



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 837752

# INCREASED ACCESS TO CLEAN, SECURE AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY: BENEFITS PERCEIVED BY MEMBERS OF CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES

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# New Clean Energy Communities in a changing European Energy system (NEWCOMERS)

- 8 partners from 6 European countries (NL, SE, UK, DE, SI, IT)
- 13 energy communities

## Key research questions:

- Which **national settings** enable/prevent the emergence of *which types of* new clean energy communities?
- How do *different types of* new clean energy communities **emerge and operate**?
- What is the potential of *different types of* new clean energy communities to stimulate **energy conservation and demand response**?
- Which **values** do *different types of* new clean energy communities provide **for their members and society**?



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## New Clean Energy Communities in a Changing European Energy System (NEWCOMERS)

### Deliverable 6.1

#### **Benefits for community members in terms of increased access to clean, secure and affordable energy**

Version: 3.0

WP6: Current and potential benefits for energy community members and society

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## FOCUS:

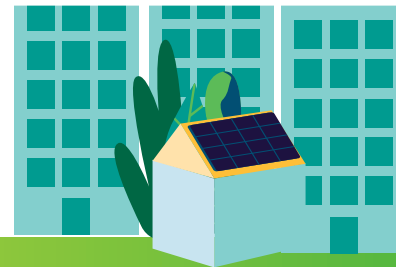
### Identifying

- the variety of possible benefits of new clean energy communities and types of value they have for their members (and could have for society at large)
- members' assessment of the potential of clean energy communities in supporting the clean energy transitions.





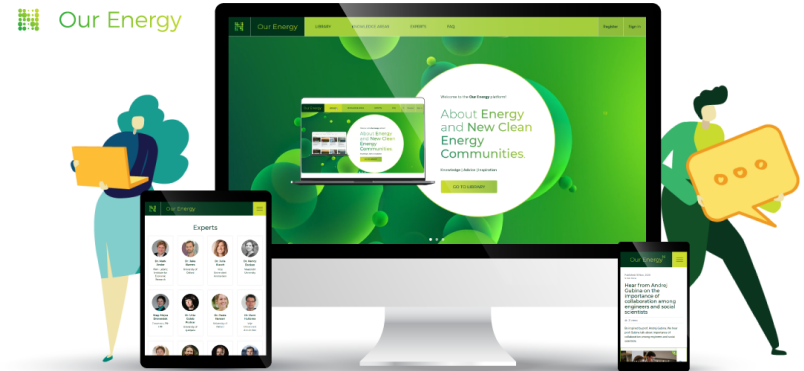
While we can assess benefits of clean energy communities on the basis of studying their technological, organisational, environmental and social features, we can assess value types related to clean energy communities only through members' feedback. Value of a clean energy community is always in the eye of the beholder and it is about why a clean energy community and membership in it is important.



# ... consumer/citizen focused

- How new forms of energy community meet their members' energy related needs in their everyday life settings and circumstances?
- Which types of value (functional, economical, emotional, social, ecological) related to the new forms of energy community they perceive in relation to the alternative energy service models?

Aiming to contribute to a sustainable knowledge bank ... reaching beyond Newcomers project



## Methodology:

- 40 members of energy communities from six countries
- In-depth semi-structured F2F interviews (audio recorded/ transcribed verbatim/ translated to English)
- MaxQDA 2020 software (inductive + deductive thematic analysis)

Experienced value types related to membership in clean energy community

Reasons and motives for joining the clean energy community

Level of involvement in the clean energy community

Attitudes, beliefs and understanding with regard to the role of clean energy community in addressing environmental issues

Knowledge, skills and learning processes in the clean energy community

Everyday practices and behaviour change in the clean energy community

Factors Influencing dissemination of the clean energy communities from members' perspectives

