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ACCU

Citizens of Arnhem store the sun for their local energy community

A neighbourhood in Arnhem (NL) is taking energy into its own hands. Residents, partners, and local organisations launch a unique collaboration: creating a local energy community where solar energy is stored and shared among residents as heat and power.

This day crowned the efforts of those championing the ACCU project in the neighbourhood and city council. Along with two other pilots, the project explores how social, organisational, and technical models can help such communities thrive.

Lead partner:

Municipality of Arnhem (NL)



accu.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: ACCU



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AquaCOM

Leveraging seawater energy for a sustainable community future

The island of Vlieland faces rising energy needs, especially during busy tourist seasons. Through the AquaCOM project, the harbour of Vlieland is trying something bold: extracting heat from seawater.

By combining aquathermal energy with solar-powered heat pumps, they are creating a clean, local heating network – a circular solution in line with Vlieland's 2050 gas-free goal that could inspire the entire Wadden Sea region.

Lead partner:

Ballyhoura Development (IE)



aquacom.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: AquaCOM



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CAMINO

Driving towards sustainable public transport

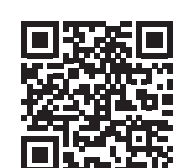
As private car use and CO₂ emissions rise in NWE, public transport struggles with budget cuts, fuel costs, and staff shortages.

To address this, the CAMINO project helps transport authorities and operators embrace Automated Mobility on Demand, an innovation that can limit costs, improve accessibility, and reduce emissions.

By guiding where, when, and how to deploy it, CAMINO builds strategies for a greener, smarter, and more sustainable public transport future.

Lead partner:

City of Almere (NL)



camino.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: CAMINO



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CIRCUS

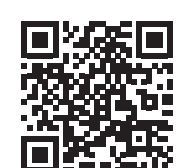
Rural communities manage their own renewable energy sources

In many rural areas, residents want to produce their own renewable energy, but lack the tools, knowledge, or support to make it happen.

The CIRCUS project works with these communities, offering practical tools that stimulate participation and engagement and help them organise, plan, and build a solid energy business model. By supporting 30 pilot communities and training 150 local advisors, the project empowers people in rural areas to take control of their energy future.

Lead partner:

Rural Association (BE)



circus.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: CIRCUS



DeCarb-Pro

Making CO₂ pricing work: a practical strategy for local authorities

To cut CO₂ emissions from local authority procurement, CO₂ pricing can be a powerful tool. However, it can also feel complex and technical. DeCarb-Pro set out to change that.

Project partners reflected critically on how to start, what works and when, based on insights from partner municipalities. The result is a first strategy framework: clear, practical pathways that show how to overcome barriers and integrate CO₂ pricing in procurement. As the project progresses, it will evolve to support authorities across the North-West Europe area.

Lead partner:

Climate Alliance Netherlands (NL)



decarb-pro.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: DeCarb-Pro



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DEM-AWE

Kites powering batteries: clean and mobile energy anywhere

The DEM-AWE project demonstrated the world's first Kite-Battery Energy Storage System (K-BESS), delivering clean power where the grid cannot reach.

Field tests in Ireland and the Netherlands showed how Airborne Wind Energy can replace diesel generators in remote construction sites, quarries, and islands.

By combining kite power with mobile battery storage, DEM-AWE proved a flexible solution to decarbonise off-grid communities across Europe.

Lead partner:

Airborne Wind Europe (BE)



dem-awe.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: Dura Vermeer and Jorrit Lousberg



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E2-CUTIES

Driving the energy transition with citizen initiatives

Eleonore, a Strasbourg citizen and member of an energy cooperative, wants more control over energy prices and reliance. She believes locally produced, owned, and shared renewable energy is key. She is supported by the local city council and climate agency that place citizen initiatives at the heart of the energy transition.

Working closely together, they tackle challenges and explore solutions, also collaborating with other cities like Utrecht, Leuven, and Dublin-Balbriggan. They inspire one another and show how grassroots efforts drive change.

Lead partner:

Municipality of Utrecht (NL)



e2-cuties.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: EliBabei



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ECOBoost

Small enterprises, big energy savings

Micro and small sized enterprises want to cut energy bills and go green, but the path towards their personal energy transition isn't always clear.

In Kilkenny, the Pembroke Hotel took the leap and is one of the 90 SMEs that got support from ECOBoost. With heat pumps, smart controls and efficient kitchens, it now saves €36,090 a year and avoids 107 tonnes of CO₂. Its journey shows other small hotels and restaurants across North-West Europe that clean, resilient hospitality isn't just possible – it's good business.

Lead partner:

South East Energy Agency (IE)



ecoboost.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: ECOBoost



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GEMS

From bottlenecks to breakthroughs: smart solutions for grid congestion

At Laarberg Business Park, limited grid capacity threatens to slow down growth and renewable integration.

Through the GEMS pilot, smart energy solutions like solar PV, storage, and energy sharing are being tested to overcome congestion. Local companies, new business settlers, and the wider community will benefit from lower costs, reliable access to green energy, and a stronger regional economy.

