

EC2 and Energy Citizenship Contracts:

Insights from the legal, economic and psychological fields

Benedetta Buccolini
Just Transition Expert
ICLEI European Secretariat



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ENERGY
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EC²: About the project

What are the **social, economic and legal** conditions that will enable a **shift in our energy model**: from a centralised energy regime to a decentralised one, from a society of passive energy consumers to one of **empowered, engaged energy citizens**?

Gathering insights from the fields of **law, economics and psychology**, EC² is providing answers on how to facilitate and strengthen energy citizenship. Knowledge co-creation with municipalities, energy communities and citizens enhance the research to deliver recommendations that support the EU's energy and decarbonisation goals.



EC2 and ECC- PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Empower individuals and communities to take action through an increased sense of ownership and community;

Create **networks and partnerships**, facilitate knowledge-exchange and community awareness.

Include participants into an environment and community of **collective effort** towards climate neutrality and energy transition goals.



EC2 and ECC - LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

Represent a **set of policy instruments**, facilitating and enabling energy citizenship and the emergence of community energy initiatives.

Despite their **non-legally binding and voluntarily nature**, ECCs are “internationally and community-recognized”.

Influence policies and the policy system - representing a **base for further (including legally binding) legally binding forms of contracts.**



EC2 and ECC- ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

Promote **alternative community-based business models**

Facilitate the collaboration between **public and private sectors** and the redirection of funds towards community energy initiatives

Give space to local or community businesses to actively participate in the energy system.



THANK YOU

<https://ec2project.eu/#0>

<https://communityenergyacademy.eu/>



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Inclusive DIALOGUES towards an operational concept of energy citizenship to support the Energy Union

GRETA Webinar, 20th September 2023

Andrea Kollmann, Energieinstitut at the Johannes Kepler University Linz



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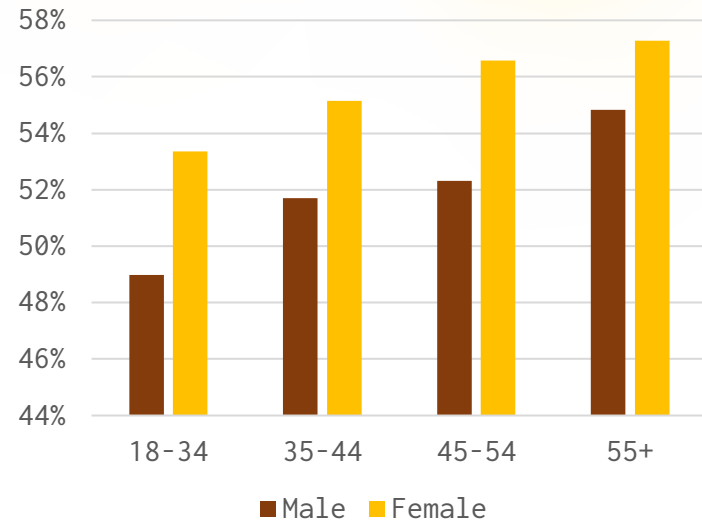
Towards a Concept of Energy Citizenship - Our Research Goals

	Conceptual Cornerstone 1: Operationalise the concept of 'energy citizenship'	Conceptual Cornerstone 2: Investigate broad trends in citizen engagement with the sustainable energy transition	Conceptual Cornerstone 3: Co-creation, inclusivity and shared ownership of the research / engagement process
Today	Energy citizenship is a poorly understood concept that offers little actionable advice to policymakers.	Citizen engagement in energy topics is researched and considered in a fragmented and situation / technology-specific manner with little interconnection.	Siloes of research, citizen apathy, and policymaking without operational knowledge and tools
DIALOGUES' ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define 'inclusive energy citizenship'• Illustrate the concept in-practice with Citizen Action Labs• Provide pathways to deepen energy citizenship• Develop a knowledge platform and data repository as research / policy tools• Integrate the concept with policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand broader trends in energy topics becoming salient to citizens' lives• Develop an interdisciplinary, multi-method research process that leverages past data and incorporates past work• Develop a trans-disciplinary process to focus on the relevance of these trends• Focus on key contextual conditions: geo-political scope, institution / legal factors, social group processes and digitalisation• Develop pathways and linkages between different types of engagement with energy topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building an inter- and trans-disciplinary energy citizenship research agenda across Europe• Open events to mesh with other ongoing projects• Interviews and engagement with experts and stakeholders• Build avenues for hard-to-reach and underrepresented groups

