

POWERTY

Renewable energies for vulnerable groups

PILOT ACTION IN SPAIN (AEA)

Creation and development of an energy and educational community (EEC) in a vulnerable area



1. INSPIRATION BY POWERTY

The idea of this pilot action would not have been possible without:

- The exchange of good practices with POWERTY partners, highlighting France (AURAE) which showcased success stories of collective **renewable energy installations (self-consumption) in housing for vulnerable groups** namely "Production of renewable energies through collective investments of citizens in Voiron" ([link to good practice](#)).
- The results of the POWERTY Interregional Thematic Seminars carried out so far: The first one (held on [24-25 November 2020](#)) and the second one (held on [8-9 April 2021](#)) which highlighted the role of **energy communities** as a solution which included vulnerable groups.
- The results of the networking session of our last POWERTY Andalusian stakeholder meeting (held on [28 January 2021](#)), which highlighted the strong interest in energy communities and the need to overcome many barriers to create an energy community. In particular, our stakeholder "Local Group of Seville of the energy cooperative Som Energía", of the POWERTY project, has created the non-profit legal entity "Torreblanca Ilumina Association", which is assuming the role of "driving group" of the EEC that they plan to develop in Torreblanca.

2. SUMMARY OF THE PILOT ACTION



The pilot action is aimed at **testing the creation and development of a small energy and educational community (EEC) in a vulnerable area in Andalusia (Spain)**, foreseen to be implemented in the “Torreblanca” neighbourhood located in Seville. This neighbourhood has been classified by the Andalusian Regional Government as a Disadvantaged Zone and is included as such in the Andalusian Regional Strategy of Cohesion and Social Inclusion.

The aim is to enable vulnerable groups affected by energy poverty to have access to renewable energy, save on their electricity bills, and thus alleviate energy poverty, while at the same time promote energy culture by integrating an educational and learning dimension in energy matters that will contribute to the decarbonisation of the energy system. This pilot action contributes to the vulnerable citizen also being the protagonist of the energy transition.



3. NATURE OF THE PILOT ACTION

The pilot action will be developed by testing the 3 phases that are necessary for the creation and development of an EEC, which are:

Phase 1 - LEGAL: A community must be constituted as a legal entity. Given the variety of types of legal entities, this pilot action will test the legal form of "non-profit association", to determine its advantages and disadvantages compared to other existing legal forms. In addition, the EEC is going to carry out a collective renewable energy installation in a public building (school), owned by the City Hall, so it will be necessary to make use of the mechanism of public-private cession of the space of the school for the assembly of a collective renewable energy installation (self-consumption) that supplies energy to neighbours located less than 500m away from the school (máximum distance in force in the current Spanish regulations). During this phase, legal advice is

needed to accompany the testing and to provide solutions to emerging barriers regarding the legal status of the community in terms of its characteristics and functions and how it interacts with the public-private transfer mechanism. An additional task for such advice will be to seek mechanisms to propose to the City Hall that part of the Budget available to cover non-payment of energy bills from vulnerable households be used to create an EEC for vulnerable groups (this is not currently done and would be an excellent funding opportunity).

Phase 2 - SOCIAL: To test all the tasks of the social process of dynamisation, citizen participation, advice and integration of the residents of the Torreblanca neighbourhood in an EEC, for which the creation of the figure of the “energy and educational community office” (EEC-office) is foreseen to be design. During this phase, social advice is needed to accompany the testing by providing models, templates and other materials necessary for social dynamisation activities, adapted to the socio-economic and cultural nature of vulnerable groups.



Phase 3 - TECHNICAL: To test the implementation of the collective renewable energy installation (self-consumption) through an Energy Service Company (ESCO) that supplies energy to the neighbours located at least 500m away from the school. During this phase, technical advice is needed to accompany the testing by providing the sizing of the renewable energy installation and the analysis of the energy data to ensure that the renewable electricity generated is distributed among all consumers. This phase is planned to be carried out in collaboration with the “Torreblanca Ilumina Association”, created within the Seville Local Group of the energy cooperative Som Energía, which has the profile of Andalusian stakeholder of the POWERTY project. This association currently has photovoltaic panels and plans to use them in the renewable energy installations to be installed in public buildings and homes in the Torreblanca neighbourhood.



