

Strategies for participation of citizens in Community RE projects



**Zelena
Energetska
Zadruga**

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Renewable Energy Coordination Group
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About us

Mission: Community energy – engaging citizens in RE projects in Croatia and WB

Services:

- Developing community energy projects
- Supporting establishing new local energy groups
- Developing alternative financing models for community energy projects

Members: REScoop - European Federation of Energy Cooperatives

Cross-cutting activities

1. Promotion of citizen-owned RE projects

Encouraging citizen participation through community energy

2. Legal framework

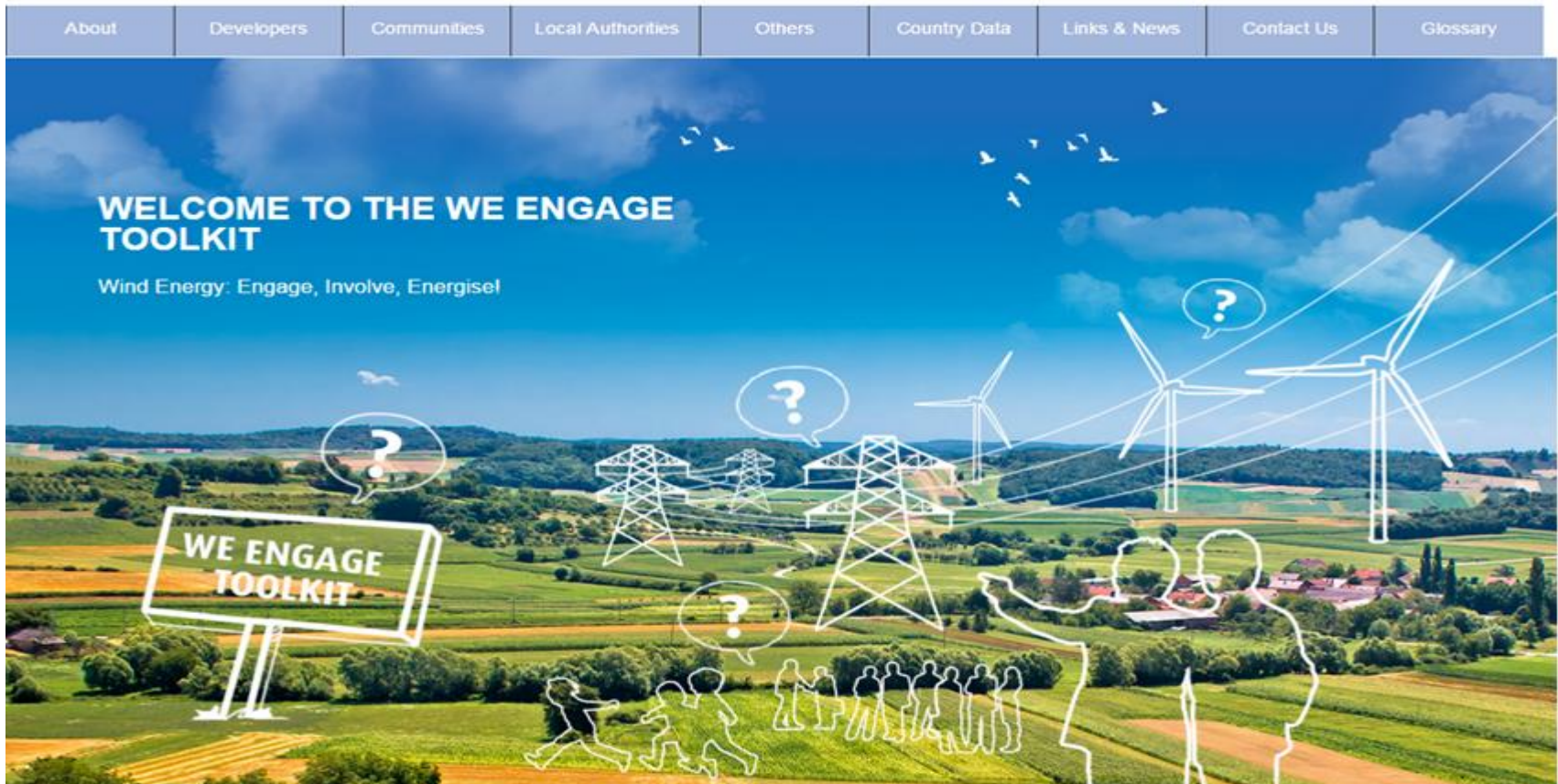
Recommendations for legal frameworks that encourages community power

