Best practices from citizen energy communities - insights from the European Citizen Energy Academy

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Girl Power: The role of women in the energy transition

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Who is REScoop.eu?

- European Federation of Citizen Energy Cooperatives
- Not for profit association
- Based in Belgium
- Brussels & Antwerp
- Founded in 2013
- 11 people staff
- 1,500 energy cooperatives (50%)
- 1 million EU citizens
- Sector federation of Cooperatives Europe
- International Cooperative Alliance
What is an energy cooperative?

- Groups of citizens who jointly cooperate on energy transition projects
- Legal entity is not always relevant to refer to a cooperative
- 7 ICA principles
  - Voluntary and open membership
  - Democratic member control
  - Member economic participation
  - Autonomy and independence
  - Education, training and information
  - Cooperation among cooperatives
  - Concern for Community
Gender equality covered by ICA principles

• Voluntary and open membership

  Open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination

• Democratic governance

  One person, one vote

• Education, training, information

  Self empowerment through the socio-economic power of membership
Gender equality charter

- Cooperatives Europe
- REScoop.eu signed the charter as sector organisation

“Cooperatives provide decent employment and help reduce inequalities which affect the most vulnerable people, including women. The equality between women and men and for all is at the core of the cooperative identity and as well as of the European Union.”
What is the main objective of EUCENA?

• Create and share the necessary knowledge to *increase the number* of energy communities in Southeast Europe, paying special attention to *gender justice* and *business model innovation*.

• Support the *diversification* of the citizen energy field in Germany / central Europe in terms of gender and business models.
Citizen energy communities: best practices
“Xenergia”

& ONGAWA

& La Corriente

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Gender tools & instruments

- Advocacy for coherent energy, climate and social policies
  - RED II
  - Gender equality strategy
  - Green Deal, SDGs, NECPs, NDCs

- Language, graphs, design to reduce stereotypes
  - Events for girls, women
  - New instruments and channels
  - Gamification
  - Visibility for women
  - Role models

- Quotas for boards, members
  - Gender balanced panels
  - Speaking time
  - Family friendly organisation

- Internal and external trainings
  - Mentoring
  - Coaching
  - Networks
  - Exchange

- Internal and external analysis of community
  - Boards, members, targets

- Gender analysis

- Gender trainings

- Targets and quotas

- Policy and advocacy

- Communication

- Women’s empowerment & leadership
WE ARE WORKING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
COMMUNITY ENERGY
IN GREECE & EUROPE
Since the director is a legal person, two natural persons of different gender shall be appointed as a representative and its deputy, to complete the assignment on behalf of and for the account of the legal entity.
Keep in touch!