

“Watt Works?” or “Watt’s the Cost?”.

Client	Research group – economic issues within the energy transition
Related project	Pol4PED
Start date	Flexible
Suitable for training course	Business Administration and the Creative Media and Game Technologies (CMGT), masters Energy for Society or Sesym.
Bachelor or Master	Both

The Pol4PED project focuses on supporting the development of Positive Energy Districts (PEDs) through policy design, modelling, and stakeholder engagement. PEDs are complex systems that integrate technical, economic, and social dimensions, requiring coordinated decision-making among diverse actors.

Within this project, serious games are used as participatory tools to capture stakeholder behavior, decision-making processes, and interactions in energy systems. These insights feed into socio-economic modelling and policy design. One such serious game has already been developed and accompanied by an observation protocol (Deliverable 2.3).

The broader “As PED as possible” Design Room concept consists of three serious games that together simulate different stages of PED development. To ensure consistency and research quality, comparable observation protocols are required for the remaining two games:

“Watt Works?” (Planner Session)

“Watt’s the Cost?” (Business Ecosystem Design Game)

Assignment

Develop an observation protocol for either the serious games “Watt Works?” or “Watt’s the Cost?”.

Each protocol should:

- Build on the structure and approach of the existing Pol4PED observation protocol (D2.3)
- Define clear observation goals aligned with the specific game mechanics and objectives
- Identify key variables, behaviors, and interactions to be observed
- Provide practical guidance for observers (e.g., roles, timing, data collection methods)
- Ensure comparability across the three Design Room games

Problem definition

Positive Energy Districts require coordinated action across technical, economic, and social domains, yet stakeholder behaviour and decision-making processes are not well understood.

While serious games provide a way to observe these dynamics, the absence of standardized observation protocols limits the ability to systematically capture and compare insights across different stages of the PED design process.

Without consistent observation frameworks, valuable behavioural data cannot be effectively translated into socio-economic models or policy recommendations, reducing the overall impact of the Pol4PED approach.

General information

Final Product	An observation protocol
Location	Energy Academy Europe
Stakeholders (researchers & companies)	Renters, Homeowners, Housing corporations, Energy Retailers, Grid Operators, Energy Communities, Municipalities.
Contact person	Steffen Eriksen – s.s.h.eriksen@pl.hanze.nl
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Details	

What are we and where can you find us?

Entrance is a learning knowledge community, in which students and teacher researchers from various programs work together with researchers, companies, governments and civil society organizations to accelerate the energy transition.

Entrance is the place where, as a student, you work together with lecturers, researchers, businesses, governments and/or civil society organizations on complex issues. We do this at the following locations:

- Location Proeftuin, Zernikelaan 17
- Location Energy Academy Europe, Nijenborgh 6.

What do we offer?

Entrance offers you a multidisciplinary, inspiring learning, working and research environment in which you can develop the competencies needed to shape and accelerate the energy transition. There is room for collaboration with professors, researchers, lecturers, and the professional field. In addition, you will be supervised by professionals who are part of the Entrance Learning Communities (ELC).

Contact us

Are you interested in vacancy? Do you have questions or would you like to apply directly?

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