

## Co2mmunity

The share of renewable energy in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) ranges from 11% in Poland to 52% in Sweden. Therefore, some territories are frontrunners while others are in early stages of development. A transnational exchange of experiences and capacity-building is needed in order to further promote the deployment of renewable energy in the BSR. Renewable energy projects carried out, implemented and/or co-financed by citizens are often referred to as community energy (CE). CE is considered a promising approach to foster the deployment of renewable energy, increase renewable energy acceptance, and promote local economic development.

There is no comprehensive documentation about existing CE projects in the BSR. Therefore, Co2mmunity's objectives are to create this CE knowledge base and to enhance the institutional capacities of municipalities, institutions responsible for regional energy planning, political decision-makers responsible for energy issues, and energy and citizen's associations for facilitating CE projects in the BSR. Core are renewable energy cooperative partnerships (RENCOP), which initiate and support CE projects. In each partner region Co2mmunity will initiate and manage a RENCOP. A transnational exchange of RENCOPs will result in a transferable RENCOP model, enabling a transnational catch-up process between frontrunners and followers and enhancing the capacity of local, regional and BSR-wide actors to foster CE.

Co2mmunity's activities will lead to five main outputs:

1. Synthesis report for on the current CE situation in BSR with best practices, showcasing place-specificities of CE projects and success factors transferable across contexts;
2. Guidelines for participatory mobilization process, including general and country-specific steps to stimulate CE projects on regional/local level;
3. RENCOP roadmap to foster CE in the BSR;
4. Country-specific CE handbooks
5. White papers deriving concrete measures for improving regulatory frameworks for CE projects in the BSR.

Altogether, Co2mmunity will foster renewable energy deployment in the BSR through improving renewable energy acceptance and development conditions via CE models. Co2mmunity will promote democratic and participatory processes in the energy sector and further the transnational co-operation of stakeholders representing all BSR governance levels.

Co2mmunity has 16 project partners from the BSR and is led by Kiel University. It has a budget of € 3.15 million from the European Regional Development Fund and it will run until Sep 2020.

For more information

Co2mmunity website: <http://co2mmunity.eu/>

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