

## Participation of the STRIDE project in "Perspectives and technologies in the energy communities 2023-2027" Discussion Forum



On 28th November, 2022, at Launchee space, Central Universal Store, Sofia and online on Zoom, the Bulgarian Energy and Mining Forum (BEMF) presented the STRIDE project during "Perspectives and technologies in the energy communities 2023-2027" Discussion Forum.



The event was organized by BEMF and the Sustainable Energy Development Agency (SEDA), both partners in the [STRIDE](#) project.

Focus of the event was the development and operation of energy communities, inter alia the existing EU legislation, the national approach, technological platforms, pre-conditions, incentives and models for successful cooperation.

The discussion forum was organized in three panels. The first one was led by the staff and external experts of BEMF and SEDA in [STRIDE](#). The director of SEDA, Mr Ivaylo Alexiev presented the energy communities and the energy efficiency monitoring as per the latest EU commitments and legislation. Mr. Alexiev shared the definitions of energy community, renewable energy community and their functions, type of cooperation, the new renewable energy portal developed by SEDA for citizens.

Mr. Nikolay Nalbantov, Director of 'EU strategies and policies' Directorate, Ministry of Energy updated on the status of the harmonization of Bulgarian legislation with the EU requirements for liberalization of the energy sector market. He presented in details the process of transposition of Directive (EC) 2018/2001 in the Bulgarian RES legal Act, including setting-up, objectives, rights and obligations of the renewable energy communities. Mr. Nalbantov shared basic rules for citizens' energy communities, as per Directive (EC) 2019/944.



The outputs and results of the [STRIDE](#) project, along with the [STRIDE](#) smart energy platform were presented by BEMF experts.



The Project manager of BEMF in [STRIDE](#) shared information on the Energy Communities Charter – a new ideology for accelerated development of SMART energy.



During the second panel the Municipality of Gabrovo, the Municipality of Sofia and engineers working in the Municipality of Dobrich and the Municipality of Varna presented the progress on some real models for smart grids at local level. The local authorities provided opinion on the urban planning aspects, the local potential for smart energy development and local policies provisions.

The BEMF experts presented an integrated approach for management of municipal resources and targeting energy independence.

The event was finalized with discussion on the conditions and incentives for successful development of energy cooperatives in horizon 2023-2027.

Link to presentations from the event: <https://bulenergyforum.org/bg/arhiv-energiino-subitie/mezhdunaroden-diskusii-forum-0>

STRIDE, energy efficiency, smart grids, energy policy, ERDF