



Info session – Cross-border Energy Communities

July 10th, 2025 - online



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RESCOOP.EU

Agenda



- Opening / Introduction
- What are (Q-)CBECs?
- Presentation of the Call for proposals
- Q&A



OPENING / INTRODUCTION

Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Introduction

- ▶ Co-managed by MOT and AEBR, on behalf of DG REGIO



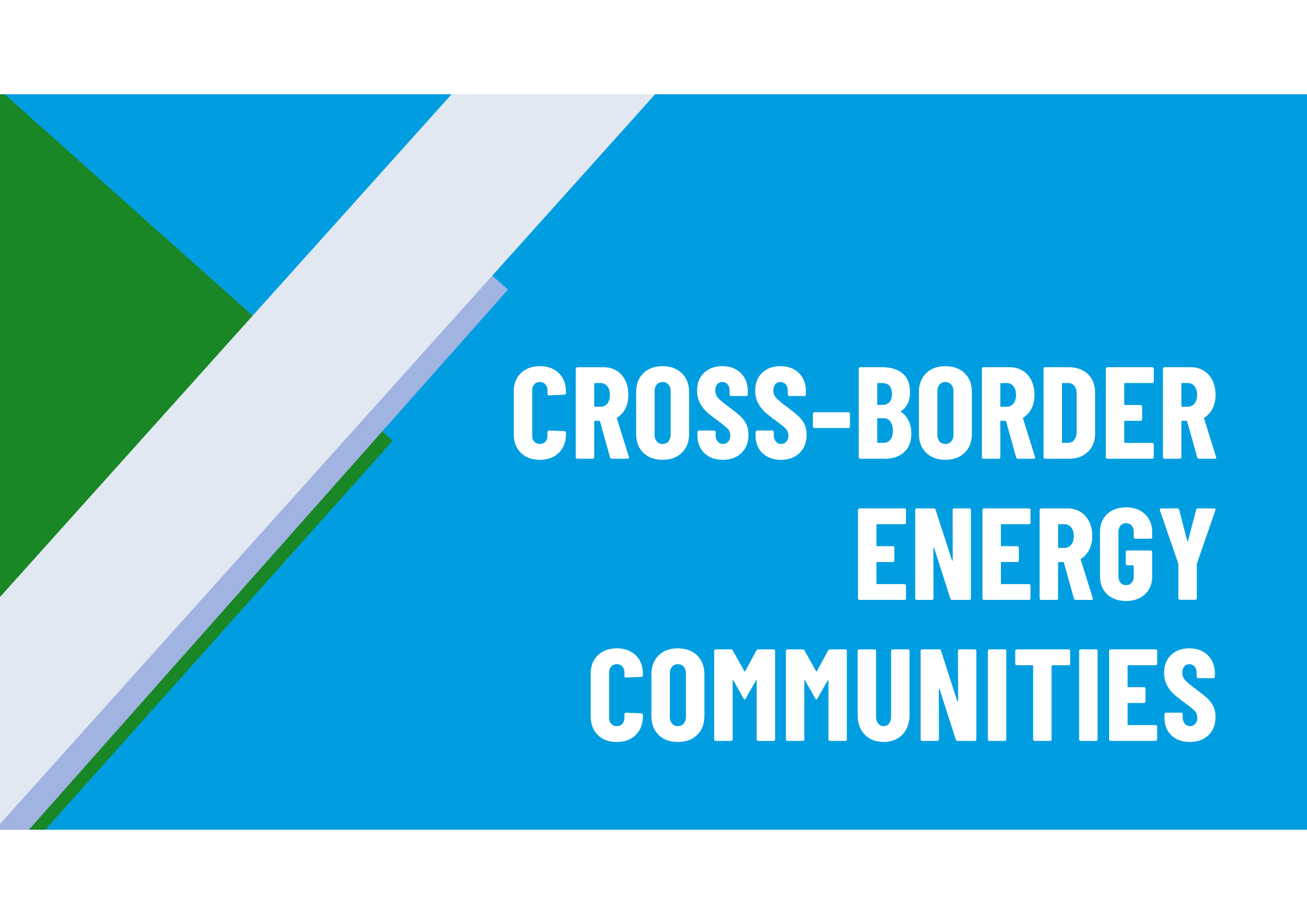
- ▶ Technical support by REScoop.eu

(federation of energy communities)