Lead partner:

East Netherlands Development
Agency (NL)



gems.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: GEMS



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Green SKHy

Green SKHy: building skills to drive the hydrogen transition

The shift to hydrogen for a greener energy supply needs more than technology – it needs skilled people. Through Green SKHy, trainers, teachers and industry experts are learning so they can train others in return.

In Spa-Francorchamps, specialists from Belgium, France, Germany and Luxembourg recently met for a hands-on hydrogen mobility training. By strengthening those who teach, the project is speeding up the workforce Europe needs for a clean hydrogen future.

Lead partner:

National agency for vocational and educational training of adults (FR)



greenskhy.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: Green SKHy



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MORE4Sustainability

A green factory approach for industrial maintenance & asset management

Industrial companies face rising pressure to cut energy use and emissions, yet many technical departments still lack a structured framework and practical tools.

MORE4Sustainability captured frontrunner practices in sustainable asset management and turned them into a concrete roadmap and training programme. With 700+ professionals reached and 150+ certified, companies are now transforming their plants into cleaner and more efficient production sites, benefitting both industry and society.

Lead partner:

Belgian Maintenance Association (BE)



more4sustainability.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: MORE4Sustainability



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RE-GREENHOUSE

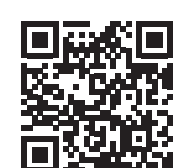
NWE greenhouses pave their way towards the energy transition

French plant producer Soupe Horticulture wanted to break free from fossil fuels, like many greenhouse producers in Europe facing rising costs and climate pressure.

On their 2.5-hectare farm, they now heat crops with biomass, proving clean greenhouse energy works in real life. Their data and experience help build a new renewable energy system decision tool, guiding other growers across North-West Europe toward renewable, resilient greenhouses.

Lead partner:

Inagro (BE)



re-greenhouse.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: RE-GREENHOUSE



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ResNRJwater

Transforming wastewater treatment plants into energy hubs

Water management is essential for all of us. Pumping stations keep our feet dry, dykes protect us from floods and treatment plants clean our wastewater. All of these processes require a lot of energy.

The ResNRJwater project explores the huge renewable energy potential within these processes, piloting energy management and storage systems. From being high-energy consumers, the infrastructures and assets of the water and wastewater sector will thus be able to become part of the solution, providing clean energy for all of us!

Lead partner:

Waterboard Lippeverband (DE)



resnrjwater.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: ResNRJwater



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RODEO

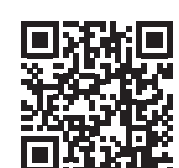
An innovative co-creative model for district heating

District Heating and Cooling (DHC) is a major tool for the energy transition of city neighbourhoods, featured in many local climate plans. However, there are economical barriers to developing grids.

The RODEO project breaks down these barriers by introducing a more participative business model that rebalances the costs, benefits and risks of developing DHC. The project validates this innovative co-creative model in four pilot cities across North-West Europe.

Lead partner:

City of Ostend (BE)



rodeo.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: Gwenny Cooman



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SCEPA

Empowering communities: local energy coaches tackle energy poverty together

Rising energy costs are affecting vulnerable neighbourhoods hard and pushing them into energy poverty.

With SCEPA, energy coaches visit community centres, homes and meeting points such as this local Krachtpunt booth in cities across North-West Europe, giving tailored advice to cut bills and improve comfort.

The result: less financial stress, warmer homes, and stronger, more connected communities.

Lead partner:

Municipality of Arnhem (NL)



scepa.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: SCEPA



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SmartCORE

Data-driven services for the next chapter of local energy communities

The energy transition is underway, but even committed citizen energy groups struggle when market rules shift. In France, Énergies Citoyennes en Pays de Vilaine (EPV), a pioneer in citizen-owned renewables, is now confronted with falling subsidies and uncertain revenue models.

With SmartCORE, they are working alongside peer communities to build data-based energy-sharing and management tools that let local members stay in control, keep costs down and power the next chapter of collective clean energy.

Lead partner:

Eindhoven University
of Technology (NL)



smartcore.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: Begawatt



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STEER-NWE

Driving local and inclusive e-carsharing

Metropolitan areas across North-West Europe face a major challenge: dominance of fossil-fuelled cars has made transport the largest energy consumer and GHG emitter. Low Emission Zones help reduce pollution but must align with housing, energy, and transport policies. Car ownership, especially with limited alternatives, is costly and harms our cities.

In STEER-NWE, cities are working together to make electric carsharing affordable and sustainable by improving public space use, charging infrastructure, and governance.

Lead partner:

Luxembourg Institute of Science
and Technology (LU)



steer-nwe.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: Pilot Stuttgart



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WISTAR

From river to table: clean transport, fresh connections

Along the Caen canal, fishermen struggle to deliver their catch quickly and sustainably to the city center and local restaurants. The WISTAR electro-vessel demonstrator bridges Ouistreham and Caen, demonstrating a clean waterway that cuts CO₂, safeguards food quality, and supports local jobs.

By turning the river into a lifeline for communities, the project shows how innovation can strengthen regional identity, boost regional agriculture, and connect people with fresh local food through flexible and sustainable means.

Lead partner:

University of Duisburg-Essen (DE)



wistar.nweurope.eu

Photo ©: NEAC

