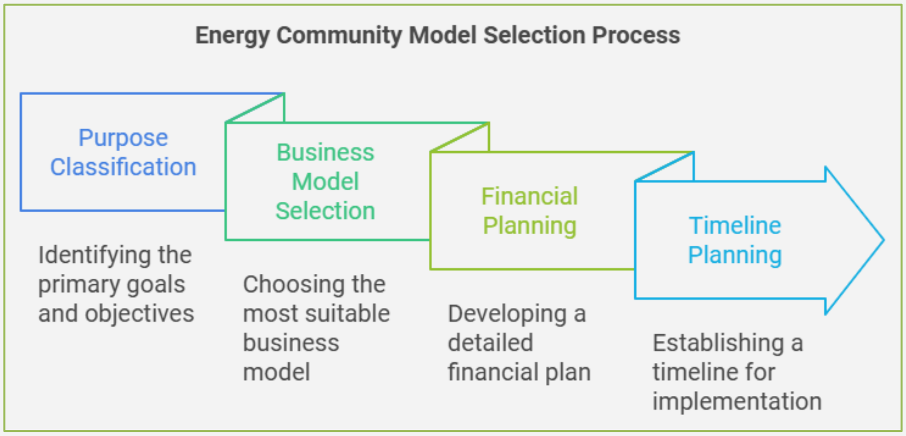
Empowering Energy Communities: Business Modelling Tools for Community Formation and Growth

Introduction

The deliverable presents a structured approach to assist emerging energy communities in understanding essential organizational forms and business models for sustainable operation. In addition, related work includes supporting documentation for OSSs to easily implement the approach, addressing the success factors, business model classifications and organisational forms; and including templates for financial and timeline planning. This integrated tool aims to bridge knowledge gaps, helping communities build resilient and efficient energy initiatives.

What This Deliverable Achieves

- Develops 10 Business Models and 9 Organisational Forms based on purpose and structure. Assesses combinations thereof.
- Provides an example of a Business Model Canvas (BMC) for each business model.
- Outlines financial and timeline planning tools to aid in creating 5- to 10-year business plans.
- Enables OSSs to offer tailored advice for newly established and existing energy communities.
- Enables energy community managers to envision the potential of their energy communities!



How We Developed This Framework

1. Comprehensive literature review on cooperative energy practices.

2. Consultations with pilot sites and OSSs to assess model applicability.

3. Stakeholder feedback incorporated into refining business models and planning templates.

Insights From Our Research

- Successful energy communities hinge on clear purpose, community engagement, and adaptable business models.
- Classification into 10 distinct purposes allows tailored approaches to generation, investment, and energy management.
- Effective financial and timeline planning strengthens long-term viability and resilience of energy projects.

Practical Applications

Real-World Impact: Applying This Framework

→ For Local Authorities: Offers policy insights and operational frameworks to support community-driven energy projects.

→ For Energy Communities: Practical steps for structuring models, establishing business plans, and achieving energy goals.

→ For Financial Institutions: Provides tools for evaluating the viability and sustainability of investment-based energy projects.

Discover More and Get Involved

For further details on establishing robust energy communities, access the full deliverable (Deliverable D4.1 - Classification and Business Models for Energy Communities) and utilize the Support Document and planning templates available. These tools are invaluable resources for energy professionals, OSSs, and policy makers aiming to empower sustainable energy communities.

ECOEMPOWER