with the technical support of

RESCOOP.EU



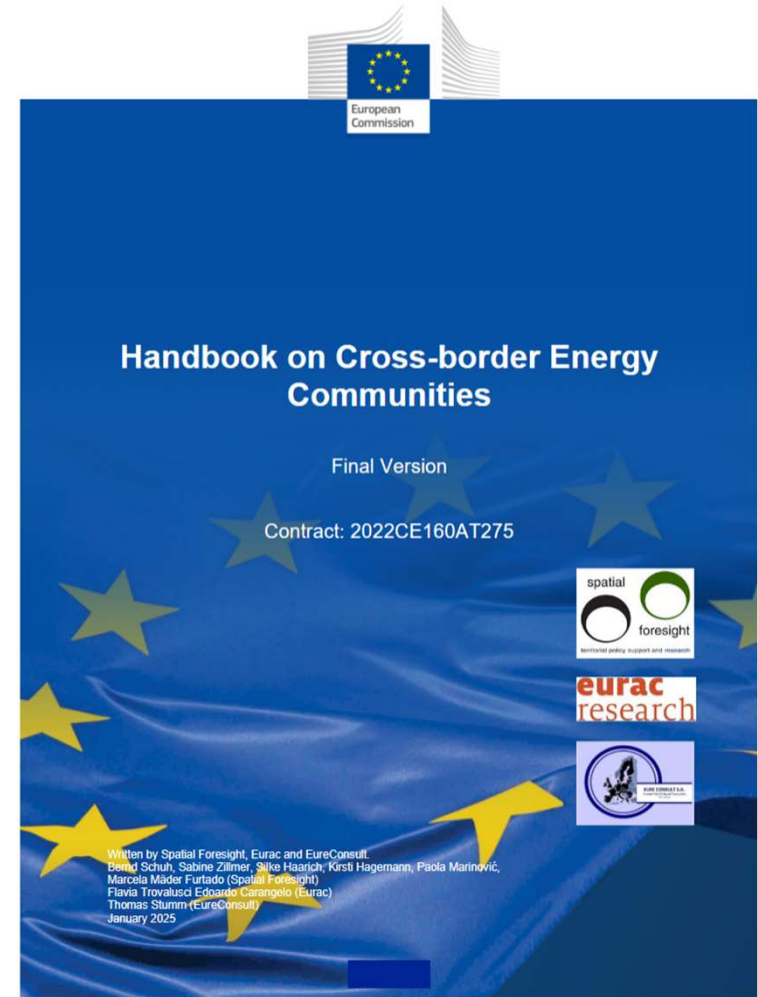


**CROSS-BORDER
ENERGY
COMMUNITIES**

What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

The Handbook on Cross-border Energy Communities

DG REGIO, Handbook on Cross-border Energy Communities (2024), https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/studies/2025/Handbook_on_Cross-border_Energy_Communities.pdf



What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

Definition of a Cross-border Energy Community

“A cross-border energy community is a ‘renewable energy community’ or a ‘citizen energy community’ –as defined by EU legislation– of a cross-border nature.”

What is the difference between a quasi and a cross-border energy community

	Cross-Border Energy Community (CBEC)	Quasi Cross-Border Energy Community (quasi-CBEC)
LEGAL FORM	A legal entity based on REC or CEC definitions	A legal entity based on REC or CEC definitions
PARTICIPATION	Open and voluntary participation from both sides of a border region	Open and voluntary participation from both sides of a border region
GOVERNANCE	Controlled by members/shareholders from the border region where it is set	May have joint management (e.g., cross-border entity), but not necessarily shared control
CROSS-BORDER INTEGRATION	Operational: physical and functional energy cooperation across the border	Organizational: collaboration through joint management, funding, or resources , even without physical energy flow across borders
ACTIVITIES	Must involve cross-border provision of energy or related services	No requirement for energy or services to cross the border, activities can take place in one border region or separately in both border regions
EXEMPLE OF CROSS-BORDER ACTIVITIES	Shared generation or supply infrastructure across the border	Shared funding mechanisms, staff, knowledge, or equipment

Possible activities - (Q)-CBEC can engage in

- Cross-border generation, distribution, supply, consumption, aggregation of energy
- Energy storage,
- Energy efficiency services
- Charging services for electric vehicles
- Other energy services

What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

Challenges and obstacles / benefits ?

