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20 MAY 2021

Breakout sessions

Citizen-Driven Energy Transition

An overview 2014-2020

Gé Huismans

NL Contact Point

(based on Gerry Bradley, UK Contact Point)

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How is Citizen Driven Energy Transition currently addressed (2014-2020)?

Aim of this session:

- To introduce / define the topic
- To give an overview of the projects covering the topic
- To provide key figures/results for NWE in 2014-2020 on the topic

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Citizen-Driven Energy Transition

North West Europe Programme

Low carbon theme Priority 2

SO2: To facilitate the implementation of low-carbon energy and climate protection strategies

ToA4: Promoting carbon reduction in cities and regions

ToA5: Implementing combined mitigation and adapation solutions

SO3: To facilitate the uptake of low carbon technologies, products, processes and services

ToA6: Implementing low carbon technologies & other solutions

SO4: To facilitate the implementation of low carbon transport systems

ToA7: Implementing transnational solutions for low carbon transport

ToA8: Implementing solutions for optimised traffic management

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Low Carbon

35 projects
165.3 M EUR allocated

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GENerating energy secure COMMunities through Smart Renewable Hydrogen

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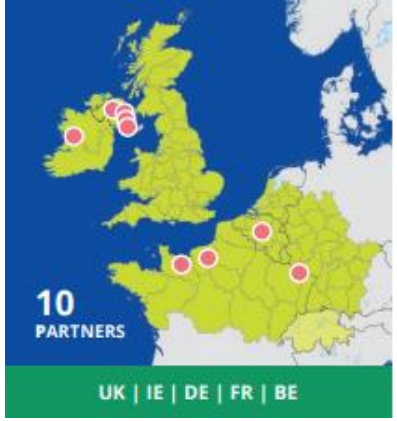

OBJECTIVES

GENCOMM will technically and financially validate and model the renewable hydrogen value chain and adapt it to a Decision Support Tool (DST) that leads NWE communities into sustainable, local and autonomous energy matrixes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Bio to H2 plant in Stornoway (UK) complete and operational.
- Installation of the solar operated HRS at the Saarbrücken (DE) side.
- Decision Support Tool (DST) operational.
- H2 refueling station in Belfast (UK), new H2 buses launched in Belfast.
- 20 new H2 buses ordered for use by Translink Northern Ireland.

PUSHING RESULTS ONE STEP FURTHER

- Release of a white paper for policy makers throughout NWE
- Establishment of Hydrogen Ireland, a new national association.
- Hydrogen Triple Alliance linking and collaborating across 3 projects.
- Creating and developing the Community Hydrogen Forum (CH2F).
- 8 stage crisis management plan.

2017-2023

Total Budget
€9.3 M

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RED WoLF

Rethink Electricity Distribution Without Load Following

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OBJECTIVES

RED Wolf aims to reduce CO2 from NWE homes via a smart hybrid storage system (HSS: batteries + thermal storage) exploiting domestic photovoltaic & low carbon Grid electricity.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The hybrid storage system has been designed, proved with peer reviewed computer simulations and so far installed in 43 houses in 3 pilot sites in UK and FR.
- Tenants moved in. HSS is working in “simplified mode”. Full system testing is starting in 2021.

PUSHING RESULTS ONE STEP FURTHER

- Results are serving as a basis for funding applications for further development and make it ready for market uptake.
- The consortium is being extended to other territories and partners, and the system evolved to meet demand.

2019-2023

Total Budget
€6.1 M

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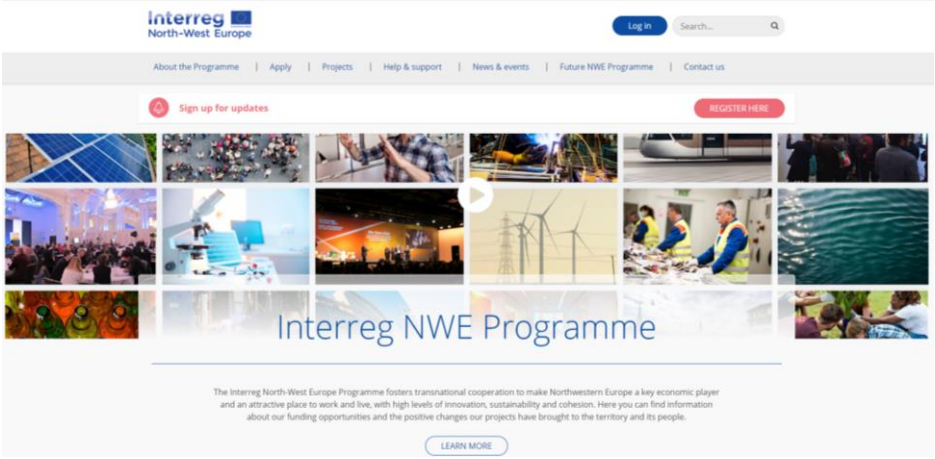

