

Interreg
Danube Region



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Professional online roundtable on creating appropriate legal environment for the energy communities in the Danube Region

Round table 1 – Main findings (Czech Republic)

11.9. 2024, JAIP o.p.s.

The Role of Municipalities in Energy Communities

- **Definition and Importance:** Energy communities are collective initiatives where municipalities, local authorities, and citizens collaborate to generate and share renewable energy.
- **Municipalities as Key Stakeholders:** In the Czech Republic, municipalities play a critical role in establishing and supporting energy communities, often acting as the primary facilitators.
- **Local Action Groups:** The Local Action Groups (LAGs) are instrumental in training coordinators and providing a framework for energy community development.

Key Legal Structures in the Czech Republic

- **Registered Associations:** Most energy communities are established as registered associations under the Czech Civil Code, with profits reinvested into the community.
- **Cooperatives:** Cooperatives offer a more flexible legal form, allowing members to receive up to 30% of the profits while sharing responsibility for debts.
- **Regulatory Influence:** National and EU regulations, such as Act 458/2000 Coll. and LEX RES II, shape the legal options available to energy communities.

Challenges and Opportunities in Energy Communities

- **Funding Models:** Energy communities rely on diverse funding models including membership fees, bank loans, crowdfunding, and cooperative shareholding.
- **Investment Challenges:** Associations face challenges in securing loans as profits cannot be distributed to members, while cooperatives offer greater financial flexibility.
- **Subsidies and Grants:** Government grants and subsidies are crucial in setting up renewable energy projects and offsetting initial costs for communities.

**Thanks for your
attention!**

NRGCOM - Creating appropriate operational conditions for renewable energy communities in the Danube Region

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