4. PLAYERS INVOLVED IN THE PILOT ACTION

The players involved in this pilot action are:

- **AEA** is a non-profit public entity and **partner leader of the POWERTY project**. The AEA manages the assurances (legal, social and technical), the purchase of the equipment and the contract of the virtual study visit (video) about the pilot action.
- **Som Energía** is a non-profit citizen energy cooperative with a local group in Seville which are **stakeholders of the POWERTY project**. The local group in Seville contributes with the PV panels of the installations and the work of their volunteers.

5. BENEFICIARIES OF THE PILOT ACTION

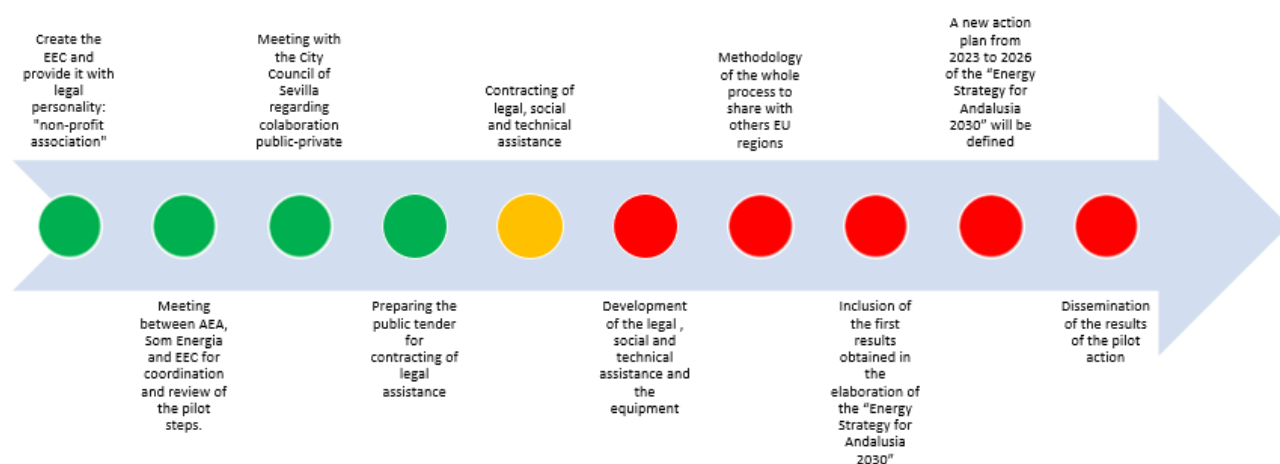
The main beneficiaries of the pilot action will be:

- Directly, the **school** where the collective renewable energy installation will be installed and **vulnerable groups in the Torreblanca neighbourhood** (citizens and small commercial establishments), especially those living in the vicinity of the public building (school), given that they will be able to receive renewable electricity, as well as the EEC that will be formed.

- Indirectly, **students of the school** and **all the neighbours of Torreblanca** who will benefit from the EEC experience and public and private entities that want to set up an EEC, both from the regions of the POWERTY consortium as well as other regions. In particular, **regional public entities** that will be able to improve their policy instruments to facilitate the creation of an EEC in vulnerable areas.

6. TIMEFRAME AND ACTIONS

The approval by Interreg Europe and initiation of the pilot action was at **24/06/2021**. The pilot action is expected to end before **31/03/2022**.



Activities done at 31/07/2021:

- May 2021. Creation of the energy and educational community (CEE) with legal personality: Non-profit association. This action will be managed by the stakeholder Som Energía.
- June 2021. Several meetings between the Andalusian Energy Agency, Som Energía Local Group and the "Torreblanca Ilumina" Energy Community for the coordination and review of the steps of this pilot. This action will be managed by AEA.
- Various meetings with the Seville City Council to manage public-private collaboration (transfer of roofs from public schools to install collective photovoltaics). This action will be managed by the stakeholder Som Energía accompanied by the Andalusian Energy Agency.

- 13/09/2021. Launch of the public tender by the Andalusian Energy Agency for the hiring of legal assistance.



