



Italy to launch its first energy co-operative



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London, 29 October (Argus) – Italy will set up its first energy co-operative to allow the trading of decentralised power across local communities.

Regional consortium Pinerolo Energia (CPE) established the first project in Piedmont this month. The company's plans proposed the creation of an energy network to exchange power produced by the consortium's members and the local community. The project potentially involves 47 municipalities and their citizens, and is expected to be ready in 2019, CPE said.

Piedmont is the first Italian region to allow the formation of energy networks. The regional parliament [approved a law this summer allowing such schemes](#), while Italy's central government decided not to contest the ruling at the beginning of this month.

Other countries in Europe – such as Germany or Denmark – have already started to experiment with power communities using self-production from renewable sources, CPE said.