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Energy Cooperatives in Germany

Anton Mohr | 7. December 2023
DGRV – The German Cooperative
Confederation



German Office for Energy Cooperatives

- ▶ **Representation** of the interests of energy cooperatives in the federal political debate
- ▶ **Counterpart** (at the federal level) of policy makers, authorities, associations and the general public
- ▶ **Support** for energy cooperatives in terms of business model development and implementation of projects
- ▶ **Projects** that strive for a transfer of knowledge and best practices (national and international)
- ▶ **Guidance** in foundation phase and **auditing** to ensure stability and continuity of cooperatives

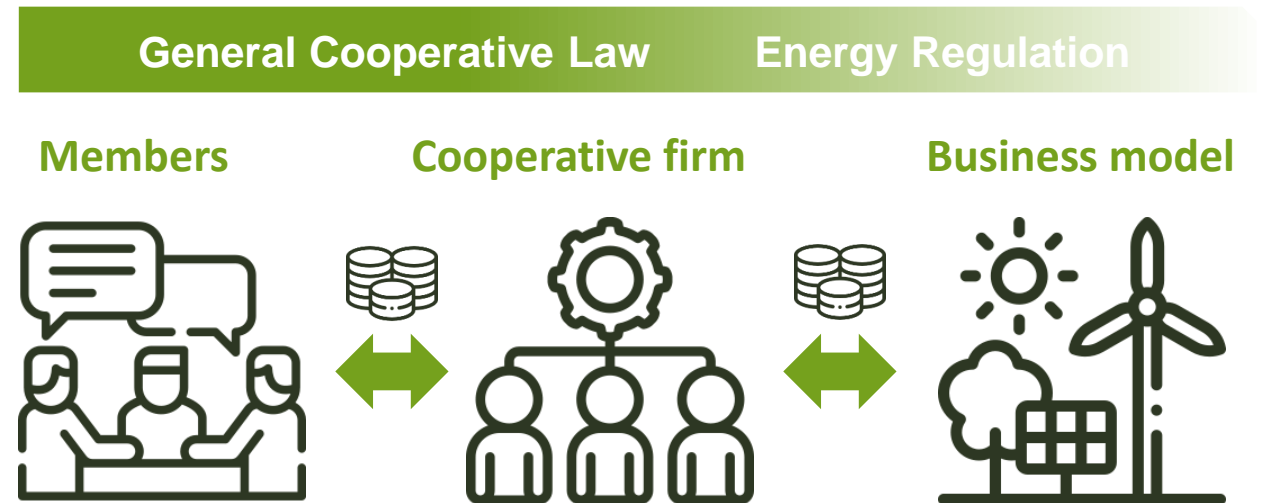


Values of cooperatives

- ▶ Collective enterprise
- ▶ Public welfare > striving for profit
- ▶ Purpose of the cooperation: Promotion of the members
- ▶ Democratic corporate structure
- ▶ Self-help and personal responsibility

Key messages for energy cooperatives

- ▶ Acceptance and Participation (95% individuals)
- ▶ Decentralized energy supply
- ▶ Stable electricity prices
- ▶ Opportunity for social inclusion and redistribution
- ▶ Energy cooperatives ≠ crowd funding



