

Press release: Searching for sustainable energy projects  
engaging households

Location: in 30 countries across Europe, coordinated by  
ENERGISE partners

When: March 27th 2017

# ENERGISE

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR RESEARCH, GOOD PRACTICE  
AND INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY



OÉ Gaillimh  
NUI Galway

## NUI GALWAY LEAD PAN-EUROPEAN ENERGY CONSUMPTION INITIATIVE

NUI Galway-led ENERGISE seeks to transform energy use in households and communities across Europe and contribute to European policy-making on reducing energy consumption

**Monday, 27 March, 2017:** ENERGISE is an innovative pan-European research initiative setup to achieve a greater scientific understanding of the social and cultural influences on energy consumption. Led by NUI Galway, and funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme for three years (2016-2019), ENERGISE develops, tests and assesses options for a bottom-up transformation of energy use in households and communities across Europe.

ENERGISE stands for European Network for Research, Good Practice and Innovation for Sustainable Energy. The research team at NUI Galway are currently looking to identify interesting initiatives for reducing energy consumption in households and communities across Ireland and indeed Europe, inviting people to contact them about their ideas and projects. ENERGISE uses cutting edge research techniques (e.g. Living Labs) to directly observe existing energy cultures in a real-world setting and to test both household and community-level initiatives to reduce energy consumption.

Across Europe, there are a lot of people and organisations that take steps towards more sustainable, low-energy living and this initiative would like to showcase and learn from as many different sources as possible.

### THE ENERGISE TEAM WOULD LIKE TO HEAR AND LEARN FROM:

- Those involved in a project that seeks to change the way people use and consume energy.
- Those promoting energy efficiency and lower energy consumption in households, for example an NGO, an energy agency, a business, a group of neighbours or a social club.

Dr Frances Fahy, Head of the School of Geography at NUI Galway and Lead Investigator on the ENERGISE project, hopes that members of local community groups will get involved and let the NUI Galway team know about the many energy initiatives that are taking place all around the country: *“Individual energy consumption is a function of who we are, where we come from, as well as the social and cultural contexts in which we live. We are really keen to hear from groups who are involved in any scale of activities that impact or try to influence the way people use and consume energy.”*

Projects that get selected as part of the research may contribute to European policy-making on reducing energy consumption. The projects may also be shared across 30 European countries through a database the ENERGISE team are creating on their website, and gain international recognition through scientific reports and policy papers.

The ENERGISE consortium includes ten research partners (universities, research institutes, enterprises and NGOs) from Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Slovenia, Switzerland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

To participate send your contact details and basic information about your project, or a project you are aware of to: [eimear.heaslip@nuigalway.ie](mailto:eimear.heaslip@nuigalway.ie) or phone Dr Frances Fahy at 091 492315.



## CONTACT

For further information about the project visit: <http://www.energise-project.eu/>

For more information about ENERGISE contact Dr Eimear Heaslip, ENERGISE Postdoctoral Researcher, School of Geography and Archaeology, NUI Galway at 091 492171 or [eimear.heaslip@nuigalway.ie](mailto:eimear.heaslip@nuigalway.ie).

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENERGISE PROJECT

ENERGISE uses cutting edge research techniques (e.g. Living Labs) to directly observe existing energy cultures in a real-world setting and to test both household and community-level initiatives to reduce energy consumption. A comprehensive review and classification of household and community energy initiatives from 30 European countries provides the foundation for the development of two prototype 'ENERGISE Living Labs' designed to capture influences on individual and collective energy consumption. Data collection before, during and after the implementation of 16 Living Labs in 8 partner countries will be instrumental in contributing to the design and assessment of future energy consumption initiatives across Europe.

### ABOUT NUI GALWAY

The University was established in the heart of Galway City, on the west coast of Ireland, in 1845. Since then it has advanced knowledge teaching and learning, through research and innovation, and community engagement.

Over 18,000 students study at NUI Galway, where 2,600 staff provide the very best in research-led education.

NUI Galway's teaching and research is recognised through its consistent rise in international rankings. The University is placed in the Top 250 of both the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2016/2017 and the QS World University Rankings 2016/17.

With an extensive network of industry, community and academic collaborators around the world, NUI Galway researchers are tackling some of the most pressing issues of our times. Internationally renowned research centres based here include CÚRAM Centre for Research in Medical Devices, Insight Centre for Data Analytics, Moore Institute, Institute for Life course and Society and The Ryan Institute for Environmental, Marine and Energy.

NUI Galway has been listed as one of the most beautiful universities in Europe according to Business Insider. For more information visit [www.nuigalway.ie](http://www.nuigalway.ie) or view all NUI Galway news here.

\*The University's official title is National University of Ireland Galway. Please note that the only official abbreviation is NUI Galway.



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