



Co-funded by
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1st Online Knowledge Conference

April 09/10, 2025

Guidelines

- Please **mute your microphone** when not speaking.
- **Switch your video on** if you want to speak and while speaking – otherwise please **switch it off**.
- **Data declaration:** Please be aware that your name will be displayed in the list of participants as well as in the chat window.
- **Parts of the conference will be recorded.**
- Please ask (technical) **questions via the chat**.



Agenda – day 1

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 14:00-14:10 | Welcome |
| 14:10-14:30 | ECOEMPPOWER project presentation |
| 14:30-14:40 | Introduction: Collective energy supply and consumption in many flavours |
| 14:40-15:00 | Keynote: Who needs Energy Communities and why? |
| 15:00-16:30 | Roundtable discussion: Expectation vs. Reality: Motivation, impact and what to really expect from Energy Communities |
| 16:30-16:50 | ECOEMPPOWER Community Platform (EECP) presentation |
| 16:50-17:00 | Wrap up and closing |



Agenda – day 2

- 09:00-09:10 Welcome back
- 09:10-09:30 Presenting the outlines of the Group Sessions
- 09:30-11:00 Parallel Group Sessions. Discussion with best practice examples: The needs of Energy Communities and One Stop Shops
- 11:00-11:50 Key takeaways from parallel Group Sessions
- 11:50-12:00 Wrap up of day 2



ECOEMPPOWER project presentation



Cinzia Morisco

**ECOEMPPOWER Project Coordinator
Fondazione Bruno Kessler**



ECOEMPPOWER project

ECOsystems EMPOWERing at regional and local scale supporting energy communities

Cinzia Morisco, Project Coordinator



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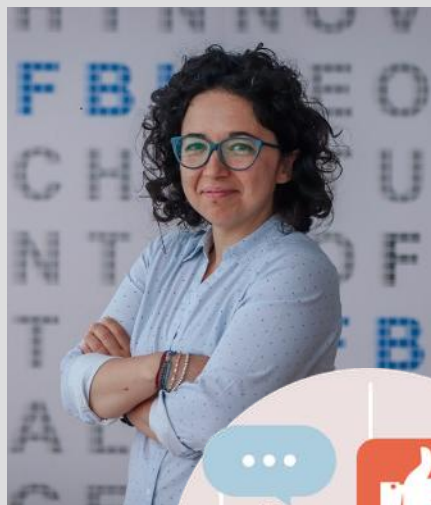
FIRST
INTERNATIONAL
KNOWLEDGE
CONFERENCE

April 9th, 2025





Cinzia Morisco



09/10 April 2025

Center for **SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

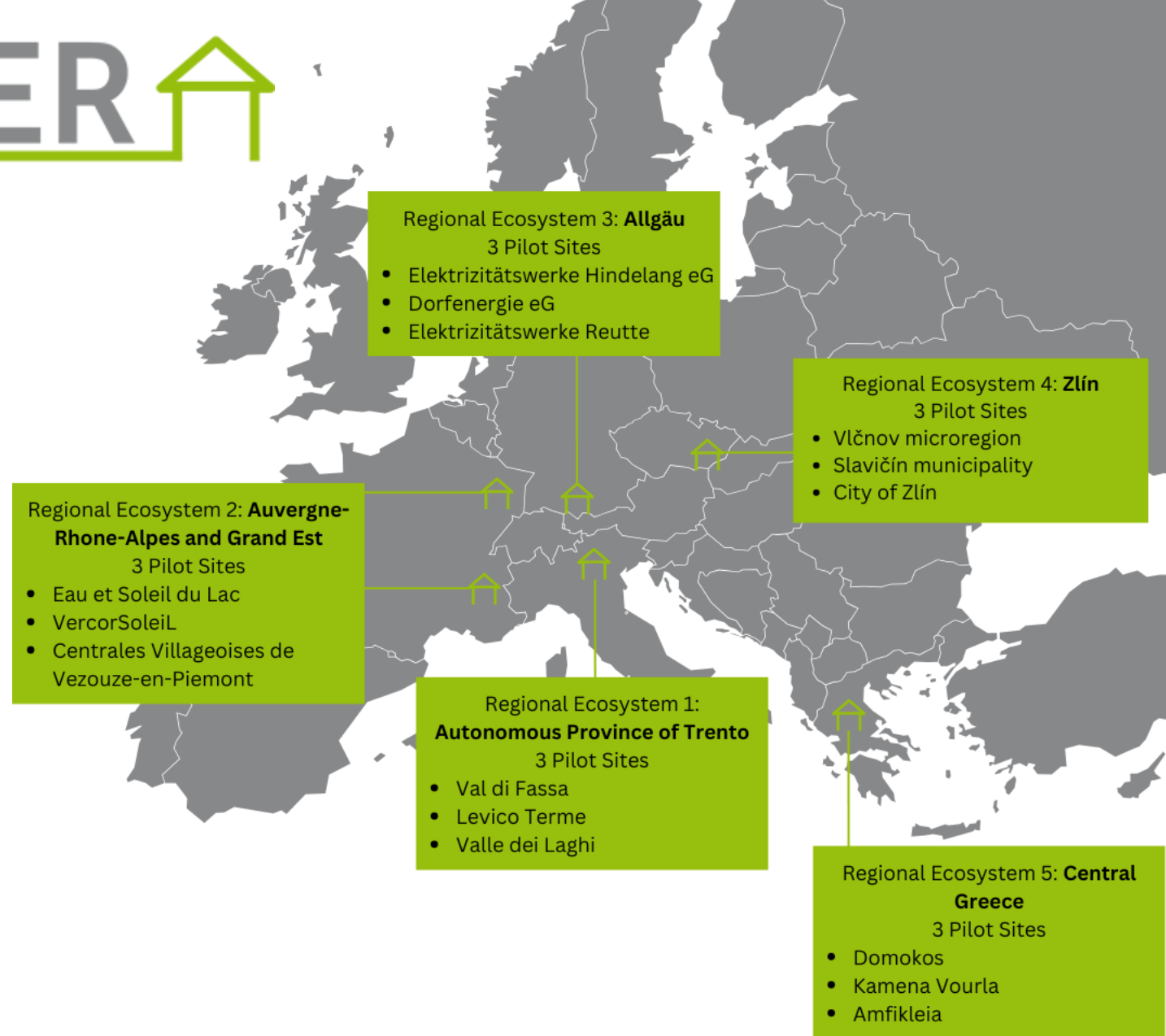


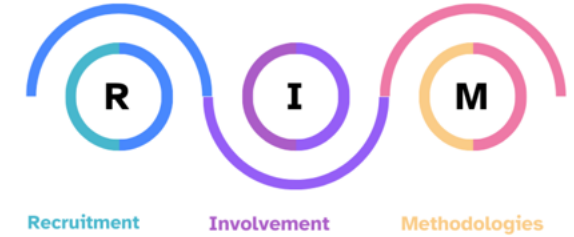


- 1 Create the One Stop Shops for energy communities
- 2 Equip OSSs with tools and services
- 3 Assist & Support RECs (and potential RECs)
- 4 Multiple RECs and OSSs

1 Create the One Stop Shops for energy communities

- Stakeholders' engagement
- Proximity





2 Equip OSSs with tools and services



CATEGORIES

- Awareness raising, facilitation and communication
- Capacity building
- Networking
- Project development assistance
- Aggregation of projects, cooperation frameworks
- Assistance to policy developments

ECOEMPPOWER TOOLS

- **ICT Tools** (soon available)
 - Energy Forecasting tool
 - Cost Benefit Assessment tool
 - Energy Modelling tool
- **Social engagement** framework and tools
- **Policy frameworks** and **business models**

3 Assist & Support RECs (and potential RECs)



4 Multiple RECs and OSSs

- Take part and promote ECOEMPPOWER, the OSSs and the **energy transition**
- Offer tools and a framework to potential OSSs
- SPREAD THE WORD