- 01/10/2021. Award of the public tender by the Andalusian Energy Agency for the start-up of legal assistance to the company ERNST & YOUNG ABOGADOS, S.L.P.
- 01/10/2021. Meeting between the Andalusian Energy Agency and the Social Services of the Seville City Council in Torreblanca to present the pilot and assess the selection criteria for vulnerable households.



- 10/05/2021 – 02/15/2022. Several meetings with the company awarded legal assistance to plan and monitor the work by the Andalusian Energy Agency.
- 11/10/2021. Launch of public tenders by the Andalusian Energy Agency for the contracting of comprehensive assistance that contains the following assistance:
 - o Lot 1: Social assistance.
 - o Lot 2: technical assistance.

o Lot 3. Dissemination through an explanatory video.

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SERV. ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA EJECUCIÓN DTDAS. ACTIVIDADES PROYECTO POWERTY

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Número de expediente:	CONTR 2021 0000934413
Título de expediente:	SERV. ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA EJECUCIÓN DTDAS. ACTIVIDADES PROYECTO POWERTY
Descripción:	ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA EJECUCIÓN ACTIVIDADES PROYECTO EUROPEO POWERTY DENTRO DEL PROGRAMA INTERREG EUROPE
Órgano de contratación:	Agencia Andaluza de la Energía
Tipo de contrato:	Servicios
Procedimiento:	Abierto supersimplificado
Tramitación:	Ordinario
Forma de presentación:	Electrónica
Clasificación CPV:	71241000-9 Estudio de viabilidad, servicios de asesoramiento, análisis 71356200-0 Servicios de asistencia técnica 79212000-3 Servicios de auditoría 79212100-4 Servicios de auditoría financiera 79341000-6 Servicios de publicidad

- 02/17/2022. Award of public tenders by the Andalusian Energy Agency for the implementation of comprehensive assistance that contains the following assistance:
 - o Lot 1: Social assistance, awarded to Cooperativa Siete.
 - o Lot 2: Technical assistance, awarded to Albedo Solar, S.L.
 - o Lot 3. Dissemination through an explanatory video, awarded to Dolores Alejandra Arroyo Gutiérrez.
- 17/02/2022 – 02/18/2022. Several meetings with each assistance to plan and monitor the work by the Andalusian Energy Agency.
- 17/02/2022. Signing of an agreement between the Andalusian Energy Agency and the Torreblanca Ilumina Energy Community.



- 23/02/2022. Celebration of the first social assistance workshop in the civic center of Torreblanca.



Activities to be carried out until 31/03/2022:

- 02/03/2022. Celebration of the second social assistance workshop in the civic center of Torreblanca.



- 09/03/2022. Celebration of the third social assistance workshop in the civic center of Torreblanca.
- 16/03/2022. Celebration of the fourth social assistance workshop in the civic center of Torreblanca.
- 23/03/2022. Celebration of the fifth workshop on social assistance in the civic center of Torreblanca.

- Publication of a methodology for the entire process to share with other EU regions.
- Publication of an explanatory video of the entire process to share with other EU regions.
- Inclusion of the first results obtained in the preparation of the "Andalusian Energy Strategy 2030" with the aim of guaranteeing the durability and continuity of this type of CEE. The AAE, as part of the drafting group of the "Andalusian Energy Strategy 2030", in charge of defining the specific actions to be carried out until 2022, will propose a specific line to promote energy communities including vulnerable groups.
- **August 2022:** A new action plan from 2023 to 2026 of the "Energy Strategy for Andalusia 2030" will be defined, with new actions and instruments among which a subsidy program aimed at energy communities for vulnerable groups will be proposed.

7. ANNEX

Press releases:

