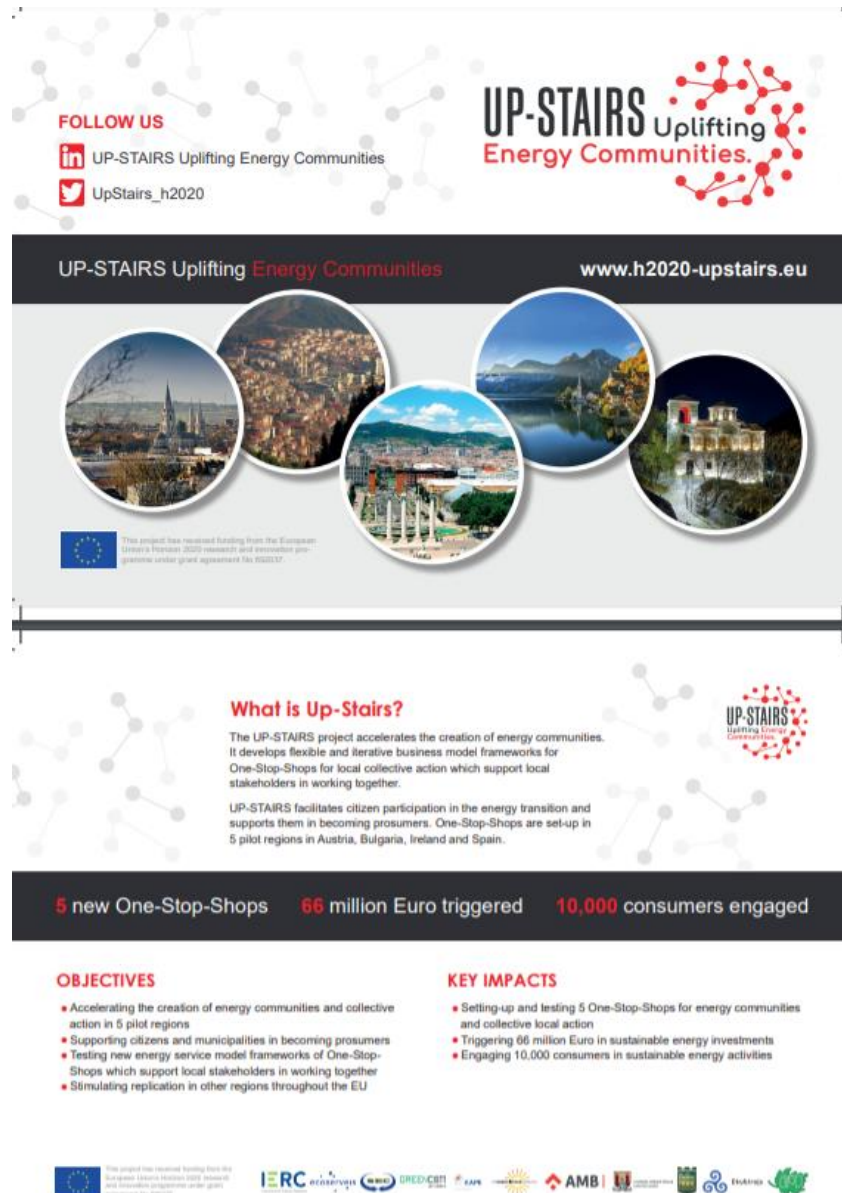


Image 12 : Updated version of the UP-STAIRS leaflet to print

In addition to the leaflets, two UP-STAIRS posters were printed for the poster session that took place during the lunch time, one focusing on the UP-STAIRS overview and objectives and another addressing policy recommendations.



UP-STAIRS Uplifting Energy Communities.

5 new One-Stop-Shops **66** million Euro triggered **10,000** consumers engaged

What is UP-STAIRS?

The H2020 project UP-STAIRS accelerates the creation of energy communities and collective action by setting up One-Stop-Shops in 5 pilot regions across the EU.

THE OPPORTUNITY

New EU legislation for local collective energy action and increased interest from citizens and municipalities to become prosumers

THE CHALLENGE

Creating energy communities requires a great deal of expertise

THE SOLUTION

One-Stop-Shops to support local energy action and collaboration

PILOT REGIONS



www.h2020-upstairs.eu



Image 13 : UP-STAIRS overview poster



Key policy recommendations



Establish clear and supportive regulatory frameworks to encourage the growth of community energy initiatives.



