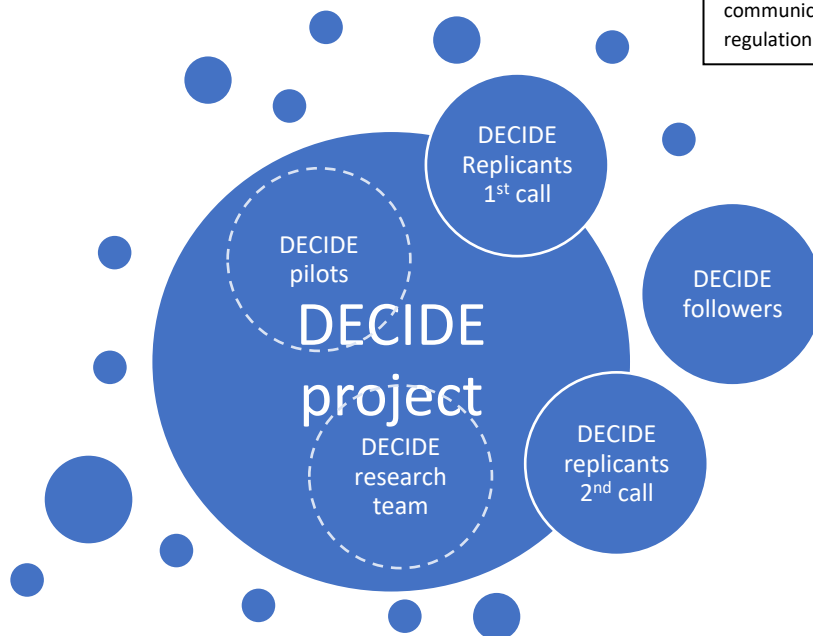


Call for Expression of Interest for DECIDERS

The DECIDE H2020 project

DECIDE (Developing Energy Communities through Informative and collective actions) is a Horizon 2020 project that started in May 2020 and lasts until May 2023. It aims to better understand how energy communities and collective energy actions are established, managed, grown and replicated. Within the project our social scientists work with pilot projects to identify which kind of communications and interactions work best to **encourage participation** in energy communities and collective actions for specific types of individuals and groups, and to test and support **the knowledge transfer across pilots and selected Replicants across Europe**. In addition, DECIDE follow, analyze and influence development of enabling frameworks (regulation, business models, stakeholder engagement etc.) for energy communities and collective actions across EU, in order to find the optimal recipe for success of such initiatives. The DECIDE project's objective is to contribute to an **increased uptake of energy services, measures and products** that can be applied within energy communities or collective actions in EU. This objective will be reached via **active transfer of expertise** and supporting material, from existing initiatives and DECIDE pilot sites to the already operational diverse emerging initiatives that will learn from and grow together with **DECIDE activities, DECIDE Replicants (DECIDERS)** and followers. On the DECIDE Knowledge Hub, accessible through the website, factsheets, reports, guidelines and other important sources are available for everyone. The **Coffee shop** is a virtual environment exclusive for DECIDE pilots and DECIDERS that allows motivated existing and evolving communities and collective actions to mutually benefit from their experiences. Within the Coffee Shop, each DECIDER will be working together with a DECIDE pilot in a **Tandem** to accelerate their Energy Community / Collective Actions.

Experts investigate social dynamics, communication, business models and regulation to favour the uptake of EC/CA



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 894255. The sole responsibility for the content of this document lies with the DECIDE project and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union.

Announcement of the Call for Expression of Interest for DECIDE Replicants

The DECIDE project is pleased to announce a **Call for Expression of Interest for DECIDE Replicants**. The Call for Replication has been launched on **28th February 2022** and will close on **13th May 2022**.

DECIDE will assess applications on a **rolling basis**, hence interested initiative are invited to submit their application as soon as all required documents are collected. An early application will benefit from the possibility to participate in DECIDE initiatives including:

- Learn more about engagement and effective communication through the series of workshop on Communication reserved for pilots and deciders only (starting on 3rd March 2022)
- Showcasing their experience in public Workshop and Webinar (one per month)
- Contribute to the development of DECIDE documents

The purpose of the call, application process, qualification process and making sure applicants meet the basic requirements is explained below.

