

COME RES

Renewable Energy Communities, barriers and opportunities

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Energy Agencies and RECs, a new path for energy decentralization

25.11.2022, Lisboa



Advancing Renewable
Energy Communities

Agenda

COME RES in a nutshell

Key objectives

Activities

Main impacts

Barriers and drivers for RECs in Europe

Focus groups interviews

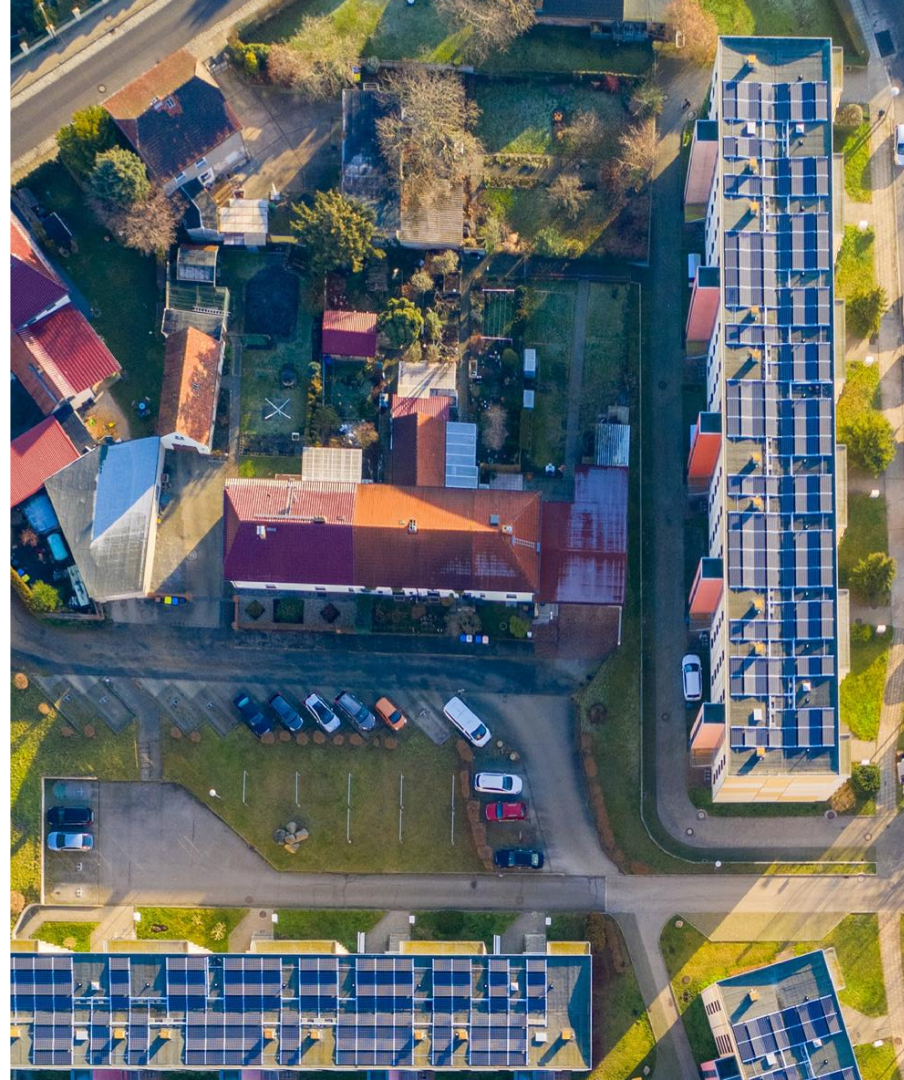
Online survey

Main barriers and drivers

Enabling frameworks for RECs

Reality check in 9 countries

What still needs to be done?



COME RES in a nutshell



Advancing Renewable
Energy Communities

COME RES

*Facilitate the **market uptake of RES in the electricity sector**,
by supporting the implementation of the provisions for **Renewable Energy Communities (RECs)**
as defined by the new Renewable Energy Directive EU 2018/2001.*

