



From a kitchen table to a European federation
Ecopower and REScoop.eu

by Dirk Vansintjan
Brussels, 24/10/2017



What is a REScoop?

Renewable Energy Sources cooperatives or community power, community energy initiatives, or now CE4AE: 'renewable energy communities', '(local) energy communities': open groups of citizens who co-operate democratically on RES or EE

in production, distribution, storage, supply, services, ...

- different legal entities < ICA principles
- most very young, some very old
- most quite small, some bigger



What is a REScoop? ICA-principles



1. voluntary and open membership
2. economic participation
3. democratic ownership
4. autonomy and independence
5. training and education
6. cooperation amongst cooperatives
7. concern for community

Value driven!



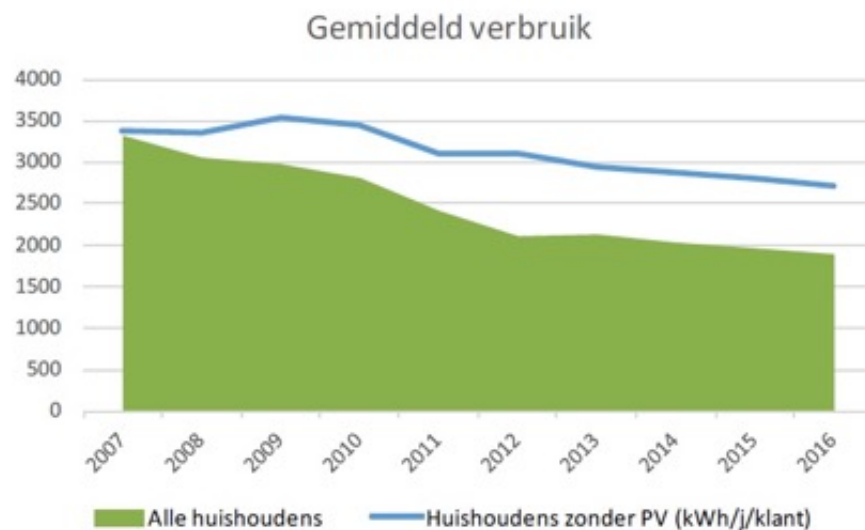
Where are these REScoops?



Example: Ecopower (Flanders, BE)



- 1982: not for profit organisation
- 1985: purchase 2 historical watermills
- 1991: foundation renewable energy cooperative Ecopower around kitchen table
- 1995: start production green electricity in Rotselaar
- 1996: foundation of ODE-Vlaanderen
- 1999: support mechanism/tender city of Eeklo
- 2001-2: Eeklo: 2 x 1,8 MW = 1 x 0,6 MW WTG
- 2003: start as supplier/growth
- end 2016: 51.500 members/ 100 GWh/y production/supply/ 1,5% of Flemish households/50 M€ equity
- production/supply of wood pellets (in mine region)
- 41% has PV: 76 GWh/y
- consumption from grid has dropped
 - less than 2000 kWh/y (PV-owners)
 - less than 3000 kWh/y (no PV)
- Ecotraject to help members renovate home
- 4% dividend over year 2016
- Energy Transition Partner several cities Eeklo, Asse, Beersel, Leuven, Lanaken, Amel, Bülingen, ...





Direct participation Ecopower (2013)



in 1 x 2 MW wind turbine

Profit sharing: 100%
Energy bill: ▼

€ 3,000,000

100%

dividend (2%)

€ 60,000



Lower energy bill

€ 180,000



100%

100%

social objective
and added value to
society

€ 240,000
(8%
guaranteed)

100%

4,000,000 kWh green electricity à 0,21€

capital -profit- production

co-owner – creation of added value to society – self
determination

Let's make a European tour

Belgium

High population density

Space to erect wind turbines is limited

A rush on the wind sites by project developers

Supportive guidelines and decrees

Wallonia: le cadre de référence (24,99%)

Flanders: Provincial level: 10% + 10%

Municipalities: demand 50% direct participation

20 REScoops

2 Regional federations



Let's make a European tour

United Kingdom

New government not supportive of onshore wind

Practically no more onshore wind projects

Only support for offshore wind projects, nuclear

About 100 REScoops in the UK

Scotland

Regional government supportive of community energy

- Sub target for RES owned by citizens (500 MW)
achieved early in 2015

- CARES fund



Let's make a European tour

France Enercoop, its local REScoops and Energie Partagée



Let's make a European tour

Greece

State monopoly when it comes to energy (PPC/HEDNO)