Enhance public awareness and education about community energy to foster participation and support from local residents.



Support the development of digital platforms and technologies to facilitate and accelerate the integration and management of community energy projects.



Enable DSO engagement to support the proliferation of Energy Communities. DSOs need to provide adequate resources to enable engagement with energy communities.



Image 14 : UP-STAIRS policy recommendations poster

2.5. Video and recording of the event

For the whole RE-Energising Europe event, instead of offering the possibility of attending virtually, a filming crew was hired in order to record the conference presentations and disseminate this material afterwards.

All these recordings, in addition to an after-movie video that was created, have been posted on the Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy (IEECP) YouTube channels. The links for the video can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0e9ayjdaME&list=PL3UUXxBsCCh6Pq6YQimDfA-RtXd27VGDK>

Annex

UP-STAIRS presentations delivered during the Final Conference are attached in this Annex.

UP-STAIRS

Uplifting
Energy Communities.



11 partners from 7 EU countries



Project Coordinator



September 2020 - November 2023



€ 2,018,307



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UP-STAIRS

Welcome to UP-STAIRS, the EU-funded program to establish "One-stop-shops" helping to set-up Citizen and Renewable Energy Communities

PLEASE SELECT YOUR REGION



AUSTRIA
Regional Energy Agency of Upper Austria

SELECT



IRELAND
Cork City Council

SELECT



BULGARIA
Municipality of Asenovgrad

SELECT



SPAIN
Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona

SELECT



BULGARIA
Municipalities from the Rhodope Region

SELECT

UP-STAIRS Uplifting Energy Communities

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FOLLOW US



UP-STAIRS Uplifting Energy Communities



UpStairs_h2020



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Challenges and opportunities for collective and cooperative actions

Paweł Gilewski, PhD

The Polish National Energy Conservation Agency
Warsaw University of Technology, Poland

UP-STAIRS **Uplifting**
Energy Communities.



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Challenges

- The participation of residents in energy communities depends to a large extent on the availability of programs co-financing individual activities
- The existence of a thorough legislative framework for energy communities
- The need to inform citizens about energy community activities and energy efficiency and renewable energy measures



Opportunities

- Close cooperation between representatives of local authorities and representatives of One Stop Shops can have a positive impact on the operation of energy communities
- It is very important to have a specific legislative and regulatory framework for energy communities at national/regional level, as this increases the willingness of residents to participate in collective actions and the creation of energy communities



Recommendations

- Reducing excessively high pre-requirements that can discourage residents
- The initiative of the energy community should be promoted and facilitated through an appropriate legislative framework
- Promotion of the concept of energy communities by national authorities, which can increase trust in the concept



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Challenges and opportunities for collective and cooperative actions

Paweł Gilewski, PhD

The Polish National Energy Conservation Agency
Warsaw University of Technology, Poland

UP-STAIRS **Uplifting**
Energy Communities.

A graphic consisting of red dots connected by red lines, forming a network-like structure that resembles a molecular or community network.

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**



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UP-STAIRS **One-Stop-Shops to Empower Community Energy**

Ivanka Pandelieva-Dimova

SEC

ivankap@sec.bg

**RE-energising Europe –
Sharing ideas and knowledge**

24-25 October 2023
Brussels, Belgium

UP-STAIRS **Uplifting**
Energy Communities.



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Concept

- Creation of OSSs in five pilot regions: Asenovgrad Municipality (Bulgaria), Barcelona Metropolitan Area (Catalonia, Spain), Cork City (Ireland), Upper Austria Region (Austria), Rhodoshop (Rhodope Region, Bulgaria) ;
- OSSs help the creation of energy communities and assist citizens in the energy transition through provision of holistic advice according to the local or regional needs;
- OSSs establishment and operation is based on Business Model Framework (BMF) developed within the project and adapted to each pilot context.