Towards a Concept of Energy Citizenship – Our Focus (2/2)

- **Key Focus: Inclusivity & Diversity**
 - groups underrepresented and marginalized in the current energy transition, focus on how age, gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, geographic isolation (i.e. islands) influences growth of energy citizenship.
 - Diversity must account not only for one aspect, such as gender, but also **intersectionality** - for example gender, in relation to age or minority status.
 - Socio-economic status is also relevant, as underprivileged groups may have less of a voice in questions related to energy citizenship; but at the same time, wealthy individuals are responsible for higher levels of per capita carbon emissions and are not necessarily engaging in community-level campaigns to reduce energy usage.

Answers to the question: “As an individual, I can do a lot to support the energy transition”, share of moderately/strongly agree for age groups, n=18,029.



Source: ECHOES GA#727470 survey (2019), EU-27, UK, NO, TR, CH

Towards a Concept of Energy Citizenship - CALs

DIALOGUES 9 Citizen Action Labs (CALs)

ITALY - Metropolitan City of Rome

Raise awareness among civil servants/ politicians active in elaborating Sustainable Energy and Climate Action plans, and provide them with tools for participation and active involvement of their citizens

ITALY - Social Services, City of Città di Castello
Identifying role of local government, of charity and adult education organisations in promoting energy citizenship.

GERMANY – Bürgerenergie Berlin
explore the role of energy citizenship in Berlin with regards to gender balance and inclusion of minorities in the energy cooperative “Bürgerenergie Berlin”

GREECE – 3 Greek Islands
Developing & testing digital tools (AR, VR) to use in the development of RES projects on the islands and of Clean Energy Transition Agendas. Overcoming opposition by co-developing with citizens.

CANADA – Quebec
The role of informal citizen networks in the energy transition

TURKEY – Izmir Metropolitan Municipality

ECin 3 focal points of the city’s development: sustainable mobility, smart energy for individuals, and household energy behaviours and decisions. Co-design process with the implementation partners.

SWITZERLAND – Geneva
co-produce a climate action plan at the level of a commune/communities in suburban Geneva, working with citizen groups and engaging with diverse local knowledge, focus on working women, members of the ‘elite’

BULGARIA – City of Belene
Developing an energy cooperative for vulnerable groups with a focus on women

NORWAY – Overhalla & Oppdal
local/municipal aspects of Energy Citizenship, the rural location of both places and the interest of both locations to examine how the built environment can contribute to Energy Citizenship

Household and community level

Municipal and regional level

National and supra-national



Thank you

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contact us: info@dialoguesproject.eu

kollmann@energieinstitut-linz.at

<http://www.dialoguesproject.eu>



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Social Sciences & Humanities for Climate,
Energy and Transport Research Excellence



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GRETA Final Policy Webinar: *Energy Citizenship Contracts – a new policy tool for inclusive energy transition*

Feedback from the SSH CENTRE project

Mojca Drevenšek,
Consensus Communications (Slovenia)
mojca.drevensek@consensus.si

20 September 2023

GRETA & SSH CENTRE: Key connections



an open tool, a guiding framework for ECCs

Open approach

Objectives

the importance of *fostering collaboration and influencing policy* as primary ECC objectives

GRETA & SSH CENTRE:
Top 3 connections

incl. educational institutions and schools

Stakeholder map

SSH CENTRE – Open Knowledge Platform (to be launched in early 2024)

The SSH CENTRE's Open Knowledge Platform will offer open knowledge/resources and stimulate interactions around SSH-STEM topics and project ideas among the researchers and other stakeholders...

... create synergies with other projects and initiatives in the fields of Energy, Climate and Mobility.

