

INSPIRING PILOT PACK



Title	Inspiring pilot pack
Document description	The document aimed at showcasing the diversity, achievements, and long-term value and impact of the MASTERPIECE pilot sites and the PoC. The pack translates the experiences of the pilots into accessible and engaging narratives that highlight how ECs can evolve in different social, technical, and geographical contexts across Europe.
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
INSPIRING CASE – SPAIN – THE PROOF OF CONCEPT	6
UNIVERSITY OF MURCIA AS A HYBRID DIGITAL ENERGY COMMUNITY	6
BEFORE MASTERPIECE – THE BACKGROUND STAGE	6
WITH MASTERPIECE – THE CHANGE	6
RESULTS & IMPACT – WHERE WE ARE NOW	7
LESSONS LEARNED	7
AFTER MASTERPIECE – LOOKING AHEAD	8
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	8
INSPIRING CASE – ITALY – BERTHIDDA	9
BERTHIDDA: A SMALL VILLAGE WITH GREAT VISION	9
BEFORE MASTERPIECE – THE BACKGROUND STAGE	9
WITH MASTERPIECE – THE CHANGE	9
RESULTS & IMPACT – WHERE WE ARE NOW	11
LESSONS LEARNED	12
AFTER MASTERPIECE – LOOKING AHEAD	12
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	12
INSPIRING CASE - TÜRKİYE - AŞAĞIÇAVUŞ	13
BUILDING AN ENERGY COMMUNITY IN A FOREST SETTLEMENT	13
BEFORE MASTERPIECE - THE BACKGROUND STAGE	13
WITH MASTERPIECE - THE CHANGE	13
RESULTS & IMPACT - WHERE WE ARE NOW	13
LESSONS LEARNED	14
AFTER MASTERPIECE - LOOKING AHEAD	14
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	14
INSPIRING CASE - SWEDEN	15
SNAPSHOT OF THE SWEDISH CLUSTER	15
BEFORE MASTERPIECE – THE BACKGROUND STAGE	15
WITH MASTERPIECE – THE CHANGE	15
RESULTS & IMPACT – WHERE WE ARE NOW	16
LESSONS LEARNED	16

AFTER MASTERPIECE – LOOKING AHEAD	17
LAUNCHING THE ENERGY COMMUNITY MODEL IN A SWEDISH CONTEXT	18
BEFORE MASTERPIECE - THE BACKGROUND STAGE	18
WITH MASTERPIECE - THE CHANGE	18
RESULTS & IMPACT - WHERE WE ARE NOW	19
LESSONS LEARNED	19
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	19
INSPIRING CASE - FRANCE	20
STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN AN ESTABLISHED ENERGY COMMUNITY	20
BEFORE MASTERPIECE - THE BACKGROUND STAGE	20
WITH MASTERPIECE - THE CHANGE	20
RESULTS & IMPACT - WHERE WE ARE NOW	20
LESSONS LEARNED	21
AFTER MASTERPIECE - LOOKING AHEAD	21
FROM ENERGY CONSUMERS TO ENERGY CO-OWNERS: BUILDING THE LES MUREAUX ENERGY COMMUNITY	23
BEFORE MASTERPIECE – THE BACKGROUND STAGE	23
WITH MASTERPIECE – THE CHANGE	23
RESULTS & IMPACT – WHERE WE ARE NOW	24
LESSONS LEARNED	25
AFTER MASTERPIECE – LOOKING AHEAD	26
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	26
GREEN ENERGY IN ACTION	27
BEFORE MASTERPIECE - THE BACKGROUND STAGE	27
WITH MASTERPIECE - THE CHANGE	27
RESULTS & IMPACT - WHERE WE ARE NOW	27
LESSONS LEARNED	28
AFTER MASTERPIECE - LOOKING AHEAD	28
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY	28

INTRODUCTION

The MASTERPIECE project has been implemented across a diverse set of pilot sites, reflecting different social, geographical, organisational, and energy contexts in which Energy Communities (ECs) can emerge and develop. These pilot experiences provide valuable insights into how digital tools, community engagement, and collective energy actions can support the creation and operation of ECs in real-life settings.

To capture and communicate these experiences, the project developed the ****Inspiring Pilot Pack****. The pack presents the evolution of the MASTERPIECE pilots and Proof of Concept (PoC), highlighting their main achievements, experiences, and lessons learned in an accessible and engaging way. Attention is given to the human dimension of the pilots, showing how citizens, local actors, building managers, and other community stakeholders interacted with the project activities and technologies.

Beyond communicating the results achieved during the project, the Inspiring Pilot Pack is intended to provide a lasting reference for communities and stakeholders interested in developing similar initiatives. By presenting real-life experiences from different European contexts, the packs support the visibility, dissemination, and potential replication of the approaches explored within MASTERPIECE, contributing to the longer-term exploitation and impact of the project results.

INSPIRING CASE – SPAIN – THE PROOF OF CONCEPT

University of Murcia as a Hybrid Digital Energy Community

Name of the EC: MASTERPIECE Proof of Concept (PoC) – Campus de Espinardo

Location: University of Murcia – Espinardo Campus

Country: Spain

Type of community: University campus / Hybrid Digital Energy Community demonstrator

Approximate number of participants: University students, researchers, administrative staff, campus users, and university buildings acting as active members of the Energy Community.

Before MASTERPIECE – The background stage

Before MASTERPIECE, the University of Murcia campus already had photovoltaic installations, monitored buildings, and multiple energy infrastructures distributed across the campus. However, these systems operated independently, with limited coordination between buildings, users, and energy management processes. Energy consumption was largely disconnected from user behaviour, and campus users had little visibility into how energy was produced, shared, or optimised within their daily environment.

To explore how Energy Communities could evolve beyond traditional models, MASTERPIECE focused its Proof of Concept (PoC) on a selected set of university buildings and energy assets within the campus environment. These buildings represented different operational conditions, occupancy patterns, and energy behaviours, creating a realistic environment to validate both technical and social innovations under real operating conditions.

The university offered an ideal setting for this demonstration thanks to its combination of renewable generation, digital infrastructure, dynamic occupancy, and active community life. MASTERPIECE used this environment to demonstrate how people, buildings, renewable generation, and digital tools could interact inside the same hybrid Digital Energy Community.

The PoC joined MASTERPIECE at an early demonstration and validation stage, with the ambition of becoming a real operational demonstrator for future interoperable and community-driven Energy Communities in Europe.

With MASTERPIECE – The change

Through MASTERPIECE, the selected buildings and users participating in the PoC evolved into a living digital ecosystem where both people and buildings became active participants in energy management. The project introduced interoperable digital tools capable of connecting behavioural participation with real operational flexibility services across the demonstration environment.

The MEET App played a central role in engaging students and university staff, helping users understand Energy Communities. Workshops, direct interaction sessions, student engagement activities, and targeted communication actions helped bring energy topics closer to students and university staff, encouraging greater awareness and participation in collective energy initiatives.

