

**Interreg
Europe**



Co-funded by
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REC4EU

Renewable Energy Communities for EU regions

Europe, let's Cooperate!

From learning to policy change: REC4EU in Tuscany

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**AGENZIA REGIONALE
RECUPERO RISORSE**

**REGIONE
TOSCANA**



ARRR & Tuscany Region: our path to RECs

Role

- ARRR is the **in-house agency** of the Tuscany Region
- Since **2022**, it has been entrusted with key tasks on Renewable Energy Communities

What ARRR does

- **Support to RECs** through territorial facilitation, communication and technical assistance
- Development a **IT-platform** to map and monitor energy communities in Tuscany
- Lead Partner of **REC4EU project** (Interreg Europe, 2023, First Call)



REC4EU in a nutshell

Different regions, shared learning

REC4EU is the **first interregional cooperation project specifically supporting the uptake of Renewable Energy Communities** under the RED II framework.

The project brings together regions with different levels of experience, combining advanced contexts with others that are just starting to develop their first support and coordination tools.

Its main goal is **to strengthen the capacity of public authorities to govern and support the entire process**, fostering the involvement of relevant stakeholders.

REC4EU gathers **8 partners from 7 EU countries**, with the addition of **Serbia** and **Albania** as discovery partners starting from the third semester, further enriching the exchange of experiences and perspectives.



Project Key outputs

Results across partners regions - end of core phase

5 Policy improvements

Italy: New criteria in the ERDF Call



Poland: New Energy Policy Unit



Spain:

- a. New regulation on incentives
- b. improvement of the existing Energy transition offices



Finland: New criteria in the ERDF Call



Slovakia: Implementation of existing tools for emerging RECs



2 Pilot actions

1. **Belgium-France**
Inclusive RECs involving vulnerable people
Inspired by Torreblanca Illumina
2. **Spain**
REC on a public building
Inspired by CIRENA
and public building energy management





identified (SWOT Results)

The **SWOT analysis**, carried out within REC4EU, helped us better understand the regional context and identify key barriers to the development of Renewable Energy Communities.

In Tuscany, the main challenges included:

- **Limited access to financial resources** and difficulties in adopting innovative financing schemes (technical aspect)
- **Low involvement of economically disadvantaged groups**, with implications for energy poverty (social aspect)



During the project, some of these barriers have been progressively solved, particularly those related to regulatory uncertainties and the national incentive framework.

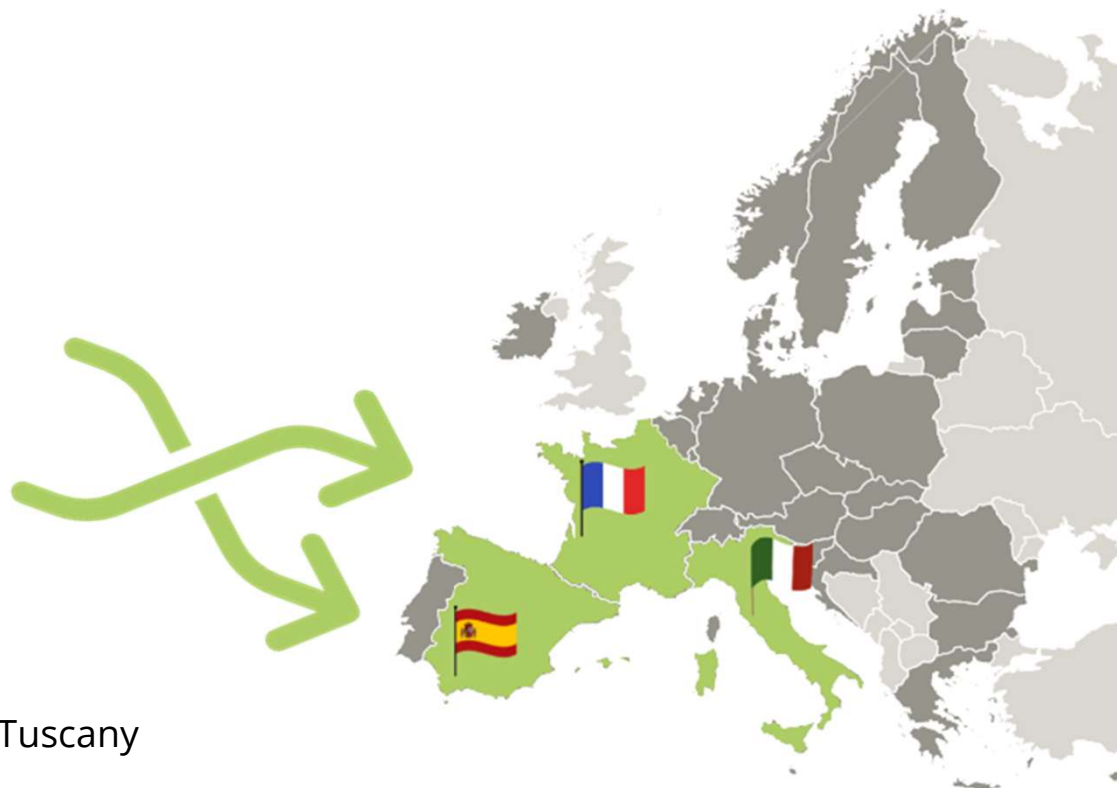
Strengths

Opportunities



Learning & Exchange: from inspiration to policy change

- Jan 2024 → Good practices identified
- Nov 2024 → Draft of the OP ERDF 2021-2027 call for proposal
- Jan 2025 → Trilateral exchange online with ALEC and AEA
- Feb 2025 → Final draft of the ERDF call for proposal
- Apr 2025 → Call officially launched = policy improvement achieved in Tuscany