H2020 Project

16 partners

30 months

Sept.2020 to Feb.2023



BELGIUM (FLANDERS) / THE NETHERLANDS

Integrated solutions

GERMANY

Wind and integrated solutions

ITALY

PV and hydro

LATVIA

Wind and integrated solutions

NORWAY

RES technologies

POLAND

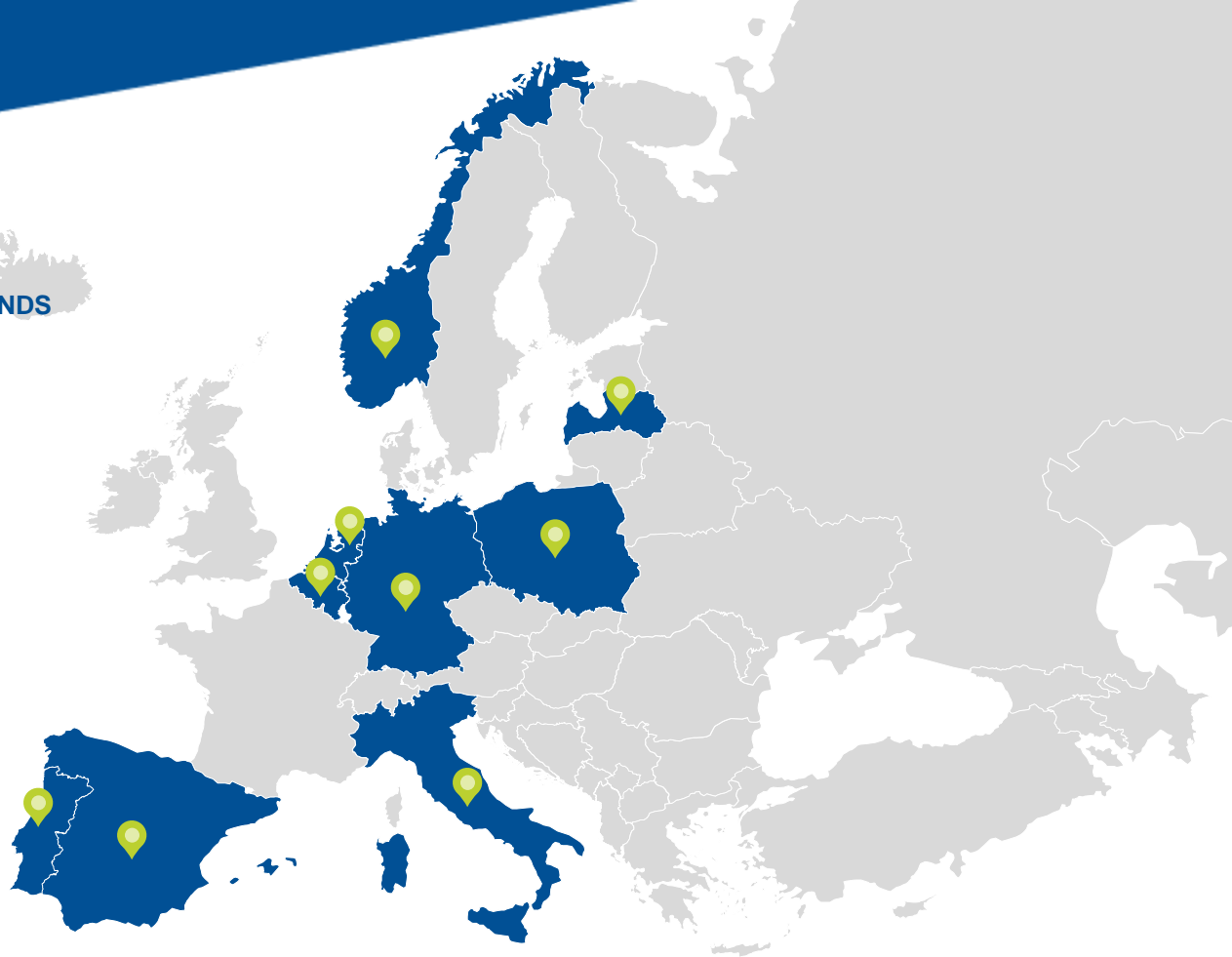
PV, biogas and integrated solutions

PORTUGAL

PV and integrated solutions

SPAIN

PV

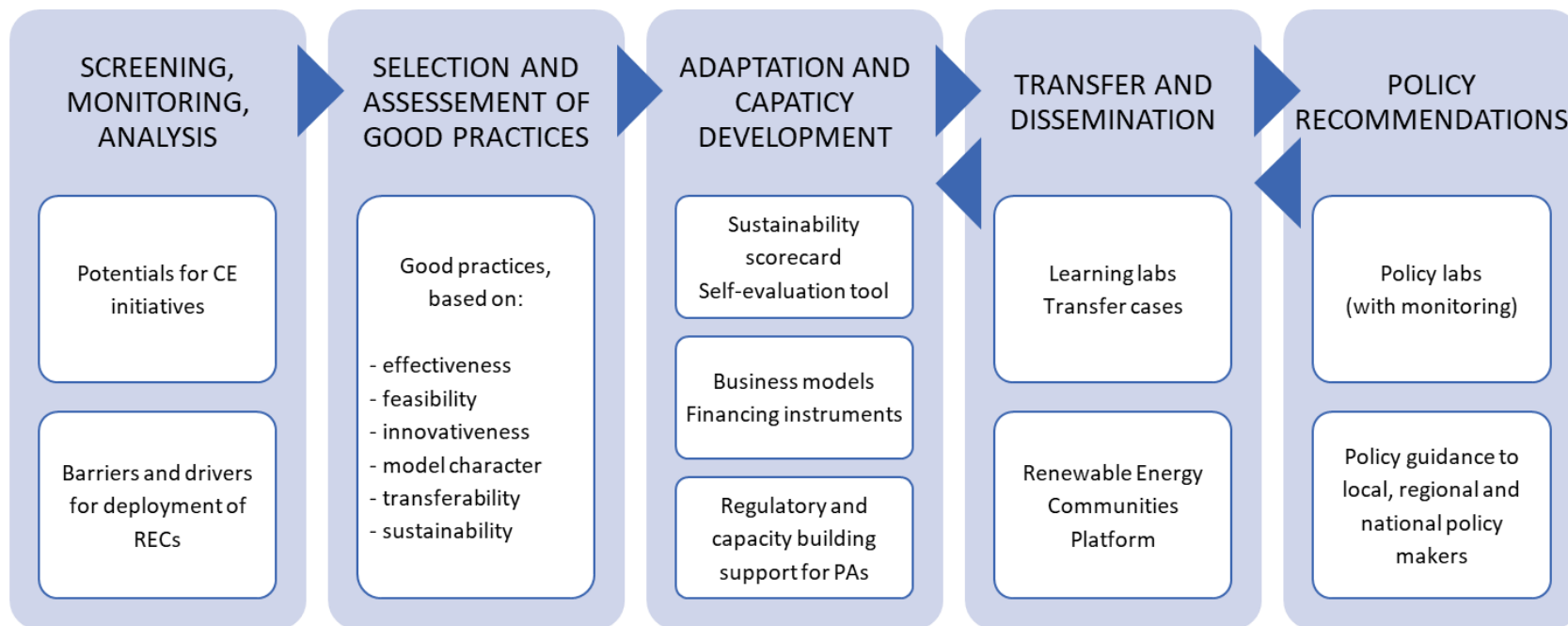


+++ - well developed, large experience
 ++ - partly developed, medium experience
 + - developing, selective experience, elements in place
 - - not developed, no experience

CARACTERIZATION OF THE STARTING CONDITIONS (in 2019)

		BE	DE	IT	LV	NL	NO	PL	PT	SP
Market Deployment of Community Energy	Community wind	++	+++	+	-	+++	-	-	-	+/-
	Community PV	+++	+++	++	+	+++	-	+	+	+
	Community storage	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
	Integrated / hybrid solutions	-	+	++	-	+	-/+	+	-	-
Community Energy legal forms	Cooperatives	++	+++	+	-	+++	-	+	+	++
	Ltd partnerships, ltd companies or hybrid forms		+++	++	-	+++	-	-	-	+
	Civil law partnership	++	+++	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
	Other legal forms	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
Legal framework	Legal framework for RECs acc. to Art.22 RED II	+	+	++	+	+	-	+	++	+
Support schemes, other support for RECs	Political target for RECs	-	-	++	-	++	-	+	-	++
	Consideration of RECs in national support schemes	-	++	++	+	++	-	+	+	+
	Other dedicated support for REC	-	+		-	++	+	+	+	+
	Enabling framework (pursuant to RED II)	+	+	++	-	+	-	+	+	+
	Consideration in NECP	+	++	+	+	++	-	++	++	++