Benefits of implementing a (quasi) - CBEC

- **Economic, social and environmental benefits**
- **Contribute to the energy union**
- **Efficiency** gains and economic benefits in terms of system cost savings linking distribution systems across borders
- **Complementing directly or indirectly other cross-border cooperation initiatives**
- **New development opportunities** for cross-border regions in terms of jobs and business development in the context of the energy transition
- **Reducing dependency** on imports and centralised energy supply based on fossil energy sources
- **Pooling knowledge and technology** resources in the cross-border region
- **Wider and more diverse user base**

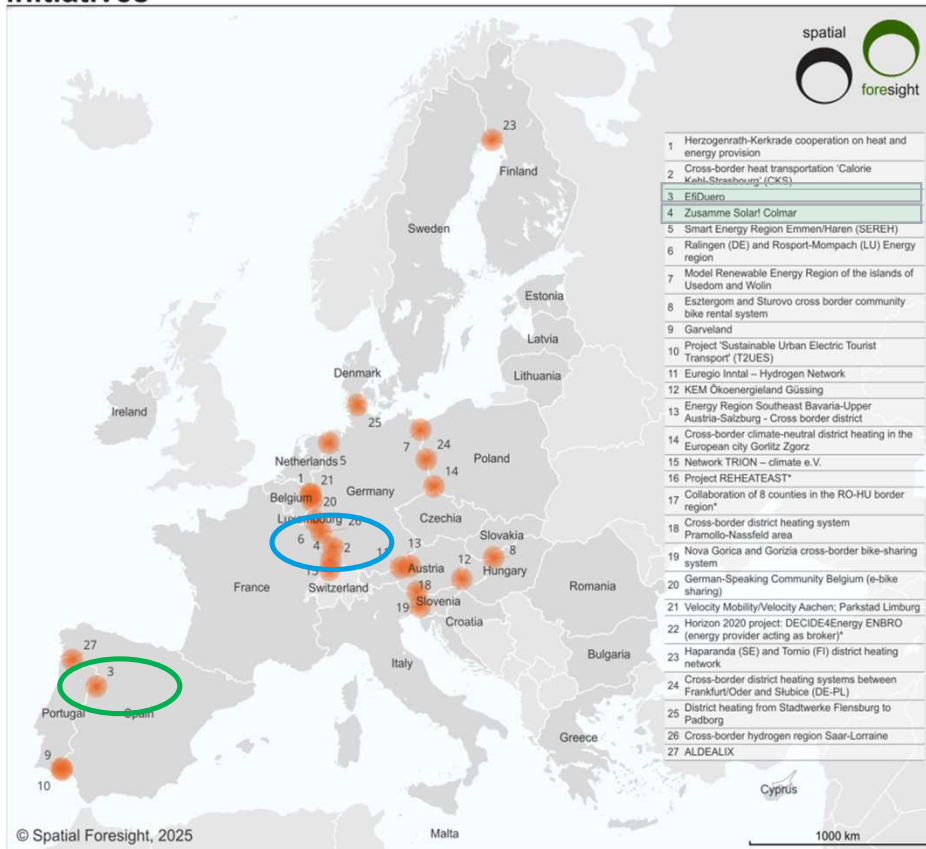
Challenges and obstacles

- Legal obstacles (61% of obstacles) at EU Level, but also at national/regional level
- Administrative obstacles (39%)
- Physical or technical obstacles
- Financial obstacles
- Governance and management obstacles

What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

Examples from the Handbook

Inventory of CBEC, Q-CBEC and related cross-border initiatives



Source: Own elaboration. Administrative boundaries: Eurostat GISCO, NUTS 2 (2016).
 Note: Initiatives marked with * in the table (16, 17, and 22) cover multiple cross-border areas and are therefore not depicted on the map.