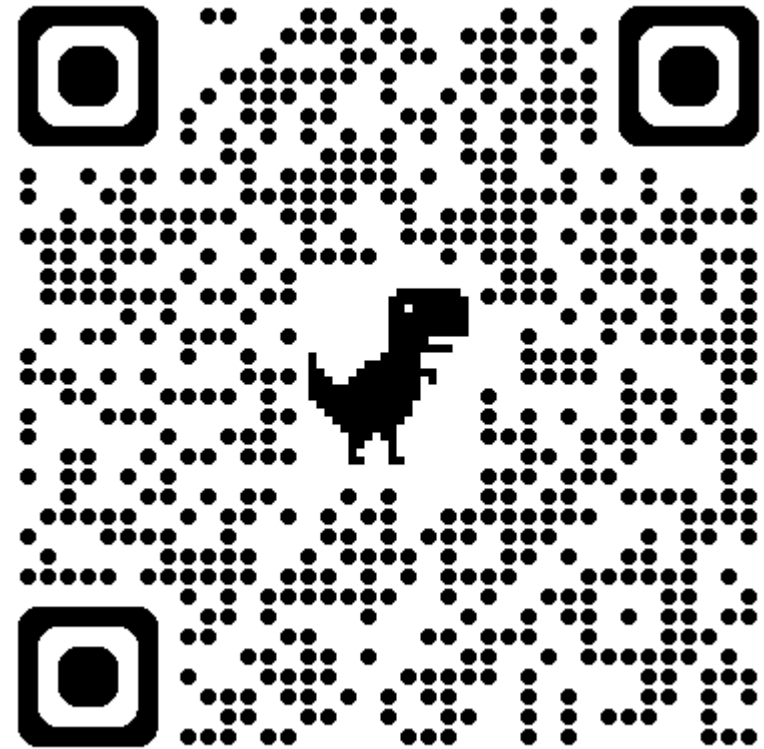


Citizen Participation: Exploring legal, social and technical dimensions in energy communities

- It actually works!
- What is the benefit?
- What to expect legally?
- Which legal entity make sense?
- What types of participation are there?
 - Stakeholders
 - Financial
 - Organizational

Find our **new policy brief** here:

https://ecoempower.eu/Resources/Policy_Briefs



QUESTIONS?



Thank you!



ECOEMPPOWER



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CENTER FOR
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

FONDAZIONE
BRUNO KESSLER



B.A.U.M.



digitizing energy



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO

09/10 April 2025



Auvergne
Rhône-Alpes
Energie Environnement

Regional Ecosystem 2: Auvergne- Rhône-Alpes and Grand Est

3 Pilot Sites

- Eau et Soleil du Lac
- VercorSoleil
- Centrales Villageoises de Vezouze-en-Piemont



Centrales
Villageoises
Association



Energie- und
Umweltzentrum Allgäu

Regional Ecosystem 3: Allgäu

3 Pilot Sites

- Elektrizitätswerke Hindelang eG
- Dorfenergie eG
- Elektrizitätswerke Reutte



ENERGETICKÁ AGENTURA
ZLÍNSKÉHO KRAJE, o.p.s.

