

Collaborative Low Energy Vision for the European Region (CLEVER)

A pathway to bridge the climate neutrality, energy security and sustainability gaps through energy sufficiency, efficiency, and renewables

Project presentation (July 2022)

The current insufficient implementation of the Paris Agreement is calling for reinforced action globally in order to tackle the climate crisis and to not exceed the 1.5° threshold by the end of the century. **At the European level, reaching carbon neutrality by 2050 requires an ambitious and coordinated energy transition strategy, looking at all sustainability potentials and not solely technology issues.** The European Green Deal and its implementing legislative package “Fit for 55” currently under negotiation are great opportunities to do so.

Until today, at the EU level, no scenario has been constructed in a bottom-up manner, starting from national trajectories, and has proposed a pathway matching the adequate level of ambition on all sustainability issues, beyond technological issues alone, and a feasible pace of transformation considering the actual regulations and policies of every country.

The negaWatt Association is working with a network of key European organisations on the construction of a **European energy and climate scenario that evaluates all potentials for energy demand reduction (sufficiency and efficiency) and renewable energy development.** This vision will be as ambitious as possible, targeting carbon neutrality and a 100% renewable energy mix at the European level by 2050 at the latest, while at the same time ensuring a fair and just transition to all.

An ambitious methodology: sufficiency, efficiency, and renewable energies

The project aims at developing one of the most ambitious decarbonisation pathways for Europe. **It will propose an action plan to meet the EU targets on greenhouse gases, renewables and energy efficiency for 2030 and 2050 at the minimum, for carbon neutrality as early as possible and by 2050 at the latest, together with a 100% renewable mix.**

This scenario focuses on the issue of **energy sufficiency**: how can we rethink and redesign individual and collective practices to favour activities and services that are intrinsically low on energy use? The sufficiency potential is enormous at the European level but has rarely been considered at its full scale in European decarbonisation pathways. **With this pioneer work, we want to show that a comprehensive policy articulating sufficiency, efficiency and renewable development is key to reach the 1,5°C climate goal.**

A scenario taking into account national specificities

This project is based on a unique bottom-up approach: **the European scenario is developed through a dialogue with national scenario makers to aggregate national visions into a European one.** We will promote a European strategy that fully considers national specificities while also looking at optimisation gains of a coordinated action at the European level.

