

POWER UP Final Advocacy Conference – 27 November 2025 – Brussels

"Powering Up Social Energy: Local Journeys, European Futures"

Venue: [La Tricoterie](#)



[Register here](#)

Objectives

- Discover the journeys of the POWER UP testbeds
- Explore replication opportunities with other energy professionals
- Exchange on municipal initiatives around energy poverty and renewable energy access, energy efficient behavior
- Network around policy needs related to energy access for households experiencing energy poverty

Target audience: municipal services, municipal energy agencies, civil society organisations, citizen energy communities, municipal companies, national and EU decision-makers, energy utilities and DSOs

DRAFT AGENDA

08:30-09:00	Arrival & Registration
09:00-09:05	Welcome & purpose by POWER UP coordinators
09:05-09:25	Session 1: Inspiring speech Dr. Adeline Otto, Senior Researcher & Visiting Professor, Centre for Sociological Research at KU Leuven
09:25-09:55	Session 2: POWER UP – 4 years of collective search for fair schemes 5-min pitch by each pilot with a power point with only 2 slides: what was done and biggest learning. The POWER UP pilots are: Valencia (Spain), Eeklo (Belgium), Roznov (Czechia), UCSA (Italy), Heerlen (The Netherlands), North Macedonia.

	This serves as a teaser for the Session 5 peer-learning.
09:55-10:35	Session 3: Social, but profitable business models in times of scarce public resources - A POWER UP utopia? Focus fishbowl 1: Service & business model design for energy services with a social purpose POWER UP municipalities will share the technical, financial, socioeconomic and administrative aspects that they had to consider, and the local policy impacts that occurred as a result of the project's activities. Focus fishbowl 2: Better engaging underserved energy users: revealing learnings and unpacking challenges POWER UP municipalities will share their challenges and learnings around engagement, stakeholder coordination and co-creation of energy services with vulnerable households
10:35-11:00	Networking break
11:00-11:40	Session 4: Policy Pulse – What's Missing in EU & National Frameworks? Panel talk moderated by Saska Petrova, Professor of Human Geography at The University of Manchester As local innovative practices are advancing, we see that integrated policy responses to inequalities in the energy transition are necessary at EU, national and sub-national levels. They require a strong dialogue between policymakers across sectors, energy and social experts, civil society, and citizens, especially those from marginalized groups. Understanding and addressing factors driving unequal access to energy efficient housing and renewable energy is essential for preserving Europe's social model and ensuring competitiveness. • DG ENER: Achille Hannoset (tbc) • EAPN: Marie-Amah KOUADIO, Senior Policy & Advocacy Officer • Austrian Energy Agency: Kerstin Schilcher, Senior Expert for Consumer Behaviour
11:40-12:30	Session 5: Peer-learning in Power circles Market place with 6 country tables (each with one pilot/project partner focusing on a specific topic). Possible focus per pilot: • UCSA (Italy): Designing a REC by activating local players • Valencia (Spain): Municipal engagement and strategy to foster citizen energy/community power

	• Eeklo/Ecopower (Belgium): Energy services for vulnerable households: a joint (ad)venture between city and energy cooperative in times of fluctuating market conditions • Roznov (Czech Republic): Collective PV in social housing - innovating in smaller municipalities • North Macedonia: tackling energy poverty in a non-EU country. • Heerlen: Inclusive outreach and energy poverty mitigation in a post-coal town 10 min – Pilot Snapshot: what was done and how, who was involved, main learning, biggest challenge, the limits of the POWER UP success. 40 min – Informal group conversation/Q&A with participants Participants can freely roam around from one table to another.
12:25/30-12:45	Wrap-up • Live poll: attendees share 1 key take-away • Conclusion by CINEA project officer (Silvia Vivarelli)
12:45-14:00	Networking lunch