



**CPMR ISLANDS  
COMMISSION**

## **Setting up energy communities in Mayotte: challenges and lessons learnt**

*Clean Energy for EU Islands Forum 2024 - Pantelleria*



## “Demonstration of smart and flexible solutions for a decarbonised energy future in Mayotte and other European islands”

- A Horizon 2020 project which started in November 2020 – End in October 2024
- **11.8 million € budget**
- **22 partners** from 9 countries
- **Objective: decarbonate the energy system in Mayotte and other European Islands**
- **The CPMR Islands Commission in the project:**
  - A network of 18 islands regional authorities, advocating for a better recognition of islands in EU policies and fostering cooperation between islands.
  - Communication and dissemination,
  - Policy work,
  - Best practices exchange with other EU Islands.

Large scale RES deployment



Development of solutions to increase the flexibility of RES



Involvement of local communities through energy communities



Replicability study in 6 other islands



Gozo  
(MT)

Favignana  
(IT)

Madeira  
(PT)

St  
Barths  
(FR)

Gran  
Canaria  
(ES)

La  
Reunion  
(FR)

# A specific socio-economic context



French department of 376 km<sup>2</sup>

13 000\$

Average annual GDP

*Réunion island (27 000\$)*

*Metropolitan France (44 000\$)*

500 000

inhabitants

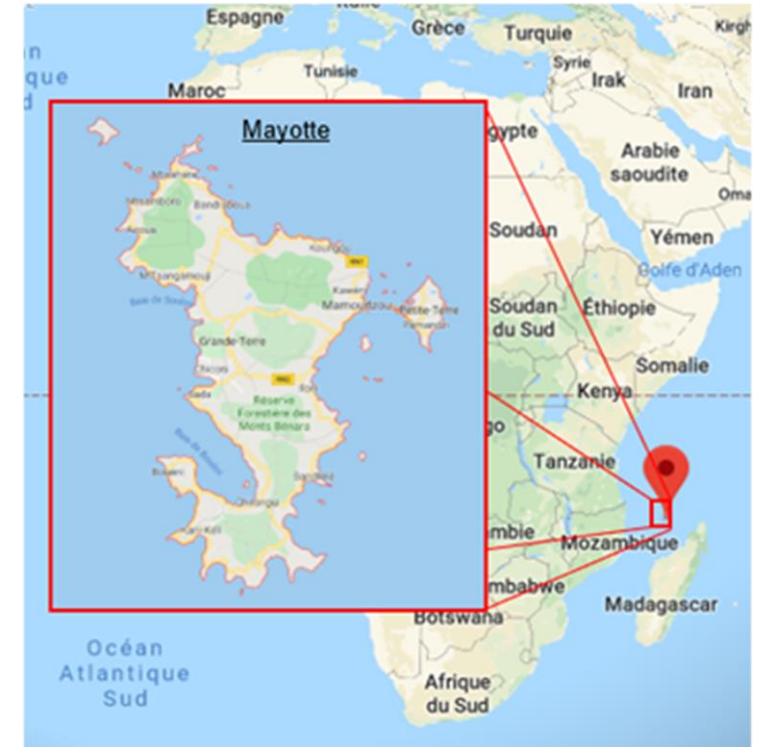
half of them have no  
valid legal status

~80%

of inhabitants live below  
poverty line

1/3 household without water  
1/5 without electricity

4/10 houses are metal sheets houses



# Challenges of energy communities in Mayotte



Vulnerable groups  
& disadvantaged households in  
the Global South

Difficulty to access to  
information

Often lack of technical  
knowledge

No available  
financial  
resources to  
invest

Little time  
available

Extra aspects for  
Mayotte:

Informal settlements:  
legal status & energy  
theft

No smart  
meters

Few private investors

Neighbourhoods not  
that strong  
(huge inequalities:  
mistrust, theft &  
vandalism)

Due to **high investment costs, complexity of connection procedures and lack of appropriate regulatory frameworks**, independent implementation as a **bottom-up initiative** in the Global South is **very hard to realize**.

# How to overcome these challenges?



**Local public authorities** participation, providing:

- Financial support
- Legal existence

## **Solar panels in social housing**

**Installation of solar panels on social housing and temporary housing** in Koungou. Workshops with inhabitants will allow best practices sharing to reduce energy consumption.



**Partnerships with local NGOs** (Apprentis d'Auteuil, Soliha...)

## **Decarbonizing mobility**

**Training of young people** to maintain and repair **e-bikes**, in partnership with local associations; newly trained technicians will then animate **workshops open to public**.



**Different modalities of participation** depending on socio-economic background: work / volunteering

## **Developing new economic activities through solar energy**

**Solar mamas:** training of women to build and maintain solar home systems, allowing them to develop their own economic activity



# Overview of Local Energy Communities (LECs) in Maesha



## 4 Energy Communities created and ongoing



Student Energy  
Community



Electric Vehicle  
Maintenance  
Community



Cooperative Society of  
Collective Interest



Solar Mama  
Community

## 7 Energy Communities about to be created



Repair Workshop  
Community



3 x Solar Social  
Housing Communities



2 x Energy Saving  
Communities



Agricultural Solar  
Community

# Sources



- INSEE, « Les infos clés sur Mayotte », February 2023
- Maesha Deliverable 3.1 « Baseline community, market and ecosystem assessment”
- TUB, “European Islands pioneering the Green transition”, presentation delivered during the EWRC 2022
- Hudara, presentation delivered during the Maesha review meeting, January 2024



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**Thank you for your attention !**

*Contact: Claire Helly, Policy and Project Officer – [claire.helly@crpm.org](mailto:claire.helly@crpm.org)*

[cpmr-islands.org](http://cpmr-islands.org)



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