

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**BIOWIND**

# BIOWIND - Increased awareness and consensus building among stakeholders

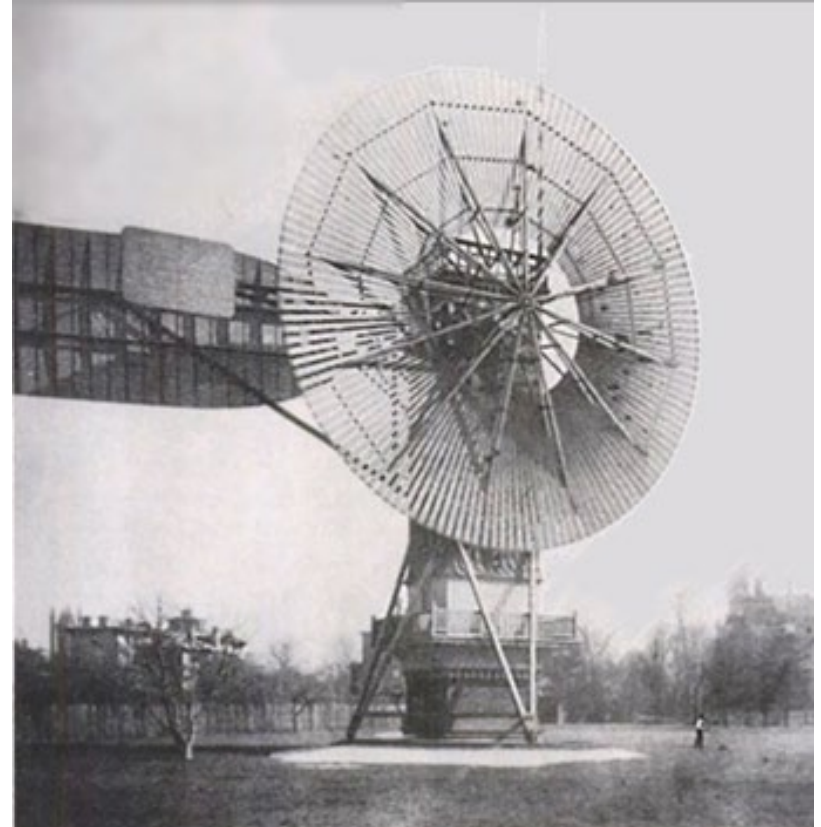
**Michail Karakonstantis**

*University of Patras,*

*[michaikarakonstantis@gmail.com](mailto:michaikarakonstantis@gmail.com)*

04 December 2024 | Budapest

# Electricity and Wind Energy



# Energy Communities in Europe

## Key Points:

- ✓ Community-Led Wind Energy
- ✓ Decentralized Energy
- ✓ Increased Social Acceptance
- ✓ Energy Security

## State of Play:

- Over 10,000 energy communities in the EU.
- 7.2 to 9.9 GW of renewable energy capacity.
- Over 2 million members.
- **Leading countries:** Germany, Netherlands, Denmark.
- **Investments:** 6.2 to 11.3 billion EUR.
- Predominantly solar PV, followed by **onshore wind**.
- **Average wind project size:** 4600 kW.
- **Median wind project size:** 2000 kW.



# Key Stakeholders in Energy Communities



Citizens



Civil Society Organizations (CSOs):



Public Authorities



Private Sector



# Approaches & Practices

# Initiatives for Energy Independence

Alleviate energy  
poverty



Decrease  
greenhouse gas  
emissions



Increase social  
acceptance of wind  
energy



# APOLLO: A Greek Initiative for Energy Independence

## Stakeholder Engagement and Citizen Participation:



# APOLO: A Greek Initiative for Energy Independence



**Duration** - 36 months (02/2024 – 02/2027)



**Aim** - Apollo support program, planned to offer drastic energy-cost savings to 127,500 eligible low-income households, covering up to 400 GW annual electricity consumption.



**Planning** - Apollo support program, foresees the establishment of 13 Citizens' Energy Communities, one for each administrative entity of the country.



**Benefits** - More than 1 GW of RES projects will be **unlocked**, and a **new market** outlet will be given to producers, which will lead to further market stimulation and **new jobs**.



# Catalonia: A Spanish Initiative for Energy Independence

## Stakeholder Engagement and Citizen Participation Through:

Community Ownership by Locals

50% of the Project's land must be Private

Investors will receive investment returns every six months



# Catalonia: A Spanish Initiative for Energy Independence

**What is it** - For wind/solar plants > 5 MW on onshore non-urbanizable land, **local individuals** and entities **own or finance at least 20%** of the project.