Regional Ecosystem 4: Zlín

3 Pilot Sites

- Vlčnov microregion
- Slavičín municipality
- City of Zlín

Regional Ecosystem 1: Autonomous Province of Trento

3 Pilot Sites

- Val di Fassa
- Levico Terme
- Valle dei Laghi



PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI TRENTO



Regional Ecosystem 5: Central Greece

3 Pilot Sites

- Domokos
- Kamena Vourla
- Amfikleia



16

Introduction: Collective energy supply in many flavours

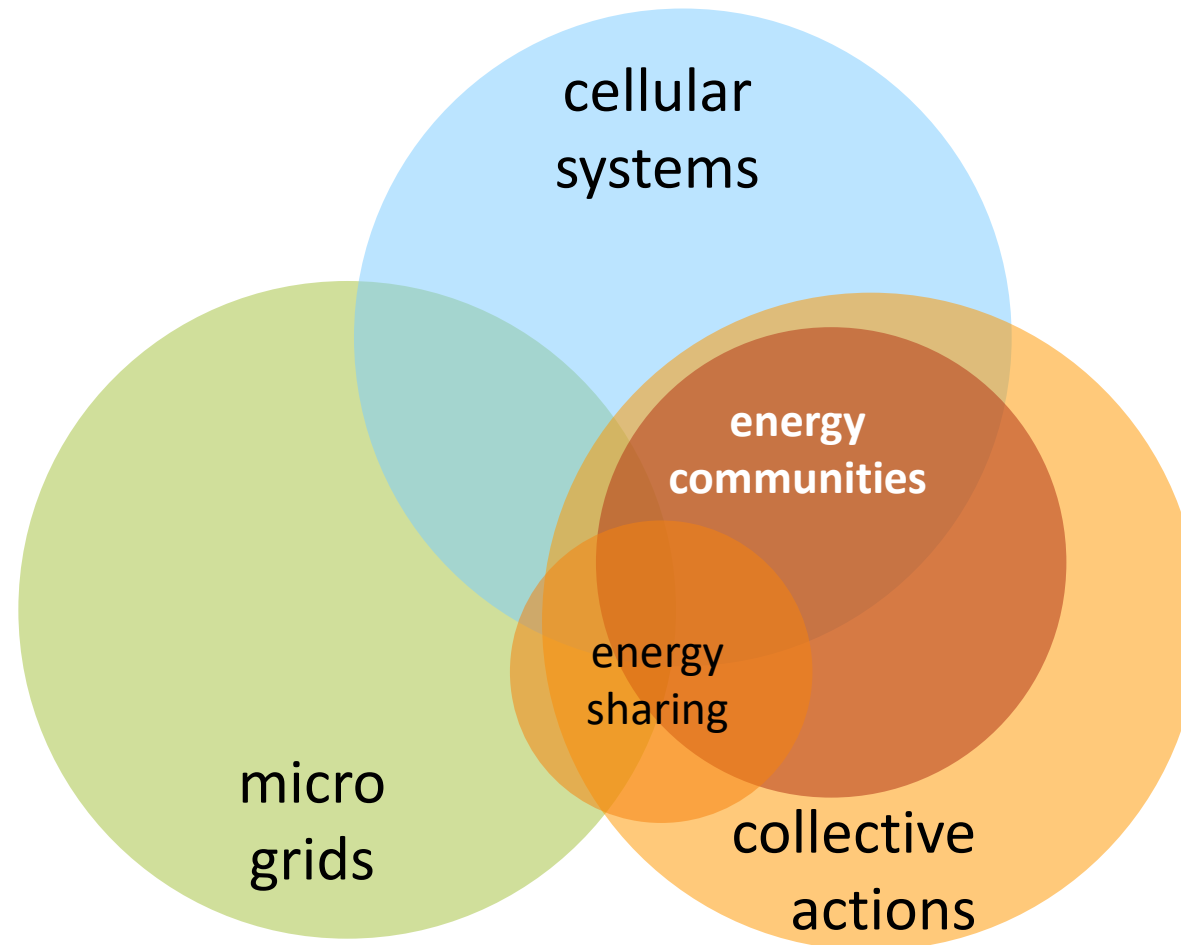


Ludwig Karg

B.A.U.M. Consult



Going decentral in the energy system



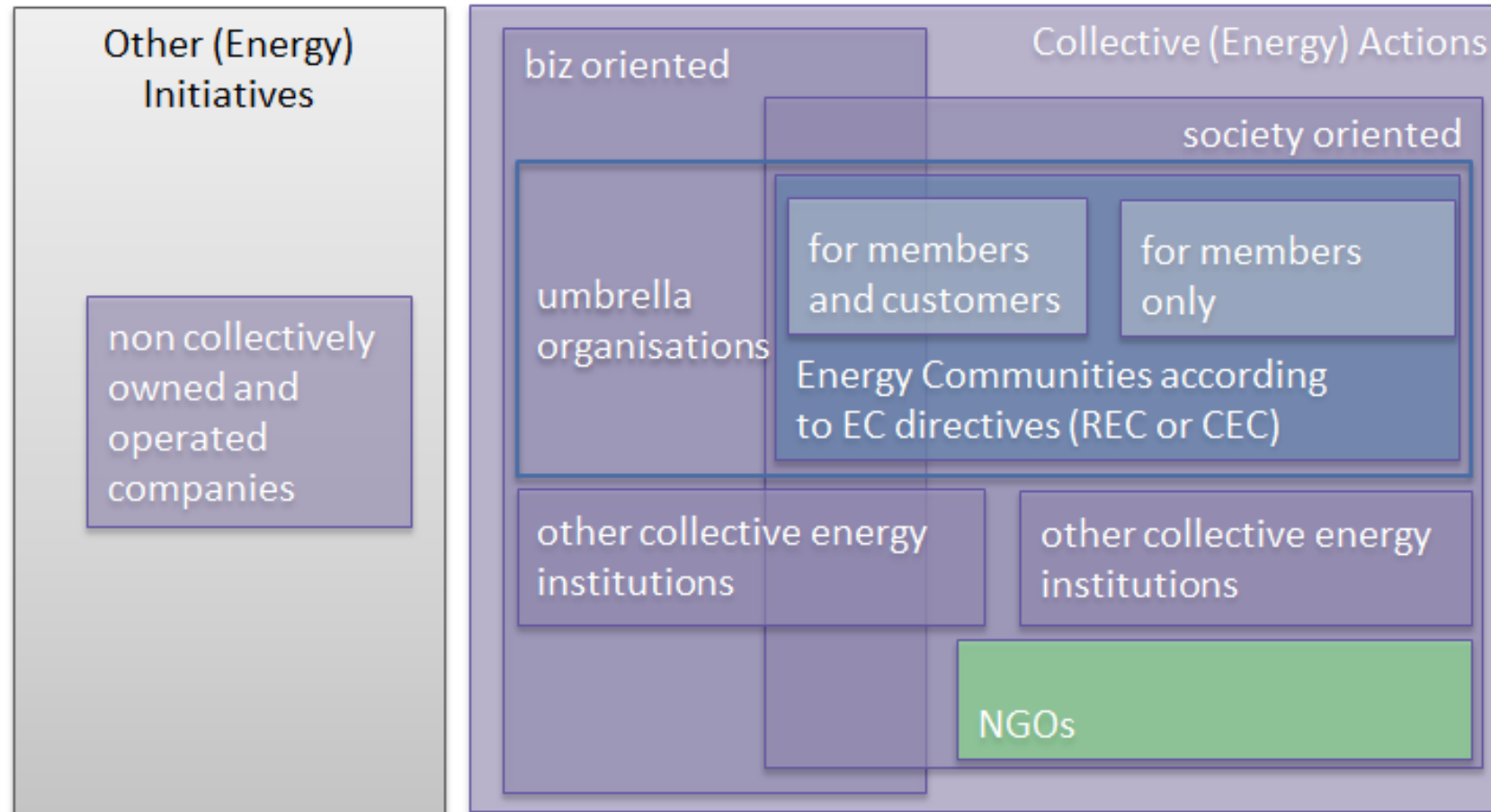
Collective actions in many flavors

	Class	Name	
●	1	Collective generation and trading of electricity	all types of territorial or commercial groupings of generators – whether active on the market or under feed-in mechanisms (often called Virtual Power Plants)
● ●	2	Generation-Consumption Communities	certified sourcing of electricity in a closed group of generators and consumers - not necessarily in proximity but including local or regional energy markets
● ●	3	Collective residential & industrial self-consumption	generation, storage and consumption in residential cases with multiple dwellings; includes Tenant-Power (Mieterstrom) - models
● ●	4	Energy positive districts	districts with residential and business entities operating their energy supply systems under their own regime
● ●	5	Energy islands	real islands or parts of the distribution system that can be operated standalone (e.g. cellular system as in SINTEG, holonic model as in PolyEnergyNet)
●	6	Municipal utilities	existing organizations for energy production, supply and grid operation under citizens' control – directly (e.g. cooperative) or indirectly (e.g. controlled by local government)
	7	Financial aggregation and investment	a “community” of investors joins to scale the amount of or manage the investment in generation systems (without further involvement in organisation etc.)
	8	Cooperative Financing of Energy Efficiency	citizens jointly investing in efficiency means of SMEs and municipalities, possibly in their own region (e.g. contracting / ESCO, crowd-funding)
●	9	Collective service providers	all types of commercial groupings of energy services (e.g. grouping of EV charging stations, aggregation of demand side management services)
	10	Digital supply and demand response systems	all types of digitally controlled energy systems (e.g. implemented with blockchain), these days possibly operated as a sandbox-model