At the same time, DR-FLEX enabled intelligent flexibility management across the buildings involved in the PoC. Different buildings were progressively integrated into coordinated demand-response strategies, allowing HVAC systems and energy consumption patterns to adapt dynamically to renewable generation and grid conditions.

One of the most distinctive actions of the PoC was the activation of collective self-consumption strategies linked to shared “climate shelters” inside specific university spaces. Users were encouraged to gather in selected areas during periods of high renewable generation, combining behavioural participation with energy optimisation.

The PoC demonstrated that buildings could act not only as passive infrastructure, but as active members of the Energy Community alongside citizens. This hybrid approach transformed the selected campus environment

EU's Grant Agreement 101096836.

into a real-life demonstrator of how next-generation Digital Energy Communities can operate collaboratively through interoperable digital tools.

Pilot name			
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value	
UC1: Fostering a socially responsible EC	At least 50 people interact with the MEET APP	72 accounts created 57 active users	
UC2: Promoting Collaboration and Self-Consumption from PV	At least 15 people has gone to the climate shelter when DR-FLEX is active	Maximum of 52 people during mobilisation. + 25 students discovered the climate shelter for 1st time	
UC3: Management of Demand and Fair Pricing	At least 10% energy savings	12% of energy savings	
	At least 10% energy cost savings	11.5 % energy cost savings	
UC4: Achieving Sustainable Energy Transition and Equitable Access	At least 10% increase	Year 2025: 5%	An additional study was done to evaluate a future path on how to improve the grid independence of the PoC (See Deliverable 6.8) by expanding PV installations.

Results & Impact – Where We Are Now

The UMU PoC closed with positive results across its four use cases, reflecting a community that grew gradually in awareness, participation and energy engagement throughout the project.

Awareness of energy communities among campus users increased significantly — starting from a point where the concept was largely unknown and reaching a community of over 70 registered participants actively engaging with the MASTERPIECE tools and initiatives. Participation improved consistently over the year, built through a combination of digital dissemination and regular in-person sessions that brought students and staff closer to the energy reality of their campus. Behavioural change was also evident: the climate shelter initiative showed that users were willing to adapt their habits when given a clear and practical reason to do so, with peak occupancy reaching 52 people during mobilisation calls. On the energy side, the pilot demonstrated real flexibility potential, achieving over 11% in energy cost savings through Demand Response and measurable levels of grid energy independence linked to campus PV generation.

Lessons Learned

- **Energy Communities require both technical integration and human engagement**
One of the main lessons from the PoC was that digital tools alone are not enough to create an active

Energy Community. Direct interaction with users through workshops, meetings, and onboarding activities was essential to build trust, awareness, and participation.

- **Buildings can play an active role inside Energy Communities**
The PoC demonstrated that buildings should not be treated only as passive infrastructure. By integrating flexibility services and renewable energy management, university buildings became active contributors to the collective optimisation of energy consumption.
- **Behavioural participation can support renewable energy optimisation**
Encouraging users to adapt their behaviour according to photovoltaic generation proved to be an effective way to increase awareness and test collaborative self-consumption strategies. Combining behavioural actions with digital flexibility tools created a more dynamic and participatory ecosystem.
- **Interoperability is critical for scaling Digital Energy Communities**
Integrating different tools, systems, and data sources within a real operational environment was more complex than initially expected. However, achieving interoperability between user engagement tools and building energy management systems was fundamental for demonstrating the full MASTERPIECE concept.
- **Universities are ideal environments for testing future Energy Community models**
The campus environment offered a unique combination of real users, diverse buildings, renewable generation, and digital infrastructure. This made it possible to validate innovative Energy Community approaches under realistic conditions while generating valuable lessons for future replication across Europe.

After MASTERPIECE – Looking ahead

After MASTERPIECE, the University of Murcia will retain a working infrastructure for energy monitoring, demand response and self-consumption management across the Campus of Espinardo. The tools, integrations and processes put in place during the project do not disappear when the project ends — they leave behind a functional setup that the university can continue operating and building on.

Beyond the technical side, what remains is perhaps more important: a community of users who now understand what an Energy Community is, a set of tested engagement practices that the university knows work, and a clearer picture of where the campus stands in terms of energy behaviour and flexibility potential. The governance roles defined during the PoC — EC manager, building managers, members — also provide a structure that can be formalised and extended over time.

The most immediate next step is to continue the demand response and self-consumption strategies that were validated during the project, incorporating the lessons learned to improve their performance. Expanding PV generation and energy storage capacity on campus is also a logical continuation, as the results showed that this is the main factor limiting grid energy independence. In parallel, the university can use the evidence generated by the PoC to make the case for a more formal energy community structure — one that goes beyond a demonstration context and becomes part of how the campus manages energy on a permanent basis.

The long-term vision is straightforward: a university campus where energy is managed collectively, where buildings and users both play an active role, and where the experience gained through MASTERPIECE serves as the foundation for continued improvement and, eventually, replication across other campuses and institutional settings.

Voices from the Community

- PROOF OF CONCEPT PILOT - INTERVIEWS

INSPIRING CASE – ITALY – BERCHIDDA

Berchidda: a small village with great vision

Name of the EC: LIMBARA

Location: Berchidda

Country: Sardinia

Type of community: Municipality

Approximate number of participants: up to now around 50

Before MASTERPIECE – The background stage

Before the Masterpiece project, the situation was characterised by a degree of scepticism and a lack of awareness among the residents of Berchidda: their lack of trust in the tools provided by the national government did little to help them understand what a CER is and what potential benefits it might offer. Furthermore, the municipality of Berchidda was facing a complex situation: as the owner of the electricity networks – a very rare occurrence in Italy – it had medium- and low-voltage substations still equipped with oil-immersed switchgear, which were outdated and dangerous for operators. The power supply would cut out at least 50 times a year precisely because of the grid's instability. To make matters worse, awareness of the concepts of energy saving, energy efficiency and self-consumption tools was rather limited.

The decision to take part in the Masterpiece project came from the mayor of Berchidda: the project aimed to build and revitalise the community around the themes of the CER and to implement a whole series of initiatives to engage the local population.

At the same time, the municipal council began a series of works to modernise the network and the medium- and low-voltage substations, partly thanks to participation in another European project (Cyberseas), under which cybersecurity attack tests on EPES systems were to be carried out in Berchidda.

With MASTERPIECE – The change

At first, the public did not fully grasp the potential of the Masterpiece project. There was a fear that it would be a highly theoretical project with little impact on real, everyday life. Gradually, thanks to the events and workshops organised, citizens began to realise the importance of being part of a CER, of playing an active role in this process of change, and that it was their right to be part of this change.

