Invitation
The local energy acceleration days
November 13th, 14th and 15th 2018
Lochem, The Netherlands
The number of initiatives by citizens and farmers to jointly generate local sustainable energy is slowly but surely increasing. Nevertheless, the start-up of an energy cooperative to meet the local energy needs is still not easy nor obvious labelled. The European ECCO project offers a solution for this. Experienced pioneers in Northwest Europe share knowledge and expertise and make their proven business cases available to starting sister organizations.

Every ECCO project partner is challenged to bring some new initiatives to this second international ECCO meeting for gaining inspiration and knowledge. Additional contributions or suggestions on the program outlined below are most welcome. This allows the ECCO network to grow rapidly and significantly contributing to our European energy and climate goals.

You are cordially invited to participate in this international meeting in Lochem and to contribute actively to workshops, master classes, excursions and debates. This applies to local cooperatives, administrators of governments and representatives of knowledge centers and umbrella organizations who want to start the energy transition in their own region. LochemEnergie has prepared an intensive program that involves the practical exchange of knowledge and experience. The formation of new partnerships are put central.

Tonnie Tekelenburg, ECCO project leader LochemEnergie
Proven business cases for renewable energy on the local level and strategies for accelerated roll out

Program lay-out November 13th, 14th, 15th 2018

On the first day LochemEnergie and its local partners offer excursions in combination with master classes on various subjects. You get an impression of the various things that we are working on in practice, such as wind energy, hydropower, solar parks, electric shared cars and the use of biomass. On the second day we have a conference program with renowned key-note speakers, a quiz, speed dating at European level and a colourful collection workshops. On the third day we turn over the roles and our (inter) national participants are asked for help on problem areas that we encounter here in the region.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH
AFTERNOON Excursions
EVENING Masterclasses in connection with the excursions

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
MORNING Plenary conference with inspiring key-note speakers,
AFTERNOON Break out workshops, speed dating and information market

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH
MORNING Flying experts among (inter) national participants offer their knowledge and experience in problem areas in the Lochem region
AFTERNOON ECCO project meetings about management, communication and workpackages (basecamp experiences)

The official language of the sessions is English. We will use translation buddies as far as possible.
Day 1 - Learn from LochemEnergie

Excursions and Masterclasses

At 13.00 hours the program starts with excursions to interesting technical installations and ECCO partners, with the aim of active exchange of knowledge and experience.

Around 18:00 a meal is offered and then a Masterclass starts on the subject of your excursion.

LochemEnergie offers the following combined excursions and masterclasses:

1. Solar parks
2. Wind energy
3. Hydropower
4. Biomass
5. Electric car(sharing)
6. Energy saving
Day 2 - Learn from each other

9.00 - 12.30  PLENARY CONFERENCE WITH INSPIRING KEY NOTE SPEAKERS, chairman Carolien van Hemel

- Hans Geerlink/Nico Groen: History, today situation and future of LochemEnergie
- Thijs de la Court: Governance for the energy transition with examples for the national, provincial and local policy arena’s
- Anne Marieke Schwencke: history, today situation and future of energy cooperatives in the Netherlands.
- Frans Coenen: energy saving research by energy cooperatives (REScoop PLUS project)
- History agricultural coops/community cooperative
- Quiz about the chances for ECCOs in the energy transition with the awardceremony of the 1st ECCO award.

13.30 - 16.00  BREAK OUT WORKSHOPS, SPEED DATING AND INFORMATION MARKET

- Workshop 1. ECCOs in relation with governments
- Workshop 2. Communication tools for objective visualisation of installations in the landscape
- Workshop 3. Blockchain technology; opportunities for ECCOs in the energy transition
- Workshop 4. The farmer session: farmers and citizens
- Workshop 5. Umbrella organisation development for ECCOs: why, how and when?

16.00  ECCO-NETWERK DRINK
Day 3 - LochemEnergie learns from ECCO

LochemEnergie has selected a number of topics for the morning program (9.00 - 11.30) where our local partners still meet problems/challenges. We invite participants to sign up for the team of 'Flying Experts'. By sharing knowledge and experience we expect in the Lochem area next steps in the energy transition at a faster rate.

