

ALPGRIDS ALPINE POLICY ROUNDTABLE

17th November 2021 as a hybrid event

The European Round Table of the Alpgrids Project, called **“Local Energy Communities: «A Win for All in the Energy Transition»** was held on 17th November 2021 as a hybrid event: online and in Lyon (10 am - 12 pm).

The event was organized within the [5th EUSALP Energy Conference](#), during which, for the first time, have taken place as three separate seminars on some of the burning topics in energy and sustainability on regional and transnational level:

Hydrogen as an energy vector in transport, **Local Energy Communities**, and the perspectives of the New European Bauhaus for a carbon-neutral future.



SAVE THE DATE 5th EUSALP Energy Conference

18.10.2021 | 14:00 - 15:30 h | Alpine Regions as Initiators of Hydrogen Mobility (online event)
17.11.2021 | 10:00 - 12:00 h | Local Energy Communities - A Win for All in the Energy Transition (online event)
26.01.2022 | 09:00 - 12:00 h | New European Bauhaus - Perspectives for the Alpine Region. Klimahouse 2022. Bolzano/Bozen, Italy

Join the EUSALP Energy Conference and trigger the change: no energy transition without dialogue.

Stay tuned for further information!

Logos: EUSALP, Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, Interreg Alpine Space, ACTION GROUP 9, 3RD THEMATIC POLICY AREA "ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY", 80 million people, 7 countries, 48 regions, mountains and plains, The project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

www.alpine-region.eu

Topics

The conference showcased concrete initiatives in Alpine territories and discuss key opportunities and challenges. Based on the findings of the ALPGRIDS Alpine Space project, a roundtable discussion addressed policy gaps and reflected on supportive policy measures and instruments.

The European Round Table took place at a crucial stage for the development of Local Energy Communities (LECs). Member States are in fact in the process of transposing the RESII directive into national legislation and at the same time various initiatives are already active to support the creation of local energy communities that provide various types of energy services.

Some of these important initiatives were presented during the European Round Table, giving space to the experiences gained by some European projects on the subject ([SHREC Interreg Europe](#) and [DECIDE H2020](#)) and the results they have achieved.

Stakeholders involvement, the role of local and regional public bodies (regions, provinces), enabling policies and innovative technologies seen from the perspective of DSOs to support the development of LECs, are the themes that guided the first part of the discussion.

The second part of the European Round Table focused on the theme of policy gaps and policy instruments, presenting the key results of the ALPGRIDS project.

This second session was conducted in interactive mode. After focusing on the Policy gaps at National level, identified by the project partners AURA-EE and 4WANDER, the part dedicated to barriers and recommendations for policy makers was launched.

During the interactive session the Alpgriids project consortium shared with the participants the set of barriers and policy recommendations for the development of LECs at European level. The project partners UNIGE, IRE Liguria and ENERGAP framed the situation at national level in Italy and Slovenia by providing practical examples.

In the final part of the event, the participants were able to express their preferences and comments on the barriers and recommendations identified by the project consortium via the [PADLET platform](#).