EX 1: Efi Duero Douro (CBEC)

- **Spanish-Portuguese border** (Douro - Douro region)
- **The project:** European cooperative society launched in 2017 as a cross-border European energy exchange cooperative by municipalities located along the border and the Douro-Douro EGTC. Members can be local councils, businesses and citizens from the territory of the Douro-Douro EGTC.
- **Activity:** Douro's business model is based on the non-profit marketing of electricity. The energy is produced from solar panels and is then integrated into the distribution network through shared self-consumption.

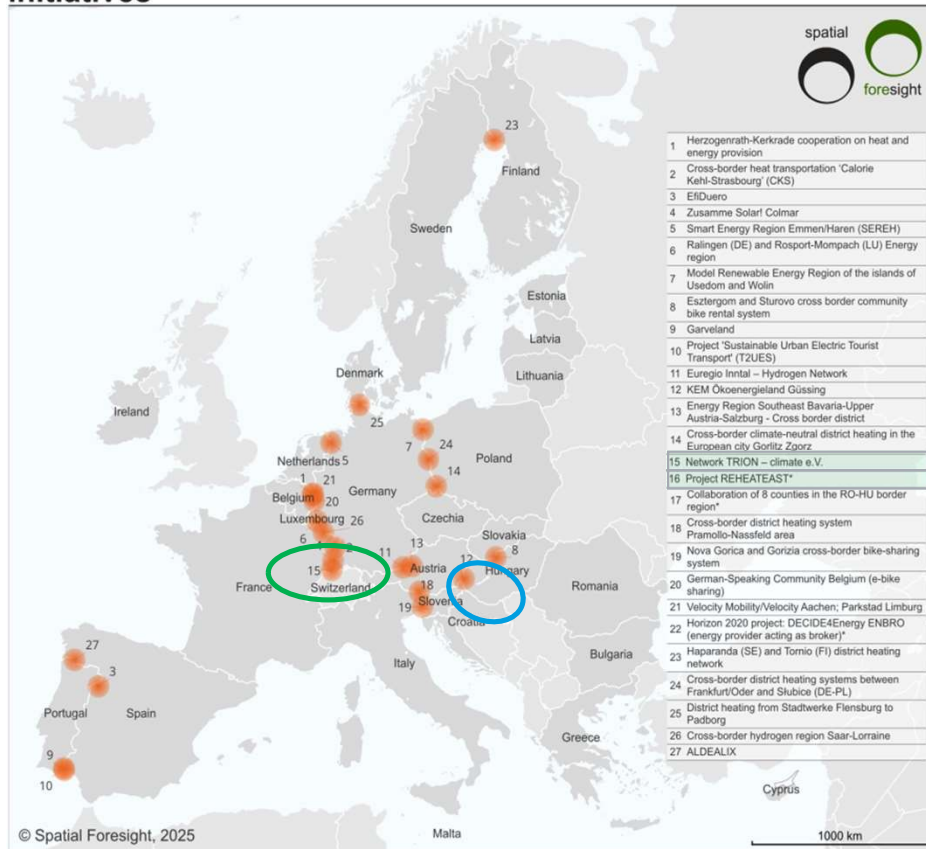
EX 2: Zusamme Solar Colmar (Quasi-CBEC)

- **French-German border** (CEA - Freiburg in Breisgau)
- **The project:** Altora PV Sarl, a French-German company created to develop cross-border community photovoltaic projects. It is owned by Fesa Energie Geno e.G. (50%), Energie Partagée (40%) and Energies Partagées en Alsace (10%).
- **Activity:** The cooperative produces and distributes electricity on the French side of the border. Four roofs have been leased by Alтора-PV, on which PV panels have been installed. Since 2014, Zusamme Solar! Colmar has been supplying 100% solar energy to the French grid. The project is expected to be profitable by 2024.

