



EVENT REPORT

**Title of Event: Workshop meeting No. 1:
"Ideation and visualisation,"
as part of the implementation of the ENES-CE
project by Lubelskie Voivodeship
with the Niemce Commune, Poland.
(D.T1.2.3)**

Date & Place of Event:	Januar 31 th , 2020, in the Niemce Commune Office, ul. Lubelska 121, 21-025 Niemce, Lubelskie Voivodeship, Poland.
Partner/s Involved:	PP10 Lubelskie Voivodeship and the Niemce Commune.
Relation to Project:	Meeting with stakeholders organized by a partner PP10 Lubelskie Voivodeship with the Niemce Commune.
Topics tackled and description of links to deliverables/outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the idea of the ENES-CE project and planned project activities, preceded by the introduction of all participants and an introduction to the topic of the meeting by Deputy Head of the Niemce Commune; - Presentation of the LCEP status quo analysis of the Niemce Commune and its implementation status; - Presentation of the results of a survey carried out as part of the ENES-CE project in September 2019; - Information provided by the Energy Advisor about the legal and financial aspects of establishing an energy co-operative and an energy cluster as a citizen energy group in the Niemce Commune and open discussion with residents and other stakeholders to the possible implementation of proposals for renewable energy activities proposed in the survey and during the first workshop also in terms of the current situation on the renewable energy market; - Analysing, consultation and summarising proposals from residents to be included in the revision of existing LCEP and future activities of sustainable energy development in the Commune Niemce.
Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involvement of residents and other stakeholders from the commune in the energy planning process, energy-saving and joint bottom-up selection of investment activities using renewable energy by creating a citizen energy group in the commune;



<p>achieving further project results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of survey proposals, which were confirmed during the first workshop in the revision of LCEP as the non-investment activities, which would be considered as future investments and require analysis in terms of technical difficulties of conversion, as well as with respect to their implementation/financing; - Next public consultation of the proposals of investment activities and future energy planning in the Niemce Commune; The results will be presented during the 2nd workshop, upon receiving the Excel programme developed by the partner responsible for the thematic package in the project, common to all project partners; - Inclusion of the results from the Status Quo Analysis in the LCEP Evaluation and Monitoring section of the updated LCEP of Niemce Commune document approval of deleting in the LCEP the information stating that no investment in commercial electricity, heat and cooling production was planned, taking into account the possibility of establishing the citizen energy group and its future activities. - Enhancing knowledge and acceptance of participants for the future activities of the Niemce Commune in the field of energy development; - Gathering current knowledges, experiences and opinions of participants on concepts linked to sustainable energy for the development of the Niemce Commune. 																		
<p>Type of audience reached (project target groups)</p>	<p>Numbers of reached target groups in the framework of event:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="459 1176 1398 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th>TARGET GROUP</th> <th>VALUE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY</td> <td>10 (mostly residents of the Niemce Commune and entrepreneurs from the commune)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REGIONAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY</td> <td>3 (employees of the Marshal's Office of Lubelskie Voivodeship)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SECTORAL AGENCY</td> <td>1 (Social Services)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDER</td> <td>4 (Department of Municipal Economy, the School and the Nursery)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INTEREST GROUPS INCLUDING NGO's</td> <td>1 League for the Conservation of Nature</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESERACH</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANISATION</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GENERAL PUBLIC</td> <td>4 (residents of the Niemce Commune)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	TARGET GROUP	VALUE	LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY	10 (mostly residents of the Niemce Commune and entrepreneurs from the commune)	REGIONAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY	3 (employees of the Marshal's Office of Lubelskie Voivodeship)	SECTORAL AGENCY	1 (Social Services)	INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDER	4 (Department of Municipal Economy, the School and the Nursery)	INTEREST GROUPS INCLUDING NGO's	1 League for the Conservation of Nature	HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESERACH	0	BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANISATION	0	GENERAL PUBLIC	4 (residents of the Niemce Commune)
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<p>Annexes (photo, media coverage web-links ect.,...)</p>	<p>1. https://www.niemce.pl/aktualnosci/n,91818,spotkanie-warsztatowe-wspoltworzenie-pomyslow-i-wizualizacja-w-ramach-projektu-enes-ce.html</p>																		



