



Financing local energy transitions:

Expert roundtable workshop on supporting energy transitions through green bonds

On 16–17 November 2021, the [SONNET project](#) is holding a targeted expert workshop, which will explore the potential, success stories, and challenges of innovative financing mechanisms like Community Municipal Bonds (CMBs), with a focus on how to use these green bonds to advance local energy transitions.

Those with experience in this topic, and/or who are keen to push forward such efforts in their own communities are invited to join, and engage in a site visit, discussions and hands-on exercises.

The workshop will be held at the [Knowle West Media Centre](#) in Bristol (UK), with a site visit to Filwood Community Centre, which is, through SONNET, exploring [making use of CMBs to invest in energy improvements](#). Travel reimbursement can be made available for participants upon request. The workshop can also be joined online (via Zoom) for those unable to travel to Bristol.

The workshop agenda follows (see below). To register to participate, click [here](#) or email info@sonnet-energy.eu.



Agenda

Day 1: roundtable | Tuesday, 16 November 2021

TIME <i>(in Bristol)</i>	PROGRAMME
9:00 – 9:45	Introduction & tour of Filwood Community Centre
9:45 – 10:05	Pre-recorded tour of Filwood shown over Zoom to online participants* <i>*during this time, in-person participants will walk the 8 minutes from Filwood to the event venue at Knowle West Media Centre</i>
10:05 – 11:00	Session 1: THE BASICS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local energy transition in Bristol: status quo, challenges and solutions & the potential of a Community Municipal Bond (CMB)
11:00 – 12:30	Session 2: SUCCESS FACTORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Series of 'success story' pitches, followed by a moderated panel discussion amongst the following conversation leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Joseph Holmes, West-Berkshire Municipality o Karl Harder, Abundance Investment o Ryan Jude, Green Finance Institute o Manuel Nina, GOPARITY impact investing
13:00 – 13:45	Optional: lunch catered at the Knowle West Media Centre
13:45 – 15:45	Optional: Discussion with community building managers who have been engaged in the SONNET project in Bristol, to discuss the future of how Bristol will help fund energy efficiency improvements in community buildings. SONNET on Tour participants may join, should they wish to do so.



Day 2: workshop | Wednesday, 17 November 2021

TIME <i>(in Bristol)</i>	PROGRAMME
9:00 – 9:30	Introduction and welcome
9:30 – 10:15	Session 3: EXPERIENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of how to implement CMB and related innovative financing mechanisms using a City Lab approach, with inputs from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sabine Hielscher, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex o Caroline Bird, Bristol Energy Network
10:15 – 11:15	Session 4: THE MICRO LAB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interactive “group work” exercise to guide participants to design their own local experiments that make use social innovations to advance energy transitions.
11:15 – 11:25	Coffee break
11:25 – 12:15	Session 5: PROMOTE AND DEBATE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final panel discussion on motivations, needs and barriers related to financing local energy transitions, featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Richard Lowe, Bristol City Council o Karl Harder, Abundance Investment o Rachel Moffat, Bristol Energy Network (tbc) o Zoe Banks-Gross, Knowle West Media Centre (tbc)
12:15 – 12:30	Closing and thanks

