



Women in Europe for a Common Future | WECF

Democratization of energy supply with public participation

Example:

Development of energy cooperatives in Germany

Battling Energy Dictatorship, Achieving Energy Democracy

Kyiv, December 9, 2014



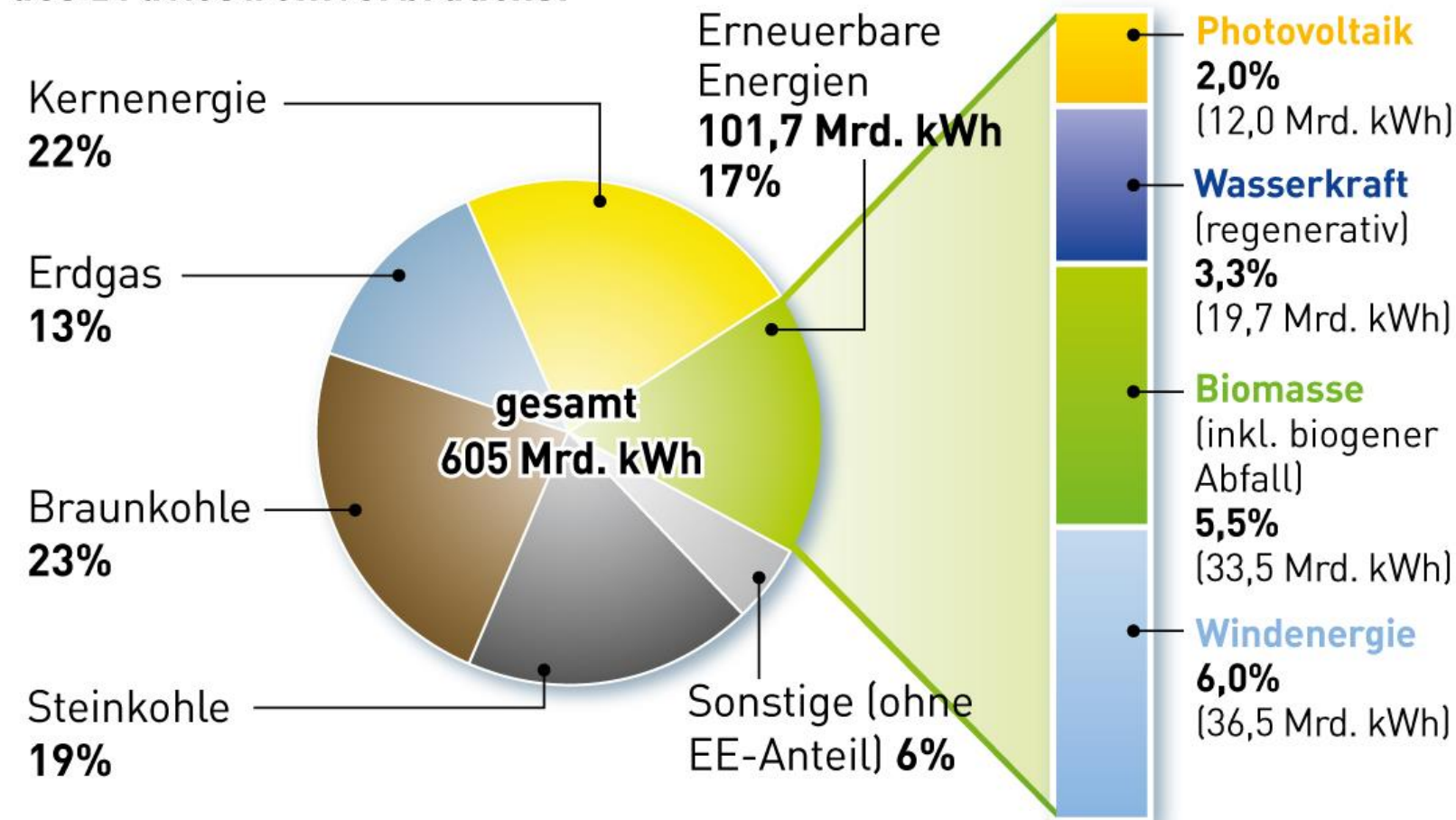
Energy Transition in Germany

- Broader than discussed: Nuclear phase out, increase renewable energy and energy efficiency, reduction of CO₂, Intelligent grid expansion / energy storage
 - Energy efficiency and energy saving: national action plan energy efficiency, 4.12.2014
 - Economic: Added value and new jobs (380.000 jobs 2013)
 - Legal framework: EEG, heating, mobility, fair cost allocation
 - Technology: power to heat/gas/liquid, storage, photovoltaic
 - Social/Public: is driven by citizens and communities
 - Ecological: clean energy supply is possible and affordable
 - Nearly 30% of electric energy production is renewable in 2014
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- ➔ Energy transition is Germany's largest post-war infrastructure project; strengthens economy and creates new jobs
 - ➔ Public participation is a very important element of the turnaround: shows democratization with high acceptance for big transformation
 - ➔ Interaction of participation and legal frame is THE success factor
 - ➔ **BOTTOM UP and TOP DOWN**

