



ENERGY CITIZENSHIP EMPOWERMENT KIT



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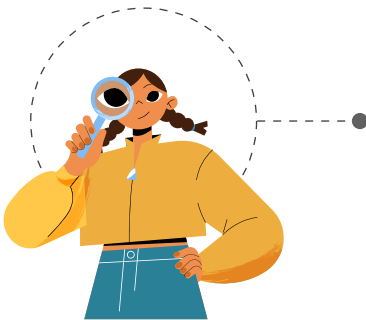
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INSTRUCTIONS

The **Energy Citizenship Empowerment Kit** is a gamified tool to trigger and guide the discussion about participation barriers to the energy system. The tool supports the investigation and identification of potential opportunities and solutions tailored to your context during workshops, brainstorming sessions, energy planning sessions, conferences, and webinars.

WHY? (GOAL)

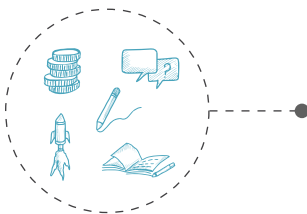


- To identify structural and contextual barriers to the participation of marginalized communities in the energy system.
- To explore opportunities and identify possible solutions based on specific and local conditions and resources.
- To advocate for everyone's right and responsibility to participate and contribute to the energy system and transition.
- To raise awareness about structural barriers hindering individuals' participation in the energy system.

WHAT?



Four decks of colour-coded cards representing four different socio-demographic factors which are recognized as critical in the production and re-production of dynamics of exclusion: gender, socio-economic background, ethnic minority and housing.



The four deck of cards are used as a lens to explore 5 different conditions which play an important role in creating and fostering individuals' opportunities to take part and engage in the energy system: knowledge and skills, legal, finance/economic, empowerment/psychology, and participation.



One deck of **good practices, from the energy sector and beyond**, that may serve as inspiration and/or encourage the discussion and the collection of solutions.



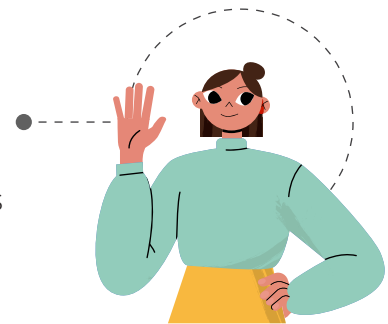
Additional cards, with general questions that can help the group understand the context



Blank cards where users can write down questions and good practices coming up during the exercise.

WHO?

- Policymakers, energy planners
- Energy practitioners, community energy initiative representatives and leaders
- Groups of citizens
- Representatives from marginalized socio-demographic groups



HOW?

- 1** --- Establish your working group and decide whether to hold the session online or in person. If more than 10 people are participating, consider dividing into smaller groups (5-8 people per group).
- 2** --- Identify a facilitator and a note-taker for the/each group. The role of the facilitator is to: explain the exercise and the glossary, guide the discussion, and read the questions out loud. The note-taker writes down the inputs coming from the participants.
- 3** --- Go through the general questions (white cards) and allow a first round of discussion.
- 4** --- Based on the result of the first discussion, choose one deck of cards or take all decks of cards.
- 5** --- Go through the cards of your chosen deck(s) and answer the questions to spark the discussion in the group.
- 6** --- Collect the input from participants using color-coded post-its on a board or an online tool (e.g. Miro). If new questions or good practices are coming up, use the blank cards to write them down.
- 7** --- Reflect and discuss with the participants how to integrate the inputs/ideas into actions or policy making. If you are divided into groups, consider having a plenary session.
- 8** --- Identify three key actions for the group.

N.B BEFORE USING THE KIT:

- **Participants should be familiar with the economic, social and legal frameworks they are operating in, which are relevant for individuals' participation in the energy system.**

If the group doesn't have relevant knowledge, consider having a first round of discussion with the support of the general questions (white cards), to make sure that all the participants are familiar with the context and can acquire enough information for further discussions.

- **Involving representatives of marginalized communities is essential to include and integrate the perspectives, feelings, and goals of the different groups.**

In addition to that, it fosters in-group identification, enhancing people's motivation to join energy initiatives. You can start doing that by identifying members from those socio-demographic groups that are already active in your context.

- **Each deck of cards can be used independently.**

This means that participants can choose one socio-demographic factor to focus on (Gender, Socio-economic background, Housing, or Ethnic Minority) and use the related questions as a lens to get an integrated picture of the context they are acting on. Alternatively, they can choose one specific dimension to explore among Finance, Empowerment/Psychology, Legal, Knowledge and Skills, or Participation, and get an intersectional perspective on the conditions individuals from different socio-demographic groups are acting on. However, the use of all four decks of cards will provide a more integrated and complex picture of the specific context the KIT is being used.



GLOSSARY

*This glossary contains specific terminology necessary to understand for using the Kit.
References to terms in the glossary on the cards are marked with *.*

- **Community Energy Initiative:** initiatives where communities and individuals take democratic control over the energy system with the primary aim to provide social, economic or environmental benefits to its participants.
- **Dynamic Contract:** agreements that allow for the pricing of energy or utilities to fluctuate in response to market conditions. These contracts are designed to provide a more flexible and responsive pricing mechanism, as compared to traditional fixed-price contracts or variable contracts, offering the same price for energy or utilities regardless of market conditions.
- **Ethnic minority:** individuals with different language, traditions and cultures from the main group in a region.
- **Funds from CO2 emissions rights:** The EU Emissions Trading System works on the 'cap and trade' principle. A cap is set on the total amount of certain greenhouse gases that can be emitted by the operators. Within the cap, operators buy or receive emissions allowances. Revenues from the sale of allowances feed into Member States' budgets or supply the funds supporting innovation in low-carbon technologies and the energy transition (e.g. Innovation Fund, Modernisation Fund).
- **Gender:** individuals that might encounter more barriers and difficulties in participating in the energy system, due to their gender identity. While the kit recognizes the spectrum of gender identity, the resources consulted lead to a focus on women. However, the questions can be adapted on the basis of the context of the users, and therefore include other genders.
- **Housing Conditions:** the physical state and quality of the dwelling individuals live in, together with the kind of tenure they are involved in.
- **Peer-to-peer trading:** prosumers directly engaged in energy exchange with one another, using a digital platform to construct a marketplace on a local level or virtually. Consumers and prosumers can exchange energy without the need for an intermediary. [D3.3]
- **Prosumer:** is an individual who both consumes and produces energy.
- **Self-consumer:** is a type of prosumer that produces energy for their own exclusive use.
- **Smart meters:** A smart meter is an electronic device that records information—such as consumption of electric energy, voltage levels, current, and power factor—and communicates the information to the consumer and electricity suppliers. Such an advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) differs from automatic meter reading (AMR) in that it enables two-way communication between the meter and the supplier. [Wikipedia]
- **Socio-economic background:** the individual's position in society considering level of income, education and living conditions.
- **Virtual Prosumer/ism - Virtual Communities:** the end customer produces renewable electricity for his or her own need with an installation located away from the location of consumption. [D2.1]