



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

D.T3.6.2 - Action towards Zuglo Energy Version 1
Action Group **01 2022**



Actions towards the establishment of Zugló Energy Action Group

Organising workshops, stakeholder forum and citizen events

Fostering the co-creation of the Zugló Energy Action group is an ongoing activity. As we learnt in Pffafenhofen the main driver of the local energy communities are the local events, local NGOs and committed SMEs therefore we are also concentrating on these elements. We try to activate local NGOs and their citizen umbrella, we are facilitating roundtable discussion with energy community experts and also try to involve businesses.

Local focus groups

1. Roundtable discussion on energy communities - the domestic experience



At the end of September 2021, we held a roundtable discussion on energy communities (WPC), focusing on start-up energy communities in Hungary. The participants were professional organisations and municipalities committed to the topic: the Energy Club, WWF Hungary, the Hungarian Association of Nature Conservationists - Friends of the Earth Hungary, and the Municipalities of Józsefváros and Erzsébetváros.

Although there are many good examples from abroad, the concept of energy community is still new in Hungary, so we have prepared a short overview on the topic.

2. Final conference and discussion (25.03.2022)

The professional discussion was organised in the framework of the Zugló Energy Community Actions - ENES-CE project, with the aim of sharing experiences, exploring and strengthening the cooperation between experts in the field of community energy and community development.

Programme:

Technical introduction, national good practices

Community energy and energy communities in Hungary, Bence Kovács, MTVSZ

Community Energy Service Provider: solar panels on the roof of the Boiler House, Márton Fabók, KESZ

Energy Community Actions in Zugló: results, experiences, Mária Csikai, project leader

Community and organisational development experiences with Zugló NGOs, Andrea Sélley, Community Developers Association

From community to energy community - Interactive discussion, exchange of experiences, collection of good practices, led by Kitti Boda, community developer



Workshops for stakeholders

Matchmaking events - a meeting of local NGOs and companies

In cooperation with the KÖFE (Association of community builders), we invited companies from Zugló to the event and introduced them to local communities, NGOs

and institutions in the hope of potential partnerships.



Local community, NGO events - neighbourhood, community, sustainability

We are working with a number of local NGOs committed to green values as part of the Green Together pilot project. One part of our joint work is organisational development, and we also help them organise events.

Neighbourhood picnic in Újvidék tér

A two-day neighbourhood picnic in July in Novi Sad Square offered a varied programme of activities for people in the area. There were sports, community, cultural and green activities for all ages.



A few of the activities, most of which were organised by the Zuniversum eco-community, one of the organisers of the event, included green lectures, talks and an exhibition (energy efficiency, climate water, the environment and future of the square, exhibition: Jane Goodall Institute's mobile phone recycling knowledge material and collection point, bike-in) and so on.

An outdoor map of New Town Square and its surroundings was displayed to encourage discussion: all ages were happy to "walk" around it and show the values of the area.

Autumn market: pumpkin lantern making in the Padlízán Garden and a Martin's Day event with the Zugló Bread Association the programme was rounded off with an awareness-raising climate quiz on the topic of food-related sustainability.

The ZUG Community Garden Association's community garden, the Padlízánkert, hosted a pumpkin-making family event on 31 October, where participants were



greeted with pumpkin treats alongside the carving. In the spirit of raising awareness, the event also launched a "carbon footprint assessment" of the garden's plots: calculating how much the annual yield of vegetables from a plot of land would reduce emissions compared to the same amount of produce grown abroad, transported and bought in supermarkets.



Final event ENES-CE

We organized a public event in Zugló Civil Ház (26.03.2022) where we invited all the NGOs, institutions and citizens group with whom we worked together during the ENES-CE project. The citizens can gather information about the pilot projects and the NGOs promoted their activities, and programs.



Establishment of Zugló Climate Action Group

We established the Zugló Climate Action group by sign an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Cooperation Agreement on the Support of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Protection Objectives of the Municipality of Zugló, Budapest XIV District.

Planning together at local is the first step, and implementing the plans is a shared interest and responsibility.

Only 7% of the total energy consumption in the Zugló area can be attributed to the operation of the Zugló Municipality of Budapest, District XIV. The rest is accounted

for by the residential sector (42%), transport (24%) and the service and industrial sectors (27%). If we are serious about reducing energy consumption in the district, all actors need to take action.

What can the municipality do, beyond increasing energy efficiency and the share of renewable energy in its own buildings? First and foremost, it can play a facilitating, organising and information-sharing role to help people and businesses in the area.

The Energy Community Actions Group aims to implement the municipal energy management target setting by involving the relevant actors, i.e. the population and local businesses.

The aim of the cooperation is to enable the Municipality, companies, organisations, civil groups and individuals in Zugló to act and commit in a coordinated way, and to facilitate the launch of community energy and climate projects.

What does the cooperation cover?

Initiating technical discussions, launching joint projects, sharing and transferring good practices, sharing information, informing the public through www.zugloiokoterkep.hu about carbon footprint reduction, initiating and delivering training on sustainable energy and climate protection.

We are very proud of the MOU as we managed to involve several NGO and civil group and company. We organised a signing ceremony at “the Earth day” for the MOU where 7 NGO, one company and the deputy major was presented. We are working on the enlargement of the Group.



We received a small amount from the central budget (10.000 EUR) to continue the facilitation of the MOU and the Group.



We believe that this cooperation will be an example for other Municipalities in Budapest and beyond.

Citizen energy group has specific interest to implement future energy investments, we already started to plan 2022 actions.

The Group with Municipality support can overcome the present administrative barriers and would be able to kick-off energy and climate related investments and other actions.

We need to provide information and facilitate the Group by organizing meetings, support their networking capacity and providing financial source for projects.