



International Summer Course on Energy Communities: Empowerment through Sustainable Energy.

4-5 July 2024. Bilbao and Urdaibai (Gernika-Lumo & Forua)

Introduction: Welcome to the International Summer Course on Energy Communities, an enriching experience designed to explore the transformative potential of positive energy neighborhoods in building a sustainable future. During this day and a half, we will immerse ourselves in the opportunities that one-stop-shops offer, addressing theories, practical strategies and tangible experiences through living labs involving stakeholders in urban regeneration processes and guided tours of success stories.

Course Objective: The main objective of this course is to provide participants with a deep understanding of energy communities as an innovative model for sustainable energy generation and management. At the end of the course, participants will be trained to lead positive energy neighborhoods initiatives, implementing practical and sustainable solutions in their own environments.

- They will understand the key concepts of energy communities, including their definition, structure and operation.
- They will learn the best practices and success stories in the implementation of one-stop-shops in different urban districts and social realities. .
- They will learn about the living labs and their fundamental role in energy innovation, as well as specific examples of living labs and the results obtained.
- They will explore the importance of energy socialization and its impact on the community, including tools and approaches to encourage citizen participation in the energy transition.
- They will be able to apply the knowledge acquired in their own projects related to energy communities.



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Expected results:

1. **Comprehensive Understanding:** You will gain a deep understanding of the fundamental principles and benefits of energy communities and positive energy neighborhoods.
2. **Practical Skills:** You will acquire practical skills to design, implement and manage successful cases about stakeholders' involvement in urban regeneration processes.
3. **Meaningful Connections:** You will establish connections with experts and professionals from around the world, fostering collaboration and the continuous exchange of knowledge for sustainable development in the construction sector.

AGENDA

4th July Thursday. Bilbao

Auditorium in Bilbao Berrikuntza Factoria (Uribitarte Kalea, 6, Paseo Uribitarte, 3, 48001 Bilbao, Biscay)

9:15 - 10:00: Inaugural Session

Ignacio de la Puerta, Director for Territorial Planning and Urban Agenda, Basque Government

Momir Tabakovic, Senior Lecturer/Researcher University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien

Jokin Garatea, Director of the summer course and international manager at GAIA

Facilitator: Itziar Vidorreta, International Project Manager at GAIA

- Welcome and presentation of the program
- Overview of energy communities and positive energy districts
- Living Labs in energy efficiency and their fundamental role in energy renovation
- Introduction to the Opengela methodology
- An Overview of Energy Communities and Districts within the Prolight Project, Momir Tabakovic, Cordinator of the Prolight project

10:00 - 11:00: Principles and Benefits of Open Shops in Energy sustainability

Txari Vallejo, Responsible of VMMM

Rufino Hernández, University of the Basque Country CAVIAR Research Group



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Michael HEIDENREICH, Department of Renewable Energy University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien

Facilitator: Jokin Garatea, Director of the summer course and international manager at GAIA

- Exploring the fundamental principles
- Practical case studies highlighting tangible benefits
- Best practices in Opengela, Prolight and OpenLab

11:00 - 11:45: Living Labs and Engagement Strategies in energy communities

Jose Ramon Lopez, Project Manager at EVE

Irene Bartolami, Researcher at EURAC RESEARCH

Facilitator: Jokin Garatea, Director of the summer course and international manager at GAIA

- Share experiences in the creation of energy communities
- Engagement strategies and the identification of multiple benefits for citizens and neighborhoods

11:45 - 12:15: Coffee

12:15 - 13:15: Community Participation, transparency and support to citizens and Governance Models

Alessandro Rancati, EU Policy Lab and expert in the New European Bauhaus

Stefano Fava, Innovation Technology Senior Specialist at Planet Idea

Paula Ferrando Julià, Project Analyst at GNE Finance

Facilitator: Itziar Vidorreta, International Project Manager at GAIA

- Importance of community participation in the success of neighborhoods.
- Case studies highlighting effective governance models: Citizens Lab and Shape EU
- Guidelines and successful transparency support for social and affordable housing renovation

13:15 - 14:15: Innovative 360° Solutions for housing renovation to build energy positive districts

Pablo Agustin, Researcher at TECNALIA Research and Innovation



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Noelia Ortiz, Technical Director at BUILD INN

Vicky Mosteyrin, General Manager at Greenovate Europe

Facilitator: Itziar Vidorreta, International Project Manager at GAIA

- Exploration of the potential of renewable energy at district level
- Mapping of the innovative tech solutions and materials
- Successful Implementation in Birtuoss, drOp and Inbuilt EU projects

14:15 -15:15: Lunch

15:15 - 17:00: Field Visit to two Opengela in Bilbao: Otxarkoaga and Torreurizar

Day 2: 5th July Friday. Urdaibai (Gernika Lumo & Forua)

Auditorium in San Fidel Ikastola (Carlos Gangoiti Kalea, 11, 48300 Gernika-Lumo, Bizkaia)

9:00: Departure to Gernika-Lumo by Train

Meet at Zazpikaleak/ Casco Viejo train stop (Plazuela San Nikolas, 3 48006 Bilbao)

10:00 - 11:00: Field Visit to San Fidel Energy Community

11:00 – 11:30: The context of energy communities in Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve

Jose Maria Gorroño Echebarrieta, Major at Gernika-Lumo

Mikel Magunazelaia, Mayor at Forua

Javier Zuazola, Sales Manager in EDINOR

Facilitator: Itziar Vidorreta, International Project Manager at GAIA

- Welcome Mayors.
- Exploring the fundamental principles in Urdaibai
- Practical case studies highlighting tangible benefits

11:30 - 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 - 13:00: Sustainability and Scalability to build Positive Energy neighborhoods



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Ugaitz Gaztelu, Cofounder in View arkitektura and professor in the University of the Basque Country

Jokin Garatea, Sustainable Councilor at Forua

Olatz Irulegi, University of the Basque Country CAVIAR Research Group

Facilitator: Itziar Vidorreta, International Project Manager at GAIA

- Sustainable renovation models for energy efficiency Living Labs
- Adopting Nature Based Solutions in the area: iCOSHELL EU Project
- Best practices of Positive Energy neighborhoods

13:00 - 14:15: Closing and visit to NBS & Energy Efficiency Projects in Forua

14:15 pm - 15:30 pm: Closing Lunch

16:00 Departure to Bilbao by train

This course will provide participants with a complete immersion in the world of energy communities, combining theory, practical experiences and visits to success stories. We are excited to collaborate in building a more sustainable and community-based future through energy. We hope you make the most of this experience!



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