



LECO

Local Energy Communities



Community Based Energy Solutions for Remote Areas

- August 2017 – July 2020
- 1.901.925,54 €
- Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) Programme
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Project Partners: Centria University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Western Development Commission (Ireland), Luleå University of Technology (Sweden), Renewable Energies Agency (Germany)*, Jokkmokk municipality (Sweden), The Gaeltacht Authority (Ireland), Lohtaja Energy Cooperative (Finland)

*Outside the NPA Programme area

The LECO project shall respond on the needs of remote communes and settlements for a sustainable energy supply. The goal is to combine new innovative technologies with locally available natural resources (wind, hydro, solar and biomass, including waste from households, agriculture and industries), based on the model of local cycle economy.

The project will bring together the combined experience, knowledge and expertise of the project partners and provide conditions for creation of energy self-sufficient Local Energy Communities (LECO). The central European "Energy Village" concept will be adapted for

the NPA / project partner regions. Existing cases of Energy Villages inside and outside the NPA area will be analyzed in form of documented cases and shall deliver guidance about success factors and pitfalls for Energy Villages.

Practical guidelines to develop a LECO will be made, which can be used for transferring the results to other locations. The objective is that the Local Energy Communities created during the project will be self-sufficient in energy and operate using local renewable resources, as well as promote the awareness of energy self-sufficient communities.