



citizenenergy

The engagement of Citizens in Sustainable Energy

Sharing successful experiences across Europe

European Parliament - 1st February 2017

@citizenenergy #yourpower

Since the beginning of the Citizenenergy project the consortium gathered information on the legal and policy aspects of renewable energies, crowdfunding and cooperatives

We want to



Preparatory studies on the 1st phase of the project:

1. Legal report
2. Study on business models
3. Survey on citizens engagement

Plus... three years of experience and a consortium with 12 members with know-how on renewable energies, energy efficiency, cooperatives and crowdfunding platforms!

Legal report

- First version published in July 2014, updated every year. Now in version 3!
- Analysis on the EU legal framework
- Analysis on 6 national legal frameworks:
 - ✓ UK;
 - ✓ Netherlands;
 - ✓ France;
 - ✓ Spain;
 - ✓ Germany;
 - ✓ Portugal;

Legal report

- Main barriers identified:
 - ✓ Reduction of support schemes to renewable energies since the crisis;
 - ✓ Uneven playing field regarding tax incentives for renewable energies;
 - ✓ Barriers to cross-boarder investment through crowdfunding;
 - ✓ Lack of knowledge and citizens awareness of crowdfunding;
 - ✓ Uneven playing field regarding the publicity of RES projects and tax incentives for investment;

New EU policy developments

- Since the last Legal Report update (September 2016):
 - Prospectus Regulation:
 - No prospectus required for investments projects under €1 million
 - Member States can choose to exempt offers up to €8 million
 - Simplified prospectus for SMEs

New EU policy developments

- Winter package:
 - Renewable targets for 2030
 - New consumer rights: the emergence of **prosumers**
 - End of renewable sources' priority in grid access

Citizenenergy's position papers

- Fostering crowd-based investments in renewables and energy efficiency (June 2016)
- The opportunity of alternative financing and need for citizen engagement (September 2016)
- Alternative financing for renewable energies and energy efficiency (January 2017)

Citizenenergy's position papers

- Fostering crowd-based investments in renewables and energy efficiency (June 2016)
 - ✓ More ...
 - ✓ Simpler
 - ✓ Coherent
 - ✓ Harmonised
 - ... European crowdfunding framework

Citizenenergy's position papers

- The opportunity of alternative financing and need for citizen engagement (September 2016)
 - ✓ Tackling the lack of citizens' awareness of crowdfunding
 - ✓ Promote more transparency and information
 - ✓ Promote more professionalization in the crowdfunding sector

Citizenenergy's position papers

- Alternative financing for renewable energies and energy efficiency (January 2017)
 - ✓ Focus on the role of local and regional authorities in delivering energy targets
 - ✓ How the cooperative and crowdfunding sector can help local authorities
 - ✓ Challenges:
 - ✓ Procedural boundaries (public procurement)
 - ✓ Debt ceilings

- Policy recommendations:
 - ✓ Support for renewable energies and energy efficiency projects: less bureaucracy, tax incentives...
 - ✓ EU framework for crowdfunding that enables cross-border investment
 - ✓ Promote prosumers and the organisation of communities on renewable energy and energy efficiency projects
 - ✓ Promote awareness on investment through crowdfunding
 - ✓ Promote transparent information on crowdfunding platforms