

TANDEMS Documentary Released – A Glimpse into Europe's Citizen Energy Future

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The EU-funded **LIFE TANDEMS** project has released its official **documentary film**, presenting two innovative approaches that make community energy more fair, transparent, and collaborative. In just 15 minutes, the film takes viewers to **Belgium**, **Bulgaria**, and the **Netherlands**, where municipalities and citizens are co-creating new business and governance models for shared renewable energy.

Particularly, the movie features:

- 1. **The Cost-Price Model** a transparent, non-profit pricing model for renewable electricity. Developed and tested in real-world pilots, it ensures that energy prices reflect the true production cost keeping energy affordable while empowering local users and preventing profit extraction.
- 2. **The Open Collaboration Model** a practical, step-by-step framework to build strong local partnerships between municipalities and citizen-led initiatives. It helps define clear roles, shared responsibilities, and lasting trust among all actors involved in community energy.

Filmed on location in **Brussels, Mechelen, Burgas, Gabrovo, and Doetinchem**, the TANDEMS documentary showcases real people and places where these ideas have taken root — from social housing cooperatives to pioneering municipal energy communities.

"TANDEMS shows that Europe's energy transition is not only about technology — it's about designing fair business models that work for people and places," said Thomas Stollenwerk from OIKOPLUS, who led the production.

The film is available with English subtitles on the <u>TANDEMS website</u> and YouTube. It forms part of the project's final communication campaign and will remain accessible as a long-term resource for training, policy, and public awareness.

Watch the documentary here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPXgOvlmRrU