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ENERGE – Energizing Education to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Dr. Edelle Doherty

https://www.nweurope.eu/energe/

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Key Facts

- Programme: Interreg NWE
- Theme: Low Carbon
- Timeline: January 2019 – May 2023
- Partners/Sub-Partners: 11
- Budget: €4.27 million
- Countries Represented: IRE, FR, NL, UK, LU, DE
- Demonstration Site Schools: 13

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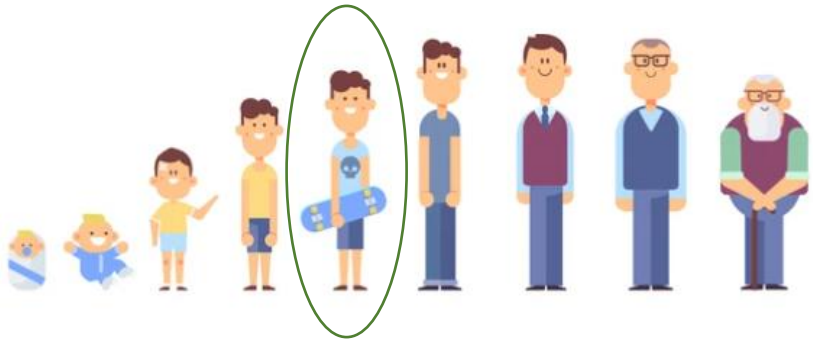
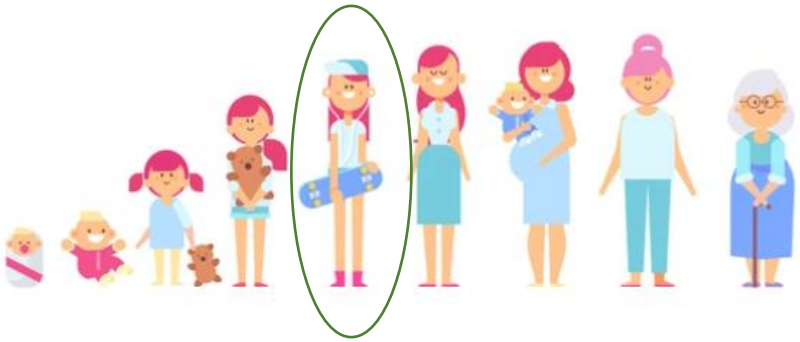
Challenge

- There is a need for low-cost solutions that enable long-term resource efficiency in schools.

- Schools are the place where we educate our **future decision makers**, so why not empower them and involve them in the process of making their own school more sustainable and climate neutral.





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Our vision: A climate neutral Europe

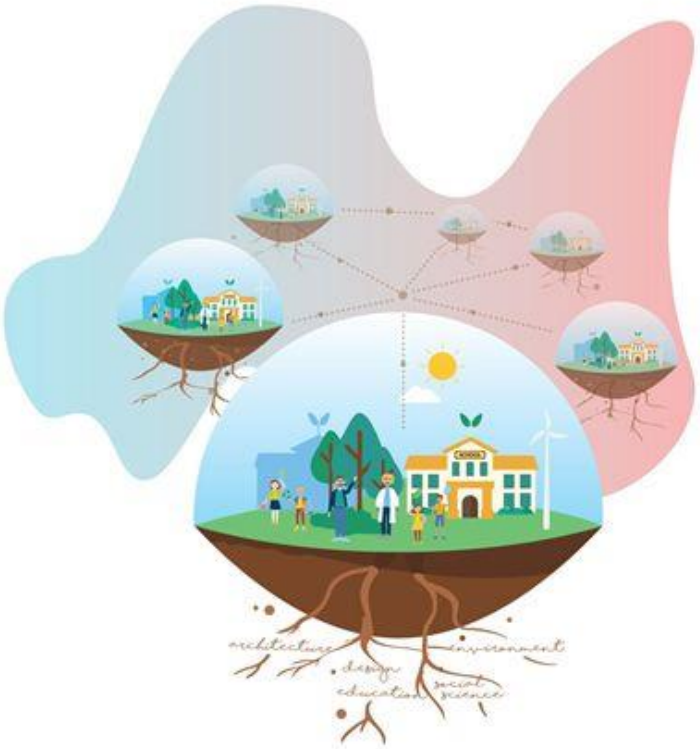
The Challenge: Building upgrades or construction of new buildings is costly and time consuming

