

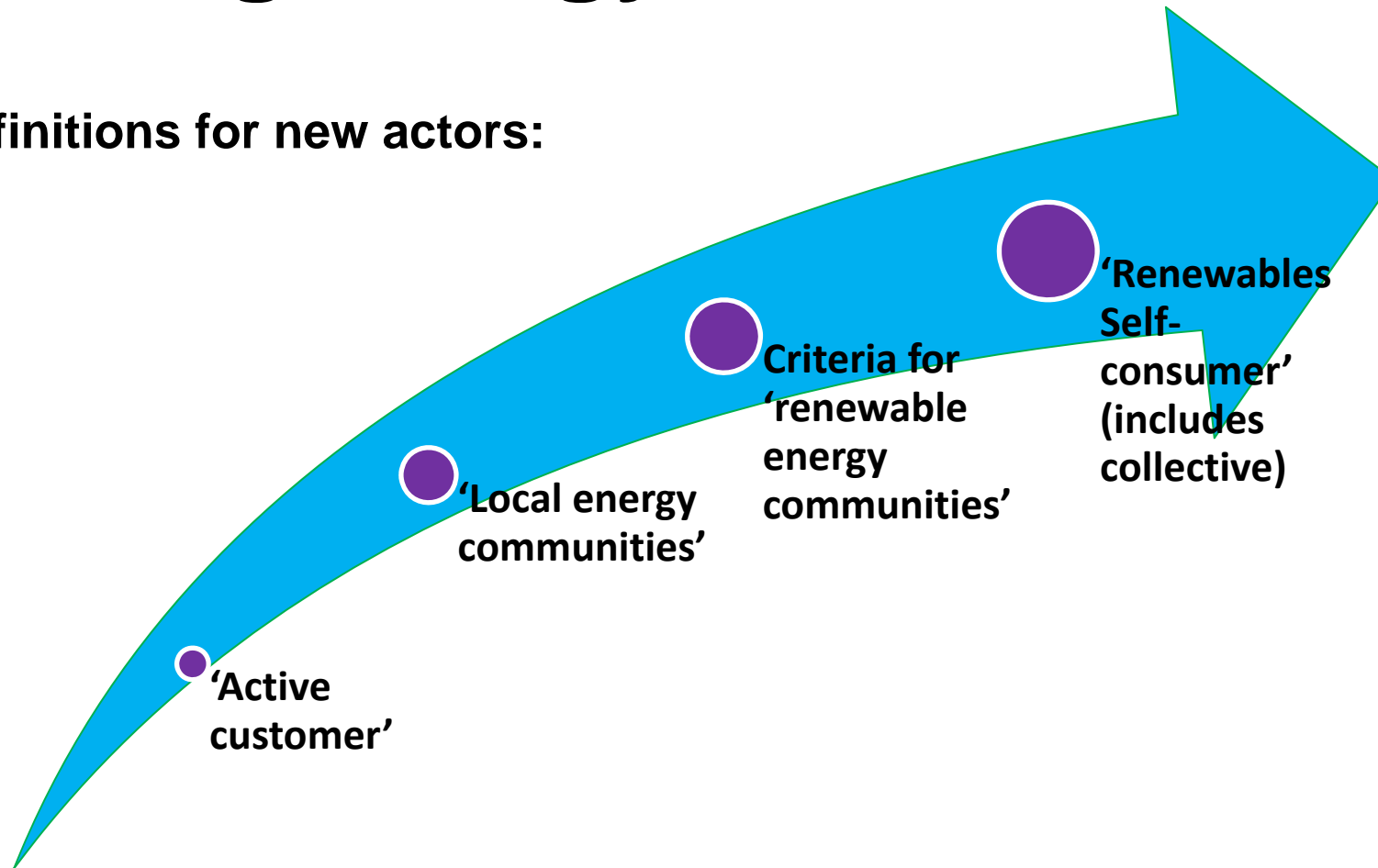
Advocacy: how to contribute in your country