... the platform will enable virtual collaboration between stakeholders.

Interested in SSH research?



Researchers

Citizens



SSH CENTRE's four key stakeholder groups



Business



Policy actors

sshcentre.eu:

SIGN UP to our newsletter

GET STARTED





This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101089529 and from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee [grant No 10038991].





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TRANSFORMER

GRETA Webinar – 20.09.2023

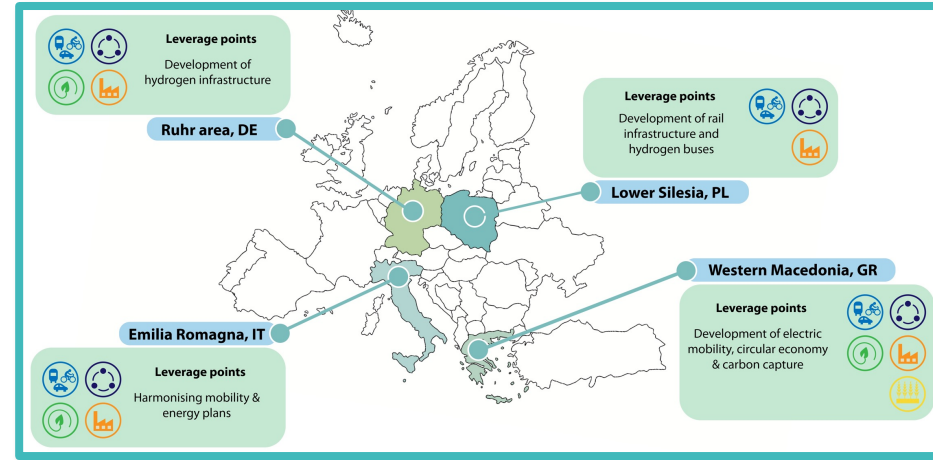
Morgane Juliat (Rupprecht Consult) - Project Manager



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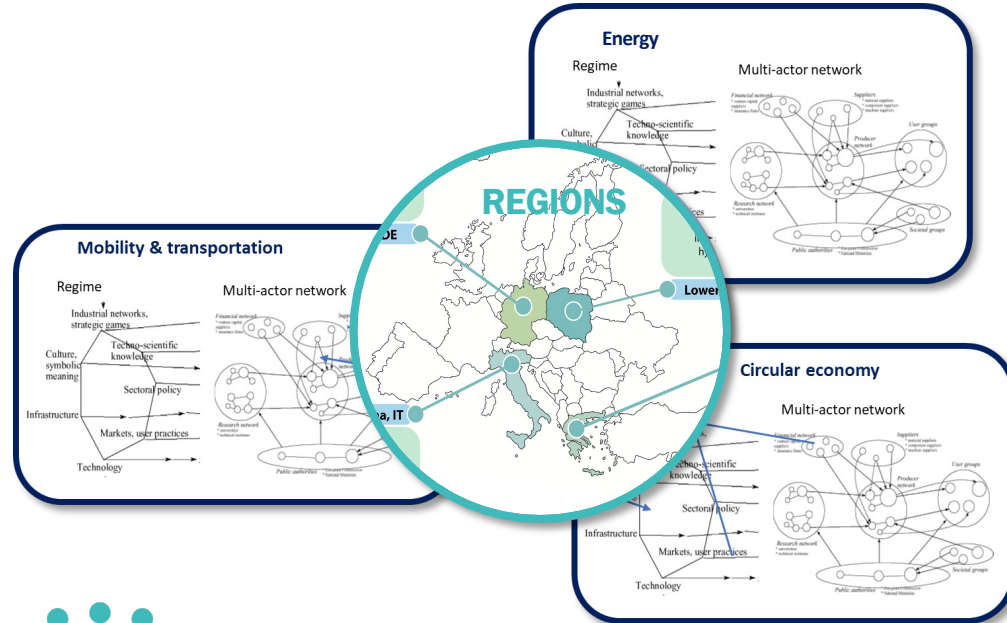
Transition Super-Labs