Our mission:

Empower teachers and students to develop and implement energy efficiency strategies

Reduce excessive and unnecessary energy use in secondary schools by targeted, non-intrusive and affordable physical interventions

Motivate them to continue energy efficient behaviours in their daily life going forward



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Challenge – NWE Region

Given the **variation** in the governance & management arrangements of **schools** across the NWE regions, knowledge transfer & opportunities for transnational cooperation have been **limited** in this sector.

13 schools representing 6 NWE regions: representing the **variance that exists in NWE schools** in terms of age, management, ethos, focus, size, location etc.

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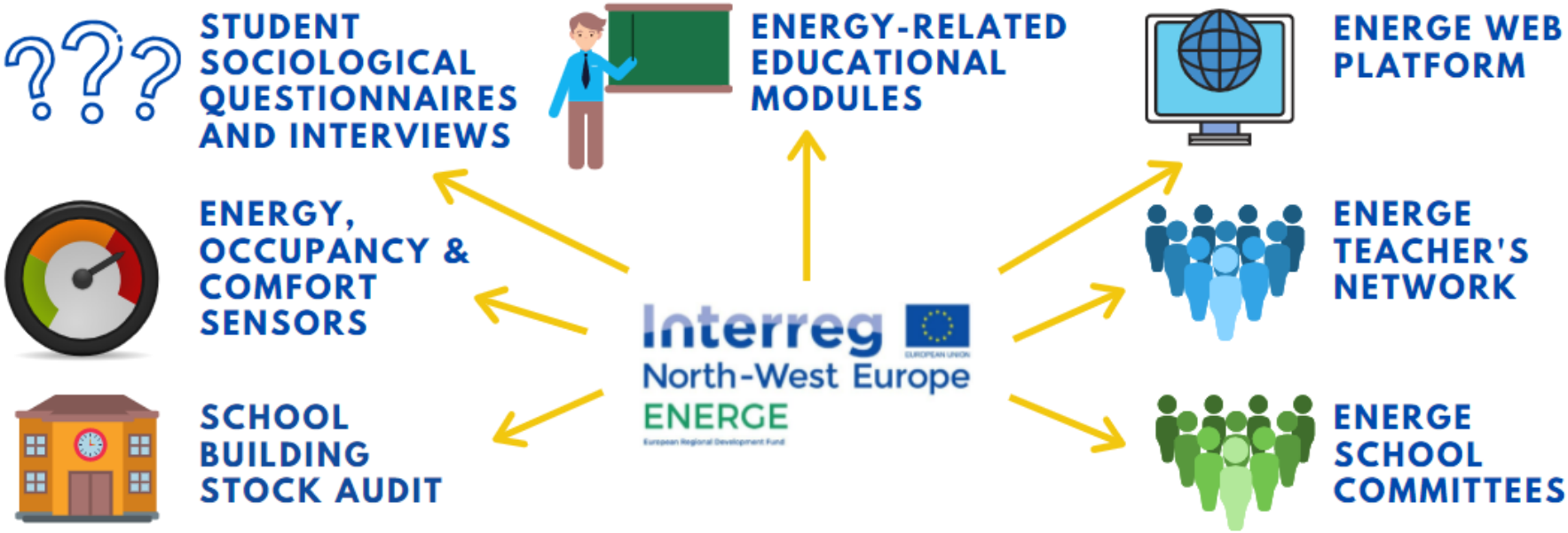
Objective

ENERGE will reduce GHG emissions & energy consumption in **post-primary school buildings**



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Outputs

ENERGE WEB PLATFORM → CO-DESIGN SESSIONS ARE CUREENTLY BEING RUN WITH ENERGE COMMITTEES IN EACH SCHOOL

ENERGY-RELATED EDUCATIONAL MODULES → ONGOING PILOTING IN DEMONSTRATION SCHOOLS USING THE TEACHER'S NETWORK

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR ENERGY AND GHG REDUCTION → CURRENTLY BEING IDENTIFIED FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN DEMONSTRATION SCHOOLS