**How** – Offer remains open until 20% participation is reached and **must be communicated** to municipalities and **published** in local media.

**Aim** - Residents and local investors will benefit economically, enhancing social acceptance.

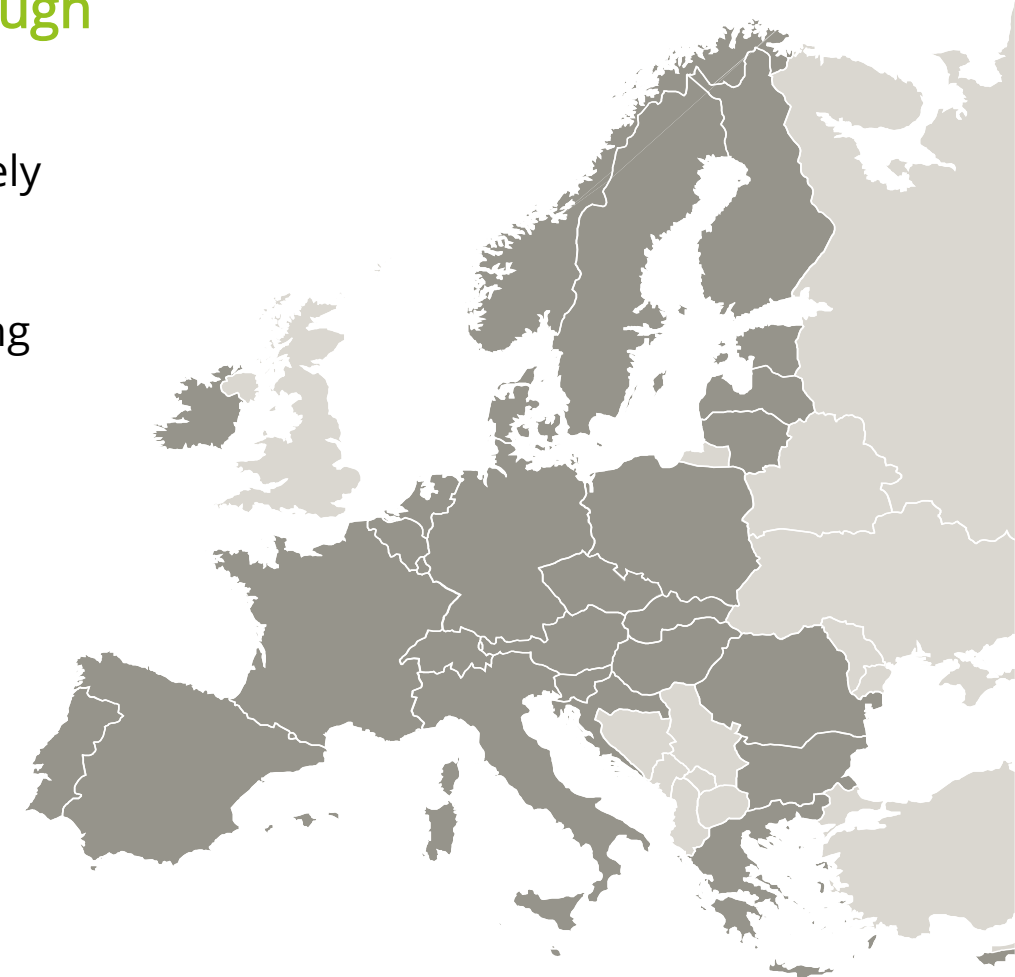
**Transferability** – High potential for **transferability** to EU because it constitutes a development pathway for **Directive (EU) 2018/2001**.



# TEMPLEDERRY: An Irish Initiative for Energy Independence

## Stakeholder Engagement and Citizen Participation Through

- First community owned wind farm where local residents are actively involved in decision-making.
- Provision of training and expertise to community members, making them active participants in the development process.
- Financial Benefits from project's revenues. – **By selling green electricity to the grid and reinvesting a share of earnings into local initiatives.**
- TEMPLEDERRY Wind Farm led to the creation of the Community Power, a community owned electricity supplier.
  - **Mission:** To encourage the development of more renewable energy projects owned by people.



# Focus on increased awareness



Provide explanatory guidelines, information and toolkits clarifying the operational framework of wind energy community to citizens



Ensure clear communication, offer training seminars and address knowledge gaps



Implement revenue-sharing models to ensure that the benefits of renewable energy projects are distributed equitably among the community.



Education campaigns on the project management regarding long-term sustainability of wind energy community projects.

# Thank you!

[www.interregeurope.eu/ACRONYM](http://www.interregeurope.eu/ACRONYM)