- Transition Super-Lab (TSL) is a **collaborative governance framework built upon adapted and enhanced living lab methodologies.**
- Through **co-creation processes**, all relevant **stakeholders from the quadruple helix collaboratively** develop and implement a **portfolio of interconnected solutions** with the aim of accelerating the transition towards climate neutrality.
- To achieve this rapid and fundamental **systemic transformation**, TSLs focus on innovation and cross-sectorial synergies **on a regional scale.**



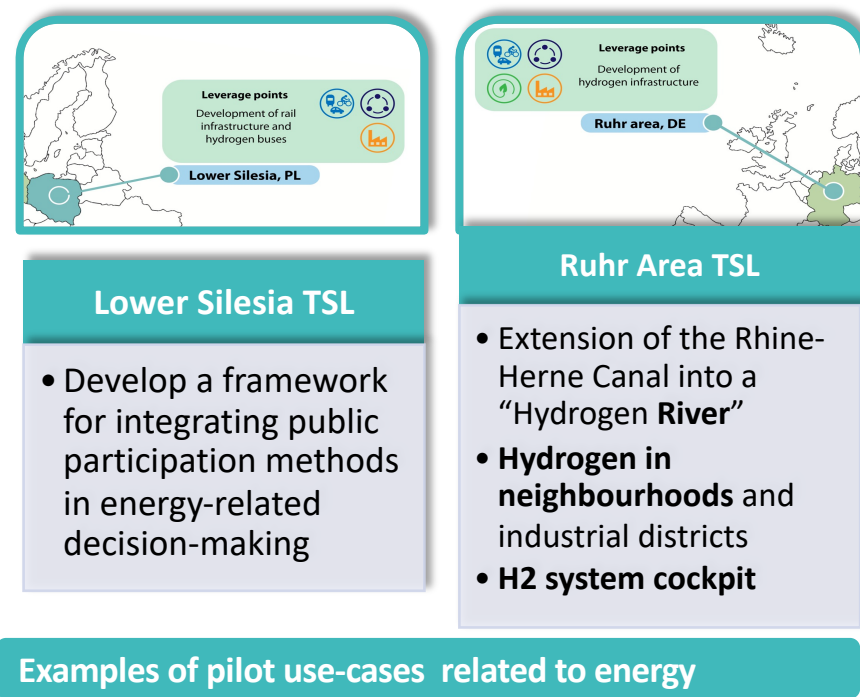
TSLs & energy transition

- **Trans-sectorial** approach to climate neutrality transition
- Trying to **foster a sense of ownership and participation among the quadruple helix**, aligning with the some of the principles of the energy citizens' contract
- **Scaling up living labs** from the local to regional level while combining **bottom-up** and **top-down approaches** to stakeholder and citizen engagement
 - Develop feasible governance arrangements



TSL Regions from TRANSFORMER

- ✓ TSLs have built **stakeholders coalitions** involving key stakeholders from different sectors
 - ✓ TSLs have developed **visions, sub-visions** and **pathways**
 - ✓ TSLs have **identified pilot use-cases**, some of which are connected to energy
- Next steps: **refine the pilot use-cases** with relevant and additional stakeholders
- Assess the **feasibility** of the pilot use-cases





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**Prepared by Morgane Juliat
(Rupprecht Consult)**

TRANSFORMER Project Manager



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ENCLUDE – Objectives

O1: Bottom-up, empirical
conceptualization of
individual/collective aspects of
energy citizenship

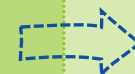
UNDERSTAND

APPLY

ACT



O2: Use of clarified
conceptualization for
**modeling decarbonization
potential** of energy
citizenship and creating
context-appropriate
guidance for mobilizing
decarbonization



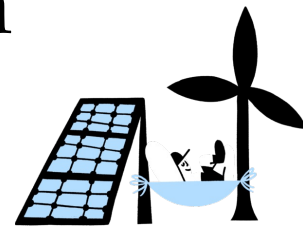
O3: **Mobilizing
energy citizens** for
decarbonization
actions

