



## Invitation – 22nd October 2015

### Coop Break 'Light my fire'

#### The energy transition, an opportunity for cooperative energy-production

*"It's not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most adaptable to change." (Darwin)*

All over Europe hundreds of thousands Europeans show their adaptability by uniting themselves in REScoops (Renewable Energy Sources Cooperatives). In that way these citizens give an answer to the need for a transition from fossil and nuclear fuels to renewable energy and energy efficiency. Citizens invest in their own production (by using sun, water, wind, biomass, ...), distribution and/or supply of renewable energy.

In this Coop Break, **Dirk Vansintjan**, President of **REScoop.eu**, guides us through the main insights of the straight off report of a collaboration of twelve partners from eight countries that worked together in the framework of the European Union's Intelligent Energy Europe program. Let this lunch break enlighten you about how energy-production can be organized at a local level in a sustainable and cooperative way in order to give "power" to the people, metaphorically and literally, and to successfully make the transition of resources.

**Marie Donnelly**, Director of **DG Energy**, will guide us through the present plans of the EU concerning energy production. **Franky Depickere**, Chairman of the **International Raiffeisen Union** and CEO of the **Cera-Group**, and **Klaus Niederländer**, Director of **Cooperatives Europe**, will focus on the contribution their organizations make to the democratization of economy by sustainable cooperative development.

#### Program (exclusively in English):

**11.00 a.m.** Arrival with coffee

**11.30 a.m.** Welcome and introduction by **Franky Depickere**, Chairman of the International Raiffeisen Union and CEO of the Cera-group

**11.40 a.m.** The energy transition to energy democracy by **Dirk Vansintjan**, President REScoop.eu, elected as 'radical innovator of the year' in Flanders by the public in 2015

**12.10 p.m.** Closing remarks about the EU-policy by **Marie Donnelly**, Director of DG Energy

**12.20 p.m.** Questions and answers

**12.40 p.m.** Conclusion by **Klaus Niederländer**, Director of Cooperatives Europe

**1.00 p.m.** Walking lunch

Date and time: 22nd October 2015, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Place: Mundo-B, Rue d'Edimbourg 26, 1050 Brussels - Belgium

**Attendance is free. May we ask you to confirm your participation before**

**15th of October on [www.coopburo.be](http://www.coopburo.be).**

*The Coop Break is an initiative of the Cera-Group and Coopburo in partnership with Cooperatives Europe. A timely issue related to cooperative entrepreneurship or cooperative development is presented and discussed. Anyone interested in these subjects can attend the Coop Break, which is usually organized in Brussels.*

