



1

# **SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY**

2

## WHAT IS SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP?



Prioritizes positive social impact over profit. Uses business approaches, innovation and collaboration to solve social and environmental challenges.

# 3

## CORE PRINCIPLES

### Innovation

Creative ideas overcome barriers.



### Community Empowerment

People contribute ideas, skills and resources.



### Collaboration & Co-Design

Communities co-create solutions.



### Long-Term Sustainability

Projects create lasting social, environmental and economic benefits.

### Leadership

Inspires people and drives action.



4

# FROM IDEAS TO COMMUNITY IMPACT



**Identify challenges**

**Engage the community**

**Co-design solutions**

**Mobilize resources**



**Implement solutions**

**Create positive impact**

# 5

## WHY IT MATTERS FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY

Social entrepreneurship helps communities turn opportunities into sustainable local action.

Community energy needs more than technology and financing. It also needs:

**TRUST**



**LEADERSHIP**



**COLLABORATION**



**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**



**LONG-TERM VISION**



# 6

## POSITIVE IMPACT FOR COMMUNITIES

### SOCIAL IMPACT



- Stronger communities
- Inclusion
- Participation
- Energy democracy

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



- Renewable energy
- Lower emissions
- Climate action
- Sustainable development

### ECONOMIC IMPACT



- Local investment
- New opportunities
- Jobs and skills
- Long-term resilience

# 7

# COMMUNITY-LED SUCCESS STORIES

## EWS Schönau (Germany)



Citizens took control of their energy system and built a renewable future.

## EcoPower (Belgium)



A citizen-led cooperative supplying green electricity to thousands of households.

8

# THE ENERGY TRANSITION WORKS BEST WHEN COMMUNITIES LEAD IT

Innovative, fair, and sustainable solutions that benefit people as well as markets.



**Interreg  
Danube Region**



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**



**DECA**

[www.interreg-danube.eu/deca](http://www.interreg-danube.eu/deca)