Activities



Country Desks

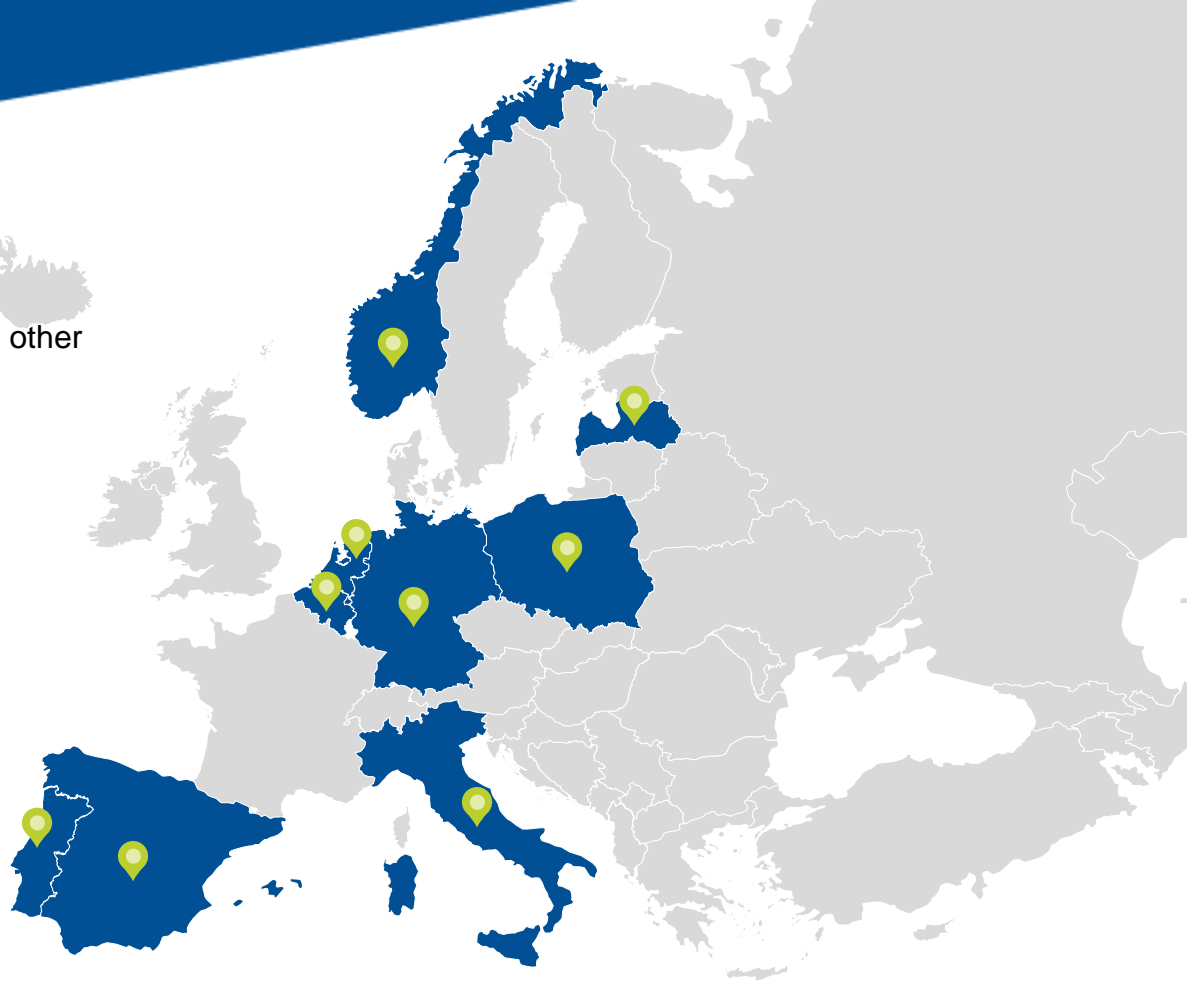
Informal dialogue fora for market actors and other stakeholders:

- National COME RES project partners
- Community Energy organisations
- Policy makers
- Citizen organisations
- Energy and innovation agencies
- Etc.

Inform and **create awareness**
of communities and other stakeholders

Support and accompany
the transposition/implementation of REDII

Develop **action plans** for
the promotion of RECs in the target regions



Main impacts

Strengthening existing RECs and encouraging the development of REC investments by providing business model proposals and sustainability scorecards to community stakeholders, and through the ECs Platform;

Offering **support to community actors in specific target regions with low deployment rates of RECs** via capacity development and peer assisted training and regional action plan proposals;

Informing policy makers, enhancing policy learning and supporting the development of enabling frameworks for RECs in line with RED II, and providing policy recommendations addressing different levels of governance.

Barriers and Drivers



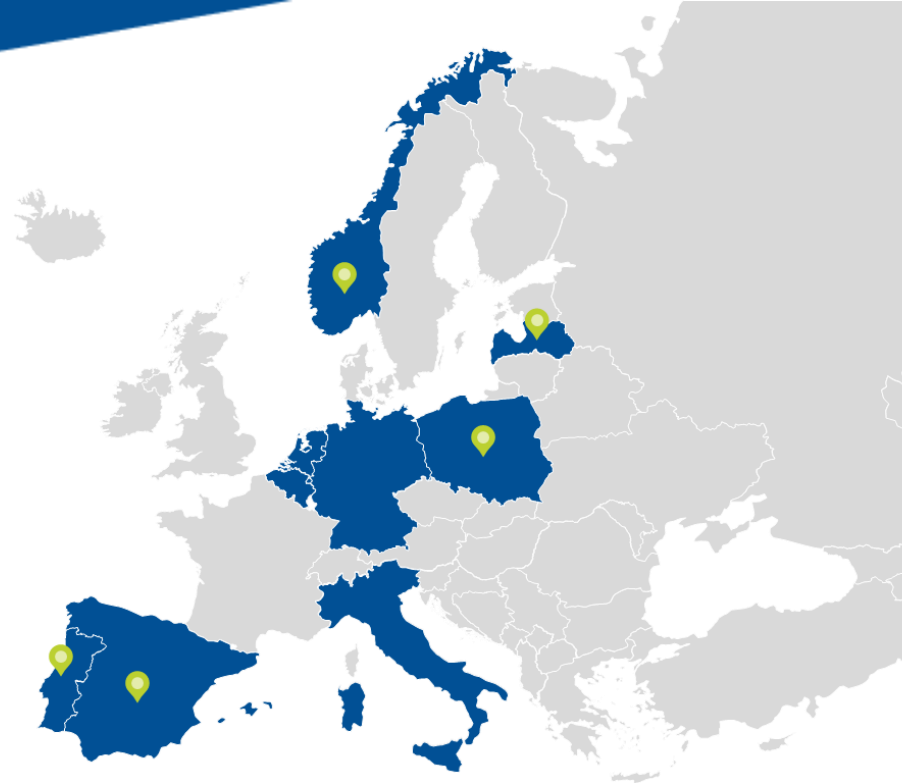
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Barriers and Drivers