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR NWE SCHOOLS → CONTINUALLY APPLIED TO SCHOOL DATA AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE

SCHOOL BUILDING STOCK AUDIT METHODOLOGY → UNDERGOING TESTING IN DEMONSTRATION SCHOOLS

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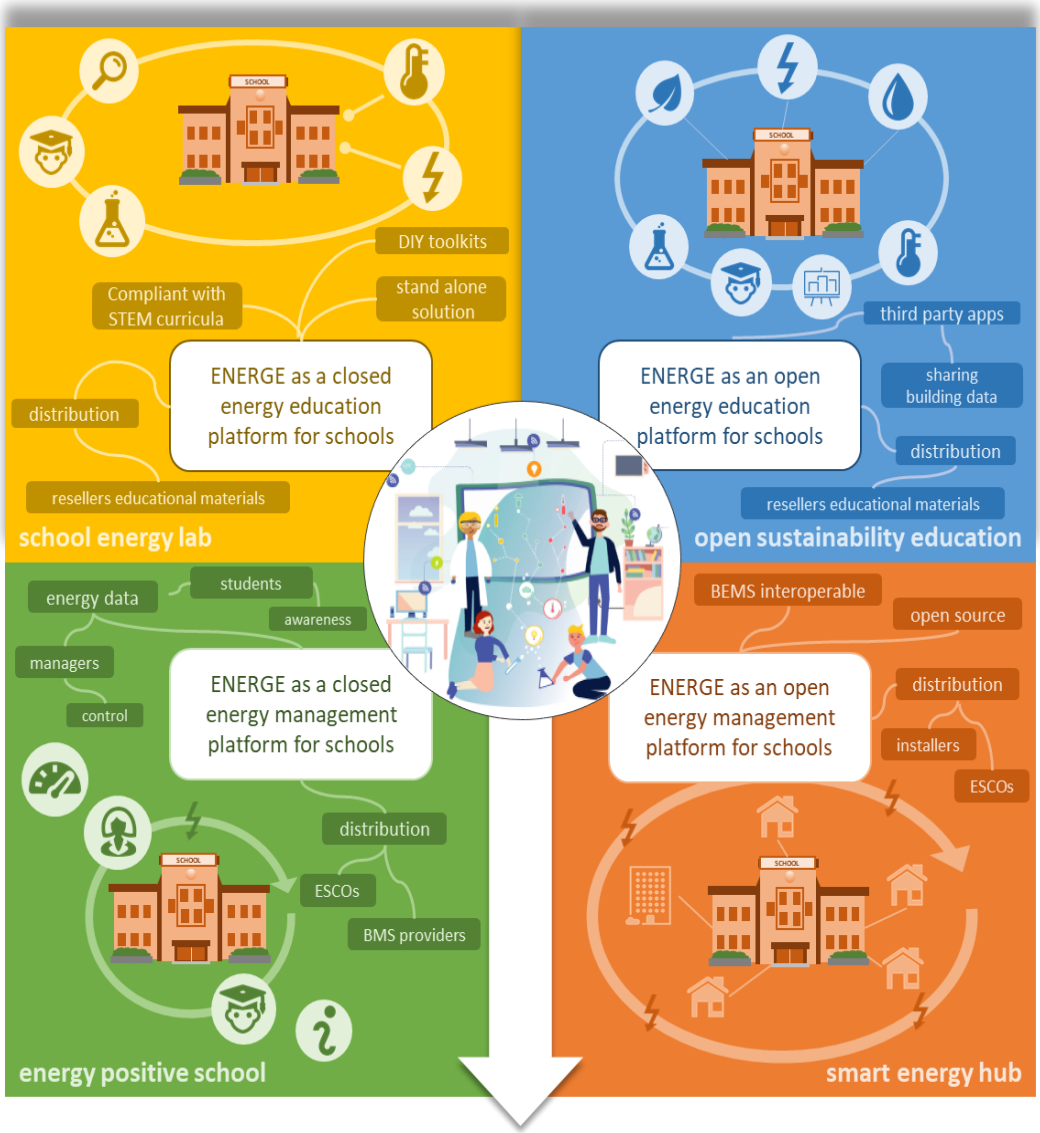
Pushing results one step further

