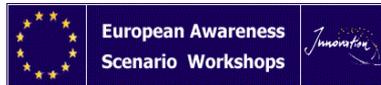




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REPORT

Transfer Workshop LATVIA – September/October 2019



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Introduction

The Transfer Workshop presented in this report has been realised within the range of activities planned under Work Package 5 (Learning laboratories: transfer and validation of best practices) of the WinWind project. The Work Package 5 is aimed at transferring the best practice and measures, analysed and selected by partnership members, to targeted Wind Energy Scarce Regions identified (WESRs, as “learning regions”), focusing on community participation and engagement. The transfer session was addressed to a wide range of relevant stakeholders coming from Latvia as a whole WESR representing: public administrators/decision makers; experts and technicians; citizens and associations, private business sector.

Consistently with the implementation process, to realise the Learning laboratories foreseen in the WP5 - aimed to the transfer and validation of best practices – the preparatory actions have been made:

- selection of the measure (chosen from best practices portfolio) – **Community Wind Parks in Schleswig-Holstein** to be transferred to the Latvia as WESR as “learning region”,
- creation of transfer team consisting of stakeholders and market actors from Latvia as WESR and mentoring experts from the WinWind consortium and partner country (Germany) with implemented best practice,
- work out of Transfer management Plan providing specific transfer concept and including proposals about how the corresponding measure can be accommodated in the Latvia as adopting region, development of *Reference Scenario*, to match prevailing acceptance problems with appropriate best practice solutions.
- **WinWind Transfer Workshop and Transfer Visits in Schleswig-Holstein, 26.-28 August 2019¹.**



Picture 1. Transfer team visit in Schleswig-Holstein

The Transfer Workshop had been hold in Riga, in 10 October 2019.

¹ See the particular report “1st Transfer Workshop in Germany, Schleswig-Holstein, 26-28th August 2019”



Picture 2. Transfer workshop in Riga, in 10 October, 2019

In addition to this Transfer Workshop, which had been realized based on learning laboratories methodology, also several other transfer events had been hold (see details in the section 7 Additional Transfer Activities). Namely, in co-operation with transfer team members it was presented Transfer Workshop's and Visits' in Schleswig-Holstein Results & Lessons and relevant Discussion provided:

- with South Kurzeme municipalities and landowners, 11 September 2019, in Liepaja city
- with local stakeholders of Džūkste (Tukums municipality) and Dobeles parishes (Dobeles municipality), 21 October 2019, in Džūkste.

1. The best practice selected: Community wind parks in Schleswig-Holstein

As described in the *Transfer Management Plan* concerning the learning lab addressed to the Latvia, the practice selected was **Community Wind Parks in Schleswig-Holstein**, that had been chosen since it is highly suited to the criteria such as transferability, effectiveness to contribute to enhance social acceptance and overcome social acceptance barriers, innovativeness of the measure itself for learning region, model character and relevance for WESR, feasibility to implemented measure in a smooth way. Important is the high relevance of the measure to be transferred to contribute in the implementation of the recast Renewable Energy Directive's (2018/2001/EU) Article 22 "Renewable energy communities". Thus, the transfer of the given particular measure can provide significant added value to the Latvian energy policy.

In Deliverable 4.3 "Synthesis and Comparative Analysis of In-depth Best Practice Cases" produced by partnership members of the WinWind project, *Community Wind Parks in Shleswig-Holstein* is categorised as an initiative to promote the direct as well as indirect financial participation of communities and citizens. More specifically, the Community Wind Parks encompass the direct financial engagement of local communities and citizens in wind energy projects. Land owners, local citizens and municipalities are shareholders of community wind park company. Simultaneously, although it is evident that *Community Wind Parks* primarily falls under such a category of measures, its activities are much broader and concern with procedural and

distributive (indirect financial participation) justice, promotion of positive credible and transparent communication strategies and organisation of co-operation among local stakeholders, impact mitigation measures provided by the operators of community wind parks, as well as other factors. The noted factors are particularly important for Latvia to raise local social acceptance of on-shore wind parks.

During the presentations part of the transfer workshop in 10th October 2019, the **Community Wind Parks in Shleswig-Holstein** was introduced to workshop participants by the mentors:

- **Michael Krug** (FFU-FUB, WinWind partnership, on-site participation),
- **Reimer Schoof** (the managing director of the community wind farm in Neuenkirchen, through Skype),
- **Horst Leithoff** (chairman of the regional branch of the German Wind Energy Association in Schleswig-Holstein, managing director of the cross-border community wind farm Grenzstrom-Vindtved and two other community wind farms, through Skype).



Picture 3. Transfer workshop presenters

In this presentations part it had been provided a short (in-time) but exhaustive and clear presentation of the practice selected, consistently with the specific characteristics of targeted context, in terms of social acceptance of the on-shore wind energy. After the presentations the adequate time for questions was provided and detailed answers to participants' questions were given by mentors.

Transfer team members – Latvian stakeholders participated in the Transfer workshop.

Community Wind Parks in Schleswig-Holstein - Summary of Best Practice Case

The present case study provides insights from three community wind farms in the administrative districts of Northern Friesland (Ellhöft, Grenzland Vindtved) and Dithmarschen (Neuenkirchen) in Schleswig-Holstein, two pioneering regions in Germany regarding the deployment of wind energy. The wind farms have been initiated by local farmers and land owners and the case illustrates how policy and corporate measures can effectively contribute to ensuring/enhancing community

acceptance. These measures include, inter alia, informal procedural participation and active, direct financial participation of citizens, land lease pool models for land owners, community benefits via civic associations/foundations, and revenues from local business taxes

The main motivation of these measures was to avoid the involvement of external investors and to make sure that the entire community would benefit from the wind farm, not only the land owners and founding shareholders. Specifically, the wind farms should contribute towards raising local purchasing power and local added value through the generation of local profits and income, tax revenues, employment and additional benefits for the community (e.g. benefits in kind, civic nonprofit associations or local foundations supporting social welfare projects in the community). The operation of wind turbines is subject to local business taxes (Gewerbesteuer). In the case of community wind farms, usually the operating company is registered where the project is located. This means that the hosting municipality receives 100% of the tax revenues.

