

From setting up energy communities to making them thrive:
WHAT ARE THE TOOLS AVAILABLE?

Session 1:
Inform yourself



DECIDE





DECIDE Knowledge Hub
KNOWLEDGE4ENERGY.EU



What is it an Energy Community?

What can an Energy Community do?

How to make people motivated or interested in EC?

How should I best start an Energy Community or Collective Action?

Who are the stakeholders to engage ?

How much money is needed?

What is the relation of an EC and the (local) energy supplier and grid operator?

Has my country transposed the EU directives on Energy Communities?

Where do I find future participants?



Available



Ready



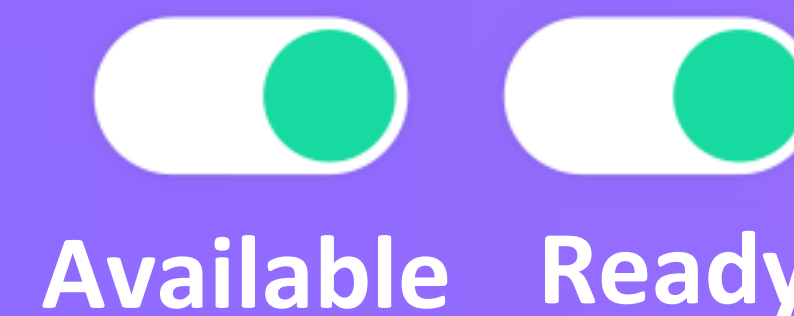
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DECIDE Knowledge Hub

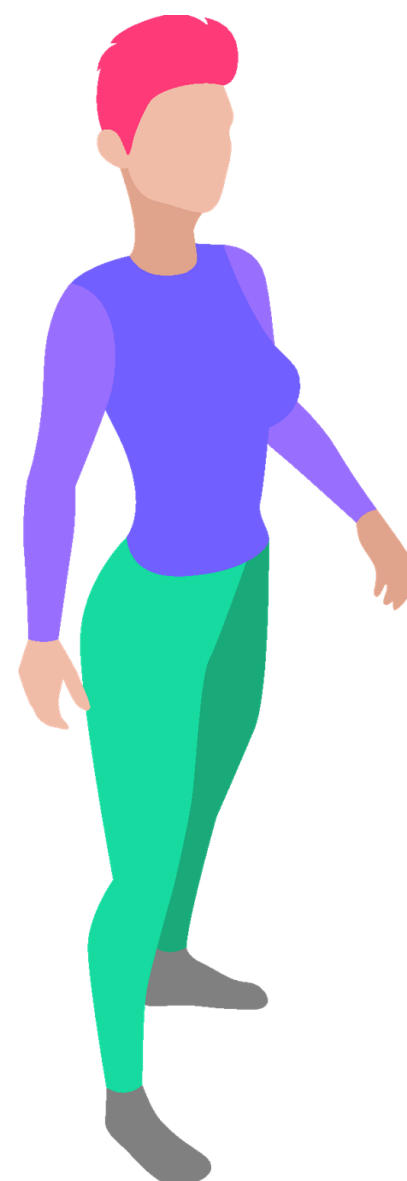
The DECIDE Knowledge Hub is an **online open space** to actively **transfer knowledge** and **build capacity** on Energy Communities and Collective Actions.

This Gateway direct visitors to the **existing and emerging initiatives**, providing links to useful repositories, marketplaces, databases, platforms and projects among others.





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DISCOVER THE DATABASE

DIRECT TO DATABASE

Discover platforms, projects, databases, repositories, marketplaces, cooperatives and more!

Filter the entries by language, geographic scope and targeted stakeholders.

SEE DATABASE



Navigate the wide database useful links based on your language of preference and geographical relevance

Access directly some of the most relevant resources produced by organizations, projects and initiatives (including the DECIDE project of course!)

FEATURED RESOURCES

WHAT IS NEW?

