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**Energy Communities Day**

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Proceedings at: [https://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar_2021_INFORSE-Europe_DK.htm](https://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar_2021_INFORSE-Europe_DK.htm)
History of Cooperatives

• Power sector established as cooperatives and municipal companies in several countries (Denmark, France, Germany, etc) 100 years ago
• Danish district heating (now 66% of all heating) established as cooperatives and municipal companies, mainly since 1950
• Nationalisation and centralisation reduced cooperatives from the 1940’s
• Starting in the 1980’s: new decentralisation with cooperatively owned, grid-connected windpower, gas cogeneration of heat and power (CHP) by primarily district heating cooperatives
• Around 2000, in some countries (DK, Netherlands) development was reduced, but other countries started with energy communities: Germany, later Netherlands Belgium.
• In Eastern Europe, investor-friendly privatisation, vested interests, and low interest in cooperatives have limited the development of energy communities
• Today development os also reduced in some countries, while still progressing in others.
• New EU directives give common framework for energy communities, but...
Large Potential for Energy Communities in EU, Documented by CE Delft in 2016
Potential of 600 + 900 TWh RE = 1500 TWh, around 25% of total electricity demand in 2050 decarb. scenario
By 2050, 1 out of 2 people in the EU could be producing their own electricity.
Potential for Energy Citizens

Results of study

- **83% of EU’s households - about 187 million** - could become an energy citizen and contribute to renewable energy production, demand response and/or energy storage, which amounts to households.

- About **half of EU households, around 113 million**, may have the potential to produce energy;

- even more could provide demand flexibility with their electric vehicles, smart el-boilers or stationary batteries
THE EU’S CITIZEN-OWNED ELECTRICITY IN 2050

- SMEs: 39%
- Households: 23%
- Public Buildings: 1%
- Co-ops: 37%
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