Total figures for Germany

914 Renewable Energy Cooperatives founded after 2006 with...



220,000 members



3.3 billion euros investments in renewable energies



3 million tons of CO₂-emissions prevented in 2021

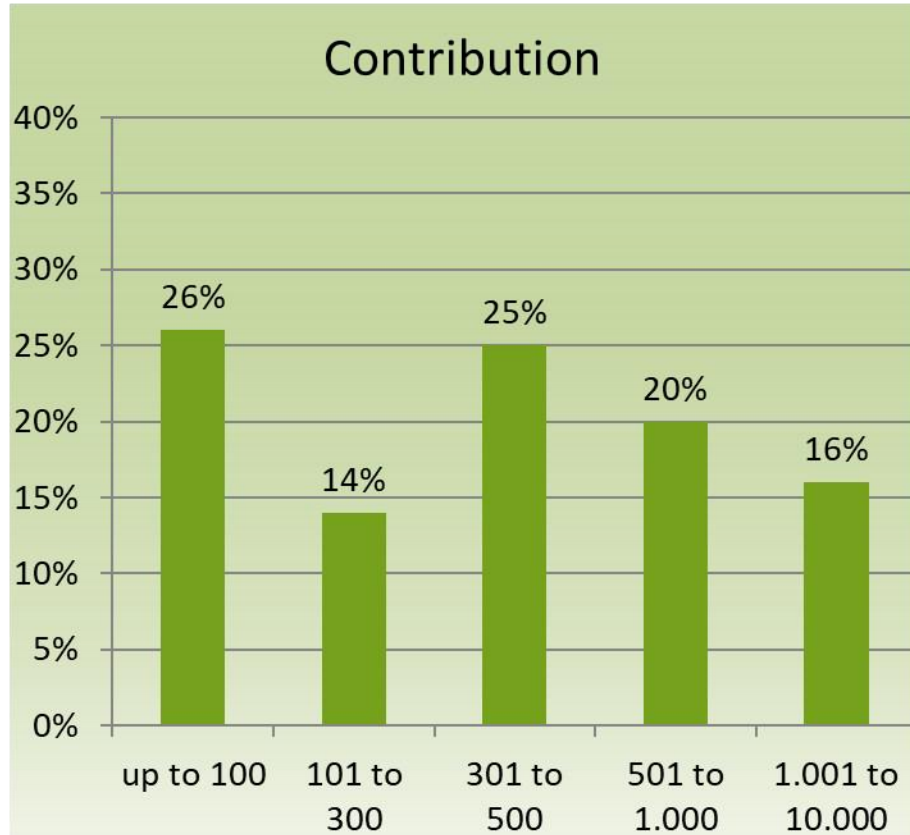


8 Twh community-owned electricity generation in 2021



3.5 % share of the total renewable electricity generation in Germany

Average Energy Cooperatives



- ▶ Average: 758 Euro
- ▶ Minimum: 50 Euro
- ▶ Maximum: 10,000 Euro

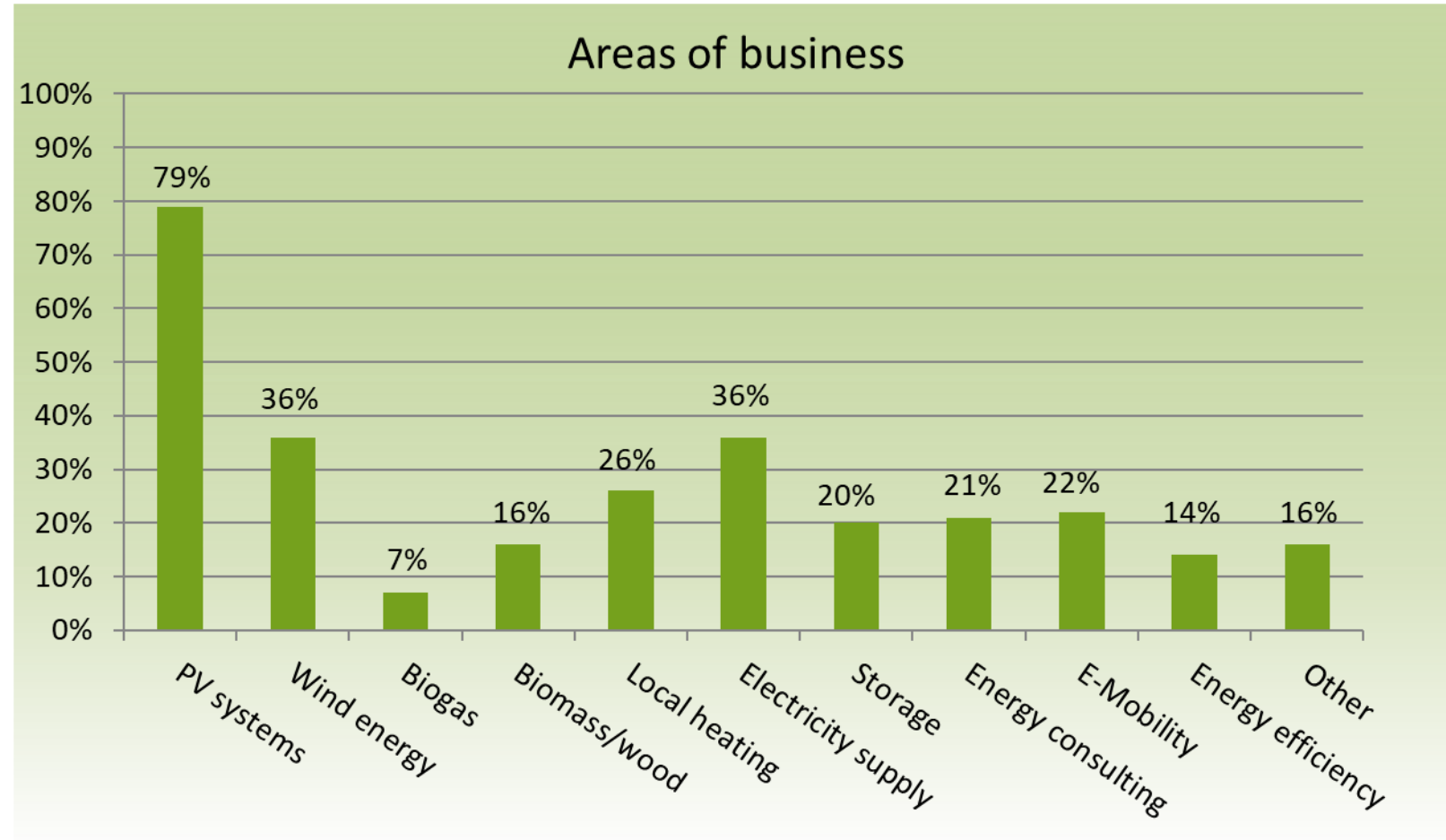


- ▶ Average: 323 members

Business Activities



- ▶ Expertise in PV systems
- ▶ Involvement of local community in large wind and PV projects
- ▶ Increasing importance of local heating
- ▶ Economic viability depends on political framework



Solar rooftop on public building - Example

▶ Technical data PV:

▶ Performance of the PV system:

100 kWp

▶ Orientation:

South - 10° inclination

▶ Start of operation:

May of 2020

▶ Investment:

ca. 100.000 €

▶ Subordinated loan, members

82.000 €, 60 members involved (18.000 € equity)

▶ Building:

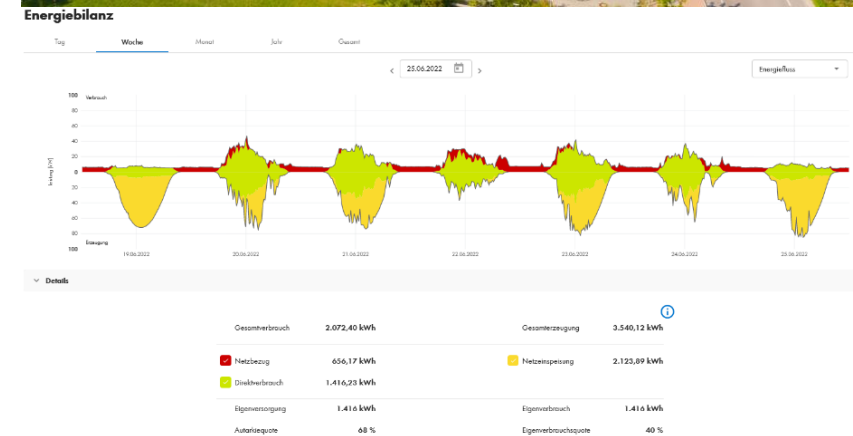
Montessori school

▶ Usage of the electricity:

Direct consumption and feed-in of excess electricity

▶ Advantages:

Data on generation as learning tool for pupils



Tenant Electricity Model - Example

▶ **Technical data PV:**

▶ Performance of the PV system:

61 kWp and 68 kWp

▶ Orientation:

Southwest/Southeast - 15° inclination

▶ **Investment:**

ca. 170.000 €

▶ Subordinated loan, members

124.000 €, 47 members involved (46.000 € equity)

▶ **Building:**

▶ Owner:

City of Freising

▶ Residential units:

115

▶ Moving in:

