

Energy Citizenship country profiles





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<https://www.energyprospects.eu/>

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Introduction and notes on methodology

This report was prepared as part of the ‘mapping of energy citizenship in Europe’ task within the EnergyPROSPECTS project.

EnergyPROSPECTS (PROactive Strategies and Policies for Energy Citizenship Transformation) works with a critical understanding of energy citizenship that is grounded in state-of-the-art social sciences and humanities (SSH) insights. The project aims to develop a broad understanding of energy citizenship as a policy concept, a sociotechnical imaginary, and a knowing-of-governance – i.e., a social construction of desirable/normal civic agency in future energy systems.

The project set out to identify and examine a range of cross-cutting issues in energy citizenship, which informed the iterative typology development and criteria for case selection. Drawing on pre-existing databases and the identification of new cases, the selection of at least 500 initiatives, as well as mapping and typology refinement exercises that demonstrate the depth/breadth of the energy citizenship concept in theory and practice is undertaken.

As part of the energy citizenship mapping task, a methodology was developed for pursuing the overall project aim of identifying the diversity of types and empirical manifestations of energy citizenship. The methodology was created to help answer the main research questions the EnergyPROSPECTS project team intends to answer through undertaking the mapping activity, which are as follows:

- Which forms of energy citizenship (henceforth referred to as ENCI) can be found in Europe today? How can we account for their diversity?
- Can we find the same forms of ENCI in the different regions/countries of Europe?
- In what contexts do different forms of ENCI emerge and develop?

In the current report, we present the diversity of forms of energy citizenship identified in one of the project partner countries, Ireland. Please note that **the objective was to identify the diversity of forms rather than to ensure representativity. Thus, this report does not aim to present all examples of energy citizenship in Ireland but rather to illustrate their diversity.**

For the definition of energy citizenship, we turn to the conceptual framework of the EnergyPROSPECTS project presented in [Pel et al., 2021](#):



Energy citizenship refers to forms of civic involvement that pertain to the development of a more sustainable and democratic energy system. Beyond its manifest forms, ENCI also comprises various latent forms: it is an ideal that can be lived up to and realised to varying degrees, according to different framework conditions and states of empowerment. (Pel et al., 2021:64)

Building on this definition of energy citizenship, **within the EnergyPROSPECTS project, instances of ENCI are understood as:**

1. constellations of actors (in a context) and how they
 - ✓ enable/support citizens to become active private and/or public energy citizens;
 - ✓ act as collective energy citizens by contributing to changes in the energy system

or

2. including individual energy citizens and how they realize their potential in a private, public or organisational setting.

As indicated by these definitions, and underlined by the agency dimension of the conceptual typology presented in [Debourdeau et al. \(2021\)](#) and summarised in Chapter 3 below, examples of ENCI can involve individuals or be realised in a multitude of collective forms. During the mapping of the ENCI landscape, focus was placed on identifying and collecting data about both types of cases.

Furthermore, as a huge variety of cases and initiatives are available that would fit these definitions, and mapping them all would go beyond the scope and resources of the current project, there was a need to further define what is considered a case within the research focus of the EnergyPROSPECTS project. Thus, the consortium decided at team workshops that the ENCI mapping activity would cover cases that:

- are **based in European countries** (including EU, EEA, and accession countries);
- are **currently active or were concluded no sooner than 2015** when the Energy Union Strategy was published.
(This is because the focus in this research is not so much the historical forms of ENCI, but rather its current forms and manifestations, and the differences between them depending on the political, socioeconomic, etc. characteristics of their context);
- are **focused on direct energy production and/or consumption** (e.g., in households, organizations, etc.), **mobility** (having a direct connection to energy issues), or with a **more holistic overall focus on sustainable and just energy**.

This means that in EnergyPROSPECTS a decision was made not to study initiatives that focus solely on nutrition, for example. However, if nutrition is part of an overall strategy for reducing energy use or carbon footprint that also focuses on direct energy use, mobility, etc., then the case could be included (*more details on the sampling strategy can be found in [Vadovics et al., 2022](#)*).

As Pel et al. (2021) indicate, we also recognise that even within the limitations specified for ENCI mapping, "enabling" and "supporting" citizens to become active private and/or public energy citizens can take many different forms. Similarly, energy citizenship itself can take many different forms. Furthermore, in reality many cases enable or support several different forms of energy citizenship in parallel, and often involve less as well as more active forms within the same case (e.g. citizens voluntarily organising carbon reduction groups as a more active form of citizenship, and citizens participating in these groups as a less active form).

As a result, it is expected that a very diverse collection of ENCI cases will emerge as an output of the mapping process. Indeed, it is important to note that although the term *energy citizenship* is often associated with energy communities or community energy projects, the objective in the EnergyPROSPECTS project is to uncover other forms of energy citizenship as well that include both individual and collective forms of citizenship.

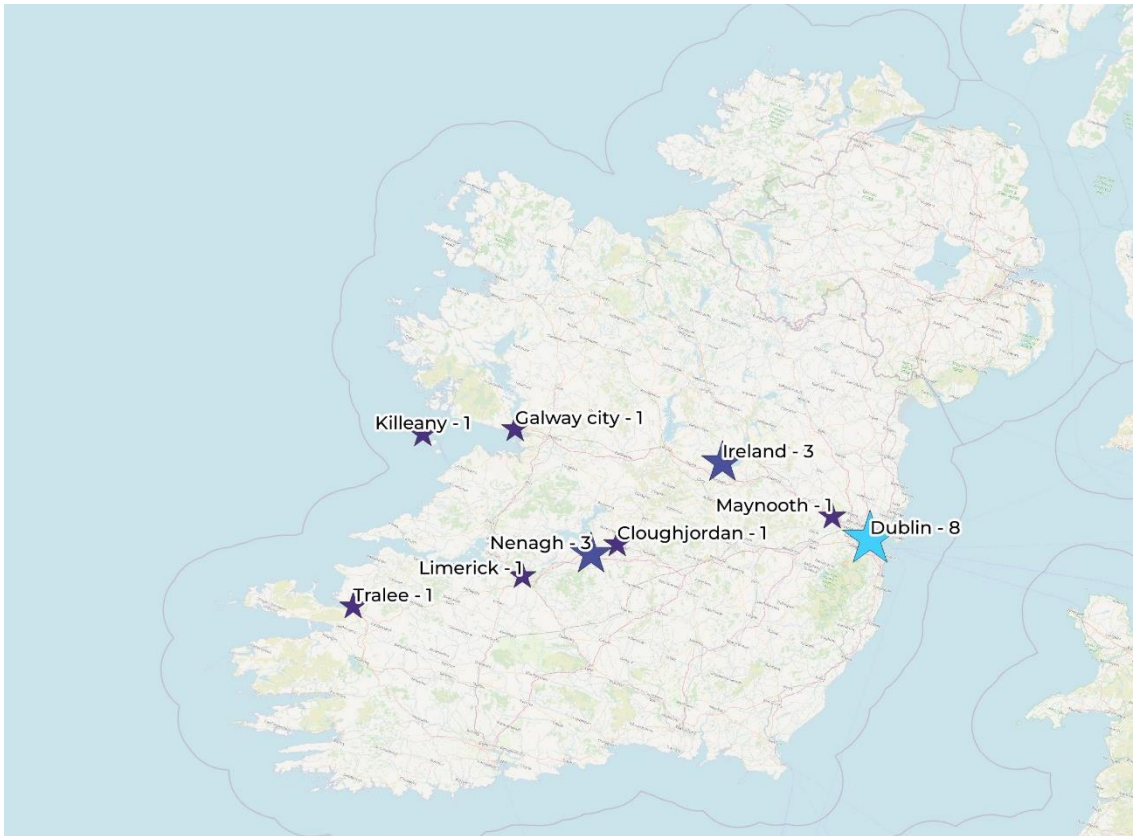
As a result of the ENCI mapping activity, the consortium mapped 595 cases of ENCI in Europe. In addition to the country profile reports, we will present them in various forms, including an interactive database [on the project website](#) and various analytical reports that will all also be available on the website. For more about our ENCI mapping methodology and sampling strategy, please read [Vadovics et al., 2022](#).

Report Disclaimer

In summary, when reading the following report, please bear in mind the following:

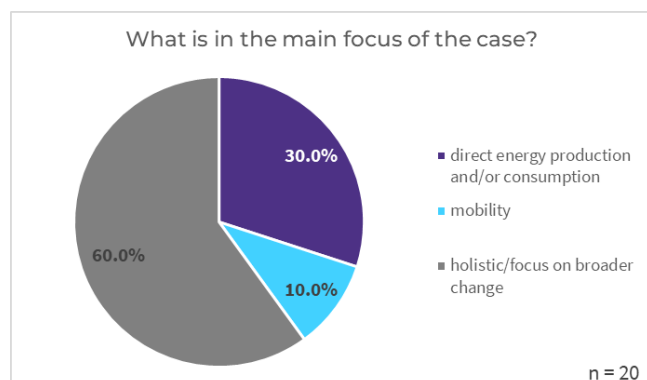
- The mapping of energy citizenship (ENCI) was not conducted to achieve a representative sample of cases in the country, but rather with the aim of providing an overview of the diversity of cases.
- The analysis is rather descriptive in nature, and further highlights diversity.
- The classification of the mapped cases into the various categories in our analysis does not involve a value judgement, but is rather an indication of diversity, as all types of cases are needed for the sustainable energy transformation to happen.
- Since providing details about the conceptual and methodological underpinning of the work that is presented here would go beyond the scope of this report, this is not attempted in this document, but details are available in other project documents – primarily, the following:
 1. methodology for ENCI mapping and data collection: [Vadovics et al., 2022](#)
 2. conceptual framework: [Pel et al., 2021](#)
 3. conceptual typology: [Debourdeau et al. \(2021\)](#)

Part 1: Basic information about energy citizenship in Ireland: illustrating the diversity of energy citizenship



A total of **20 ENCI cases from Ireland** have been entered into the database. As stated in the Introduction, the objective of the mapping was not to achieve representativity, but rather to map the diversity of ENCI. Eight of these twenty cases are located in Dublin. Three cases are marked as general Irish cases, meaning that they are not limited to a specific geographical location but are national-level cases that operate in various locations around the country.

