

Community Energy Pathfinding Forum

POWER

Dimitris Tsekeris & Sara Tachelet

14/12/2021



### Who are we?



- Dimitris Tsekeris
- Climate Justice & Energy Campaigner (FoEE)/ Coordinator of European Community Power Coalition
- Get in touch!

dimitris.tsekeris@foeeurope.org





#### **RESCOP.EU**

- Sara Tachelet
- Communications Manager
- Get in touch!

#### sara.tachelet@rescoop.eu



③SaraTachelet





## **Community Power Coalition**

- Promotion of the development of citizen and community ownership.
- Diverse network of 40+ like-minded organisations across Europe
- Energy cooperatives, cities and local authorities, the renewable energy industry, legal experts & NGOs



PUTTING PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT THE HEART OF EUROPE'S ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

**COMMUNITY POWER COALITION - VISION STATEMENT** 



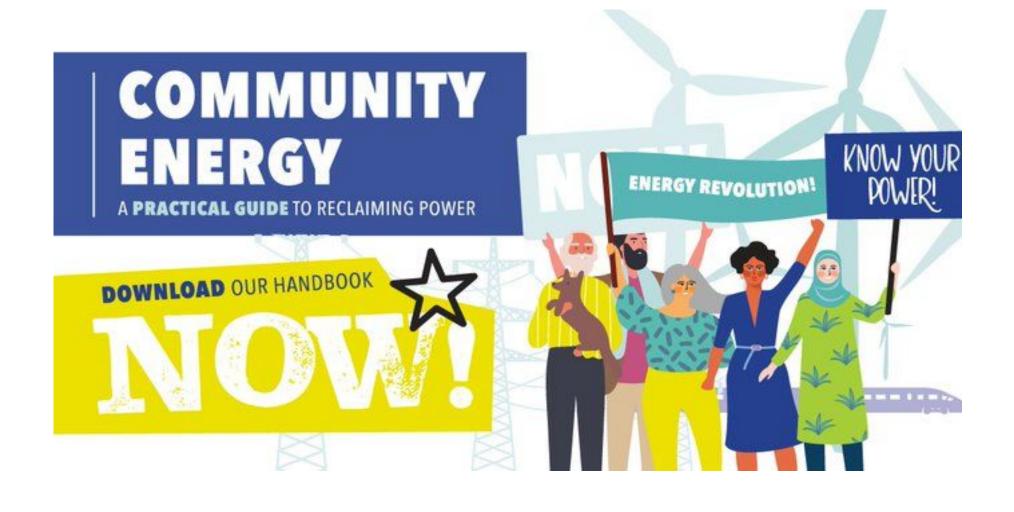
### **Our activities**

- Advocacy work
- Communications
- Capacity building





## **Community Energy Guide**





### Why did we write a book on Community Energy?

We wanted to capture some of the learning and wisdom that has come from those who have already worked hard and

#### learned a lot

THE ENERGY TRANSITION NEEDS YOU

COMMUNITY ENERGY



Welcome to your community energy handbook. This is your go-to guide, packed with instructions, practical tips and resources, to build a local, community-led renewable energy revolution in Europe. urban and rural divide, and close the gap between north and south, between rich and poor – because it empowers local people. Community energy leads to energy democracy, holding the promise of an economy and society based on

#### COMMUNITY ENERGY

#### THE ORGANISATIONS BEHIND THIS BOOK

The book was put together by three organisations who work together to speed up the development of community energy across Europe.



Friends of the Earth Europe is the largest grassroots environmental network in Europe, uniting more than 30 national Friends of the Earth organisations with thousands of local groups. Friends of the Earth Europe



Energy Cities is a network of 1,000 local governments in 30 countries. Energy Cities believes that the energy transition is more than renewable energy or great technologies: it is about the wise use of resources while



#### **REScoop.eu** is the European federation of citizen energy cooperatives, representing over 1500 cooperatives and their 1 million citizens. Founded in 2013 and building on several decades of experience with energy



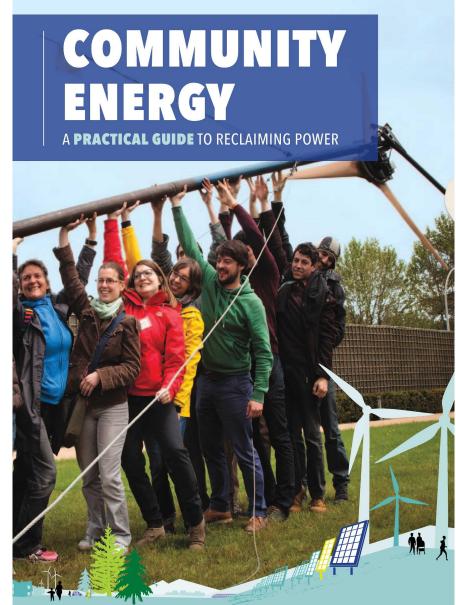
## Why work on Community Energy?





