



SHINE Project Illuminates Europe's Energy Community Movement

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The SHINE project, "Enabling Energy Communities to SHINE across Europe", officially launched on September 1, 2025, poised to significantly accelerate the energy community movement across the continent. This ambitious initiative, funded by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) under the LIFE24-CET-SHINE program, brings together the combined strengths and innovations of 14 partners from across 5 EU countries: Belgium, France, Italy, Poland and Spain.

The SHINE consortium comprises a diverse group of stakeholders, including:

- Association: the coordinator, Energy Cities;
- Provincial company: Kamp C;
- Environmental consultancy: Ambiente Italia;
- Energy cooperatives: E' Nostra Societa Cooperativa, Rescoop Eu Asbl, PLZ Spoldzielnia, Zuidtrant;
- Innovation consultancies: R2M Solution Spain, Fundación Europace;
- Municipalities: Ajuntament de Malgrat de Mar, Comune Di Verona, Miasto Stoleczne Warszawa;
- Energy agencies: ICAEN, Klimaan.

Energy Cities, as a key partner in the SHINE project, is managing the project will contribute to the capacity building and communication activities.

SHINE aims to empower Local and Regional Authorities (LRAs) with essential skills and tools to maximize opportunities and support for community energy. By building on four existing LIFE ENERCOM projects, SHINE will deliver tangible results through operational support services in national pilots in Spain, Italy, Belgium, and Poland, with replication planned in 11 additional Ambassador countries.

The project held its successful kick-off meeting last week, on October 15th in Barcelona, hosted by Institut Català d'Energia (ICAEN), and on October 16th in Malgrat de Mar, hosted by the Municipality of Malgrat de Mar. The second day in Malgrat de Mar featured a highly engaging Value Network Mapping workshop conducted by the Spanish team. This workshop brought together a diverse group of stakeholders from the Malgrat de Mar pilot, including citizens, ESCOs, architects, civil associations, and promoters of the energy community. The

activity provided invaluable insights into the specific needs and aspirations of the local community, which will be crucial in tailoring support services effectively.

Key actions within the SHINE project include:

- **Optimising Europe's One-Stop Shop (OSS) for Energy Communities:** SHINE will review and enhance existing ENERCOM tools, integrating them into REScoop.eu's Energy Community Platform to create a new, comprehensive portal for LRAs. These tools, including a community energy accreditation scheme for municipalities, a match-making tool, business models, and adaptable templates, will be translated and shared on four national OSSs tailored to local contexts.
- **Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building:** The project will foster collaboration between LRAs, communities, and experts through peer-to-peer exchange, training, and technical support. The establishment of Europe's first international working group on community energy OSSs will ensure the sharing of best practices, improving the sustainability and scalability of community energy support services, and boosting the evidence base on their impact.
- **Implementation of Local Support Services:** In each pilot area, LRAs will establish in-person OSSs to directly support community-led projects focusing on district heating, cooling, retrofitting, and renewable energy generation. These services will be designed with sustainability and local needs at their core.
- **Dissemination and Replication:** The developed tools, services, and methodologies will be disseminated through a strong Ambassador network, emphasizing replicable, sustainable models, and embedding inclusion, gender, and energy equity.

Through these concerted efforts, SHINE is projected to support over 445 energy community projects, save 18 GWh of energy, generate 51 GWh of renewable power, create 174 new energy communities, and empower 28,375 citizens. The project aims to inspire 246 LRAs to replicate successful models, ensuring that energy communities truly SHINE across Europe.

The SHINE project represents a pivotal step towards a more sustainable and community-driven energy future for Europe. By empowering local authorities and fostering collaboration, SHINE will not only accelerate the transition to renewable energy but also strengthen social cohesion and economic resilience within communities across the continent.

If you want to be updated about the project's progress and results, subscribe to our SHINE Newsletter [here](#)!

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