Initial barriers.

The cases of Ellhöft and Grenzstrom Vindtved enjoyed a high level of local acceptance and support from the very beginning. Only in the case of Neuenkirchen was there local opposition, which came in the form of a citizens' group. This group successfully mobilised and initiated the first of two local referendums on the designation of suitable zones for wind energy on the territory of the municipality. As a result of this referendum a former council decision supporting the designation of suitable zones for wind energy was rejected by the majority of voters.

The negative visual impact and landscape: The key argument made by the opposition in Neuenkirchen referred to the intrusion caused by the wind turbines and the increasing "encirclement" of the community due to the high density of existing wind turbines in its vicinity, acoustic emissions, aviation lighting and too low setback distances

Drivers for social acceptance.

Procedural participation and trust

- Transparent communication: A policy of relatively open and transparent provision information implemented by the initiators
- Political leadership: In Neuenkirchen, where the opposition was rather pronounced, the mayor played an important role as a facilitator/mediator balancing the interests of the project initiators and the community in the planning process
- Trustworthiness of key actors: In Neuenkirchen the municipality also obtained shares at a symbolic amount of 20,000 EUR, which was the maximum legally allowed, to show its commitment to the project and the trustworthiness of the initiators.
- Informal procedural participation: Active involvement of local citizens led to a high level of identification with the wind farms, particularly in Ellhöft and Grenzstrom Vindtved

Impact on economy

- Active (direct) financial participation of citizens: In all three cases there was a possibility to buy shares and participate directly as partners with limited liability. In order to ensure broad participation of the citizens in Neuenkirchen, minimum deposits were kept rather low (500 EUR) and in the end 145 citizens participated as shareholders. Importantly, in all cases there was also a direct involvement of the municipalities themselves as shareholders (as noted above).
- Passive financial participation of citizens: On the individual level, in order to avoid conflicts and envy among the land owners, in all three cases the initiators decided to develop land lease pooling models (Flächenpoolmodelle). This also allowed also those land owners whose land was not envisaged for turbine installations to benefit from land lease payments. On the community level, local business tax revenues and local job creation from the wind farm was another factor driving social acceptance. Additionally, further community benefits

were promoted: in Neuenkirchen 1% of annual remuneration of the wind-based energy went to a non-profit local civic association, to ensure that all members of local community would benefit in some way. In the other two cases in kind benefits (Ellhöft) and the creation of a community foundation to support social purposes and energy-saving measures (Grenzstrom Vindtved) were developed by the initiator.

Reducing impact on environment

- Impact on biodiversity: In Grenzstrom Vindtved, the wind farm operators founded a local nature protection association for the management of compensation activities.
- Impact on landscape: In Ellhöft, the operators of the plant supported the development of a new recreation area in the community, as well as a hiking, riding and bicycle path. Grenzstrom Vindtved was one of the first repowering projects in Germany and allowed the replacement of numerous older turbines by a smaller number of modern and more powerful ones which had a positive effect for the landscape.
- Important is that the financial compensation provided by wind park operators due to natural balance impairment and landscape impairment can be used at the local level, e.g., the compensation provided by community wind park in Neuenkirchen are used by the Conservation Fund "More nature for Dithmarschen" (compensation for landscape impairment) and used for earmarked nature conservation measures in the project area "Schülper channel" (natural balance impairment)
- Other environmental factors: The success of the second referendum in Neuenkirchen might be partly explained by the Fukushima Daiichi Accident of 11 March 2011.

Technical characteristics

- Technology innovation: The managers of the Ellhöft plant are highly committed to link the Energiewende with a sustainable mobility transition based on electric battery vehicles and vehicles with fuel cell drive. They launched a sector coupling project which envisages the establishment of an electrolysis facility and hydrogen gas station.

Lessons learnt

Effectiveness in achieving social acceptance.

All the measures described in the cases study turned out to be effective in ensuring or increasing local acceptance. However, it is difficult to assess for the different cases which were the most important measures, given that many drivers were relevant. However, trust, transparency and financial participation (both active and passive) can be considered as the central element.

To what extent are the measures transferable?

Community wind farms are rather common in many regions of Germany. In practice the models vary from purely community led and community owned wind farms to investor-driven wind farms initiated by a professional, commercial developer and/or investors where citizens have the possibility to buy shares in the wind farm or single turbines. Community ownership of wind farms has been also successfully developed in several other European countries, although with different design (e.g. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Sweden, UK, The Netherlands). Hence, in general, transferability of the concept "community wind farm" as such can be regarded as .

However, the specific participation and fairness mechanisms can likely not be transferred directly. Transferability depends very much on the context, legal framework, institutional settings, the actors, their interests, strategies, commitment, resources, and interactions with other actors. The showcases illustrate a number of accompanying measures which contribute to secure/enhance local acceptance which might be more easily transferable like lease pooling models or benefit sharing mechanisms like donations, in kind benefits, non-profit associations or foundations. Similarly, a key enabling factor common for the three showcases is the country's long and strong tradition of energy communities and energy democracy, in other words, the participation and active role of citizens in bringing about the energy transition.

In Germany approximately, half of installed renewables capacity is already under community ownership. Even though the overall support scheme and remuneration structure has been reformed recently to be less favourable to small-scale community initiatives, projects in Germany have enjoyed a long-term feed-in-tariff support by national law promoting the uptake of citizen's energy projects. Even before, but particularly after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, renewable energy has enjoyed strong popular support from a public that has long called for a better alternative to nuclear. While wind turbines in Germany also face scrutiny, energy democracy is a strongly recognized approach in German politics. This makes it far easier to call for a participatory approach to wind turbine deployment.

The three showcases presented here reveal a high level of political and administrative feasibility. However, the implementation of community wind farms can be relatively challenging due to higher transaction costs for collective decision-making, the administration of a large membership and the limited financial capabilities of small, community-based actors. Planning and implementation of wind energy projects is capital intensive and requires a relatively high amount of risk capital for pre-financing various planning and permitting expenditures (e.g. expert assessments for species protection). This means that often community wind farm initiators face a financial gap in the planning phase of the wind farm which needs to be overcome.

Main Questions asked on the best practice by the Transfer Workshop participants

After the presentations the questions to mentors were asked by Transfer Workshop participants. These questions better revealed and detailed the important features of the practice and thus helped much for framing the discussion in the group work session. The main questions related to the following:

- Which factors had determined the success of the 2nd referendum in Neuenkirchen,
- What are the main lessons drawn on this experience,
- What attitudes regarding the wind park currently have local people,
- What is the distribution of local people according their shares in community wind park in Neuenkirchen? How many people participate with the minimal share? with the maximal share?
- What is the remuneration for 1 kWh wind power fed into the grid? What is the rate of profit?
- Can community wind parks exist and operate without support (feed-in-tariff or other type)?
- What role plays/played mapping of the areas suitable for wind park siting?

2. THE EUROPEAN AWARENESS SCENARIO WORKSHOP- EASW®METHODOLOGY



The methodological approach chosen for Learning Labs, is an adaptation of the European Awareness Scenario Workshop method (EASW). This approach is a tool to support and facilitate active participation of people from across society and across different interest groups.

The *European Awareness Scenario Workshop* (EASW) methodology and its adaptation for the WinWind learning labs is presented in the methodological material “Transfer Workshop Methodological Approach”, developed by the WinWind Work Package 5 leader ENEA. By ENEA the EASW methodology has been adapted consistently with the specific aims and implementation process of the WinWind project. This methodology had been followed during group work session of the Transfer Workshop in Riga as it is a particularly appropriate mean of encouraging the involvement and active participation in the transition towards a more sustainable development.

The Reference Scenario had been developed and presented by WinWind partners (IPE and LEIF) in Latvia. The “**Reference Scenario**” presented in the Transfer workshop includes:

- (1) **the provisions of Latvia National Energy-Climate Plan (NECP) 2030:** the renewable energy targets in the total gross final energy consumption and in the total gross final electricity consumption of Latvia; the reference vision on the on-shore wind development, expressed in a quantitative number – installed MW,
- (2) Reference Scenario includes the key elements of Political context, Social context, Economic and Environmental impact on which there is common agreement. Those actions, initiated by the NECP2030, which directly relate to renewable energy communities are included in these contexts.
- (3) **The Reference Scenario includes the quantitative target for community wind energy in Latvia in 2030.** As the departure point for this target it was used the current share of community wind parks in Dithmarschen administrative district in Schleswig-Holstein federal state (15% of total on-shore capacity). However, taking specific conditions in Latvia, the share of community wind parks in total on-shore wind capacity in the Reference scenario was foreseen slightly lower, 10%.

The group work session of the Transfer Workshop had been organized, as required by the basic structure of an EASW, around two main activities:

- Vision development, and
- Idea generation on measures.

Based on the workshop participants on-line registration, WinWind partners in Latvia had made the preliminary forming of working groups. Each group had included mixed representatives with different backgrounds. This preliminary list was created taking into account the general requirement of EASW methodology that four different social categories – citizens associations, technology experts, public administration/decision makers and private sector representatives – should participate in a working group. The list of preliminary groups had been introduced to the participants during on-site registration in the morning and final groups had been established. Starting the group session, the facilitator had asked group members to shortly introduce themselves (name, background).

The groups' facilitators had been identified in the preparatory phase of the Transfer Workshop. Already in the preparatory phase it was decided that the group work shall be facilitated by highly skilled facilitators. To explain the tasks and procedure of the group session, the short presentation in Latvian had been prepared for facilitators by WinWind partners (in addition to the noted above "Transfer Workshop Methodological Approach") which includes both how the group's Strategic Scenario should be created and how the idea generation phase should be performed. The group session methodology and procedure had been discussed in details in 07 October meeting, participated by WinWind partners IPE and LEIF and facilitators.

in 26 September 2019, IPE representative (I.Kudrenickis) and LEIF representative (A.Zucika) had participated in the Transfer Workshop in Warsaw, organized by KAPE back-to-back to WinWind partners meeting. Based on the obtained information, the lessons of this transfer workshop had been drawn as input to prepare the Transfer Workshop in Riga. Also the distant (phone) meeting with the FFU representative (M.Krug) as mentor was performed in the preparatory phase.

