



Achieving more together: TANDEMS takes stock and presents new tools

Energy communities are shaping the future of energy supply. The EU LIFE project TANDEMS has shown how strong partnerships between citizens and municipalities can make this vision a reality in Europe. After 2.5 years of intensive work, the consortium presents its project results.

TANDEMS - Working together for Europe's energy transition

The TANDEMS project is nearing its successful conclusion. Over the past 30 months, the partners from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, and the Netherlands have collaborated explored and developed new ways of promoting energy sharing and cooperation between local citizen-led energy communities and municipalities.

The consortium presented its results at the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) - the ideal stage to showcase the innovations achieved and at the same time provide new impetus.

TANDEMS Achievements

- **Noticeable energy savings:** With the initiatives supported by TANDEMS, more than **10,1 GWh per year of additional energy** can be produced locally and sustainably across Europe since the start of the project - a significant contribution to the energy transition.
- **Broad social impact:** **More than 5,000 citizens** have been reached through the project activities and have become enthusiastic about the idea of energy communities – a strong sign of growing local participation. From the beginning, there was a strong emphasis on including various stakeholders, successfully implementing techniques such as the participation ladder, justice frameworks, and others to ensure inclusive and fair engagement.
- **Laying the foundations for the future:** TANDEMS has not only strengthened legal and business frameworks for energy communities, but has also strategically integrated social elements into the energy transition - for a more equitable and inclusive transformation of European energy markets.
- **European recognition:** A project supported by TANDEMS and a colleague from the project were nominated for the EUSEW Awards 2025:
 - **Sophie Loots** was nominated in the "Women in Energy" category for her outstanding commitment to the ZuidTrant energy community and beyond.
 - The **Community Energy for Social Housing project in Otterbeek** was nominated for the Local Energy Action Award as an example of innovative energy solutions in social housing.

Selected TANDEMS Results

TANDEMS provides various tools and guidelines for the successful establishment, operation and further development of energy communities. The innovative approaches pursued were tested in practice as part of pilot projects to ensure direct applicability and the greatest possible support for new and existing initiatives. The findings were presented in a communicative manner - with a heartfelt invitation to recreate and reproduce:

- **Open Collaboration Guidelines:** The Open Collaboration Model offers a practical framework for transparent and inclusive collaboration in energy projects. Key methods such as Learning History Workshops, the Systemic Bullet Journal, and Systemic Iceberg Model are featured in the Open Collaboration Model Guidelines: https://lifetandems.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Tandems_An-open-Collaboration-Model.pdf
- **Business Model Guidelines for Energy Communities:** Supports initiatives in the development of economically viable community models: https://lifetandems.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Tandems_Cost-Price-Model_web.pdf
- **Knowledge base for chatbots:** A ready-to-use, tried-and-tested background document that enables chatbots to provide well-founded answers on the subject of energy communities and how they work and can be supplemented with operator-specific information. Information: office@oikoplus.com

The findings are intended to strengthen new energy communities across Europe - in order to drive forward a socially just and sustainable energy transition from the bottom up.

Contact

TANDEMS – Encouraging the Collaboration Between Municipalities and Energy Cooperatives for a Just and Accelerated Energy Transition

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