Purpose of the Call

The aim of this Call for Expression of Interest for DECIDE Replicants is to identify and involve in DECIDE project collective energy initiatives which are keen to experiment new approaches and share lessons learned with the existing seven DECIDE pilot sites and eleven DECIDE Replicants selected in the first call. With such collaborative approach we hope to accelerate growth and replication of energy communities and collective energy actions across the EU. The focus lays on fostering and supporting replication with interested parties willing to collaborate mutually and support above identified DECIDE objectives.

The DECIDE Replicants will have the chance to participate in DECIDE project through:

- Collaboration with their peers in the existing seven pilots and already involved eleven DECIDE Replicants
- Working on regulatory barriers, social-science-based issues and evolving their business cases with the help of pilots and the research team.
- Participating in capacity building workshops and webinars aimed at awareness raising on best practices for user engagement, regulatory framework and business models.
- Participation in an online collaboration tool to exchange good and bad practices and experiences with other DECIDE pilots, Replicants and followers through DECIDE Coffee Shop¹ and Knowledge Hub².
- Co-Creation of the Coffee Shop to fit the needs of the DECIDE Replicants and Pilots
- Implementation and testing of lessons learned to help improve understanding on optimal enabling framework for implementation of energy communities and collective actions across EU.

The complete list of possible benefits and expected engagement of Replicants in DECIDE project is given in the example Memorandum of Understanding (Annex 1 of this document). While DECIDERS participation is voluntary,

¹ Coffee shop is an online platform for exchange of best practices, discussion and knowledge transfer among pilots, Replicants and followers.

² Knowledge Hub is an online platform for exchange of existing publication and practices related to energy communities and collective actions across EU, from H2020 projects, EU and national initiatives, not exclusive to DECIDE project findings.



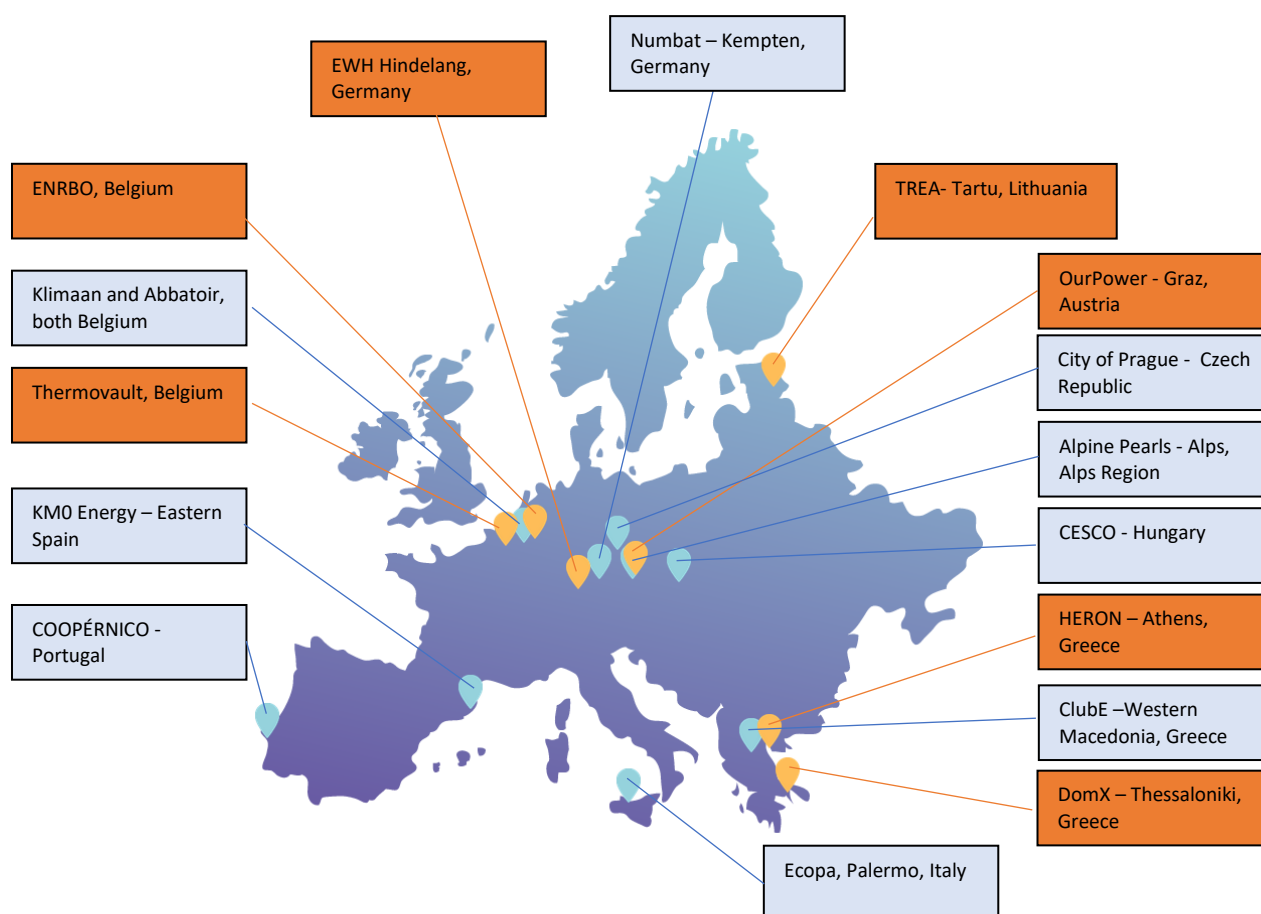
the more the DECIDERS are participating in the DECIDE project, the better advice they get and the more detailed they can work on their problems.