Read and download factsheets, guidelines, reports, brochures and many other kinds of publications.

Filter the entries by language and type of publication.

SEE RESOURCES



FEATURED MEDIA

IT'S TIME TO PRESS PLAY!

Watch videos, webinars, conferences' key-note speeches and more.

Filter the content alphabetically or by date.

SEE MEDIA



Watch the recording of webinars and interactive workshops organized in the past month by DECIDE to learn more



Available



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Support measures and case studies

1. General goal within the framework of community energy initiative (business model, technical assessment, stakeholder overview etc.)

Develop and finetune measures for supporting women-led RHC projects

- Market uptake support services
- Awareness raising campaigns
- Capacity building programs

2. Scope of the tool (specific technology, geographical region, etc.)

Provide support to

- Women-led initiatives
- RHC sector
- 8 countries (GR, IT, BE, BG, DK, SK, DE, NO)

3. Who is the target user

- Women-lead initiatives

4. What is needed as input

- Characteristics and stage of the project

5. What are the key outputs

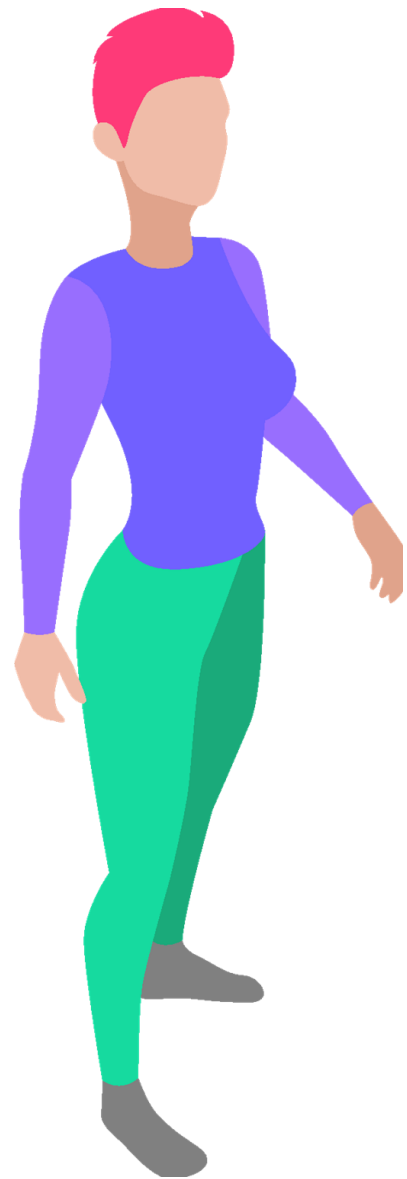
- Market Research, Business Planning, Financial and Technical support as well as Mentoring and Networking



Support measures and case studies

W4RES PROJECT

W4RES.EU



6. Limitations of the tool

- Geographical limitations
- Support services limitations
- Maximum projects to be supported 60 within 2 rounds

7. Future development directions

- Launch the 2nd Call for collecting initiatives (May)
- Evaluate and select the projects to be supported
- Emphasis on the Energy Communities
- GR Hub cases example



Available



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Support measures and case studies

8. The role of Andrea

- Visit the W4RES Observatory
- Go to the Regional Hubs page
- Select the suitable country
- Navigate through the specific regional hub
- Check the service portfolio of W4RES
- Contact the respective Hub Manager