Challenge: Long Term Collaboration across NWE

- ENERGE Platform
- Educational material to supplement school curricula (for students aged 12-18 i.e. formative years).
- Intervention Strategy for GHG reduction in NEW post-primary schools



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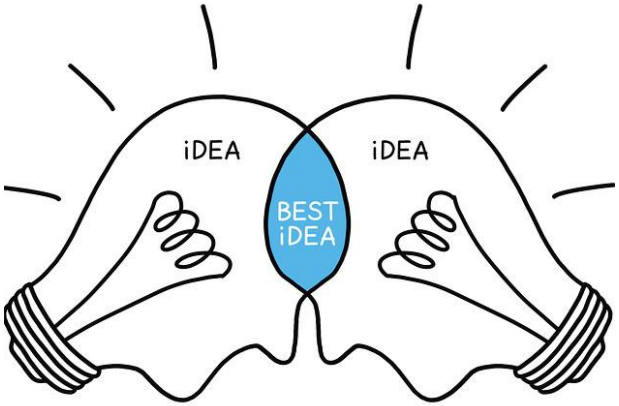
Partnership

*"By leveraging best practice from each region and addressing region-specific challenges, ENERGE intends to develop a solution that has **flexibility & adaptability to be applied to schools transnationally**; fostering cohesion, support & collaboration."*

By working together at NEW level, we can:

- Learn from each other;
- Draw on the specialties of each Project Partner;
- Demonstrate the project in schools across NWE;
- Provide deliverables that are applicable across NWE;
- Build academic relationships.



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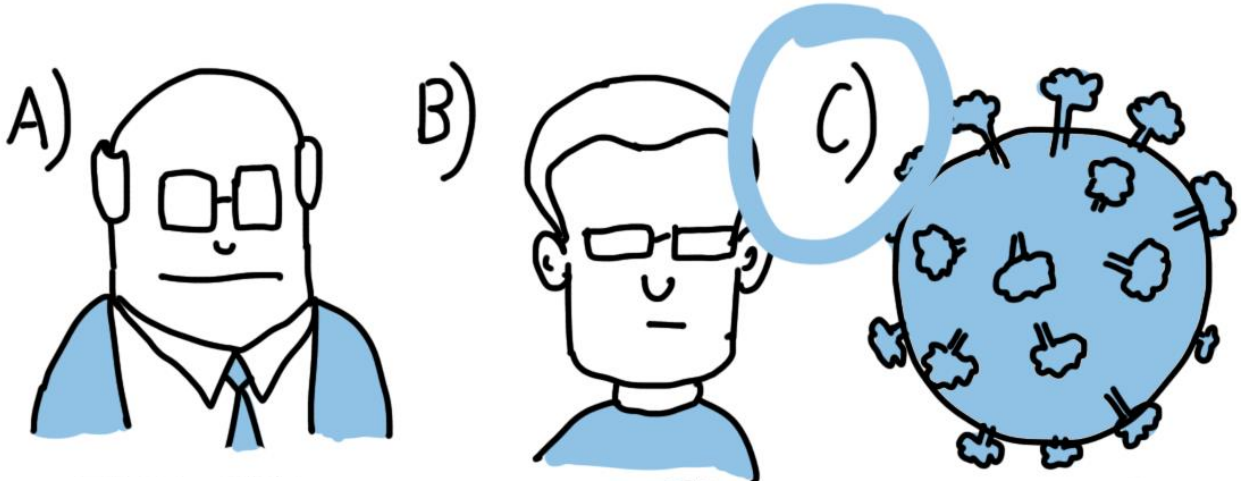
Unforeseen challenge and benefit

Who led the digital transformation on the project?



The LP | The PP | COVID-19

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Thank you!

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www.linkedin.com/company/energe-nwe

https://www.nweurope.eu/energe/

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ECCO, creating new local Energy Community Co-Operatives

Tom Schaeken

https://www.nweurope.eu/ecco/

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Interreg North-West Europe ECCO

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Key Facts

- Programme: Interreg NWE
- Theme: Low Carbon
- Timeline: September 2017 – March 2022
- Partners/Sub-Partners: 15
- Budget: €5,39 million
- Countries Represented: BE, IRE, FR, NL, UK, DE
- Demonstration Beacon ECCOs: 9

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Challenge : Accelerating the Energy Transition

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https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/ecco-creating-new-local-energy-community-co-operatives/#tab-5

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Outputs & Objectives:

ACCELERATE the growth of local ECCOs, both in EFFECTIVENESS and in NUMBERS!

