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WISEPower

Wind-Acceptance

A USERGUIDE FOR DEVELOPERS AND MUNICIPALITIES

Review of best practices, guidelines and toolkits on social acceptance in the Wind energy sector

WISEPower deliverable 2.1

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wisepower-project.eu

Introduction to the user guide

Aim

This user guide is intended to provide a summary of up to date guidelines, best practices and toolkits on fostering acceptance of wind energy. It is based on existing publications and gives a concise overview on the topic for those involved in wind energy development. The document consolidates research to date on social acceptance and the development of social acceptance strategies. Additionally the document identifies topics which are comprehensively covered as well as weaknesses and gaps which require further attention.

Composition of the report

This report is a deliverable within the WISEPower project funded by the *European Commission* under its *Intelligent Energy Europe* programme. For assembling this report, 40 best practices, guidelines and toolkits with a focus on acceptance of wind energy and - where applicable - other energy infrastructures have been reviewed. In the following slides a synopsis on the main topics has been compiled. As the acceptance of wind energy is an extremely wide field, not every aspect can be covered in-depth. Consequently in order to offer the reader the opportunity to further explore specific topics, there are reading suggestions given on the respective slides (see the blue boxes in the bottom right corners marked with a grey book - hyperlinks included).

Target group

The target group for this user guide are those concerned with wind farm development – such as stakeholders involved in project development, planning, policy making and administration.

Methodical procedure for compiling this user guide

The first step of the process involved the compilation of a long list of documents consisting of best practices, guidelines and toolkits and similar documents with a focus on acceptance of wind energy. The search process was primarily aimed at literature within the field of wind acceptance, but also integrated documents concerned with renewable energy projects in general and similar sectors (e.g. energy infrastructure such as grids and carbon capture and storage). The final research list comprises a total number of 40 best practices, guidelines and toolkits and 15 other reports and papers.

Subsequently these documents were systematically reviewed with two research aims: firstly to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the material available, and secondly to give a concise summary of state-of-the-art approaches in fostering social acceptance in the wind energy sector.

In order to fulfill this second aim, the full length research list was reduced to fewer than ten documents to be used as the foundation of this report. Selection criteria - listed below - were applied to the documents in order to create the short list. The terms in brackets specify the possible parameters of each criterion, ranging from most preferred to least preferred.

- **Acceptance range** (broad; focus on community involvement and / or on benefit sharing; acceptance among others; other / no acceptance issues)
- **Technological scope** (wind in general & renewables; limited to off- or onshore; grid; infrastructure or other technology)
- **Specificity / type** (best practices, guidelines or toolkits; surveys and case studies)
- **Concreteness of the document** (specific; abstract)
- **Transferability of the content** (transferable; not transferable)
- **User-friendliness** (good; not good)

The short- and the long-list can be found in the annex of this document.

Structure of the user guide

This document is structured in the four following main sections:

1) Social acceptance and wind energy
2) Fundamental considerations in designing a strategy to build social acceptance
3) Procedural and distributional justice within the community engagement process
4) Weaknesses and contradictions within the reviewed material

The **first section** details the rationale for and definition of wind acceptance, limitations of social acceptance measures, as well as perceived benefits and disadvantages of wind energy.

In the **second section** the fundamental components of designing a social acceptance pathways are laid out. This is done by introducing the regular project life cycle, exploring the scope of engagement, detailing the importance of performing contextual analyses and advising on how to undertake these. Furthermore stakeholder identification and mapping are introduced and recommendations on reducing perceived annoyance and disturbance for the local community are given.

The **third section** focuses on how to interact with the community and implement an integrated decision-making process (procedural justice) and how a fair distribution of the generated benefits can be put into place (distributional justice).

The **fourth section** covers the weaknesses and contradictions within the reviewed material.