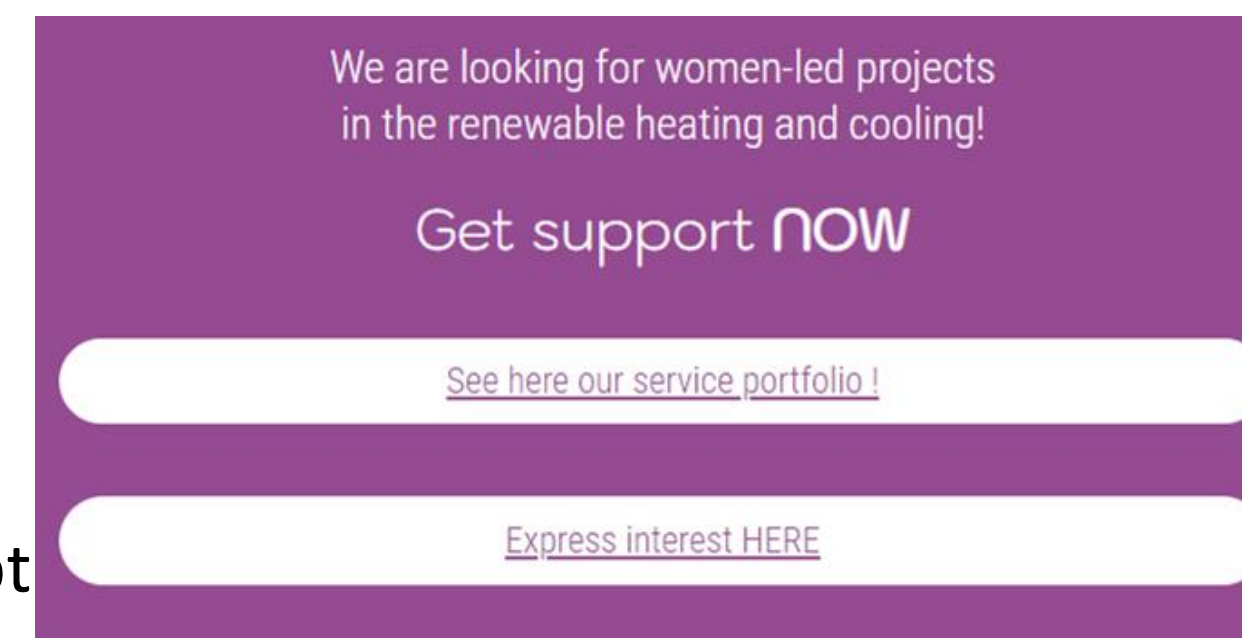
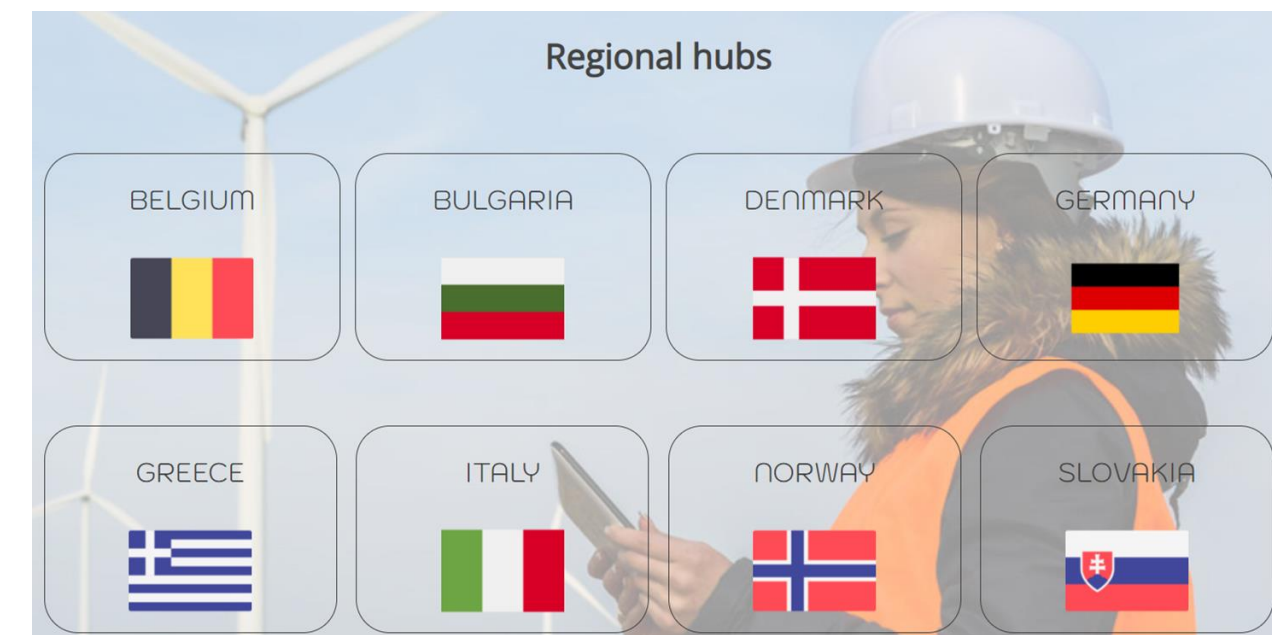
9. What she is looking for and what is she getting from the tool