Electricity mix in Germany in 2010

Der Strommix in Deutschland im Jahr 2010

Erneuerbare Energien lieferten 16,8%
des Bruttostromverbrauchs.



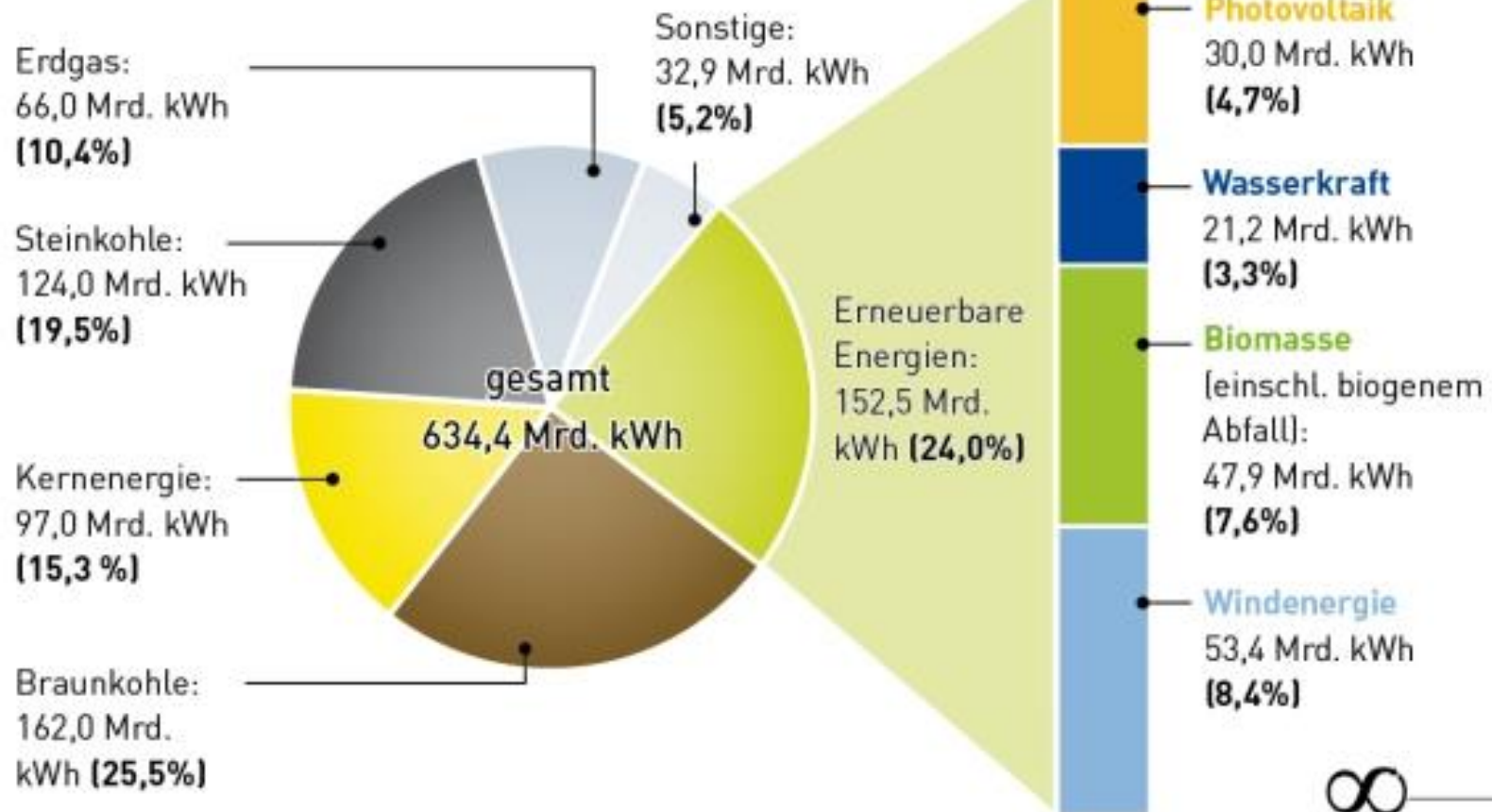
Quelle: AGEB, AGEE-Stat
Stand: 08/2011

www.unendlich-viel-energie.de

Electricity mix in Germany in 2013

Der Strommix in Deutschland im Jahr 2013

Mit 152,5 Milliarden Kilowattstunden lieferten Erneuerbare Energien 24 Prozent der Bruttostromerzeugung. Ihr Anteil am deutschen Stromverbrauch von 599,8 Milliarden Kilowattstunden betrug mehr als ein Viertel (25,4 %).