2. <https://www.niemce.pl/aktualnosci/n,92841,podsumowanie-spotkania-w-ramach-projektu-enes-ce.html>
3. <https://www.lubelskie.pl/aktualnosci-fundusze-europejskie/województwo-lubelskie-po-pierwszym-spotkaniu-interesariuszy-projektu-enes-ce/>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/enesce.project/>
5. https://twitter.com/Project_ENES_CE
6. <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ENES-CE.html>







**Report from workshop meeting No. 1: "Ideation and visualisation,"
as part of the implementation of the ENES-CE project by Lubelskie Voivodeship with the Niemce
Commune, Poland. (D.T1.2.3)**

The workshop meeting No. 1: "Ideation and visualisation," was held on 31 January 2020 in the Niemce Commune Office. It was co-hosted by the Polish partner of the ENES-CE project, Lubelskie Voivodeship, and the Niemce Commune as part of the ENES-CE project.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Niemce Commune Office: Krzysztof Urbaś and Henryk Smolarz - Head and Deputy Head of the Niemce Commune, and employees of the Niemce Commune Office - mostly residents of the commune. The workshop was also attended by representatives of the Niemce Commune Council and other institutions from the Commune Department of Municipal Economy, the Social Services, the school and the nursery, residents and entrepreneurs from the commune, as well as a representative of the League for the Conservation of Nature, and employees of the Marshal's Office, Kajetan Kościk, Head of the RES Division in the Department of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources and at the same time the Energy Advisor. (23 participants in total).

During the meeting, the residents and other stakeholders of the ENES-CE project from the Niemce Commune discussed the possibility of creating a citizen energy group in the Niemce Commune and activities related to future investments in renewable energy. The discussion was preceded by the introduction of all participants and an introduction to the topic of the meeting delivered by Deputy Head of the Niemce Commune, Henryk Smolarz, who outlined the idea of the ENES-CE project and planned project activities.

Next, Agnieszka Sielicka presented the results of the analyses carried out with the commune employees in 2019:

- the presentation of the LCEP status quo analysis of the Niemce Commune and its implementation status;
- the presentation of the results of a survey carried out as part of the ENES-CE project in September 2019 that aimed to diagnose the need to create a citizen energy group in the commune, in the form of an energy co-operative or an energy cluster; it also served to gather proposals for energy planning and renewable energy with respect to discussing and considering their inclusion in the update of Niemce Commune LCEP and joint implementation in the future.

After the presentations, Kajetan Kościk, explained the legal and financial aspects of establishing an energy co-operative and an energy cluster as a citizen energy group. He drew attention to the fact that the need to create a citizen energy group became apparent after analysing the results of a survey conducted among residents and other stakeholders of the Niemce Commune.

The Energy Advisor explained that:

Energy Cluster - is a civil law agreement, *i.e.* an agreement concluded by the participating parties that may be natural persons, legal persons, scientific units, research institutes or local authorities' units.

The subject of the contract may be the generation and balancing of demand, distribution, energy trading (including from renewable sources) or individual elements selected by cluster members. The limitations are as follows. The power of the distribution network must not exceed the nominal voltage of 110 kV, and its area should be within the boundaries of the area of activity; in Poland, it is typically a county or 5 neighbouring communes.

An energy cluster is represented by the Coordinator, *i.e.* any member of the energy cluster or a cooperative, association or foundation established for this purpose.



The investment activities in renewable energy are implemented according to the individual needs of individual cluster members.

Energy Cooperative - in basic terms of the cooperative law, it is a cooperative whose purpose is to produce energy for auto-consumption and within local electricity discount schemes for energy producers.