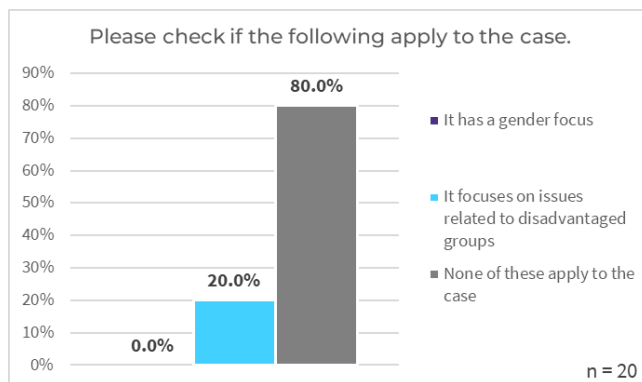
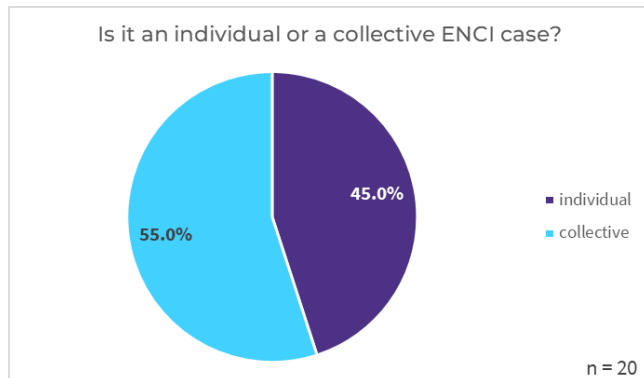
More than **half of the mapped cases (60.0%) focus on holistic, broader change** (e.g., Cloughjordan Ecovillage or the Citizens' Assembly on 'How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change'). A smaller proportion (30.0%) are energy-specific initiatives (e.g., Templeberry





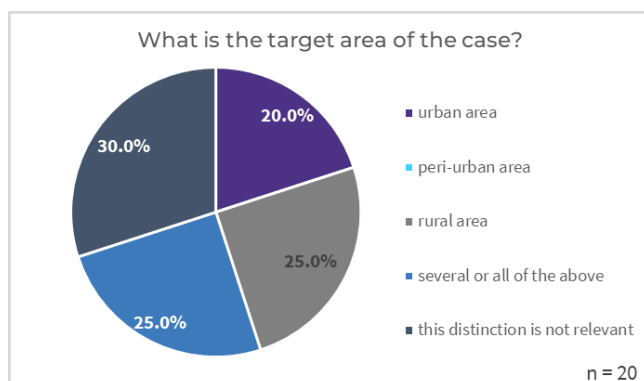
Community Windfarm or Energy Action), and only one-tenth (10.0%) are focused mainly on mobility (e.g., Dublin Cycling Campaign).

A **small majority (55.0%)** of mapped Irish cases in the database **are collective** (e.g., Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community, Fridays For Future Ireland or Aran Islands Energy Co-operative) while 45.0% are individual cases (The Home Energy Saving Kit or Cara Augustenborg).

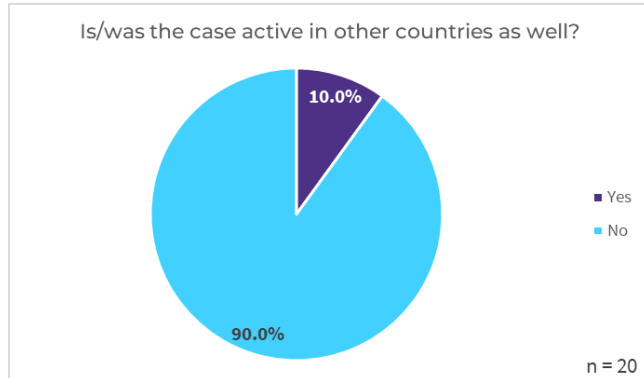


A **fifth of the mapped cases (20.0%) focus on issues related to disadvantaged groups**, like those involving energy poverty, minorities, etc. (e.g., Energy Action). None of the mapped cases had a **specific gender focus** such as a focus on gender equity, focus on women, etc.

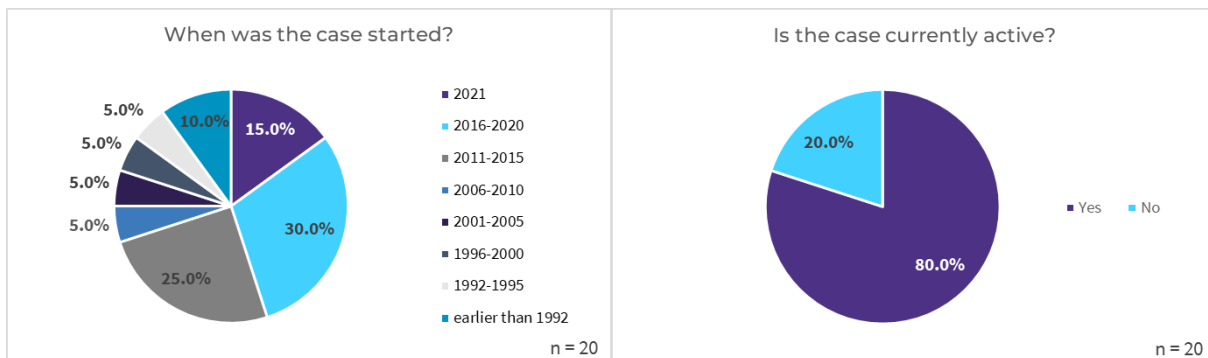
The target area of the mapped cases are more or less equally distributed. A **fifth of the cases (20.0%) are based in urban areas** (e.g. Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community, Dublin Cycling Campaign). A fourth of the cases (25.0%) focus on rural areas (including remote communities, islands, etc.) (e.g., Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC, Cloughjordan Ecovillage, Aran Islands Energy Co-operative). A large proportion, also a third of the cases (32.1%), focus on several of the above areas (e.g., The Home Energy Saving Kit, Our Energy Future).



Almost all mapped cases (90.0%) are active only in Ireland, and only two (10.0%) are now have operated in other countries (Cara Augustenborg, Lorna Gold). Both cases involve individuals.



In Ireland, **almost half of the mapped cases (45.0%) started after 2016**, with nearly a third (30.0%) starting between 2016 and 2020 (e.g., Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’, Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community). Another (almost) third was started before 2010.



The majority (80.0%) of the cases entered in the database are still active, and only a small number of cases are no longer in operation. Some of these were completed projects (e.g., Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’, 11th Citizens’ Energy Forum, Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future).

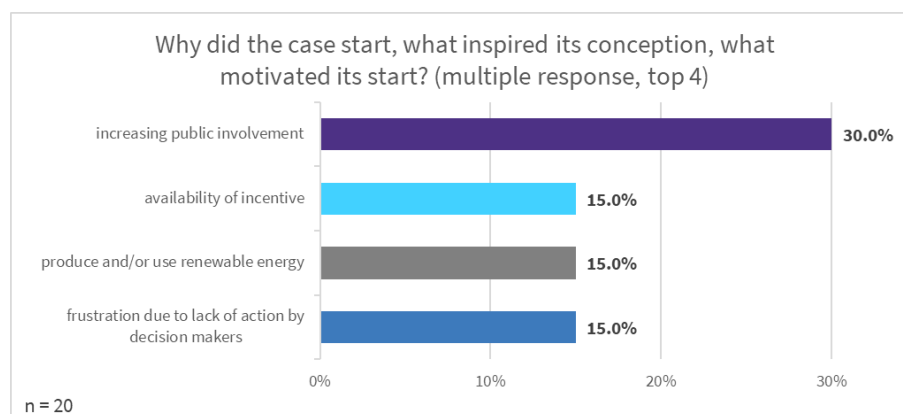
Part 2: Motivation, objectives, actors, operation

2.1 Motivation and objectives

Q24. Why did the case start, what inspired its conception, **what motivated its start?**

Q25. What do the actors involved in the case want to achieve in the first place/most importantly? **What are/were the main objectives, aims?**²

In Ireland, the main motivation to start a case, which was a determining factor in **almost a third of the mapped cases (30.0%), was to increase public involvement**. For 15% each of the mapped cases, the availability of incentives, the aim to produce and/or use renewable energy or frustration due to lack of action by decision makers were decisive motivators.



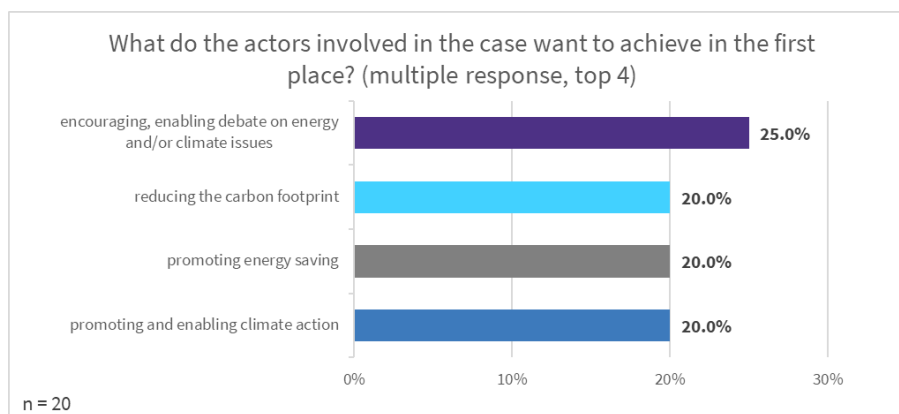
Although all the mapped cases had several sources of motivation for their conception and start, it is interesting to mention some examples of the main one. ‘Increasing public involvement’ was an important source of motivation for cases such as 11th Citizens’ Energy Forum, Climate Conversations 2021, Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future or the Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’. For 60.0% of mapped cases, ‘Other’ sources of motivation were (also) relevant, i.e. motivations that were not included in a closed list. Such motivations included safer streets for cyclists (Dublin Cycling Campaign), local economic development (Aran Islands Energy Cooperative), expected impacts of planned wind

¹ Questions from the mapping questionnaire. Methodology and questions are available here:

https://www.energyprospects.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/ENERGY_PROSPECTS.EU/Deliverables/EnergyPROSPECTS_D3.1_310122_Final.pdf

turbines (North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG) or to be a role model and to demonstrate that a more sustainable way of living is possible (Cloughjordan Ecovillage).

When it comes to what the initiators want to primarily achieve, **the largest share of mapped cases seek to encouraging, enabling debate on energy and/or climate issues**, which is an important aim for one fourth of the mapped cases (25.0%). For 20.0% each, reducing the carbon footprint, promoting energy saving and promoting and enabling climate action were important factors. It is important to mention that cases that were found to pursue encouraging, enabling debate on energy and/or climate issues were also the ones for which the main starting motivation was to increase public involvement.



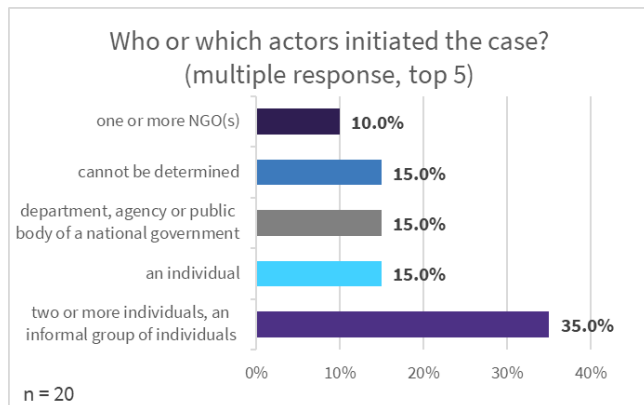
Regarding this question, the 'other' category was relevant in three fourths of the cases (75.0%). For instance, this included to inform national climate policy (Climate Conversations 2021), to create local employment and community benefits (Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative), to advocate for state action with respect to climate (Cara Augustenborg) or to provide training and employment opportunities for the long-term unemployed (Energy Action).

2.2 Actors initiating and involved in the ENCI cases

Q31. Who or *which actors initiated* the case?

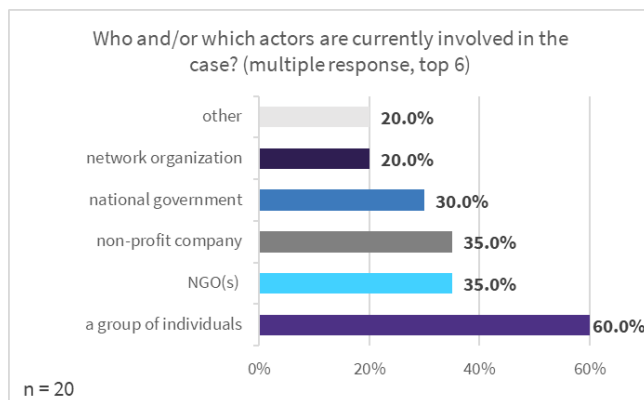
Q33. Who and/or *which actors are currently involved* in the case?

