

**The critical role of people in the European Industrial leadership in renewables:**

**"Please In My BackYard (PIMBYs)"**

*09:30 - 11:00 on April 7<sup>th</sup> at Palexpo Hall 3 (room T) in Geneva, Switzerland*

"Where there's a will, there's a way". Concerning the European leadership in renewables, the political will is not to be questioned anymore, but identifying the way is still a challenge posed to the innovation ecosystem at large.

Having largely supportive European citizens is rarely mentioned as a strength to bring this vision to life, while it is clearly instrumental in and even a sine qua non condition to the achievement of such ambition.

In this context, EIT InnoEnergy, together with the Jacques Delors Institute, will organise a workshop to present how Europeans, **as entrepreneurs, investors, consumers and citizens, can walk the political talk.**

The Energy transition is a necessity imposed by climate change, but also a tremendous opportunity for Europe, which could not materialise without a strong commitment of individuals and communities. It could transform a major threat into a one-off opportunity to bring Europe at the forefront of the international stage from an industrial, scientific and political perspective.

Hopefully, Europe has many bow strings to support this ambition: a front-running research community, a well-positioned energy industry in corporate venturing, a vibrant ecosystem to accompany innovative SMEs, and attractive public programmes to support innovation.

For this occasion, EIT InnoEnergy and Jacques Delors Institute have gathered experts and practitioners of the field to offer an interactive workshop to the Climate Show's visitors. Each panellist will describe how individuals are the key to unlock the energy transition. The panel will be composed by:

- Dr. Reinier Verhoog, Doctoral Assistant, **EPFL**
- Stéphanie Savel, President, **WiSEED**
- Matthew Nicholas, Co-founder, **WATT3**
- Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Research fellow, **Jacques Delors Institute**
- Pierre Serkine, Energy & Innovation Adviser, **EIT InnoEnergy**

*The panel will be moderated by Thomas Pellerin-Carlin.*