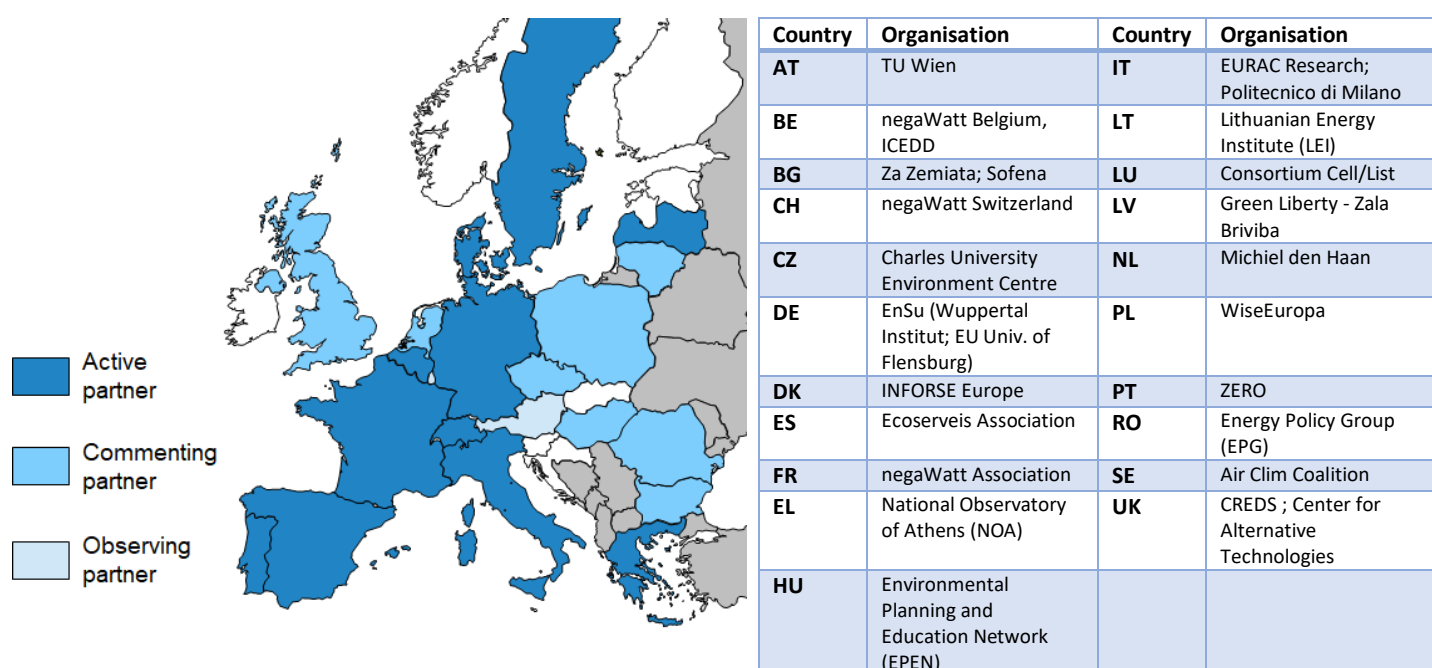


A European network of technical partners

This project is led by the **negaWatt Association**, in collaboration with a **network of national and European organisations**. Since 2019, partners have been engaged in a technical dialogue to ensure the collective development of this project.

This dialogue has allowed partners to **question their work and modelling approaches, and share best practices, which results in built-up capacity and raised ambition**. Thematic working groups and methodological meetings are also regularly organised. Through this network, partners have been able to share information on the ways policies or actions are supported in different member States, and how setting conditions may vary from one region to another.

The network includes **more than 24 partners from 20 European countries**, with different levels of involvement in the project (active partners working on bottom-up trajectories/commenting partners/observing partners).



Work plan from 2019 to 2023

- In 2019 and 2020, common objectives, methodological approach and modelling tools were agreed upon and built in a technical dialogue.
- In 2021 and 2022, national trajectories were constructed, harmonised and reinforced, by looking at all sustainability potentials in covered countries.
- **Partners are currently finalising those trajectories and working on their aggregation towards a European vision.**
 - **First technical results will be published in the Summer 2022, and presented at the end of Autumn**
 - **CLEVER will be finalised and presented in the Spring 2023**

Funding, joining and following

negaWatt and its network of partners are looking for additional funding to complete this budget.

→ Our funders:

- *Our members and donors*

negaWatt has organised a **crowdfunding campaign** to support the project in Spring 2019 which resulted in a total of **51.760€** collected. negaWatt also allocates part of its overall budget to this project.

- *Foundations and agencies*

Key foundations have been supporting this project since the prefiguration phase: **The European Climate Foundation (ECF)**, the **Foundation for the progress of Humankind**, and the **Watt for Change foundation**. **ADEME**, the French ecological transition agency is also contributing with a grant.

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→ **PLEASE CONTACT Stephane Bourgeois should you wish to receive news from the project!**

The project is led by the **negaWatt association**. Founded in France in 2001, the association is managed by a group of over twenty-five energy experts and field practitioners with complementary sectoral expertise and gathers more than 1.200 members. With strong experience in prospective study, negaWatt has built a unique methodology to analyse the energy system through energy services. It has resulted in the construction of the most ambitious and comprehensive scenario in the country – often referred to in the national debate.

NegaWatt is one of the key actors in Europe working on energy sufficiency. The negaWatt scenario has been recognised as one of the most in-depth work and comprehensive analysis of the integration of energy sufficiency in climate strategy in Europe¹. The association works closely with key decision-makers in France (Institutions and economic actors) to exchange expertise and promote coherent measures and policies.

¹ <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/suffizienz-mehr-klimaschutz-modellieren>