In most Irish cases, **the initiating actors were the initiating actors were two or more individuals or an informal group of individuals (incl. community group): in more than one third of mapped cases (35.0%)**, they were identified as important actors (e.g., Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative, Ringsend Irishtown



Sustainable Energy Community). In 15% each, the initiating actors were either a department, agency or public body of a national government (Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’) or a single individual. In other 15% of the mapped cases the initiating actors could not be determined.

In the majority of the mapped cases (60.0%), groups of individuals are currently involved in the implementation of cases (e.g., Dublin Cycling Campaign, North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG, Fridays For Future Ireland, Cloughjordan Ecovillage). Other actor groups that are currently involved in the



cases are non-profit companies and NGO(s) in 35.0% of cases (Aran Islands Energy Co-operative, Dublin Cycling Campaign, Cloughjordan Ecovillage). Interestingly, in almost a third (30.0%) of all mapped cases, a department, agency or public body of the national government is involved. In every fifth case (20.0%) a network organisation was involved (Dublin Cycling Campaign, Templederry Community Windfarm).

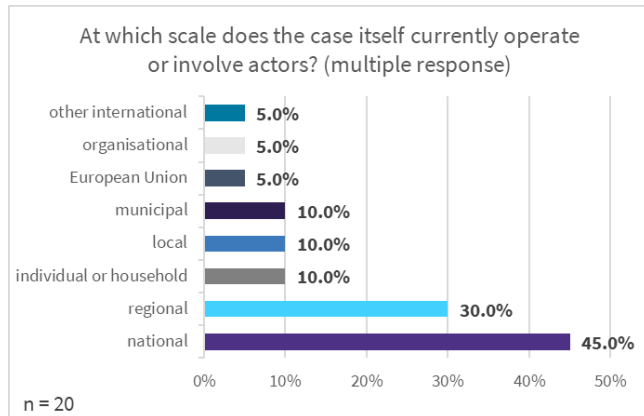
2.3 Scale of ENCI operations, networks

Q35. At **which scale** does the case itself currently operate or involve actors?

Q36. What is the current **organisational form/structure** of the case?

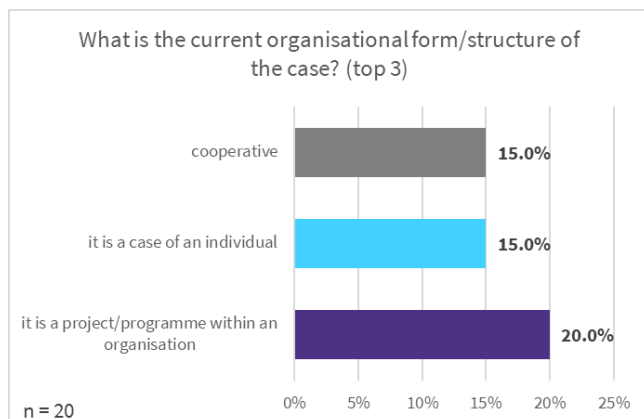
Q39. Is/was the case **part of a network** of similar initiatives?

Almost half (45.0%) of the mapped Irish case operates or involves actors at national scale, and almost a third (30.0%) at regional scale. Another third (35.0%) operates or involves actors at municipal/local scale or below). Examples at a national scale include cases like Climate Conversations 2021, Public



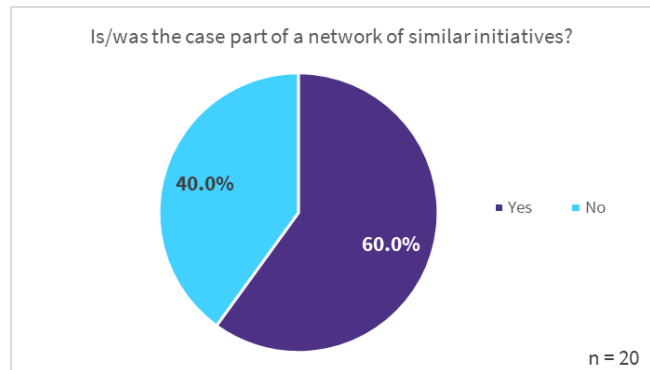
Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future or Fridays For Future Ireland; at regional scale there is for instance Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative and at local/municipal scale there is Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community. A case can operate at several levels (such as Lorna Gold who operates both nationally and at international level). This illustrates that scale is not limited by the fact that it is an individual case.

The current organisational form/structure of the mapped Irish cases is mixed. With 20.0%, the largest number of cases take the form of a project/programme within an organisation. Each 15.0% of cases are either cooperatives or cases of individuals. The project/programme form of cases is represented, for example, by 11th



Citizens' Energy Forum, Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future or The Northern Commute, while the individual cases are demonstrated by, for example, Paul Kenny or Cara Augustenborg. Cooperatives include, for example, Aran Islands Energy Co-operative or Galway Energy Co-operative.

The majority of the Irish cases (60.0%) are part of a network of similar initiatives while 40.0% were not. For those cases that are part of a network, the following, among others, were mentioned: Sustainable Energy Community Network, Fridays for Future, The National Dialogue on Climate Action, Ecovillages or Cyclist.ie, the national network of cycling advocacy organisations.

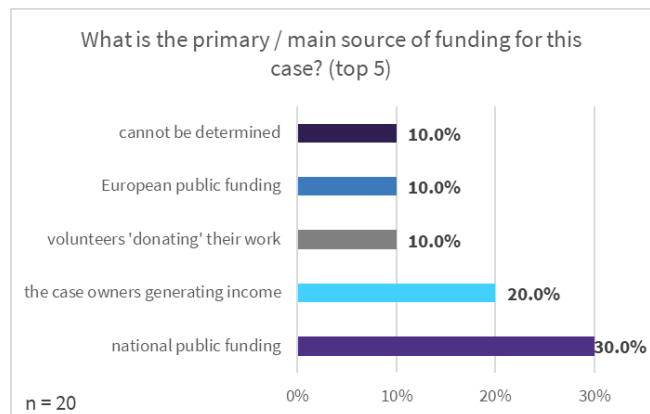


2.4 Sources of funding for ENCI operations

Q46. What is the **primary / main source of funding** for this case?

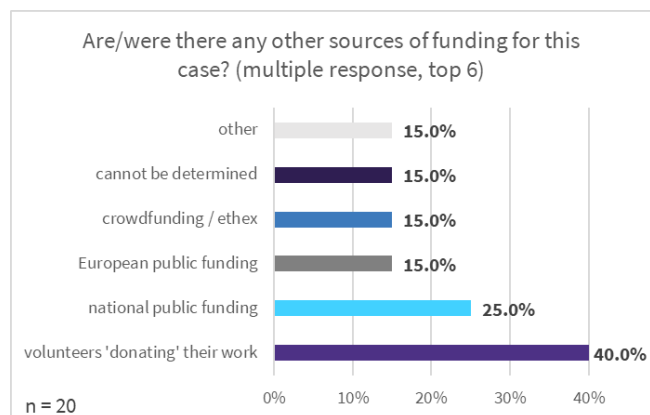
Q47. Are/were there any **other sources of funding** for this case?

In the largest proportion of mapped Irish cases – nearly a third of them (30.0%) – national public funding was found to be the primary source of funding (e.g., Climate Conversations 2021, Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’). In the second largest proportion of cases (20.0%), the main funding was case owners generated income, which mainly concerned case of individuals.



Other relevant main funding sources were with 10.0% each, volunteers ‘donating’ their work and European public funding (e.g., 11th Citizens’ Energy Forum).

When it comes to additional funding, the largest share - with almost half (40.0%) of mapped cases - relies on volunteers ‘donating’ their work (e.g., Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community, Aran Islands Energy Co-operative). Also in this question national public funding occurs as relevant source,



with every fourth case (25.0%) having such funding. Further sources of non-primary funding included with 15% each, crowdfunding and European public funding. The same proportion of cases were categorized as ‘Other’, including cases that used, for example, loans from an ethical fund and a commercial bank or funding from a publicly owned company.

Part 3: Placement of Irish cases in the typology

Introduction to the EnergyPROSPECTS conceptual typology

In accordance with the conceptual framework elaborated in [Pel et al., 2021](#), the EnergyPROSPECTS conceptual typology seeks to derive from the key conceptual distinctions analytical types and categories that account for the multiple forms of energy citizenship (ENCI). This is a qualitative descriptive typology that is mostly grounded on both a conceptual framework and consistent empirical research. Therefore, a dedicated methodology was elaborated to allow for typologisation that takes into account the specificity of the ENCI as a research object and the provisional absence of empirical input. The conceptual background of the EnergyPROSPECTS typology and its development process is summarised in [Debourdeau et al. \(2021\)](#).

As presented in [Debourdeau et al. \(2021\)](#), the EnergyPROSPECTS conceptual typology has two key dimensions: agency (individual vs. collective), and outcome orientation (reformative vs. transformative), each of which encompasses a variety of forms of ENCI.

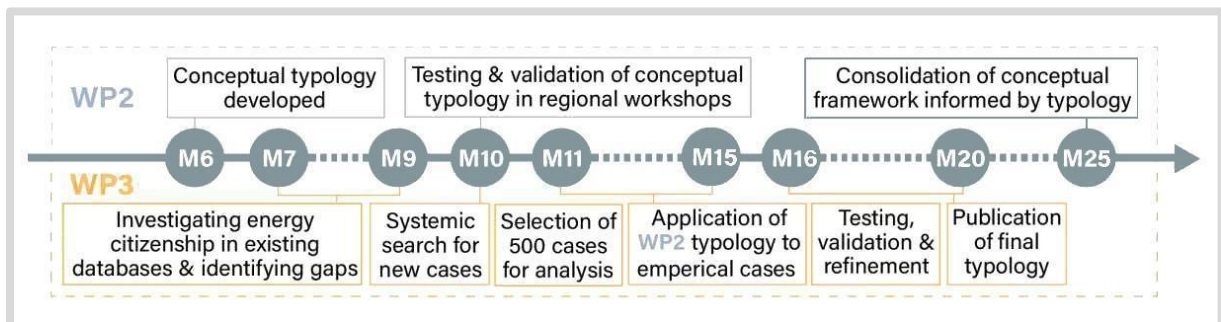
The agency dimension encompasses three key distinctions highlighted within the conceptual framework, and primarily aims at addressing basic issues such as: *Who is doing ENCI? To whom can ENCI be ascribed? and Which kinds of configurations of actors can be considered relevant when searching for empirical cases?*

The outcome orientation dimension also encompasses two key distinctions highlighted within the conceptual framework and aims primarily at addressing questions that are complementary to those used for the agency dimension – i.e., *ENCI for what? What are the possible outcomes of ENCI that legitimise it as desirable? What kind of engagements and outcome orientations are to be considered as relevant for the empirical research?*

The matrix that can be constructed considering these two key dimensions is as follows, and allows for the distinction of ten conceptual types of ENCI:

AGENCY	INDIVIDUAL			COLLECTIVE	
OUTCOME ORIENTATION	PRIVATE (HOUSEHOLD)	ORGANISATIONALLY EMBEDDED (E.G., WORKPLACE)	PUBLIC	CITIZEN-BASED AND HYBRID	SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
REFORMATIVE 	1. DO THEIR BIT (in the household) Complying with the green energy transition	3. DO THEIR BIT (within organisations) Energy citizenship within organisations	5. MAKE THEIR VOICE HEARD Participating in societal energy discussions	7. DO THEIR SHARE Joining green energy projects	9. DO THE JOB Facilitating the energy transition through alignment activities
TRANSFORMATIVE 	2. DO THEIR OWN (in the household) The change-making energy citizen	4. DO IT THEIR WAY (within organisations) The energy-related change maker in organisations	6. MAKE THEIR VOTE COUNT Mobilising votes for energy transition	8. GO AHEAD Building, expanding and linking citizen-based organisational forms	10. MAKE THEIR CLAIMS Protesting against the current energy system

During the mapping activity, members of the consortium were asked to first identify the main type of mapped ENCI cases according to the typology, and then to identify all remaining types that it shapes, enables, or supports. However, given the conceptual nature of the typology, it was also acknowledged that the mapping – or in other words, the empirical validation of the typology – may uncover ENCI types the typology does not yet include. Furthermore, the iterative typology development process adopted in EnergyPROSPECTS also means that the conceptual typology will be further developed during subsequent stages of the research, as depicted in the figure below.



