



## Co-creation as a new approach to wind energy development? A systematic literature review

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## SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL CHANGE AND PORTUGAL'S COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVES. THE ROLE OF POLITICIZATION AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS

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The current unsustainable relation between humans and nature sets a new context for transformative social innovation towards a form of living and working based on the principles of sustainability. Community-based initiatives (CBIs) are perceived as crucial actors in this transition towards planetary sustainability and can be seen as an embodiment and a resource of societal change. The dynamics of the Portuguese CBI landscape are however little researched. This paper inquires into Portugal's CBI dynamics, appearance, build-up, reach and future transitional pathways. Despite having seen a rapid and significant growth over the last decade, CBIs, their practices and discourses remain marginalised in Portugal's public arenas. Portuguese CBIs are therefore an untapped resource for socio-ecological transitions and societal innovation in Portugal. The focus of this paper lies on trying to pave a way forward in order for CBIs to fully tap into their change potential. We observe that the way in which CBIs engage with the public and political spheres as well as the contextual institutional frameworks determine CBIs social innovation potential in Portugal. This is followed by a reflection on the challenges and opportunities that both CBIs and the policy frameworks are currently confronted with. On the one side, CBIs need to engage the existent institutional landscape and become politicized change actors in order to sit at key decision-making processes. On the other, for the materialization of CBIs' change potential favourable institutional frameworks and policy environments are needed. Based on a wider theoretical debate on the role of niche actors and a new focus on value-based societal change we add to the existing literature on socio-ecological transitions and ultimately carve out how to tap into CBIs change agency for wider sustainability.

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## CO-CREATION AS A NEW APPROACH TO WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT? A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

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Co-creation as an innovation paradigm is increasingly being promoted as a way to more responsible and creative innovation processes. At the same time, development of more renewable energy capacity, in particular wind energy, continues to face local, social contention, leading scholars, politicians and practitioners alike to call for more legitimacy in development processes. For research and practice, public participation and engagement has been the method of choice, but alternative approaches as co-creation start to gain attention as well. Thus, exploring the promises that the co-creation paradigm as 'idea, promise and practice' holds for the energy transition seems fruitful. However, literature on co-creation in relation to wind energy development lacks a systematic understanding of what the concept means and implies in the context of energy transitions. This involves questions such as: How is the concept defined and what are its limitations and capabilities? Which stakeholders are relevant? Is co-creation a tool, method or an objective in itself? In order to advance the research agenda, this paper presents a systematic review of 43 papers that refer to co-creation (and co-production) in relation to wind energy development. The paper maps and discusses different understandings of the concept and the stakeholder relations inherent in these conceptualizations. We find that the concept is employed in three different ways: to analyze successful innovations in wind energy systems, as a design-principle guiding the governance of decisions and processes connected to development of more wind energy, and to imagine and structure future socio-technical systems in alternative ways. Dependent on the use, different relations within socio-technical systems emerge that question the distribution of power and agency among actors.