

EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions



European Economic and Social Committee

Harnessing community power: how can local authorities support decentralized energy projects?

Time:	16:30 – 17:30	Venue:	Agora Hall
Date:	10/12/2015		Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 Climate Generations Areas, COP21 Paris–Le Bourget

This session will focus on the role of local and regional authorities in supporting local renewables and especially community-led projects. The event will focus on challenges and barriers, as well as share success stories in the ongoing transition to renewably sourced energy at the local level. It is organized by ICLEI Europe, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee in co-operation with the [CO-POWER](#) project, funded by Intelligent Energy Europe.

A panel discussion will explore and highlight the potential benefits of community energy in relation to energy security, social equity and energy democratization. The event will discuss how to speed up the development of renewable energy projects by creating a favorable legislative environment and policy frameworks at local, national and European level, as well as explore how decentralized energy can spur low carbon development in emerging economies.

Agenda

Facilitator – Giorgia Rambelli, ICLEI European Secretariat

Panel debate – will join the discussion:

- *Francesco Pigliaru, Chair of Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE), Committee of the Regions*
- *Toni Vidan, European Economic and Social Committee, Croatia, Various Interest Group*
- *Molly Walsh, Friends of the Earth Europe, CO-POWER coordinator*
- *Luis Gomez-Echeverri, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Energy for All (TBC)*
- *Abeer Al Butmeh, Palestinian Environmental NGOs (PENGON) (TBC)*

Concluding remarks

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The Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 is facilitated by:
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