Focus group interviews

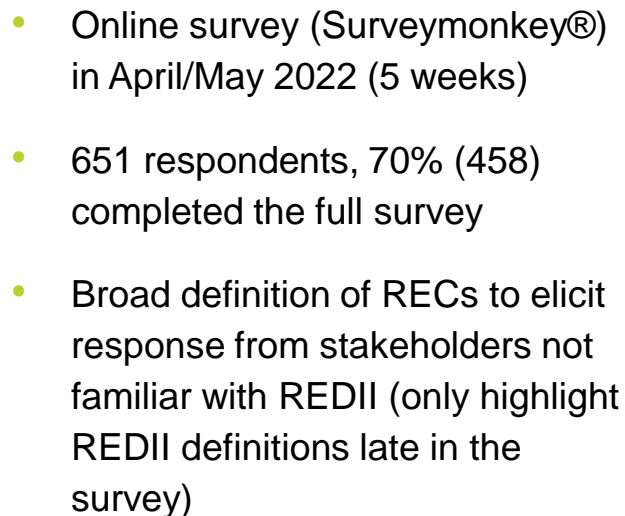
Semi-structured, focus-groups interviews:

- Current and future **level of involvement** in the creation and/or operation of RECs
- **Tecnologies** interesting to integrate in a REC
- **Importance** of RECs / Social motivation
- **Role** that play (or could play) in a REC (Promoter, Facilitator, Member, Consumer)
- Entities and/or people with whom **cooperate** or would like to cooperate in a REC
- **Drivers** for the creation of a REC
- **Barriers** to the establishment of a REC



GROUPS:

- Citizens and civil society
- Local authorities
- Small and medium enterprises



Barriers and Drivers

Main results

- Several **potential benefits** for the members and the local community (environmental, economic, social) were highlighted by the respondents
- The potential to provide such benefits is considered as a motivation to engage in RECs
- **Relevant barriers** to the development of RECs were identified in all regions:
 - Significant delays in RED II transposition, and existing regulatory frameworks and support schemes are not designed with RECs specificities in mind
 - Lack of ‘success stories’ and leadership; and low awareness and acceptance
 - Lack of capacity and competence

Main Drivers

Environmental factors	Economic factors	Social factors	Legal and regulatory frame	Organisational factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Environmental benefits as one of the main motivations + Active participation in the energy transition + Contribution for the achievement of individual targets (municipalities and companies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Access to energy for a fair price + Decrease in the energy bill (associated to the increase in the electricity price) + Greater return on investment (optimisation of the balance between supply and demand) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Local leaders as essential for the development of RECs + Inclusion and accountability, associated to the redistribution of benefits (jobs, energy poverty, etc.) + Security of supply (isolated areas) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + RES and GHG targets, at local and national level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Cooperation with other local stakeholders (municipalities, social associations, etc.) + Concrete examples to replicate and guides for implementation

Main Barriers

Environmental factors	Economic factors	Social factors	Legal and regulatory frame	Organisational factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negative environmental impacts associated with the installation of RES-e generation technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult access to financing - Lack of incentives specific to RECs and collective self-consumption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private/individual ownership culture - Lack of trust in the REC concept (absence of best practices) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of clarity and high complexity of applicable regulation - Lengthy and complex licensing and certification procedures - Delay in the transposition of the REC provisions from RED II (LV, NO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need for professionalization of participants/managers of RECs - Lack of guidance and best-practices for the definition of internal regulation - Citizens and other potential promoters with limited awareness and knowledge

