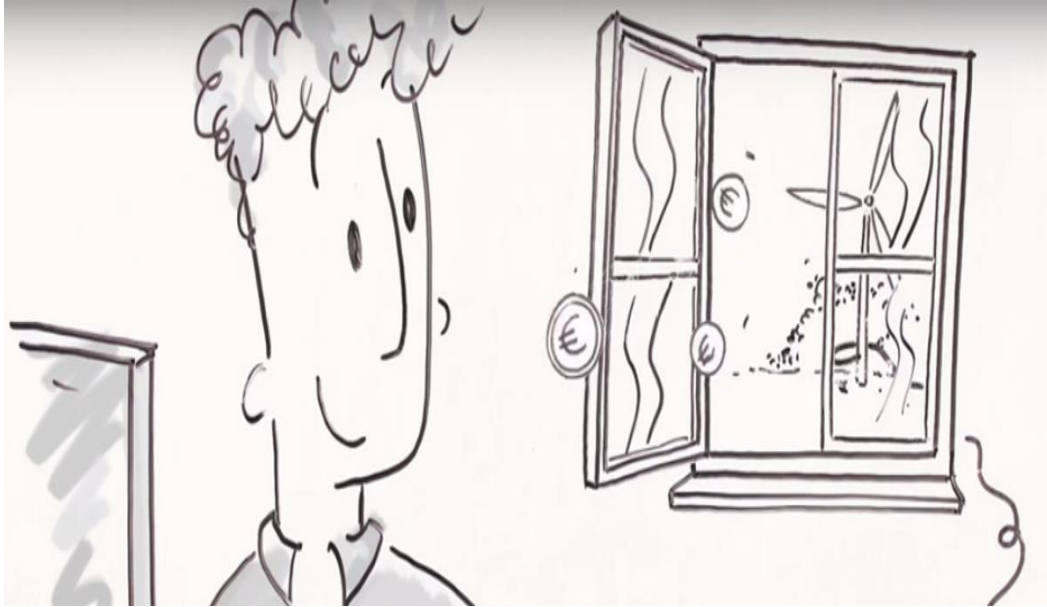


Cooperatives: organising citizens in the energy transition

by Josh Roberts, Advocacy Officer
EUFORES - 19th Inter-Parliamentary Meeting on
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
23 November 2019

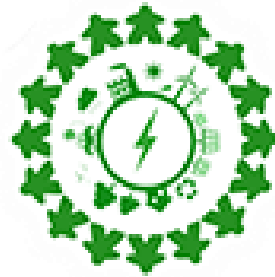


Energy cooperatives: a different way to do business



1. Voluntary & open membership
2. Economic participation
3. Democratic ownership
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Training & education
6. Cooperation amongst cooperatives
7. Concern for community

