



Report on capacity building activities

European Crowdfunding Network
Contributors - all CitizEE Partners

CitizEE

*Scaling up Public Energy Efficiency Investments via Standardising
Citizen Financing Schemes*

www.citizee.eu



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TECHNICAL REFERENCES

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Description of the deliverable content and purpose

This report on capacity building activities provides an overview of the CITIZEE Capacity Building activities. The activities will consist in training workshops and webinars. Overall, 3 capacity building workshops are foreseen, bringing together experts from the EU regions/municipalities/cities representations and clusters or networks and other stakeholders interested in implementing CFs4EE Financing Schemes for energy efficiency projects. Furthermore, a webinar series will be coordinated under this task.

This report reflects the current state of the art of the capacity building activities. So far, no capacity building workshop has taken place, as planned dates (in June 2020 and then in October 2020) had to be cancelled due to the sanitary crisis. However, the date and agenda for the first capacity building workshop are now fixed for June 2021 and the other workshops will follow. With regard to the webinars, the topics and envisioned dates for the series of 6 webinars has been planned, and the first webinar has been delivered in April 2021.



1. Capacity Building activities

1.1. Overview

The capacity building activities are supposed to take place during the second and third project year and include training workshops and webinars. To increase the number of regions involved in the project's activities, ECN has planned to organise a minimum of 3 workshops. Originally, those were intended to be held in Brussels. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, ECN had the activities a bit on hold to observe the situation of the further development of the pandemic. Therefore, the capacity building activities are starting with a slight delay and will take place online.

The intention is to invite interested stakeholders, such as EU regions, municipalities or city councils and clusters or networks and other stakeholders aiming to learn more on implementing CFs4EE Financing Schemes for energy efficiency projects. During these workshops, these stakeholders will get basic and more advanced knowledge on financial structures and learn from each other's experiences. Each workshop will include a minimum number of 20 participants and will last one full day in presence and a half day in an online setting.

Furthermore, ECN will organise at least 6 webinars (Each of them lasting 30 minutes and attended by minimum 15 participants) aimed to inform stakeholders in a short and straightforward way about the most important facts about CFs4EE Financing Schemes for energy efficiency and to provide insights on how to take advantage from specific financial structures at different project and/or company life cycle stages.

2. Capacity Building Workshops

2.1. Background

The capacity building workshops were intended to start already in May 2020. At that time, ECN had planned to organise a capacity building workshop co-located with the yearly CrowdCamp focussing on sustainable finance, organised by the European Crowdfunding Network in Prague in June 2020. Unfortunately, in March 2020 ECN had to cancel the event, a small part was moved online – but at that moment ECN thought that it is better to wait instead of having an online workshop.



Figure 1: 5th ECN CrowdCamp announce



ECN then selected the World Sustainable Energy days as location for the first workshop, foreseen in October 2020 – but the event was again cancelled. Finally, the first capacity building workshop will take place in June 2021 again within the framework of the World Sustainable Energy Days. The agenda of the workshop can be found below. The following training workshops will be scheduled for Autumn 2021 – ideally physically in Brussels or at another event – if not possible the workshop will be held online.

2.2. Agenda of the 1st CitizEE Capacity Building Workshop

CitizEE Capacity Building Workshop
“Developing public-backed financing schemes to leverage private & citizen finance for Energy Efficiency”
World Sustainable Energy Days – 25th February 2021

Draft Agenda

Introduction - 5 min

Session 1 - CitizEE and the implications of the EU Renovation Wave. A regulatory Overview – 10 min
Maximilian Wimmer (SUER)

Session 2 - CitizEE public-backed Investment Platforms (IP) and CFs4EE Financing Schemes

- Understanding why and how using public financing instruments to leverage private finance – 15 min
Jean-François Marchand (ENERGINVEST)
- Overview of potential Structured Financial Solutions using public and private funds – 30 min
Miguel Casas (ENERGINVEST)
- How to integrate Citizen Funding in Structured Financial Schemes – learnings from CitizEE – 15 min
Jean-François Marchand (ENERGINVEST)
- Q&A - 10 min

Coffee Break 10min

Session 3 - Implementation status in the Pilot Countries

- Portugal – Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency (CFs4EE) structured on a Loan Fund to fund EE investment in the community building sector alongside with a crowdfunding platform - 20min
Luis Couto (GO PARITY)
- Belgium – Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency (CFs4EE) structured on a co-financing agreement to fund deep renovation EPC contracts in the education sector through ESCOs/ESCOops - 20min
Jonathan Saelen (VEB)
- Croatia - Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency (CFs4EE) structured on a public-private on-lending arrangement to fund solar photovoltaics investment in public and private buildings alongside with a crowdfunding platform - 20min
Velimir Segon (REGEA)



- Lithuania – Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency (CFs4EE) structured on a public-private on-lending arrangement to fund solar photovoltaics investment in public and private buildings alongside with a crowdfunding platform - 20min
Gytis Zakevicius (VIPA)
- Q&A - 10min

Final Remarks

3. Webinar Series

The CITIZEE project is planning to launch a series of 6 capacity building webinars starting in April 2021.