Table. List of facilitators and stakeholders participating in the group work session

Group A	Group B
Facilitator: Aigars Štāls	Facilitator: Gundars Rēders
Stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGO „Green liberty“ • LTD „Elle“ (International environmental consulting company) • LTD „Vides eksperti“ (environmental consulting services company) • LTD „Eolus“ (wind project developer) • Energy expert (energy related NGO) • Energy policy expert • The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development • Latvia University 	Stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baltic Environmental Forum • Institute of Physical Energetics • Zemgale regional energy agency • The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development • Zemgale planning region • Latvian Environmental investment fund • Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments • Kurzeme planning region • mentor, Freie Universität Berlin – Environmental Policy Research Centre

During the group work session, the Reference Scenario had been discussed by each group and based on this discussion the Reference Scenario had been revised/added or group's different Strategic Scenario had been designed. Each group perform the discussion of the Reference Scenario following the pre-selected relevant themes indicated in the Reference Scenario on which groups could start the discussion. Each group discussed them in order to identify the "building stones" of its common Scenario. The insertion of the developed Strategic Scenario in the "Who and How" diagram had been done to help participants to make a choice visualised (see in the Results section). The results of the vision making exercise made by each group had been presented by the compilation of the sticky notes on a poster by the facilitator. In its turn, as a result of the Idea generation activity, each group identified the ideas conceived for its implementation and presented them in the Final Plenary Session for final selection of top 5 of the Transfer Workshop. Thus, the result of the Transfer Workshop is a common and shared agreement of all participants on the concrete actions/measures considered the most relevant and urgent to be implemented in the very next future.

3. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP

The Work Package 5 leader – **ENEA** – has prepared several templates for the Transfer Workshop Programme as a part of the “Transfer Workshop Methodological Approach”. Taking into account the availability of the participants involved in the workshop, it was chosen the template of half-day programme.



Transfer workshop: “Community owned wind farms – benefits, development perspective and barriers in Latvia”

Date: 10.10.2019.

Venue: AC Hotel by Marriott, Dzirnau iela 33, Centra rajons, Rīga, LV-1010, Latvia. Room „SPACE”

9:45 – 10:00 Registration, coffee

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome by Latvian country desk coordinator: “WinWind project’s transfer activities”
Aija Zučika, Latvia Environmental Investment Fund, WinWind project

10:10 – 10:40 Introductions to the Community Wind Farm in Neuenkirchen. Motivation and Success factors for development of community owned wind farm.
Michael Krug, Freie Universität Berlin, WinWind project expert (presentation in English), Reimer Schoof (the managing director of the community wind farm in Neuenkirchen, Skype),

10:40 – 11:10 Community wind farms in Northern Friesland
Horst Leithoff (German Wind Energy Association: Chairman of the regional branch in Schleswig-Holstein; managing director of the cross-border community wind farm Grenzstrom-Vindtved and two other community wind farms, Skype)

11:10– 11:30 Reference scenario: “Framework for transferring experience of the Schleswig-Holstein community wind park to Latvian communities”
Ivars Kudrenickis, Institute of Physical Energetics, Wind Wind project

11:30 – 11:50 Coffee break

11:50 – 12:50 Group session. Scenario workshop: Vision development and Idea generation
Facilitator G.Rēders and facilitator A.Štāls

12:50 – 13:20 Lunch

13:20 – 13:50 Plenary session: “Incentives which could enable the community wind parks in Latvia proposed cases”
Facilitators and A.Zučika

13:50 – 14:00 Final conclusions and next steps

Organised by:

Latvian Environmental Investment Fund
Institute of Physical Energetics

After the presentations in English the questions can be asked in Latvian

The group work will be based on the methodology of the European Awareness Scenario Workshop



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winwind-project.eu

4. THE REFERENCE SCENARIO PRESENTED

Reference scenario: Community Wind Parks in Latvia

We are in 2030, thanks to the WinWind project, and to the adoption of the measure on community wind parks, the level of social acceptability towards wind energy has grown.

TARGETS reached in 2030

- In the EU, as a whole, renewable energies have reached the goal of covering 32% of the EU's gross final energy consumption.
- Latvia has reached covering by renewable energy (i) 50% of the Latvia's gross final energy consumption and (ii) at least 60% of the Latvia electricity consumption²
- In 2030, the installed capacity of on-shore wind power and the amount of electricity produced by it have increased significantly. Latvian transmission network provides opportunities for connection – around 800 MW of wind power capacity into the Latvian power network can be technically integrated. In 2030 slightly more than a half (~ 500 MW) of this technical potential is implemented.

COMMUNITY WIND POWER in 2030

- Total wind power capacity in Latvia consists of wind turbine facilities owned by both "investors" and "energy communities", the latest meaning citizens active participation and ownership.
- By 2030, several (at least 5) community wind parks have been established and are operating in Latvia. They involve a wide range of stakeholders. The total power capacity owned by community wind farms has reached 10% of the total capacity of Latvian on-shore wind farms.
- Community wind farms, through their successful operation, have proved their contribution to raising both the economic benefits and social environment of local communities and people.
- In turn, "investor" wind farms use the best practices of community wind farms such as voluntary contributions in local public funds and the implementation of specific community-based infrastructure projects. Wind farm negotiations with land owners have resulted in mutually satisfactory models and payments for land rents.

Implementation of Reference Scenario had been promoted by favourable political, social, economical & environmental context

POLITICAL CONTEXT

- Expanding the use of RES is widely accepted by Latvian society both as part of the overall Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategy, and as an instrument for further development of green technologies and co-operation in the EU common space, as well as an instrument for achieving energy security (one of).
- Development between 2020 and 2030 have laid the foundations for achieving GHG emissions neutrality in the middle of the century.
- Socially inclusive/responsible use of RES, including socially inclusive deployment of on-shore wind energy, is one of the key principles of the Latvian energy sector.
- Experience of European countries, particularly the Land of Schleswig-Holstein, in relation to community wind parks has been creatively evaluated.

