

<u>Disclaimer:</u> the identified implementation pathways in this powerpoint only serve as an illustration. It does not commit the Commission's views regarding the compliance of the respective national legal frameworks with EU law, nor does it identify best practices or preferred implementation pathways.

Citizen and Renewable Energy Communities

EU legal framework and implementation pathways

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Legal concept



Legal concept: shared core

Citizen Energy Communities Renewable Energy Communities Renewable electricity market Any legal entity REC CEC Open and voluntary Primary purpose to provide environmental, economic or social community benefits

European

Legal concept: differences



Electricity (technologyneutral)

Any entity may participate

Natural persons, local authorities, or small enterprises in effective control

No decision-making power for large energy companies

RE based heating and electricity

Limited to natural persons, local authorities or SMEs (participation ≠ primary activity)

Participants located in the **proximity** of the renewable energy projects that are owned and developed by REC

"Autonomous"



Implementation pathways: 'proximity'

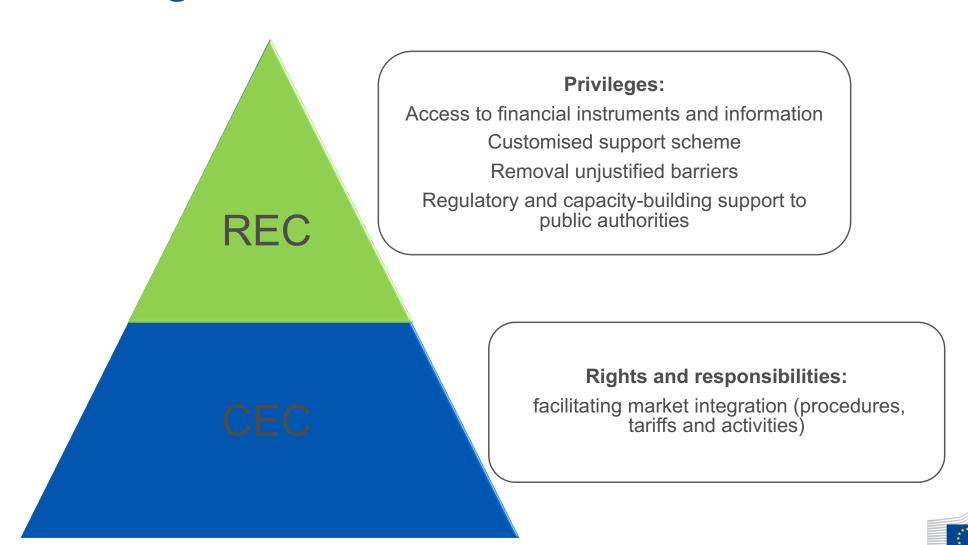
- Network-based (LU, SI, AT): downstream of the high and/or medium voltage electricity transformer station; behind the same low voltage transformer station; behind low voltage (local REC) or medium voltage level (regional REC)
- Administrative (EL): 50%+1 of the members need to be located in the District where the community has its headquarters
- Distance-based (e.g. 8 km radius)
- Ad hoc (WA, IR): to be assessed by regulator on a case-by-case basis
- **Hybrid** (e.g. administrative and distance based)



Enabling framework



Enabling framework REC & CEC



Energy sharing

	Citizen Energy Community	Renewable Energy Community	Renewable self-consumers
Scope	"Electricity produced by community-owned production units" (Art. 16 (3) (e) IEMD)	"Electricity produced by community-owned production units" (Art. 22 (2) (b) RED II)	"Renewables self-consumers located in the same building, including multi-apartment blocks, are entitled to engage jointly are permitted to arrange sharing of renewable energy that is produced on their site or sites between themselves" (Art. 21 (4) RED II)
Charges, tariffs and levies	"Without prejudice to applicable network charges, tariffs and levies, in accordance with a transparent cost-benefit analysis of distributed energy resources developed by the competent national authority" (Art. 16 (4) IEMD)	"Community members should not be exempt from relevant costs, charges, levies and taxes that would be borne by final consumers who are not community members" (recital 71 RED II)	"Without prejudice to the network charges and other relevant charges, fees, levies and taxes applicable to each renewables self-consumer" (Art. 21 (4) RED II)