- ECCO Accelerator network
- ECCO One Stop-Shop
- 50 new ECCOs
- 30.000 MWh Ren. Energy Production / year
- 7.500 Ton CO2 emission reduced / year

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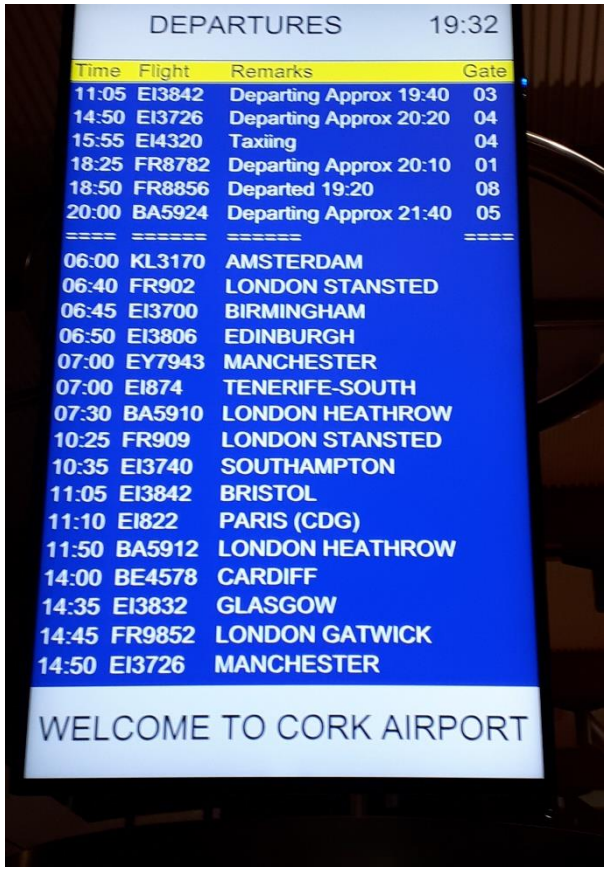
Added value of the partnership

- An Interreg NWE project needs a well-balanced partnership!
- and above all… enthusiasts!

  Working on an Interreg NWE project is really fun!
- Transnational exchange of knowledge, expertise and experience -> new insights
- Comparing national contexts (policy) & lessons learned



The Beast of the East launches the ECCO Project

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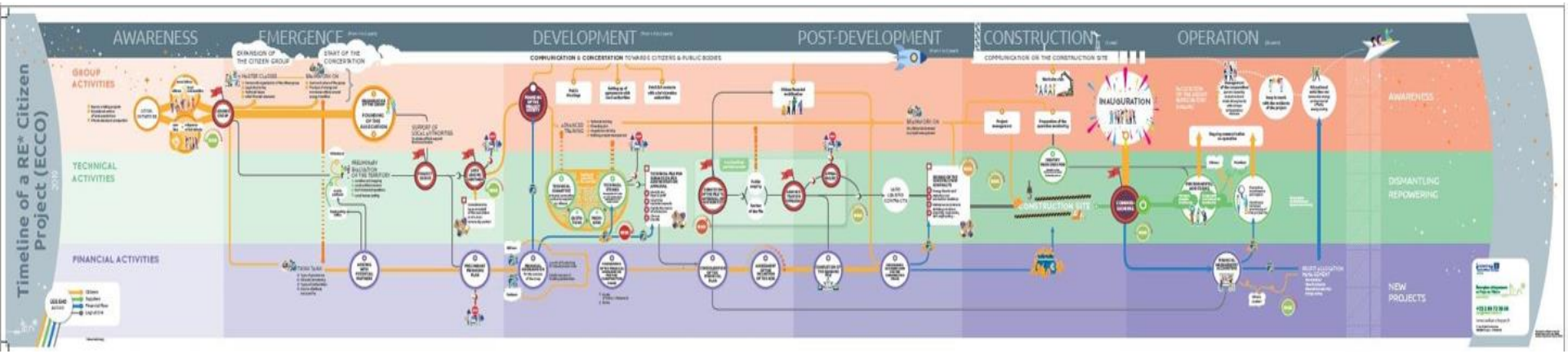
Results up to now:

- ECCO development Timeline = pathway to go
- ECCO development support methodology set
- ECCO Masterclass Curriculum >40 topics
- > 170 Dissemination activities
- 2 Local Energy Accelerator events (3-day events)



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Results up to now:

- **192 ECCOs supported**
  ->26 producing Renewable energy
  ->35 stopped their ECCO development

- **56.609 MWh** RE Production / year

- **8.268 Ton CO2** em.reduced / year

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By the end of the project aiming for:

- **40 ECCOs** in production
- **100.000 MWh** RE Production / year
- **>15.000 Ton CO2** em.reduced / year

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Pushing results one step further

Workpackage Long Term Effects benefits of the approval & transposition of directives in national policies

- EU directives (CEP) launched “Energy community” concept
- More ECCOs embedded in national policies
- EU demands a facilitating framework for start up of ECCOs

Future challenge: transposition of the directives in the energy policy of each EU member state aiming for a strong and active position of citizens and their ECCOs on the energy market.

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Interreg NWE capitalisation workpackage

"ECCOs become reliable actors on the Energy market"

- Supportive national policies: sharing & selling energy
- Entrepreneurial skills
- Tools to enter the energy market
  => community Virtual Power Plant

Intense collaboration and exchange between 2 Interreg NWE projects: cVPP and ECCO

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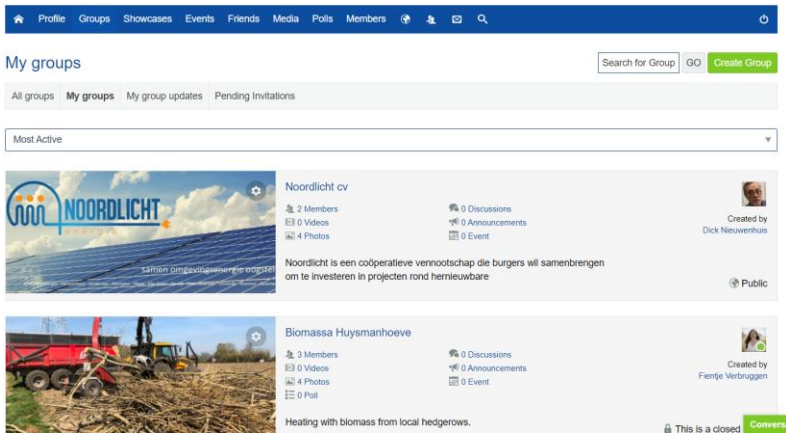
PROTOTYPE

Welcome To The ECCO One Stop Shop

Your One Stop Solution For All Things Community Energy.

Challenge: Covid-19

- Creation of a Digital ECCO accelerator Network
- a social networking platform was added to the ECCO One stop Shop
- an ECO-system of ECCOs



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Main features of new Programme 2021-2027 regarding **Citizen-driven energy transition**

Julia ERIPRET

Head of Project Unit, Joint Secretariat

Interreg North-West Europe
European Regional Development Fund

Priority 2
Smart and just energy transition

SO 2.1: Promoting energy efficiency measures.

SO 2.2: Promoting renewable energy.

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Programme approach

- Involving different stakeholders through **multi-level governance models** (between businesses, regulators, local authorities, investors and local communities).
- Increasing **stakeholder capacity** to demonstrate, transfer and implement new/innovative integrated solutions.
- Contributing to behavioural change at societal level, **from citizens to industries**.

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Expected impact of projects

SO 2.1 Energy efficiency

- Increased capacity of communities to exploit potential for improving energy efficiency.

- More and better solutions and strategies to increase energy efficiency in different settings, **involve and engage consumers and citizens, increase interest of communities, avoid exclusion and energy poverty.**

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Expected impact of projects
SO 2.2 Renewable energy

- Increased capacity of communities to exploit potential improving renewable energy's production and consumption mix.

- More and better solutions and strategies exploiting and using renewable energies in different settings, **involve and engage consumers and citizens, avoid exclusion and energy poverty**

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What type of activities?

- Elaboration and implementation of **joint strategies or action plans**
- **Pilot actions** for testing tools/solutions upscaled
- **Capacity building** and **awareness raising activities**

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Next steps

- Networking !
- Think of how you can **contribute**
- **Prepare** for the first call for proposals – spring 2022
- **Follow** all the latest news on: **www.nweurope.eu/**