

Summer Sustainability Challenge – Energy Cooperatives

When: 08-07-2024 – 12-07-2024

Who: 20 students from diverse backgrounds, [COOP Centraal](#) and [Master Challenge](#), funded by Provincie Noord Holland.

What: Students work on real-life cases from energy cooperatives in Amsterdam during an intense full-time week program facilitated by Master Challenge and REC Impact. The winning team got €2,500 in prize money.

About: Energy Cooperatives play an important role in the energy transition in the Netherlands by providing households and companies with energy that is produced locally and sustainably. However, energy cooperatives have few resources to scale up their operations, therefore COOP Centraal, REC Impact, and Master Challenge organized a *Summer School Challenge* where students worked on 5 challenges the energy cooperatives are facing.

Take-out: During this week-long challenge 5 groups of 3 to 4 students worked on 5 challenges submitted by 3 different energy cooperatives from Amsterdam. During the week different presentations and workshops were provided and we organized Q&A sessions with their clients and experts. At the end of the week, the students presented their solutions to their clients who were very satisfied with the results and solutions the students delivered. Coop Centraal wrote this [article](#) about the challenge.

Reference:

“This challenge was very well organised and I gained new knowledge about Energy Cooperatives. Besides, it was nice to work on a real-life challenge, get help and insights from experts in the field and help Energy Cooperatives by providing a solution to their challenge. I would recommend other students to participate in this challenge.” Student participant

