## Special Issue

# Recent Trends of Smart Energy Communities

## Message from the Guest Editor

In recent years, energy communities have emerged as pivotal enablers of the energy transition, fundamentally reshaping the traditional energy landscape. Even if different definitions and regulatory frameworks exist across countries, energy communities typically consist of a coalition of several end-users. Those can be equipped or not with distributed energy resources in their premises or share assets, and they can exchange and/or trade energy together. This allows for achieving more efficiency while taking advantage of heterogeneous energy usages. As such, energy communities empower end-users to become active participants in the energy transition process. They play a crucial role in advancing renewable energy adoption and integration of distributed resources. Beyond the implementation of efficient energy management strategies, one main challenge related to communities lies in the coordination between members and the mechanisms to share/trade energy among them.

#### **Guest Editor**

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Energies is an international, open access journal in energy engineering and research. The journal publishes original papers, review articles, technical notes, and letters. Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts which bridge the gaps between research, development and implementation. The journal provides a forum for information on research, innovation, and demonstration in the areas of energy conversion and conservation, the optimal use of energy resources, optimization of energy processes, mitigation of environmental pollutants, and sustainable energy systems.

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