Content

1) Social acceptance and wind energy
2) Fundamental considerations in designing a strategy to build social acceptance
3) Procedural and distributional justice within the community engagement process
4) Weaknesses and contradictions within the reviewed material

Annex

- Short list (of documents reviewed)
- Long list (of documents reviewed)

Section 1

Social acceptance and wind energy

Rationale for and definition of wind acceptance

Increasing the share of renewable energy is high on the policy agenda in countries around the world, especially in Europe. “Several governments have set ambitious targets and have started to implement support schemes aimed at facilitating market implementation” (Wüstenhagen). One of the challenges in the deployment of wind energy is that many more siting decisions have to be taken than for conventional forms of energy generation. Therefore, increasing the number of wind projects also increases the probability of local resistance.
In this report we will define the term “social acceptance” as published by the International Energy agency (IEA), given as the:

> *“societal consensus on the planning, construction, and operation of wind power projects— (that) therefore has the potential to become a powerful facilitator of wind development”.*

Consensus in this definition though does not mean that every member of the local community is fully passionate about sustaining a wind farm in the area, but that they are willing to at least tolerate it and will not try to undermine the process. On top of that the need for public acceptance is encapsulated very well by the Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA) pointing out that “effective community engagement and public consultation is a cornerstone for a successful wind energy development. Continuous, proactive community engagement is a vital investment for long-term success of your project”.

Limitations of social acceptance measures

Although the measures proposed in this user guide have the potential to increase the social acceptance of a project to some degree, they cannot be guaranteed to secure full social acceptance of a development. “Every project is unique and involves specific challenges” (IEA) thus every project entails a variety of opportunities and challenges associated with social acceptance. Participatory measures require time and energy and therefore can slow down project development. Furthermore participatory procedures can be quite sophisticated at times (Impulse). They require dedicated stakeholders, financial resources and a high degree of social competencies by the executive personnel (Impulse). Additionally, there is the possibility that when decision-making power is granted to the public, decisions are not taken in the desired direction.
Even though it is not possible to solve all acceptance problems and participatory procedures might be demanding at times, they nevertheless often have the potential to tip the scales towards successful project completion (or at least reduce overall lead times) (Impulse).

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(IEA (P. 5/ P. 2) (Impuls P. 6ff.)
(Wüstenhagen P. 1)
(CanWEA P.5)

Perceived benefits and disadvantages of wind energy

Perceived benefits

- Local economic benefits, e.g. improved local economy, creation of jobs
- Potential tourist attraction for the area, e.g. wind farm visitor centre
- Innovative development
- Higher degree of energy security
- CO_2-emission reduction
- Air quality protection, e.g. compared to energy generation by coal
- Low risk energy generation, e.g. compared to energy generation by nuclear
- Indirect economic benefits e.g. reduction of electricity bill, increased tax payments to local authorities where applicable

Perceived disadvantages

- Visual impact on landscape
- Noise
- Light emissions, especially at night
- Shadow flicker
- Health implications by infrasound
- Impact on local ecosystem and wildlife (birds, bats etc.)
- Inefficiency due to volatility / intermittence
- Inefficiency to reduce CO_2 emissions
- Cost of wind power, also incl. cost of support schemes
- Local economic disadvantages (e.g. decrease of property values)
- Unfair distribution of benefits and impacts

All electricity-generating technologies comprise negative impacts to a certain extend. As stated in the introduction, more renewable energy plants are being deployed due to the current and ongoing decentralization process, creating more clashes with local communities. Debating over local wind energy developments can be quite challenging as arguments against wind energy are often tangible and distinct (for example visibility, impacts etc), while arguments in favor are often abstract and less measurable (for example CO_2-emission reduction and other environmental benefits). Consequently it is important to integrate the public as early as possible (IEA, CEC, Berger, Impulse, CANwea, RAB-2), to promote the importance of wind energy to the community, and to offer benefit sharing schemes.

