



## Community energy across Europe: opportunities and challenges

17 June 2015, 10:00-16:30

Science14 Atrium, 14b, Rue de la Science, 1040, Brussels

### *Workshop objectives*

We urgently need to change our energy system into one powered by renewable energy to end our dependency on fossil fuels and the harm they are doing to peoples, our climate and our environment. By putting communities and citizens at the heart of a shift to renewable energy we can achieve a transition more quickly, fairly and with added benefits.

All over Europe communities and citizens are already producing community owned renewable energy. However, many barriers still need to be tackled, such as the lack of political will for a transition towards renewables, and financial and legal obstacles to community owned projects.

The workshop will focus on the following topics:

- **Successful community renewable energy projects**
- **Legislative challenges** across Europe
- **Financing** in Central and Eastern European countries
- **Renewable energy cooperatives (REScoops)**
- **Energy efficiency projects**

Target groups: EU and national policy makers, RES industry



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## *Programme*

09:30 **Registration**

### *Opening*

Moderation: Rita Mergner, Dominik Rutz, WIP Renewable Energies

10:00 **Welcome and introduction**

Rita Mergner, WIP Renewable Energies

10:10 **Success of the CO-POWER project**

Susann Scherbarth, Friends of the Earth Europe, Belgium

10:30 **Local authorities in the energy transition: supporting community-led initiatives**

Giorgia Rambelli, ICLEI

10:50 **EU policy developments in the field of renewable energies**

Dirk Hendricks, EREF

11:10 **Coffee break**

### *Success stories*

Moderation: Giorgia Rambelli, ICLEI

11:30 **Enabling community energy in Europe: the role of cooperatives**

Dirk Vansintjan, Ecopower, Belgium

11:50 **Community energy in Scotland**

Anne Schiffer, Friends of the Earth Scotland

12:10 **Community Heating - Joint Actions for Green Comfort**

Ingo Wagner, Euroheat&Power, Belgium

12:30 **Lunch**

13:30 **EWS Schönau in Germany**

Tanja Gaudian, EWS Schönau, Germany

13:50 **Example**

14:10 **Coffee break**

## *Legislation and financing*

Moderation: Anne Schiffer, Friends of the Earth Scotland

**15:30** Legislation on community RES projects in Europe: different models in Europe

Josh Roberts, ClientEarth, UK

**16:00** EU funds in support of community power: How Cohesion Policy 2014 -2020 can support local energy initiatives?

Markus Trilling, CEE Bankwatch, Brussels

**16:30** End of the workshop

**CO-POWER** is an IEE project in 12 European countries aiming to put people at the heart of increased renewable energy. For more information, visit: [www.communitypower.eu](http://www.communitypower.eu)



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