In our analysis, described below, we present the ENCI cases as they were typologised using the conceptual typology presented above. Any further development of the typology will be reported [on the project website](#).

3.1 Main types of cases according to the typology

Q75. Considering the main (or only) type of ENCI the case shapes/enables/supports, which **ideal type of ENCI** would you associate it with?

Based on the evaluation of the Irish research team of the mapped cases, **almost a third of them (30.0%) were classified as Type 5 according to the “Reformative – Public”** part of the ENCI typology. **Another 30.0% were classified as Type 8, “Transformative – Citizen based and Hybrid”**. Other types which cases were associated with were Type 1 “Reformative – Private” and Type 10 “Transformative – Social movements”, in 10.0% of the mapped cases each.

	Individual			Collective		Other
	Private	Organizationally embedded	Public	Citizen-based and Hybrid	Social movements	
Reformative	2 (10.0%)	1 (5.0%)	6 (30.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Transformative	0 (0.0%)	2 (10.0%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (30.0%)	2 (10.0%)	

The **Private – Reformative** category includes² the **Energy Action** and **The Home Energy Saving Kit Heat** while the no cases were associated with the **Transformative - Private** category.

Established in 1988, **Energy Action** is Ireland’s first community-based energy project to address the problem of fuel poverty in Dublin. Energy Action has insulated 35,000 homes since its inception and has also supported several community-based organisations in other parts of the country through pilot schemes to develop their own capacity to tackle fuel poverty. The service is provided through the Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland.

The **Home Energy Saving Kit** was developed by Dublin’s energy agency, Codema, to help citizens understand their energy use and identify key areas of their homes that should be improved in terms of energy efficiency. The kit can be borrowed free of charge from libraries across Ireland. It

² Please see below on pp. 22-23 a table with all mapped cases according to each typology category.

contains five practical tools and six exercises that help citizens to conduct their own home energy audits and to find the easiest and most effective areas to reduce their energy consumption.

Cases associated with the **organisationally embedded agency category** were **The Northern Commute** on the **reformative side**, and **Lorna Gold** and **Paul Kenny** on the **transformative side**.

The Northern Commute is a project and a Smarter Travel Brand of the Limerick offices of the financial services company “Northern Trust”. It was created with the aim of reducing the amount of single-occupied cars being driven to offices. Among other measures, a scheme for staff carpooling was set up. The project is associated with the Carpooling scheme provided by Transport for Ireland (TFI), the public transport brand of the National Transport Authority.

Lorna Gold is an author, lecturer, and climate activist and has been actively involved in several non-profit organisations. Currently, she is the director of the movement ‘building with FaithInvest’, an international organization for religious groups and faith-based investors that promotes investments for the benefit of people and the planet. She is also vice-chair of the Laudato Si’ Movement (formerly Global Catholic Climate Movement), which aims to inspire and mobilise communal action for climate and ecological justice. In previous roles, she led Trócaire’s policy, research and advocacy activities in Ireland for almost two decades, was a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group on the National Climate Dialogue in Ireland and has recently published a book called “Climate Generation – Awakening to our Children’s Future”

Paul Kenny was CEO of the Tipperary Energy Agency, an independent not-for-profit social enterprise that aims to lead the delivery of sustainable energy solutions in Tipperary and beyond by advocating, educating and innovating on climate action. He also was involved in developing the first community-owned wind farm in Ireland in Templederry. In 2020, he was appointed Special Advisor to Minister Eamon Ryan in the Department of Communications, Climate Action, and Environment.

Cases evaluated as fitting to the **public agency category** were all linked to the reformative side and include **11th Citizens’ Energy Forum**, **Cara Augustenborg**, **Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’**, **Climate Conversations 2021**, **Our Energy Future** and **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future** on the **reformative side**.

The **11th Citizens' Energy Forum** took place in Dublin in 2019 and welcomed Youth representatives from across Europe to join the discussion about achieving an inclusive energy transition for all and the role of consumers in the changing energy market alongside policymakers, energy regulators and consumer organisations. The event resulted in a paper with consolidated conclusions, covering how to activate citizens/consumers in key sectors to decarbonise the energy system, support sustainable finance for greener and cleaner energy, and create an inclusive and accessible energy market.

Cara Augustenborg is an Irish-American environmental scientist, blogger, podcaster, and advocate for climate action based in Ireland. She was chair of Friends of the Earth Ireland (2015-2017) and Europe (2015-2019). In 2021 she was appointed to the Climate Change Advisory Council of Ireland.

In the **Citizens' Assembly on 'How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change'**, an assembly of 100 citizens, chosen to be representative of the Irish population, engaged in a deliberative process, under impartial and factual advice from experts, to discuss the question "How can the state make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change?" The process resulted in a series of reports and recommendations for the attention of the Parliament of the Republic of Ireland.

The **Climate Conversations 2021** were a series of consultation events established by the Irish Government's Department of Environment, Climate and Communications as part of the National Dialogue on Climate Action. Through the Climate Conversations, the people of Ireland were invited to provide their views on how Ireland could be transformed and how individuals and communities could be supported to take their own positive climate actions. The consultations sought to inform the formulation of the Climate Action Plan 2021, the government's annual plan that sets out how Ireland will meet its climate commitments and reach EU and international climate targets. The Conversations consisted of four interlinked engagement processes blending surveys with focus groups and workshops targeting different audiences.

Our Energy Future is a three-year collaborative project between EirGrid, Friends of the Earth, and the Renewable Grid Initiative to engage the public in light of Ireland's ambitious commitment to increase the share of renewable energy in electricity supply to up to 80% by 2030, which will require a comprehensive energy transition. Aiming to develop an inclusive vision for Ireland's energy future, the project will foster diverse and open dialogues with communities, civil

society organizations, local groups and other stakeholders, it will raise awareness and build capacity and it will engage with the Irish Government and in relevant energy policy processes.

In the project **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future**, EirGrid, the state-owned electric power transmission operator in Ireland, has been tasked by the government with transforming the electricity system in anticipation of 70% of Ireland's electricity coming from renewable sources by 2030, as envisioned in the Government's Climate Action Plan (2019). This challenge is being addressed through a strategy outlined in the report, *Shaping Our Electricity Future*, which presents four different approaches to the development of the grid. Due to the high level of impact and transformative nature of this transition, EirGrid conducted a nationwide consultation process in the form of several online workshops and an online consultation platform to improve engagement with the public and with all stakeholders. Along with the outputs of the workshops, this resulted in several hundred submissions and comments by various stakeholders, including citizens.

Looking at the **collective cases** of energy citizenship, all cases in **Citizen-based and Hybrid agency category** were linked to the **transformative** side and include **Aran Islands Energy Co-operative, Cloughjordan Ecovillage, Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC, Galway Energy Co-operative, Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community** and **Templederry Community Windfarm**.

The Aran Islands Energy Co-operative is a community-owned energy cooperative on the Aran Islands at the mouth of Galway Bay. Through the cooperative, the residents of the three islands aim to become self-sufficient in clean, locally owned energy and to build the local economy of the islands using the benefits that accrue from this. The main activities are related to energy efficiency and retrofitting of houses, renewable energy generation, electrification of mobility, and participation in research projects.

The Cloughjordan Ecovillage is an eco-village community on a 67-acre site in the Irish Midlands committed to ecological, social and economic sustainability as well as communal, carbon-neutral and self-sufficient living. The first residents moved into what are now 55 low-carbon homes in 2009, built using natural construction techniques and applying high energy efficiency standards, supplied by a district heating system that burns wood waste from a nearby sawmill and provides low-carbon heating and hot water. Furthermore, the village has a working farm, an array of polytunnels and a bakery providing the community with food year-round.

Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC is an organization bringing together 14 communities in the Tipperary region to reduce the amount of money leaving the local economies in the form of energy and fuel bills every year. ECTC facilitates energy efficiency work on older houses and community buildings by leveraging grants from the SEAI under the Better Energy Communities scheme.

The Galway Energy Co-operative is an organisation that aims to advocate for providing clean, renewable energy and services for Galway City and the surrounding area. As a member of the SEAI's Sustainable Energy Communities Initiative, the cooperative has been coordinating an Energy Master Plan for the city and offers consultancy services.

Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community (RISEC) is a not-for-profit, voluntary initiative established in 2018 to promote sustainable energy in an area southeast of Dublin city and to facilitate the activities of homeowners and organisations in the transition to a sustainable energy future. As a key activity, the RISEC develops a list of potential energy efficiency projects and assists in the delivery of these projects by leveraging grants and providing targeted audits and advice. RISEC received funding from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to develop an Energy Master Plan and to complete several demonstration projects.

Templederry Community Windfarm is the first 100% community-developed and owned windfarm in Ireland. The wind farm consists of two turbines (4.6 MW) in the foothills of Slieve Feilim. The project also gave rise to Community Power, Ireland's first community-owned electricity supplier.

Finally, the **social movements agency category** is associated with cases such as **Dublin Cycling Campaign** on the **reformative side**, and **Fridays For Future Ireland** or the **North Kerry wind turbine awareness group** on the **transformative side**.

The **Dublin Cycling Campaign** is an independent, voluntary cycling advocacy group that has been working to improve the city for all cyclists since 1993. The group lobbies local and national governments to bring about improved conditions for cyclists and increase recognition of the benefits of cycling, for instance, by getting a 30km/h speed limit put in place in Dublin.

Fridays For Future Ireland is the Irish chapter of the global Fridays for Futures movement, started by school and university students who skip Friday classes to participate in demonstrations. They demand action from political leaders to prevent climate change and for the fossil fuel industry to transition to renewable energy.

The North Kerry Wind Turbine Awareness Group is a group of local residents and one of the leading voices opposing wind farms in the Northern Kerry region. To this end, it organizes petitions, holds information events, and makes appeals concerning the legal permitting process.