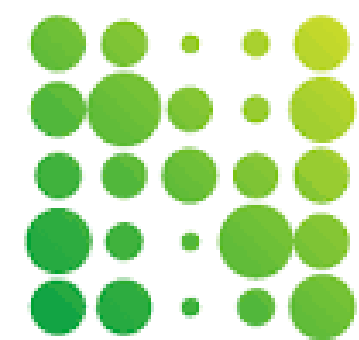
- Support to kick start an energy community initiative
- Support to organize and plan a community initiative
- Support to expand and improve the community business concept

10. How can this be used for the community energy initiative

Support services for an Energy Community

- Market Research / Business Planning / Finance Support / Technical support / Mentoring / Networking





newcomers
EXPLORING NEW ENERGY COMMUNITIES





Why and how will Andrea benefit from **Energy Literacy for Energy Communities handbook**

Goals: to inform, raise awareness and educate about energy system and energy communities

Target users: energy community members and all interested in energy community movement

Languages: English, German, Italian, Dutch, Swedish, Slovenian

Key output: a well-rounded, understandable educational handbook for *energy community members* to improve *their energy literacy*



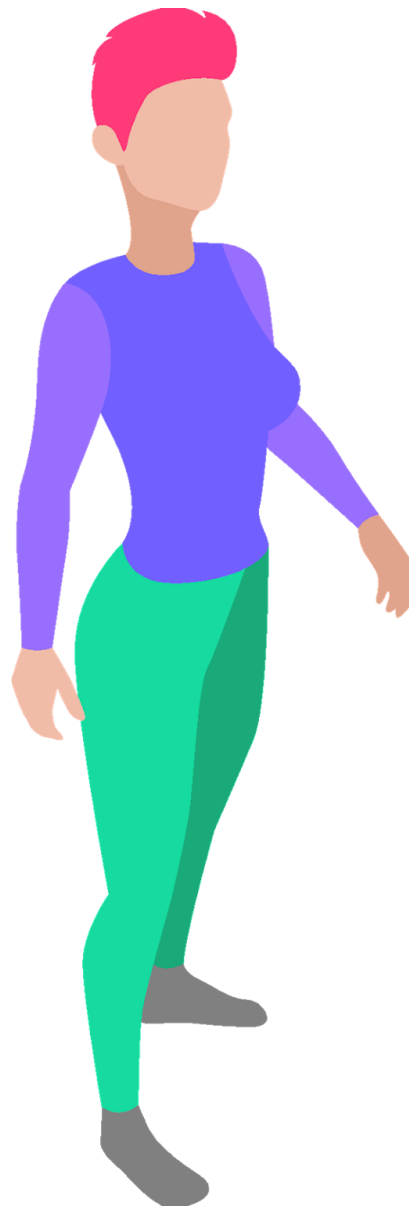
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What can Andrea expect from **our handbook**?

