citizens energy cooperatives

A business model that can help alleviate energy poverty?
Some words about REScoop.eu

Network
- Fairly young association (founded in 2013)
- Network representing 1500 energy cooperatives
- Representing 1 million EU citizens
- Potential 264 million EU citizens by 2050

Objectives
- Ensuring citizens’ and coops voices are heard in the energy policy debates
- Fostering international collaboration between citizen energy cooperatives
- Helping cooperatives to grow and prosper
- Promoting the cooperative model
Some words about energy cooperatives

- Groups of citizens who cooperate on energy transition projects (electricity, heating, transportation)
- Not a technical concept
- Whole set of activities (production, supply, storage, monitoring, savings, demand response, peer to peer trading, etc.)
- Not restricted to a specific legal form
- Not just a way of financing energy transition projects
- Cooperatives organise themselves around 7 principles (social concept)
  - Voluntary and open membership
  - Democratic control by members
  - Economic participation by members
  - Autonomy and independence
  - Education and training
  - Cooperation between cooperatives
  - Concern for community
Ecopower from Belgium as an example
An innovative business model in Eeklo