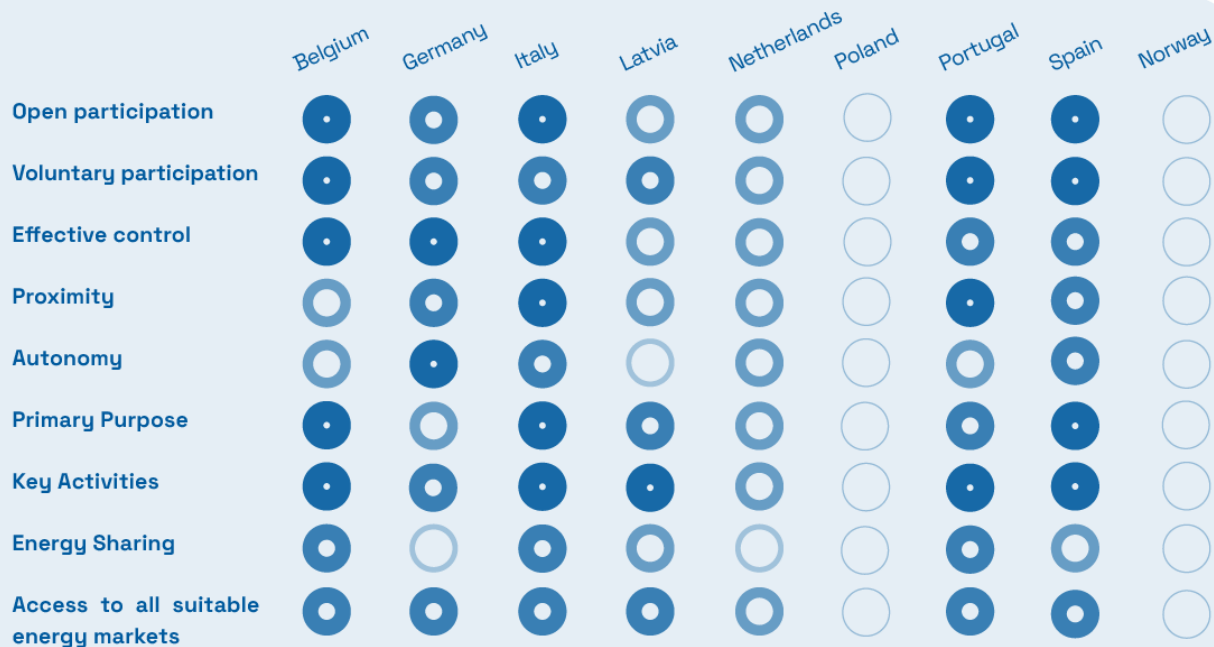
Enabling frameworks for RECs



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Definition of RECs

Compliance with RED II



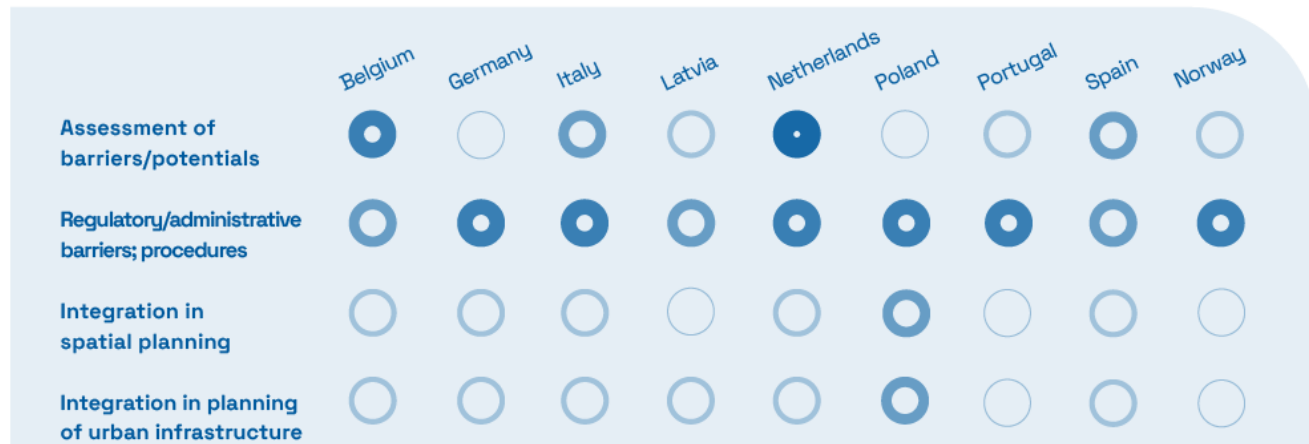
Adapted from Krug et al, 2022
D7.1 of the COME RES project

SCALE:



Enabling frameworks

Transposition of RED II

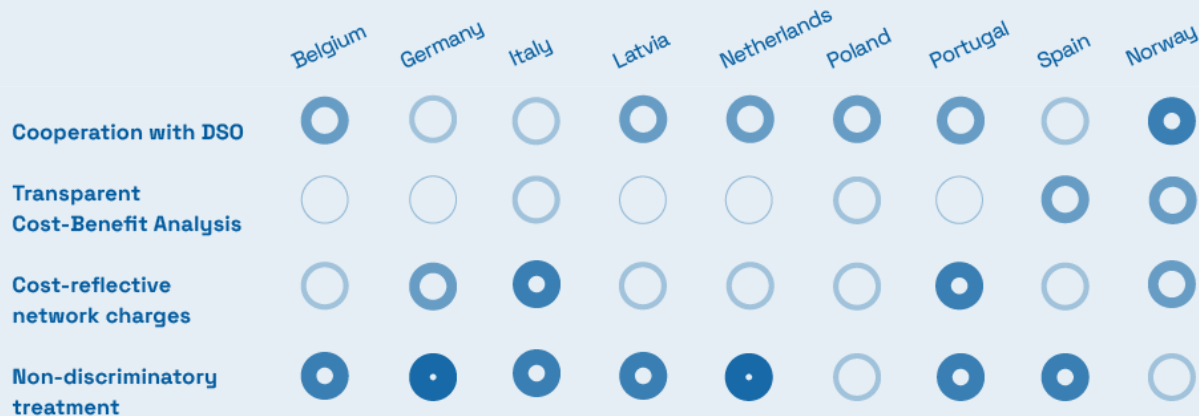


Adapted from Krug et al, 2022
D7.1 of the COME RES project



Enabling frameworks

Transposition of RED II



Adapted from Krug et al, 2022
D7.1 of the COME RES project

SCALE:



Enabling frameworks

DSO, grid access and non-discriminatory treatment

BE and NE

DSOs are required to carry out the transactions required for **energy sharing and selling**. DSOs have to register the different forms of energy exchange, check participation conditions and report shared energy volumes.

PT and IT

In Portugal, RECs and collective self-consumption schemes are **exempted from grid tariffs** under certain conditions. Italy provides **financial incentives for shared energy**.

POLAND

Poland energy cooperatives are **restricted to rural and rural-urban municipalities**

Enabling frameworks

Transposition of RED II



Adapted from Krug et al, 2022
D7.1 of the COME RES project

SCALE:



Enabling frameworks

Access to financing and information

SPAIN

Dedicated offices and funding line will facilitate access to information and promote the concept of RECs, focusing on the different stages of development. Guidance has been prepared for local authorities.

IT, PT and ES

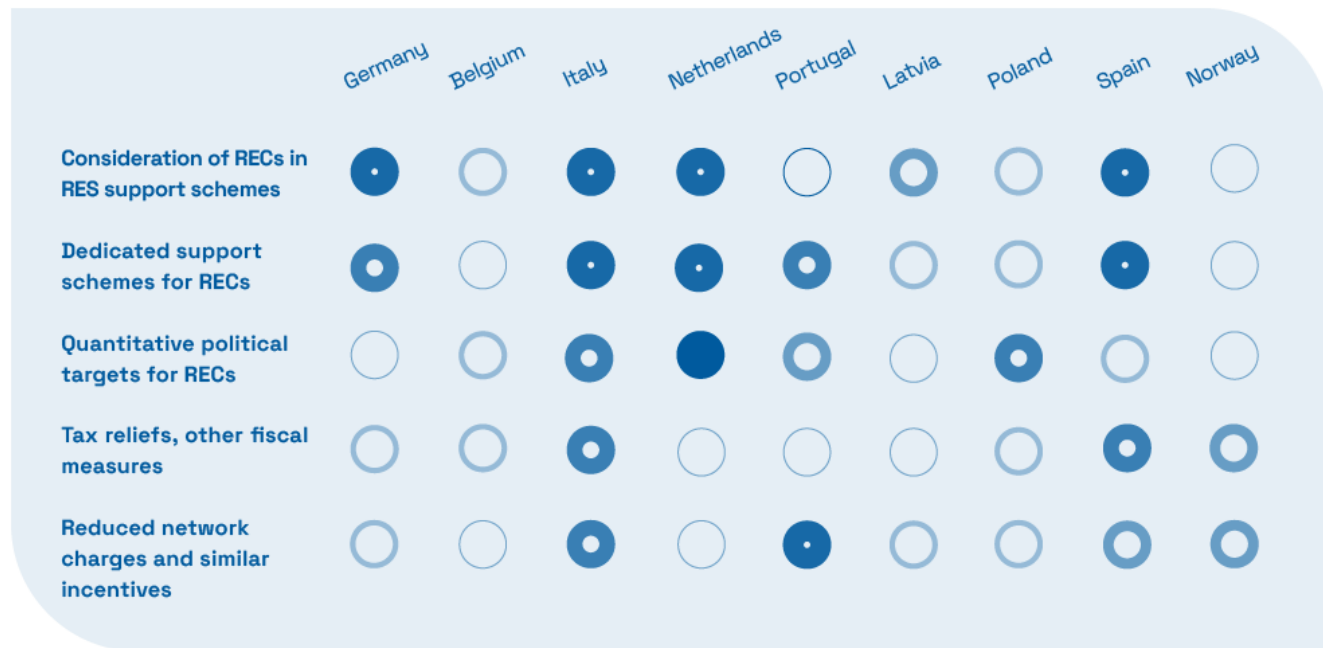
Provides **financing** interest-free up to 100% of eligible cost for the development of energy communities in small municipalities. More than 2Bn EUR to install 2,000 MW. PT and ES also set funding lines for ECs through their NRR Plan.