Energy Literacy for Energy Communities informs about:

- Energy and energy systems
- Energy production
- The role of energy in our society
- Benefits and barriers of energy communities
- Roles energy communities play in energy systems

Limitations:

Cannot be updated
once finished

Solution:

Digital version of the handbook on
Pressbooks, with regular updates



Available



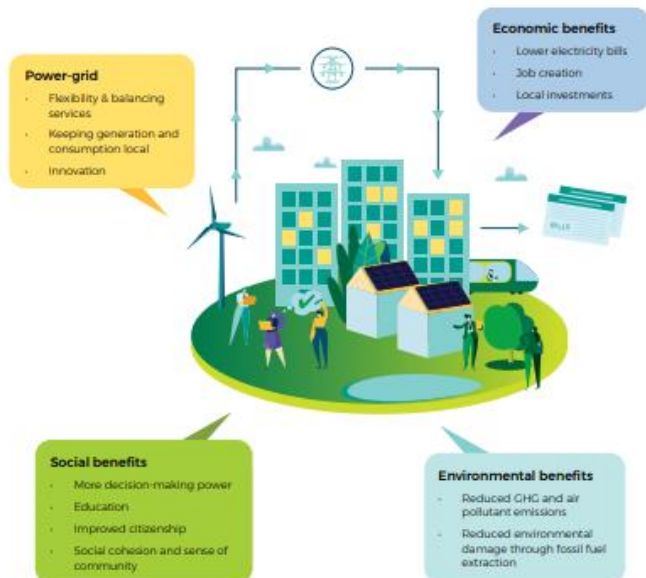
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How can Andrea use our handbook?



6. What roles can energy communities play and what benefits do they bring?



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Contributing expert:
Dr. Paula Hansen,
University of Oxford

Energy communities come in many shapes and sizes, and a multitude of potential benefits for society, the planet and energy systems. At the same time as energy communities, low-carbon energy is also growing, providing the basis for a clean energy transition. This transition is crucial to achieving the decarbonization goals agreed by governments nationally and internationally. Energy communities promote renewable energy production and can foster greater acceptance of new forms of energy production, storage, distribution, and consumption.

The challenge of decarbonizing energy systems is compounded by the electrification of transport, residential and commercial buildings (including space and water heating), cooking, as well as industrial processes. This is leading to a growing demand for electricity overall, in addition to the need for more clean energy. Countries thus face the challenge of replacing existing fossil fuels while simultaneously meeting growing demand, and ensuring energy security, reliability, and affordability. Energy communities can be part of the solution.

Energy communities have several benefits, on various levels. They have benefits for individuals and members of communities, local communities, and economies. These benefits may be environmental, economic, social or relate to the power system itself.

Environmental benefits

One of the most prominent benefits of energy communities is that they focus on sustainable ways of producing and consuming energy. To achieve the climate change goals set by the EU, countries need to transform their energy systems completely, replace their fossil fuels and adapt their systems to the inevitable growth of renewable energy production. It is predicted that energy communities could account for over 17% of all wind power production and 21% of solar power production by 2030, which makes them an important player in the energy transition.



Economic benefits

Economic benefits are one of the key factors that motivate people to join energy communities. By joining an energy community, members often save money on their electricity bills. In some communities, revenue streams may be created by selling off excess energy produced within the community. This can lead to positive outcomes for local communities if money earned is invested back into the local community. The development of renewable energy generation plants may also create jobs, attract new investment, or support local economic development in other ways.

Social benefits

While economic and environmental benefits of energy communities are often prioritized in decision-making, they can also have a range of social benefits. Energy communities empower local communities, giving them more autonomy and control over their environment. Energy communities may also improve energy literacy, for example by involving people in energy-related decision-making, introducing new technologies, or even organizing field visits for schools. Participation in energy communities also encourages people to actively participate in other aspects of energy citizenship, helping them have more influence on local decision-making processes or sharing their experience and knowledge with peers.