Energy Citizenship Conceptualization

Context	Expressions of Energy Citizenship
1. Access to energy	Dispossessed, Excluded, Constrained, Exposed, Energy poor
2. Consumption	Complacent consumer, Active consumer, Vulnerable consumer, Nomadic consumer, Good citizen, Smart consumer, Energy literate, Collectivist-consumer, Energy pirate, Energy glutton
3. Production	Prosumer, Self-consumer, Self-reliant, Resilient energy consumer, Collectivist-producer, Citizen-investor
4. Socio-political	Litigator, Challenger, Agitator, Disenfranchised



AWARE



UNAWARE



INVOLVED








ACTIVE



ADVOCATE

Collective Energy Initiatives – Conflicts



	Climate-related	Could gas be a relevant source of energy for the initiative?
	Communication-related	Members don't get enough information about what will happen.
	Money-related	Who provides the financial means?
	Organisation-related	Members not satisfied by the way an initiative is managed.
	Technology-related	Where to place windmills and PVs?

EnergyPROSPECTS

PROactive Strategies and Policies for Energy Citizenship Transformation



GRETA Final Policy Webinar

20.09.2023

Karin Thalberg, Jacques Delors Institute



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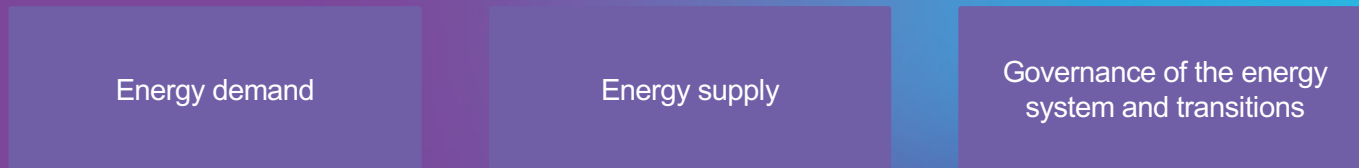


Energy citizenship

... is understood as various forms of civic involvement and engagement that pertain to the development of more sustainable and democratic energy systems and transitions. It can be practised at different levels of action and through different constellations of actors.

