



## ***The engagement of citizens in sustainable energy. Sharing successful experiences across Europe.***

*Brussels, European Parliament – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017*

### **Introduction**

To reduce greenhouse effect gas emission at least of the 20% compared to 1990 levels; to get the 20% of the whole energy from clean energy; to improve energetic efficiency of the 20%. Which role can play citizens to contribute to reach these EU goals in climate and energy issues in the coming years and decades? Between the development of crowdfunding and the introduction of prosumer concept, how the European Institutions encourage citizens' participation in this area? What are the most significant successful experiences in Europe? What are the limits and the potentiality? How to ensure adequate protection to the different market players?

The conference is organized by Active Citizenship Network, the EU branch of Italian NGO Cittadinanzattiva, and is dedicated to the consumers' engagement across Europe in the fields of sustainable and renewable energies. Indeed, last May, the European Parliament voted the Resolution on delivering a new deal for energy consumers (2015/2323(INI)) in which citizens will play a more active role in getting the goals of the new European energy strategy.

The main aims of the event are to provide and analyze the point of view of citizens and their active participation in this context, presenting experiences focused on civic participation; and to highlight the different consumer engagement strategies from projects supported by Intelligent Energy Europe Programme.

The ultimate goal is to offer an opportunity to the stakeholders to exchange their experiences and opinions on the topic and to develop policy recommendations to the EU Institutions.

During the conference, the coordinator of the consortium will present the experience of Citizenergy to the European Institutions and the relevant stakeholders.

### **Characteristics of the event**

- **When and Where:** **1st February 2017** in **Brussels** at the **European Parliament, room ASP7H1** from **10:00 to 12:00**
- **Title:** **"The engagement of citizens in sustainable energy. Sharing successful experiences across Europe"**
- **Hosted by:** MEP Dario Tamburrano (EFDD group), member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
- **Organized by:** Active Citizenship Network, the EU branch of Italian NGO Cittadinanzattiva
- **Duration:** 2 hours
- **Target of participants and panel of experts<sup>1</sup>:** at the event will participate the representatives of the European Institutions, key stakeholders and thematic networks at European level, including:
  - ❖ **European Institutions:**
    - EU Commission DG Energy
    - European Parliament: MEPs from the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection/MEPs from the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
    - The European Consumer Consultative Group (ECCG) promoted by DG Justice and Consumers, the Commission's main forum to consult national and European consumer organizations
- **RES promoters successful experiences:**
  - Citizenergy platform
  - BOA Energia

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<sup>1</sup> The persons appointed and proposed for the event must be confirmed.

- Lumo
  - de Windvogel
  - Abundance
  - Green Crowding
  - Som Energia
  - Solar Plaza
  - Wola zmian
  - AdEPorto
  - VITO
  - Energy Cities
  - WIP Renewable Energies
  - Rescoop platform
  - Ecopower
  - E' Nostra
- EU umbrella organizations & relevant stakeholder
    - Citizens' Energy Forum, the platform led by DG ENERGY
    - European Consumers Union (ECU)
    - The European Consumer Organization (BEUC)
    - "Connect4Climate" led by World Bank
    - EKOenergy

- Financial support



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union

The initiative takes advantage of the EU project Citizenenergy.

For further information about the project: <https://citizenergy.eu/>

- Contact persons:

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## About us

Active Citizenship Network (ACN) is one of the most widespread and flexible European networks, composed of more than 100 civic organizations. Established in 2001, it is coordinated by Cittadinanzattiva, an Italian non-profit organization founded in 1978, independent from any political affiliation, trade unions, private companies and public institutions. The main objectives of ACN are the promotion of civic activism to participate in the political arena, and the protection of citizens' rights; both these goals may be defined the strength and the uniqueness of ACN.



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union

## Mission

As an international interface of Cittadinanzattiva, ACN focuses on the following two objectives:

- encourage the active participation of citizens in the European policy-making in order to promote the construction of an “European active citizenship”, through the citizens’ powers and responsibilities in public policies. This includes:
  - recognizing the primary role of citizens and civic organizations in the care of the common good;
  - supporting citizen’s participation in policy making at local, national and EU level;
  - involving them in the defence of their fundamental rights as citizens, consumers, passengers, users, savers, patients, etc.
- promote abroad all the successful experiences achieved by Cittadinanzattiva in Italy.

## Partnership

Since its inception, the partnership has been enhanced by the involvement of partners in common projects, political initiatives and actions, all founded on strong co-operation ties.

Together with its partners, ACN operates in several different fields and it is an ideal actor for those public and private subjects that consider relevant the involvement of citizens in their activities.

## ACN is an official member of ...

- “European Consumer Consultative Group”, appointed by the EU Commission
- “Active Citizenship Structured Dialogue Group”, led by the EU Commission-DG Migration and Home Affairs, the EU platform dealing with civic participation
- “Health Policy Forum”, the EU platform dealing with health and patient’s rights led by the EU Commission-DG Health and Food Safety

## ...and official partner of

- “European Mobility Week”, led by DG Environment
- “Your passenger rights at hand”, led by DG Move
- “Connect4Climate”, initiative for global cooperation on climate change led by World Bank

## Be informed, follow ACN on

- Twitter: @activecitnet
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/activecitizenshipnetwork](http://www.facebook.com/activecitizenshipnetwork)
- Free monthly newsletter “Active Citizenship Network News”

## Contacts:

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