

POWERTY

NEWSLETTER N° 5

Renewable energies for vulnerable groups



WELCOME TO THE 5TH EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER

During this fifth semester of the project (from 01/08/2021 to 31/01/2022), several **bilateral meetings have taken place between European partners**, in order to learn more about some of the good practices identified in POWERTY that have the potential to be replicated or are inspiring for implementation in the regions of other European partners. These good practices have served to influence current public instruments and help vulnerable groups to use renewable energy.

Thanks to these meetings and the entire learning process carried out so far (identification of good practices, international seminars, study visits, etc.), the first drafts of the regional action plans of each of the European partners have been drawn up, where measures are envisaged and how these measures will improve existing public instruments in each region.

The **regional experts meetings**, where each European partner presented the draft action plan for their region, and an active participation of regional experts was encouraged to finalise it during the next semester.

It should also be noted that POWERTY is already part of the **“Energy Poverty Advisory Hub” atlas**, which includes all initiatives and projects worldwide to alleviate energy poverty. On the other hand, the project promoted by staff of the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) for collective self-consumption for vulnerable households, which has received the **first national prize of the Germinador Social 2021**, is also outstanding. This project has been inspired by POWERTY and the result of an innovative initiative of the workforce of workers of the AEA to reduce energy poverty in Andalusia.

In addition, the **Andalusian Regional Government and the NGO Caritas** have begun to collaborate to reduce energy poverty inspired by the learning process of POWERTY, which has been ratified by a **collaboration agreement** between the two entities. Moreover, under the agreement signed by the AEA with the University of Huelva to promote renewable energies and the use of solar cookers, different activities have been carried out.

POWERTY has been presented at the **1st European Congress of Energy Communities** and the **1st Forum of Cooperative Energy Transition Initiatives** both held in Spain, and in a large number of international events, which we will detail later, having a great impact on the networks thanks to the publications on [the project website](#), among others.

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POWERTY BILATERAL MEETINGS

During the previous semesters, European partners identified good practices related to the different themes of the project: Renewable technologies, financing mechanisms, normative and regulatory obstacles, and empowerment of citizens and local authorities. Some of these good practices were presented at international seminars with the collaboration of regional experts from each European partner. During this fifth semester, each European partner has selected good practices that could be replicable or inspiring for improvements to public instruments in their regions, supporting renewable energies to alleviate energy poverty for vulnerable groups. The following **bilateral meetings** were held:

● AEA welcomes VIPA in Sevilla



On [20 and 21 October 2021](#) the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) received the Public Investment and Development Agency (VIPA) in Seville to show them 5 case studies and carry out 2 study visits.

● AEA welcomes AURA-EE in Sevilla



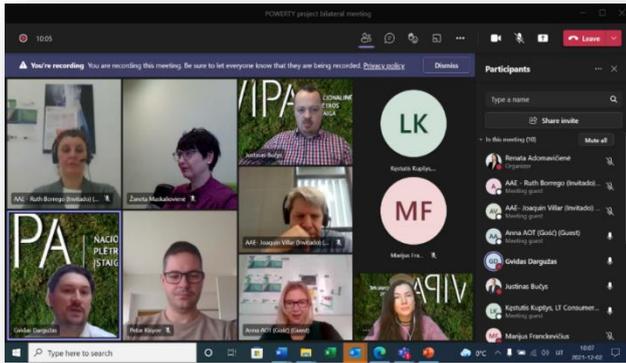
On [4 and 5 November 2021](#) the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) received the Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes Energy and Environment Agency (AURA-EE) in Seville to show them 4 case studies and carry out 1 study visit.

● AURA-EE welcomes VIPA & AEA in Lyon



On [13 and 14 December 2021](#) the Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes Energy and Environment Agency (AURA-EE) received the Public Investment and Development Agency (VIPA) and the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) in Lyon to show them 6 case studies and carry out 1 study visit.

• VIPA welcomes AOT, EAP & AEA online



On [2 December 2021](#), the Public Investment and Development Agency (VIPA) received the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA), the Energy Agency of Plovdiv (EAP) and the Agglomeration Opole Trust (AOT) during an online meeting to show them 3 case studies.

Link to reports on bilateral meetings: [here](#)

Link to the good practice guide identified in POWERITY: [here](#)

POWERITY REGIONAL EXPERT MEETINGS

During the **regional expert meetings**, each **European partner** presented the draft regional action plan and encouraged active participation to discuss suggestions and proposals. These meetings are detailed below:

• Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA - Spain)



On [31 January 2022](#), 41 experts attended the fifth meeting of POWERITY regional experts, organised by AEA, where the progress of the semester was reported, the **draft of the Regional Action Plan** and all the **good practices identified in POWERITY** were presented through a highly participatory section. The meeting also showed the status of the **pilot action** on the creation and development of an energy and educational community in a vulnerable area (Torreblanca in Seville) being carried out in the framework of POWERITY.

- Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes Energy Environment Agency (AURA-EE – France)



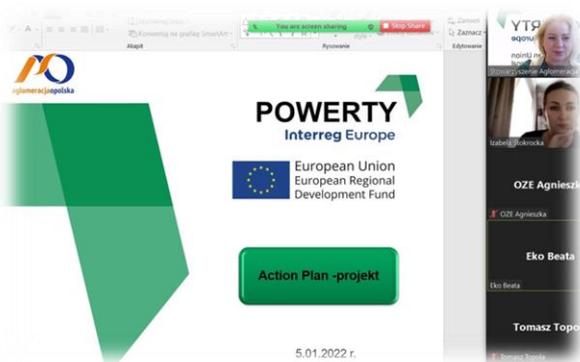
On [28 January 2022](#), 12 experts attended the fourth meeting of POWERTY regional experts, organised by AURA-EE, where the progress of the project was summarised and the **good practices** were presented for their region. The contracted expert then presented the first results of the legal and financial study of the **pilot action**. Finally, the **Regional Action Plan** to be developed during the second phase of the project was discussed.

- Energy Agency of Plovdiv (EAP - Bulgaria)



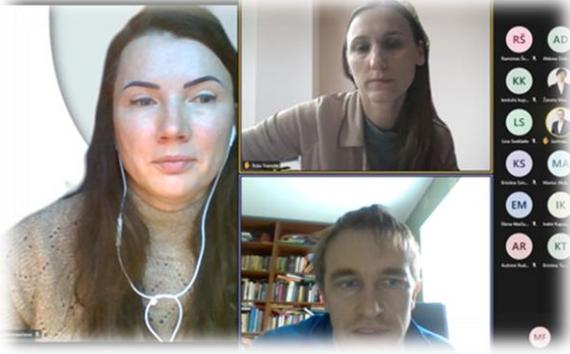
On [30 November 2021](#), 102 experts attended the fourth meeting of POWERTY regional experts, organised by EAP, together with the XIV National Conference of the Bulgarian Energy Agency Association, which took place in Velingrad with a hybrid format, where there was a panel dedicated to energy poverty where several **good practices identified in POWERTY** and the **pilot action** were presented.

- Agglomeration Opole Trust (AOT - Poland)



On [5 January 2022](#), 7 experts attended the fourth meeting of POWERTY regional experts, organised by AOT, where the latest developments in the last semester of the project and the draft of the **Regional Action Plan** were reported.

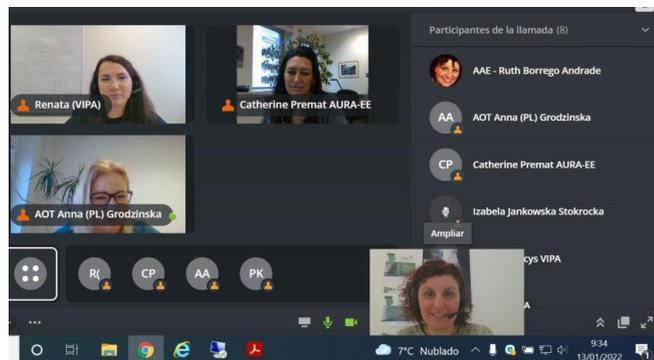
• Public Investment and Development Agency (VIPA - Lithuania)



On [20 January 2022](#), 16 experts attended the fourth meeting of POWERTY regional experts, organised by VIPA, which presented the **Regional Action Plan** for the Reduction of Energy Poverty in Lithuania, with an emphasis on increased use of renewable energy sources among vulnerable groups, and reported on **good practices in Spain and France** that inspired the plan highlighting the importance of collaboration with Lithuanian stakeholders.

MEETINGS OF EUROPEAN PARTNERS

During the **meetings of the European partners**, the steps to be taken in the project during this semester were discussed and the regional action plans of each partner were exchanged. These meetings are detailed below:



- All POWERTY European partners, on [27 September 2021](#), attended the **coordination meeting** where bilateral meetings were planned, the indications to generate the draft regional action plan based on good practices identified in the project were revised and regional meetings with a deadline of January 2022 were planned.
- All the European partners of POWERTY, on [13 January 2022](#), attended **the steering committee meeting** where the draft regional action plans of each European partner were presented and the progress report of the last semester and the preparation of the next one was reviewed, the next steps to be followed by the project (action plans and meeting for the presentation of the action plans) were analysed and a presentation was made on the status of the pilot projects approved by Interreg Europe by the Spanish partner (AEA), French (AURA-EE) and Bulgarian (EAP). In addition, the POWERTY project advisory partner (University of Manchester) presented the latest updates on the research of energy poverty in Europe.