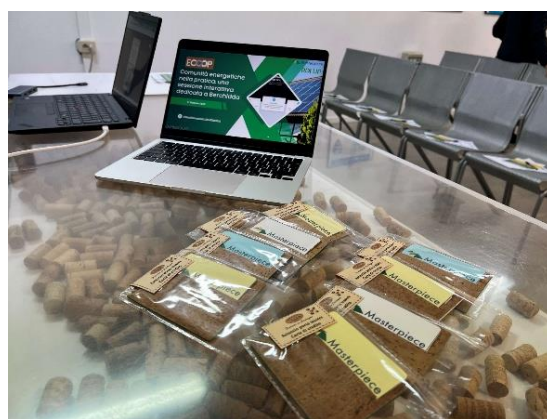
The turning point came with the presentation of the apps developed by the Masterpiece project, alongside the organisation of and participation in workshops and events: residents had the opportunity to engage with the project managers, ask questions about the other CERs involved in the Masterpiece project's pilot schemes, and explore what concepts such as energy saving, energy efficiency and smart grids actually mean, and how these concepts impact daily life.

The CER, which had been on hold due to a bureaucratic issue, resumed its process thanks in part to the impetus provided by the public, who understood the importance of moving from the role of 'consumer' to that of 'prosumer'.

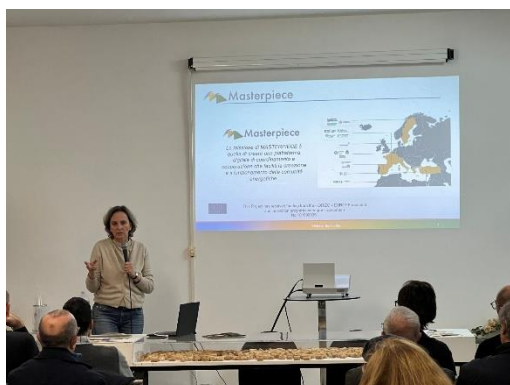
The practical example of other active CERs, such as the one in Les Mureaux – which can be explored via the Ecoop App developed by RDIUP – has involved the community in gaining a deeper understanding of how they operate and how to participate in them.



Visit to the electrical substations GA in Berchidda, May 2024



*Event February 2026 & Event – gadget Masterpiece and MEET Aoo and ECOOP apps presentation
February 2026*



Event – February 2026



Networking aperitivo – february



2026 Andrea Nieddu, Berchidda

Results & Impact – Where We Are Now

The project enabled us to invite many local residents, and in particular stakeholders (small business owners, the Pro Loco association, the Wine Museum, a Sardinian cultural association, and ordinary residents) to take part in the workshops and events organised throughout the project, both in person and online. Participation in the project has also grown thanks to the work carried out in parallel by the local council: the modernisation of electrical substations, the launch of the smart grid with new hubs and equipment that allows for remote control whilst ensuring the complete safety of workers.

Citizens have changed their attitude towards CERs, fully understanding their potential: not only that, but energy saving, energy efficiency in individual homes and the installation of photovoltaic systems have become topics of regular discussion within the Berchidda community. The role of Prosumer, an active role within the community, has emerged gradually as the project has matured: making surplus energy available enables the community to gradually embark on the virtuous path towards becoming self-sufficient. The use of apps has also made it possible to track people's digital engagement and their interaction with other project pilots. Thanks to the MEET Aoo and ECoop apps, which were demonstrated live during the event showcasing the results of the Masterpiece project, the citizens have begun to explore the subject in greater depth: ECoop, developed by the project partner RDIUP, has brought to life the experiences of other European Energy Communities, providing a basis for comparison and inspiration, whilst offering the reassurance of having operational support for the creation and management of the future Energy Community. The CER has resumed its process to become 100% operational by the end of the year (2026)

Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
Use case 1: Promoting the transition from consumer to prosumer in an informed and conscious manner among citizens	60 EC members	61 EC members. People were reached in various ways: through workshops, meetings and even WhatsApp groups. Every possible method and tool was used to engage people locally, talk to them, encourage them to use the apps, fill in surveys, and so on.
Use case 2: Achieving Active Participation and Sensibilisation in Sustainable Energy Usage	50 EC members	52 citizens (feedback collected) People have been involved in various activities to increase their understanding of sustainable energy use. In this case, the residents of Berchidda have shown an interest, but their level of awareness differs from that of other, more advanced European energy communities and requires more time. Here too, all available tools have been utilised: WhatsApp groups, meetings, online workshops, etc.

Lessons Learned

- Citizens are drawn to the concept of energy communities, particularly those living in small towns such as Berchidda. The problem lies in the difficulties—sometimes bureaucratic, sometimes technical—that energy communities entail. It is **difficult to maintain a consistent level of trust** because progress is perceived as too slow. It is therefore very important to organise awareness-raising activities at a local level to keep citizens engaged, so that they can support their energy community when the time comes.
- Despite some initial scepticism, **digital tools have proved to be a valuable resource for engaging people**, both in online and in-person workshops. Ongoing guidance and support have been crucial in helping participants become familiar with the tools and build confidence.
- **Human Support.** Our ongoing commitment to serving the public has generated a wave of trust that has helped us not only to meet our KPIs and milestones but also to convince people of the importance of participation; as a result, we have noticed that some consumers have expressed a desire to become prosumers.
- **Data and qualitative/quantitative approaches.** Alongside the initiatives undertaken to engage the residents of Berchidda, the collection and validation of data proved to be both highly interesting and fruitful. A human-centred approach cannot reach its full potential unless it is accompanied by the skilful use of data.
- It is important to **coordinate with other EU projects**, particularly those related to the development of innovative funding instruments to serve the local community.

After MASTERPIECE – Looking ahead

The sense of community will remain in the community and it is essential for getting any project off the ground. Not only that, but also a greater understanding of the opportunities that the European Union and its funding programmes can offer: not merely an economic opportunity, but a genuine catalyst for exploring issues in greater depth, opening up new avenues and supporting this process to improve local communities and provide them with support and a sustainable, shared vision. CER is back on track and should be fully operational by 2026, ready to welcome new prosumers. A whole series of activities is being organised for autumn 2026 to commission new PV installations – in conjunction with other EU projects such as Scaling Super-Heero – capable of reactivating the REC scheme and attracting new members. Citizens know that they can be prosumers, play a part, be agents of change, and use apps to find out what other energy communities are doing across Europe. This means they have realised that they can take the lead rather than waiting for someone or something from outside to give them a role. The long-term vision is to transform Berchidda as a 100% energy sustainable community within 2030.

Voices from the Community

- [WEBSITE](#)
- [YOUTUBE No. 1](#)
- [YOUTUBE No. 2](#)

INSPIRING CASE - TÜRKİYE - AŞAĞIÇAVUŞ

Building an Energy Community in a Forest Settlement

Name of the EC: Aşağıçavuş Energy Community Pilot

Location: Aşağıçavuş Village, Yenice, Çanakkale

Country: Türkiye

Type of community: Rural village

Approximate number of participants: 19 households (12 active participants)

Before MASTERPIECE - The background stage

Nestled in a forest settlement, Aşağıçavuş is a small rural village where most residents are elderly and have limited digital skills. While many households had rooftop photovoltaic systems, citizens had little understanding of Energy Communities, energy flexibility or digital energy management. Internet access and digital literacy were limited, making the use of online tools particularly challenging.