What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

Examples from the Handbook

Inventory of CBEC, Q-CBEC and related cross-border initiatives



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EX 3: Network Trion Climate (Quasi-CBEC)

- **French-German-Swiss** border (Upper Rhine Area)
- **The project:** German-French-Swiss network of energy and climate stakeholders in the Upper Rhine region. The non-profit association was founded on 13 March 2015 by the Upper Rhine Conference. The purpose of the association is to promote environmental protection through the cross-border bundling of synergy effects in the field of climate and energy in the tri-national metropolitan region of the Upper Rhine.
- **Activities:** the network organises events, training courses, visits and similar activities in the field of climate and energy, which promote the cross-border exchange of knowledge and experience.

EX 4: Reheateast project (Quasi-CBEC)

- **Danube Region** (Coordination Pannon EGTC)
- **The project:** It aims to build local partnerships for reducing the fossil energy demand of district heating systems in the Eastern Danube Region.
- **Activities:** REHEATEAST aims to facilitate this by encouraging multi-stakeholder inter-sector cooperation by developing, testing and disseminating applicable solutions that support public-private cooperation and the implementation of large-scale building and system rehabilitation programs. The developed models are tested in pilot actions.

What are (quasi) cross-border energy communities?

The LICHT methodology

Energy Community Stages





CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Support to pilot actions

Financial support
to implement the necessary tasks

A **sub-grant** of up to **15,000.00 €**
to implement activities to develop
the (Q-)-CBEC
*(eligible activities to be further
detailed)*



Technical support by REScoop.eu
guidance for developing the communities

- **Needs analysis** and stakeholder mapping / an onboarding interview
- **Workshop support**. Each pilot will be involved in two in-person workshops
- Dedicated continuous **technical support**
- Peers-to-peers **webinars**



Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Eligible entities

Who can apply?

- ✓ **Cross-border entities** (EGTC, Euroregions or similar CB structures with legal personality);
- ✓ **Local and regional authorities** of border regions*;
- ✓ **Citizen cooperatives** with legal personality, **NGOs, associations** or **SMEs***.

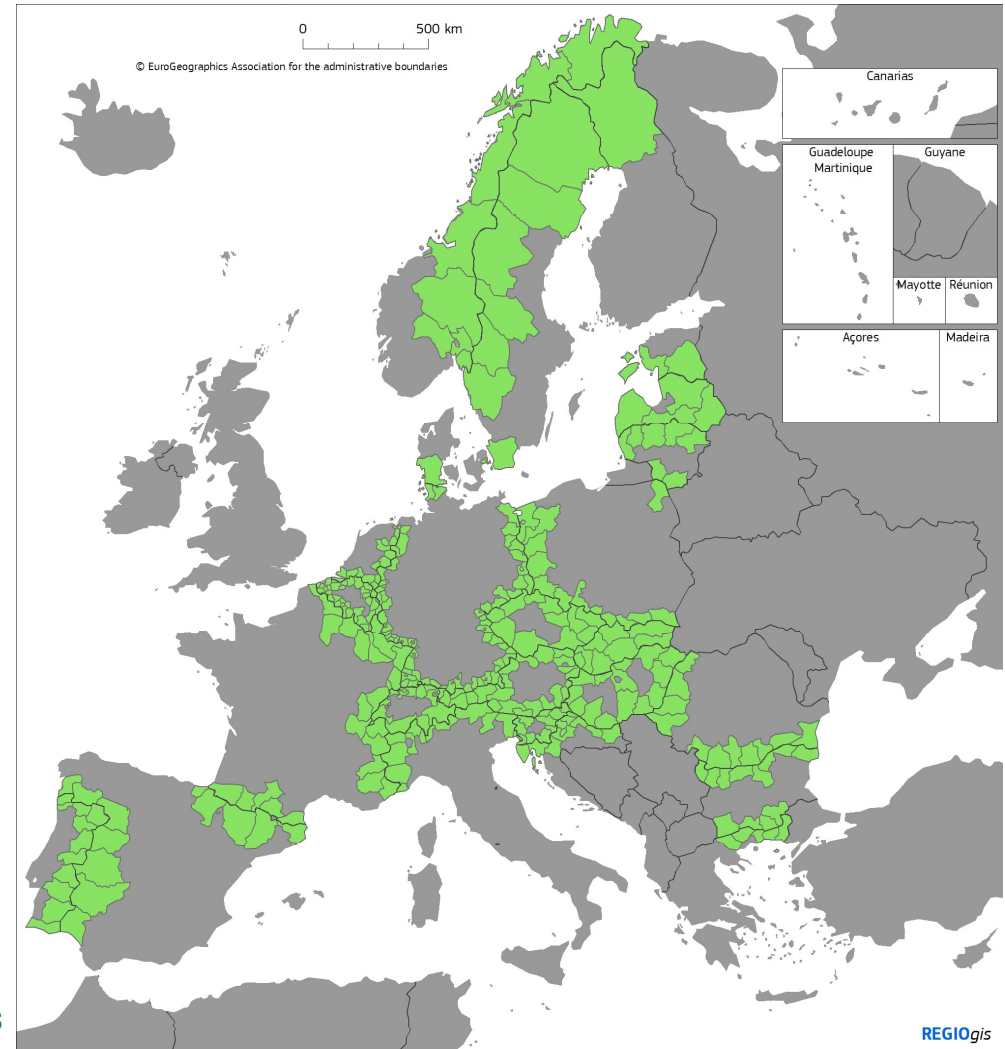
**The application needs to involve a partner (eligible entity) from the other side of the same border*

