



Press Release

Aran Islands to Host First ODEON Living Lab on Citizen-Centred Energy Transition

October 2024 – Aran Islands, Ireland

The European research project **ODEON** (Orchestrated Data Ecosystem for Orchestration of Flexibility) is launching its first **Living Lab** this October on the Aran Islands and mainland Ireland. This participatory event, co-organised by ODEON partners **Prospex Institute (PI)** and **Aran Islands Energy Co-op (CFOAT)**, will engage citizens, prosumers, energy experts, and community stakeholders in shaping smarter, fairer, and more flexible energy systems for the future.

The ODEON Living Lab series is designed to ensure that the project's tools, services, and business models reflect the real needs and experiences of users across Europe. As the first of five local engagement workshops to be held across pilot sites in Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, and Slovenia, the Irish edition will place a special focus on the **unique challenges of remote and insular communities**, such as energy access, affordability, and digital inclusion.

The workshops will take place over three days (15–17 October 2024), with community-focused sessions on the islands of **Inisheer and Inishmore**, followed by a professional stakeholder session in **Athlone**. Participants will have the opportunity to explore key themes such as energy independence, community ownership, and the role of digital tools in enabling flexibility and prosumer participation.

“ODEON is about co-creation, and the Living Labs are where this happens on the ground,” explains Prospex Institute. “We’re looking forward to listening, learning, and working together with islanders and energy actors to design solutions that are not only technically robust but also socially relevant.”

The outcomes of the workshops will feed directly into ODEON's design and development process, helping ensure that the solutions piloted in the project are both scalable and sensitive to local needs.

Key Dates and Venues:

- **October 15th** (17:00 – 20:00) – Inis Óirr: Halla Inis Óirr, Aran Islands: *1st Workshop for local energy consumers.*
- **October 16th** (17:00 – 20:00) – Inis Mór: Halla Ronain Inis Mór, Aran Islands: *2nd Workshop for local energy consumers.*
- **October 17th** (12:30 – 16:00) – Sheraton Athlone Hotel, Athlone: *Workshop for all participants in the Irish energy value chain.*

For more information about ODEON and its Living Lab programme, visit the [ODEON website](#).

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