



**Energy Communities excellence Hubs:
catalyzing energy innOvation ecosystems**

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sessions, and what nine
pilot communities need
next.**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY III

Thessaloniki Convenes

23–24 June 2026

CONSORTIUM

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY III

A Case Made in the Field

The most useful test of an energy policy is rarely the meeting where it's discussed — it's where it's already working. On 23–24 June, the Centre for Research & Technology Hellas through its ARTEMIS laboratory and SPIRA Technology Transfer Office hosted the 18-month General Assembly of the ECHO Energy Communities Excellence Hub project.

9

pilot Energy
Communities

3

countries: TR · GR ·
PT



FIELD VISIT

At Biogas Lagada S.A. and the adjacent Kolchiko Innovation Park, partners examined agricultural-waste-to-energy infrastructure. At CERTH's Information Technologies Institute, the Smart Home test bed demonstrated smart, energy-autonomous, 100% renewable buildings.

“Would rooftop agrivoltaics feed people or power them? It doesn't have to choose.”



WORKING SESSIONS

Direct, Not Theoretical

A dedicated workshop on innovation ecosystems and Energy Communities brought Paul Jansen of Arup, Carlos de Sousa of Lisboa E-Nova, and Nikos Katsiadakis of ThessInTech into direct exchange with the consortium on deployment barriers.



The Macedonian Vineyards visit made the case in the field: solar panels suspended above producing vines, answering on the ground what policy papers leave theoretical.

Thanks to Ergoplaning and Themistoklis Sfetsas for their hospitality at Macedonian Vineyards, and to the full ECHO consortium for the collaborative spirit that made this General Assembly a success.

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