Non-interconnected islands still use fossil fuels

Citizens on the main land pay for the surplus

e.g.: Sifnos Island Cooperative

New legislation for 'energy communities'



Central and Eastern Europe

Very few REScoops

Coops easily associated with communism

Hardly any support for RES, let alone for REScoops



Let's make a European tour

Germany

<900 local REScoops

EWS owns its own local distribution grid

Erneuerbare Energiegesetz (supportive FiT)

Now tendering procedure

Denmark

Walhalla for RES production, but...

Government supports RES and citizens

300 wind coops, e.g. Middelgrunden (Copenhagen)

600 district heating cooperatives



Let's make a European tour

Italy

Ancient REScoops in the Alp region

Hydro - smart grids & meters

Südtiroler Energie Verband (SEV)

Cooperative energy supplier (E Nostra)

Spain

No more support for RES

Abuse by big utilities (tendering)

SOM Energia, GoiEner, ...

New Spanish federation (old and new)



Let's make a European tour

Netherlands

Postcoderoos: tax relief on energy bill (0,09 euro/kWh)

Hier Opgewekt & REScoopNL

Krammer project

Wind farm on a dike in Zeeland (100MW)

2 local REScoops

Support from supplier of wind turbines

Why not keep it in the hands of local citizens?



Croatia

Zelena energetska zadruga



REScoop.eu, the European federation



*REScoop.eu
empowers
citizens and
cooperatives in
their fight for
energy
democracy*



REScoop.eu, the European federation



- 1.250 REScoops from 12 Member States
- 650.000 citizens
- 1.100 jobs
- total investment 2 billion euro
- production 1GW



REScoop.eu, the European federation

- represents the voice of citizens and REScoops in Brussels in collaboration with CEC
- supports start up of new REScoops
- provides services to members
 - E-mobility
 - financing: Mutual: 'REScoop Mecise SCE'
 - ICT
 - academic network/mentor network
- promotes the REScoop model



REScoop.eu, the European federation

- participates in EU funded projects to develop services



Objectives

The goal of PV FINANCING is to identify, in all the covered countries, the most profitable business models and financing schemes for PV Systems.

Expected results

- Business Model reports that explains several business model options including the cooperatives
- Financing scheme of PV from around Europe

The project ended in August 2017



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 696084





Objectives

CITYnvest focuses on supporting and replicating successful innovative financing models for energy efficiency renovations in public buildings. The consortium features models, based on Energy Performance Contracting (EPC), Third Party Financing (TPF), revolving funds, cooperatives and others.

Expected results

- Building capacities and skills of local authorities.
- Triggering energy savings in three pilot regions in Belgium, Bulgaria and Spain.
- Preparing ground for investments in energy efficient deep renovations of public buildings.
- Shaping regulations and policies on local, national and European level
- <https://vimeo.com/221553586>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 696084



Objectives

REScoop MECISE will develop renewable energy projects and use part of the revenues to initiate energy efficiency investments in private homes and public buildings. This approach aims to enforce the relationship between REScoops and local authorities.

Expected results

- At least 30 M€ investments in EE and RE
- The creation of EcoTraject : a tool for energy efficiency in building for citizens
- The creation of a financing tool for REScoop projects



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Objectives

The objective of the WiseGRID project is to demonstrate an integrated Ecosystem that will establish an innovative approach for the management of the electrical power grids setting the cornerstones of the future Smart Grid.

Expected results

- Deploy 5 pilots of community micro-grids
- Create an integrated framework (legal and business model) to support micro grids
- Build 9 technical tools to allow the deployment of a community micro grid with that addition of electrical mobility and storage



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 696084



FlexCOOP

Objectives

Flexcoop is a project that will deploy tools and strategy to allow private consumers and communities to participate in the flexibility market.