- ! There is **no maximum limit to the number of partners**, though the feasibility of the proposals should be taken into account when defining the consortia.
- ! A **single natural person cannot** be considered as a partner.

Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Geographical scope

- ✓ Located in a **NUTS3 land border regions** of a **European Economic Area (EEA)** member state or **Switzerland**.
- ✓ This call for proposals is **focused on land border regions**.
- ✓ Proposals involving (Q)-CBEC or installations **along maritime border regions may be considered** if they align with the core objectives and eligibility criteria of the call.



Map illustrating the geographical scope of the applicants



Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Examples of eligible activities

Stakeholder Engagement

- **Engage citizens and local stakeholders** in cross-border energy initiatives
- **Launch public awareness campaigns**
- **Partner with local and regional energy agencies, Distribution System Operators (DSOs), and other key stakeholders** to assess existing infrastructure and align new projects with ongoing efforts in the region
- **Develop training programs for public officials, technical experts, and citizens**

Legal and Governance

- **Conduct feasibility studies** to determine the most suitable legal and governance structure for a CBEC
- **Draft or implement a cooperation agreement** between relevant partners
- **Prepare the necessary steps to set up a legal entity** establishing a CBEC

Technical and Spatial Planning

- **Map energy demand, supply, infrastructure, and renewable resource potential**
- **Prepare spatial and technical or administrative documentation**

Infrastructure Development

- **Design and plan cross-border infrastructure projects,**
- **Plan the set up and connexion of shared production systems**
- **Set up shared services and infrastructure for electro-mobility**

Financing and investment

- **Explore and identify public and private funding sources**
- **Develop joint business models**
- **Explore economic opportunities for joint renewable energy generation, distribution, and sharing**

Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

How to apply?

Application **to be submitted on CBEC website**

Submit the application **ONLY via the online form.**



APPLICATION
FORM

Annexes to join: **Calendar, budget, declaration of partnership.**



APPLICATION
DOCUMENTS

Possible to attach **additional documents**: Map presenting the intervention area, a graph, an infographic...

- Application in **English** or **French**
- For other languages, use the UE's [eTranslation Tool](#) if needed

