



T3 FOSTERING THE CO-CREATION OF LOCAL ENERGY COOPERATIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CITIZEN BASED PILOT ACTIONS

**D.T3.8.2 - Creation of citizen energy group
in the Town of Prelog**

**Version 1
6 2021**



Creation of citizen energy group in the Town of Prelog

Motivation of citizens of the Town of Prelog to take part in the local energy and climate planning and project implementation, started with first activities of the project. First workshop that was organized in late 2019 in Prelog was within Economic Forum of Town of Prelog which is usually visited by variety of local, regional and national participants. This was a good starting point in promoting the project and the goal to engage citizens to form energy group.



Image 1 Participants at the 1st workshop in Prelog

Workshops that followed the first one, have shown the participating citizens that their opinion and engagement is relevant and taken into account while revising SEAP and developing SECAP. The participants were thus inclined to get more informed on the project activities and discuss within each other on possible projects they could implement in cooperation with local

authorities and/or SMEs.

Once the SECAP was developed and approved by Town Council, it was published and all interested parties can download and study it. Measures that were defined within are in line with the real needs of the local community of Town of Prelog and funding options are also listed. This served as a starting point in triggering ideas from wider community on possible energy and climate investments in their town.

Tools that were developed in work package 2 were very useful for project partners to engage interest of local stakeholders in participating in planning process as well as to accept potential energy and climate projects as something that in long term is beneficial for whole local community. Tool development for the purpose of the



Image 2 Example of results of the assessment tool

assessment of potential project investments, was used while determining which project would be most appropriate to be funded as a pilot within this project.

All these tools are also available for the citizens to use for free and are one more facilitating factor to engaging citizens cooperation on the local level.

Once the basis of the acceptance atmosphere was established, the following three workshops (in late 2020 and first half 2021) were organized to determine main participants of the newly established energy group as well as legal requirements and limitations.

It has been determined that, according to the current legislation on Croatia, most



suitable form of energy group to establish would be citizen energy association. The founding assembly was held between 2nd and 3rd workshop in 2021 i.e. on July 7th 2021. The president, vice-president and management board were defined, the name of the association (“Green Energy Club Prelog”) was determined and members enlisted.

Image 3 Founding assembly of "Green Energy Club Prelog"

The association is open for anyone to join and its main goals are sustainable development, development and implementation of energy and climate projects, environmental protection and cooperation with other similar organization to satisfy its main goal.

The Town of Prelog as well as Medjimurje Energy Agency Ltd. have been supporting the establishment of the association from the beginning and will do so through the course of its actions in the future.