



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Energy Communities in Western Piedmont (1)

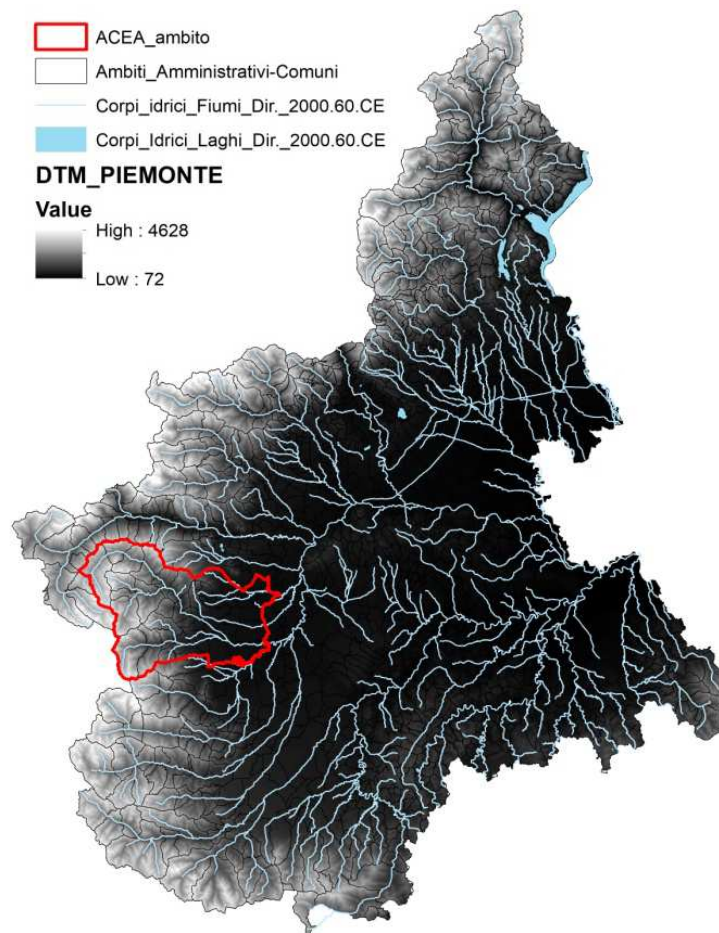
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21 January, 2021 Turin workshop

Reference territory



Zone 5 of the Metropolitan City of Turin, known as «Pinerolese» (45 municipalities)