The community joined MASTERPIECE to explore how digital solutions could support citizen participation while adapting them to the realities of rural life. At this stage, the community was in the Awareness phase of the Energy Community journey.

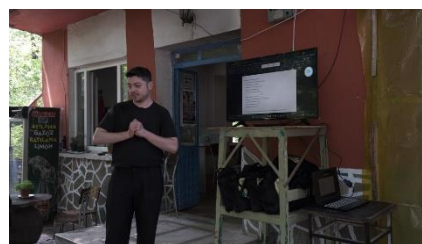
With MASTERPIECE - The change

MASTERPIECE demonstrated that technology alone is not enough; people remain at the centre of the energy transition. Because many participants were unfamiliar with smartphones and digital platforms, the Turkish pilot introduced a local community facilitator who acted as the bridge between the project and households. Regular home visits, village meetings and practical demonstrations helped residents become familiar with the MEET App and other project tools.



Instead of relying only on digital notifications, DR-FLEX recommendations were first delivered to the facilitator, who then contacted households personally. This approach significantly improved participation and ensured that flexibility actions reached users despite digital barriers. Throughout the project, citizens became more confident discussing energy issues and gradually

recognised the benefits of participating in a local Energy Community. Stage after joining MASTERPIECE: Engagement.



Results & Impact - Where We Are Now

MASTERPIECE helped transform a community with very limited digital capacity into one actively participating in energy-related activities. Participating households completed surveys, received MEET App training and became familiar with the concept of Energy Communities.

The pilot demonstrated that digital innovation can successfully reach rural populations when combined with continuous local support. The experience also generated valuable feedback for improving the MASTERPIECE tools, making them more suitable for vulnerable and digitally excluded communities.

Most importantly, the project increased trust, strengthened cooperation among residents and laid the foundations for future citizen participation in the energy transition.



Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
Use case 1: Understanding ECs and Engagement of Citizens	At least 50 interactions overall with a minimum of 3 actions/participant	100
	At least 80% of participants should receive the training, and a minimum of 8 feedback entries should be collected and uploaded.	90%
	The EC Manager will organize and facilitate at least 3 physical meetings or events for participants	5 physical meetings
	Understanding rate reaches 75%	75%
	Rate of acceptance to create an EC	80%
Use case 2: Achieving Active Participation and Sensibilisation in Sustainable Energy Usage	a) At least 50% of users adjust their energy consumption b) Energy consumption is increased by 20%	a) 50% b) 12%
	At least 60% of households consistently follow the recommendations	60%

Lessons Learned

- **Human facilitation is essential:** Face-to-face support is essential for engaging elderly and digitally excluded communities.
- **Tools must adapt to users, not the reverse:** Digital tools should be adapted to users' capacities rather than expecting users to adapt to technology.
- **Trust is built face-to-face:** Face-to-face communication remains the most effective way to build trust in rural areas.
- **A local relay increases participation:** Delivering flexibility notifications through a local facilitator greatly increased participation.
- **Innovation and continuous engagement go hand in hand:** Successful Energy Communities require both digital innovation and continuous community engagement.

After MASTERPIECE - Looking ahead

While the digital tools developed within MASTERPIECE may not remain in operation after the project, the experience gained from the Turkish pilot will continue to inspire future initiatives. The community facilitator model, face-to-face engagement and user-centred implementation approach demonstrated effective ways to involve rural and digitally excluded citizens. These lessons provide a practical roadmap for future Energy Community initiatives and citizen engagement activities in Türkiye and beyond.

Voices from the Community

- [WEBSITE](#)

INSPIRING CASE - SWEDEN

Snapshot of the Swedish Cluster

Name of the cluster: Swedish MASTERPIECE Cluster

Location: Sweden

Country: Sweden

Type of community: National cluster involving local pilots, municipalities, housing associations, energy actors, DSOs, companies and policy stakeholders

Approximate number of participants: Local pilot participants, national stakeholders and wider dissemination audiences reached through workshops, meetings, tools, conferences and policy dialogue.

Before MASTERPIECE – The background stage



Before MASTERPIECE, Sweden already had some experience from projects and initiatives connected to energy communities. However, there was not yet a strong national discussion about energy communities, and there was no clear focal point where different actors could meet around the topic.

Municipalities, local stakeholders, companies, DSOs, housing associations and other organisations all had different perspectives and needs. Some actors were curious about the concept, while others saw it as unclear or difficult to apply in the Swedish context.

There was also a lack of structured discussion about what worked, what was difficult, and what needed to change.

One of the main gaps was not only knowledge, but coordination. Policymakers did not really have a clear channel through which they could receive practical input from the actors trying to develop or support energy communities on the ground. The discussion was fragmented. MASTERPIECE helped create a context where these experiences could be gathered, tested and communicated in a more structured way.

For the Swedish cluster, this meant working both with practical local engagement and with the broader national question: how can energy communities become more understandable, more useful and more actionable in Sweden?

With MASTERPIECE – The change

During MASTERPIECE, the Swedish cluster became a practical meeting point for energy community discussions in Sweden. The work helped connect local experiences with broader national conversations about regulation, knowledge, engagement and implementation.

The Swedish cluster worked to make the concept of energy communities more concrete for different actors. This included municipalities, condominium associations, local stakeholders, companies, DSOs and policymakers. Instead of discussing energy communities only as an abstract EU concept, the cluster helped show what the idea could mean in practice in a Swedish setting.

One important role was to identify the practical conditions for energy communities in Sweden. This included understanding what actors already knew, where uncertainty remained, and what kind of support was needed.



The cluster also worked as a knowledge broker, gathering experiences from pilots and using them to inform wider dissemination, policy dialogue and stakeholder engagement.

Through MASTERPIECE, the Swedish cluster contributed to creating spaces where different actors could meet and discuss energy communities more directly. This included national-level activities, dialogue with policymakers, and local pilot work where tools and communication methods were tested. The project helped make it easier to talk about both the opportunities and the barriers in a concrete way.

Results & Impact – Where we are now

One of the clearest results from MASTERPIECE in Sweden is that the discussion on energy communities has become more structured. The project helped move the topic from scattered interest and isolated initiatives towards a more visible national conversation.

The Swedish cluster contributed to establishing national arenas for dialogue, including conference activities and stakeholder meetings focused on energy communities. These activities made it possible to bring together actors that do not always meet naturally: municipalities, housing associations, energy companies, DSOs, researchers, policymakers and civil society actors.

The project also helped strengthen the policy discussion. Through the work in MASTERPIECE, the Swedish cluster was able to collect practical experiences and highlight the need for clearer regulatory conditions, including the importance of a legal definition of energy communities in Sweden. This is important because many actors are interested, but still unsure what they are allowed to do, what organisational models are possible, and how energy communities should be treated in relation to existing rules.



Another result is that the pilots and local actors gained a stronger mandate to continue working with energy questions. In some cases, members and participants became more aware of energy issues and more supportive of future energy actions. This does not mean that everyone suddenly became deeply engaged in energy policy, but it did create more understanding and acceptance. That is important, because local energy transitions often depend on trust, patience and small steps over time.