- potentially linked with energy sharing
- potentially linked with **microgrid**



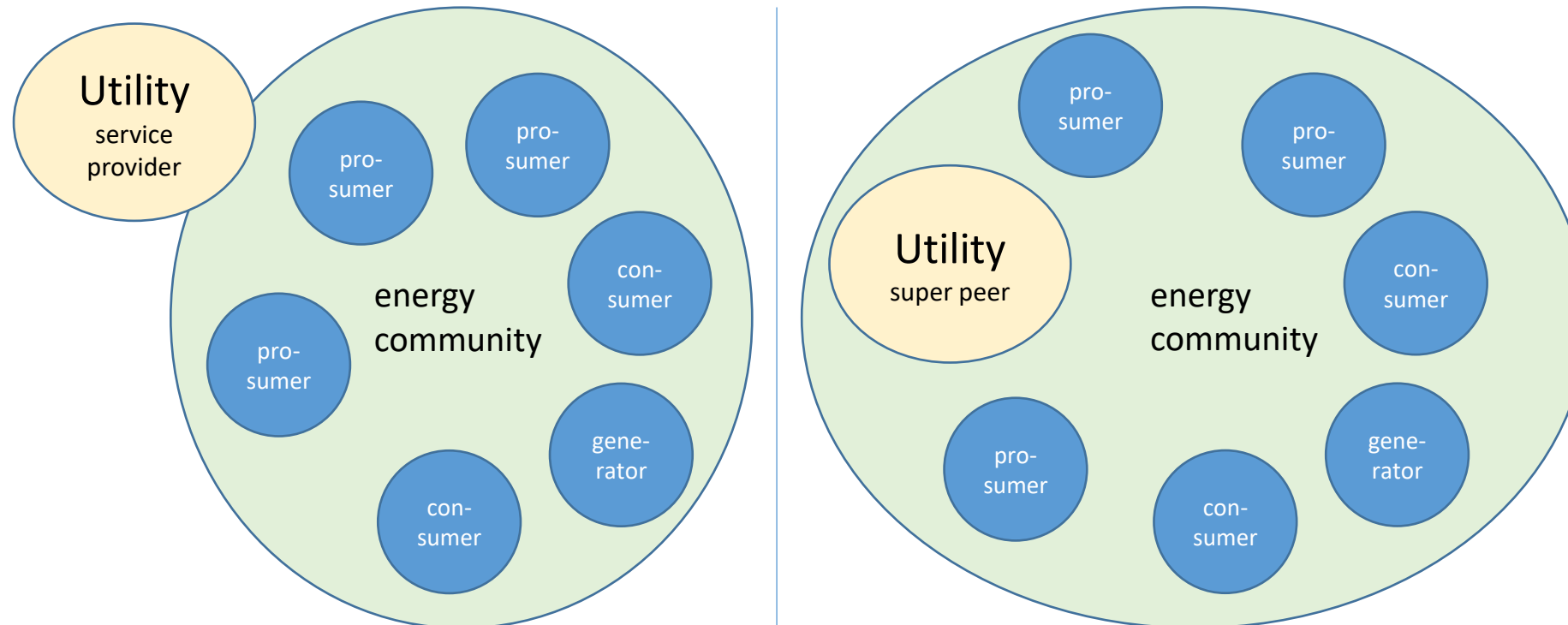
Many flavors of collective actions



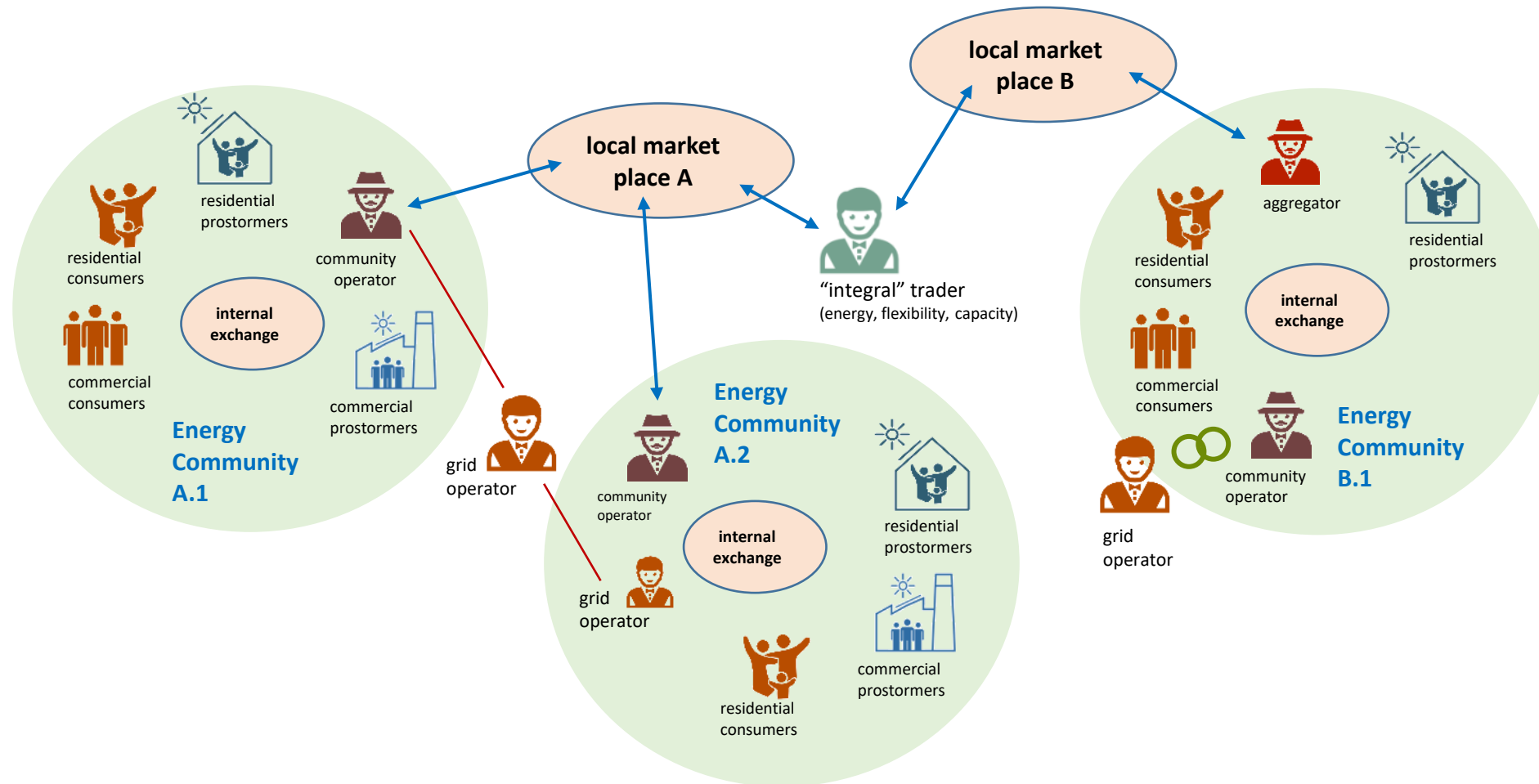
decide4energy.eu



Utilities and Energy Communities



Energy Communities and local market(place)s



Keynote: Who needs Energy Communities and why?



Loïc Cobut

Policy Officer FEDARENE



Why do we need energy communities and collective actions?

Dr. Loïc Cobut

Policy Officer, Fedarene



Why do we need energy communities and collective actions?

- To tackle the EU democratic deficit.
- Collective institutions function with State and Market logics.
- Include locally embedded citizens.
- Meeting energy justice requirements
- More democracy and more sustainability >< closed, opaque, and carbon-intensive energy system.
- Push for transformative ²⁵ social and institutional innovation.
- **They pretend to provide solutions to the poly-crisis world in which we live.**



Who needs energy communities and collective actions?

The European Union:

- RECs increase informal citizen participation.
- RECs help closing the energy transition financing gap.
- The EU already finances several REC-related projects.

Citizens:

- They may own energy infrastructures and benefit from them.
- Affordability and energy independence objectives.

26

Energy utilities:

- RECs increase the social acceptance of RES.

Municipalities & Regions:

- RECs bring energy expertise locally.



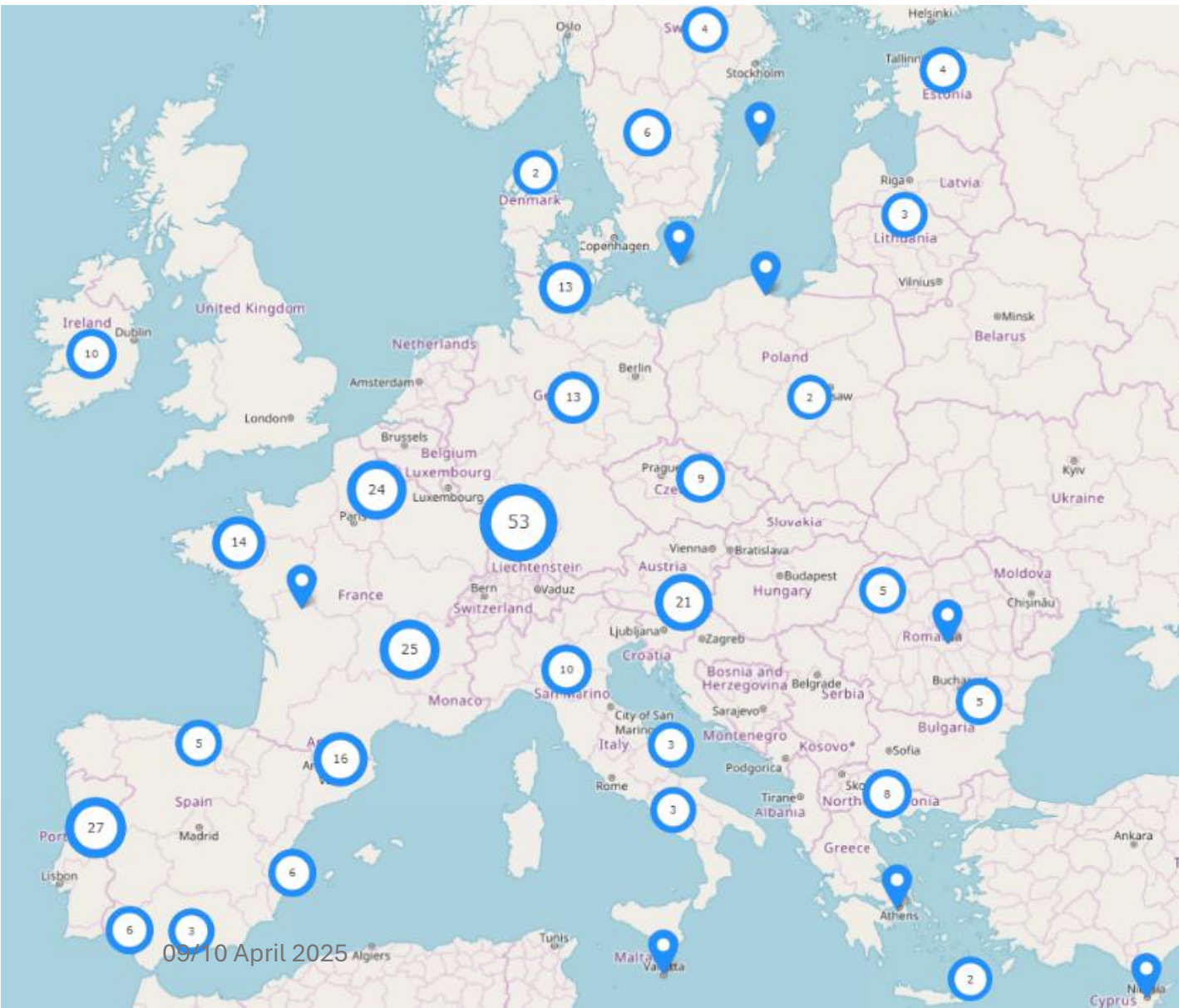


EU regions and energy actions

Regional energy agencies are recognised in EU law:

- In the REPowerEU Action Plan as “**single entry point for energy projects**”.
- In the EE Directive as relevant stakeholders to shape **long-term planning tools**, to **raise awareness**, and manage **energy audits**.
- In the EPBD as **key actors for delivering the renovation wave**.

The Energy Agency Workforce in Europe (data from 2023)



320+ Local and Regional Energy Agencies in Europe

Avg. staff of agencies

17 (in 2017: 11)

Total workforce in EAs

3600 - 4000

(in 2017: 2400-2800)

(2554 Survey participants, in 2017: 1653)

EU regions and citizen-led energy actions

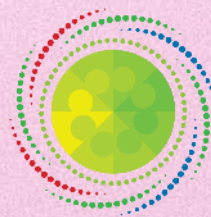
Regional energy agencies:

- Fedarene projects:

Participate in
(EU) initiatives
to foster and
scale up
RECs.

Develop skills
as REC
facilitator.

ENERGIZE+



ConnectHeat
Community engagement for clean heat



One stop shops for REC projects

Different types: Regional/Provincial Energy Agencies, RECs, Federation of RECs, non-profit organisation, NGOs, EU projects-related actors.

Main mission: facilitating REC implementation processes.

Services provided:

- ✓ Information, knowledge and know-how sharing.
- ✓ Stakeholder engagement.
- ✓ Financial, legal, IT, administrative and technical support.
- ✓ Capacity building.
- ✓ Technology-neutral advisor.
- ✓ Feasibility studies.
- ✓ Site-specific knowledge.
- ✓ Build trust with local communities.