Public Participation

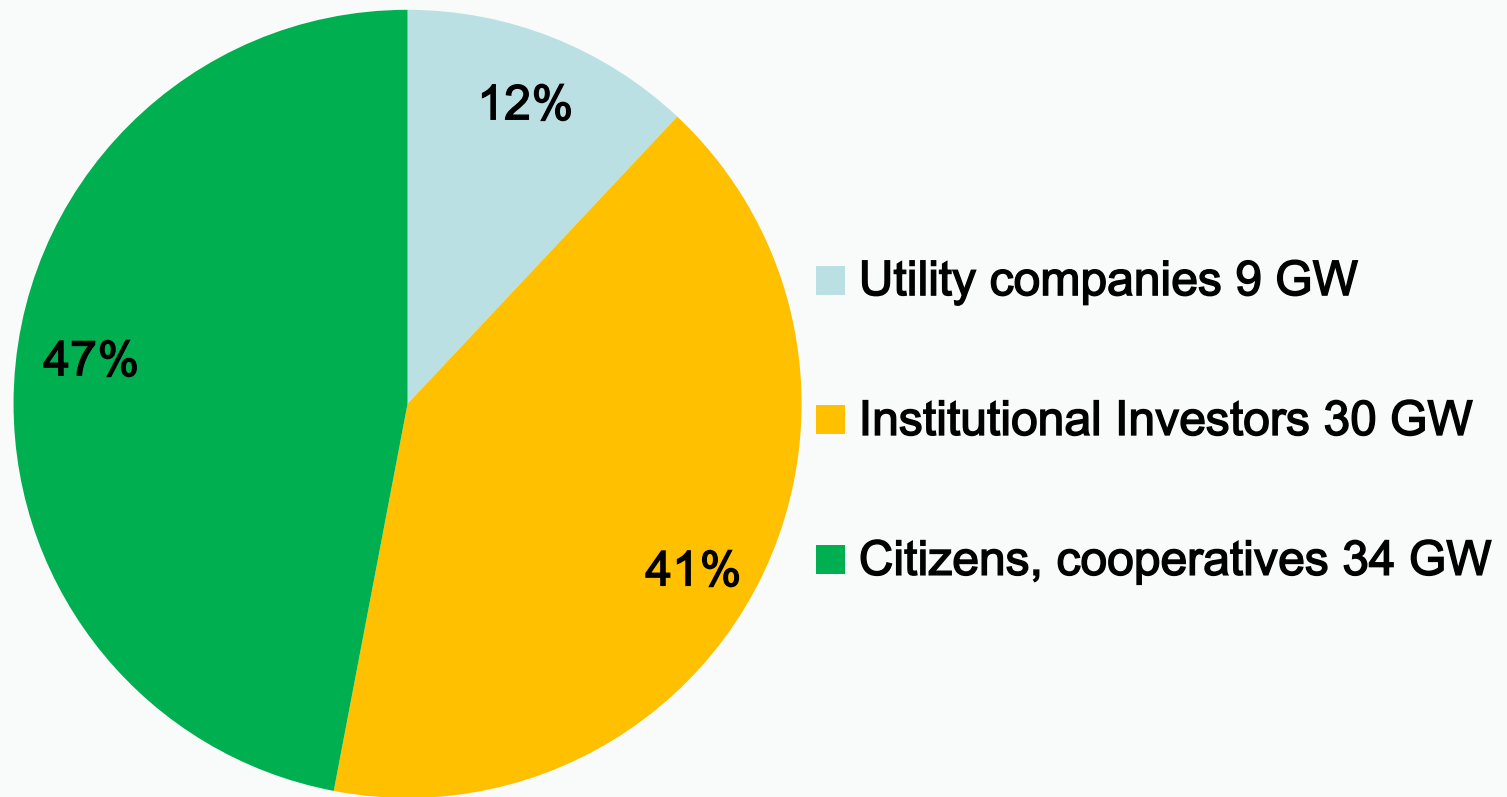
- Public participation combines responsibility of the citizens and entrepreneurship and builds acceptance
 - Changes the proportion of power: From central energy supply to decentralisation => “Energy in citizen’s hands”
 - Feeling ownership: Prosumer (consumer and producer)
 - Build acceptance of citizen through participation and responsibility
 - Local engagement as opposite pole to globalisation: generate local value
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- ➔ **Citizens have the possibility to organize their energy supply in a renewable way and to participate financially in this development.**
 - ➔ **Democratization of expertise about RE**
 - ➔ **Citizens become energy manager**
 - ➔ **Energy cooperatives are successful corporate forms for public participation**