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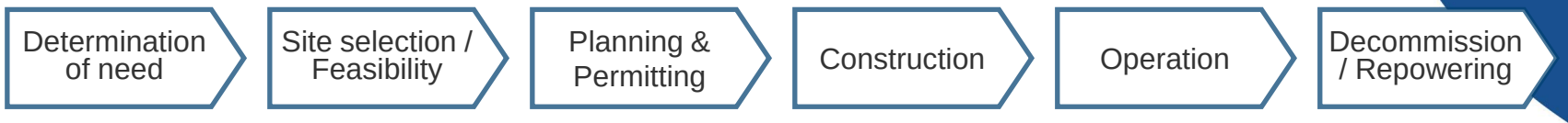
(IEA P. 5/P.2/P.27) (CEC P.9)
(CanWEA P.5) (Berger P.12)
(Impuls P.6ff./P.7) (RAB-2 P. 22)

Section 2

Fundamental considerations in designing a strategy to build social acceptance

Local engagement throughout the project life-cycle

The project life-cycle of a wind farm involves eight phases which are all relevant for social acceptance issues.



Determination of Need: This first phase examines national or regional processes for determining the need for wind energy development. Already integrating the public into this step and at least providing transparency about the mechanisms to define the need are among the foundations for social acceptance in the later steps (top down planning approach).

Site Selection / Feasibility: This step includes the selection of suitable sites and proposed size of the wind farm, usually based mainly on its economic potential and technical feasibility. At this point, research into the social context of the community should also be undertaken for promising sites. This includes identifying and mapping relevant stakeholders as well as initial consultations with key members of the community such as the local administration, landowners and (environmental) citizen groups. Subsequent formal public presentations in the community will explore the feasibility of the development. From the outset, it is important to manage expectations through open and transparent discussions concerning additional annoyance / disturbance and future benefit sharing.

Planning & Permitting: In this phase the planning is refined and an application for formal permission submitted. The communication channels established to date should be maintained and enhanced by pro-actively seeking opinions about the project as it progresses. Where possible suggestions from the community should be implemented in order to minimize impact and to foster the acceptance of the project.

Construction: During the actual construction of the wind-farm, proactive engagement methods are essential as the construction process usually leads to annoyance for local citizens e.g. noise, heavy transport. Information of upcoming events and a contact point e.g. via a telephone hotline, for local citizens to issue complaints are therefore advised.

Operation: Throughout operation it is advisable to maintain all communication channels and keep in contact with the relevant local stakeholders.

Decommissioning / Repowering: It is recommended to introduce plans for the end of the project's lifetime to communities and relevant stakeholders. These discussions should be commenced well in advance of decommissioning or repowering to create opportunities to raise issues, expectations and concerns.

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(Berger P. 89)
(CEC P. 10)
(RAB-2 P.29)

Scope of engagement and contextual analysis

As stated in section 1 “every (wind) project is unique and involves specific challenges” (IEA). Thus for each and every project the scope of engagement needs to be redefined, depending on the project context.
There are a range of factors to consider in devising a local engagement strategy, such as differences in the size of a planned wind farm and the population density around it: If the planned wind farm is very small and it is intended to be sited in a remote, sparsely populated area the volume of social acceptance measures employed can be relatively small. Conversely, if the planned wind farm will be comparatively large and it is situated relatively close to a town or bigger dwelling, a more thorough social acceptance package needs to be developed.
For this contextual analysis, it is important to perform a thorough analysis and characterisation of the site. This analysis can be split into three categories: The technical facts of the proposed wind farm; Geographical properties of the site; and social characterisation of the site. The following list provides example questions for each category that may be considered during this contextual analysis.

Technical facts of the proposed wind farm

- What is the size of the proposed wind farm?
- What will be the precise location of the turbines?
- How many kilometres of connection cables will be used?
- Where will the grid connection be made?
- …

Geographical properties of the site

- What is the population density of the area?
- How close will the project be to the nearest dwelling?
- Are there environmentally protected zones (e.g. conservation parks), sites of cultural heritages or other points of note in the area?
- …

Social characterisation of the site

- Who are the (key) stakeholder groups that need to be informed, and integrated into the consultation process?
- What experiences do the surrounding communities have with renewable energy or other infrastructure projects?
- What community issues and interests are most likely to be relevant to the project?
- …

(IEA P.2) (RAB-2 P.36ff.)
(CEC P.19)
(TSG P.13)

Stakeholder identification and mapping

One of the most important issues in the process of developing a social acceptance concept is to identify and map the relevant stakeholder groups. Firstly a list of potentially relevant stakeholders must be created, and secondly, these stakeholders should be mapped according to their relevance to the project.