by Josh Roberts, Advocacy Officer
REScoop.eu General Assembly
12 June 2017

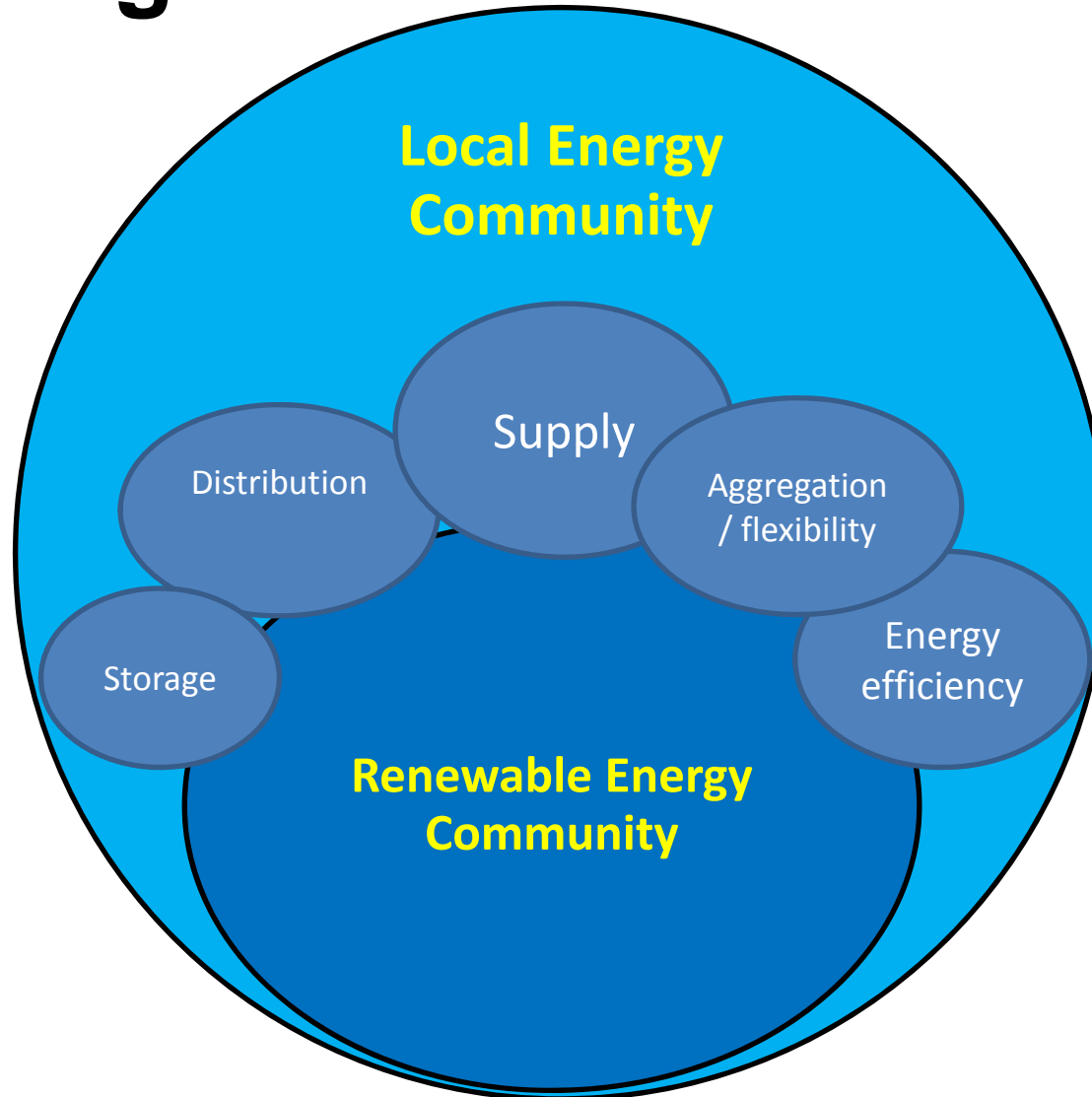


Giving energy citizens a name

Definitions for new actors:



Giving REScoops a name in EU legislation



'local energy communities':

- Focus on elements that distinguish REScoops from traditional commercial energy companies