Success Story: Public Power Plants

- Citizens = most important impetus for the energy turnaround
- Energy cooperatives as very democratic and realistic way of funding.



Ownership of RE projects 2013 Germany



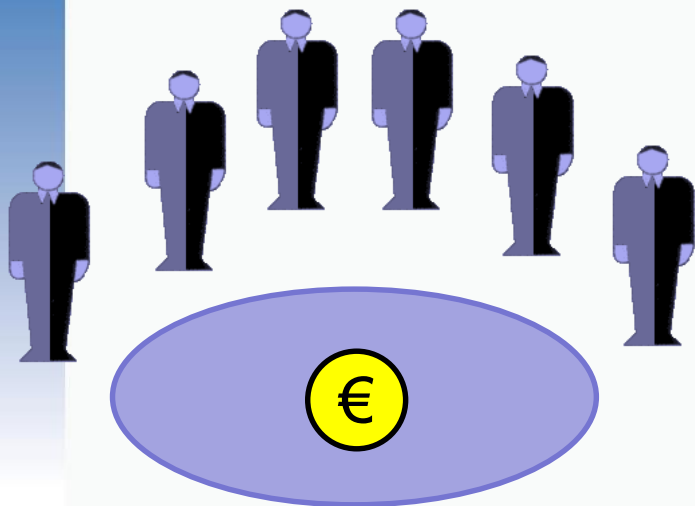
Source: trend research, 2014

Citizens' energy cooperatives aiming

- Energy transition with renewable energy and energy efficiency
 - Secure energy: Feasible alternatives to nuclear power
 - Ecological energy: Environmental and climate protection
 - Decentralized energy: Demonopolized and decentralized energy production
 - Regional energy: Increasing the Renewable energy where electricity is needed
- Sustainable energy supply
- Attractive and ecological investment for civil society
- Interesting and sustainable small-volume investments for everybody
- High profitability and risk diversion through operation of manifold projects
- Decentralized energy structures increase independency of big utiliser
- Income generating for cooperatives, municipalities, etc.



An Energy Cooperative is ...