The Swedish cluster also developed and promoted knowledge resources and tools adapted to the Swedish context. These can continue to support local actors after the project ends, especially those who need accessible information before they are ready to start a formal process.

Lessons Learned

- **Sweden needs a clearer national conversation about energy communities.** Before MASTERPIECE, there were projects and examples, but no obvious national meeting point. A recurring lesson is that energy communities need arenas where practical experiences can be shared between local actors, municipalities, companies, DSOs and policymakers.
- **Coordination is as important as information.** Many actors need information, but they also need to know where to turn, who to talk to, and how their experiences can influence policy. MASTERPIECE showed that a cluster can act as a bridge between local initiatives and national-level discussions.

- **Energy communities must be explained in practical terms.** The concept can feel abstract or unclear. It becomes more useful when it is connected to concrete issues such as lower energy costs, solar panels, local flexibility, grid constraints, housing associations, municipal planning, investment and local resilience.
- **Local engagement starts small.** It is difficult to get people involved in energy issues when they already have busy lives. The Swedish experience shows that engagement often starts with small actions, simple information and personal conversations. Over time, this can build support for larger energy initiatives.
- **Legal clarity is essential.** For Sweden, one of the most important issues is the need for a clearer legal definition and framework for energy communities. Actors need to understand what they can and cannot do, and whether different types of organisations, such as housing associations or local communities, will be treated differently.

After MASTERPIECE – Looking ahead

After MASTERPIECE, the Swedish cluster's long-term vision is that energy communities become a more established and practical part of the Swedish energy transition. The aim is not only to raise awareness, but to help create the conditions for real local action.

The work developed through MASTERPIECE can continue in several ways. The knowledge platform and adapted tools can remain as practical support for municipalities, housing associations, local stakeholders and other actors that want to explore energy communities. These resources can help people understand the concept, identify possible next steps and avoid starting from zero.

The national dialogue should also continue. The Swedish cluster has helped create a foundation for bringing together local experience and policy discussion. This should be strengthened further, especially as Sweden needs to accelerate investments in the green transition, address grid constraints, support local renewable energy production and activate more private and local capital.

In the long term, the hope is that energy communities will not be seen as a niche or unclear concept, but as one practical tool among many for building a more resilient, democratic and locally anchored energy system. For this to happen, Sweden needs clearer rules, more examples, stronger knowledge support and continued cooperation between local actors, municipalities, energy companies, DSOs and policymakers.

MASTERPIECE has helped start that process by creating a space for learning, testing and dialogue. The next step is to make sure that the knowledge, relationships and tools developed during the project continue to support new initiatives after the project has ended.

Launching the Energy Community Model in a Swedish Context

Name of the cluster: Energigemenskapen Uppsala

Location: Uppsala municipality

Country: Sweden

Type of community: Municipal and public

Approximate number of participants: 5

Before MASTERPIECE - The background stage

Noticing a brewing engagement across Europe with citizen-led initiatives to form energy communities and frustrated with the lack of progress in the field in a Swedish context, Uppsala Municipality decided to join the MASTERPIECE project to learn more and to get some help with its challenges.

Although Sweden has a thriving association life, the idea of energy communities has had a cool response. Maybe spoiled by in comparison green and cheap energy, citizens and organizations have had little reasons to collectively engage in the energy issues. Fact is, that prior to MASTERPIECE, the concept of energy communities was almost unheard of in a Swedish context. Seeing the potential in citizen-led progress, Uppsala Municipality wished to learn more in order to engage their citizens. When joining MASTERPIECE, no true energy community existed in Sweden, the regulations where of no support and the level of awareness of the subject close to nil.



Almunge parish. a site in Uppsala municipality where citizens and organisations were briefed about energy communities by the

With MASTERPIECE - The change

When joining MASTERPIECE - and getting to know inspiring cases across Europe - Uppsala Municipality quickly identified the different driving forces getting energy communities in the ground. From French energy patriotism, through the struggles of Italian villages, to Turkish ambitions to address energy illiteracy, Uppsala was impressed with force in citizen-led initiatives. Getting to learn more about each country's regulatory framework, as well as how private citizens organized and managed themselves, Uppsala grew more confident about the topic. Furthermore, helped by easy to access-tools with a vast supply of resources and knowledge, Uppsala didn't have to reinvent the wheel.

Beginning with hosting physical events with local students, tools from the MASTERPIECE playbook were utilized to easily and interactively brief and inform about the concept of energy communities for a Swedish audience. Encouraged by what they learned, the students were soon eager to delve deeper into the subject, and together with Uppsala Municipality installed smart meters for the students to actively monitor their collective energy consumption. Also, MASTERPIECE tools were used within the municipal organization, briefing and informing managers and decision makers. By the projects end - and using cases from MASTERPIECE as a guide and inspiration - the management level of Uppsala Municipality took the formal decision to start an energy community.



The general assembly in les Mureaux, where Uppsala municipality learnt from their French colleagues.

Results & Impact - Where We Are Now

Uppsala municipality have now taken the step to create an energy community based on a European blueprint. Furthermore - together with the other Swedish participants in MASTERPIECE - and truly lifted by all the project's members - the many insights and tips and tricks that have matured from the project have been used in an ongoing lobby campaign. Showcasing the simplicity and easiness that other countries have displayed when creating energy communities, Uppsala Municipality have been targeting the regulatory authorities of changing the national guidance on energy communities.

All in all, - coming into the concluding stages of MASTERPIECE - the project has truly helped to raise awareness and build knowledge. Participation in energy communities is now an actual thing, where it earlier was non-existent in a Swedish context. Uppsala Municipality can now proudly say that they - and MASTERPIECE - have formally created the first true Swedish energy community.



Marcus, the energy community manager, celebrates the signing on of the first energy community member.

Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
UC1: Understanding EC's and engagement of citizens	At least ten citizens learned more about EC's using MASTERPIECE tools	31
UC2: Empowering citizens in REC's	At least ten citizens/organisations have probed the possibility of forming an EC	12
	At least 10 % from UC's KPI-1 have gone a further step in of forming an EC	39 %
UC3: Registering an official EC	An official EC is registered	One EC formed

Lessons learned

- Energy is not as big of an issue as to raise awareness and citizens engagement in Sweden.
- Learning best practice from European friends saves time.
- Inspiring actual and successful examples are key to recruiting citizens.
- The topic of increased preparedness should not be forgotten.

Voices from the Community

- RADIO

INSPIRING CASE - FRANCE

Strengthening Governance and Participation in an Established Energy Community

Name of the EC: Solévent

Location: Département of Gironde

Country: France

Type of community: citizens, municipalities

Approximate number of participants: 320

Before MASTERPIECE - The background stage

Solévent was born from a simple belief: citizens can take back control of their energy and their future. In this territory, a community came together to produce green, local energy that benefits everyone. On the rooftops of public schools, small solar plants are turning sunlight into electricity fed into the grid, generating value that is reinvested into new local projects.