The object of its activity is the production of electricity, biogas or heat in renewable energy installations and balancing the demand for electricity, biogas or heat only for own needs of the energy cooperative and its members that are connected to a power distribution network of a specified a nominal voltage - lower than 110 kV or a gas distribution or heating network. The establishment is, therefore, concerned with generating and meeting the demand for energy produced from renewable sources.

The Energy Advisor also explained that when creating a cooperative, the obligatory bodies of an energy cooperative should be selected: the Management Board, the Supervisory Board and the Annual General Meeting; however, a statute of a cooperatives may also specify other bodies. The projected costs of establishing an energy cooperative depend on many factors, however, the mandatory fees will include a court fee - PLN 500; an announcement in Court and Commercial Gazette (*Monitor Sądowy i Gospodarczy*) - PLN 100 and an application for entry into the National Support Centre for Agriculture (*Krajowy Ośrodek Wsparcia Rolnictwa*).

Reflecting on the legal form of a citizen energy group pursuant to the relevant Acts of Polish Law, *i.e.* an energy cooperative or energy cluster, **the Energy Advisor explained that an energy cluster is a friendlier form of a grassroots organisation. The representatives of the commune were inclined to create an energy cooperative and the residents said they would have preferred to decide on the legal form of the citizen energy group at a later stage of the project.**

During the meeting, the Energy Advisor referred to the proposals for renewable energy activities proposed in the survey and in an open discussion consulted with residents and other stakeholders the possible implementation of individual activities, also in terms of the current situation on the renewable energy market.

In an open discussion, all participants of the meeting considered, among others, the proposal and the possibility of **building a biogas plant** that had been put forward in the survey by one of the entrepreneurs from the commune.

As the Advisor explained, this was a good direction of investment, particularly given that the current plans of the EU shift towards abandoning combustion; therefore, a biogas plant would be consistent with the spirit of the circular economy. In addition, the biogas plant could use the wood biomass surplus from one of the large companies in the commune.

At the same time, the Energy Advisor made the meeting participants aware that an investment of such a substantial scope would require an investor as at the time there was no possibility of obtaining EU funding. It was added that in the future the commune would need to resolve on employing repayable mechanisms (loans) rather than on direct financing of such investments.

Another proposal was a **photovoltaic farm**, the construction of which could also be considered in the commune provided that an investor were found.

Another idea under discussion was **high-efficiency co-generation** and the possibility of obtaining CO₂ for photosynthesis, *e.g.* on a greenhouse farm in the commune. In addition, one of the discussion points concerned the possibility of using **geothermal energy** in the commune.

During the meeting, consideration was also given to the proposed **replacement of boilers** for new residents of the commune that are at risk of energy poverty. The activity would fall under the national "Stop Smog" programme and would require preparing baseline inventories.

The Energy Advisor also referred to the proposals regarding **the dark sky** and suggested promoting pro-ecological activities, conscious light management and investments in modern technologies such as active outdoor lighting management system.



Deputy Head of the Niemce Commune explained that efforts were being made to establish a Transformer/Switching Station [GPZ - Główny Punkt Zasilania] because, from the perspective of the commune's development, more power is required to accommodate new enterprises.

One of the activities mentioned by the Commune included establishing the power source or an energy store at the local shooting range.

The Commune also voiced the need for current statistical data that was necessary for projecting future energy needs as well as the implementation of RES activities and investments. To that extent, the Commune requires the support of an external expert that would gather and process such baseline data.

As stated during the review of existing energy planning support tools in the Commune, it is necessary to update all strategic documents in the Niemce Commune as “2015-2020 Niemce Commune Development Strategy” - preparation of a new document entitled “Assumptions for the heat, electricity and gas fuels provision plan for the Niemce Commune” and an instant update of the Niemce Commune LCEP, which provide for activities until 2020.