The goal of the CITIZEE webinar series is to guide and train European public authorities to scale up investments for energy efficiency in the building sector through attracting citizen private investments.

In the building sector it is crucial that energy efficiency financing models are consolidated through innovative financing solutions that leverage the cooperation between all actors (project promoters, public/private financial institutions, end users), especially with citizens. Not only that, but it is essential to establish mechanisms that enable making more effective use of public funding, mobilising private financing towards large-scale energy efficiency programmes, and helping to overcome specific barriers faced by energy citizens and communities' projects wishing to invest in sustainable projects.

CitizEEs' project strategy is therefore conceived to support public authorities with a twofold purpose:

- **Setting up Citizen Investment Platforms.** These investment platforms backed public funds (namely the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) re considered as Investment facilities channelling public and private financing from several co-investors to provide financial products to designated final beneficiaries and/or projects.
- **Developing, testing and evaluating tailored and widely adopted citizen financing schemes for energy efficiency.** Citizen financing mechanisms, such as crowdfunding or cooperative funding will be matched with public financing instruments.

The 6 capacity building webinars are:

- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 1 – APRIL 2021 - Exploring** how European public authorities can scale up investments for energy efficiency.
- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 2 – JUNE 2021 - Learning from Best Practices I** - How public authorities can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency.
- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 3 – SEPTEMBER 2021 - Learning from Best Practices II** - How public authorities can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency.
- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 4 – OCTOBER 2021 Exploring** how public authorities can set up financial instruments in support of projects that seek finance through crowdfunding campaigns.
- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 5 – NOVEMBER 2021 - Learning from Best Practices III** – How crowdfunding platforms can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency.
- **CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 6 – JANUARY 2022 - Learning from Best Practices IV** - How regional agencies can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency in combination with crowdfunding.



3.1 First Webinar

The goal of the first CITIZEE webinar series is to guide and train European public authorities to scale up investments for energy efficiency in the building sector through attracting citizen private investments.

This first out of six webinars will provide an overview and introduction mainly for public authorities such as municipalities and regions on where and how to start when assessing energy efficiency investments.

Interested participants will learn in this webinar about:

- the motivations and means behind different financial instruments, but also
- get hints for implementing and building their customized financing scheme, for
- launching large scale investment programs for the renovation of their buildings and
- attracting greater levels of private-sector investments, namely from citizens and communities.

The agenda of the first webinar can be found below:

How can European public authorities scale up investments for energy efficiency? - CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 1

When? 27th April 15:00-16.30

Register here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SNMuYG2PTAWtQvYEibIYIA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Agenda and Speakers:

- How does CitizEE support European public authorities to scale up investments for energy efficiency in the building sector?
Conny Weber, European Crowdfunding Network
- European Investment Bank insights: The EU's climate bank– Financing Climate action and environmental sustainability
Robert Pernetta, European Investment Bank
- Key steps public authorities should follow when evaluating and selecting the structured financial solutions that could best answer to their needs
Jean-François Marchand, Energinvest
- Q&A 30 min



3.2 Planning of Webinar Series

This first Webinar will be followed by a Series of 5 webinars.

CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 2 – JUNE 2021

Learning from Best Practices – How public authorities can set up investment facilities channelling public and private financing from several co-investors based on the example of a public-private on-lending arrangement.



CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 3 – SEPTEMBER 2021

Learning from Best Practices – How public authorities can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency (CFs4EE) structured on a co-financing agreement to fund deep renovation EPC contracts through ESCOs.



CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 4 – OCTOBER 2021

This Webinar explores how public authorities can set up financial instruments in support of projects that seek finance through crowdfunding campaigns.



CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 5 – NOVEMBER 2021

Learning from Best Practices – How crowdfunding platforms can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency.



CITIZEE WEBINAR SERIES 6 – NOVEMBER 2021

Learning from Best Practices – How regional agencies can set up Citizen Financing Schemes for Energy Efficiency in combination with crowdfunding.