3. Alternative business models

Developing effective business models for community projects

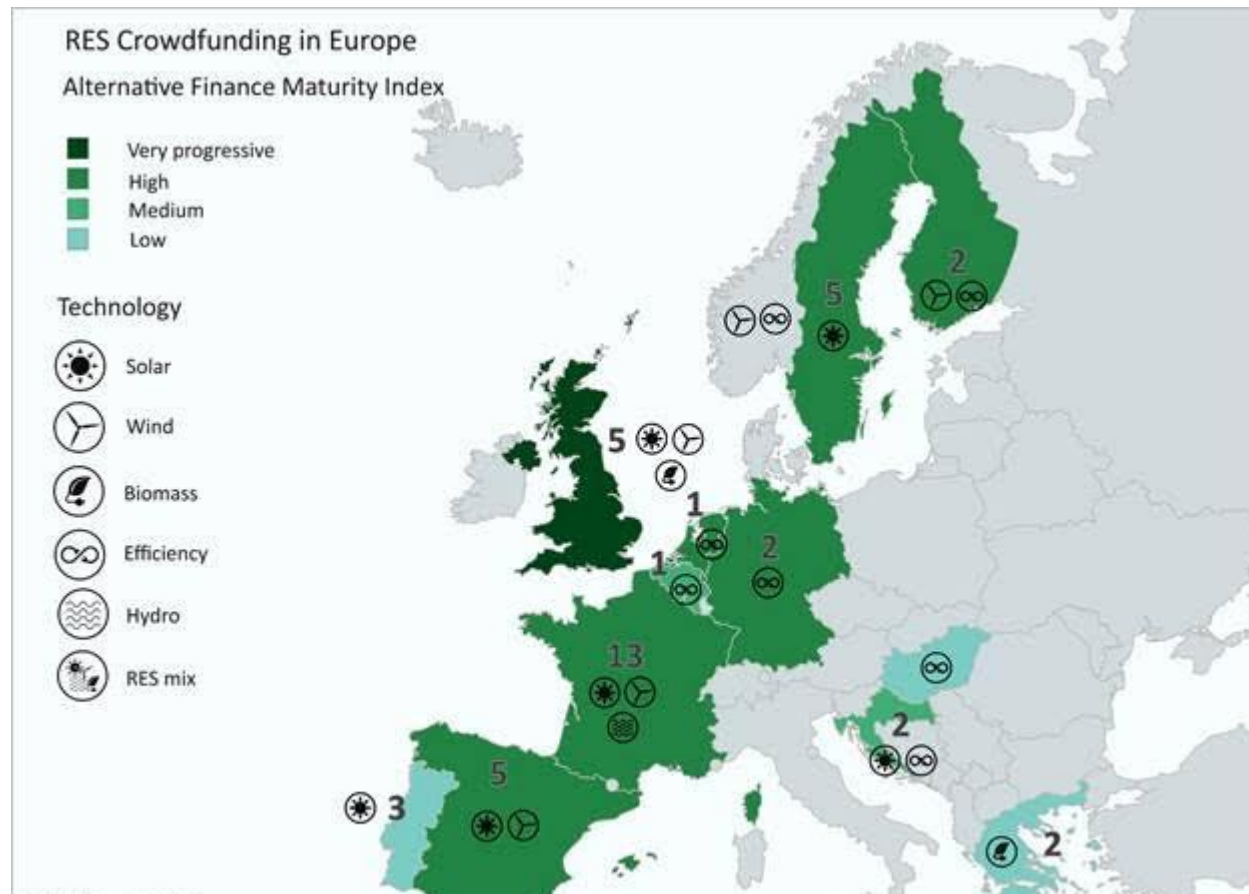
Promotion of citizen-owned RE projects (1)

- WE Engage - online tool that helps stakeholders to design social acceptance strategies -> <http://www.we-engage.eu/hr/>



Promotion of citizen-owned RE projects (2)

- Citizenergy platform - EU platform for promoting and financing community RE projects



Promotion of citizen-owned RE projects (3)

Workshops, webinars and study tours

- Workshop on RE in March in Bosnia (organized by GIZ)
- Webinar on community energy in March (organized by UNDP)
- Study tour on good practices of community energy projects in Croatia in May for representatives from local communities in Serbia
- Regional research on energy cooperative movement in WB

Recommendations for legal frameworks that encourages community power (1)

Strategic documents, Policy Networks

- Community Energy Chapter in Low Carbon Development Strategy for Croatia
- Platform for Good Energy in Croatia – multi-stakeholder platform of organisations involved in RE sector (investors in RE, academia, cluster of companies in RE, non governmental organisations) for changing direction of RE development

Recommendations for legal frameworks that encourages community power (2)

Guidelines for legal framework in Croatia

- Develop national strategy or program for encouraging community energy projects
- Make it mandatory in offering the possibility to citizens to own shares in new RE projects
- Enabling transition to “net-metering” system
- Allowing FIT systems for RE projects
- Providing a quota for subsidizing RE projects which are community owned

Alternative business models for financing community renewable energy projects

1) Crowdfunding

- Legal analysis on options for crowdfunding in RE in Croatia + screening of potential demo projects

2) Energy cooperatives

- Different models, focusing on small local projects in production

3) Net metering

- Tested on energy independent school, in partnership with supplier

4) Public civil partnerships

- Involving city authorities and citizens in financing of RE

5) Blockchain for RE

- Research paper on possibilities for using blockchain for RE

Thank you!



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