

University of Groningen

Local energy innovators

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1. Local energy initiatives have the potential to shape the energy transition through their willingness to develop and test new solutions, their receptivity to local needs and circumstances, and their embeddedness in local networks that allows for synergies. (entire thesis)
2. There is no local energy innovation without failure, and, therefore, learning and knowledge sharing should be central in local energy initiatives' experimentation processes. (entire thesis)
3. Successful local energy innovation happens when ideas resonate, which is why networking within and outside the energy initiative is important. (CH2)
4. Human interaction, conflict, argument, and debate are necessary for well-supported and locally embedded innovation. (CH3)
5. Local energy innovation requires pro-active nurturing (e.g. financial, expert, and actor alignment support) besides facilitative legislation. (CH4)
6. Lessons from the past and present show that the development of a local energy movement is a spatially and temporally heterogeneous process. (CH5 and 6)
7. Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand. (Albert Einstein)
8. In the realm of ideas, everything depends on enthusiasm; in the real world, all rests on perseverance.(Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)
9. When a complex point is explained simply, it has more impact. Academic knowledge should be communicated more accessibly to increase societal impact.