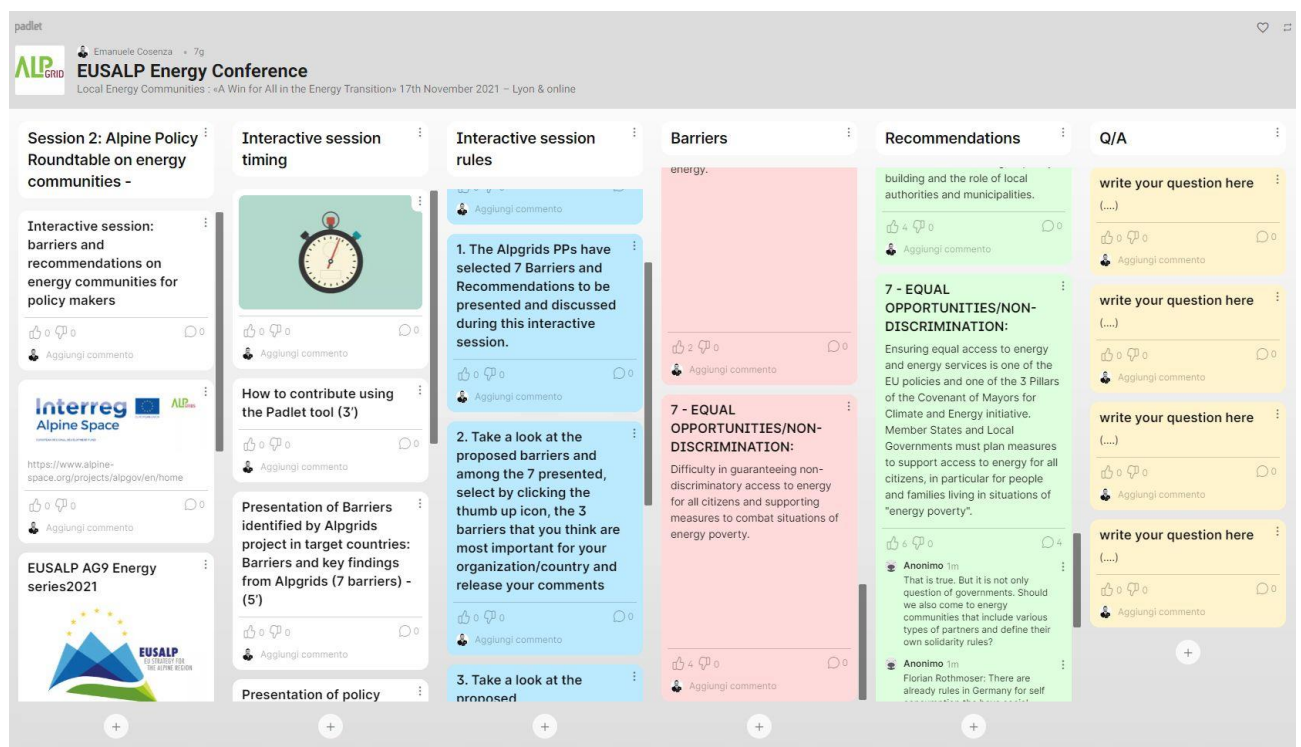
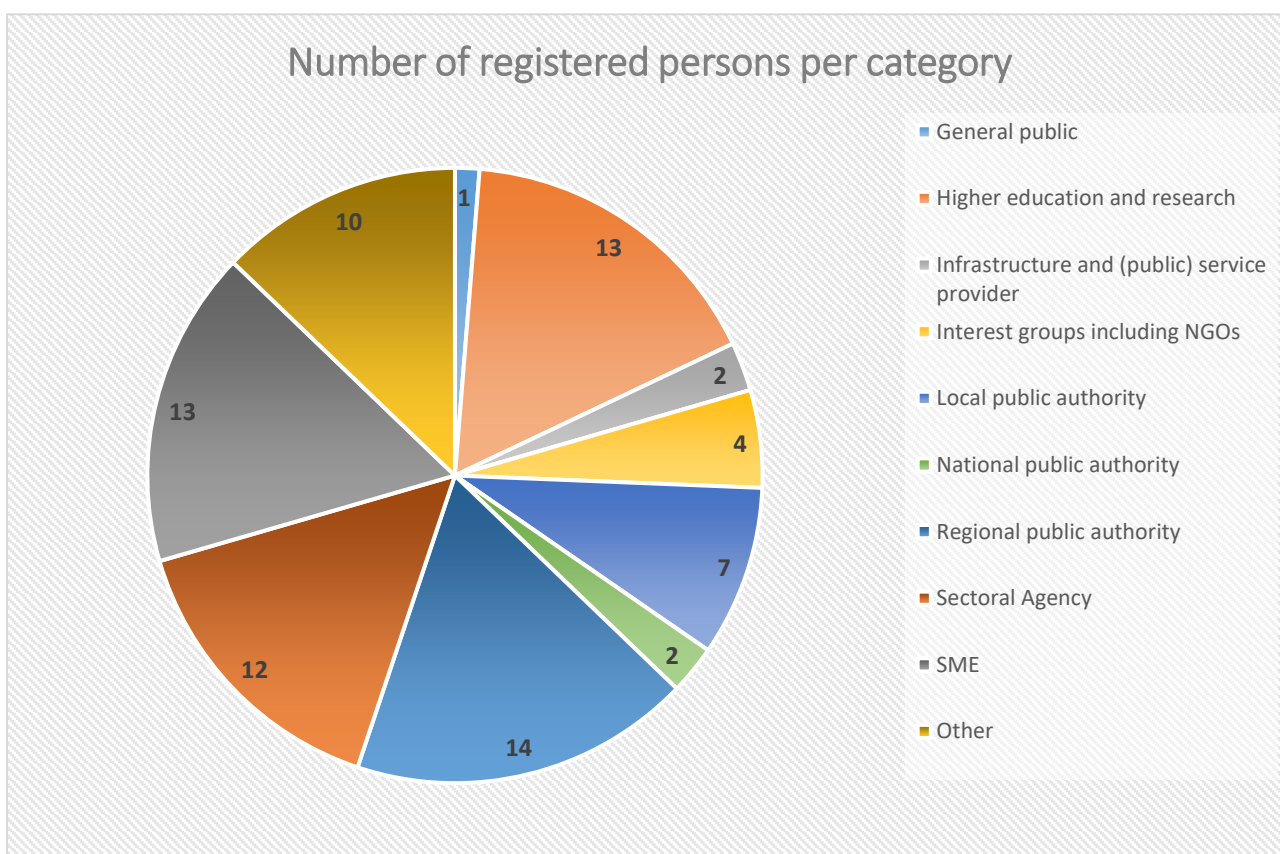