Driven by one dedicated manager and a group of committed volunteers, Solévent moves forward through collective energy. Yet sustaining engagement, coordinating efforts, and welcoming new members remains a daily challenge. To move further, the community joined MASTERPIECE, seeking tools to simplify management, strengthen involvement, and accelerate growth. Solévent continues its journey with one clear ambition: to build meaningful energy—together.

With MASTERPIECE - The change

Solévent gradually embraced digital tools to strengthen how the community works together. With ECOOP, they can monitor solar production, explore new project scenarios, and create a shared space where members exchange, organize events, and launch thematic discussions. The community manager can easily send documents, while members sign them online, simplifying coordination.

At first, only the manager used the platform, before opening it to a small group of highly engaged members with the intention of expanding access step by step. Since early 2026, MASTERPIECE has further streamlined the process by introducing a tailored online subscription form, allowing new members to join in just a few clicks and saving valuable administrative time.

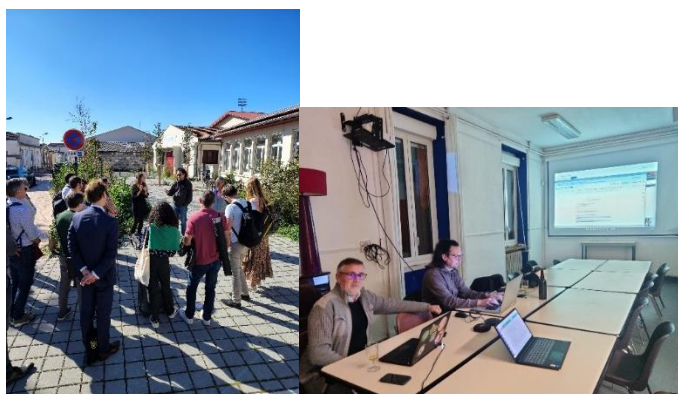
At the same time, the DR-FLEX tool has been introduced in partner schools, giving users real-time insights into solar production. Beyond information, it has become an educational lever, helping teachers and students organize workshops and encouraging more energy-aware behaviours from a young age.

Results & Impact - Where We Are Now

Solévent is still in the process of fully integrating MASTERPIECE tools into its day-to-day practices. For now, the community mainly uses ECOOP to communicate and to monitor solar production, while the manager also relies on it to assess the geographical relevance of new projects as they emerge.

The introduction of online sign-ups already shows strong potential: it will save valuable administrative time and make it much easier to attract new members once communication efforts resume. Although Solévent's website has seen little activity in recent months, the groundwork is now in place to support future outreach more effectively.

Meanwhile, the DR-FLEX tool has proven particularly well-suited to schools' needs. Users can track monthly production and compare it with their consumption, making energy use more tangible. Even more impactful, the data is translated into everyday equivalents—such as electric scooter charges, EV charging sessions, washing machine cycles, or hours of PS5 gaming—making it easier to understand and relate to. Combined with a notification system, this approach actively encourages behavioral change and promotes greater energy flexibility.



Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
UC1: Management of the EC and participation of the members	a) 10 logins per month by EC members b) 5 registered members spend at least 5 minutes per month on the tool c) the EC manager spends 20 minutes per month on the tool	a) +10 b) 10/5 c) +20
UC2: Enrolment and onboarding on the EC	a) 5 participations in private chat rooms/month 1 meeting organised through the app	a) 11 b) 3
	> 15	18
UC3: Registering an official EC	2 online subscriptions	Online subscriptions: 2
UC3: Achieving Active Participation and Sensibilisation in Energy Usage	User action confirmation rate 10%	20.37%

Lessons Learned

- **User Friendly:** To be useful to EC members, the tool needs to be easy to use. The content is important but if the tool is not intuitive and simple to use, nobody will use it. The vocabulary used on the tool has to be specific and relevant so that new users can understand easily each word and features.
- **Human support:** **Face to face** meetings, specific **trainings** and continuous **interactions** are needed to engage stakeholders and EC members.
- **Qualitative and specific content:** The content must be **specific and practical**. If it is too general, it offers no added value to the user.
- **Interest in flexibility:** A lot of stakeholders are interested in EC projects and want to know more about **flexibility**. Specific tools are needed to work on flexibility in EC
- **Digital integration takes time:** Getting the **approvals** from stakeholders to get access to their data takes time. It also takes time and energy to **convince** people to engage on new tools.

After MASTERPIECE - Looking ahead

Solévent plans to further rely on ECOOP as a central tool to strengthen community life and coordination. It will continue supporting member engagement through event organisation, thematic discussions, document

sharing, and online signatures, while also helping the manager monitor energy production and evaluate the relevance of new project opportunities.

In parallel, school users have now been trained on DR-FLEX and understand how to leverage it to design educational workshops with children, fostering early awareness and behavioural change around energy use. More broadly, the MASTERPIECE project has helped create a meaningful bridge between Solévent's local energy production and the schools' own energy consumption, turning data into a shared learning and action space for the community.

From Energy Consumers to Energy Co-Owners: Building the Les Mureaux Energy Community

Name of the EC: Les Mureaux (MUX)
Location: Les Mureaux, 78130
Country: France
Type of community: Urban community
Approximate number of participants: 15

Before MASTERPIECE – The background stage

Before joining MASTERPIECE, residents of Les Mureaux were facing the same challenges as many communities across Europe: rising energy prices, limited awareness about renewable energy, a lack of understanding of what an Energy Community could actually achieve, and uncertainty about how citizens could be part of the energy transition. Although some solar generation already existed locally, there was no energy-sharing initiative and almost inexistent knowledge of Energy Communities.

For most citizens and local stakeholders, the concept of an Energy Community was entirely new. Questions about regulation, governance, technical implementation, financing and citizen engagement made it difficult to imagine how such an initiative could become a reality. Energy, in general, was seen as something technical and distant, managed by experts rather than by citizens themselves.

RDIUP joined MASTERPIECE to deploy and test an innovative local energy-sharing model, engage citizens, create a functioning Energy Community (MUX), support the local energy transition and prepare future replication opportunities in neighbouring territories. RDIUP saw an opportunity to create a more inclusive and participatory approach in the local community to energy transition, and use the digital tools, methodologies, and collaborative activities capable of bringing citizens closer to decision-making processes and strengthening cooperation around energy-related challenges.