Stakeholder Identification

The following list is intended to provide a non-exhaustive overview of potentially relevant stakeholders:

- Wind farm developers
- Municipal, provincial or federal politicians
- Environmental NGOs
- Permitting authorities
- Local elected officials
- Local residents / local communities
- Adjacent communities
- Land owners
- Local citizens' initiatives
- Local businesses
- Housing associations
- (Local) media

In some cases:

- Policy makers
- Private and industrial consumers
- Experts / Academia

Stakeholder Mapping

The aim of the mapping exercise is to identify the stakeholder groups which should be the focus of the social acceptance strategy. In order to map the stakeholders' relevance, the following three questions can be used:

- To what extent is the project relevant for the stakeholder?
- What is the likelihood of gaining support from the stakeholder (group)?
- How much influence does the stakeholder (group) have?

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(TSG P.13)
(CEC P.65)
(Berger P. 5)

Planning and technical recommendations to minimise stakeholders perceived annoyance / disturbance

Planning recommendations

- Avoid sites with potential conflicts with human activities or the environment (e.g., close to dwellings, in protected areas, for landscape and environmental reasons) (GPWind).
- Anticipate and minimise potential of adverse project impacts (e.g., by choosing an appropriate turbine model or by adapting to wildlife behaviour such as migrating birds) (IEA).
- Enable people to become gradually accustomed to the wind power turbines (e.g., by building up the wind power plant in two or three phases, if possible) (IEA).

Technical recommendations

- Try to minimise turbine and project related sound emissions (IEA).
- Try to minimise the light intensity of aircraft obstruction markings (IEA).
- The duration of shadow flicker should be minimised as much as possible (the IEA suggests a limit of 30 minutes per day, with a maximum of 30 hours per year).
- The distance between wind power installations and residential buildings must comply with the relevant provisions and should be as generous as possible (IEA).
- Maximize the distance of overhead lines from residential buildings and combine overhead lines and underground cables wherever possible (IEA).
- As a general principle, use the newest technology, such as radar detection of bird flocks, or temporarily shut down wind turbines during flying times where appropriate (especially for migratory species) (IEA).

On top of these recommendations the organization developing the wind farm should be equipped with a flexible plan that can be adjusted as the project progresses in response to enquiries from any affected stakeholder groups - this implies a clear focus on the direction of a development, but an open mindset concerning the real outcome (IEA).

(IEA P.5,15,16)
(GPWind P.7,8)

Section 3

Procedural and distributional justice within the community engagement process

Procedural justice – How to interact with the community (1/2)

Procedural justice is concerned with the way in which decisions are made, and are perceived to be made.

Procedural justice emphasises that the residents of every community (CanWEA)…

- have a right to ask questions.
- have a right to be skeptical.
- have a right to be concerned.
- have a right to oppose the planned development.

Developers and regulators should seek to uphold procedural justice by ensuring all those involved in the decision-making process have adequate opportunities to have a say, are provided with appropriate information, and are treated with respect (IEA). Such an approach is important as research has shown that projects with high levels of participation are more likely to be accepted and successful (IEA). Fair and effective procedural design is therefore not only important in moral terms, but can also deliver material advantages and mutual benefit to all stakeholders involved (IEA). It supports a clear understanding of all parties' intentions and an open dialogue based on the facts (CanWEA).

