



# Benefits of integrating an Industrial Energy Community

An Industrial Energy Community (IEC) is a collaborative energy model in which companies located in the same industrial area or business park jointly produce, share, manage and consume renewable energy. By pooling resources, and coordinating energy use, businesses can invest collectively in renewable generation, storage and flexibility solutions, supporting the energy transition while decarbonising industrial activity, lowering energy costs and improving resilience, competitiveness and long-term sustainability.

## Economic



Joint renewable energy production and collective self-consumption enable:

- Reduced energy bills
- Lower exposure to market volatility
- Economies of scale
- Lower entry barriers
- New revenue streams

## Environmental



Collective action delivers significantly greater environmental impact:

- Reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Higher renewable self-consumption rates
- Decarbonisation of heat
- Improved overall energy efficiency
- Direct contribution to ESG and Net Zero targets

## Strategic and operational



Participation in an EC strengthens energy resilience and long-term planning:

- Decentralised energy production
- Increased energy independence and security
- Coordinated electrification planning
- Coordinated grid management
- Enhanced corporate and territorial reputation
- Improved access to finance and incentives

## Social and territorial



The community-based nature of Energy Communities generates wider societal value:

- Stronger local cooperation and community building
- Development of industrial energy ecosystems
- Potential sharing of benefits
- Contribution to a just and inclusive energy transition
- Collaborative governance structures



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*WESHARE - Empowering businesses to develop energy community models for a successful energy transition is a LIFE Programme project supporting businesses to create business energy communities - collaborating to share renewables, cut costs, and lead Europe's clean energy transition.*

WESHARE is piloting practical models in Antwerp (Belgium), Getafe (Spain) and Sines (Portugal), helping companies collaborate across industrial zones and business parks. By tackling legal, financial and technical barriers, WESHARE makes energy sharing simple, scalable and replicable for businesses of all sizes.