Focus of OSSs services

- ❖ OSS Barcelona и OSS Upper Austria focus mainly but not exclusively on support for **creation of Renewable Energy Communities and implementation of RES (PV) in buildings;**
- ❖ OSS Asenovgrad, OSS Cork и OSS Rhodoshop focus mainly but not exclusively on support for **creation of Citizen Energy Communities for energy refurbishment of residential buildings.**

Key successes in figures

- **People outreached: 62 511**
- **People involved/engaged: 11 857**
- **Energy savings (expected): 17.2 GWh/y**
- **PV energy (to be) produced: 58.1 GWh/y**
- **Building area (to be) refurbished: 316 751 sq.m.**
- **PV energy (to be) installed: 40 MW**
- **Associated expected investment: 71.7 MEuro**
- **Energy communities supported: 340**



Key findings from OSS operation

Background

Lack of key information for homeowners:

- ✓ where to start on establishing an energy community in their area.
- ✓ the route to getting financial help;
- ✓ policy framework and where to find it;
- ✓ the increased community benefits.

Challenges and Lessons

- ✓ Numerous regulatory barriers to establishing a renewable energy community (Ireland and Bulgaria);
- ✓ Capacity in the construction area not sufficient in a reasonable timeframe across all grant routes (Ireland).
- ✓ Service should be free for citizens, especially those at risk of energy poverty;
- ✓ Technical and legal background of ICs important;
- ✓ Proactive behaviour of ICs needed;
- ✓ Coordination between many home owners in one building a challenge (Bulgaria);
- ✓ Low awareness and lack of interest towards ESCO contracts as funding option (Bulgaria).

OSS Cork Home Energy UpGrade Office



6500 citizens informed about benefits of Energy Community formation in Ireland



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RE-energising Europe – Sharing ideas and knowledge

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OSS Asenovgrad buildings

Before



After



OSS Barcelona Metropolitan Area

Engaging activities to promote self consumption and energy communities

- Citizens assistance: 1770 citizens
 - 1 special session (shared self consumption in a multi-family building)
- SME's assistance: 590 SME's



OSS Upper Austria



- 1000+ individual advice sessions
- 50+ events with 2500+ participants
- **100+ Energy Communities in operation in Upper Austria**



More information:



Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum • Energy Efficiency Finance Marketplace 2023

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For more information:

<https://www.h2020-upstairs.eu/>



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RE-energising Europe – Sharing ideas and knowledge

24-25 October 2023, Brussels, Belgium

Thank you for your attention!



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RE-energising Europe – Sharing ideas and knowledge

24-25 October 2023, Brussels, Belgium

Exploring the role of PAs in ECs promotion

Paco Jofra

Ecoserveis Association

paco.jofra@ecoserveis.net



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Project Description – in a nutshell

Objectives

- Accelerating the creation of new energy communities in 5 pilot regions
- Supporting citizens and municipalities in becoming prosumers
- **Testing new Energy Service model frameworks of One-Stop-Shops for local collective actions which support local stakeholders in working together**
- Stimulating replication in other regions throughout the EU.

Impacts

- Setting-up and testing 5 One-Stop-Shops for energy communities and collective local action
- Triggering 66 million Euro in sustainable energy investments / energy-related investments
- Engaging 10,000 consumers in sustainable energy activities



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One Stop Shops deployment

PHASES



FIELDS



Our One Stop Shop Pilots



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Cork



**Cork City Council's new
Home Energy Upgrade Office (HEUGO)**



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Barcelona Metropolitan Area



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Upper Austria



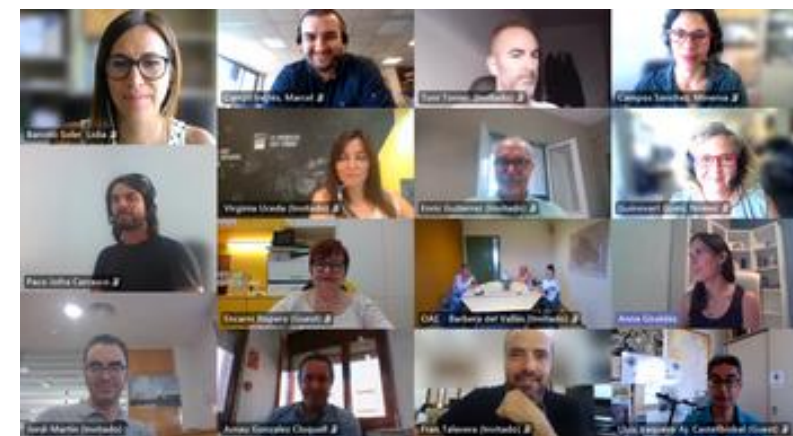
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Asenovgrad & Rhodope Region



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Key findings from our training programmes



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For more information:

www.h2020-upstairs.eu/

twitter.com/UpStairs_h2020



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THANK YOU!

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