Deadline is
21st November 2025
18:00 CET

Form and templates available under:
border-energy-communities.eu/callforproposal

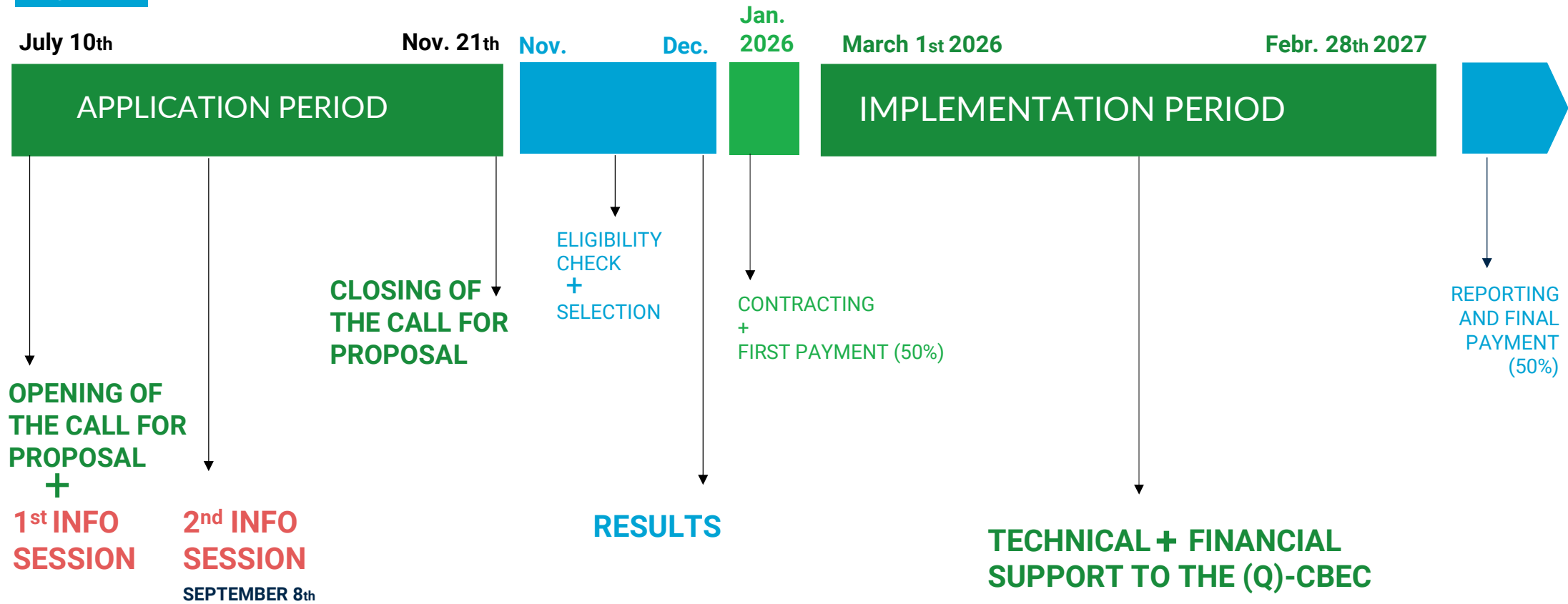


Helpdesk: cbec@mot.asso.fr



Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Key dates



Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Evaluation criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Score
Relevance	
1. The proposal is aligned with the definition of cross-border or (quasi) cross-border energy community.	1-5
2. The proposal offers potential to increase cross-border cooperation in this field.	1-5
3. The proposal's purpose is to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits to the (quasi) cross-border energy community's members and shareholders rather than financial profit.	1-5
Quality	
4. The proposal aims at developing a roadmap to initiate or strengthen the development of a (quasi) cross-border energy community.	1-5
5. The proposal is clear, and includes a well-defined concept, methodology, and organisation of activities with detailed allocation of resources for implementing the pilot action.	1-5
6. The proposal reflects a strong partnership , through both its community approach and its cross-border dimension	1-5
Impact	
7. The proposal highlights the expected long-term impact of the pilot action.	1-5
8. The proposal demonstrates the replicability potential of the pilot action.	1-5

- ✓ Pilots actions will be **evaluated on 8 criteria**
- ✓ Must **score above 24/40 pts**
- ✓ Must **score above 50% in Relevance, Quality and Impact**

Thanks for your attention

Contact: cbec@mot.asso.fr

Website: border-energy-communities.eu/



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



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Call for proposal « Cross-border Energy Communities »

Save the date



Next online Info Session
Monday 8th Sept. 2025



Contact : cbec@mot.asso.fr

Website : border-energy-communities.eu/



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