



Analysis of the Economic and Democratic Processes in Renewable Energy Community

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Energy communities for collective self-consumption: frameworks, practices and tools

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How do production/supply/sharing energy communities emerge and develop?

Renewable Energy Community

Article 40 - law of 8 november 2019:
« Energy-Climate »



Called “ citizens project” in Nouvelle-Aquitaine’s call of projects

An unclear definition

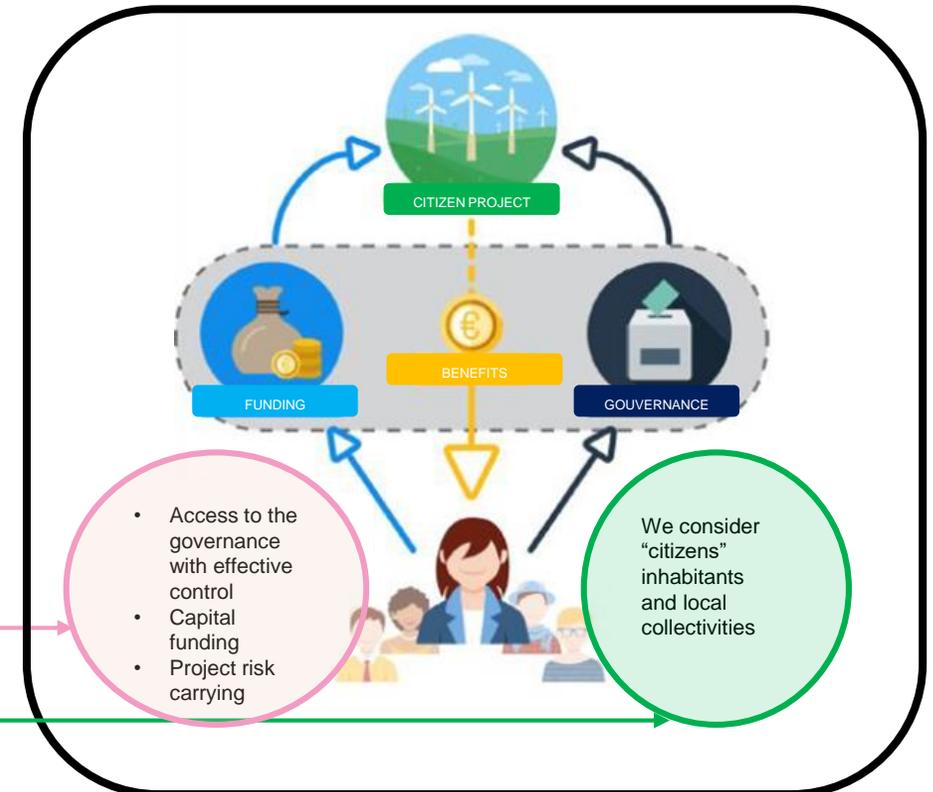
A stricter retranscription

1. Participation must be
'open and voluntary'

2. Effective control by citizens,
local authorities and smaller
businesses

3. The primary purpose is to
generate social, economic and
environmental benefits for their
shareholders, members of local
territories, rather than focus on
financial profits.