² *indicative targets by the Latvia National energy-climate plan 2030, version September 2019,*
https://em.gov.lv/lv/nozares_politika/nacionalais_energetikas_un_klimata_plans/

- the community wind parks have become a reality thanks to the diverse encouragement actions focused both to facilitate their establishment and viability in operation. Community wind farms in their legal form are based on existing legislation in the business sector. At the same time, the development of Latvia's national regulatory framework for renewable energy communities has contributed and further enabled the development of community wind farms.
- The decision made at the national level to support the first community energy projects as demonstration-pilot projects was an important factor. Based on the first experience of developing these pilots, the regulatory framework was particularized and detailed guidelines for the RES communities were developed.
- The political decision to establish the framework conditions to ensure economically viable energy communities was important enabling factor.

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- Throughout the years 2020-2030, there was an active communication with the public and its specific target groups on modern, sustainable solutions in all areas of energy and climate change mitigation
- Wide public information, education and awareness raising activities have been performed. Public administration has encouraged the dissemination of information to raise public awareness on the potential, sustainability and benefits of the use and ownership of renewable energy technologies in general and wind energy in particular. The lack of information on the positive aspects of wind energy and scepticism about added value of wind energy was thus overcome.
- Public is increasingly involved in the decision-making process regarding the territory and the energy choices to be made. Planning was no longer aimed at accepting a “technology” from local communities, but rather at verifying its adequacy with respect to a particular area/territory.
- As a result, favourable wind conditions for the use of wind energy in the local community are understood as a relevant resource for the common benefit.
- Thanks to the fair participation procedures, careful location (siting) of wind parks has been reached resulting in the growth of social acceptance.
- Legislative framework has been developed to allow local communities to benefit from the RES projects in their areas.
- Public, local landowners, local SMEs and other local stakeholders are aware of the benefits related to the participation in community wind parks. Landowners want to find the optimal use for their resource - the land, and are actively involved in the community wind parks. LEADER groups are also active promoters of the creation of RES communities. The community as a whole benefits from the establishment of strong co-operation between local stakeholders in the same territorial context.
- Creation of community wind parks has produced real local social benefits. Indirect sharing of benefits, provided by wind farms through the local public fund, ensures the financing possibilities for implementation of the projects of high social importance for the local community.

ECONOMIC and ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

- Local people, local landowners, local SMEs and other local stakeholders directly participate in the community wind parks in both financial terms and management terms.

- Community wind parks promotes also the sharing of economic benefits through the creation of participatory local businesses - involvement of local and regional companies in the development, construction and operation of the community wind farm.
- From the national and regional regulatory point of view, the identification of the areas that can be used for the wind park siting is clear. Procedures for the installation of wind parks are defined in accordance with the EIA assessment and with active involvement of local stakeholders in it.
- Regulatory framework and limits for the low frequency sounds, vibration, flicker, noise, and other wind park-specific impacts have been further developed.

5. RESULTS OF THE GROUP SESSIONS

On the basis of the best practice “Community Wind Parks in Schleswig-Holstein” selected for the transfer activity and the Reference Scenario presented, the facilitators introduced the Vision making activity of the Group Session

“We are in 2030, thanks to the WinWind project, and to the adoption of the measure “Community Wind Parks”, the level of social acceptability towards on-shore wind energy has grown. We succeeded in achieving this success thanks to the strategies and measures implemented”.

To make group’ s participants to revise Reference Scenario or start working on group’ s Strategic Scenario different from the Reference Scenario, the facilitator asked them to consider:

- three questions:
 - what happened?
 - what strategies have been developed?
 - who made the change possible?
- three main themes:
 - political context,
 - social context,
 - economic and environmental impact
- four variables

WHO	HOW
Public sector involvement	Collective organisation
Private sector involvement	Innovation (technology)

In the Vision development activity of the group work, the Political, Socio and Economic and Environmental Contexts were particularized for the Scenario. The revised Reference Scenario/Strategic Scenario, developed by the group, had been designed also considering its insertion in the “How and Who” diagram, in order to help participants to create and visualise their own vision in order to answer to the questions reflecting on:

- the “typology of actors (WHO)” responsible for solving the problem that may impede the implementation of the Scenario or for using the opportunity enabling the Scenario,
 - “by means of what (How)” it is possible to solve the problems that may impede the implementation of the Strategic scenario or to use the opportunities enabling the scenario
- Important, the focus of discussion was to the actions allowing to reach the established target of community wind energy. In its turn, the existing situation had been considered as the starting point

for change. Thus group work session had been focused to future enabling strategies rather than to discuss existing problems.

Continuing the group work session, during the idea generation phase groups had been asked, based on the particularized/designed Scenario, to identify concrete proposals - relevant and urgent actions/measures - that, since today, should be implemented to start up the actual realisation of the Community Wind Parks in Latvia. These ideas had been presented at the final plenary session by facilitators and final Top 5 ideas were decided.

The results of the both groups are showing that in a great extent the ideas proposed by the groups coincide which made easier to decide on TOP 5. This can be considered as the important result of the Transfer Workshop, namely, there is the consensus regarding what should be done. At the same time the groups facilitators also underlined that there were also different opinions within the group and the existence of them was very welcome as it highly contributed to the rich and multi-shaped results of group work. As presented in the results below, the following issues were selected to frame the conditions for community wind parks in Latvia: roles and responsibilities, organization, legal framework, business model and financing (including support model), trust for community wind park projects. By understanding the community wind park as the particular type of renewable energy communities, the range of strategic developments was defined to enable the renewable energy communities in general.

