TACKLING THE GLOBAL
CLIMATE CRISIS

Most global leaders have accepted that climate change is real and mainly caused by burning fossil fuels and have set policies:

✔ to transition away from fossils fuels; and
✔ to limit the increase in global temperatures to no more than 1.5 ̊C

Despite these actions, the Renewables 2021 Global Status report confirmed that we have seen almost no change in the percentage of fossil fuels in the energy mix in the past 10 years (80.3% to 80.2%).[1]

Europe is taking a **leading role** to reduce its carbon levels investing a third of the €1.8 trillion investments over the next seven years to support targets to ensure:

✔ no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050;
✔ economic growth is separated from resource use; and
✔ that no person and no place is left behind.[2]

If these investments fail to hold the temperature rise to 3 ̊C, climate change effects in Europe will by the end of the century result in[3]:

60,000 additional deaths per year from **heat waves**

€20 billion additional losses per year from **droughts**

€24 billion additional losses per year from **floods**

€100 billion additional losses from **coastal flooding**

It is time for action!

AURORA is demonstrating how **people can make a difference** through the choices they make, reducing 13-20% of all greenhouse gas emissions linked to residential energy use and 13% linked to transport choices. In addition, the project will empower people to take ownership of new community solar energy projects.

[1] Renewables Global Status Report (2021): https://bit.ly/globalstatusreport
[2] European Green Deal: https://bit.ly/EUGreenDealCO2
[3] European Environment Agency (2022): https://bit.ly/EUEnvAgency

OUR
APPROACH

AURORA will show **at least 7,000 citizens** how they can make a difference through the choices they make to reduce the emissions they are responsible for.

Local Energy Communities

By crowdfunding **local solar energy plants** with shares as low as €20, each participating citizen can become an active "prosumer" (someone who both consumes and produces energy). In the long run, this will help democratise the governance of the community and its energy systems.

Mobile App

Participants will act as **citizen researchers** by recording monthly energy consumption on a user-friendly mobile app. They will receive personalised recommendations to improve their energy consumption habits and reduce their carbon footprint.

Users can track their progress on a personal emissions profile -**based on our labelling system**- showing how their energy-related behaviour changes over time. This can then be shared on social networks.

The data collected will help prepare targeted and concrete advice on how to become a **Near Zero-Emission Citizen** through a change-oriented approach.

COMMUNITIES DRIVING BEHAVIOURAL AND POLICY CHANGE

OUR DEMO-SITES

AURORA is empowering citizens to make more informed decisions about their energy use. These local energy communities have been established in five locations across Europe:

Denmark

United Kingdom

Slovenia

Portugal

Spain

 | Aarhus, Denmark

Aarhus University's energy community has been established as a cooperative. Students and employees have the opportunity to invest and receive annual economic returns. The community will challenge the public perception of various wind and solar infrastructure projects in Denmark, and start dialogues on citizen involvement in the decarbonisation of energy systems in Europe.

| Évora, Portugal

In Évora, the solar power plant will make an important contribution to energy balance on campus. The main objective is to create an energy community that better distributes renewable energy on campus through the public grid.

| Forest of Dean, UK

The Forest Energy Community Initiative involves people working together to generate and use energy differently. Opportunities exist for solar panels to be installed on a public or community building so that the reduced energy costs help keep the buildings viable as an asset in the long term. The solar installation itself will be owned by everyone who purchases a share through a community shares offer.

| Ljubljana, Slovenia

Students at the University of Ljubljana have founded a Student Energy Club (Študentski energetski klub, ŠEK) that will raise awareness, foster media support, and enable an exchange of views among students. Likewise, employees at the University of Ljubljana have established an Academic Energy Community (Akademska energetska skupnost, AES).

| Madrid, Spain

The Technical University of Madrid is building an energy community for the university community to procude their own solar energy. It will also serve as a citizen science centre to monitor the daily energy habits of its members so that each individual can make changes to their consumption and emissions patterns.

OUR SOLUTION

AURORA is demonstrating how 20 million people at European Universities can tackle **climate change**.

Four pilot universities are showing how staff and students can **take action to reduce** their personal energy footprint.

A **mobile app** will empower them to reduce energy demand and carbon emissions.

Students and staff are testing **new business models for generating solar power** on campus designed to shift the universities' energy supply sources.

Their stories, the tools, and the data they provide are **open source and will be shared with universities globally** through the United Nations' citizen science portal "World Environment Situation Room" (WESR), enabling all global citizens to benefit from the research.

AURORA is also testing how **wider communities** can join the programme.

A municipality in the UK is ... people of all ages ... the methods **investment** ... the community.

... le live in the EU ... 0,000 local and ... ties. The results ... ill be **shared** ... munities.

... n be able to ... of the existing ... challenges we

AURORA will demonstrate to 10% of EU and UK citizens (approximately 51 million) prepared to engage and invest in such citizen science programmes, that they can **act to create a future without fossil fuels and lower energy costs**.

CURIOUS ABOUT AURORA?

Please sign up to our mailing lists or as a potential participant and crowd-funder.

AURORA Website
aurora-h2020.eu

X: @AURORA_H2020

Instagram: @aurora.eu_project

LinkedIn: /auroraproject-h2020/

Our demo-sites offer additional local information:

Aarhus, Denmark

X: @AURORA_Aarhus

Instagram: @aurora.aarhus

Google Group: uefaarhus

Facebook: AURORA.Aarhus

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