What to expect
- Session 1. Energy transition opportunities for industrial parks
- Session 2. Working with young people
- Session 3. Local energy action plan approach

In the afternoon, ECCO partner meeting: reporting and planning Work package sessions.

Chairman: Tom Schaeken/Wim Ceulemans
Europe faces the big challenge of finding other, renewable sources of energy in the short term. Greenhouse gas (GHG) targets and the energy security for residents and businesses need to be met. This process of energy transition includes more than simply replacing fossil fuel sources through new, sustainable sources. It also involves changes in the way the energy chain is organized.

This energy transition is one of the central objectives for the European Program for Regional Cooperation in Northwest Europe (INTERREG NWE). The ECCO project - Creating new Energy Community Co-Operatives - contributes to this in the period from autumn 2017 to spring 2021.

Rural areas offer great potential for extracting renewable energy from biomass, sun, water and wind. However, these sources are often underused due to a lack of knowledge of finance, technology, marketing and management, but also by opposition from the local community (NIMBY). Overcoming these obstacles can start up renewable energy projects with cooperatives (ECCOs), if rural communities get an eye for energy communities and work together on it.
The ECCO-project

The goal of the international ECCO project is to deepen business cases for these ECCOs, to accelerate the rollout of local generation of renewable energy and to provide continuity to the supportive network structure that is built up during the course of the project.

Beacons (‘beacons’) and accelerator network

The kick-off of the ECCO project took place during the first partner meeting in Killarney, Ireland by eleven partners from six countries from North Western Europe. Their combined experience and best practices function as ‘beacons’ throughout the project, as inspiration for policy makers and future promoters for local cooperation. The aim is for at least 50 new ECCOs to be set up on average produce at least 600 MWh. The ECCO project also builds a transnational organizational structure (Accelerator network) that ensures the continuity of the ECCO even after the project.
Goals of the LEA-days

The ECCO project wants to contribute to bottom-up the cooperative movement - from local to European level - strengthening and accelerating the energy transition. We want this second international ECCO meeting contribute to this in several ways:

1. **Through a good international exchange between existing ECCOs and start-up initiatives.** We provide an overview of all ECCOs in the Netherlands and offer explicit possibilities to participate actively in the ECCO network. We share best practices on relevant themes.

2. **By explicitly inviting policy makers and politicians from the six participating countries.** Experiences and knowledge from political and governmental contexts ensures better weighing and decision making. In addition, the cooperative movement and energy transition can be linked to other social groups.

3. **Through the experience and knowledge of LochemEnergie, seen by many as a frontrunner, gained in the past 7 years, LochemEnergie likes to share knowledge, but also loves to learn from others.** We are very happy to work together with our sister organizations - both inside and outside the ECCO project - to make our co-operative movement bigger, stronger and more effective.
Accommodation and costs

The costs of this three-day meeting are largely covered by the joint budget of the ECCO project. However, the accommodation costs of the participants are partly for their own account.

The ECCO project budget provides the costs of:

- Dinner on day 1, the Tuesday evening
- Lunches on day 2 and day 3 (Wednesday and Thursday afternoon)
- Network drinks on Wednesdays and Thursdays

Remaining costs at the expense of the participants are:

- Hotel costs (LochemEnergie has reserved a hotel in Lochem.) The conference rate for bed and breakfast is approximately € 93, - per person per night. On the application form you can indicate for how many nights you want to stay in the hotel.
- Other meals (the local restaurants kindly invite you)
- Contribution to the costs of transportation for excursions

These costs can in principle be reimbursed by the ECCO partners through whom you are invited. Request more information from your local ECCO project contact person.
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Sign up

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Program layout
Day 1 - November 13th
Day 2 - November 14th
Day 3 - November 15th
ECCO-project
Goals LEA-days
Accommodation and costs

The program will be further developed in the coming period, but you can already register now. Do not hesitate indicating in this sign-up round which excursions, master classes and workshops you want to attend, because the available places are limited.

To sign in, go to lochemenergie.net

For questions: joinecco@lochemenergie.net