5.1. Results of Group A



Picture 4. Transfer workshop group A

Development of group's Scenario

The following strategic developments should be considered to enable Community Wind Parks in Latvia

POLITICAL CONTEXT:

- The enabling legislations should be created for renewable energy community
 - What is energy community, which criteria shall be fulfilled
 - Who can be involved?
 - How large is energy community (in terms of territory)?
- National financial support ensuring financially enabling framework for renewable energy communities as the principal political decision
- Delegation to the single authority the responsibility for implementation of overall policy framework for renewable energy communities
- Co-operation of levels (national level - planning region) to enable energy communities, particularly to provide consultations

ECONOMICAL CONTEXT:

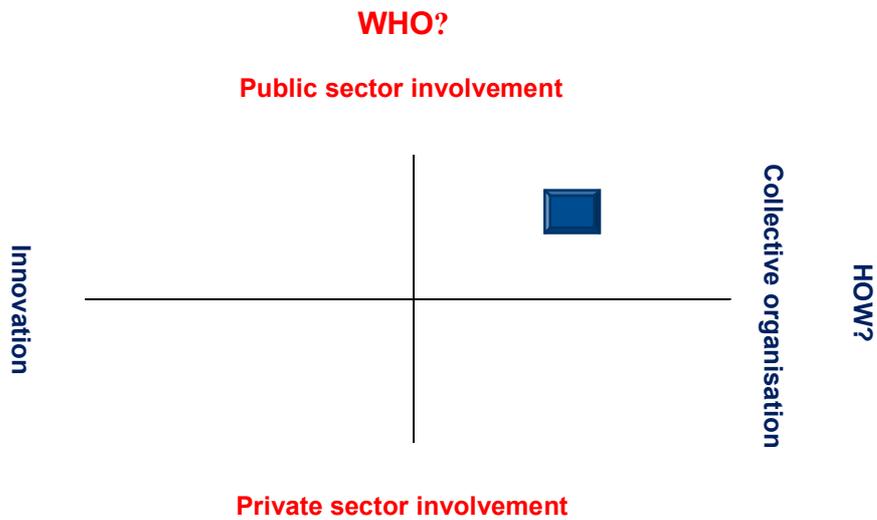
- Revision of national tax policy: Entrepreneurs tax should go to municipal budget
- People in regions should have financial relief for renewable energy community development
- The pilot project for RES communities should be developed in Latvia
- There should be subsidies for technical equipment purchase (other than feed-in-tariff), these subsidies should be available for energy communities.
- Energy communities need to have for 20 years such support (viable business model).
- State support fund. For instance, the ALTUM³ programs should be developed to support renewable energy communities and also as the option of single point for crediting as well.
- Crowd funding

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- The society should be educated and informed
- Society should be motivated to participate
- Social entrepreneurs should be facilitated
- Regional development is a goal in the national level:
 - it will ensure self-awareness of people living in regions
 - local people will be able to affect the economic development of the region/ plan development, they will feel that they are responsible for the things what happens in the community
- The active citizen groups are needed in regions
- Investors should have fair attitude for local people involvement, including local people as a stakeholders in wind parks.
- All community society should have benefit from wind park

³ ALTUM is the public financial institution in Latvia having current experience in management of such fund. "ALTUM is a state-owned development finance institution, which offers state aid for various target groups with the help of financial tools (such as loans, credit guarantees, investing in venture capital funds, etc.). ALTUM develops and implements state aid programmes to compensate for the market's shortcomings that can't be solved by private financial institutions", <https://www.altum.lv/en>

Insertion of the Group A Scenario in the How/Who diagram



WHO: there is a need to establish a lot of enabling legislation and to provide viable economic framework. Thus, a key player is the public sector. But on its nature, the community wind parks involve private persons. The role of private initiative should not be understated.

HOW: Organizational framework is highly important. The public sector works on rules, support schemes and other incentives, at the same time innovative solutions for these organizational issues are necessary.

5.2. Results of Group B



Picture 5. Transfer workshop group B

Development of group's Scenario

The following strategic developments should be considered to enable Community Wind Parks in Latvia

POLITICAL CONTEXT:

- Law on Renewable energy communities
- Tax policy focused to the municipality (e.g., Entrepreneurs tax stays in the municipality)
- One stop agency providing both set of permission procedures and experts consultations
- Consistency between planning at national, regional and municipal levels
- National spatial planning developed in cooperation with authorities of regional and municipal level: (1) determining territories not for wind parks siting ("hard" and "soft" prohibition); followed by (2) zoning territories for wind energy development.

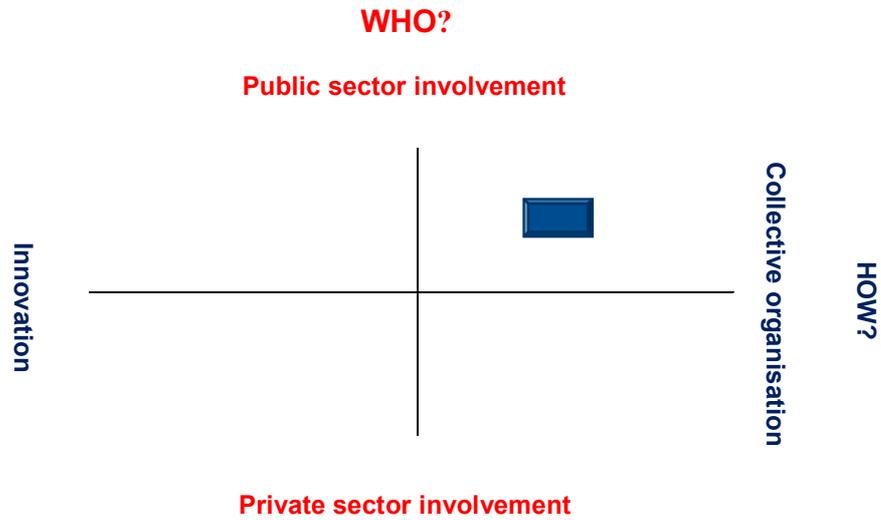
ECONOMICAL CONTEXT:

- Enabling economical framework for renewable energy communities (to ensure viability of communities)
- Differentiated areas of compensation for the neighbouring land owners
- Crowd funding.
- Clear benefits for local community:
 - Special fund (wind park does make the payment to the fund) focused to finance the social projects which cannot be financed from the regular budget of the municipality,
 - National tax policy should provide tax income for municipalities
 - Cheaper electricity for the local community as an option
- The state support. Special fond in ALTUM to support community energy (feasibility studies, crediting)
- Wider definition of self-consumption by attributing the term of self-consumption also to renewable energy communities

SOCIAL CONTEXT

- The contact point at planning regions partly financed by state.
- Communication with local people (experts give trustful information about pros and cons, alternatives),
- Local leaders should communicate with local people to show the benefits and inform.
- "Communing of investors" projects is a starting point: to create the regulation which defines the procedures and operational principles regarding investors' wind project co-operation with local communities (including direct financial participation option to local people, contribution to local community fund, etc.)

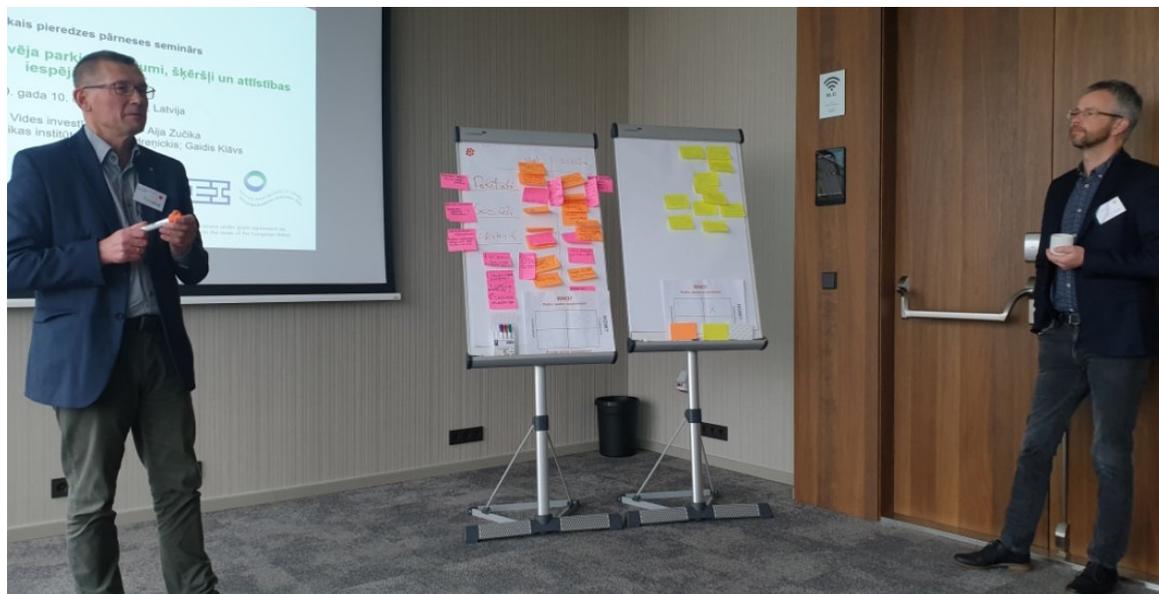
Insertion of the Group B Scenario in the How/Who diagram



WHO: The outlined Scenario envisages the strong involvement of the public sector. It is underlined the role of aligning policy and planning frameworks at national, regional planning and municipal level. As the community wind parks involve private persons, the activities of public sector also should be targeted to overcome the scepticism of stakeholders regarding perspective of community wind parks in Latvia.

HOW: Attention should be paid on 'knowing how to use' enabling framework expected to be established by public authorities.

6. Final 5 TOP ideas selected



Picture 6. Transfer workshop results presented by facilitators

1	Idea	Enabling Tax Policy
	How	For example, entrepreneurs tax stays in the municipality
	Who	National level responsibility. Process of discussion with municipalities and other social partners.
2	Idea	Clear framework for renewable energy communities in general and community wind parks in particular
	How	Legal definition, participants, territories. Based on transposition by Latvia of the Article 22 of recasted RES directive and taking into account the flexibility and Latvia specific conditions. Process of co-operation between public authorities and relevant stakeholders.
	Who	National level responsibility.
3	Idea	Financial Support
	How	Support programme administrated by state-owned development finance institution. Particularly providing the support for the development of the project. Providing beneficial conditions for crediting
	Who	National level responsibility
4	Idea	Social involvement, education
	How	Combining of “traditional” information channels and activities (printed media, TV, web, events) and state-of-art approach on social platforms.

		Should be also dedicated to particular relevant stakeholders considering their needs and interests (what to communicate) and the appropriate credible channel (how to communicate)
	Who	Cooperation of public authorities of different levels. Involvement of other actors of public sector (NGOs, foundations). Cooperation and involvement of stakeholders associations. Particular cooperation with local rural organisations, e.g., LEADER groups. Cooperation with experts of private sector.
5	Idea	One stop agency
	How	Institutional organization to promote energy community's development
	Who	Optimal placement should be further discussed. Taking into account the small size of Latvia could be placed at national level authority. Could be placed also at regional level as regional points for consulting renewable energy communities (e.g., planning regions as the managing authority for regional one stop agency, in this situation, planning regions take also responsibility of planning potential zones for wind energy development). Cooperation with experts of wind energy is necessary.

7. Additional transfer activities

7.1. Meeting (focus group) in South Kurzeme, 11 September 2019

The community wind park approach, based on transfer workshop/visits in Schleswig-Holstein, was presented. The meeting was organized in close cooperation with the Latvian transfer team member. The region – South Kurzeme – was selected as the Latvian region in which certain number of wind plants is installed already. Important that in this area few small-scale wind parks (in total 12 turbines) currently are initiated for EIA assessment.