Figure 1 Padlet session: votes and comments on key barriers and recommendations for Policy-makers

Participants

The European Round Table of the Alpgriids Project saw a large participation. In total, 78 registered persons of different backgrounds and nature demonstrated their interest in the event. The variety of subjects who participated in the table demonstrates that the development of Local Energy Communities is a complex process that involves a large number of different stakeholders. Representatives from the research world, energy infrastructure providers, NGOs, local, regional and national authorities, agencies and representatives of SMEs took part in the discussion by providing their point of view and contributing to the identification of the most crucial barriers and recommendations.

Category	Number of registered persons
General public	1
Higher education and research	13
Infrastructure and (public) service provider	2
Interest groups including NGOs	4
Local public authority	7
National public authority	2
Regional public authority	14
Sectoral Agency	12
SME	13
Other	10
TOTAL	78



Outputs

From the interactive session conducted using the PADLET tool, the following outputs emerged:

The stakeholders who took part in the European Round Table considered crucial, among the identified barriers, those relating to **administrative aspects** (9 votes), those relating to **financial aspects** (10 votes) and those relating to **accounting / contractual issues** (6 votes). To these is added the attention shown

also with regard to the barriers relating to the **aspects of equal opportunities and non-discrimination** (4 votes).

If we look at the results that emerged with regard to the recommendations, it is clear that the stakeholders show particular interest in the simplification of **administrative procedures** and in the creation of technical-information desks (One-stop-shops) to support citizens and stakeholders (10 votes). As regards the **legislative aspects**, it is clear that the need of stakeholders is focused on the fact that lawmakers should adopt the legislative framework on renewable energy communities as quickly as possible (7 votes). Guaranteed prices for exported electricity, tax incentives on renewable hardware, fair remuneration of excess energy and the introduction of incentives that reward on a dynamic basis are aspects that have garnered particular interest in the **financial recommendation** (5 votes). Last but not least, the issue of **equal access to energy and energy services** as EU policies and third pillar of the Covenant of Mayors in support of access to energy for all citizens (7 votes), in particular for people and families living in situations of "energy poverty".

The final output of the European Round Table will be represented by the finalization of the document containing the barriers and recommendations for policy-makers as a product of the activity of the Alpgriids Consortium. All contributions and opinions that emerged from the discussion of the Round Table will be duly reported and integrated into what will be the official position paper for European policy makers.