

## RURENER CHARTER

RURENER is a European network of rural communities committed to an integrated energy policy at local level, aiming to reach energy-neutrality. The members are small rural communities and structures supporting them throughout Europe. They have signed the RURENER charter and are members of the RURENER Association.

### PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

1. Members agree on a **sustainable way of developing energy strategies at local level**, taking into account climate change, rarefaction of fossil sources, social and territorial cohesion at European level, economic development and local positive impact at the community level.
2. Members are aware that they **share substantial assets in rural areas**, both in terms of renewable energy sources and capacity to apply a rational use of energy on the first hand, and in terms of agriculture, forestry, culture, leisure, **for people living both in rural and urban areas**.
3. Members **value integrity**, which creates an environment of **mutual trust and respect**. Members demonstrate a flexible approach and **openness to new ways of thinking**.
4. Between members of the association will not be tolerated any discrimination in terms of culture, nationality, political, ethnic or religious differences.
5. Members **value learning** and are willing to develop expertise, either working alone or in partnership with other members, for the benefit of all network members.
6. Members work responsibly and independently, with the support of the network, and aim to be successful **in reaching their own objectives**. They ensure they will not carry any activity or behavior causing conflict of interest with other members of the association.
7. RURENER members will promote accuracy, honesty and good faith in association activities; they will not participate in activities that can cause damages to the image of the association.

### ACTIVITIES ON ENERGY ISSUES IN RURAL AREAS

- a. **Experience Sharing**: Build capacity thanks to expertise/experience of others on funding, technical, organizational aspects; RURENER tools and the Knowledge Bank.
- b. **Cooperation**: Start new projects between members and at the network level in the name and for the benefit of the members.
- c. **Territorial marketing**: Use the RURENER name to raise the profile of members.
- d. **Information and reporting**: Disseminate data and analysis about results and impacts in the field to support decision-makers at European level.
- e. **Representation**: Lobbying at European level to represent communities and their needs; provide an alternative vision at the interface of economics and environment.
- f. **Funding research**: Relationship with other networks, private and public organizations to support the activities and management of the RURENER network through sponsorship or subsidies.

As the representative of a rural community in Europe, I approve the above-mentioned principles and values and I want my community to be part of the RURENER network in order to participate in and benefit from the above-mentioned activities.

Name of the Community: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Done in: \_\_\_\_\_ On the: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name and position of the signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

