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# Smart Energy Communities: State of the Art and Future Developments

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## Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Renewable energy communities (RECs) are collective and citizen-driven entities that own and develop projects aimed at locally using renewable energy sources. RECs are granted the right to self-consume, share energy supplies, store energy, and access markets, to pave the way for a clean energy transition, attracting investments and increasing public awareness about correct energetic behaviors. Indeed, by revolutionizing the classical model of energy generation involving a centralized power plant and transmission over long distances, RECs can potentially lead to medium- and large-scale local energy production and self-consumption, going far beyond the single-household level.

The aim of this Special Issue is to illustrate the state of the art and propose possible developments regarding smart renewable energy communities (SECs). Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, four main areas:

1. Local energy production and utilization
2. Energy flow distribution and information
3. Energy flow management, monitoring and control
4. Social, economic and legal aspects

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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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