REScoops as generators

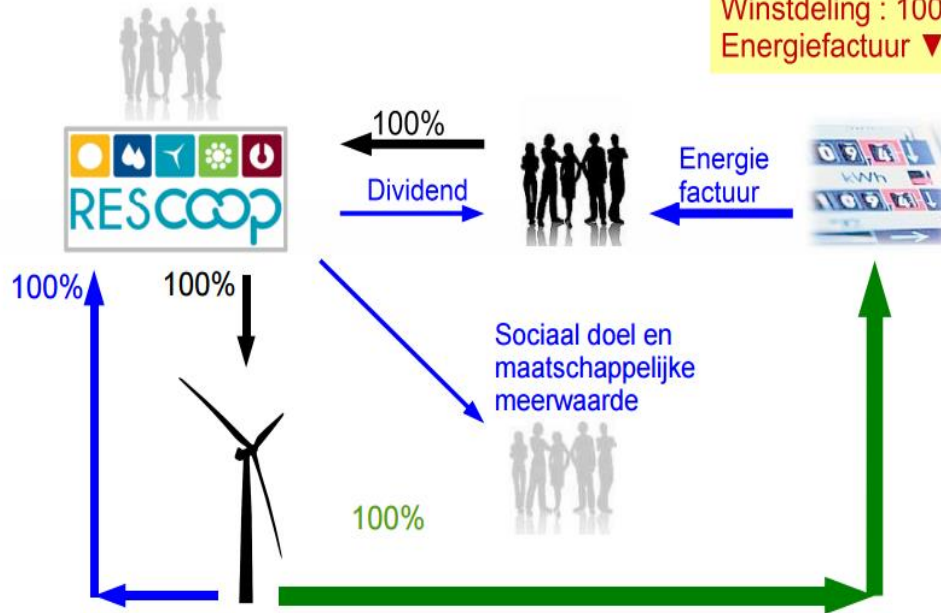


REScoops as suppliers

RECHTstreeks participatiemodel



Energie in eigen handen
Winstdeling : 100%
Energiefactuur ▼



REScoops as energy efficiency service providers

Focus

- End user energy savings measures
- Building renovations
- Energy poverty



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



REScoops as consumer-owned networks

The Old



The New



Technical innovation for social needs



Creating Local Energy



- Solar PV cooperative projects on social housing estates throughout London
- Agreement with local Council to lease roofs
- Reduced investment requirement for residents of estates
- **Energy savings fund:** portion of profits go into EE/renovation initiatives, education
- **Brixton Energy:** block-chain powered peer-to-peer energy trading to allow cheap, clean electricity supply
- Now extending to schools, gardening initiatives



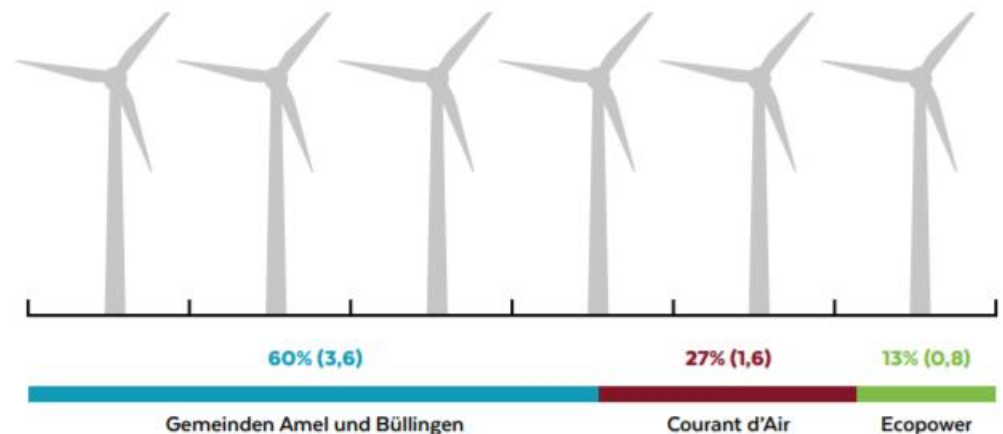
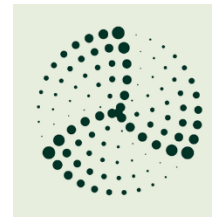
POWER TO, FOR
AND BY THE PEOPLE