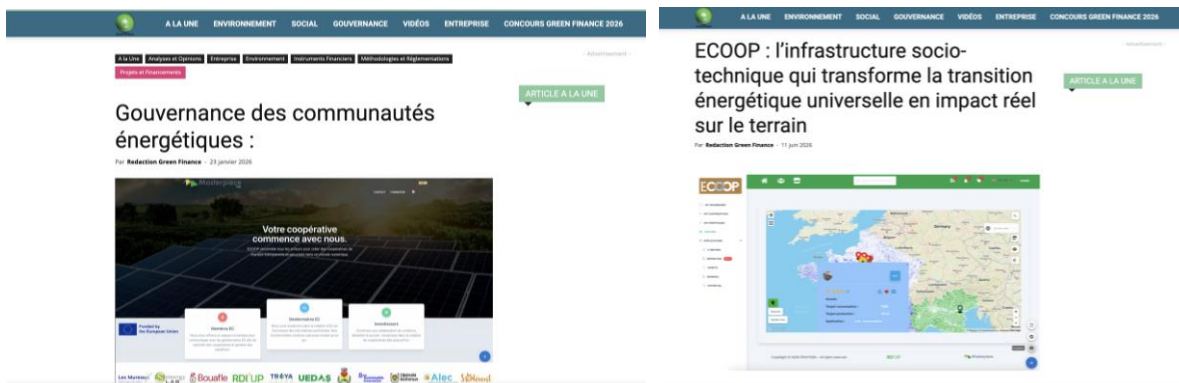
With MASTERPIECE – The change

Through MASTERPIECE, Les Mureaux progressively transformed from a community discovering the concept of collective energy action into a community actively building its own Energy Community.

A local Proof of Concept combining photovoltaic generation, battery storage and smart energy management was developed. Citizens were recruited and involved through public meetings, workshops, surveys, demonstrations, training sessions and co-creation activities. These interactions helped demystify Energy Communities and allowed participants to understand the benefits of local renewable energy sharing.

Two MASTERPIECE tools played a central role. The MEET Aoo helped attract and inform potential participants through discussions and awareness-raising activities. ECOOP provided a complete digital environment where members could create and manage the Energy Community, explore community assets, communicate, organise meetings, vote, sign documents and collaborate.

Global Recognition of RDIUP's Innovation: As a testament to its innovation and impact, the ECOOP platform developed and utilized in the framework of the project has achieved major international recognition, winning the Green Finance Award 2025 and the GSEF / ISGAN Award 2026. Following this latter achievement, RDIUP has been officially invited to attend the GSEF / ISGAN Awards ceremony scheduled for October 11, 2026, in Riyadh. This global validation underscores not only the quality of RDIUP's digital tools, but also their scalability and relevance for sustainable urban transitions worldwide.



Green-finance talks about MUX

The workshops, participatory meetings, and awareness activities transformed the way citizens interacted with energy-related topics and helped make the Energy Community concept more understandable and accessible to residents of different ages and backgrounds. Community members became more confident in discussing energy consumption, sustainability, and collective action.

Citizens appreciated having spaces where practical local energy solutions could be openly discussed, questioned and tested. This helped create trust and demonstrated that energy-related decisions can also be shaped collectively at the community level.

Participation through ECOOP gradually increased, with members actively using the platform to exchange messages, organise meetings and collaborate on community activities. Over time, this contributed to stronger cooperation and helped the community to build its own shared vision for the local energy transition.

One of the most significant milestones was the collaboration initiated with the municipality of Bouafle to explore the expansion of the model. Detailed simulations and investment studies were carried out, thanks to the Smart Investment Tool, demonstrating the potential for replication. Although the process slowed following local administrative changes, it demonstrated the scalability of the approach.

The launch of the local proof of concept, the workshops with the citizens, and the exchanges with the local stakeholders, marked important moments that strengthened trust and community participation.

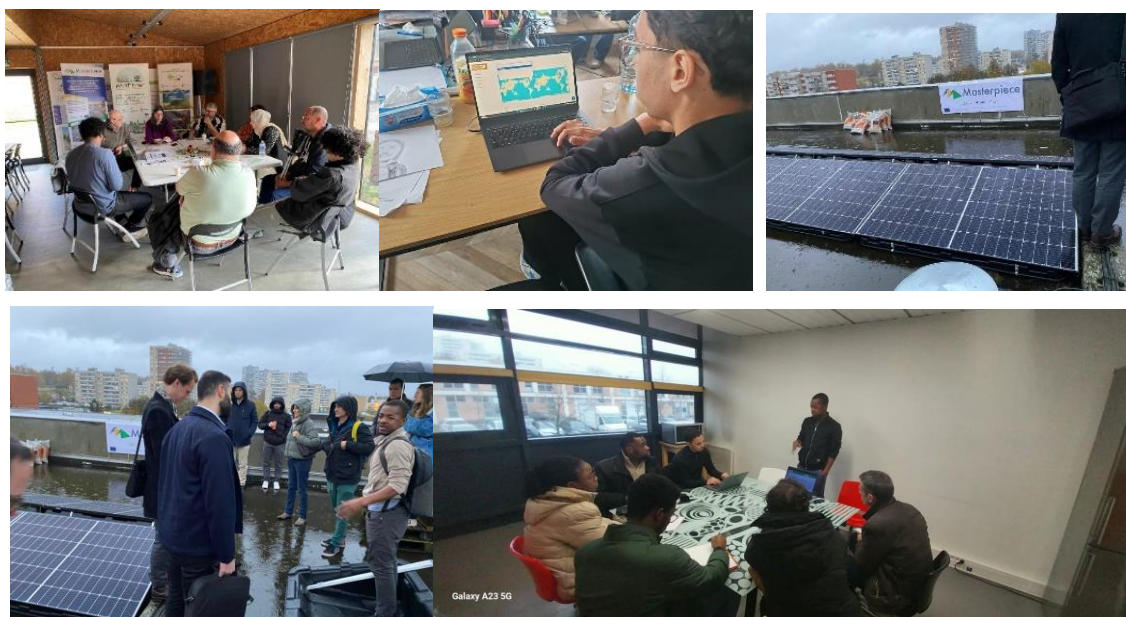
Results & Impact – Where We Are Now

MASTERPIECE has significantly increased awareness of Energy Communities in Les Mureaux. Citizens who were initially unfamiliar with the concept now have practical experience with community-based energy initiatives and digital participation tools and gradually became more interested.

Participation has steadily grown, trust among stakeholders has strengthened, and a functioning Energy Community structure has been established. Participation and engagement increased over time, showing growing trust and growing curiosity within the community. The pilot demonstrated that citizens are willing to engage when clear benefits are presented and when adequate support is provided. The behaviour change started to emerge, especially regarding citizen involvement in sustainability discussions.

Furthermore, the international recognition of the ECOOP platform through the Green Finance Award 2025 and the GSEF / ISGAN Awards (with the upcoming ceremony in Riyadh on October 11, 2026) underscores the high-level impact and scalability of the tools deployed during the pilot.

The project has thus created valuable knowledge, technological assets, and practical experience that can support future Energy Community developments both locally and in other French territories.