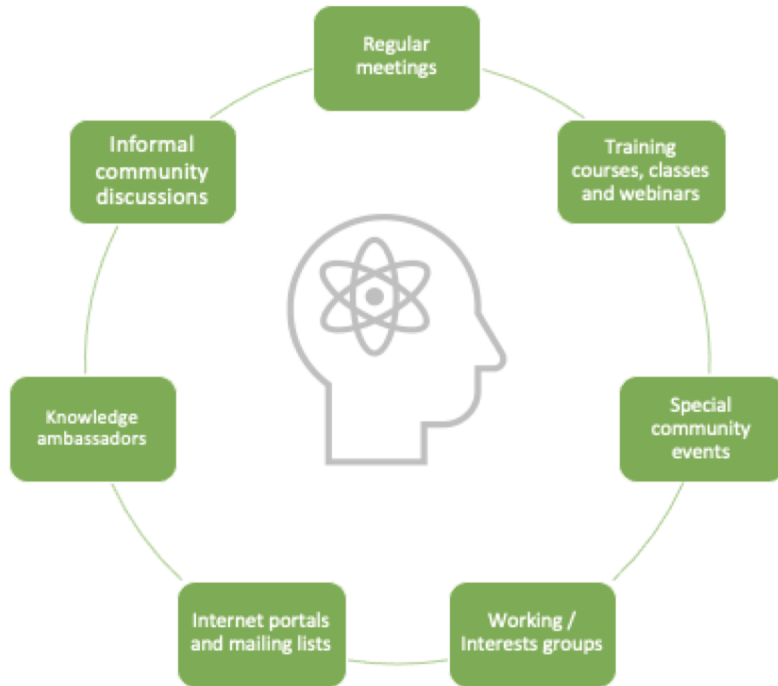
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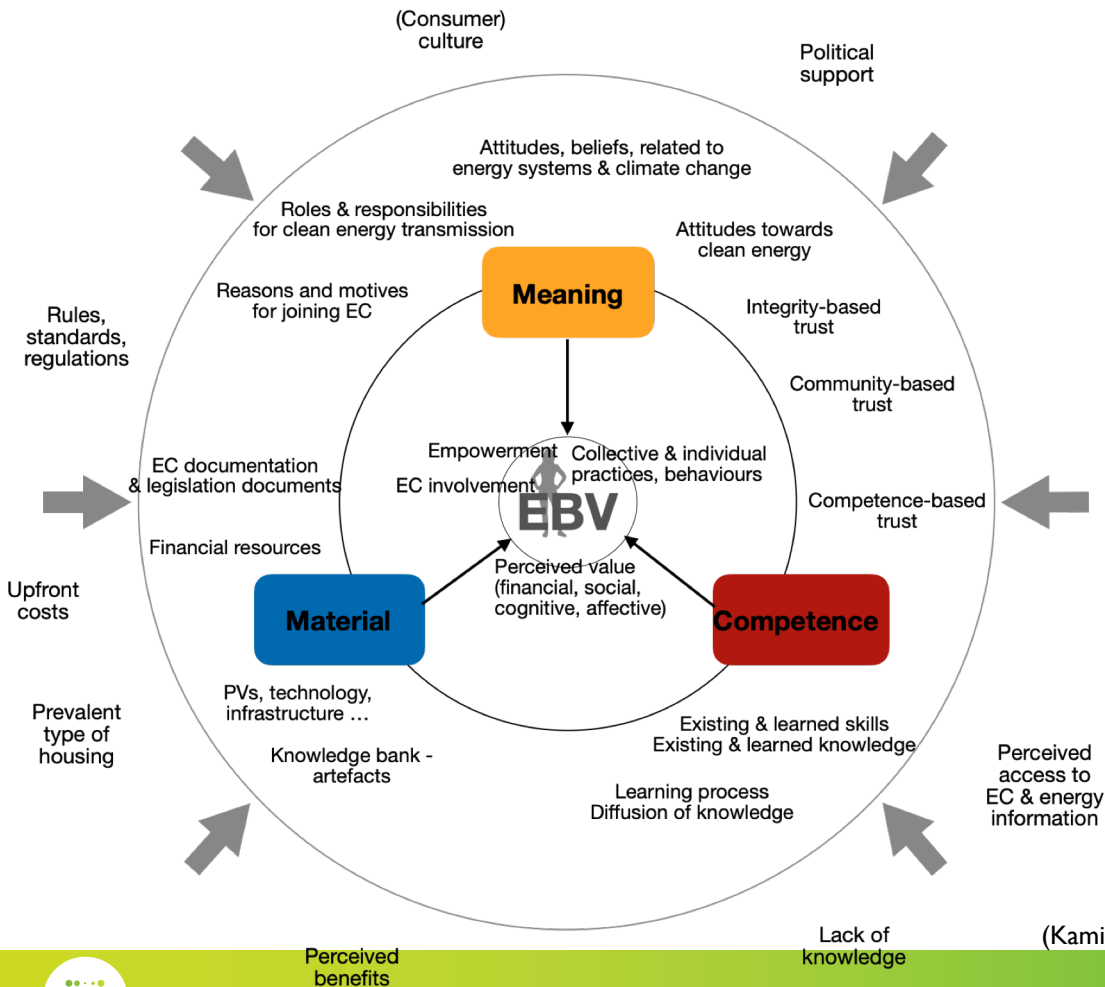
# The information flow within (and between) the clean EC as one of the crucial empowerment processes for community members (learning processes)



Dissemination of information about the EC benefits necessary for scaling up clean EC and utilize decentralized energy systems.

Importance of diffusion of accumulated knowledge  
(Our energy platform)





For any given member (or household), there is an **interplay of several elements of practice** present, which is (to various degrees) shaped by **contextual external factors**.

The interplay of practice elements shapes individual and collective energy practices and perceived value.

**Perceived value affects behaviors, involvement in new clean energy communities, and empowerment.**



(Kamin et al, 2020)





# Let's stay connected



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