- the ratio between costs and benefits
- shared-value theory



Call of projects : participatory and citizen projects for energy transition

REGULATION THEORY

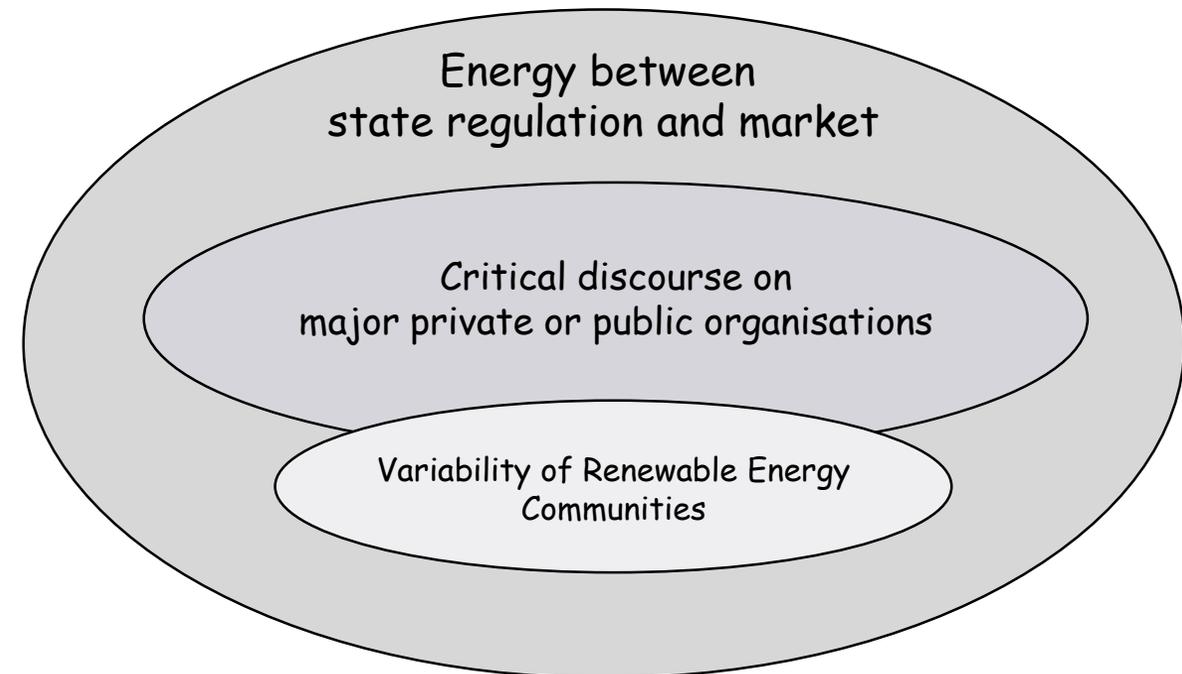
Macro-economic regularities “that ensure the general and relatively coherent progress of capital accumulation, that is, which allow the resolution or postponement of the distortions and disequilibria to which the process continually gives rise”, (Boyer, 2002)

- **Accumulation regime**: “economic regularities and fluctuations to mainly endogenous socioeconomic developments, innovations, crises, irreversibility, and path-dependency effects” (Boyer, 2002).
- **Mode of regulation**: actor’s behaviour in reference with fragmented and local knowledge about determinism of global system.

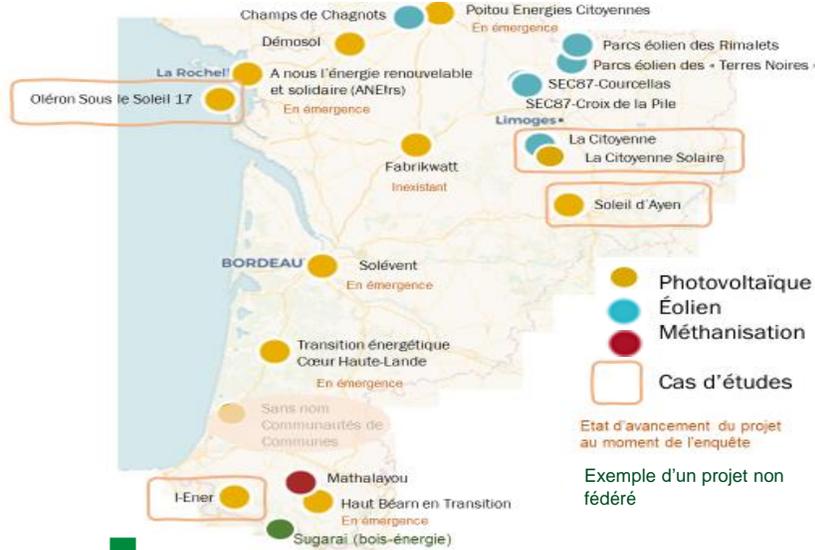
CONVENTIONS THEORY

Sociological considerations into the field of economic analysis:

- Understanding cooperation between rational beings,
- Comprehensive and interpretative method to analyse actions, objects and discourses.