Policy improvement: process and result



2nd meeting in Granada (Jan. 2024 - end of semester 2)



France



Nouvelle Aquitaine regional call supporting RES investments and pre-feasibility studies



Result:

Pre-feasibility costs now included as eligible expenses in the Tuscany call



Spain



Focus on socially inclusive energy communities and inclusion of social factors in the requirements for calls for proposals.



Result:

Social criteria already embedded but reinforced in the Tuscan call (vulnerable groups, social housing)

Impact of the improvement in Tuscany



What changed

- Pre-feasibility studies now funded
- Social criteria reinforced and inserted for the first time in a Tuscany call



First signals

Applications presented with these characteristics suggest that there was an actual need for such characteristics in regional tenders.



What's next

- Monitoring during the follow-up phase
 - Comparing indicators with the French call to further strengthen the regional monitoring framework
- Tracking the development of supported projects



What we have learned

- Early stage support is key for strong and long lasting RECs
- Good communication is vital to enlarge the message to others

Key take-aways for other regions

1

Involve in the project who has an active role in the policy is the key to achieving policy improvement. Also, for the managing authority, having a technical agency could fill the gap between technical needs and policy goals.

2

Success is built on the enthusiasm, expert knowledge and active listening of partners.



3

Cooperation between different subjects and projects sparks innovation, such as:

- IT monitoring platforms
- New professional profiles
- Memorandum of understanding of INVECE project transferred to REC4EU partner

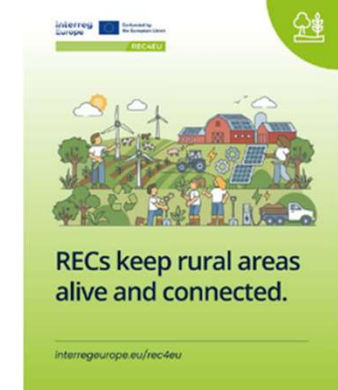
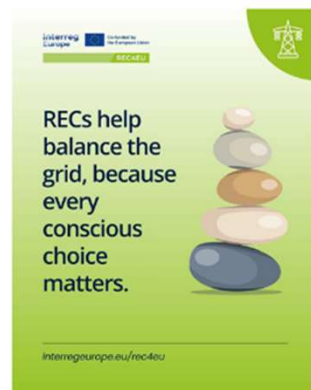
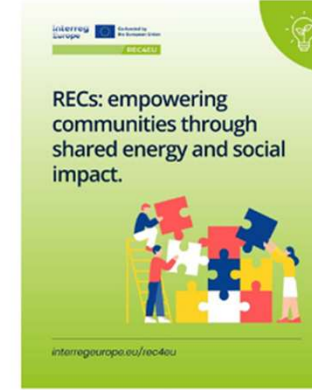
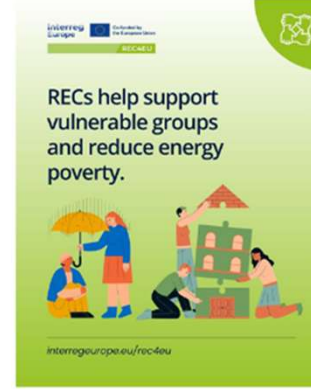
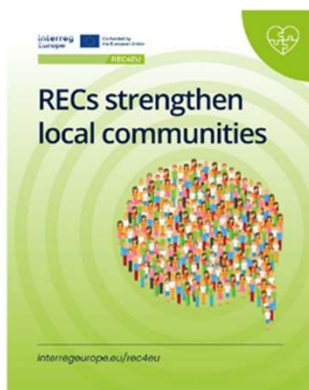
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Policy improvement means long-term integration into regional frameworks

**Time for
questions**



Engagement path: 20 infographics to involve communities



REC4EU

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RECs show that decentralisation is exactly what the energy transition needs.

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RECs offer support services that help you track your savings easily.

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Interreg Europe Co-funded by the European Union REC4EU

You can join a REC without investing: *consumers matter.*

Start with your idea, not with your wallet.

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You already have enough to start your REC.

Experts can guide you.

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Setting up an energy community is easier than you think!

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A REC is a *steady turtle*, climate change is a *fast hare*.

Starting now puts us in the race.

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RECs: building stronger communities through local energy

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Join a REC:
you're *safer* together and *stronger* too.

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Thank you!



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Visit the **ARRR** and **REC4EU** websites for more information:

www.arrr.it

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/rec4eu>

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REC4EU Renewable Energy Communities for EU regions
 REC4EU addresses challenges by reinforcing or creating regional support systems for the creation or development of RECs.

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