30



Empowering energy communities across Europe



Support at least 140 energy communities to develop and implement solid business plans.

- Access to trainings and capacity building.
- 45000 euros per project to develop a solid business plan.
- Mapping OSS for RECs
- Check our eligibility criteria and do not miss our first call during this summer!

Citizen Energy Advisory Hub (CEAH)

The **Citizen Energy Advisory Hub (CEAH)** is a 3-year initiative that will run until December 2027 under the European Commission (7.5 million EUR).

Capacity building and technical assistance

- **120 citizen energy initiatives** receiving direct technical assistance
- **10 capacity building workshops** tailored to diverse stakeholders
- **27 Citizen Energy Panels** (one per EU MS) to enable citizen dialogue

Networking and peer-to-peer opportunities:

- **2 large public conferences**
- **A Citizen energy network**

Website with publishable outputs:

- **Country fiches on all EU Member States'** legal and policy frameworks
- **60 best practices** compiled to encourage replicable solutions
- **20 guidance documents** to enable citizen energy project development
- **Interactive map** of citizen energy projects across the EU
- **Quarterly newsletters**

Technical Assistance

CEAH offers free technical assistance (TA) to 120 beneficiaries.

- **Key elements:**
 - Assisting beneficiaries to enhance their citizen energy projects
 - Relevant in-country experts are matched to selected based on knowledge requirements, competencies (local/national), geographic experience among other factors.
 - Kick-off meetings to explain the goal, scope of support and procedures of the project.

How CEAH Will Guide Beneficiaries?

March - October 2025

20 awareness-raising meetings including:

- EU-level info session
- 10 information sessions in local languages

December 2025 – April 2026

2 open calls for TA applications:

- December 2025 – January 2026
- April 2026 – May 2026

March 2026 – End of Project

TA delivery supporting 120 beneficiaries with citizen energy projects

- 20 Pilots: up to 50 expert days; full TA support.
- 40 Learners: 30 expert days; moderate support across 2–3 TA types.
- 60 Followers: 15 expert days; limited support across 1–2 TA types.

The horizon of RECs

No-one really has the full spectrum!

REC movement: a powerful societal vision?

- Solution-providers?
- Poor social basis in comparison to other grassroots movements.
- Forever stuck at the margins of an incumbent-led energy sector?

Remaining barriers?

- Simplification and new trend for centralisation.
- OSS as a new enabling institutions.

Citizen Energy Package?

- Increase the facilitator power of OSS.
- Design EU energy governance to embrace local specificities.
- The emergence of RECs: *Make it more a process than a struggle.*



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

loic.cobut@fedarene.org

Panel: Who needs Energy Communities and why?



Katharina Hartmann
DG Ener



Benoit Badin
Eau & Soleil du Lac



Lisa Strippchen
dena



Sergio Olivero
Energy Center of the
Politecnico di Torino



Debora Cilio
RSE



Peter Ugolini-Schmidt
Elektrizitätswerke
Schönau



Karolina Vitkova
EAZK



Christos Christodoulou
NTUA



Cinzia Morisco
Fondazione Bruno Kessler



Loïc Cobut
FEDARENE



Our Topics

- (1) The raison d'être of energy communities – or: why we need them
- (2) Types and purposes of Energy Communities
- (3) The benefits for the energy system
- (4) The benefits for regions and municipalities
- (5) The benefits for countries and Europe as a whole
- (6) Frameworks to foster the development of ECs in the EC



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ECOEMPPOWER Community Platform (EECP) presentation



Carlos Ayon Mac Gregor

B.A.U.M. Consult



The ECOEMPPOWER Community

...and the ECOEMPPOWER Community Platform (EECP)



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Table of contents

- The ECOEMPPOWER Consortium
- The ECOEMPPOWER Community Platform
- Vision and purpose
- ECOEMPPOWER Community Working Groups (i.e. internal organisational structure)
- Target groups and organisational ecosystem (from the ECOEMPPOWER perspective)
- ECOEMPPOWER Tools and Services
- The path ahead

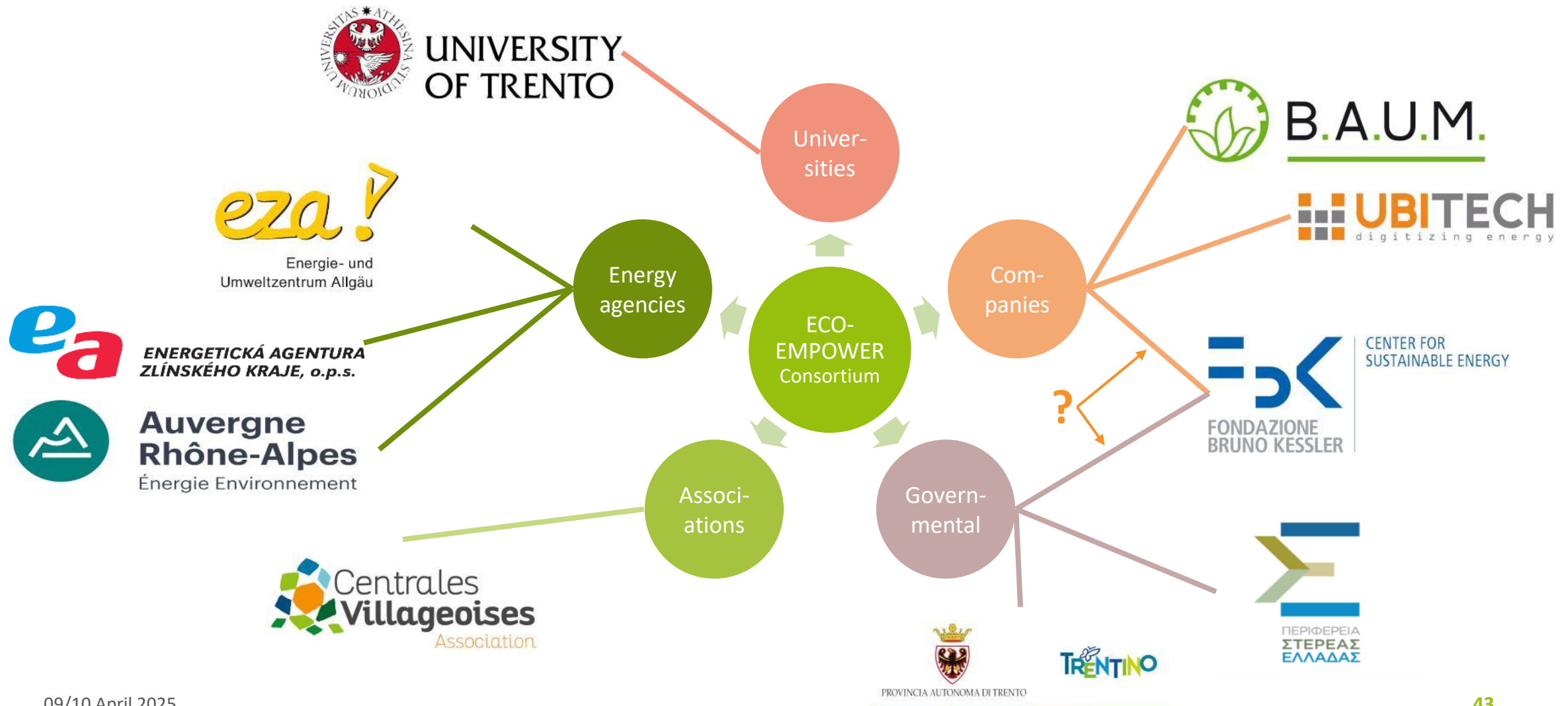




The Consortium

The ECOEMPOWER Community is about people... so,
who are we?

What type of partners form the foundation of our community?



The ECOEMPOWER Community Platform (EECP)

Sharing knowledge and working together to provide
services to One Stop Shops and Energy Communities

Yet another platform?

- Perhaps!
- We aim to assess how such a platform can be **sustainable beyond the project's lifetime**
- By facilitating information and knowledge-related **services to One Stop Shops (OSS) and Energy Communities (EC)!**
- A platform to **invite people** into the conversation
- **...and collaborate** for the formation of ECs!



Vision & purpose

Envisioning our existence beyond the project's lifetime

Why do we want to build a community?