	Individual			Collective	
	Private	Organizationally embedded	Public	Citizen-based and Hybrid	Social movements
Reformative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Action The Home Energy Saving Kit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Northern Commute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11th Citizens' Energy Forum Cara Augustenborg Citizens' Assembly on "How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change" Climate Conversations 2021 Our Energy Future Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dublin Cycling Campaign

	Individual			Collective	
	Private	Organizationally embedded	Public	Citizen-based and Hybrid	Social movements
Transformative	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorna Gold Paul Kenny 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aran Islands Energy Co-operative Cloughjordan Ecovillage Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC Galway Energy Co-operative Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community Templeberry Community Windfarm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fridays For Future Ireland North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG
Other	-				



3.2 Other typology types selected

Q76. If relevant for this case, which **other ideal-type(s) of ENCI** does the case shape/enable/support?

In the process of characterising the cases, it was possible to identify one or more other categories in addition to the main typology type. The most often selected category was **Reformative - Private**: one-fifth (20.0%) of the mapped cases were placed here. For 2 cases (10.0%) **Transformative - Public** was identified to be a secondary ideal-type.

	Individual			Collective		Other
	Private	Organizationally embedded	Public	Citizen-based and Hybrid	Social movements	
Reformative	4 (20.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.0%)	1 (5.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Transformative	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (10.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	

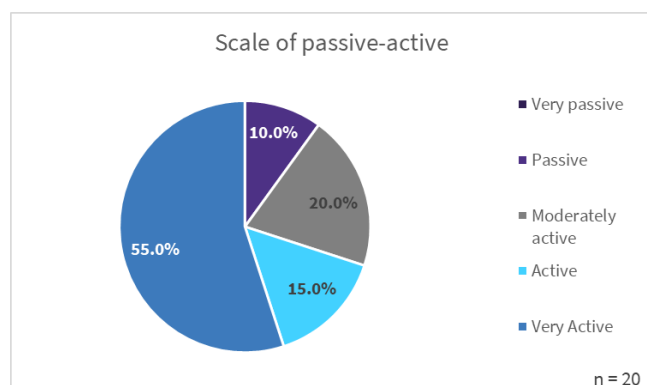
Part 4: Aspects of energy citizenship

4.1 More and less active forms of energy citizenship

Q48. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), please place the case on a **scale of passive-active** below, by moving the slider.

For this question, responses were collected using a scale of 1 to 100 by the researchers participating in the mapping activity, and then divided into the following five categories: 1-20 very passive, 21-40 passive, 41-60 moderately active, 61-80 active, 81-100 very active. The **more passive a case is, the more it involves energy consumption**, which means that it is not an ENCI yet but rather a passive consumer of energy due to disempowerment, disillusionment, or disinterest. The **more active a case is, the more aware, empowered, and active it is**, which means that it involves not only changing individually and joining others but activating and empowering others and helping others to become active.

On the scale of passive-active, the large **majority of the Irish cases (70.0%) were classified as “Active” (15.0%) or “Very Active” (55.0%)**. One-fifth (20.0%) were classified as **“Moderately active”** and a 10.0% as **“Passive”**. None of the mapped cases were classified as “Very passive”.

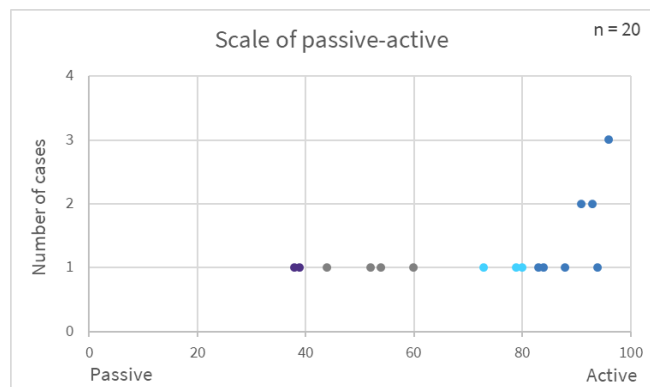


The **active and very active** categories include cases such as **Cloughjordan Ecovillage** as in this case, citizens are committed to a more sustainable way of life in all aspects of their lives and have been doing so for several years. In addition, the community is very active in serving as a role model and making their project known to a wider audience, potentially encouraging others to become active as well - which is at least a stated goal of the case. A second example is the **Aran Islands Energy Cooperative**, which acts as a leader and enabler for actors on the islands to become active themselves (e.g. retrofitting of homes). In terms of empowering others, what stands out is that this case strives to be a role model for other rural communities and a beacon for community-based sustainable solutions worldwide. A third example of a case classified as active is the **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future**. The consultation process resulted in a record

number of over 400 submissions in a short period, which indicates a highly level of activity among the participants of the consultation.

The Home Energy Saving Kit is as an example of a case that was classified as **moderately active**. Here, households are supported in reducing their energy consumption by means of the toolkit. There is certainly active energy citizenship as people have to borrow the kit from the local library and take care of the assessment of their own energy consumption and implement measures in their own households. Compared to other citizen engagement, the activity is rather modest, and other actors are not necessarily empowered and activated.

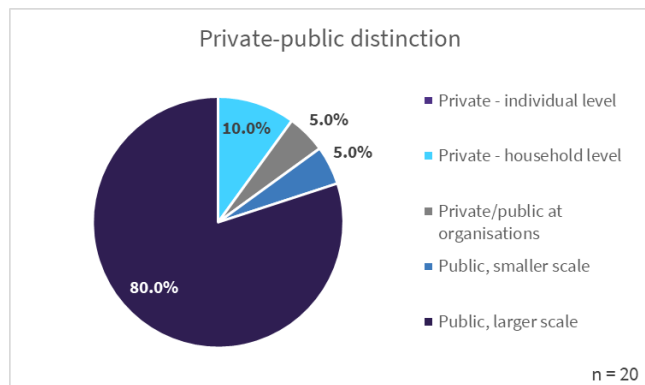
In this graph, we depict the exact placement of the cases on the Passive-Active scale. It is clearly visible that the majority of cases selected for mapping in Ireland are located in the “Active” area of the scale.



4.2 Private and public forms of energy citizenship

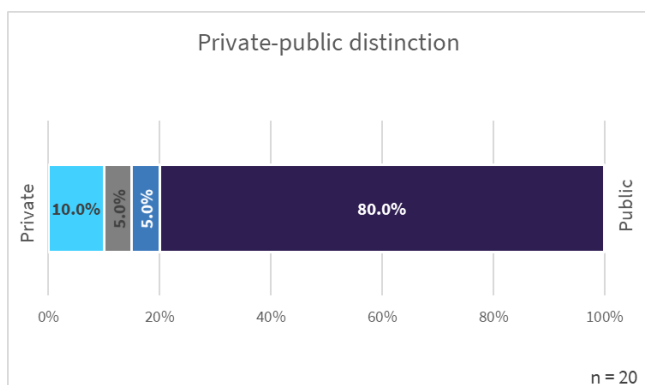
Q50. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), considering the **private-public distinction**, please select which applies most to this particular case.

In Ireland, the **distribution of the cases mapped on the public-private scale was very one-sided**. 80.0% of cases were classified as “public, larger scale” and only 10.0% - as second highest share - as “private – household level”. With only 5.0% each, the “private/public at organisations” scale and the “public, smaller scale” only applied to one case.



Public, larger scale means change and action at the district or settlement level or even a larger scale, including the societal level (e.g., low-carbon districts/towns, city-level public consultation, protests, transition towns). Examples for this are cases like the **Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’** as it addresses issues and makes recommendations for change of national policy level. Another example is the **Dublin Cycling Campaign** that aims at change of transport regulation at local to national level.

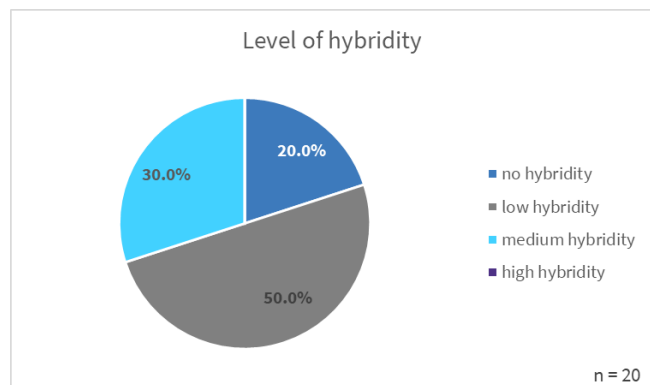
Private - household level action and change means, for example, household-level action, still in the home, including more radical change like prosumerism and energy self-sufficiency. An example for this is **Energy Action** where the focus of the case is change (energy efficiency, isolation) at the level of low-income or elderly households.



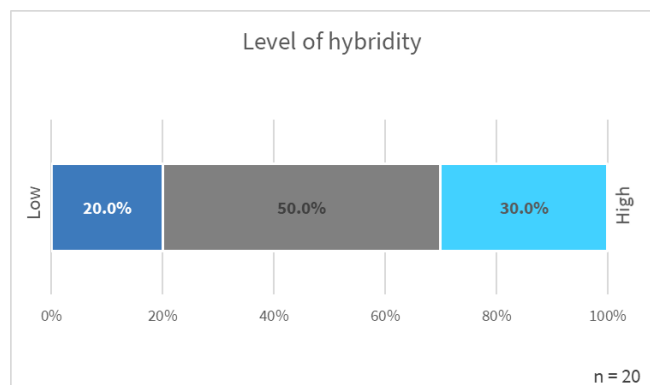
4.3 Level of hybridity in the cases of energy citizenship

Q52. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), please select the **appropriate level of hybridity** for the case...

In Ireland, the **majority of mapped cases - half of them (50.0%) - were classified as “low”** in terms of the level of hybridity. Almost one-third (30.0%) of the cases were classified into the “medium” category and one-fifth into the category “no hybridity”. **Low hybridity** was defined as having no more than two or three types of



actors/institutional logics involved or represented in the case. An example for this is the case **North Kerry wind turbine awareness group** as it mainly involves local residents and a school in the North Kerry region. **Medium hybridity** was defined to mean that four or five types of actors/institutional logics are/were involved or represented in the case. For instance, this was found to apply to the case **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future** as the consultation

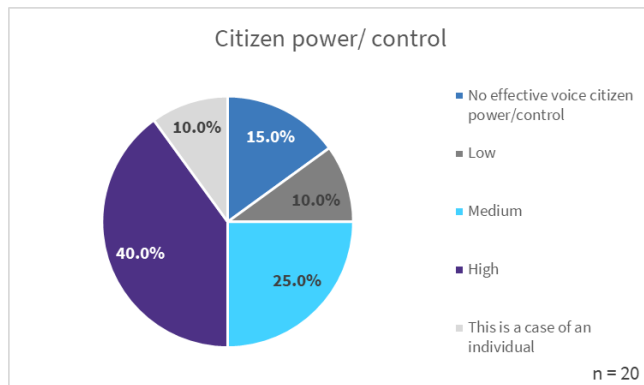


process included an online portal for individual submissions as well as several workshops with different stakeholder groups. While the individual submissions were mainly individual citizens, the workshops included business groups, rural communities, and youth groups.

4.4 Citizen power

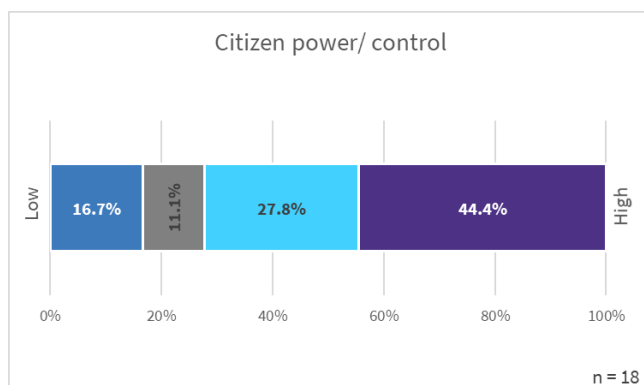
Q54. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), considering effective citizen power/ control, please select which applies most to this particular case.