In the summary of the workshop meeting No. 1: "Ideation and visualisation," held in the Niemce Commune, Lubelskie Voivodeship, Poland, the participants were informed and it was established that the commune, for the procedural and documentation reasons, is required to prepare updated LCEP that will be adopted by the Commune Council in February 2020. It will introduce the minimum necessary updates while retaining all investment and communication activities, as it was in LCEP from 2016, and include technical calculations until 2025.

On the other hand, the non-investment activities will generally include survey proposals, which were confirmed during the first workshop meeting of the ENES-CE project:

- The development of the consultation system in the commune will in consultation with the municipal energy engineer to advise on possible renewable energy investments,
- Involvement of residents and other stakeholders from the commune in the energy planning process, energy-saving and joint bottom-up selection of investment activities using renewable energy by creating a citizen energy group in the commune,
- Stakeholder involvement in the process of developing and updating programming and strategic documents related to energy efficiency, climate protection and renewable energy sources consistent with national and European guidelines (e.g. SECAP), by providing information necessary for the development of the baseline inventory,
- Environmental education of the community, through information and promotion campaigns, air quality notification systems, raising awareness of the possibilities of reducing low emissions *etc*,
- other provisions found in the 2016 LCEP.

It was agreed that the activities would be considered as future investments and require analysis in terms of technical difficulties of conversion, as well as with respect to their implementation/financing. The results will be presented during the 2nd workshop, upon receiving the Excel programme developed by the partner responsible for the thematic package in the project, common to all project partners.

In addition, the Niemce Community undertook to include in the LCEP Evaluation and Monitoring section of the updated LCEP document the results from the Status Quo Analysis carried out as part of the ENES-CE project and to delete the information stating that no investment in commercial electricity, heat and



cooling production was planned, taking into account the possibility of establishing the citizen energy group and its future activities.

After presenting the arguments from the Commune representatives, it was established that the Commune is currently unable to update its LCEP so that it met the SECAP conditions. It explained that the document must present a vision for 2050 activities and assume a reduction of CO₂ emissions by at least 40% in 2030. SECAP also provides for an underlying inventory of emissions and an assessment of climate risk and vulnerability. The Commune will gradually strive to implement these intentions, however, in order to do so, the Commune requires baseline data and it will be necessary to employ an external expert.

The method of communication used in the workshop meeting No. 1. in the Niemce Commune.

The workshop programme and the method of communication with participants were planned so as to attract and involve the participants from the start of the meeting. The substance of the meeting (from the idea of the ENES-CE project, the purpose and activities, in particular, those in which residents and other stakeholders from the Niemce Commune would be involved) was delivered using PowerPoint presentations.

To overcome any initial communication barriers or the fear of participation in the discussion, all participants were asked to introduce themselves in a meeting. It was shown to have greatly contributed to the quality and openness of the debate and closed the distance between the participants who did not know each.

The Energy Advisor played an important role in communicating and explaining the complexities of the topic. His expertise, combined with plain language devoid of gratuitous jargon and use of visual aids provided a comprehensive and comprehensible picture of creating a citizen energy group and its activities, related to investments in renewable energy.

Due to the fact that participants actively participated in the discussion and freely asked questions, the originally planned work in groups was omitted, which was initially intended to activate those who would have a barrier against participation in the free discussion.

Summing up the planned and used communication strategy during the first workshop, it can be stated that the proposed form was effective and can also be used in subsequent project meetings.

The Information on websites about the workshop meeting No. 1: "Ideation and visualisation," on 31 January 2020 in the Niemce Commune Office, Lubelskie Voivodeship, Poland:

1. <https://www.niemce.pl/aktualnosci/n,91818,spotkanie-warsztatowe-wspoltworzenie-pomyslow-i-wizualizacja-w-ramach-projektu-enes-ce.html>
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3. <https://www.lubelskie.pl/aktualnosci-fundusze-europejskie/wojewodztwo-lubelskie-po-pierwszym-spotkaniu-interesariuszy-projektu-enes-ce/>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/enesce.project/>
5. https://twitter.com/Project_ENES_CE
6. <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ENES-CE.html>