Facilitate communication
among public authorities



Enabling the establishment
of successful energy
communities



Support capacity building
activities



Disseminate project results



Invite external parties into
the conversation

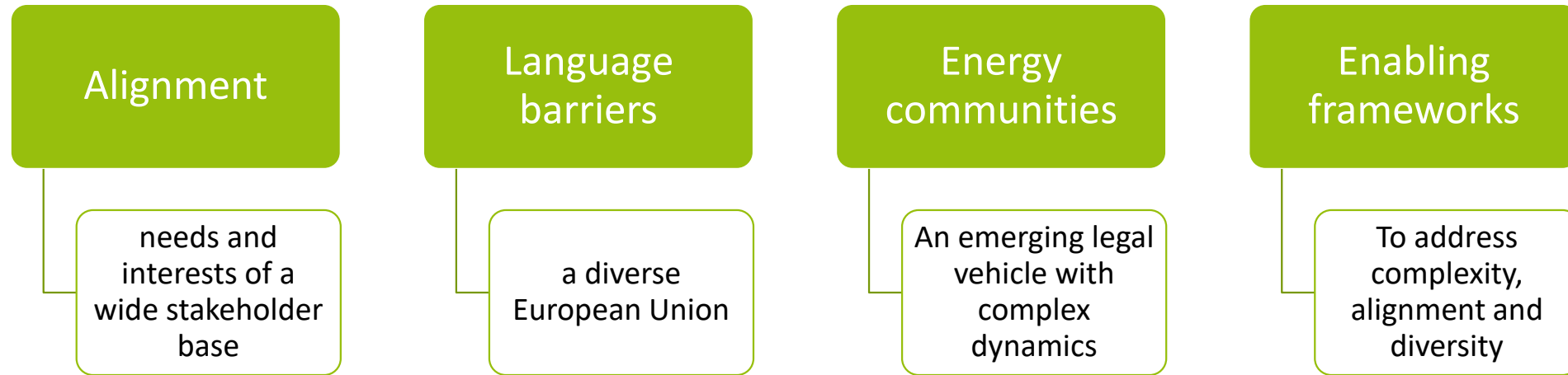


Motivate other regions to
adopt our approach



The rough road ahead...

Challenges



EECP Working Groups

Starting with a simple, flexible and strong organisational structure

The Platform's working groups

- An **easy entry point** into the conversation
- Supported by a **dedicated management team**
- **Open and flexible structure** to redefine the working groups as needs and opportunities emerge



EECP Groups – tailored to project work!

- A **simple interface** for EECP group work
- **Tailored** to working group needs
- Facilitating **knowledge sharing, networking and collaboration** opportunities
- As well as a **simple working methodology**

For moderators to inform members of important news

Message board



To facilitate dissemination and collaboration

Documents



To structure working group meetings and activities

Upcoming events



For all possible topics, and enabling open conversations on group activities

Discussion



A complete list of EECP group members

Members

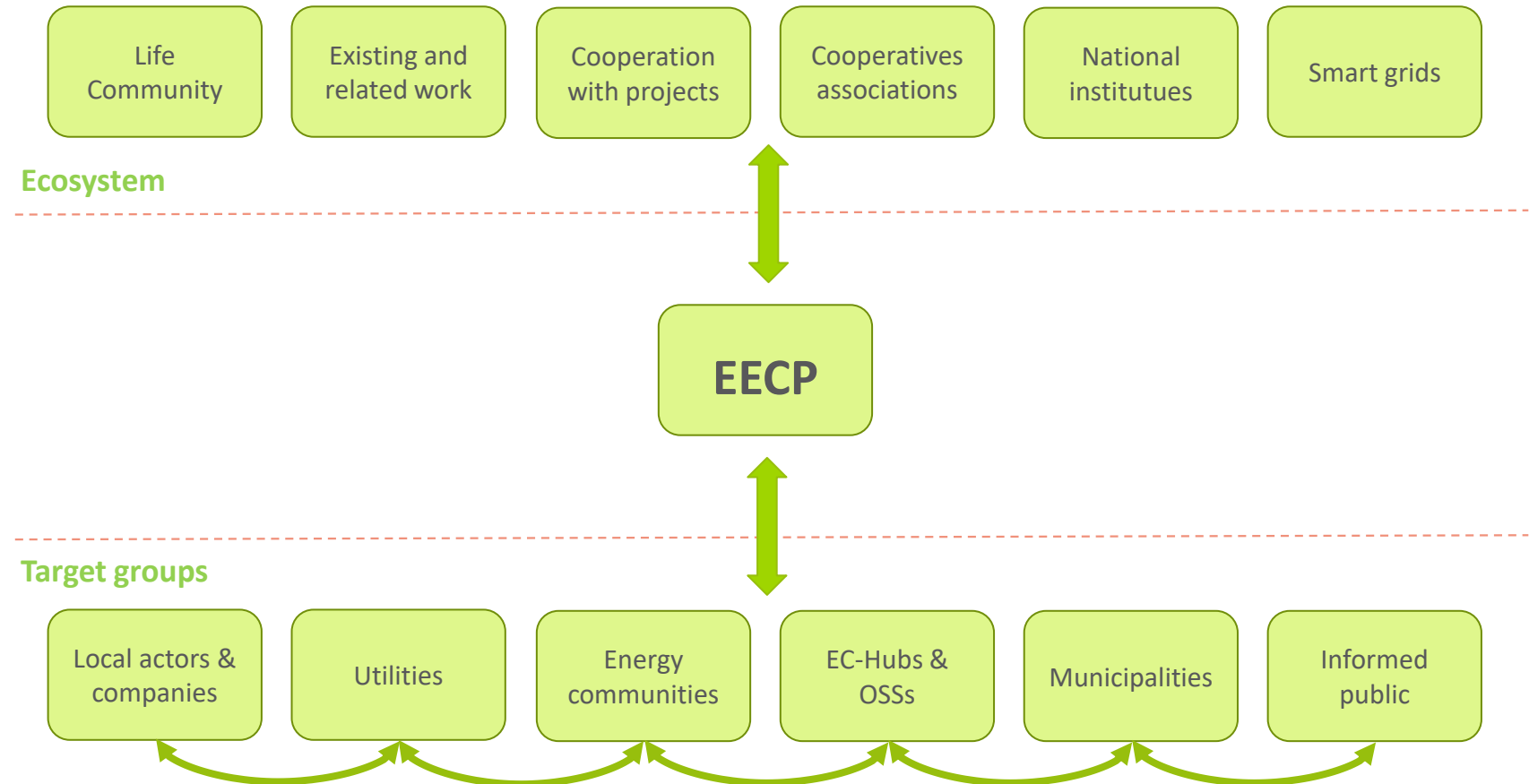


Target groups and organisational ecosystem

Improving horizontal and vertical stakeholder
interactions

New links in the ecosystem – networks of people and organisations!

- There are **many projects and organisations** working on the topic of energy communities
- Each works on the people-centred energy transition by **contributing in different ways**
- We mainly **promote horizontal links** at local and regional levels
- **While linking these to the vertically-influencing organisations**



ECOEMPOWER

Tools & Services

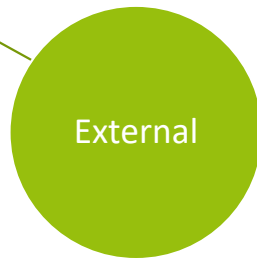
Facilitating the formation of Energy Communities
through the assisted formation of One Stop Shops

The Toolbox – tools for Energy Communities and One Stop Shops

Today



- Social indicators dashboard
- Business modelling tools

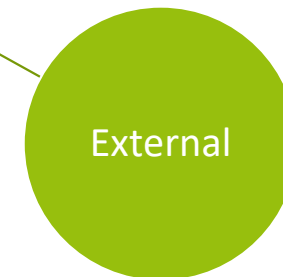


- Morphological box
- Maturity and scalability tool

Tomorrow



- Energy and ICT tool
- Checklist for local and regional authorities
- White book for local and regional framework improvement
- One Stop Shop service guidelines
- ...



- ???



The path ahead

Upcoming activities to engage interested members from outside the project

An invitation to join the EECP Groups!



