The RENAISSANCE research project about the deployment of energy communities is approaching the final phases. The European renewable energy landscape is rapidly growing and the project aims to share broadly results and experiences with all those interested in the establishment of energy communities in Europe.

***

RENAISSANCE PROJECT FINAL EVENT

Good ideas for your energy community

Rome, 15 September 2022 – On the 19th of October, the Renaissance Project will host its final event in Brussels. The event "Good ideas for your energy community" will present the project's final results and discuss how European research supports local communities towards a more sustainable and decentralised production and distribution of energy.

Renaissance is an innovation action project funded by the European Union under the Horizon 2020 programme aimed at providing innovative and user-friendly tools for the preliminary evaluation, management and monitoring of emerging energy communities. The research team focused on citizens living in four European pilot sites, providing them with essential information about local energy systems, self-production and consumption of renewable energy and the associated technologies to ensure grid-balance or efficient demand-response schemes.

Today the project finally released a set of tools for the preliminary design, configuration and management of energy communities, plus an online video game to engage players as potential prosumers. During the past three years all partners supported stakeholders in pilot sites in Belgium, Greece, Spain and the Netherlands by identifying feasible future scenarios with a participatory approach. Every pilot was provided with customised hardware and software components to collect and analyse energy data, which were further used to develop and test both the multi-vector optimisation tool and the management platform necessary to configure and monitor local electricity grids. Despite the differences between each site in terms of users' needs and energy system characteristics, all sites shared a common ambition: **creating communities capable of balancing local grids while covering their own energy needs or, even better, to feed the excess renewable energy produced into the main grid**.

Here in Belgium the research team worked in Jette's Hospital Campus in Brussels, which includes the hospital facilities and the Vrije Universiteit Brussel student campus buildings. The energy community aimed to increase its autonomy from the grid in order to operate as a micro-grid in case of shortages, and is already able to produce and store large amounts of energy to run for up to five days in so-called island mode, which ensures that critical wards can function also if there is no connection to the grid. To better balance the local grid, University students from the Faculty of Medicine who lived in the campus have been involved in responsible consumption challenges, comparing the amount of energy consumed through smart-metering systems and rewarding them with sustainable prizes. This RENAISSANCE event is the ideal opportunity to discover how the project developed solutions for each pilot site and to what extent its approach could be replicated worldwide.

During the final event all attendees will have their chance to participate in discussions around the project approach and results: the program includes expert keynotes, pilot site presentations, voices from energy communities' enablers and a flipchart session to share lessons learnt and ideas. Additionally, an interactive board game experience to prove the experience of initiating a true energy community has been organised as a closing activity. Get to know the RENAISSANCE project members and start your own transition!

Read the article on the project's official website:

https://www.renaissance-h2020.eu/join-our-final-event-in-brussels-on-the-19h-of-october/
Registration link:
https://forms.gle/kqWskbkyGDNwuTZq7

To know more about the project advancements please visit our websites:

www.renaissance-h2020.eu

www.compile-project.eu

Press & Comms:

Rebecca Hueting rebecca.hueting@dblue.it

Nikolas Giampaolo nikolas.giampaolo@dblue.it

Project Coordinator:

Prof. Thierry Coosemans thierry.coosemans@vub.be