Since March 2023



Tenant Electricity Model - Processes

▶ City of Freising

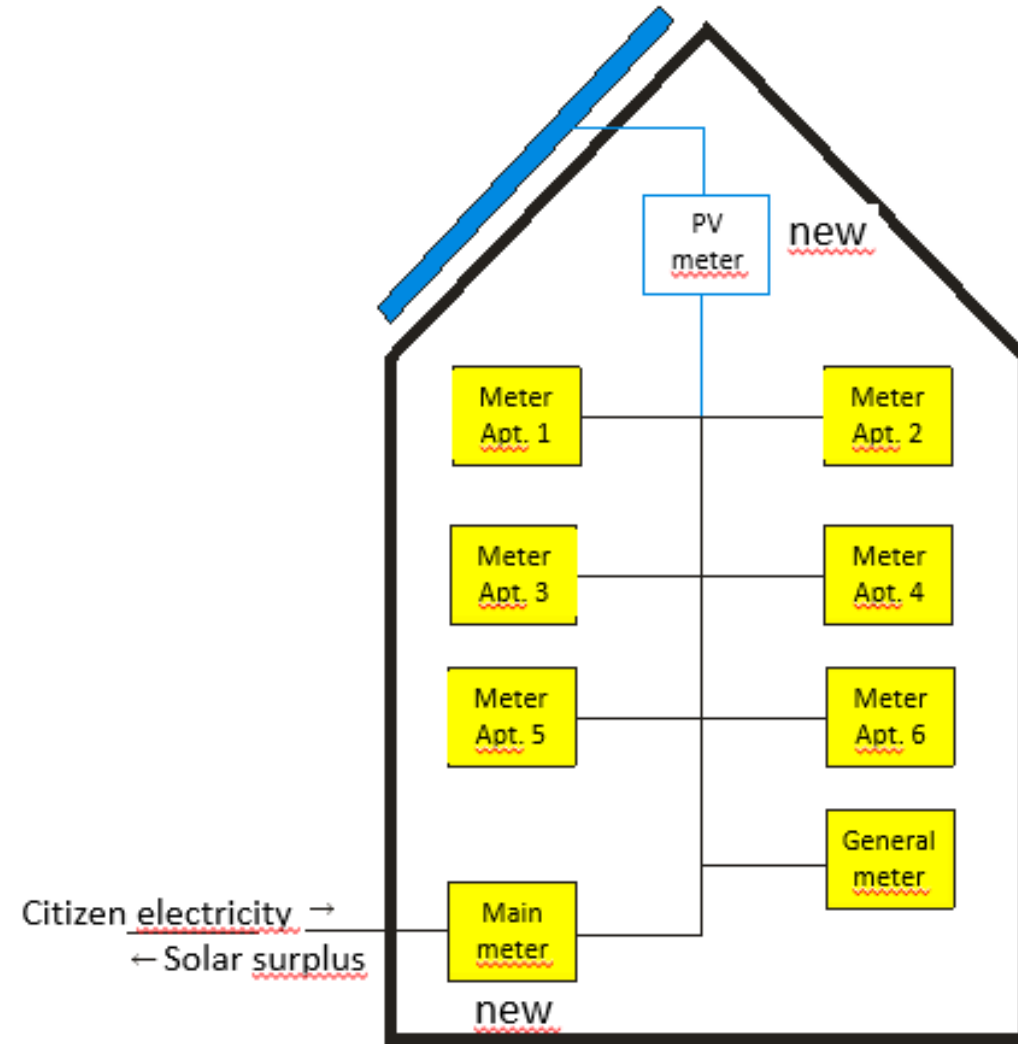
- Rents out the apartments
- Provides the space on the roof
- No administrative burden

▶ Tenants

- Solar electricity is consumed in the house
- Solar electricity reduces the electricity bill

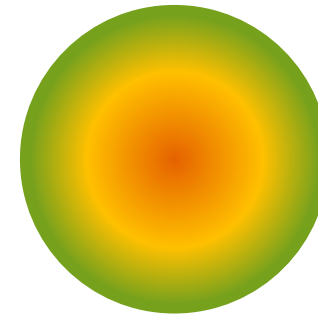
▶ BEG-FS

- Operates the electricity meter
- Prepares the electricity bill
- Provides the residual power



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