1. Building up the horizontal network relationships & Identifying links to ecosystem actors
2. How to use and implement ECOEMPPOWER TOOLS
3. Where to start and how to continue implementing energy community services
4. Creating stories for target group and ecosystem actors
5. Continuously develop the language of the ECOEMPPOWER landscape
6. Establish, adapt and monitor EECP group activities



Thank you & welcome to the EECp!

c.ayon@baumgroup.com

www.ecoempower.eu/Community_Area



Agenda – day 2

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Presenting the outlines of the EECF Group Sessions

Sarah Huber & Ludwig Karg

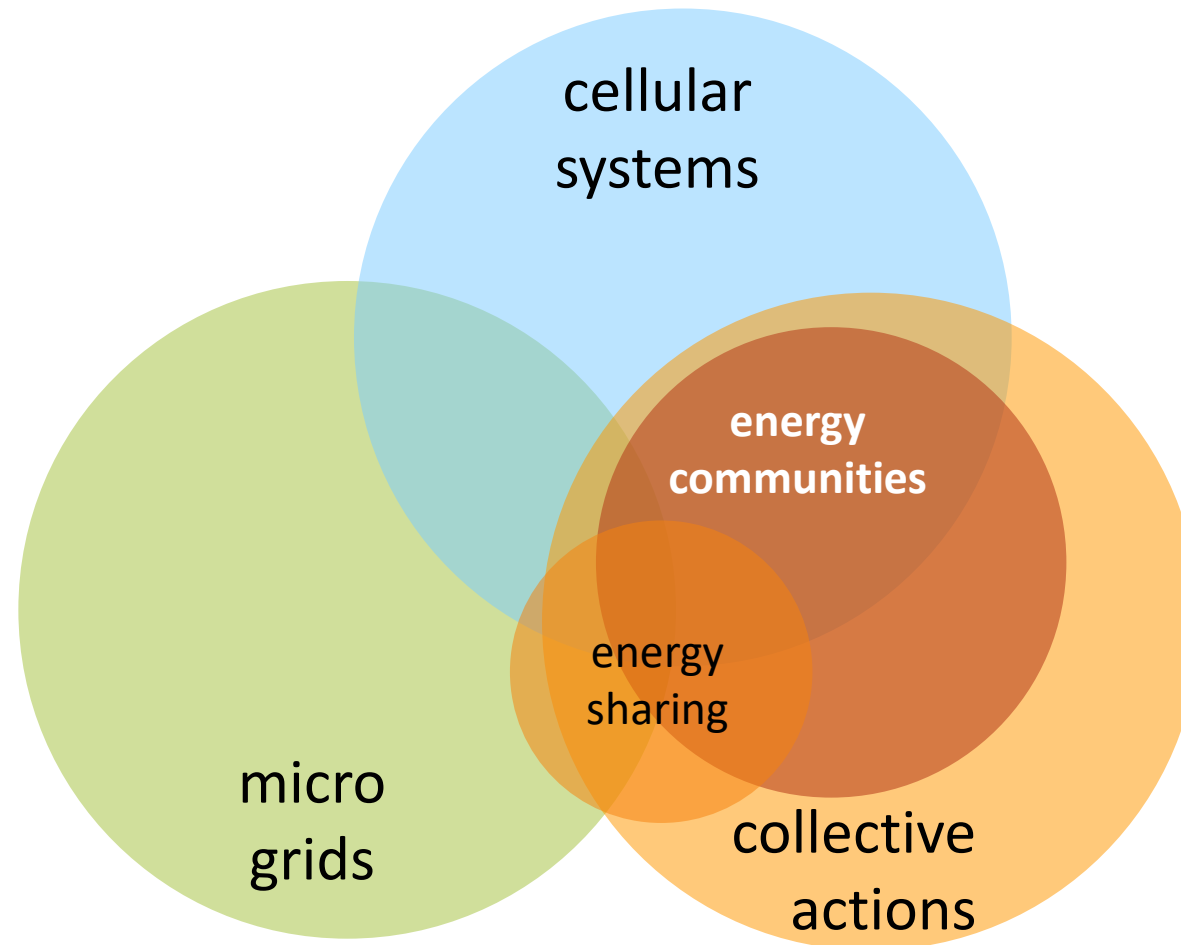
B.A.U.M. Consult



Introduction: Energy Communities and One Stop Shops



Going decentral in the energy system



Our Scope

Energy Communities

- defined by EC directives
- economic + societal / environmental goals
- local (REC) or wide-spread (CEC)
- electricity and beyond
- many flavors, often with energy sharing

One Stop Shops (for Energy Communities)

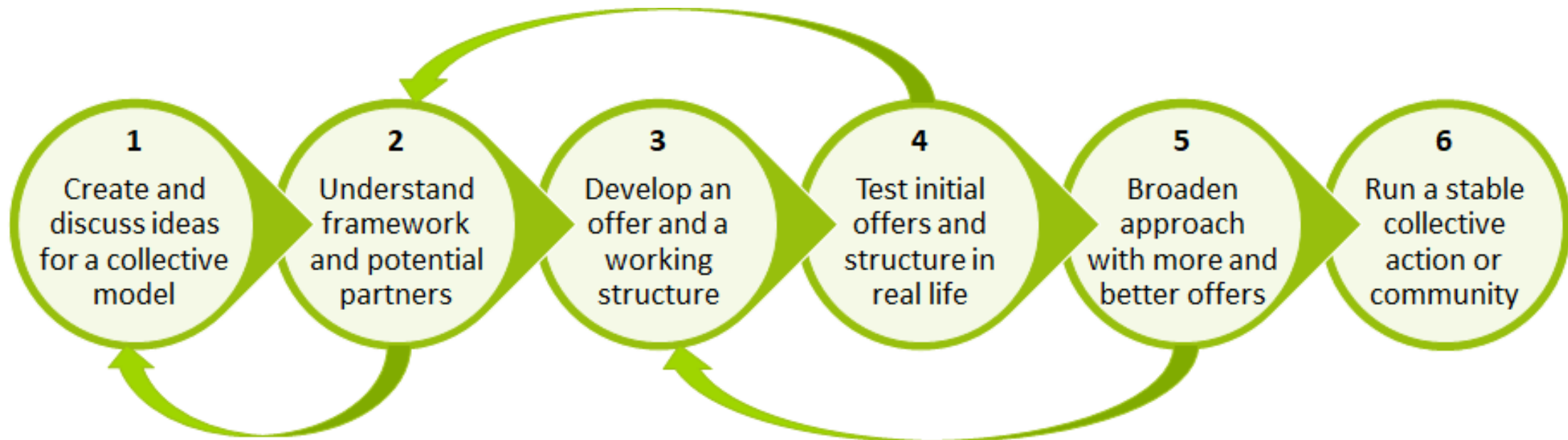
- diverse support for Energy Communities (and other types of collective actions)
 - preparation
 - initiation
 - activation
 - operation
 - collaboration
- local or regional scope
- mostly supported or led by public authorities



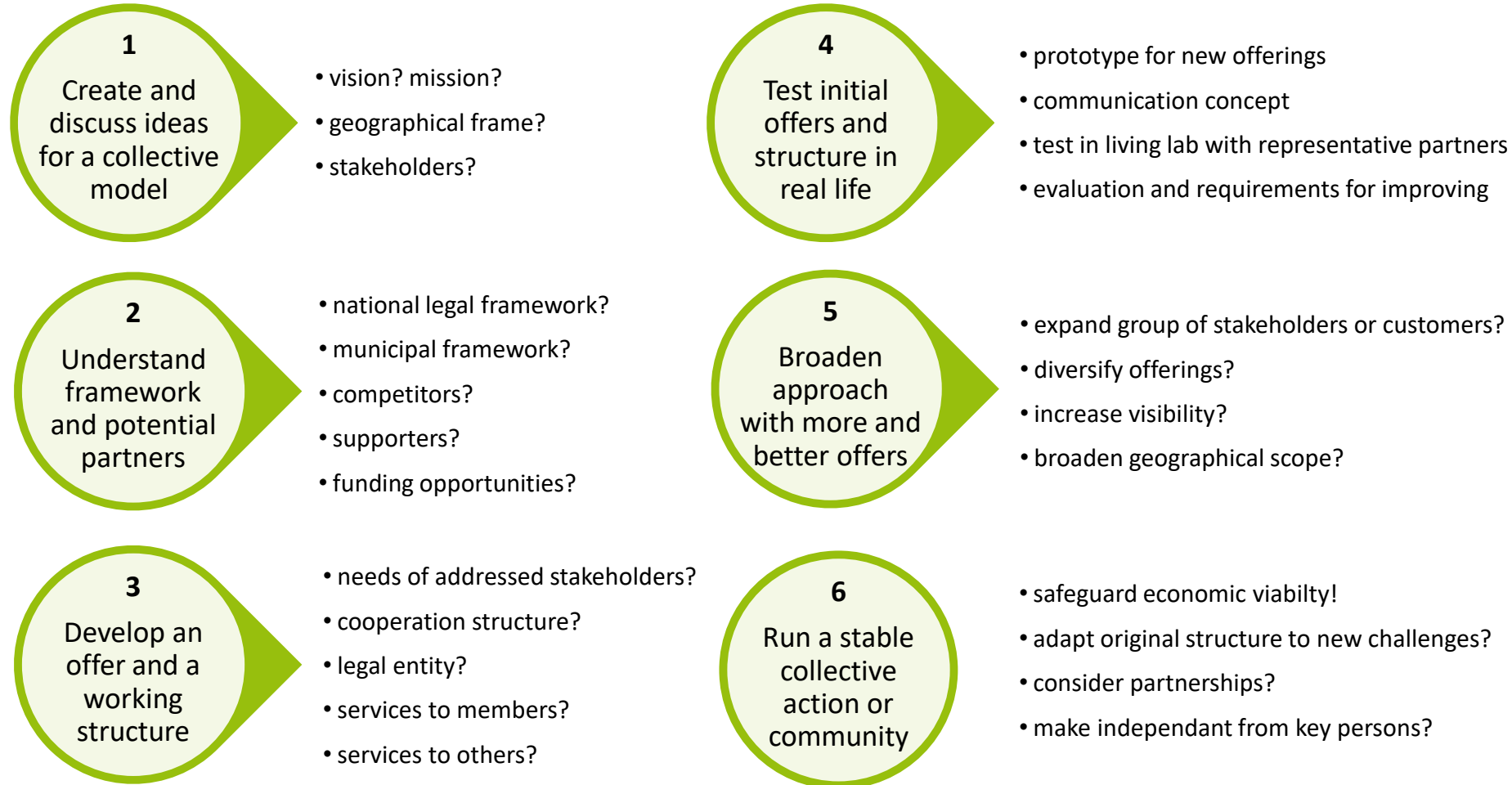
A structured process to success ...