LATVIA

Ministry of Economics is planning to publish **dedicated guidelines** on energy communities including recommendations for public authorities.

Support schemes

Consideration of RECs



Adapted from Krug et al, 2022
D7.1 of the COME RES project

SCALE:



Support schemes

Consideration of RECs

DE and ES

Auctioning schemes are **becoming more inclusive** of RECs.

In DE, small RES-e projects of citizens are exempt from participating in auctions
ES has special bidding Windows for citizen-led initiatives

NE and PO

Dutch Climate Agreement sets out the **goal of 50% local ownership** of Renewable energy on land by 2030.

Poland has set the target of 1M prosumers and 300 “sustainable energy areas” by 2040.

Main findings

CLOSE, BUT NOT QUITE THERE

Many positive developments have emerged since the beginning of the project (Sept.2020), and since the assessment on framework conditions performed in Dec.2021.

It is interesting to see that some **countries with less historical experience** seem to become very active in creating the necessary conditions for collective energy actions to thrive.

The creation of an effective enabling framework requires **fine-tuning of existing energy governance and infrastructure to accommodate RECs** (incentives, subsidies, and access to markets).

Besides the national and regional governments, **municipalities play an important role** as initiators, promoters, facilitators, enablers and members of RECs.

Additional information

D2.1 Assessment report on technical, legal, institutional and policy conditions

D4.1 Report on organizational and legal forms and business models for RECs

D4.2 Report on novel financing instruments for RECs

D5.2. Good Practice Portfolio of Renewable Energy Communities

D7.1 Comparative assessment of enabling frameworks for RECs and support scheme designs

Available in the COME RES website ([link](#))



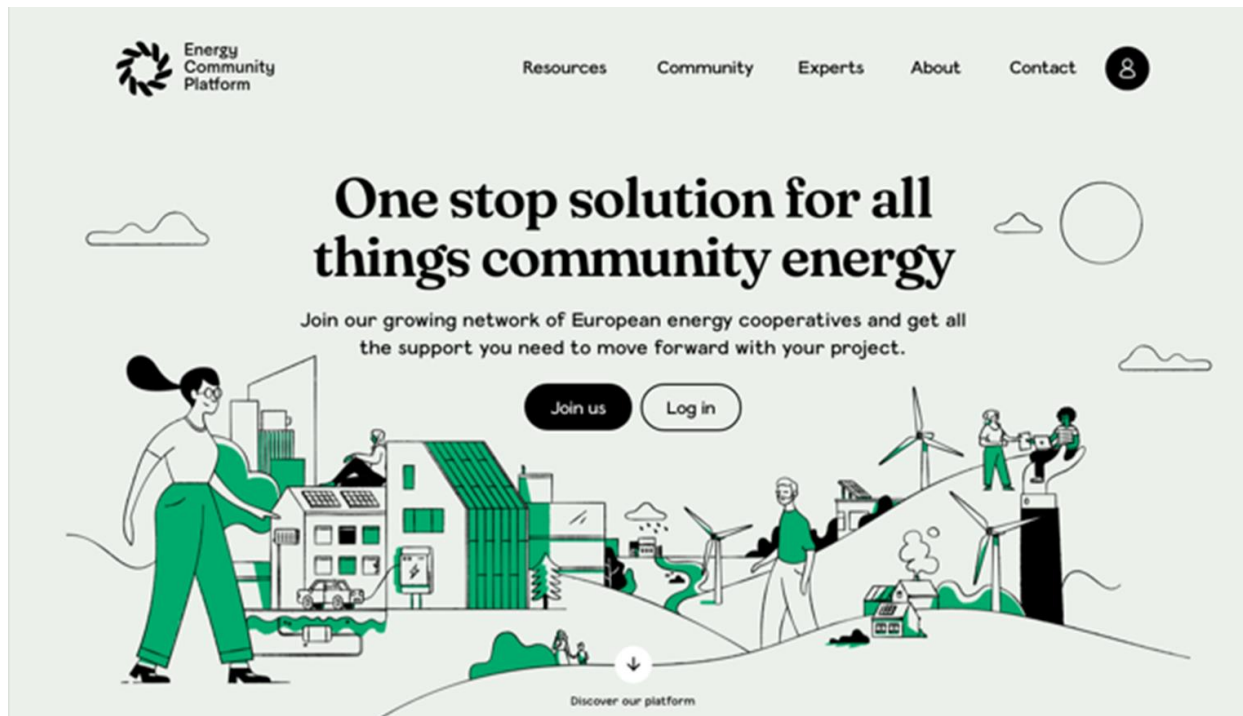
Energy Community Platform

One-Stop-Shop for Energy Community Initiatives

Online platform
that aims at
supporting energy
community initiatives
in different
development stages

Check it out!

<https://energycommunityplatform.eu/>



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