

The clean energy package: how could it empower energy citizens?

by Josh Roberts, Advocacy Officer



@REScoopEU

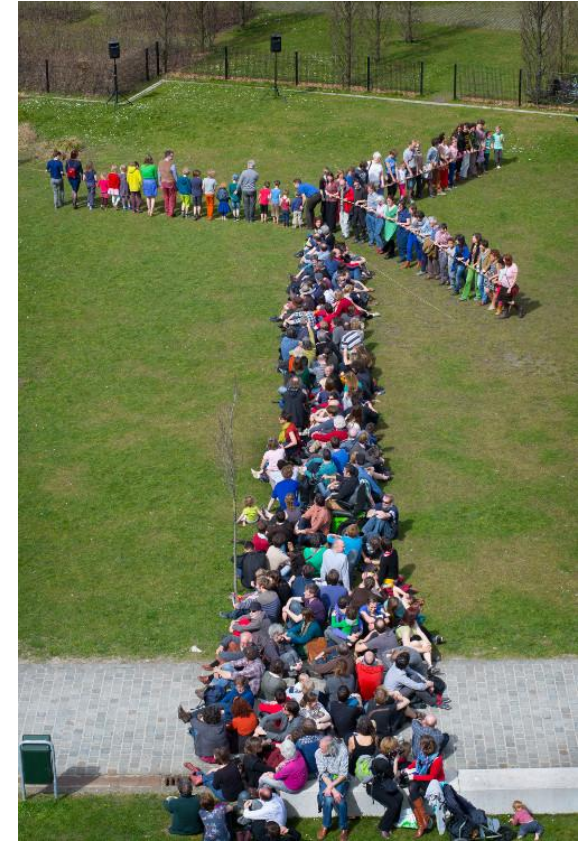


"This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 731205".



What is a REScoop?

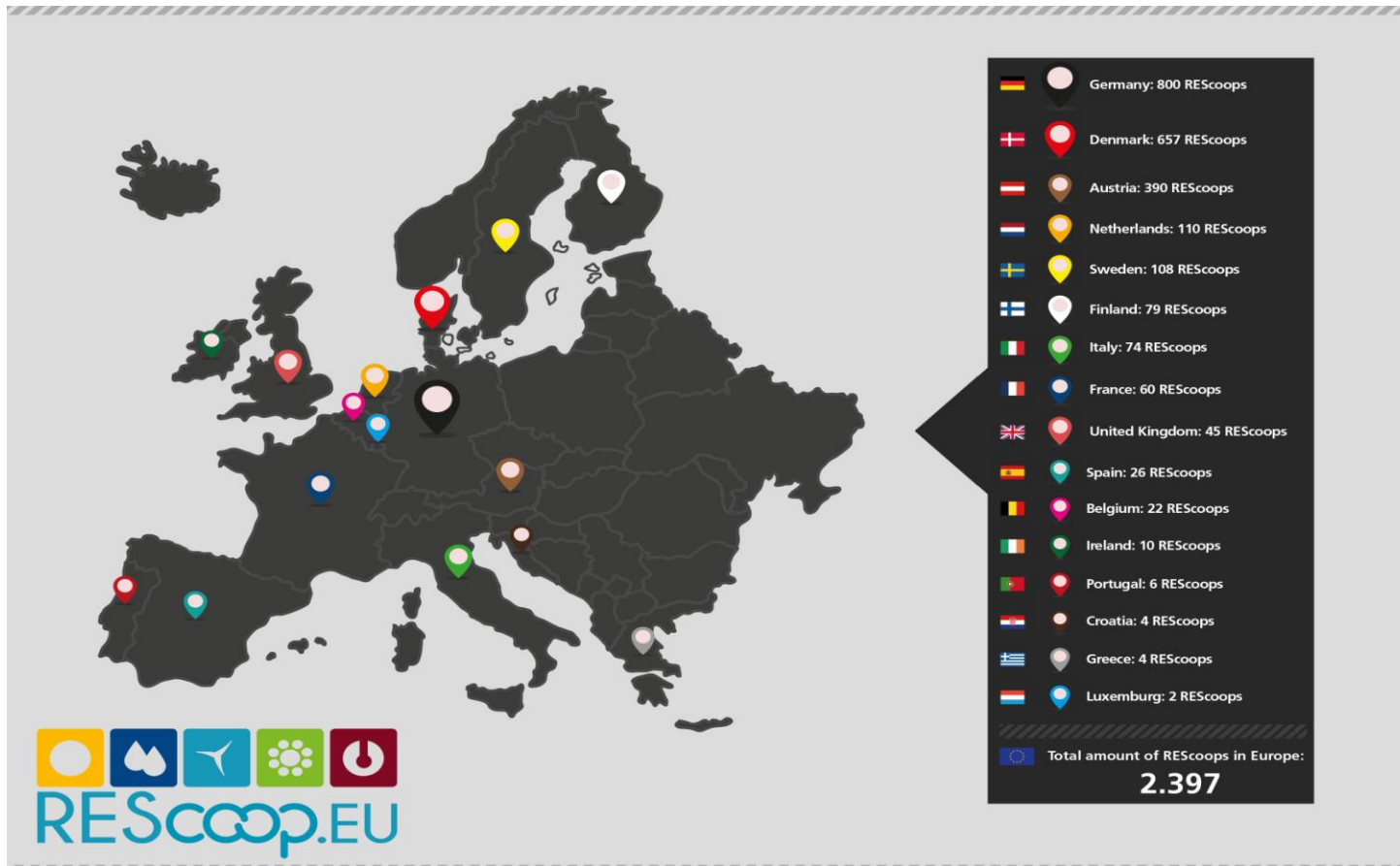
- Renewable Energy Sources cooperatives
Community power, or community energy initiatives (i.e. energy communities)
- Groups of citizens who cooperate on RES or EE
 - Production
 - Distribution
 - Storage
 - Supply
 - Services
- Legal entity < ICA principles