verv

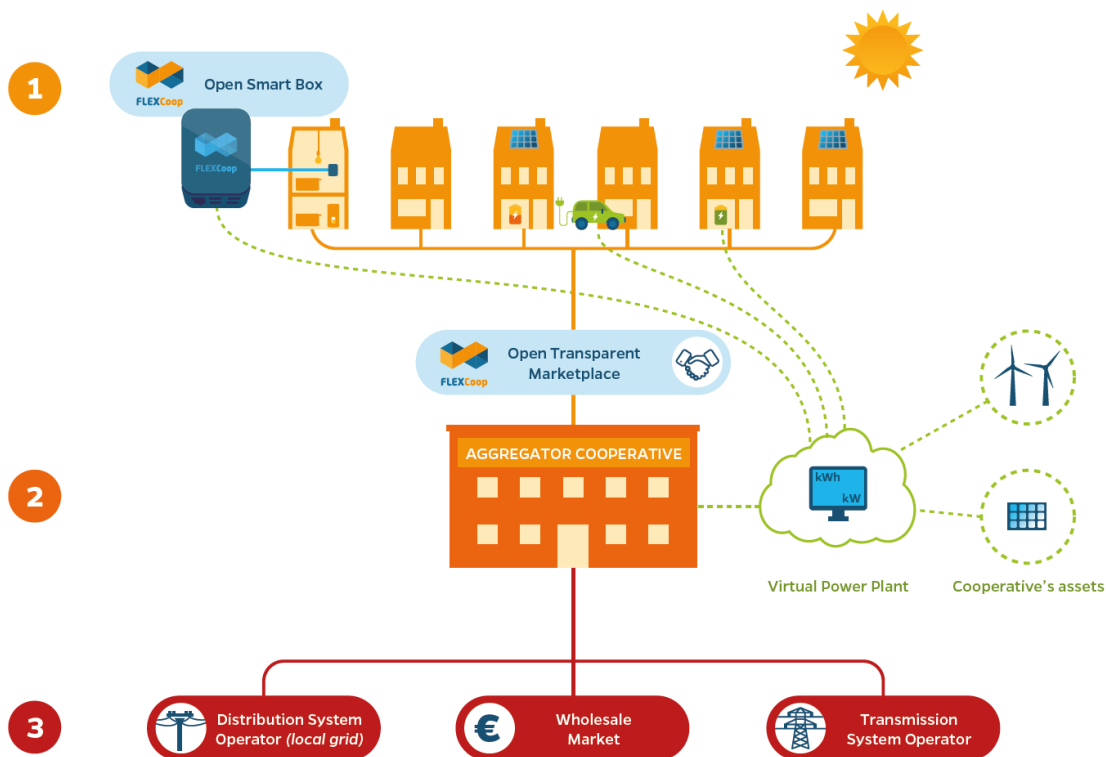


Joint investment by cooperatives and municipalities in Belgium

- 2 Municipalities: Amel & Büllingen
- 2 Energy Cooperatives: Ecopower & Courant d'Air
- Partnership result of a tender
- 6 wind turbines
- Municipalities able to own up to 60%



Exploring new business models



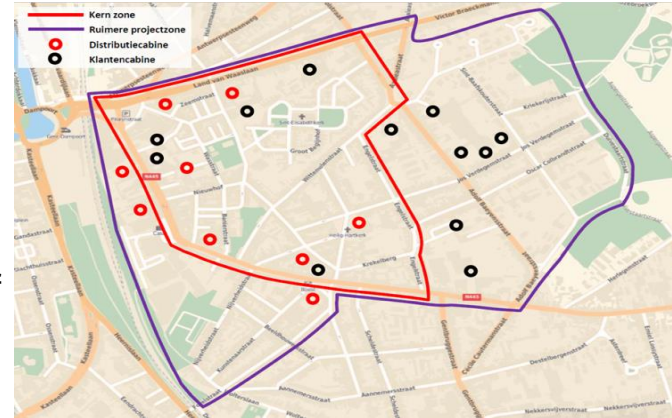
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No 731205.





A Green Energy District in Ghent

- Main demo site Flanders : Sint-Amandsberg, Ghent.
- Neighborhood with 2.500 residents.
- The WiseGRID demonstrator will join an initiative of the city of Ghent, DSO Eandis, Energy supplier Ecopower and REScoop Energent in '**Buurzame stroom**'.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No 731205.



Current challenges for cooperative ownership of energy resources

Practical

- Governance, decision making efficiency
- Lack of information, reliance on volunteers
- Access to finance

Policy

- Unstable / changing national support schemes for renewables towards more market-based system
- No recognition of / plan for supporting renewable energy communities
- Overburdensome licensing requirements / barriers to competition
- Complex administrative and regulatory burdens / procedures (e.g. setting up a cooperative, local planning, grid connection)