- 11/08/2021 – ABCdesevilla - The residents of Torreblanca will have solar energy for self-consumption to alleviate energy poverty ([Link to the news in Spanish](#)).
- 11/08/2021 – Diario de Sevilla - Photovoltaic energy to alleviate energy poverty in the Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#)).
- 11/08/2021 – Junta de Andalucía – Photovoltaic energy to alleviate energy poverty in the Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 11/08/2021 – El correo web - Photovoltaic solar energy pilot project in Torreblanca for self-consumption ([Link to the news in Spanish](#)).
- 11/08/2021 – 20 minutos - The Junta will implement a photovoltaic solar energy pilot project in Torreblanca for self-consumption ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 11/08/2021 – PV Magazine – Photovoltaic to alleviate energy poverty in the Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 12/08/2021 – Radio Sevilla - The Junta will implement a photovoltaic solar energy pilot project in Torreblanca for self-consumption ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 12/08/2021 – Cordoba buenas noticias – Photovoltaic energy to combat energy poverty in the Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 12/08/2021 – Vanguardia de Sevilla.com – The Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca, the basis of a photovoltaic solar energy pilot project ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 16/08/2021 – Suelo Solar - Photovoltaic energy to alleviate energy poverty in the Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 24/08/2021 – Energías renovables - Andalusia promotes a solar energy community in one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods of Seville ([link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 30/08/2021 – ESEficiencia - The Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca will have an energy community with collective self-consumption ([link to the news in Spanish](#))

- 17/02/2022 – Agencia Andaluza de la Energía - La Junta apoya la creación de una comunidad energética en Torreblanca para abastecer con energías renovables a hogares vulnerables ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – Junta de Andalucía - La Junta apoya la creación de una comunidad energética en Torreblanca para abastecer con energías renovables a hogares vulnerables ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – EuropaPress - La Junta impulsa la creación de una comunidad energética en Torreblanca (Sevilla) para abastecer a familias vulnerables ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – Energías Renovables - La Junta apoya la creación de una comunidad energética en Torreblanca para abastecer con energías renovables a hogares vulnerables El barrio sevillano de Torreblanca contará con una comunidad energética para sus hogares más vulnerables ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – Sevilla Actualidad - La Junta apoya la creación de una comunidad energética en Torreblanca para abastecer con energías renovables a hogares vulnerables Placas solares para abastecer a las familias vulnerables de Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – Andalucía información - La Torreblanca ilumina, la comunidad energética para abastecer a los más vulnerables ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 17/02/2022 – Nuestra Reacción - «Torreblanca ilumina» abastecerá de energía eléctrica a familias vulnerables del barrio ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))
- 21/02/2022 – ESEficiencia - «Firmado el acuerdo para impulsar la comunidad energética en el barrio sevillano de Torreblanca ([Link to the news in Spanish](#))

Radio and TV interviews/news:

- 12/08/2021 – 14 Horas Sevilla – POWERITY pilot action in Torreblanca (Sevilla) ([Link to the audio in Spanish and the transcription in English](#))
- 12/08/2021 – Canal Sur - POWERITY pilot project for the creation of an energy and educational community in the Torreblanca neighborhood (Seville) in the news, 1 minute ([Spanish audio](#)), ([English transcription](#))

- 23/08/2021 – EMARTV – The Seville neighborhood of Torreblanca is launching a pilot project for energy communities that will supply schools and homes with solar energy, 8 minutes.
([Spanish audio](#)), ([English transcription](#))
- 11/10/2021 – Televisión Canal Sur – Energy communities and the POWERITY pilot action in Torreblanca, 9 minutes.
([Spanish audio – full program – View from minute 35 to 45](#))
([Spanish audio – interview of Joaquin Villar \(AEA\)](#))

Eventos en los que se ha presentado este piloto:

- 06-07/11/2021. I Foro de Iniciativas de Transición Energética desde la economía social
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([grabación de la presentación en castellano a partir del minuto 1:19 sobre este piloto](#))
- 16/11/2021. I Congreso Europeo de Comunidades Energéticas.
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([recording in English](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 11/02/2022. Seminario técnico sobre transición energética en el mundo local.
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([recording in English](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 17/02/2022. Photovoltaic solutions to address energy poverty in the Mediterranean with a gender perspective.
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 21/02/2022. Obstáculos y buenas prácticas para garantizar la participación de los consumidores energéticos vulnerables en las comunidades energéticas locales de Euskadi.
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 22/02/2022. Pobreza energética: 10 años de visibilización y acción.
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 23/02/2022. International Energy Poverty Action Week (IEPAW)
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))
- 16/03/2022. ETU Initiative Conference
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))

- 17/03/2022. The policy learning week: energy poverty workshop
([Link in Spanish](#)) ([Link in English](#))

More information:

- Torreblanca Ilumina Association ([Link in Spanish](#)).