

Annual General Meeting 2021

22nd – 24th of April 2021

Agenda Overview

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

APRIL 22 – 24 | Online

	APRIL 22	APRIL 23	APRIL 24	
09:00-10:00	AGM Opening Session			
10:00-12:00	Working groups Session 1	Cooperative governance – Inside and Out	General Assembly	Members Only
12:00-16:00	Cooperative speed-dating	Cooperative speed-dating		
14:00-16:00	Working groups Session 2*	Cooperativism for a just energy transition	Board Meeting	
16:00-19:30	Cooperative speed-dating	Cooperative speed-dating		
19:30 -21:00	Patagonia Movie Screening	Technical Trainings		

*Smart Home Solution Session open to all

Attention:

1. Some sessions can only be attended by REScoop.eu members. The open sessions are marked with green borders.
2. The Cooperative Speed-Dating is open for members only and will run throughout the first two days of the conference. Register [here](#).
3. Please register for the events you would like to attend. Registrations close on the 18th of April.

APRIL 22

9:00 - 10:00 Introduction

General welcome to the REScoop.eu Annual Conference.

Key-note speaker: Eamon Michael Ryan, Irish Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and Minister for Transport since June 2020 and Leader of the Green Party since May 2011.

10:00 – 12:00 Working Group
Session 1**1 A financing mechanism for REScoops?**

Whatever your community project or initiative, at some point it all comes down to the same point: How do we finance our project? There are different ideas and initiatives out there already to help energy cooperatives finance their projects, and a number of members have contacted us on different occasions to ask whether we can help. For this reason, we would like to facilitate a group conversation to discuss how to leverage existing platforms more effectively to help established and new REScoops get their projects financed. The objective is to identify whether any of the existing platforms could fit the bill, see whether they would need to be adapted/expanded in any way, and who would be interested in potentially being involved in such an effort.

2 The advocacy work of the Federation

The development of policies that support the creation and growth of energy communities is essential for the promotion of the community energy movement. That is exactly the priority of the advocacy work of the Federation: to represent the interest of citizens and energy cooperatives in Brussels, to participate in the EU debates around the energy transition and related sectors, and make sure the perspective of citizens and cooperatives is heard and included in new policies and policy updates. The position of the Federation towards all different policy topics is framed in the Advocacy Working Group, where we share sector related information and create a forum for exchange for our members to contribute their views. Our online platform and regular online meetings allow members to stay informed about the EU debate from an insider's perspective, and get relevant insights for

14:00 – 16:00 Working Group
Session 2

advancing the advocacy in their own countries. The participation of our members in the Advocacy Working Group is crucial, as the group discussions being held there shape the policy of the Federation. The objective of this session is to dive into the policy work being conducted into the advocacy working group and share our views regarding the next steps of the Federation towards the transition from the transposition to the implementation phase of the Clean Energy for All Europeans Directives.

1 Sharing e-cars through The Mobility Factory

A growing number of cooperatives from within our network are looking into e-car sharing. To prevent them from reinventing the wheel REScoop.eu supports The Mobility Factory, an IT platform and App that enables cooperatives to share and operate e-cars in their respective communities. Have you ever wondered what e-car sharing is all about, whether it is actually something for you, how the TMF platform looks like and what it can do for you and your cooperative? Here's your chance! Come and join our session and get answers from cooperatives who are already implementing e-carsharing services today.

2 Citizen-led renovation: sustainable renovation of homes and buildings by cooperatives

Cooperatives are increasingly offering building renovation services to their members and communities, improving the energy efficiency of homes, offices, and communal buildings. We call this 'citizen-led renovation'. They are doing this for a variety of reasons - reducing emissions, invest in the community, reduce energy poverty, or simply reduce energy costs and improve the living environment - and in different ways. Join us in this session to learn more about what citizen led renovation involves, and be inspired by what cooperatives in different countries are already doing!

This session will also serve as the kick-off of a 'renovation fair': a series of seminars and training on sustainable renovation of buildings organized by REScoop.eu and the members of the citizen-led renovation working group.