Implementation pathways

Luxembourg	Austria
 Energy sharing within REC Members located downstream H/MV transformer station connected to LV station operated by 	 Energy sharing within local REC, regional REC and CEC REC located within territory of one DSO
 DSO DSO (static) or REC responsible for attribution (delegation possibility) 	 CEC may be located in area of several DSOs DSO responsible for attribution, following static
 (delegation possibility) If responsible for attribution, REC has the obligation to communicate total quantities 	(fixed share) or dynamic (consumption-related) approachDSO obligation to share data
consumed and produced at least every month	Reduced grid tariffs



Tariffs

	Citizen Energy Community	Renewable Energy Community
Cost-reflective	✓	✓
Non-discriminatory	✓	-
Contribute in an adequate and balanced way to overall cost sharing of the system	✓	-
Contribute, in an adequate, fair and balanced way, to the overall cost sharing of the system	-	✓
In line with a transparent cost- benefit analysis of distributed energy sources developed by the national competent authorities	(√) For purpose of energy sharing	



Implementation pathways

- Local grid tariffs (AT):
 - ✓ Exemption from grid fees above the grid level of REC
 - ✓ Removal of consumption-based surcharges (electricity tax, RES support)
- No exemption from grid tariffs (FL)
- Ex post remuneration



Procedures

- "Fair, proportionate, non-discriminatory and transparent procedures" (Art. 16 (1) (e) IEMD) (Art. 22 (4) (d) IEMD)
- Production and supply related procedures (registration and licensing)
- Grid access procedures



Grid access procedures

- Implementation pathway: "Enduring Connection Policy 2" (IE)
 - ✓ Applications by "community-led renewable energy projects" may be submitted at any time
 - ✓ Building permit is not required to apply for a connection + possibility to rely on the connection capacity for two years in order to obtain a building permit
 - ✓ Reduced initial application fee deposit
 - ✓ The DSO will decide if it is feasible to have the connection assessment processed on a 'non-batch' basis and issued before the next batch application window closes
 - √ 15 connection offers are reserved each year for community projects that were not processed on a non-batch basis

Production and supply related procedures

- Implementation pathway: easing production & supply licensing requirements (EL)
 - ✓ Exemption from the obligation to pay the annual fee for retaining an electricity production license
 - ✓ Transfer of production licenses for production installations exclusively owned by the community within the same region
 - ✓ Minimum supply licensing capital is reduced to € 60,000



Tools to facilitate access to finance and information (REC)

Member States shall provide an enabling framework [...] that [...] shall ensure [...] that tools to facilitate access to finance and information are available (Article 22 (4) (g) RED II)

(g) RED II)Implementation pathway (IE): The SEC Journey





Support scheme (REC)

- "[...] Member States shall take into account specificities of [REC] when designing support schemes in order to allow them to compete for support on an equal footing with other market participants" (Article 22 (7) RED II)
- Implementation pathways:
 - Exemption from bidding procedures for projects up to 6 MW for wind farms and 1 MW for PV (EL)
 - ✓ Community preference category with a capacity up to 30 GWh + exemption from requirements to post bid bonds and submit performance security (IE)



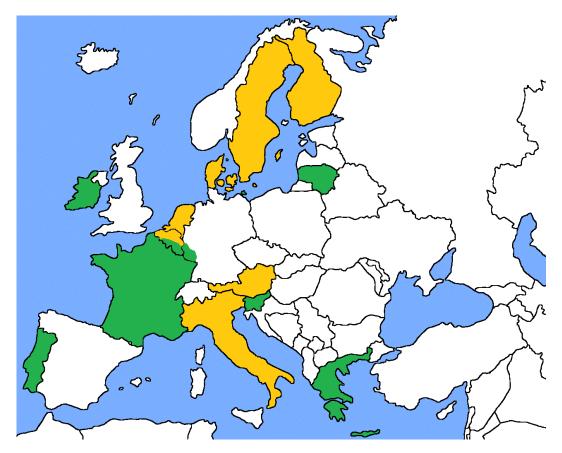
Overview implementation progress Member States

Adopted/Proposed legislation for REC:

WA, FL, SL, LU, IE, PT, FR, FL, LT

Adopted/Proposed legislation for CEC:

FL, AT, FR, LT, NL, EL





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