Expected results

- Create an “energy butler” to manage demand response at the prosumer level
- Create a framework (legal and business model) to support the participation both of prosumer and cooperative in the flexibility market
- Starts in October 2017



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 696084



REScoop.eu, the European federation

Staff members (6+0,5)

Board of directors

Ecopower (BE)
De Windvogel (NL)
Enercoop (FR)
Som Energia (ES)
(DGRV (DE))



General Assembly

Full & associate members

Partnerships

Cooperatives Europe
Coalition of Energy Savings
Community Energy Coalition

National branches

Belgium, Netherlands, Spain,
England, Scotland, Wales,
Germany



Opportunities in Clean Energy Package

1. Acknowledging (local) energy communities and giving them a name
2. Supporting renewable energy communities
3. A market design to empower citizens and drive decentralisation
4. Opportunities for LEC's at the distribution level
5. A governance system that works for Europe and its citizens

Follow our advocacy: https://rescoop.eu/policy_maker_downloads

Greece: first to implement CE4AE!



BY 2050

264

MILLION

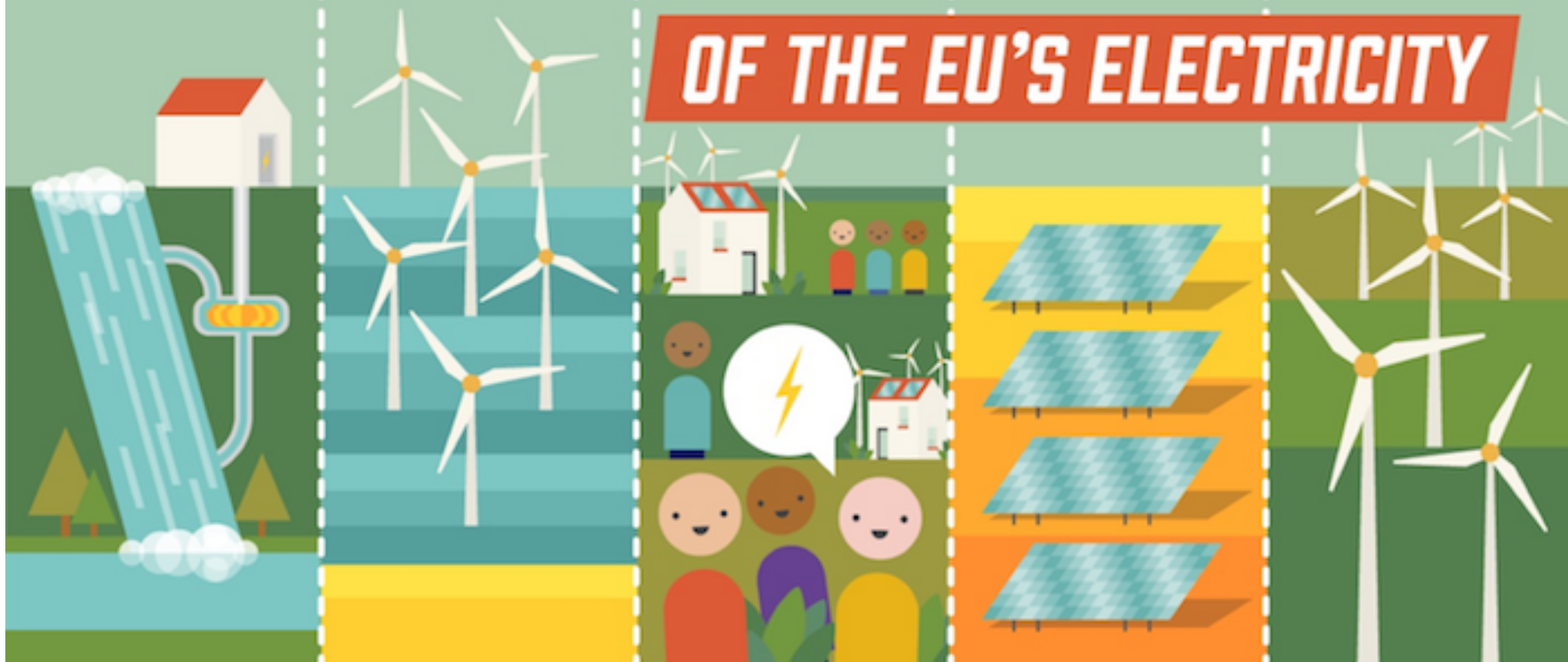
**PEOPLE IN THE EU
COULD BE PRODUCING
THEIR OWN ELECTRICITY**



BY 2050

PEOPLE COULD ⚡ **PRODUCE 45%**

OF THE EU'S ELECTRICITY



THE EU'S



CITIZEN-OWNED ELECTRICITY

IN 2050

