

ON-SITE WORKSHOP

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS



#CE4EUislands – Workshop: Financing mechanisms for islands' decarbonisation projects with a focus on shared ownership schemes

Date: 18 and 19 September 2024 | 09:00-17:00 | Lesvos | Greece

Venue: Chamber of Commerce and Industry, P. Kountouriotoi 71, Mitilini

Note: *The workshop will be organised back-to-back to the local event “**Clean energy transition of Lesvos – A 100% multi-RES energy system is possible!**” which will take place on September 16th and 17th and will attract the participation of local, regional and governmental representatives, national level authorities, market representatives and utilities. The event will include an afternoon session with a thematic focus on geothermal energy, including a site visit.*

Abstract

The realisation of projects related to the decarbonisation of islands is most often capital intensive and requires significant financial resources. Such projects are usually related to renewable energy production, storage and management systems, and their operation is remunerated according to the operational provisions of the respective electricity market. Additionally, their development is usually supported by financial incentives and subsidies, making them profitable investment opportunities with a good return on investment. Due to this, project promoters are often of national or international origin with accessibility to good financing conditions and technical expertise, but usually with no direct link to the island itself. This translates into the lack of profit sharing of such investments, which has often been a reason of conflicts during the realisation of the projects. In the meantime, financing mechanisms based on the principle of shared ownership and collective investment are becoming more mainstream. Citizen and Renewable Energy Communities have been introduced in EU legislation and in many cases already adopted in the legislation of EU Member States.

In this workshop we will dive into the EU legislative framework for Energy Communities and will assess how this is translated into Member States, especially those with islands. We will analyse existing special provisions for EU islands and discuss what is needed to create an even more favourable legislative framework. We will hear from experts having worked on the establishment of Energy Communities on islands and from members of Energy Communities benefiting from their operation. We will analyse the specificities of collective investment use cases both on renewable energy production and energy efficiency projects. Finally, we will create space for co-working with the participating islands, employing gamification and role-playing activities to simulate the conditions of establishing and operating an Energy Community.

Agenda (version 01/08/2024):

Wednesday 18th September 2024

09:00 – 09:05	Welcome
09:05 – 09:15	Opening remarks <i>Edita Dranseikaite, DG ENER</i>
09:15 – 9:20	Workshop agenda setting <i>Martina Cannata, Project Manager, Secretariat of the Clean Energy for EU Islands Initiative, 3E</i>
Session 1: Training and knowledge sharing	
09:20 – 09:45	Why shared ownership matters? <i>Kostas Komninos, General Director, DAFNI</i>
09:45– 10:15	Financing clean energy transition projects <i>RdA</i>
10:15– 11:00	Legislative framework for collective and shared ownership energy actions and investments Coordinator: <i>Petros Markopoulos, Secretariat of the Clean Energy for EU Islands Initiative, DAFNI</i> EU Policy on Energy Communities <i>Edita Dranseikaite, Policy Officer, DG ENER, European Commission</i> Lessons learnt from Energy Community Legislation in Greece <i>Dimitris Kitsikopoulos, ELECTRA ENERGY</i> Other Funding Mechanisms for Communities <i>Jorge Rodrigues de Almeida, Secretariat of the Clean Energy for EU Islands Initiative, RdA</i>
11:00– 11:15	Coffee break
11:15– 11:45	Establishing an Energy Community – A step-by-step procedure Coordinator: <i>Petros Markopoulos, Secretariat of the Clean Energy for EU Islands Initiative, DAFNI</i> How to Create a Sustainable Energy Community: Lessons from Greece

	<p><i>Dimitris Kitsikopoulos, ELECTRA ENERGY</i></p> <p>The “Roadmap” of the ISLET Project for Establishing Energy Communities on EU Islands</p> <p><i>Konstantinos Karanasios, DAFNI</i></p>
<p>11:45 – 12.15</p>	<p>Examples of Energy Communities – Actions to Address Energy Poverty</p> <p>Introduction: Energy Poverty Advisory Hub – Taking Collective Action to Mitigate Energy Poverty</p> <p><i>Petros Markopoulos, DAFNI</i></p> <p>Taking the First Step: Documenting Energy Poverty among Vulnerable Households in the Municipality of Mytilene and Taking Actions to Alleviate It</p> <p><i>Evi Ouzounoglou, Iliaktida AMKE</i></p> <p>The Case of Porto Energy Hub – via Video Conference</p> <p><i>Rui Pimenta, CEO, Energy Agency of Porto (AdEPorto)</i></p>
<p>12:15 – 13:00</p>	<p>Examples of Energy Communities – Renewable Energy Production Coordinator: Ismini Moustafelou, DAFNI</p> <p><i>Dimitris Katsaprakakis, Minoa Energy Community</i></p> <p><i>Vassilis Filippou, Karditsa Energy Community (ESEK)</i></p> <p><i>Panos Kotsampopoulos, Collective Energy</i></p> <p><i>Hans Bjerregaard, SUSTENANCE EU project, Bjerregaard Consulting</i></p>
<p>13:00 – 13:45</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>

Session 2: Participatory and experiential work

13:45 – 14:45	Samsø's Experience of Energy Transition <i>Through interactive exercises, we will present ways to develop a vision and align it with the urgent nature of local development. We will focus on creating a sense of co-ownership that fosters participation and engagement.</i>
14:45 – 15:30	Implementation of Decarbonisation Projects on Islands – Role-Playing Game <i>Participants will simulate alternative scenarios for implementing decarbonisation projects on a fictional island.</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Create Your Own Energy Community <i>In separate groups, representatives from each island, with the assistance of experts, will prepare an action plan for establishing an energy community on their island</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Conclusions and Final remarks <i>Edita Dranseikaite, DG ENER and Kostas Komninos, CE4EUI (DAFNI)</i>
19:00	Dinner

Thursday 19th September 2024

09:00 – 12:30	Site visit (part A) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thermal power plant in Mytilene (<i>Demonstration and discussion about operational challenges</i>)• Geothermal energy district heating in Polichnitos (<i>Demonstration of pilot installation</i>)
12:30 – 13:30	Thermal spa and light lunch in Polichnitos (<i>Recreational activity</i>)
13:30 – 17:00	Visit to the petrified forest and Natural Museum in Sygri (<i>Recreational activity</i>)
17:00 – 19:00	Site visit (part B) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wind farm in Antissa (<i>Demonstration and discussion about operational challenges</i>)
19:30	Dinner
21:30	Return to Mytilene