To safeguard procedural justice within a wind project the following five principles should be respected and implemented:

1. **Openness** (CEC) means the sharing of relevant information about the developer's decisions and activities. Such information should be presented to the community and other stakeholders in a clear, accurate, timely and honest manner.
2. **Inclusiveness** (CEC) means identifying and interacting with all project stakeholders, to ensure their perspectives are understood and taken into consideration.
3. **Responsiveness** (CEC) means listening and responding to community and stakeholder concerns and needs where relevant to the wind farm.
4. **Accountability** (CEC) involves the ongoing process of monitoring, evaluating and sharing information about the wind farm throughout its lifecycle, including positive and negative impacts of the development.
5. **Flexibility** (Impuls) means preparing for local requests and required amendments to the development. This includes being open to e.g. shifting the location of the turbines or grid connection lines.

(CEC P.12)
(CanWEA P.5)
(Impuls P.8)

Procedural justice – Communication channels and content (2/2)

In order to uphold the five principles of procedural justice it is important to use various channels for communication with the stakeholders. The choice of appropriate channels depends on the stakeholders to be reached, the message that is to be delivered and the degree to which feedback and participation can be incorporated. In the left box below, potential communication channels are displayed, divided between channels to provide information and channels to facilitate dialogue. On the right, the content to be communicated is listed. Please note that not all content can be delivered through every channel. For instance, communicating where there might be the possibility to influence the spatial planning of the project should preferably be addressed in public meetings or gatherings with community delegates, rather than discussed in newsletters or fact sheets.

Communication channels (non-exhaustive list)

Channels to provide information

- Distribution of fact sheets and leaflets
- Newsletters (via e-mail or conventional mail)
- Formal presentation
- Advertisements and interviews in local newspapers
- Announcements on local radio stations
- Postings on community bulletin boards

Consultation aimed channels

- Community advisory committees
- Telephone hotline
- Focus groups
- Open houses
- Social media (e.g Facebook, Twitter)
- Surveys
- Public meetings
- Workshops
- Talks with independent experts
- Field trips to other wind farms
- Attendance at local fairs, special events, etc.
- Informal communication
- Project information office
- Doorstep visits

Content to communicate

- Project location
- Project timetable
- Technical details
- Compensation measures
- Information on the project developer
- Where there is room for flexibility, and where there is not
- Highlight opportunities and limitations
- Progress of the project

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(Berger - P.126)
(CEC - P.49)
(TSG P.17)

Distributional justice - Benefit sharing (1/2)

While wind farms always involve some degree of negative impact for the local community (e.g. visual impact) its inhabitants do not necessarily benefit from the advantages created by wind energy. A fair sharing of these generated benefits might therefore improve support and acceptance of the project. However, finding the best strategy for sharing benefits may be a sensitive issue especially for debated projects.

Therefore it is advised to distinguish the official process of planning and permitting from the negotiations about community benefits, in order to prevent any mistrust. The toolkit from the English *Renewables Advisory Board* (RAB-2) even suggests to separate the two processes entirely and staff them with different responsible personnel in order to prevent social disturbances.

Nevertheless, benefit sharing mechanisms have the potential, when introduced and applied effectively, to create win-win situations and create positive social change.

The following characteristics can help to allocate benefits to the different community groups (TSG):

- Proximity to the development
- Visual impact from the development
- Level of disruption and nuisance caused by construction activity and traffic
- The number of residents in the area – or the level of benefit per resident (remote areas → very few “local“ people)
- The way the area is used for work or recreation by the wider community

IEA (P.26)
TSG (P.16 ff.)
RAB-1 (P.18,19)

Distributional justice - Benefit sharing (2/2)

There are five general approaches to a benefit sharing scheme:

1. In a **Community fund** (RAB-2) money supplied by the project developer is provided as community benefits. It should be decided within the community what the money is to be spent on, preferably under the premise that the whole community has the opportunity to take advantage of it.

2. Benefits in kind (RAB-2) illustrates a process where the developer funds projects directly, usually specific local improvements agreed upon through discussion with the community. This offers the possibility to include ideas that are relatively easy and cheap to implement for the developer e.g. as part of the construction process (i.e. bike tracks, restoration of derelict land etc.)