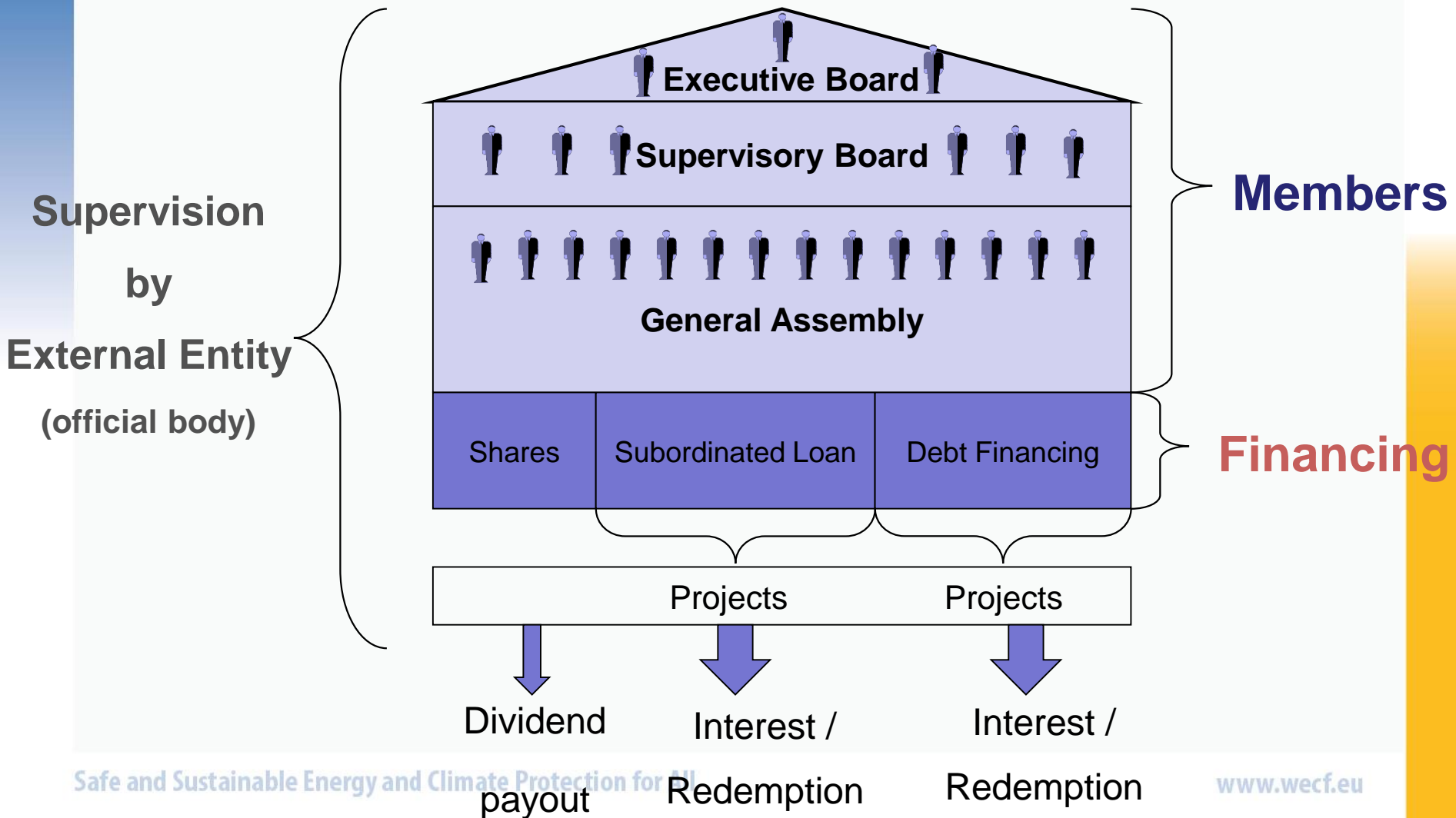


Potential for big transformation??

- no profit maximising
- flexibility for energy saving, direct consumption, e-mobility, condominiums
- flexibility to involve many stakeholders

- ... **democratic:**
each member has one vote
- ... **flexible**
easy way to become a member and to exit
- ... **secure:**
nearly no insolvencies
- ... **ethical:**
as ecological investment
- ... **expandable:**
for more projects in the region
- ... **economic:**
with dividends
- ... **sustainable:**
energy production free of nuclear and carbon
- ... **participative and decentral**
people can create the energy turnaround from bottom up with small amounts

Functional and Financial Structure



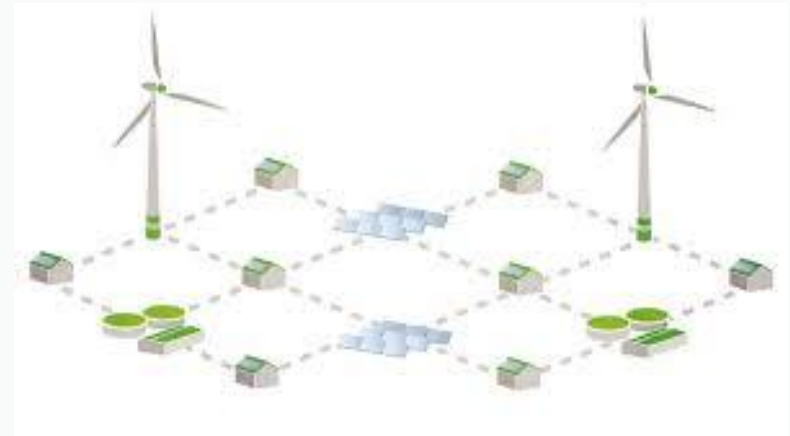
Check – Energy transition

There is still a lot to do

- **Legal framework**
 - Heating systems and retrofitting of buildings
 - No subsidising for fossil power plants
 - Fair distribution of costs: no relief for industry
- **Development and structuring of grids**
 - Planning for 100% renewable
 - Measures to decrease the grid demand
 - Energy efficiency, storage, efficient power supply lines and intelligent grids
 - (Smart Grids)
- **Dialogue with citizens**
 - Energy saving
 - Energy transition and protection of nature
 - Early participation and communication with civil society

Future Challenges

- Renewable energy has nearly reached market readiness
- Energy transition needs encouraged actors and decision makers
- In the long term wind and solar will be the main energy producers



⇒ **We have to continue the renewable energy way**

Questions or comments?

Thank you for your attention!

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