Presentation of the case studies



Above all in : Bretagne-Pays de la Loire, Rhône-Alpes-Auvergne, Languedoc-Roussillon-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

Choice criteria : Early stage development, Photovoltaic project, Member of the CIRENA networks (all are SAS)

Territory	Bask country
Creation date	October 2014
Nb of photovoltaic projects	16
Nb of members	510

* Local authorities and shareholders as partners



Territory	Rilhac-Lastours
Creation date	December 2016
Nb of photovoltaic projects	17
Nb of members	90

* Local authorities and shareholders as partners



Territory	Ile d'Oléron
Creation date	April 2018
Nb of photovoltaic projects	3
Nb of members	184

* Local authorities on their own initiative and shareholders as partners

Territory	L'Yssandonnais
Creation date	February 2017
Nb of photovoltaic projects	6
Nb of members	26

* Without local authorities as partners



Soleil d'Ayen

Results (1)

- **From energy autonomy of territory to territory as a basis for energy**

Territory as a finality :

Objective: Energy autonomy of spaces

- “Cultural” territory : I-ENER
- Small island : OSS17

Territory as a basis :

Objective: Development of renewable energy, based on territory

- Citoyenne Solaire & Soleil d’Ayen

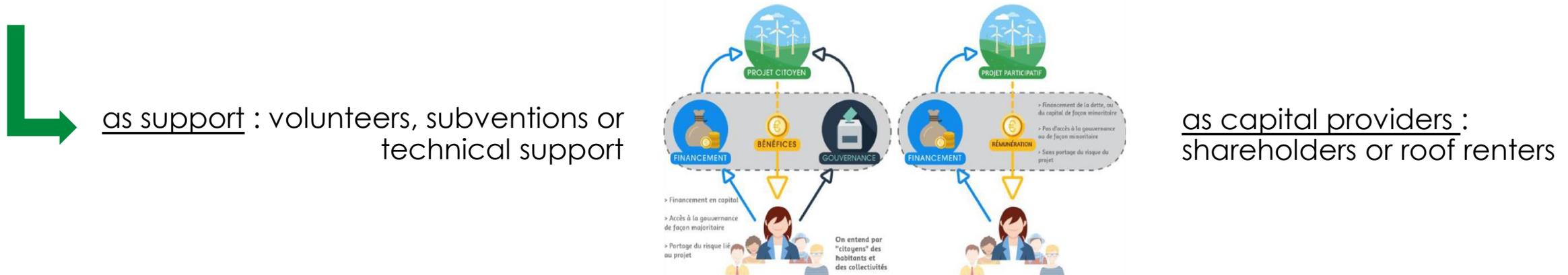
- **Is shareholding an act of citizenship and are all citizens shareholders?**

- Share price and social accessibility: can all citizens become shareholders?
- What about the local authorities' place?
 1. If we consider local authorities as representative democracy, defending the general interest and representing citizens, do they need more power in decision making, in relation with capital invested?
 2. Are subventions meant to be linked to sociologic diversity of members?

Results (2)

- Civic engagement and financial motive / individual interest

Two natures of relations between members, individuals and public institutions



➤ Share price and social accessibility: What about the potential increasing share price?