3. Local Contracting (RAB-2) means that where possible tasks are executed by local contractors.

4. Local Ownership (RAB-2) offers local individuals or groups the opportunity to buy shares of the local wind farm and benefit directly from the earnings of the project and / or the energy produced.

5. Direct financial compensation means that specific groups are paid directly. Note that when using this approach the gains of the project go to a small number of community members and do not support the community as a whole.

This list of approaches to benefits sharing schemes is held very brief due to the limited extent of this document. Furthermore, it should be noted that the benefits to a community will often incorporate more than one of the above approaches throughout construction and operation, for example maximising local contracting (3) and providing both a community fund (1) and benefits in-kind (2). The provision of such benefits will be determined on a site-by-site basis and may be informed by national policy or a developer's preference.

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RAB-1 (P.21)
TSG (P.20 ff.)
Olsen (not yet officially published) (RAB-2 P.44)

Section 4

Weaknesses and contradictions within the reviewed material

Weaknesses and contradictions within the reviewed material

The following gaps, weaknesses and contradictions have been identified during the process of reviewing the guidelines and toolkits.

- Most guidelines and toolkits focus on the time frame between site selection and start of operation. Social acceptance during operation and especially in the later phases of decommissioning & repowering are rarely addressed.
- While a vast amount of guidelines and toolkits have been published, there has been little evaluation of which documents and specific measures are employed by developers and have led to positive effects.
- Many toolkits focus on the relationship between the developer and the (local) public. Other relationships such as developer-municipal administration or local politicians have not received great scrutiny to date.
- Most toolkits state that very early involvement of the local community is one of the key conditions for successfully developing a wind farm. While this might be true from a social acceptance viewpoint, this approach might neglect the competitive side of a liberalised energy market, where it is important to be the first in securing a site .
- Much of the work carried out in assessing social opinion regarding a wind farm is focused on collecting complaints and negative comments. Where advice is given on social acceptance, it is generally focused on increasing acceptance levels from a very low starting point. There is a lack of research into high levels of support from a community for a wind farm proposal.

Further gaps and barriers to application of existing toolkits and guidelines will be identified during the following tasks and work packages of the WISEPower project which contain surveys and expert interviews.

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Thank you very much for your attention

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Annex

Annex – Short list of guidelines, toolkits and best practices

- Canadian Wind Energy Association: Wind Energy Development - Best Practices for Community Engagement and Public Consultation (2010) **(CANwea)**
- Centre for Sustainable Energy: Delivering community benefits from wind energy development: A toolkit (on behalf of the Renewables Advisory Board) (2009) **(RAB-1)**
- Centre for Sustainable Energy : The Protocol for Public Engagement with Proposed Wind Energy Developments in England (on behalf of the Renewables Advisory Board) (2007) **(RAB-2)**
- Clean Energy Council: Community Engagement Guidelines for the Australian Wind Industry (2013) **(CEC)**
- GP-Wind: Final Report (on behalf of the European Commission) (2012) **(GPwind)**
- Impuls: Praxisleitfaden Bürgerbeteiligung - Die Energiewende gemeinsam gestalten (on behalf of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety) (2013) **(Impuls)**
- International Energy Agency: 14. Social Acceptance of wind energy projects - Expert group summary on recommended practices Task 28 (2013) **(IEA)**
- Local Energy Scotland: Scottish government good practice principles for community benefits from onshore renewable energy developments (on behalf of the Scottish Government) (2014) **(TSG)**
- Roland Berger: Study regarding grid infrastructure development: European strategy for raising public acceptance (on behalf of the European Commission) (2014) **(Berger)**

The words in bold letters are the ones used for giving reference on the content charts.