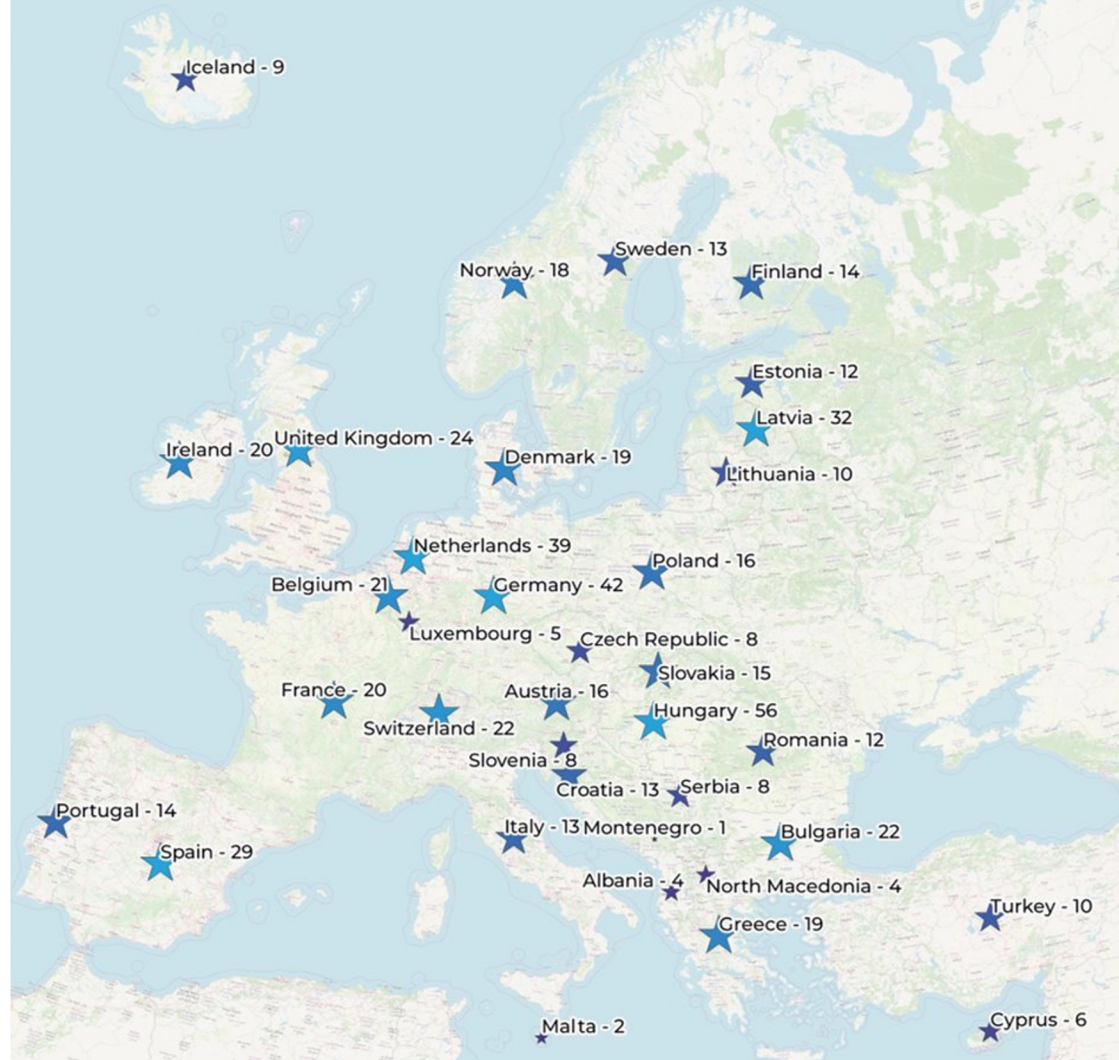


It relates to practices concerning ...



596 cases mapped

- With the aim to capture the diversity of energy citizenship across the European continent.
 - 40 cases studied in-depth in the 9 partner countries.
 - A multi-national citizen survey with 10 000 respondents.
 - Analysis of external enabling conditions, intermediary actors and intermediation, ICT systems, business and social innovation models, empowerment, etc.



	Individual level/ within households	Within organisations	In the public sphere	In citizen-based organisations and/or in constellations with different types of actors	In social movements
Examples	Changing individual energy practices and household equipment; including the practices of those aiming to develop self-sufficiency, etc.	Changing energy practices and equipment within private and public organisations, including organisations whose 'raison d'être' is the energy transition.	Participation in energy and climate-related decision-making through public debates, elections, deliberative processes, public consultations, referendums, digital consultation platforms, etc.	Collective participation in the energy transition through citizen-based organisations and/or through collaboration between NGOs, public authorities, municipalities and/or private actors.	Collective participation through social movements linked to various aspects of the energy/climate transition.
How can this type of energy citizenship be supported?	Empowering citizens by guaranteeing access to clean solutions, particularly for those least able to change or make the necessary investments.	Giving companies the means to act through technical assistance, appropriate financial packages, and regulatory visibility.	<p>Opportunity to make one's voice heard, to influence and mobilise.</p> <p>Freedom of association, freedom of the press, freedom of expression and the right to demonstrate.</p> <p>Participatory and inclusive governance.</p>	<p>Support for collaboration between citizens, the public sector, the private sector and civil society.</p> <p>Legal and financial structures must be adapted to citizen-led, citizen-owned and citizen-financed structures.</p>	Encourage dialogue with civil society and ensure that the interests and demands of civil society and citizens are taken into account.

GRETA Energy Citizenship Contracts

Complementarity of the two projects: GRETA's focus on the local and the community level. The formalisation of commitments through the ECCs can provide a flexible tool for different types of energy citizenship initiatives to deepen their engagements, especially related to justice and social aspects of the energy transition.

Appears to be more adapted to cases that are driven by or have good relationships with local authorities/already include multiple stakeholders.

EnergyPROSPETS related examples – driven by common values and mutual benefits:

Energie Partagée charter and labelling scheme

Maine-et-Loire charter