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What is a REScoop?



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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



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REScoop.eu, the European federation

- Represents the voice of citizens and REScoops
- Supports start up of new REScoops
- Provides services to members
 - E-mobility
 - Financing
 - IT
 - Academics
- Promotes the REScoop model



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REScoop.eu, involved in EU-projects

1. REScoop 20-20-20
2. Community Power
3. WISE POWER
4. REScoop MECISE
5. CITYinvest
6. REScoop Plus
7. PV Financing
8. WiseGRID



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The Winter Package: why is it important for REScoop.eu?

At the moment:

- EU legislation does not even mention community energy
- Opportunity to participate only enjoyed by some
- Few Member States actively promote citizen/community participation in the energy sector
- Existing/new laws/regulations (e.g. tenders) make it hard(er) for communities to compete



The Clean energy package could change all of this



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Giving community energy a name

Definitions for new actors:

- ‘Local energy communities’
- Criteria for ‘renewable energy communities’
- ‘Active customers’
- ‘Renewables self-consumer’



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Renewable energy communities

- A right to produce, consume, store, and supply renewables
- reduced and simplified regulatory barriers
- A bike lane for community participation in RES support schemes
- Guarantees of origin – ensuring community suppliers maintain the additional value they provide to the customer
- Treating multi-apartment buildings as self-consumers
- Balancing responsibilities
- Grid access



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Local energy communities operating throughout the electricity market

- A right to access organised markets
- Non-discrimination
- Fair, proportionate and transparent procedures, cost-reflective charges
- Entitlement to an enabling regulatory framework
- Strong regulation/oversight to prevent capacity mechanisms from allowing inflexible fossil fuels to distort market, prevent consumer participation



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Opportunities to engage with DSOs

- Right to own, establish, lease, autonomously manage 'community networks'
- Services procurement by DSOs
- Recovery for investment in smart grids
- Distribution grid planning
- Ownership of storage/EV charging stations
- A new EU DSO body



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Governance

- The National climate and energy plans – an opportunity for energy citizens to engage their national governments
- Policy/regulatory stability



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