In Ireland, the **majority of mapped cases (40.0%) were classified as “high”** in terms of the citizen power/control dimension of the typology. One-tenth (10.0%) of the cases were classified into the “low” category, and just over a quarter (25.0%) into the “medium” one. The remaining cases were classified either as having “not effective voice, citizen power/control” (15.0%) or were cases of individuals (10.0%).



Low citizen power means that “When expressed (e.g., within “invited” deliberative processes), citizens’ voices remain hardly heard or taken into account. Being in the minority, or considered this way, citizens’ voices do not count, or in a voting process the framings tend to limit the possibility of expressing an opinion”, as in the case of the 11th Citizens’ Energy Forum: Although the subject of the forum is the role of citizens in energy, ‘the citizen’ is mainly conceived of as consumer or as energy communities but still as consumer in relation to the market. The notion of citizenship thus did not necessarily come along with increased political power by citizens.

Medium citizen power means that “Citizens can express their views, but their voices are not included on a compulsory basis (within deliberative, representative or consultative processes). Within organised / participative structures, citizens remain a minority group; i.e., are unable to impose



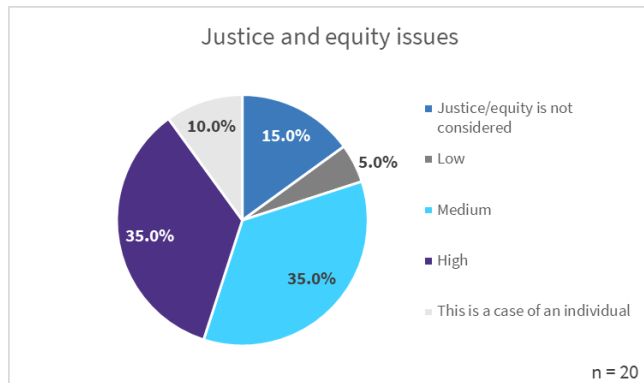
their views on other groups”, as in the case of the **Climate Conversations 2021**, the main purpose of which is public engagement and to invite people to provide their views and opinions - however without a majority view having a compulsory effect.

High citizen power means that “Citizens exert effective control, and their votes are mandatory. This governance takes place mostly in an “invented” process (as opposed to “invited” ones described by Radtke et al., 2020). Citizens represent a majority group, are empowered enough to control the process, and thus make their voices predominant”, as in the case of the **Cloughjordan Ecovillage** with its strong commitments to democratic decision-making (consensus decision-making to ensure each community member has their say).

4.5 Justice and equity

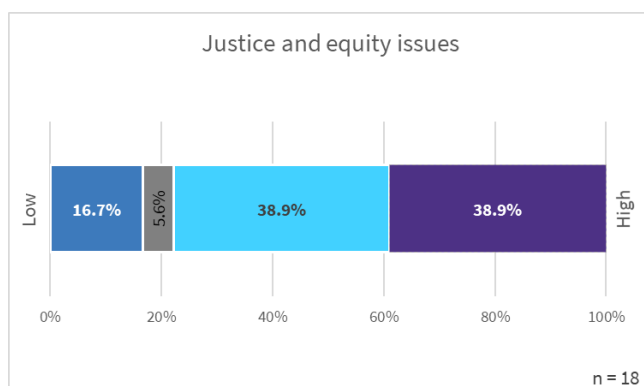
Q56. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), considering energy, mobility, or more holistic **justice and equity issues**, please select which applies most to this particular case.

In Ireland, among the mapped cases, there is an equal proportion of cases classified as “medium” and “high”: about one-third each (35.0%). Just one case (5% of the cases) was classified in the “low” category, while 15.0% were classified within the “justice/equity not considered” category. 10.0% were cases of individuals.



High was defined to mean that involvement is fully open, without specific conditions of participation, and issues such as energy poverty, gender, and inclusivity are taken into account and foster adaptive measures aimed at guaranteeing more justice/equity like in the case of **Fridays For Future Ireland**, which involves strong elements of intergenerational energy/climate justice and in which issues of global justice (“north-south”) are taken into account. Another example is the **Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’** which explicitly took into account fairness, climate justice and social justice; and while access to assembly was restricted to selected citizens, the selection was intended to be representative of Irish citizenry.

Medium was defined to mean that equal access is granted to all concerned citizens, but the framings tend to limit them to a certain geographical area or amount of financial contribution, etc. which does not guarantee “real” equity, like in the case of **North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG**, which is fundamentally about a justice issue concerning the (expected) environmental impact of windmills on the local population. Furthermore, the lack of public consultation was brought forward as a shortcoming in the approval process of the windmills - as



an aspect of procedural justice. However, justice concerns are limited to a certain region and do not go beyond the objections to the windmills.

Low was defined in the project as “justice or equity are essentially out of scope, or restricted to equal access to markets”.

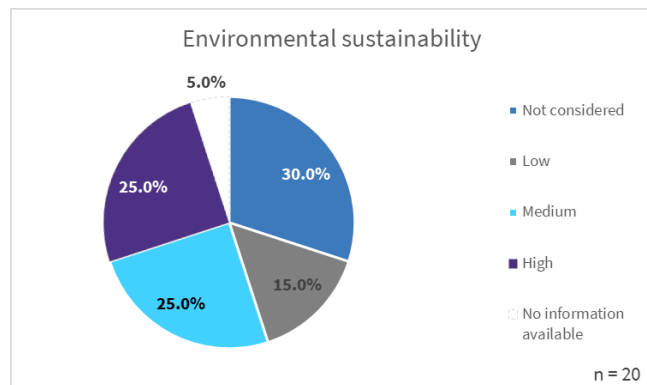
4.6 Environmental sustainability, recognizing carbon and other ecological limits

Q58. In terms of form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), considering **environmental sustainability**, please select which applies most to this particular case

Q60. Does/did the case shape/enable/support ENCI that **explicitly recognizes the ecological limit of atmospheric carbon emissions...**?

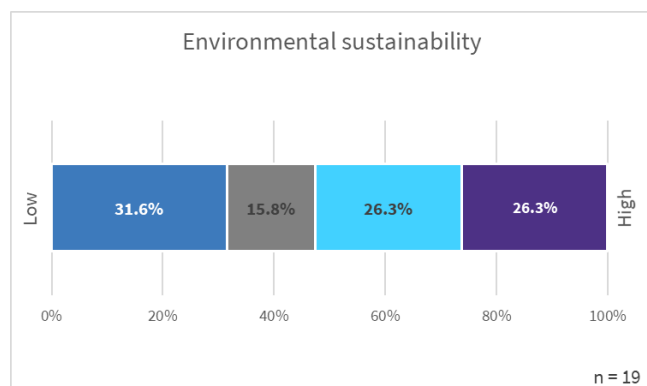
Q61. Are there **other ecological limits** (e.g. biodiversity loss, deforestation, freshwater use, chemical pollution, etc.) mentioned and recognised as well?"

In Ireland, the distribution of mapped cases is very diverse when it comes to environmental sustainability. 30% of the cases were classified as not considering environmental sustainability, while 25% of the cases were classified into the “medium”, 25% in the “high” category and 15.0% into the “low” one.



Low here was defined to mean that “if given any consideration, environmental sustainability issues are mostly taken for granted and not explicitly taken into account; in the lowest forms, environmental sustainability tends to be dealt with as a positive or negative externality” like in the case of the **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future** where the impact on the environment was indeed addressed in some comments during the consultation process. However, the issue remained marginal, while the issue of energy was far more important.

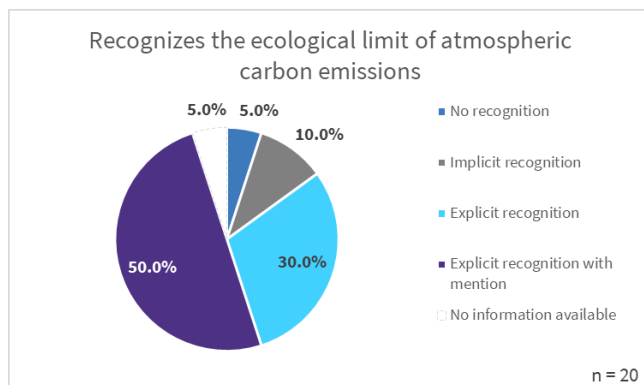
Medium means that “environmental sustainability is part of the process or initiative, but this concern is addressed superficially and without dedicated assessment, and energy remains the main focus” like in the case of **Dublin Cycling Campaign** as environmental benefits of cycling were mentioned



instrumentally as reason for more bike-friendly regulation/streets. Otherwise, there was only little mention of environmental sustainability while bike (safety) remained the main issue.

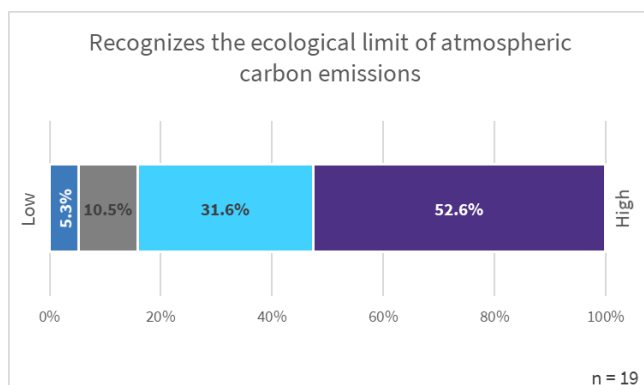
High was defined as “environmental sustainability is a core issue, which is associated with a holistic strategy, and its assessment through indicators is seen as desirable” like in the case of the **Cloughjordan Ecovillage** as environmental sustainability is one of the core issues of the project and it is pursued through a holistic strategy not limited to energy but including food and transport.

Related to environmental sustainability, we also investigated the cases’ approaches to recognising and taking action related to the ecological limit of atmospheric carbon emissions. Concerning this question, **half of the mapped cases in Ireland (50.0%) were classified as having**



“explicit recognition with mention/objective of reaching the maximal carbon footprint”. Almost one-third (30.0%) were classified into the “explicit recognition” category. 2 cases (10.0%) were classified implicitly recognising the ecological limits of atmospheric carbon emissions and one case (5.0%) was classified with “no recognition”. For another 5.0% no information could be found.

Explicit recognition with mention/objective of reaching the maximal carbon footprint means that, in addition to mentioning the ecological limit of atmospheric carbon emissions or sustainable carbon footprint, the maximum sustainable carbon footprint and/or



emissions are also defined in associated documents, like in the case of **Cloughjordan Ecovillage**.

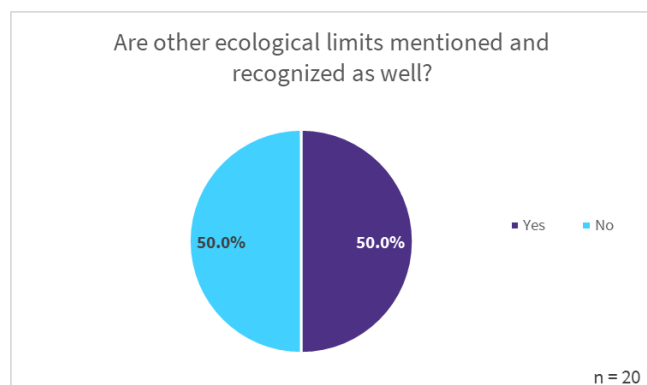
Explicit recognition is defined as meaning that “the ecological limit of atmospheric carbon emissions or sustainable carbon footprint is mentioned in core documents and the actors

involved in the case are engaged in attempts to reduce consumption and/or emission of carbon”, like in the case of **Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community**.