3 Smart home solution: can cooperatives make it happen?

"The Clean Energy Package has acknowledged the role of citizens initiatives under the term "Citizen Energy Communities" and opened the way to new services like "aggregation" or "joint renewable energy self-consumption". This is a great opportunity for energy cooperatives to pioneer smart communities to accelerate the spread of renewables and the decentralisation of our energy system. The REScoopVPP project is gathering cooperatives to develop and demonstrate a full cooperative smart community ecosystem. This ecosystem includes an open source smart home controller to make existing buildings more flexible and also community tools to support the different services offered by cooperatives to their members.

This workshop aims at getting feedback from our fellow European cooperatives and broader community on our REScoopVPP developments. After a detailed introduction, we will split into 2 break-out sessions:

The first one will focus on your ideas for the future energy market. What should the ecosystem offer for your cooperative to start collaborating with us? What services should these tools focus on? The second one will target our more geeky technology freak, and will introduce the developed tools and related technology. We'll show you how it works, what technology is used and where to start yourself!

Come and join us to contribute to our shared vision on smart communities and bring your techy colleagues!"

19:30 – 21:00 Movie
Screening

We the Power, The future of energy is community-owned.

Screening of the community energy movie by Patagonia. Introduction by Beth Thoren, environmental action and initiatives director about what role can business stakeholders play within the energy democracy movement in Europe?

APRIL 23

10:00 – 12:00 Governance of energy cooperative - inside and out

The governance model of energy cooperatives is one of the main aspects that sets them apart from other types of energy companies, sometimes even other types of cooperatives. But how do we position ourselves in the outside world? And how can we live this governance model even in our daily team operations? This session will touch on two aspects of governance in the world of energy cooperatives:

Breakout 1: External - There are Citizen Energy Cooperatives and Financial Energy Cooperatives. How do they relate to one another and what are the practical implications for their respective members?

Breakout 2: Internal - How can we assure democratic and autonomous team management in growing organisations?

Each of the two breakout groups will have one or several experts sharing their insights, and leave ample room for discussion with the entire group.

14:00 – 16:00 Cooperativism for a just energy transition: bringing everyone on board!

We have all heard before that the transition to a sustainable and resilient future energy system should “leave no one behind”. Regardless of income, homeownership, gender or race, all citizens should be able to benefit from participating in the energy transition. And, in fact, the energy transition needs the active participation of everyone. While renewable energy cooperatives are rooted in broader visions of social justice and community development, the movement faces its own challenges of inclusion/exclusion. In the first part of this session, we will look into the energy and gender nexus, and highlight gender-just renewable energy communities, and the instruments that are (or can be) used to enable the involvement of more women in the sector. In the second part of this session, we will look into the (interconnected) issue of energy poverty and discuss inspiring examples of REScoops that are actively engaged in tackling the issue of energy poverty.

19:30 – 21:00 Technical
Trainings

1 How to build an energy cooperative ?

If you are starting a cooperative project, or if you already are well on your way, there are questions and milestones that we all experience. During this workshop, we will present the tools produced by the federation and provide guidance on two main aspects of the cooperative construction : financing and community building. During the first hour, expert speakers will discuss the financing of projects through concrete examples, sharing their experience of finding and mobilizing investments for cooperative projects. A discussion with participants will then be facilitated. The second hour will focus on community building. Once again through concrete examples, cooperative leaders will talk about how they mobilized neighbourhoods. A discussion with participants will then be facilitated. The session will also present resources currently hosted on the federation's website. If you are building or growing a young cooperative project, or simply curious: this session is for you.

2 Community One-Stop-Shop: Discover new tools and ways to work among energy communities

Tired of endlessly searching the Internet for information or trainings on specific elements of your REScoop's journey? Looking for quick access to an expert on a specific topic or question? We'd like to introduce you to the ECCO One-Stop-Shop, a collaborative online platform that was developed as part of an Interreg NWE project and that will be integrated into the REScoop.eu website to serve our members and energy communities more broadly to find resources and tools, connect with other communities, and access trainings in no time.

3 Storytelling

How can you get more visibility for your community energy story? How can we make our community energy narrative impactful and powerful? In this session we'll share with you a broad variety of insights and best practices from our network. Let's get your story out there!

APRIL 24

10:00 – 12:00 General
Assembly

Our AGM will guide you through the main achievements in 2020, giving insights into the financial results and the projects we've been taking on. Together we will make plans for the new year, discuss the budget and elect a new board of directors.

14:00 – 16:00 Board Meeting

The newly elected board of directors will gather shortly after the AGM to decide on the positions. The board will elect a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.