Moments from the MUX Pilot

Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
UC1: Empowering citizens' access to solar-powered energy community ownership	60 citizens showing interest in learning more about ECs	124
	20% acceptance rate	70%

Lessons Learned

- **Local trust and proximity are fundamental.** Face-to-face meetings, workshops and direct exchanges with citizens and key stakeholders proved much more effective than digital communication alone. Building trust requires time, transparency, and continuous local presence.
- **Energy Communities need local champions and early institutional engagement.** Dedicated individuals within municipalities, local organisations or citizen groups play a crucial role in mobilising participants, maintaining momentum, and connecting stakeholders throughout the project. Early involvement of local authorities strengthens legitimacy and long-term resilience.
- **Digital platforms are powerful enablers, but they are not sufficient on their own.** Tools such as ECOOP and MEET App facilitated participation, communication and governance, but successful adoption depended on training, onboarding activities and continuous support for users.
- **Institutional continuity matters.** The progress achieved in exploring the expansion towards Bouafle demonstrated the importance of committed local authorities. Changes in municipal structures or personnel can directly affect the continuity and long-term success of Energy Community initiatives. Policymakers should therefore encourage mechanisms that ensure long-term institutional support beyond individual mandates or staff changes.
- **5. Citizens engage more actively when benefits are concrete and visible.** Demonstrations, pilot installations, local case studies and practical examples help transform an abstract concept into something tangible and relevant to everyday life.

After MASTERPIECE – Looking ahead

Although the MASTERPIECE project is coming to an end, the Energy Community journey in Les Mureaux continues. The structures, knowledge and relationships established during the project provide a solid foundation for future growth, and will continue to support future community energy actions.

The knowledge gained by citizens and local stakeholders will remain, and the relationships established during the project are expected to remain active. The local Energy Community will continue operating, while awareness-raising and citizen engagement activities will remain part of ongoing dissemination efforts. The experience gained through the project has demonstrated that local energy sharing is both feasible and attractive for citizens.

The work carried out with Bouafle also highlighted the potential for replication beyond the initial pilot area. While changes in local administration temporarily slowed the expansion process, the work carried out, studies, methodologies, and lessons learned, remain valuable assets for future deployments, and demonstrated both the feasibility of replication and the importance of maintaining long-term institutional support for Energy Community initiatives.

Buoyed by the international validation of its tools highlighted by the Green Finance 2025 and GSEF/ISGAN awards and the upcoming delegation in Riyadh; RDIUP will continue engaging local stakeholders, and exploring new opportunities linked to renewable energy and collective energy management.

Looking ahead, the vision is to expand the Les Mureaux Energy Community, increase local renewable energy production, involve more citizens and replicate the model in other territories.

By empowering citizens to become active participants in the energy transition, RDIUP aims to contribute to a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive energy future.

Voices from the Community

- [WEBSITE](#)

Green Energy in Action

Name of the EC: Part'Ener FAP and AFPA

Location: Forum Armand Peugeot, Poissy

Country: France

Type of community: municipality / school/ homeholders

Approximate number of participants: 45

Before MASTERPIECE - The background stage

The Grand Paris Seine & Oise region has ambitious plans for the development of renewable energy. Currently, production remains primarily industrial or limited to a few property owners, excluding tenants, co-owners, and local businesses due to a lack of awareness, complexity, and perceived costs.

To address this, integration into the MASTERPIECE project aims to remove these barriers and alleviate energy vulnerability. The objective is to raise public awareness, strengthen local skills, and support the emergence of the first energy communities. Through concrete pilot projects, this initiative seeks to provide everyone with access to local green energy and lay the groundwork for a larger-scale rollout.

With MASTERPIECE - The change

Over the course of the project, the community underwent a major evolution, starting with the realization that it was part of a global dynamic. Exchanges with other French and European territories made it possible to share inspiring experiences and reinforce confidence in the feasibility of the initiative.

The ECOOP tool played a key role in this progression by allowing for the concrete modeling of the cooperative, defining its eligibility zone, and integrating members' portfolios. While the enthusiasm of local stakeholders was sometimes accompanied by concerns regarding management time, ECOOP's collaborative features—such as remote voting and consultation removed these barriers by offering flexible governance tailored to everyone.

Finally, the commissioning of the photovoltaic canopy marked the transition from concept to reality, consolidating the credibility of the approach and durably boosting collective engagement.

Results & Impact - Where We Are Now

At the launch of Masterpiece, energy communities were still relatively unknown in our territory. Thanks to the awareness-raising campaigns, workshops, and meetings organized throughout the project, more than 300 people were reached, and around fifty stakeholders were engaged through workshops or individual discussions. To date, 19 of them are committed to the energy communities (ECs) of Poissy and Magnanville.



This momentum has enhanced the visibility and credibility of energy communities among businesses, local authorities, and citizens. In Poissy, the Armand Peugeot Forum project has already secured 72% of its financial round, while in Magnanville, nearly 40% of the funding is locked in. The Masterpiece pilots, actions, and tools have helped structure a genuine local ecosystem around the energy transition. This experience is now drawing interest from other stakeholders who wish to build upon our feedback. The Masterpiece project thus serves as a springboard to support the emergence of new local energy communities.



Pilot name		
UCs brief explanation	KPI target	KPI final value
UC1: Evaluation of joint ownership model for collective PV installation investment.	KPI1: Up to 40 engaged members	49
	KPI2: CAPEX per kW installed < €2500 Yearly OPEX per kW PV installed < €50	CAPEX : €1861 (before grants and €1116 with it) OPEX : €39.50 for opérations and (€62 including provision for demolition)
UC2: Promoting inclusivity, fair governance and equity in collaborative self-consumption ECs	KPI1: At least 3 actor profiles represented in EC	7
	Balanced governance - at least 3 votes per category of stakeholders during decision-making	12 votes (3 votes per actor, 4 categories)

Lessons Learned

- One of the project's greatest successes was the ability to create on-the-ground encounters. Workshops, events, and individual discussions made it possible to bring a still-unfamiliar approach to life and to progressively mobilize businesses, local authorities, and citizens.
- The main challenge was turning interest into commitment, particularly among individuals. As long as projects remain at the conceptual stage, they can seem abstract; presenting and using the tools, along with the actual completion of the first installation, served as a real catalyst for trust. Our advice to emerging communities is therefore to maximize local engagement, rely on concrete examples, and communicate regularly on the project's progress.
- Public policymakers could strengthen financial seed funding mechanisms and ease certain regulatory constraints, particularly regarding geographic eligibility boundaries, which currently limit the participation of citizens who are otherwise ready to commit to local projects.

After MASTERPIECE - Looking ahead

For us, Masterpiece does not mark the end of an adventure, but rather the beginning of a long-term momentum. The most concrete proof is the photovoltaic power plant installed in Poissy, which will produce energy for over twenty years and will continue to unite the stakeholders committed to the project. Our collaboration with RDIUP, the developer of the ECOOP solution, will also continue as part of the operation of the Poissy and Magnanville sites.

The knowledge acquired, the tools developed, and the partner network established will remain valuable resources to support the emergence of new energy communities. The Magnanville community is expected to materialize within the next 12 months and will also operate for 20 years. In the coming years, we intend to sustain citizen mobilization, develop new partnerships, and enable the emergence of new projects. Our ambition is also to act as an ambassador for emerging initiatives. As the territory aims to create around ten energy communities by 2030, we wish to share our experience and help accelerate this transition, so that community energy progressively becomes a sustainable driver of local development and territorial resilience.

Voices from the Community

- [WEBSITE](#)