'renewable energy communities':

- Focus on meeting certain criteria around local participation, control /ownership and size

Renewable energy communities

Main opportunities:

- A right to produce, consume, store, and supply renewables
- Reduced / simplified administrative barriers + information/guidance
- Requirement to ‘consider’ community participation in support schemes
- Supply license exemption so multi-apartment buildings can self-consume

Local energy communities in Europe's new market design

Main opportunities:

- A right for communities to have non-discriminatory access to 'all organised markets' (e.g balancing) through a supplier or an aggregator
- Fair, proportionate and transparent procedures, cost-reflective charges
- Entitlement to an enabling regulatory framework
- Entitled to own, establish, lease, autonomously manage 'community networks' (i.e. micro-grids)

What are the main challenges?

- Difficulty in communicating what 'REScoops' are and providing clear / strong enough definitions
- Big questions around future of guarantees of origin
- Role of national energy regulators?
- Support for role of REScoops in energy efficiency and in addressing fuel poverty
- Provisions on support schemes don't go far enough
- **COSTS** - acknowledgment for benefits/value REScoops provide (both to the grid and to local and regional communities, i.e. society)

State of play:

Where we are now:

- European Parliament proposing legislative amendments
- Member States forming views on the proposals, starting to debate own amendments

What we are doing:

- Submitting text/legislative arrangements to MEPs and Member States
- Sharing and explaining our position with other stakeholders
- Mobilising REScoop members to influence national government's positions

Topics for discussion

1. Where/what are your priorities?
2. Advocacy at national level: where to start? Who to talk to?
3. What are the impressions from your governments so far? Where might there be challenges?
4. How do we coordinate communication? What do we in Brussels need to be aware of?
5. What tools do you have at your disposal?
6. What is the best way to work together between Brussels and national capitals?

Thanks for your attention!

Josh Roberts
Advocacy Officer
josh.roberts@rescoop.eu
@REScoopEU



‘Local Energy Community’ definition

Text proposed by the Commission

7. 'local energy community' means: an association, a cooperative, a partnership, a non-profit organisation or other legal entity which is effectively controlled by local shareholders or members, generally value rather than profit-driven, involved in distributed generation and in performing activities of a distribution system operator, supplier or aggregator at local level, including across borders;

Amendment

7. 'local energy community' means: an association, a cooperative, a partnership, a non-profit organisation or other legal entity, **which is based on open participation**, is effectively controlled by local shareholders or members **that have equal decision making rights, whose predominant aim is to provide local community benefits rather than generate profits for its members, that carries out or is involved in at least one or more of the following activities:** distributed generation, storage, **supply, energy efficiency service provider, aggregator, or distribution system operator**, at local level, including across borders;

‘Renewable Energy Community’ definition

Alternative version of Article 22(1)

1. For the purposes of this Directive, a renewable energy community shall be a **local energy community as defined in [Recast Directive 2009/72/EC as proposed by COM(2016) 864] that is an SME or a not-for-profit organisation, the shareholders or members of which cooperate in the generation, distribution, storage or supply of energy from renewable sources. To benefit from treatment as a renewable energy community, at least 51% of the seats in the board of directors or managing bodies of the entity are shall be reserved for local members, i.e. representatives of local public and local private socio-economic interests or citizens having a direct interest in the community activity and its impacts.** In addition, they must fulfil at least four out of the following criteria:

- (a) shareholders or members, **of which there shall be multiple**, are natural persons, local authorities, including municipalities, or SMEs operating in the fields or renewable energy;
- (b) at least 51% of the shareholders or members with voting rights of the entity are natural persons;
- (c) at least 51% of the shares or participation rights of the entity are owned by local members, i.e. representatives of local public and local private socio-economic interests or citizen having a direct interest in the community activity and its impacts;
- (d) **participation is open to all potentially interested local shareholders, i.e. representatives of local public and local private socio-economic interests or citizens having a direct interest in the community activity and its impacts, that are eligible under criteria (a);**
- (e) the community has not installed more than 18 MW of renewable capacity for electricity, heating and cooling and transport as a yearly average in the previous 5 year.