A handbook filled with practical tips and wisdom from projects all across Europe

- 26 chapters
- 22 inspiring success stories
- Over 80 links to additional resources





# **Community Energy guide**

- 1. Context
- 2. Different forms
- 3. Growing your organisation
- 4. Choice of activities
- 5. Choice of technologies
- 6. Maken it happen





#### **1.** Context: energy Revolution: it's up to us

• Response to a problem: e.g. we are dependent on

fossil fuels and the money flows out of our

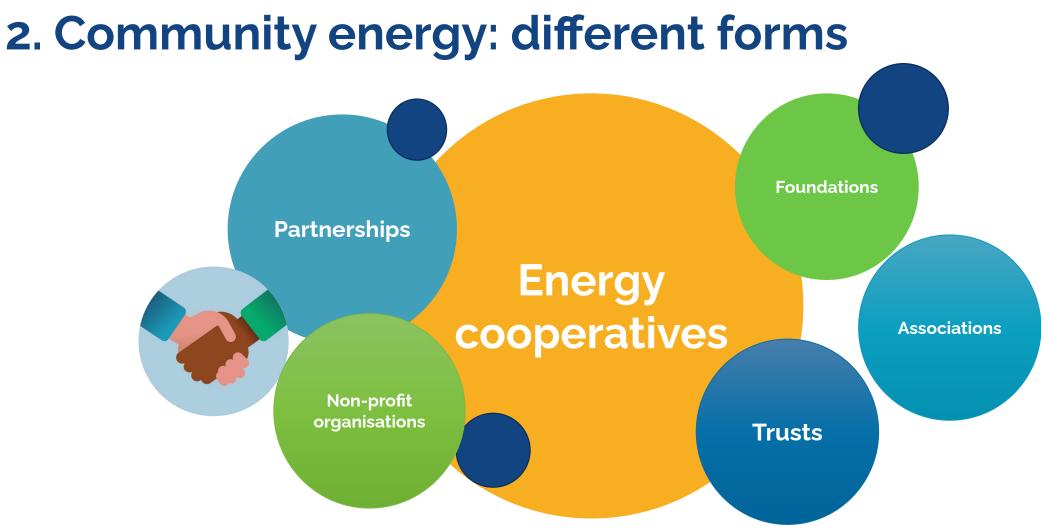
community

- Initiative to tackle problem
- Sometimes the initiative comes from a public player



MUNICIPALITIES & LOCAL AUTHORITIES: AN IDEAL PARTNER CHAPTER 7





In all these legal entities collaboration between citizens,

SMEs and local authorities is possible



#### 3. Growing your organisation

- with who?
- group dynamics
- how to keep the group together
- how to involve the wider community?











#### 4. Choice of activities:

production of renewable energy, distribution of

energy/electricity, supply of energy, energy efficiency,

energy poverty, heating and cooling, flexibility/self

consumption/storage, transport and mobility

#### 5. Choice of technologies

wind, solar, small hydro, biomass, geothermal, riothermal,

aquathermal, ...













#### 6. Make it happen

BARRIERS & CHALLENGES: BE PREPARED CHAPTER 23





The path to a successful community energy project is not always an easy one. Many barriers and challenges await you.



New EU directives should make it easier for you, as national governments must assess barriers to local community energy (see text box). Checking if your government has already carried out this work, and published it, could be one step towards identifying these barriers.

- Chapter on barriers and
  - challenges
- Prepares you for some of

the main barriers that you

will face

• It covers 7 key barriers

that are common across

#### Europe



# New rights for communities

- The Renewable Energy Directive II gives you the right to be part of a community energy project
- New rights for communities
  - Citizens and communities recognized as actors in the energy system
  - Citizens are explicitly given the right to produce, store, consume and sell their own renewable energy
  - Governments must create an enabling legal framework to support citizens
  - Governments must simplify administrative proceedings for citizen and community projects
  - Governments must assess the barriers and potential of community energy





## Get Active and get in touch!

- Hold the your government to account, make sure there is pressure and attention on them.
- Read the book, take the first steps in your community
- Get in touch with us!







POWER

www.communitypowercoalition.eu