➤ Potential change in the initial ambitions of the Renewable Energy Community

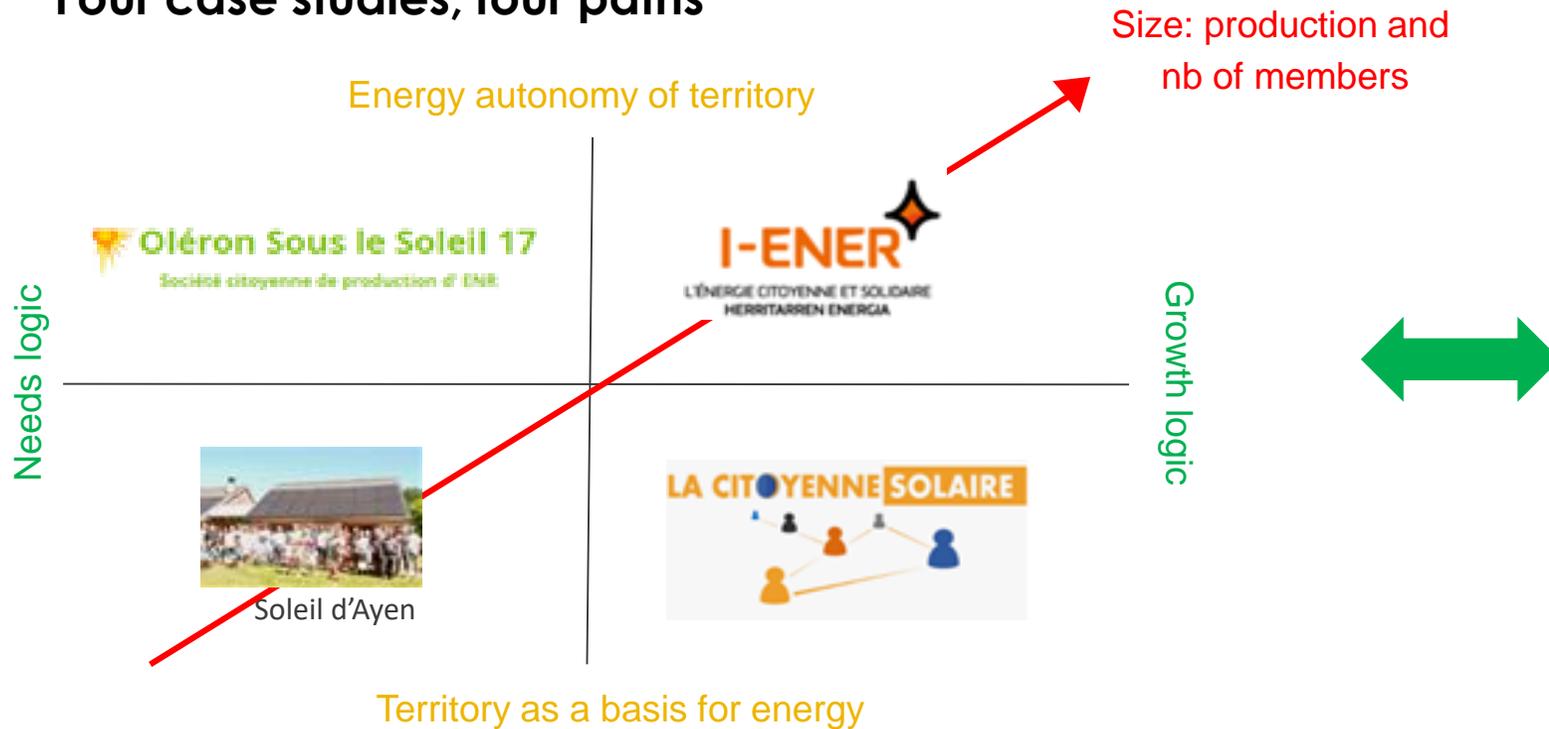
- ✓ Risk of integrating new members focused on investment revenue and not on the initial citizen objective

Support **Capital providers**



Conclusion

Four case studies, four paths



Breakdown of number of projects by stage of advancement in 2019

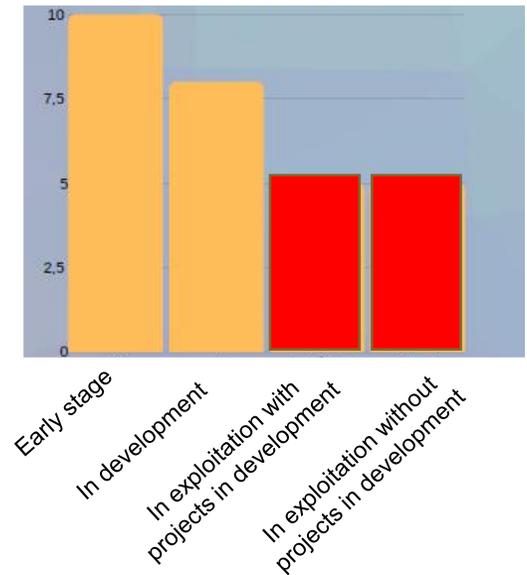


Illustration with the number of new projects in 2019

One preferred model

- « 'Green' 57,450 GWh through generalizing mature renewable energies and upgrading of technologies in development »
- « Driving, supporting and monitoring the implementation of major renewable energy production projects with significant capacities »

(Feuille de route Néo-Terra)

Selection Criteria	Weighting
Citizenship approach of the project with a significant participation in the governance of the project or of the structure which carries it (in % owned but especially in number of citizens engaged)	4
Engagement of the investment in the territorial project	4

Call of projects: participatory and citizen projects for energy transition

Thank you

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