The Clean Energy Package

a policy foundation for energy communities

Acknowledgment:
definitions of renewable
and citizens energy communities

A set of basic rights
to participate
in the market based
on
non-discrimination

Enabling Framework
to promote
& facilitate
development of
energy communities

Equal footing
in accessing
renewables
support schemes

**Proportional
regulatory treatment**
simplification of
administration and
procedures

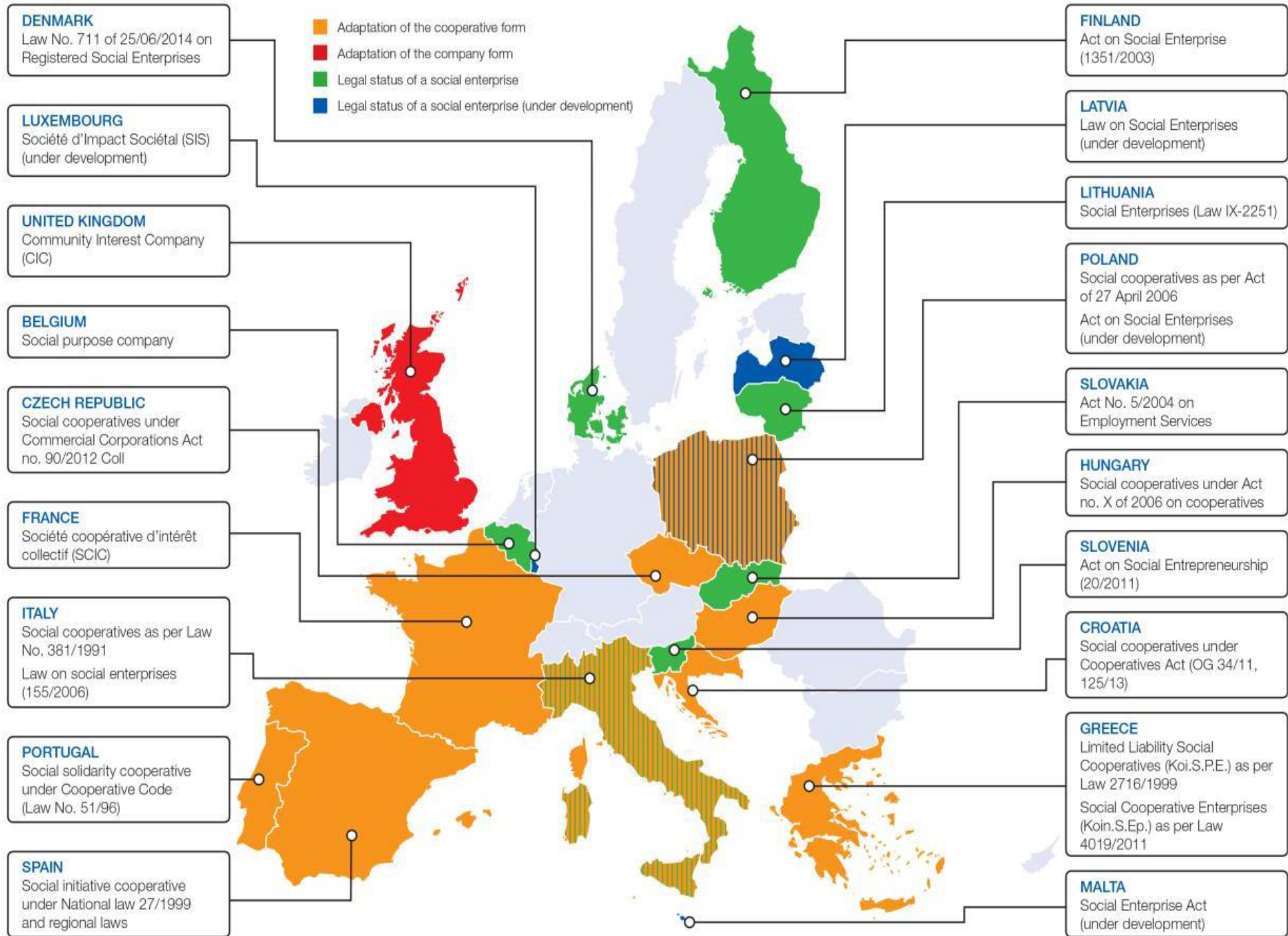
+

Energy Union Governance:
monitoring & transparency of Member State action

Energy community definitions: an 'organizational' concept

- Legal entity
- Non-commercial purpose
- Open and voluntary membership
- Emphasis on participation by citizens, SMEs and public authorities
- Emphasis on 'effective control' by members not engaged in the energy sector
- For RECs: requirement for autonomy





CEP Transposition: recommendations to support energy cooperatives

- 1) The 'Energy Community' definitions:
 - Frame definitions are organizational principles and cooperative values – not a specific activity
 - Tailor to national legal context on cooperatives so they can be acknowledged as energy communities
- 2) Ensure energy communities can participate in different activities and across the market (e.g. renewables, distribution, energy efficiency, supply, etc.)
- 3) Ensure 'bike lanes' for renewable energy communities in national renewables support schemes
- 4) Simplify administrative burden for setting up energy cooperatives and specific activities such as collective self-consumption and energy sharing

*If you want to know more, please
contact us!*

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