

An inclusive energy transition Citizen engagement for affordable and sustainable

energy solutions



Achieving a citizen-centred and inclusive energy transition requires harnessing affordable and clean energy solutions while facilitating the active participation of consumers in line with the aims of the European Green Deal. Adequate heating, cooling, lighting, hot water, and energy for cooking and powering appliances are all necessary for a decent standard of living. Providing tailored energy efficiency and structural measures, including building renovation, and renewable energy solutions to energy poor households, can help lower energy bills and improve living conditions and well-being. Energy communities can also have an important role to play in engaging citizens in the energy transition. Communities can help citizens to collectively implement sustainable energy projects while providing environmental, economic or social community benefits for their members, mobilising private investments and increasing public acceptance of renewable energy projects.

15 EU-funded projects supporting citizens

This CORDIS Results Pack on an Inclusive Energy Transition presents 15 EU-funded projects helping to shape the green transition for the benefit of all citizens. The aim of the highlighted activities is to help alleviate energy poverty, facilitate collective actions in the field of energy, and to develop collective and community-based approaches to combat energy poverty.

CEES

Community Energy for Energy Solidarity Coordinated in Portugal

CEES is creating an energy solidarity toolkit for energy cooperatives to address energy poverty.



ComAct

Community Tailored Actions for Energy Poverty Mitigation Coordinated in Slovakia

ComAct coordinated homeowners to unlock energy efficient improvements in multi-family apartment buildings.



© ComAct project

COOLTORISE

Raising summer energy poverty awareness to reduce cooling needs Coordinated in Spain

COOLTORISE piloted measures to reduce the impact of heatwaves in low-energy efficient households.



DECIDE

Developing Energy Communities through Informative anD collEctive

Coordinated in Belgium

DECIDE pinpointed the best ways to communicate and interact with energy communities.



eCREW

Establishing Community Renewable Energy Webs - Rolling out a business model and operational tool creating webs of households that jointly manage energy to improve efficiency and renewables uptake Coordinated in Austria

eCREW helped households jointly exploit electricity generation.



EmpowerMed

Empowering women to take action against energy poverty in the Mediterranean

Coordinated in Slovenia

EmpowerMed supported women in the Mediterranean to tackle energy poverty.



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EnergyMEASURES

Tailored measures supporting energy vulnerable households Coordinated in Ireland

EnergyMeasures provided personalised household energy management measures.

ENPOR

Actions to Mitigate Energy Poverty in the Private Rented Sector Coordinated in the Netherlands

ENPOR aimed to make energy poverty in the private rented sector more detectable and measurable.

GRETA

GReen Energy Transition Actions Coordinated in Finland

GRETA built frameworks to help communities achieve their own decarbonisation goals.

NRG2peers

Towards a new generation of EU peer-to-peer Energy Communities facilitated by a gamified platform and empowered by user-centred energy trading mechanisms and business models Coordinated in the Netherlands

NRG2Peers built a web platform to enhance uptake of next-generation peer-to-peer energy communities.

POWERPOOR

Energy Poor Citizens through Joint Energy Initiatives Coordinated in Greece

POWERPOOR supported energy-poor citizens to implement energy efficiency measures and participate in joint initiatives such as energy communities.

SocialWatt

Connecting Obligated Parties to Adopt Innovative Schemes towards Energy Poverty Alleviation Coordinated in Greece

SocialWatt aided utilities, energy companies and other stakeholders in identifying energy-poor households to address energy poverty.

Solutions to Tackle Energy Poverty Coordinated in Belgium

STEP trained consumer and frontline organisations to support energypoor households.

Sun4All

Eurosolar for all: energy communities for a fair energy transition in Europe (Sun4All) Coordinated in Spain

Sun4All helped vulnerable households switch to renewable energy and reduce their energy bills.

UP-STAIRS

UP-lifting Communities: Structuring collective Action for Sustainable local Transition and Identifying Regulatory Solutions for adopting frontier technologies and disruptive business models Coordinated in Ireland

UP-STAIRS developed one-stop shops for providing information and advice on energy communities.



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Initiatives and funding support for an inclusive energy transition

Several initiatives and funding opportunities exist at the European level to help support citizens and achieve an inclusive energy transition.

The Horizon 2020 Energy Efficiency programme (2014-2020) and its successor, the LIFE Clean Energy Transition programme (2021-2027), provide funding for a wide range of activities towards an energy efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and resilient economy.

The Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH) is the leading EU initiative aiming to eradicate energy poverty. It was launched by the Commission in 2021, at the request of the European Parliament, and builds on the 'EU Energy Poverty Observatory' project (2016-2020). The EPAH offers a space for collaboration and exchange between local and regional authorities to tackle energy poverty while accelerating the just energy transition. It provides online guidance and knowledge products for diagnosing, measuring and planning actions to tackle energy poverty at the local level from a national and EU perspective.

Together with the <u>Covenant of Mayors</u>, the EPAH also developed a reporting mechanism that cities can use to track progress in eradicating energy poverty.

The Energy Communities Repository (ECR) and the Rural Energy Community Advisory Hub (RECAH) provided technical assistance to around 50 energy communities across Europe. A follow-up initiative under the LIFE Clean Energy Transition Programme will be launched in autumn 2024, the Energy Communities Facility. The Facility will help professionalise energy communities and mature nascent energy community projects until they develop feasible business plans. To that end, it will provide direct financial support to the initial stages of community energy projects in the areas of energy efficiency, innovative energy services or any form of renewable energy.

Learn more about

The European Green Deal: bit.ly/3LkXpyH Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH): bit.ly/3JA5SMH DG Energy on Energy Communities: bit.ly/3WCHQbx

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