

## **WIND ENERGY: Best practice stories from across Europe**

*Webinar*

26 September 2024  
(9.00 - 11.10)

*Please register for the event [here](#).*

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| 9.00 – 9.15   | Acceleration areas for renewables: A game changer that EU countries need to get right?<br><br><b>Flore Belin</b> , Climate Action Network Europe   |
| 9.15 – 9:55   | Burgenland (Austria): Strategic approach to spatial planning of wind energy in protected areas<br><br><b>Michael Graf</b> , Office of the Environmental Ombudsman ( <i>Umweltanwalt</i> ), Regional Government of Burgenland       |
| 9.55 – 10.00  | Break  |
| 10.00 – 10.30 | Energy cooperative Ecopower and the city of Eeklo (Belgium): the power of collaboration between local authorities and energy cooperatives<br><br><b>Dirk Vansintjan</b> , Ecopower and REScoop                                     |
| 10.30 – 11.10 | Vojtěchov wind power plant (Czech Republic): the importance of timely dialogue between the investor and the local community<br><br><b>Lukáš Černík</b> , Local action group Hlinecko<br><b>Tomas Rakos</b> , Participation Factory |

## SPEAKERS



**Flore Belin** is a renewable energy policy coordinator at CAN Europe – Europe’s leading NGO coalition focusing in climate and energy policies. CAN Europe has over 200 active member organisations in 40 European countries, representing over 1,700 NGOs.



**Dr Michael Graf** has been in the role of the Environmental Ombudsman (*Umweltanwalt*) of Burgenland since 2018. *Umweltanwalt* is an independent and non-discretionary party that represents the public interests regarding environmental and nature conservation in official proceedings. Graf studied technical chemistry and process engineering and completed a doctorate in technical sciences.



**Dirk Vansinjtjan** co-founded the renewable energy cooperative Ecopower in 1991 and is the co-founder and president of REScoop, the European renewable energy cooperative federation. For more than 30 years he has been an advocate for citizen-based energy transition.



**Lukáš Černík** is a project manager at LAG Hlinecko. Local action groups bring together representatives of various socio-economic actors (public, private, civil society) in rural areas in order to contribute to realising local development needs. LAG Hlinecko was involved in the Vojtěchov participation process by representing the local community.



**Tomas Rakos** is the co-founder of Participation factory, a social enterprise that mainstreams participation and data-driven approaches into governance and process design. In the case of Vojtěchov, Participation factory was hired by the investor, NOHO, to design the participatory process and facilitate meetings with local residents and the municipality.