Energy system benefits

Energy communities also affect the energy system directly. One potential benefit is that they may improve local coordination of resources by better matching production and consumption. Energy communities can help the energy system become more flexible, and they offer the possibility to test and develop innovative new solutions. They also promote more local energy production which helps improve the security, reliability and resilience of energy networks.

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Energy Literacy for Energy Communities
a NEWCOMERS handbook

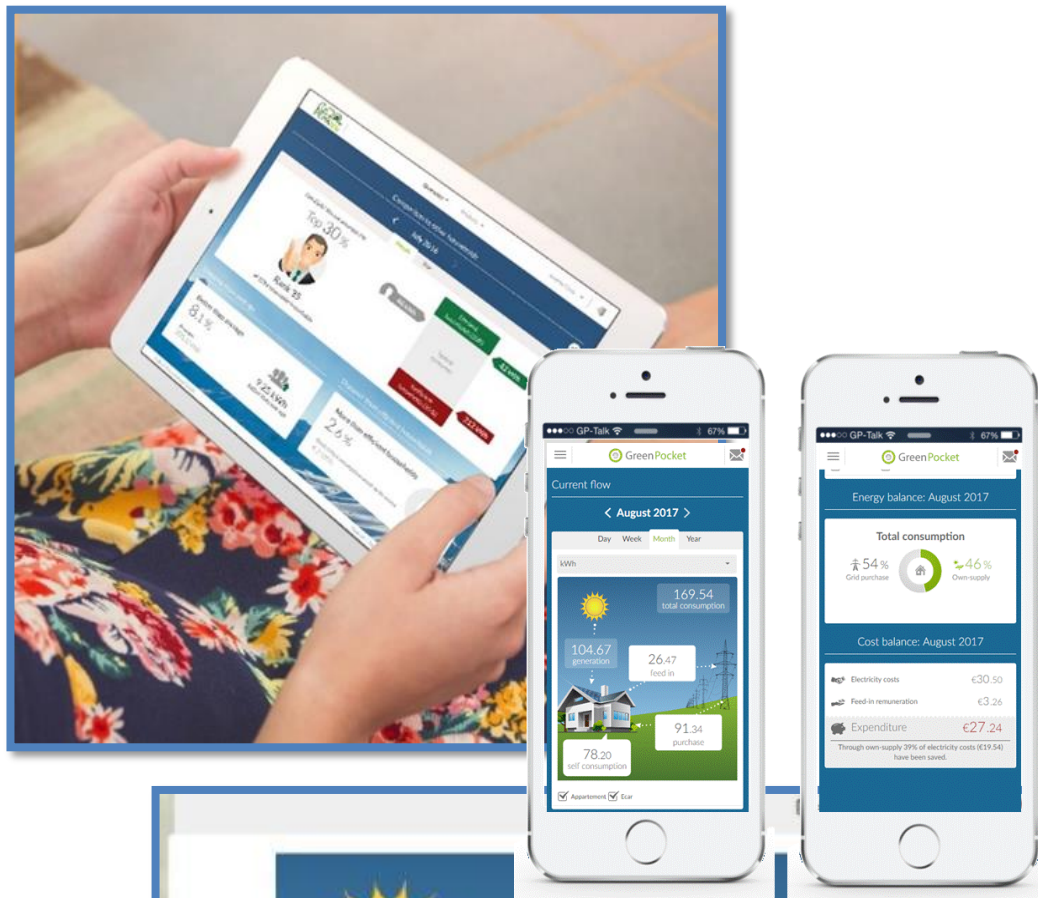


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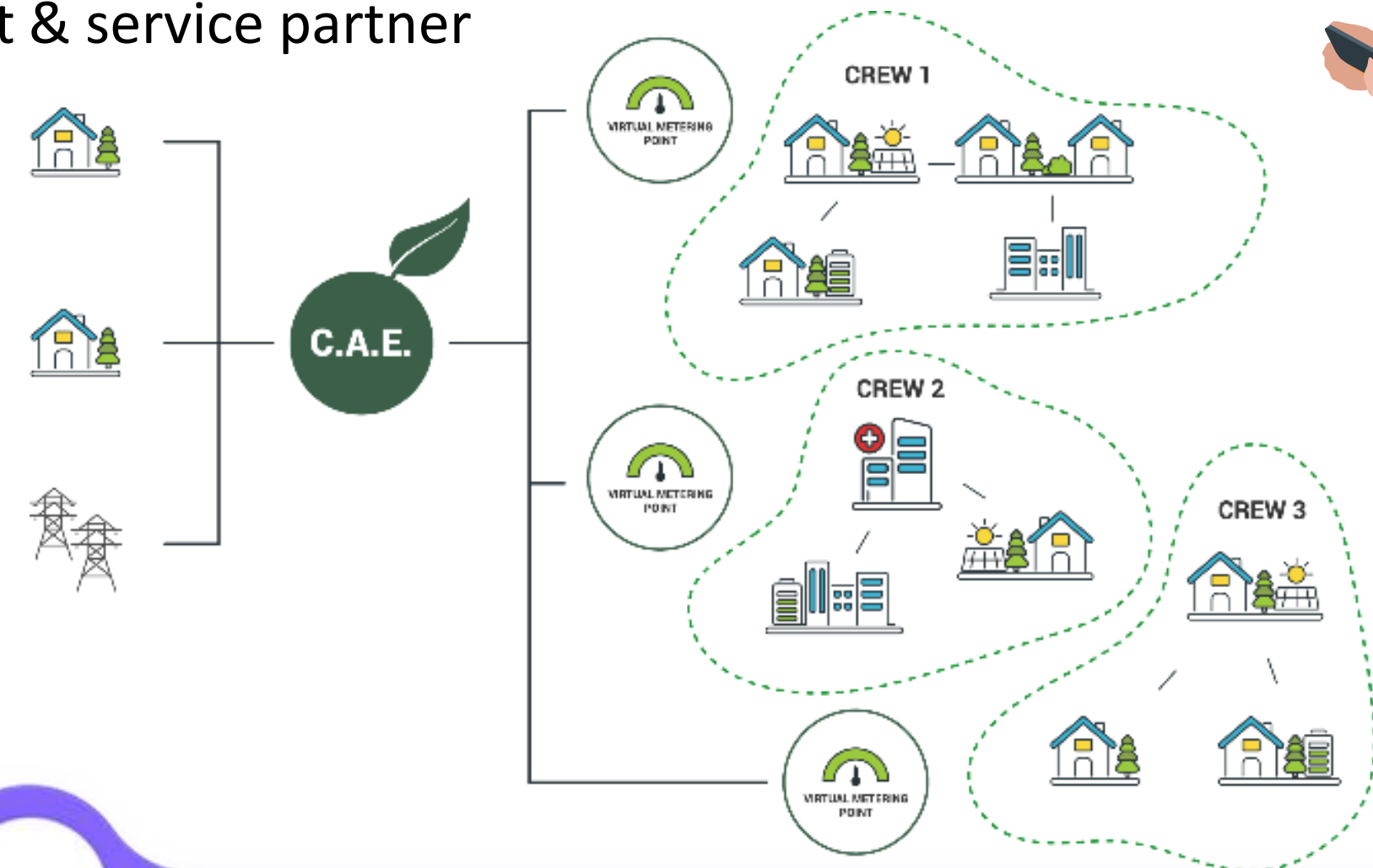
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eCREW – establishing Community Renewable Energy Webs

- Virtual energy communities (a new business model)
- Digital App for energy efficiency and comparability – split incentive scheme
- Smart meters and smart grids
- Prosumers and consumers are needed (1p to 2,5c)
- Energy utility management & service partner



Wow, good to know!



Ready



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