



Beyond energy communities: Collective energy actions for a faster, inclusive and diverse energy transition

Overview of the status of the transposition of the EU directives in EU member states

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decide4energy.eu

Which Clean Energy Package articles are we talking about in the context of collective energy actions?

- Article 21 RED2 **(jointly acting) Renewables self-consumers**
->“collective self consumption”
- Article 15 EMD: **Active consumers**

Focus on activities

- Art 22 RED2: **Renewable Energy Communities (RECs)**
- Art 15 EMD: **Citizen Energy Communities (CECs)**

Organizational format, governance, autonomy

	Jointly acting RE-self consumers	Renewable Energy Communities	Active consumers	Citizen Energy communities
Spatial boundaries	<i>same building or multi-apartment block or, where permitted by a MS other premises</i>	<i>Proximity of members</i>		
Activities on markets				
Third party ownership	<i>But: Third parties no RE-self-consumers</i>		<i>But: Third parties no active consumer</i>	
Activity not primary commercial or professional				

Country	Renewable energy communities	Citizen energy communities	RES-self consumers	Active consumers
Austria	✓	✓	✓	-
Belgium: Wallonia	✓	-	✓	
Belgium: Flanders	✓	-	✓	✓
Belgium: Brussels	✓	✓	✓	-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	
Croatia	draft	-	-	-
Cyprus	draft	draft	-	-
Czech Republic	-	-	-	
Denmark	-	✓	✓	
Estonia	✓	✓	-	-
Finland	✓	✓	-	✓
France	✓	✓	-	
Germany	-	-	✓	-
Greece	no clear vision on active consumers			
Hungary				
Ireland				
Italy				-
Latvia	✓			
Lithuania	✓	-	-	-
Luxemburg	✓	-	✓	-
Malta	✓	-	-	-
Netherlands	✓	-		
Portugal	✓	-	-	-
Poland	✓	-	✓	
Romania	-	draft	-	-
Slovakia	-	draft	-	-
Slovenia	✓	✓	✓	-
Spain	✓	-	-	-
Sweden	draft	draft	-	-





<https://energycommunitieshub.com/>



Country assessments (1)

- Focus of transposition was on Renewable Energy Communities as they resemble the known concept of energy cooperatives
- Citizen Energy Communities were transposed by range of MS, but with no clear vision how they could operate
- Relation between RECs and CECs often not defined, CECs as umbrella for RECs?
- REC frameworks are mostly focused on electricity, no clear framework for heat/sector coupling
- Active consumers hardly transposed

Country assessments (2)

“Activity not primary commercial or professional activity” (RED2, EMD)

- To what extent is this a non profit requirement?
- Too stringent non profit requirement in some MS (e.g. Austria) hamper the expansion of Energy Communities

Country assessments (3)

..instead

- Countries tailor renewable self consumers and Renewable Energy Communities to their specific needs
- Some countries extended the spatial scope of collective self consumption (France, Spain, Portugal)
- Other countries allow third party ownership in the case of RECs (Austria)

France



- In 2019, CSC was extended to a distance of 2 km between the injection and consumption points with a cumulative power of the production facilities below 3 MW on the continental metropolitan territory and 0.5 MW in non-interconnected areas.
- Since 2020, an exceptional increase to a 20 km distance between the two most distant participants is foreseen for isolated projects in areas of low population density.
- Reduced grid tariffs for self-consumption
- **Limited amount of projects**

Spain



- The legislation in Spain provides for collective self-consumption for buildings in a radius of 500m.
- Within this area **no grid fees and surcharges** for the exchanged energy have to be paid.
- Production facilities not exceeding 100 kW power associated with surpluses will be exempt from the obligation to register as an electricity supplier and will be subject only to technical regulations.

Belgium



- In Flanders collective self consumption is combined with active consumer. In the foreseen framework, multiple users or residents can:
 - share locally produced energy.
 - store energy; participate in the provision of energy services;
 - sell energy, including via power purchase agreements
 - act as a service provider of flexibility or as a participant in flexibility provision or aggregation
- In Brussels capital
 - Local Energy Communities are defined that allow **third party ownership**

Austria



- Medium and Low voltage energy communities (RECs)
 - But: the MV and LV area is different in different regions, rural areas vs. cities
 - Communities have difficulties to find out behind which transformers they are located
- LV areas may not be aligned with district heating network (large number of small biomass DH networks in AT)
- **Still: many energy communities emerging**

Conclusions and points for discussion

- RED and EMD provisions are modified to consider country's needs
- Opportunities of the active consumers concepts is not well understood
- How many definitions does a county need? Can they be merged, synchronized?
- Current frameworks restrictive for companies to scale up...