

Collection of Indicators for Assessing Social Impact and Guidelines for Their Measurement



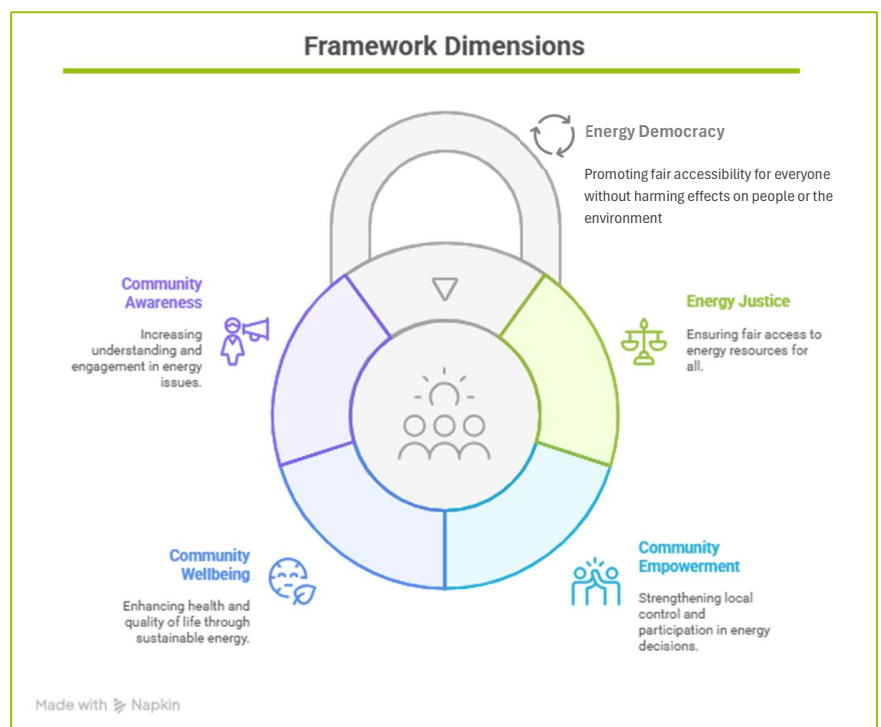
Introduction

D3.3 develops a comprehensive framework to evaluate the social impacts of energy communities, complementing their economic and environmental assessments. Through qualitative and quantitative methodologies, it proposes indicators across five key social dimensions, supporting stakeholders in fostering inclusive, democratic, and resilient energy models. The approach combines literature reviews, stakeholder consultations, and pilot studies in five European countries to adapt indicators to diverse contexts.

What This Deliverable Achieves

- Defines five key dimensions of social impact: energy democracy, energy justice, community empowerment, community wellbeing, and community awareness.

- Proposes specific, measurable indicators for each dimension.
- Provides practical guidelines for applying these indicators in varied European contexts.
- Highlights the role of energy communities in fostering inclusivity, participation, and social cohesion.
- Supports stakeholders in integrating social impact monitoring into energy community development.



How We Defined These Indicators

- Literature review on social impacts of energy communities.
- Stakeholder consultations across Europe.
- Data collection in pilot sites through templates, surveys, and qualitative observations.
- Analysis of participatory governance, inclusivity, and local engagement.

Insights from Our Research

- Democratic governance and shared ownership are essential but challenging to achieve equitably.
- Energy justice requires targeted efforts to engage marginalized and underrepresented groups.
- Empowerment involves both skills development and meaningful participation in decision-making.
- Community wellbeing benefits from inclusive, transparent energy initiatives but faces trade-offs.
- Awareness campaigns, education, and information accessibility drive engagement and sustainable behavior.

Real-World Impact: Applying This Framework

- For Policymakers: Use indicators to design inclusive, equitable energy policies.
 - For Energy Practitioners: Apply guidelines to monitor and improve social impacts of projects.
 - For Community Leaders: Foster community empowerment and awareness through targeted engagement strategies.
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Discover More and Get Involved

For a deeper understanding of this framework, access the full deliverable on the ECOEMPOWER website. Contact the ECOEMPOWER partner Vincenzo D'Andrea at: vincenzo.dandrea@unitn.it

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