Thus, the meeting had two objectives:

- (1) to present the community wind park measure in the area and to the stakeholders which already have certain experience regarding wind energy,
- (2) to have reaction of these stakeholders on community wind parks practice as an important input for the whole Latvia transfer workshop in 10 October.

During the workshop “traditional” group discussion method had been used.

11 stakeholders – representatives of the municipal administration and local landowners of four South-Kurzeme municipalities had participated in the meeting.

7.2. Meeting with local stakeholders in Džūkste parish, 21 October 2019

The community wind park approach, based on transfer workshop/visits in Schleswig-Holstein, was presented for the local stakeholders. Important, in this area the large scale wind park is planned by the investor. The meeting had the objective to present the community wind park measure, particularly different sub-measures/features of community wind park, as the instrument for fair wind energy. The meeting was organized in close cooperation with the Latvian transfer team members. During the workshop “traditional” group discussion method had been used. 38 stakeholders (local people, land owners and other stakeholders) of Džūkste (Tukums municipality) and Dobeles parishes (Dobeles municipality) participated in the event.

7.3. Materials in Latvian placed in LEIF web-site

It is prepared by Latvian WinWind partners the following content materials in Latvian:

- translated in Latvian the Community Wind Parks Case Study (the Deliverable 4.3, pages 79-97)
- prepared the Presentation in Latvian, based on the information and results of the Transfer Workshop/Visits in Schleswig-Holstein.

ANNEX 1 – List of participants

The Transfer Workshop had been participated by 23 participants, representing the principal stakeholders groups such as public authorities, citizens and associations, experts, private sector as well as WinWind partners. The particular organisations represented in the Transfer Workshop is listed in the Table above (in page 9).



This project is funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union

WinWind projekts - tematiskais pieredzes pārneses seminārs

“Kopienai piederoši vēja parki - ieguvumi, šķēršļi un attīstības iespējas Latvijā”

AC Hotel by Marriott Rīga, Dzīrnavu iela 33, Centra rajons, Rīga, LV-1010, Semināru telpa „SPACE”
2019. gada 10. oktobris

Nr.	Uzvārds	Vārds	Organizācija	Vai Jūs vēlaties saņemt projekta elektronisko ziņu izdevumu Jā / Nē	Pasākuma laikā piekritu, ka tiku fotografēts Jā/ Nē	Paraksts*
1.	Balcers	Ojārs	Zaļā brīvība	Jā	Jā	Balcers
2.	Beikulis	Oskars	SIA ELLE	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
3.	Dance	Beiba	Latvijas Universitāte	Jā	Jā	[Signature]



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4.	Dobrāja	Kristīne	SIA "Vides eksperti"	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
5.	Dreijaļa	Līga	Ekonomikas ministrija			[Signature]
6.	Gaiņiņš	Gatis	Eolus SIA	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
7.	Golunovs	Juris	Nav	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
8.	Griņš	Mārtiņš	Vides aizsardzības un reģionālās attīstības ministrija	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
9.	Indriksone	Daina	Baltijas Vides Forums	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
10.	Kilvis	Gaidis	Fizikālās enerģētikas institūts	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
11.	Kreicmane	Inga	ZREA	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
12.	Krug	Michael	Freie Universität Berlin	Jā	Jā	[Signature]
13.	Kudrenčikovs	Ivars	Fizikālās enerģētikas institūts	Jā	Jā	[Signature]





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Nr.	Uzvārds	Vārds	Organizācija	Vai Jūs vēlaties saņemt projekta elektronosko ziņu izdevumu Jā / Nē	Pasākuma laikā piekritis, ka tiks fotografēts Jā/ Nē	Paraksts*
14.	Līveriece	Lāsma	Vides aizsardzības un reģionālās attīstības ministrija	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
15.	Medziulis	Raitis	Zemgales Pārvaldes reģions	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
16.	Nāburga	Toms	Neija Enerģija	✓	✓	<i>[Signature]</i>
17.	Ozoliņš	Juris	IK Juris Ozoliņš	✓	✓	<i>[Signature]</i>
18.	Plotnikova	Iluta	ŠIA "Vides investīciju fonds"	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
19.	Pole	Dace	Siempeš un Džokstes pagastu pārvalde			
20.	Raubičis	Kaspars	Vides aizsardzības un reģionālās attīstības ministrija	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
21.	Rēders	Gundars		Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
22.	Štāls	Aigars	Vides investīciju fonds, Liepājas pilsētas Būvvalde	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
23.	Zuoka	Aija	Vides investīciju fonds	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>

3



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Nr.	Uzvārds	Vārds	Organizācija	Vai Jūs vēlaties saņemt projekta elektronosko ziņu izdevumu Jā / Nē	Pasākuma laikā piekritis, ka tiks fotografēts Jā/ Nē	Paraksts*
24.	Daģis	Edvīns	Kurzemes PR	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
25.	Raubičis	Kaspars	VARAM			
26.	Brumovs	Andris	LPS	Jā	Jā	<i>[Signature]</i>
27.						
28.						
29.						
30.						

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Project Partners

 Freie Universität Berlin	 Ingenieure	 Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development	 ecoazioni
 Center for International Climate Research	 NVE Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate	 FIZIKĀLĀS ENERĢĒTIKAS INSTITŪTS INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL ENERGETICS	 LATVIJAS VIDES INVESTIČIJU FONDS LATVIAN ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTMENT FUND
 KAPE	 ECORYS	 Asociación Canaria de Energías Renovables	 I.C.L.E.I Local Governments for Sustainability