Implicit recognition means that there is “No explicit mention of the ecological limit of atmospheric carbon emissions or sustainable carbon footprint, but despite the lack of formal references to either of them, the case is involved in activities aimed at reducing consumption and/or the emission of carbon”, like in the case of **The Home Energy Saving Kit**

No recognition is understood to mean that “there is no mention of carbon limit or sustainable carbon footprint”

Half of the mapped Irish cases (50.0%) mention and recognise other ecological limits as well, while the other half (50.0%) do not. For instance, the case **Our Energy Future** as mentions nature protection, ecological soundness, and aspects of health. **Ringsend Irishtown**



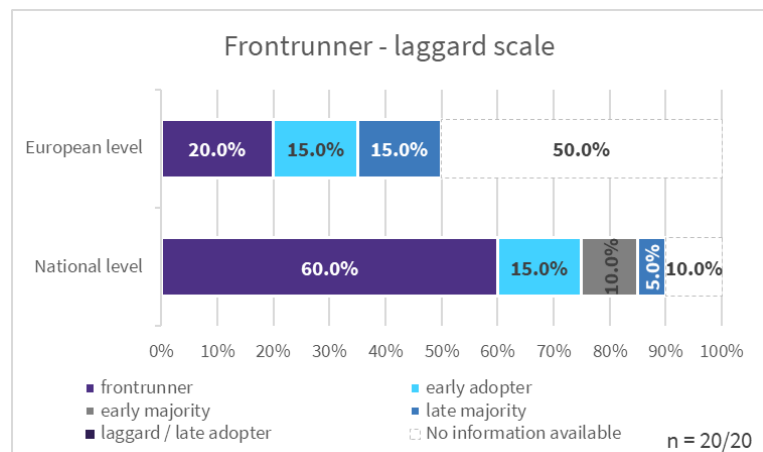
Sustainable Energy Community includes concerns about plastic waste. Several cases mention Biodiversity as other ecological aspect, for instance **Fridays For Future Ireland** or the **Citizens' Assembly on 'How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change'**.

4.7 Frontrunners, early adopters and laggards

Q63-Q64. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), considering the **laggard - frontrunner distinction**, please select which applies most to this particular case – national and European level context.

As indicated by the question above, the issue of frontrunners and laggards was investigated at both the national and European levels as the assumption was made that some cases, although frontrunners in their national context, may be considered early adopters, etc. when evaluated at the European level.

At the **national level**, the **majority of the Irish cases (60.0%) were classified as “frontrunners”**, 15.0% as “early adopters”, 10.0% as early majority and 5.0% as late majority. For 10.0% of the mapped cases no information was available on this question.



At the **European level**, for half of the cases (50.0%) no assessment could be made (“no information available”). One-fifth (20.0%) was classified as frontrunners, 15.0% as early adopters and another 15.0% as late majority.

Frontrunner is understood to mean that the case “unleashes the change process, starts the innovation, whether technological or social, and takes it through the first difficult stage, i.e. pioneers trendsetters, those who wish to lead and/or have the resources to lead the change process”. Frontrunner examples of cases that were classified as such at both the national and European level include the **Aran Islands Energy Co-operative** as holistic energy communities on rural islands with ambitions for self-sufficiency. This is highlighted by the fact that the case has been winning prizes and collaborated in many European projects.

The frontrunner category also includes cases like **Cloughjordan Ecovillage** because this case represents Ireland's first (and for a long time only) ecovillage. In Europe, on the other hand, it was assessed as early adopter as there have been earlier ecovillages.

Early adopter(s) are defined as “opinion leaders who become enthusiastic about new products/ways of doing things/solutions, etc., share their benefits with others and adopt first”. An example of a case assessed as early adopter in the Irish context is **Climate Conversations 2021**. While consultation processes on national policy are nothing new in themselves in Ireland, the broad design with combinations of different formats (surveys, workshops, etc.) has an innovative character. An interesting case is the **Citizens’ Assembly on ‘How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change’**. Within Ireland, this citizens' assembly on climate change was not the first of its kind (early adopter), but within Europe it is often seen as a role model and frontrunner.

Early majority means “early adoption, but deliberate, less venturesome and independent than earlier adopters”. In this category, there are cases like **Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community**, which emerged in the wave of new Sustainable Energy Communities founded in the late 2010’ years in Ireland. On the other hand, energy communities go back much longer in many European countries why this case thus might be seen as late majority in the European context.

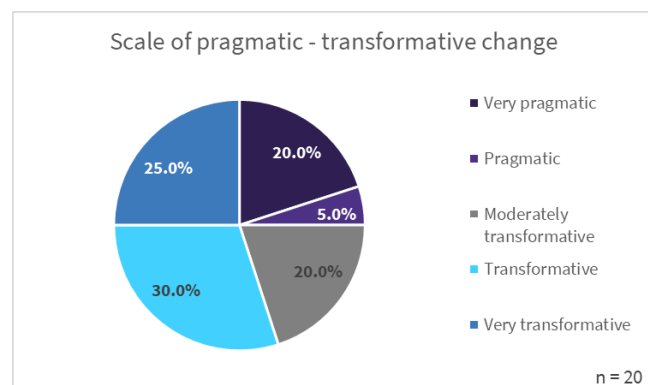
Late majority means “the case only adopts change when there is a strong feeling of being left behind or missing out”. When considering the European level, only one case was classified into this category from Ireland, the **11th Citizens’ Energy Forum**, as the case did not involve very innovative formats.

4.8 Pragmatic and transformative change

Q66. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), please place the case on a **scale of pragmatic - transformative change**, by moving the slider.

For this question, responses were collected from case researchers on a scale of 1 to 100, and for the analysis were divided into the following five categories: 1-20 very pragmatic, 21-40 pragmatic, 41-60 moderately transformative, 61-80 transformative, and 81-100 very transformative. A case is understood to be **more pragmatic if it mainly operates using pragmatic involvement**, which often refers to involvement within “concrete projects” or activities, and is often characterised by a preoccupation with technology and efficiency. A case is defined as **more transformative if it is more about transformative involvement**, embraces broader energy transition goals and climate change, and is concerned with and focuses on energy democracy and/or sufficiency.

Using the scale of pragmatic-transformative change, the **majority of the mapped Irish cases (75.0%) were classified as being transformative, including “very transformative” (25.0%), “transformative” (30.0%) or “moderately transformative” (20.0%)**. One quarter



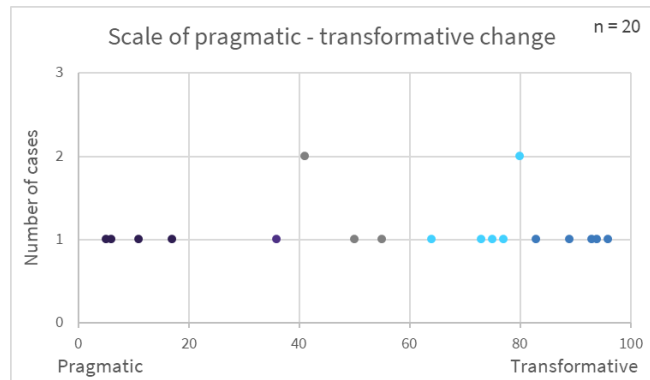
(25.0%) of case was classified as being pragmatic, including “pragmatic” (5.0%) or “very pragmatic” (20.0%). For this question, all cases were classified.

The very pragmatic category includes cases such as **The Home Energy Saving Kit**. Recommendations for action in the case are aimed at very concrete, often technical measures for energy efficiency in households.

The pragmatic category includes cases such as **Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community**. The case mainly focuses on energy efficiency measures in housing. A developed Energy Master Plan includes mainly pragmatic approaches. But there are some aspects of sufficiency.

The **moderately transformative** category includes cases such as **Dublin Cycling Campaign**. On the one hand, the case does include transformative elements in that it envisions an urban transport system that is designed for the needs of cyclists, which represents a significant deviation for the current system mainly designed for motorised transport. In its activities, on the other hand, the case pursues pragmatic solutions, with a focus on specific projects.

The **transformative** category includes cases such as **Our Energy Future**. At least in terms of its ambitions, this case project has some transformative elements, especially as it anticipates the necessity of transformative change to reach Ireland's energy goals. Indeed, this led to the perceived need of a citizen consultation in the first place.

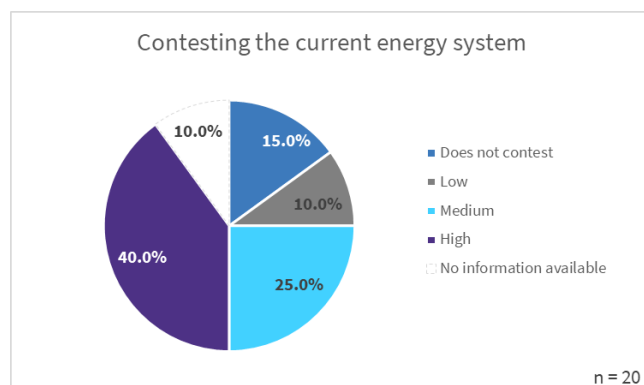


The **very transformative** category includes cases such as **Fridays For Future Ireland** as the case involves deeply transformative elements whereas “pragmatic” solutions are deemed as not effective enough or not working, which is why it is advocated that more radical change is required.

4.9 Contesting the current energy system

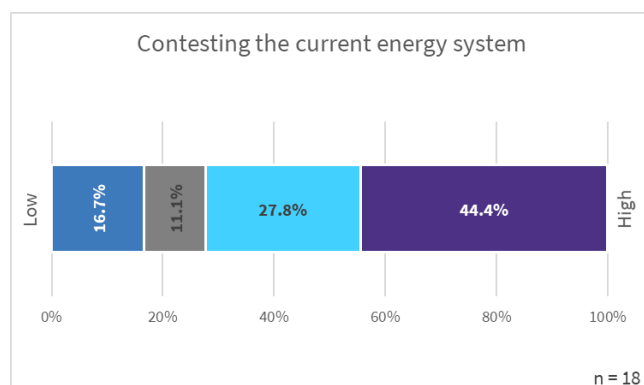
Q68. In terms of the form of ENCI it shapes/enables/supports (or shaped/enabled/supported), please select which applies most to this particular case in terms of **contesting the current energy system**..?

Of the mapped Irish cases, 40.0% were classified as “high”, 25.0% as “medium” and 10.0% as “low” in terms of at which level they contest the current energy system. A few (15.0%) were found not to be contesting the system. For 10.0% of the cases, no information was available on this question.



Low in terms of contesting the current system means that “citizen involvement/action is essentially system-confirming, which means that citizens generally go along with the basic structures of the existing system”, like in the case of **Energy Action** as it focuses on pragmatic solutions but has insulated 35,000 homes since its inception. An contesting element in the case is lobbying activity for changes at national energy policy level

Medium means that “some system-contesting aspects are part of the process, yet are not appropriated by citizens or considered a full part of their involvement” like in the case of **Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future**. On the one hand, the case is about debating a transformative development of the energy system, especially when it comes to the grid and how decisions about this issue are made. It thus have certain contesting elements. On the other hand, the process as well as the transformation strategies are organized by the national transmission grid operator, which is itself a key player of the incumbent system.