Annex – Long list of guidelines, toolkits and best practices (1/2)

- Agentur für Erneuerbare Energien: Akzeptanz und Bügerbeteiligung für Erneuerbare Energien (2012)
- American Wind Energy Association (AWEA): Wind Energy Siting Handbook (2008)
- British Wind Energy Association (BWEA): Consultation for Offshore Wind Energy Developments (2002)
- Bak: Wind energy as a lever for local development in peripheral regions (on behalf of the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy) (2013)
- C.A.R.M.E.N: Akzeptanz für Erneurbare Energien Ein Leitfaden (on behalf of the Bavarian State Gouvernment) (2014)
- Centre for Sustainable Energy : The Protocol for Public Engagement with Proposed Wind Energy Developments in Wales (on behalf of the Renewables Advisory Board) (2007)
- Clean Energy Council: Best practice Guidelines for Implementation of Wind Energy Projects in Australia (2013)
- Cohen et al.: Best Practices for Improving Public Acceptance of energy Infrastructure (on behalf of the European Commission and the federal State of Upper Austria) (2013)
- Community Energy Scotland Limited: Community renewable energy toolkit (on behalf of the Scottish Government and Energy Saving Trust) (2011)
- Create Acceptance : Factors influencing the societal acceptance of new energy technologies: Meta-analysis of recent European projects (2007)
- Create Acceptance: General Manual for the application of the ESTEEM tool (on behalf of the European Commission) (2007)
- Department of the environment, Heritage and Local Government (Irland): Best Practices Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry (2006)
- Fehily Timoney & Company: Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry (on behalf of the Irish Wind Energy Association)(2011)
- Gilgen & Sartoris: Empfehlung zur Planung von Windenergieanlagen Die Anwendung von Raumplanungsinstrumenten und Kriterien zur Standortwahl (on behalf of the (German) Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC) (2010)
- Haug: Akzeptanz für Erneuerbare Energien Akzeptanz planen, Beteiligung gestalten, Legitimität gewinnen (2012)
- Herbertson et al. (World Resources Institute - WRI): Breaking Ground Engaging Communities in extractive and Infrastructure Projects (2009)

Annex – Long List of guidelines, toolkits and best practices (2/2)

- Hinshelwood and McCallum: Consulting Communities: A Renewable Energy Toolkit (on behalf of the UK department for Business, Innovation & Skills) (2001)
- IWEA: Good Neighbour IWEA Best Practice Principles in Community Engagement & Community Commitment (2013)
- Klobasa & Boie (Fraunhofer ISI) Infrastructure development Implementation strategies for decision makers (deliverable within in the SUSPLAN project - D5.3) (on behalf of the European Commission) (2011)
- Komendantova: Evidence of five guiding principles in Infrastructure projects (BESTGRID best practices background document) (on behalf of the European commission)(2013)
- Lane & Hicks: Best practices community engagement in wind development (2014)
- National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL): BEST PRACTICES for Public Outreach and Education for Carbon Storage Projects (on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy) (2013)
- Olsen: Public Acceptance of Renewable Energy Projects: Regulatory Financial Obligations for Promoting Local Acceptance of Renewable Energy Projects in Renewable Energy Law in the EU: Legal Perspectives on Bottom Up Approaches, Peeters & Schomerus (eds.), Edward Elgar, 2014 (forthcoming)
- Queen`s university of Belfast: A review of the context for enhancing community acceptance of wind energy in Ireland (on behalf of the Sustainable Energy Authority of Irland) (2012)
- Raven et al.: Modulating societal acceptance in new energy projects: Towards a toolkit methodology for project managers in Energy (2009, Volume 34, Pages 564-574)
- Rebelgroup: “ Benefit Sharing Mechanisms for Renewable Energy Sources” (RESHARE), final report (on behalf of the European Commission) (2011)
- REScoop: Best practices Report (on behalf of the European Commission) (2013)
- RWE: Akzeptanz für Großprojekte (2012)
- Sustainable energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI): Methodology for Local Authority renewable energy strategies (2013)
- Van der Welle et al. (Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands - ECN): Report on socio-economic approaches for integration of renewable energy sources into grid infrastructures (deliverable within in the SUSPLAN project – D5.1) (on behalf of the European Commission) (2011)
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Annex – Papers and other reports

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