The call is open to any energy community or collective action established in an EU Member State or an associated EU country. Existing DECIDE practices and lessons learned are focused on energy communities and collective actions from our seven pilots and Replicants as detailed below. With this call we are looking forward to further inclusion of DECIDERS. With the increased number of involved DECIDERS we can enhance and broaden the knowledge, help more initiatives grow their energy communities or collective actions and identify examples that can be further replicated as well.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 894255. The sole responsibility for the content of this document lies with the DECIDE project and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union.

The DECIDE initiatives – Pilots and DECIDERS



Application Process and Schedule

Call opening	28 th February 2022
Advisory period for replicants during which questions are answered	28 th February – 21 st April 2021
Explanatory webinar which will be published on DECIDE YouTube channel ³ to explain the details of the call and respond to questions	31 st March
Deadline for registration of Expressions of Interest and Submission of the Application form and relevant documentation	13 th May 2022, 17:00 CEST
Evaluation period of applications by the DECIDE consortium based on the qualification criteria	15 th March, 15 th April, 13 th May
Welcome the new Replicants	24 th May 2022

³ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYDGz3jATbn28TCMGi-HREQ?app=desktop&view_as=subscriber



This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 894255. The sole responsibility for the content of this document lies with the DECIDE project and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union.

The Qualification Criteria

To qualify as a DECIDE Replicator, an applicant needs to fulfil the following qualification criteria:

1. Applicant organization and activities under energy community or collective action are located in EU Member State or in a country associated to Horizon 2020.
2. Is active either as energy community (Renewable Energy Community⁴, Citizen Energy Community⁵) or as collective action based on the self-assessment tool (such as collective generation and trading of electricity, energy cooperative, generation-consumption communities, collective residential & industrial self-consumption, energy positive districts, energy islands, municipal utilities, financial aggregation and investment, cooperative financing of energy efficiency, collective service providers, digital supply and demand response systems).
We provide a self-assessment tool⁶ to check if your initiative is identified as an energy community or collective action.
3. Energy community or collective action is already established or offers a solution on the market or with very high technology and market readiness level (TRL \geq 8, MRL \geq 8).⁷
4. Energy community or collective action provides the willingness to actively engage in the project activities as indicated in the MoU.
5. The signed MoU with indicated contact person is part of the application.
6. Energy community or collective action activities benefits a target community. Applicant provides at least one Letter of support from local public entity or other stakeholders representing the interest of the local community.

Evaluation process

Since the admittance of new DECIDERS is happening on a rolling basis, candidates are chosen based on availability of possible collaborating partners within the pilots or the 1st call DECIDERS and their willingness to contribute to DECIDE. The evaluation process will take into account that up to 20 chosen Replicants present geographical variety across EU and technologically variety among Replicants.

More Information and Advice

For more information and advice for preparing your Expression of Interest, please contact Valeria Eirin from the DECIDE project via mail: info@decide4energy.eu or have a look on our FAQ⁸.

⁴ [Directive \(EU\) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Sources](#)

⁵ [Directive \(EU\) 2019/944 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on common rules for the internal market for electricity and amending Directive 2012/27/EU](#)

⁶ Link to self-assessment tool on the website

⁷ <https://www.cloudwatchhub.eu/exploitation/readiness-market-more-completing-software-development>

⁸ Link to FAQ



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 894255. The sole responsibility for the content of this document lies with the DECIDE project and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union.