Surface: 1.348 km²

Inhabitants (ISTAT 2011): 149.249

Population density: 111 people/km²

Average altitude a.s.l. 581 m

Preliminary feasibility study for an energy community

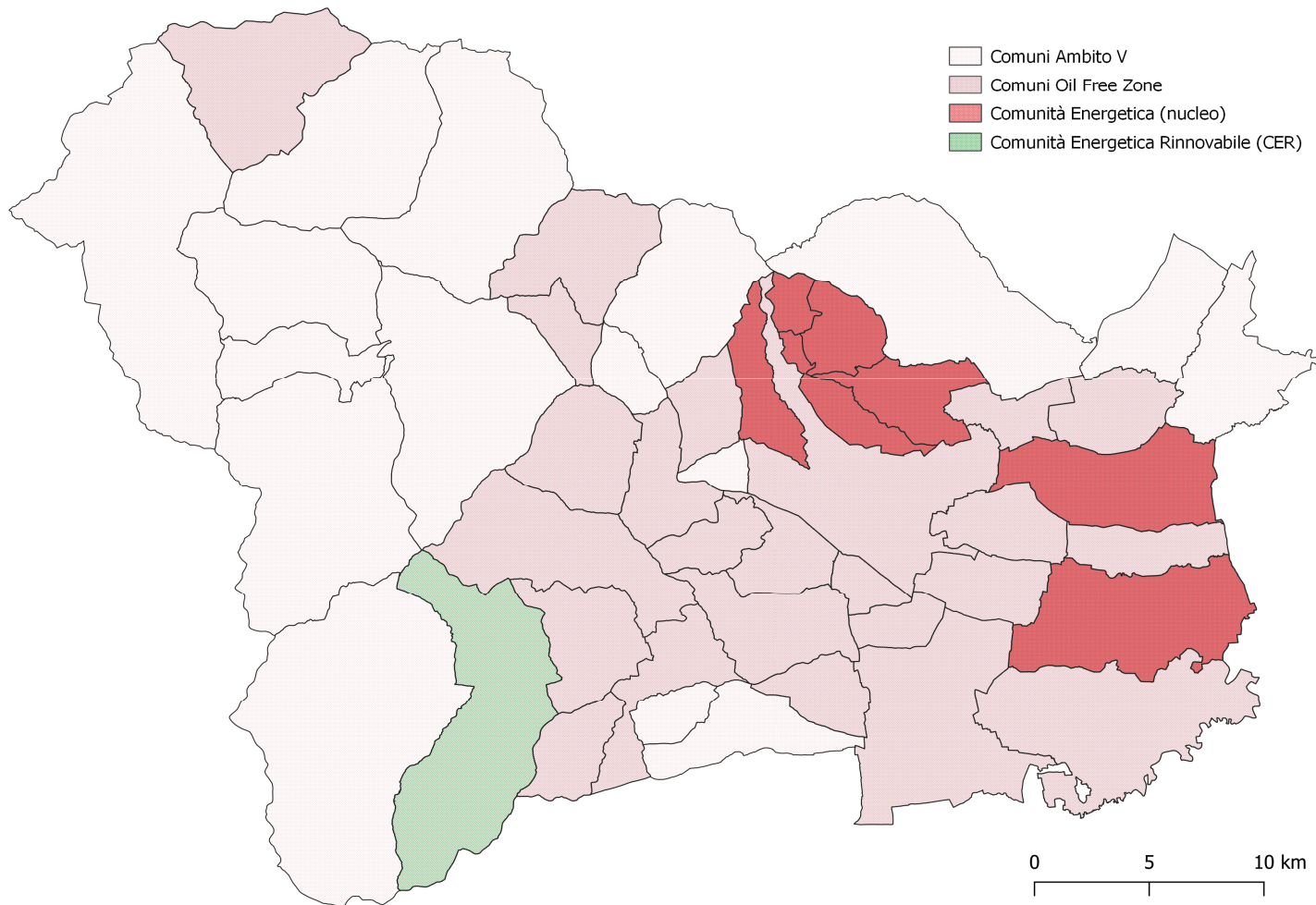


Pilot study
(2014)
Politecnico di
Torino

5 municipalities:
~19.000 inhabitants

Successful evaluation

Oil Free Zone «Territorio sostenibile» (Sustainable territory)



Established
in April 2019

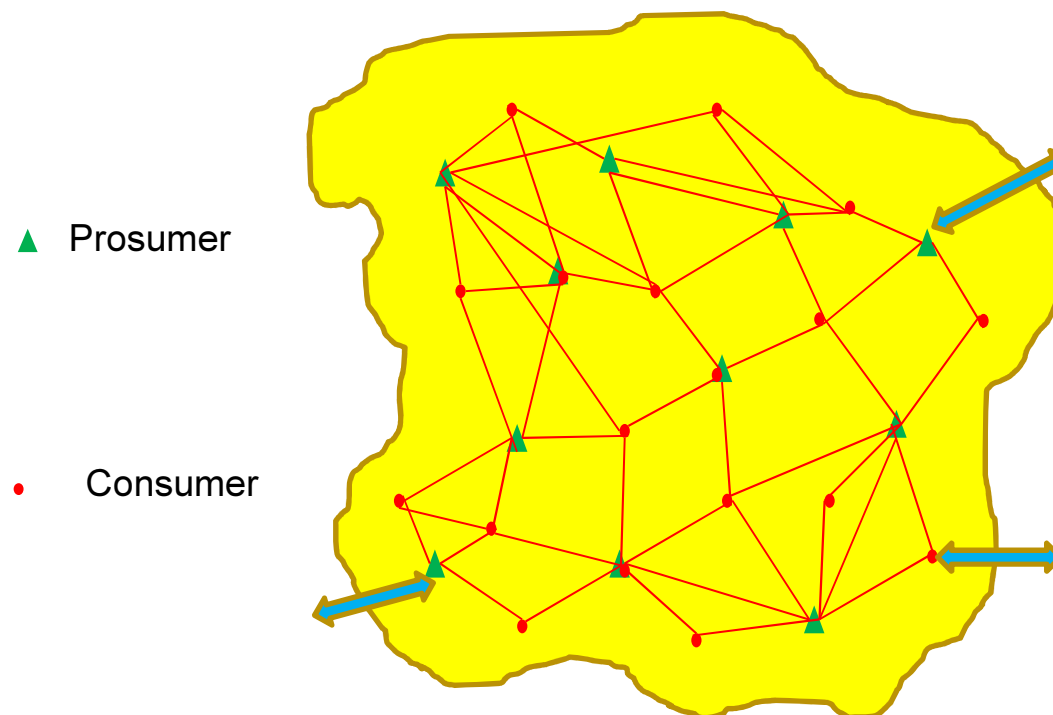
Present
members: 31
municipalities

Part II

Open problems and ambiguities

Mutual exchange versus community

A group of energy users including at least one prosumer, locally connected to the same patch of the public grid, do exchange energy among themselves regardless of any administrative authorization and even if they are not aware of doing so:
this is physics, not a community.



Actual energy communities

A real energy community is a group of prosumers and consumers which, besides mutual exchanging energy produced within the group, jointly decide the group policies, investments, individual attitudes toward the use of energy and so on.

A group of energy users depending from an external aggregator is not a community.

Present Italian legislation regarding RECs

Legal Italian RECs are formal aggregates of individual energy users fully independent from each other, who, thanks to a formal act (and some material conditions), gain a state incentive measured on the entity of their real time exchange of energy, without necessarily having anything else in common.

Besides this, each member of the group individually faces the energy market.

Pursued institutional form

- The four projects recognized by the Region are Citizens Energy Communities (CEC) and have no incentives from the State.
- The «Pinerolese» community has prepared the statute of a cooperative, but, as a first step, intends to set up a simple association.
- Besides the «Pinerolese» also the Maira-Grana and the Valle Po projects are willing to create communities in the form of temporary associations aimed to be converted into final energy associations as soon as the material conditions are met.
- One more municipality in Piedmont, Magliano Alpi, is activating a REC.
- A REC is also starting up in Villar Pellice, within the Pinerolese Oil Free Zone.

Incentives

- RECs are small and incentivized.
- CECs are not.
- The «Pinerolese» community is promoting the establishment of a number of RECs on its territory (in the form of associations).
- The «Pinerolese» CEC will then be a society of associations (RECs).
- The member RECs will exchange the excess energy among them and within the CEC.
- This scheme is agreed upon also by the other three major Piedmontese projects

Uncertainties

We are working hard to pursue the activation of a plurality of energy communities.

The uncertainties come from the legislative side:

- Current rules apply at most until the end of June.
- The subsequent new law is at present undefined and no clear process of participatory and shared definition is in progress.



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Thank you!

Questions welcome

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