... of collective actions in general

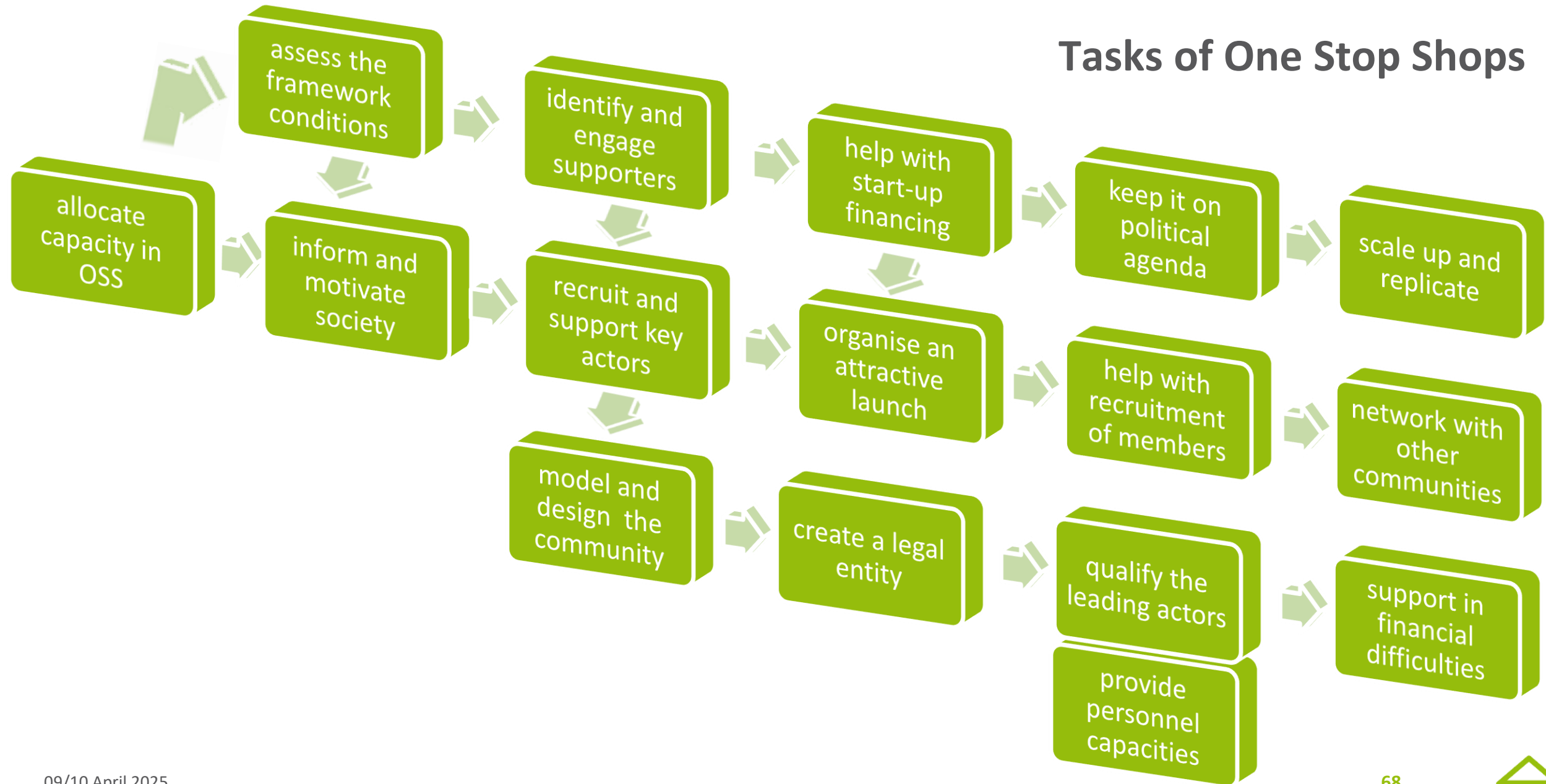
... of Energy Communities in special



Developing an Energy Community



Tasks of One Stop Shops



Parallel EECP Group Session in Breakout rooms



Groups for Breakout Sessions

- **Group 1 on One Stop Shops**

Moderators: **Juliette Rasse** (Association Centrales Villageoises) & **Naomi Levannier** (AURA-EE) with best practices **Association Centrales Villageoises** and **Provincia Autonoma di Trento**

- **Group 2 on Energy Communities**

Moderators: **Teresa Notz** (eza!) & **Carlos Ayon Mac Gregor** (B.A.U.M. Consult) with best practices **Elena Stopelli**, **Società cooperativa impresa sociale KönCeRT** and **Jean-Eric de Rango**, **Vercors Soleil**



Structure of the Session

1. Join the breakout rooms.
 - a) Group 1 on One Stop Shops (OSSs)
 - b) Group 2 on Energy Communities (ECs)
2. A presentation of two very good practices in each group.
 - a) OSSs: Association Centrales Villageoises (Juliette Rasse) & Autonomous Province of Trento (Massimo Plazzer)
 - b) ECs: Jean-Eric, VercorSoleiL & Elena Stopelli, Società cooperativa impresa sociale KönCeRT
3. Q&A session
4. Joint work on the miro board in the groups.
5. At 11:00 h come back to the plenum.



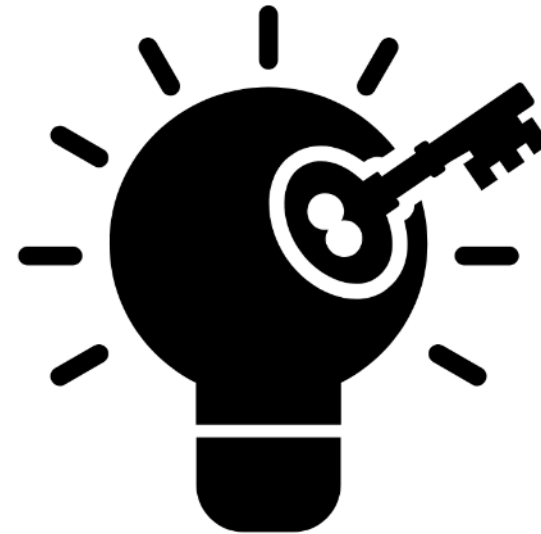


**5 minutes coffee break for participants
and preparation time for moderators**



Welcome back to the plenum!

- What are your key takeaways from the parallel sessions?



Thank you!
Feel free to check
out our
ECOEMPOWER
Community
Platform (EECP)!





**Co-funded by
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The project ECOEMPOWER - ECOSystems EMPOWERing at regional and local scale supporting energy communities receives funding from the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) under Grant Agreement n°101120775.

All information provided reflects the status of the ECOEMPOWER project at the time of writing and may be subject to change. All information reflects only the author's view and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained in this publication.

