



2nd Local focus group

Event report and monitoring

Azores

Venue	EMOBICITY Açores 2 nd Local Focus Group
Date	June 25 th 2020
Number of people attending	50 (average), 433 (total visualizations over 3s)
Total number of representatives of the types of stakeholders involved	Unknown (online)

Agenda of the event 15h00 to 16h30

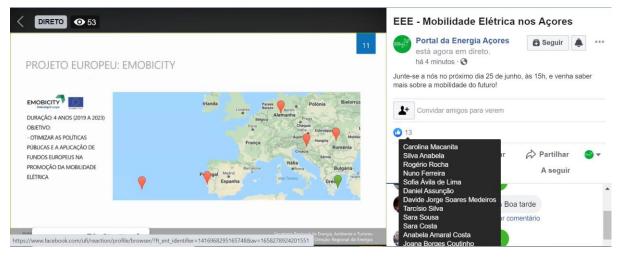
Pictures of the event



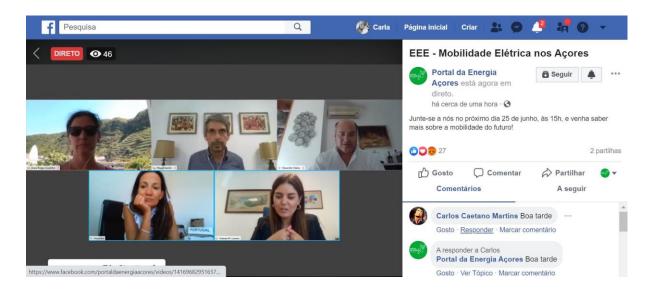






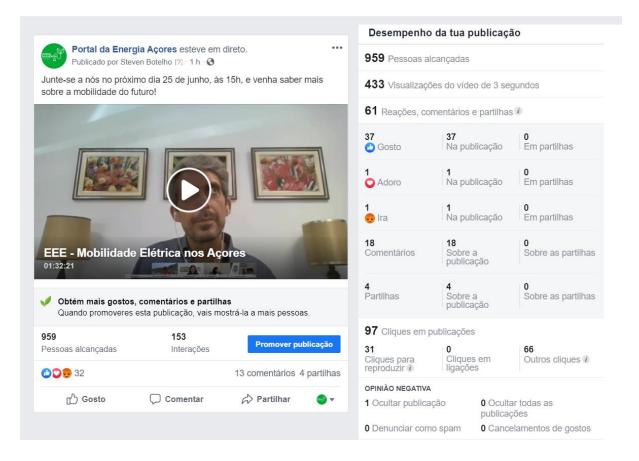












Event assessment

Overall how would you rate the success of this specific event?

- ☐ fairly successful
- □not too successful
- □not successful at all

Please briefly describe the event including:

- Main experiences, viewpoints and suggestions of stakeholders on existing regional measures, projects, initiatives on energy efficiency and use of renewable energy, their effectiveness and impact.
- Main specific needs and constraints identified by stakeholders for the promotion of energy efficiency and use of renewables in companies in the region.
- Best practices / examples proposed directly by stakeholders, if any.
- Views / suggestions on the measures / policies / good practices identified in other regions.
- Specific relevant comments made by representatives of the different types of stakeholders involved on the regional analysis.
- Facilitation techniques used, if applicable (ex: brainstorming, role playing, storytelling, etc)

Following previous experiences, it was decided to pair the EMOBICITY 2nd local focus group with a seminar on electric mobility in order to increase attendance, count on external expertise and provide a longer session intertwining debate periods with different types of





presentations. The Covid 19 pandemic, and all the ensuing containment measures, made it impossible to have a physical meeting and, therefore, the meeting was held online and broadcasted live.

The event took place on Facebook as this platform was identified as being the most relevant, with a schedule that would minimise interference with other activities. The event was scheduled about 1 month in advance and announced through social media, traditional media and by e-mail to several institutions.

Attendance was higher than expected with an average of 50 people and a total of 433 visualizations lasting more than 3s. Several questions were also posed by e-mail and social media before the event, prompting an interesting live debate.

As described, it was a hybrid meeting with presentations on several electric mobility related topics allowing a comfortable atmosphere for informal debate. Presentations ranged from a national environmental fund that finances electric vehicles to the Portuguese EV managing authority, a testimony of an EV user from a mother and business-owner and, naturally, on EMOBICITY.

In general, the event was very successful as it allowed for an active debate on several topics within the framework of electric mobility while the presentations brought important fact and discussion points to further deepen those topics.

EMOBICITY project was largely described, followed by the description of Interreg, the results so far as well as some of the measures proposed.

The presentations and debate that followed allowed to conclude on the following topics:

- The acquisition cost of electric vehicles when compared to traditional internal combustion vehicles is still high but easily compensated by its lower use operational costs and the existing grants;
- The lack of a public charging infrastructure is no longer a relevant obstacle in Portugal. There are, however, concerns regarding the bureaucracy related to the installation of private charging stations. Legislative amendments to streamline the installation of charging stations, especially in shared private spaces.
- The major change, in july 2020, from a free to a paying charging network is expected to bring a lower usage of the public charging infrastructure as well as some initial difficulties. This will be a major test on the ability of this infrastructure to survive on market conditions.
- Generalised lack of information and experience, especially regarding the lifetime of batteries, reinforcing the need to continue the ongoing information campaigns and hands-on experiences that put users at ease with electric vehicles.

These conclusions are well aligned with the ongoing electric mobility policy, reinforcing its validity. On the other hand, much discussion went on the need for an integrated transport policy, where electric mobility will certainly play a role but not the only one.

Please briefly describe main success and difficulties related to this specific event, if any. Please provide suggestions for similar or future events (including improvement you would like to apply already in the next local group events you will organize in the framework of RESOR), if any.

The event was success. The idea of pairing the meeting with a seminar on the topic with presentation from external experts served as an effective starting point for debate, providing an active and informal discussion atmosphere.

Setting the event well in advance with a strong publicity and using a very well-known social media platform (facebook) also strongly contributed to its success.