High means that “citizens are committed to deeply renewing and restructuring the system toward a more democratic and sustainable one; additionally, narratives, action, and proposals are part of the contestation of the dominant system, resulting in critique and protest against energy or mobility policies, or support for more holistic sustainability policies and action, as well as forms of

engagement that aim at making fundamental change (e.g., achieving autonomy)” like in the case of **Fridays For Future Ireland** as it involves strong contestation of the current energy system and energy and climate policy.

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Annex: List of the Irish cases

Title of the case in English <i>(original)</i>	Brief overview	Webpage / Facebook
11th Citizens' Energy Forum (11th Citizens' Energy Forum)	The 11th Citizens' Energy Forum took place in Dublin in 2019 and welcomed Youth representatives from across Europe to join the discussion about achieving an inclusive energy transition for all and the role of consumers in the changing energy market alongside policymakers, energy regulators and consumer organisations. The event resulted in a paper with consolidated conclusions, covering how to activate citizens/consumers in key sectors to decarbonise the energy system, support sustainable finance for greener and cleaner energy, and create an inclusive and accessible energy market.	ec.europa.eu/info/events/citizens-dialogues/citizens-dialogue-dublin-youth-sustainable-consumption-citizens-energy-forum-2019-sep-13_en ;
Aran Islands Energy Co-operative (Comharchumann Fuinnimh Oileáin Árann Teoranta)	The Aran Islands Energy Co-operative is a community-owned energy cooperative on the Aran Islands at the mouth of Galway Bay. Through the cooperative, the residents of the three islands aim to become self-sufficient in clean, locally owned energy and to build the local economy of the islands using the benefits that accrue from this. The main activities are related to energy efficiency and retrofitting of houses, renewable energy generation, electrification of mobility, and participation in research projects.	aranislandsenergycoop.ie/ ; facebook.com/AranIslandsenergy/
Cara Augustenborg (Cara Augustenborg)	Cara Augustenborg is an Irish-American environmental scientist, blogger, podcaster, and advocate for climate action based in Ireland. She was chair of Friends of the Earth Ireland (2015-2017) and Europe (2015-2019). In 2021, she was appointed to the Climate Change Advisory Council of Ireland.	caraaugustenborg.com/ ; facebook.com/CaraAugustenborgGreen
Citizens' Assembly on "How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change" (Citizens' Assembly on "How the state can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change")	A citizens' assembly of 100 members, chosen to be representative of the Irish population, engaged in a deliberative process, under impartial and factual advice from experts, to discuss the question "How can the state make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change?" The process resulted in a series of reports and recommendations for the attention of the Parliament of the Republic of Ireland.	2016-2018.citizensassembly.ie/en/How-the-State-can-make-Ireland-a-leader-in-tackling-climate-change/How-the-State-can-make-Ireland-a-leader-in-tackling-climate-change.html ; twitter.com/CitizAssembly



Title of the case in English (original)	Brief overview	Webpage / Facebook
Climate Conversations 2021 (Climate Conversations 2021)	<p>The Climate Conversations 2021 were a series of consultation events established by the Irish Government's Department of Environment, Climate and Communications as part of the National Dialogue on Climate Action. Through the Climate Conversations, the people of Ireland were invited to provide their views on how Ireland could be transformed and how individuals and communities could be supported to take their own positive climate actions. The consultations sought to inform the formulation of the Climate Action Plan 2021, the government's annual plan that sets out how Ireland will meet its climate commitments and reach EU and international climate targets. The Conversations consisted of four interlinked engagement processes blending surveys with focus groups and workshops targeting different audiences.</p>	<p>gov.ie/en/consultation/5bd95-climate-conversation-climate-action-plan-2021/</p>
Cloughjordan Ecovillage (Cloughjordan Ecovillage)	<p>The Cloughjordan Ecovillage is an eco-village community on a 67-acre site in the Irish Midlands committed to ecological, social and economic sustainability as well as communal, carbon-neutral and self-sufficient living. The first residents moved into what are now 55 low-carbon homes in 2009, built using natural construction techniques and applying high energy efficiency standards, supplied by a district heating system that burns wood waste from a nearby sawmill and provides low-carbon heating and hot water. Furthermore, the village has a working farm, an array of polytunnels and a bakery providing the community with food year-round.</p>	<p>thevillage.ie; facebook.com/EcoVillageCjn/</p>
Dublin Cycling Campaign (Dublin Cycling Campaign)	<p>The Dublin Cycling Campaign is an independent, voluntary cycling advocacy group that has been working to improve the city for all cyclists since 1993. The group lobbies local and national governments to bring about improved conditions for cyclists and increase recognition of the benefits of cycling, for instance, by getting a 30km/h speed limit put in place in Dublin.</p>	<p>dublincycling.com; facebook.com/dublincycling</p>
Energy Action (Energy Action)	<p>Established in 1988, Energy Action is Ireland's first community-based energy project for addressing the problem of fuel poverty in Dublin. Energy Action has insulated 35,000 homes since its inception and has also supported several community-based organisations in other parts of the country through pilot schemes to develop their own capacity to tackle fuel poverty. The service is provided through the Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland.</p>	<p>energyaction.ie; facebook.com/energyactionireland</p>

Title of the case in English (original)	Brief overview	Webpage / Facebook
Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC (Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC)	Energy Community Tipperary Cooperative ECTC is an organization bringing together 14 communities in the Tipperary region to reduce the amount of money leaving the local economies in the form of energy and fuel bills every year. ECTC facilitates energy efficiency work on older houses and community buildings by leveraging grants from the SEAI under the Better Energy Communities scheme.	energycommunitiestipp.ie ; facebook.com/EnergyCommunitiesTipp
Fridays For Future Ireland (Fridays For Future Ireland)	Fridays For Future Ireland is the Irish chapter of the global Fridays for Futures movement, started by school and university students who skip Friday classes to participate in demonstrations. They demand action from political leaders to prevent climate change and for the fossil fuel industry to transition to renewable energy.	fridaysforfuture.ie/ ; facebook.com/fffIreland/
Galway Energy Co-operative (Galway Energy Co-operative)	The Galway Energy Co-operative is an organisation that aims to advocate for providing clean, renewable energy and services for Galway City and the surrounding area. As a member of the SEAI's Sustainable Energy Communities Initiative, the cooperative has been coordinating an Energy Master Plan for the city and offers consultancy services.	galwayenergy.coop ; facebook.com/GalwayEnergyCoop/
Lorna Gold (Lorna Gold)	Dr Lorna Gold is an author, lecturer, and climate activist and has been actively involved in several non-profit organisations. Currently, she is the director of the movement 'building with FaithInvest', an international organization for religious groups and faith-based investors that promotes investments for the benefit of people and the planet. She is also vice-chair of the Laudato Si' Movement (formerly Global Catholic Climate Movement), which aims to inspire and mobilise communal action for climate and ecological justice. In previous roles, she led Trócaire's policy, research and advocacy activities in Ireland for almost two decades, was a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group on the National Climate Dialogue in Ireland and has recently published a book called "Climate Generation - Awakening to our Children's Future".	maynoothuniversity.ie/people/lorna-gold ; facebook.com/ClimateGeneration
North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG (North Kerry wind turbine awareness group NKWTAG)	The North Kerry Wind Turbine Awareness Group is a group of local residents and one of the leading voices opposing wind farms in the Northern Kerry region. To this end, it organizes petitions, holds information events, and makes appeals concerning the legal permitting process.	facebook.com/northkerrywindturbineawarenessgroup/



Title of the case in English <i>(original)</i>	Brief overview	Webpage / Facebook
Our Energy Future (Our Energy Future)	“Our Energy Future” is a three-year collaborative project between EirGrid, Friends of the Earth, and the Renewable Grid Initiative to engage the public in light of Ireland's ambitious commitment to increase the share of renewable energy in electricity supply to up to 80% by 2030, which will require a comprehensive energy transition. Aiming to develop an inclusive vision for Ireland's energy future, the project will foster diverse and open dialogues with communities, civil society organizations, local groups and other stakeholders, raise awareness and build capacity, and engage with the Irish Government and in relevant energy policy processes.	eirgridgroup.com/newsroom/our-energy-future-project/index.xml ;
Paul Kenny (Paul Kenny)	Paul Kenny was CEO of the Tipperary Energy Agency, an independent not-for-profit social enterprise that aims to lead the delivery of sustainable energy solutions in Tipperary and beyond by advocating, educating and innovating on climate action. He also was involved in developing the first community-owned wind farm in Ireland in Templederry. In 2020 he was appointed Special Advisor to Minister Eamon Ryan in the Department of Communications, Climate Action, and Environment.	linkedin.com/in/paulkenny/
Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future (Public Consultation: Shaping Our Electricity Future)	EirGrid, the state-owned electric power transmission operator in Ireland, has been tasked by the government with transforming the electricity system in anticipation of 70% of Ireland’s electricity coming from renewable sources by 2030, as envisioned in the Government's Climate Action Plan (2019). This challenge is being addressed through a strategy outlined in the report, Shaping Our Electricity Future, which presents four different approaches to the development of the grid. Due to the high level of impact and transformative nature of this transition, EirGrid conducted a nationwide consultation process in the form of several online workshops and an online consultation platform to improve engagement with the public and with all stakeholders. Along with the outputs of the workshops, this resulted in several hundred submissions and comments by various stakeholders, including citizens.	consult.eirgrid.ie/consultation/public-consultation-shaping-our-electricity-future ;



Title of the case in English (original)	Brief overview	Webpage / Facebook
Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community (Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community)	Ringsend Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community (RISEC) is a not-for-profit, voluntary initiative established in 2018 to promote sustainable energy in an area southeast of Dublin city and to facilitate the activities of homeowners and organisations in the transition to a sustainable energy future. As a key activity, the RISEC develops a list of potential energy efficiency projects and assists in the delivery of these projects by leveraging grants and providing targeted audits and advice. RISEC received funding from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to develop an Energy Master Plan and to complete several demonstration projects.	risec.ie/ ; facebook.com/EnergyRingsend
Templederry Community Windfarm (Templederry Community Windfarm)	Templederry Community Windfarm is the first 100% community-developed and owned windfarm in Ireland. The wind farm consists of two turbines (4.6 MW) in the foothills of Slieve Feilim. The project also gave rise to Community Power, Ireland's first community-owned electricity supplier.	tippenergy.ie/our-work/templederry-community-windfarm
The Home Energy Saving Kit (The Home Energy Saving Kit)	The Home Energy Saving Kit was developed by Dublin's energy agency, Codema, to help citizens understand their energy use and identify key areas of their homes that should be improved in terms of energy efficiency. The kit can be borrowed free of charge from libraries across Ireland. It contains five practical tools and six exercises that help citizens to conduct their own home energy audits and to find the easiest and most effective areas to reduce their energy consumption.	codema.ie/energysavingkit ; facebook.com/EnergySavingKit
The Northern Commute (The Northern Commute)	Northern Commute is a project and a Smarter Travel Brand of the Limerick offices of the financial services company "Northern Trust". It was created with the aim of reducing the amount of single-occupied cars being driven to offices. Among other measures, a scheme for staff carpooling was set up. The project is associated with the Carpooling scheme provided by Transport for Ireland (TFI), the public transport brand of the National Transport Authority.	