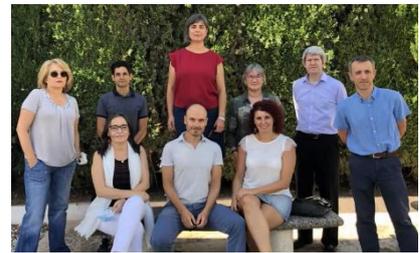
POWERTY IN THE “ENERGY POVERTY ADVISORY HUB” ATLAS

EU
Energy Poverty
Advisory Hub

On [30 January 2022](#), the POWERTY project was included in the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub Atlas as one of the global initiatives to overcome energy poverty.

1ST PRIZE OF THE GERMINADOR SOCIAL 2021

On [2 November 2021](#), the workforce of the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) received the highest recognition with the first national prize of the Germinador Social 2021 in its category “energy poverty” with its initiative “collective self-consuming for vulnerable households”. We thank everyone who has voted for our project ([Engager](#), [European Energy Poverty COST Action](#), etc.)



CROWDFUNDING COLLECTIVE PV FOR VULNERABLES

On [14 November 2021](#), the MUTI Association (Andalusian POWERTY expert) successfully completed the crowdfunding process launched to fund a collective photovoltaic installation on a school to power vulnerable families in the environment. This installation is part of the good practice presented in POWERTY ([link here](#)).



PROMOTING SOLAR COOKERS IN VULNERABLE GROUPS

During the last semester ([29 May 2021](#)) an agreement was signed between the Andalusian Regional Government and the University of Huelva (Andalusian expert of POWERTY) to promote renewable energies, in particular, through solar cookers. Some of the activities under this agreement have taken place during this fifth semester: a workshop was held on 25 August 2021 during the science week in San Silvestre de Guzman and on [28 September 2021](#) during the European night of researchers a workshop was held with the support of Red Cross and its volunteers.



AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ANDALUSIAN ENERGY AGENCY AND CARITAS



On [15 September 2021](#), the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) and Caritas (Andalusian expert from POWERTY) joined forces to overcome energy poverty by signing an agreement to promote training actions and pilot initiatives with renewable energy under the POWERTY project.

ANDALUSIA YOUNG AWARD FOR ANDALUSIAN EXPERT

On [24 November 2021](#), Susana Clavijo Núñez, PhD student from the University of Seville and Andalusian expert from POWERTY, has been recognised with the Andalusia Young Award for her study on Energy Poverty. Susana Clavijo was part of the POWERTY work team of the AEA during the first semester of the POWERTY project.

DISSEMINATION OF POWERTY PROJECT

• POWERTY in events

- On [27 September 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the online event [Conference Leading Local Energy Communities. LICLE project](#)
- On [30 September 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the online event [Energy and Cooperative Communities Conference. Alternatives to depopulation.](#)
- On [8 October 2021](#), UM presented POWERTY at the online event [Manchester Climate Festival](#)
- On [6 November 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the in person event [1st Cooperative Energy Transition Forum in Monachil \(Granada, Spain\).](#)
- On [16 November 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the in person event [1st European Congress of Energy Communities, held in \(Pamplona, Spain\).](#)
- On [16 November 2021](#), AURA-EE presented POWERTY at the online event to the [National Network of actors against poverty and energy insecurity in housing \(RAPPEL\).](#)
- On [23 November 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the conference [Cooperation project "Local Communities Leaders in Energy \(LICLE\).](#)
- On [24 November 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the in person event [Workshop Renewable energy communities in the Andévalo region \(Huelva, Spain\).](#)

- On [25 November 2021](#), UM presented POWERTY at the online event [Seminar The Presente and the Future of energy Poverty](#).
- On [8-9 December 2021](#), AOT presented POWERTY and organized the in person event XII/XIII National Eco-Energy Festival in Opole.
- On [10 December 2021](#), UM presented POWERTY at the online event [Conference Climate Change and Urban Transformation](#).
- On [21 December 2021](#), AEA presented POWERTY at the online event [Conference Energy Poverty in the EU: State, Policies, Consumer Empowerment organised by the "TRECE" project](#).
- On [29 January 2022](#), UM presented POWERTY at the online event [Pre-Conference Workshop Energy and Environment Specialty Group](#).

• POWERTY in press

During this semester, the press appearances related to POWERTY have been many, so we refer you to our press dossier ([here](#), in the section Media appearances).

It is remarkable the publication of the Stefan Bouzarovski and others publish scientific paper on energy poverty in Poland using findings from the POWERTY project ([link](#))

• POWERTY on the radio

During this semester, the radio appearances related to POWERTY have been many, so we refer you to our radio dossier ([here](#), in the section Impact of the TV & Radio).

• POWERTY on television



On [11 October 2021](#), the Andalusian Energy Agency (AEA) made an appearance on Regional Television (Canal Sur TV) to talk about Energy Communities and the pilot project of POWERTY in Torreblanca. To learn more, check out our TV dossier (([here](#), in the section Impact of the TV & Radio).

• POWERTY Website

On the [project website](#) you can consult the information generated:

- News related to your topic, in the [NEWS](#) section.
- Good practices identified in the [GOOD PRACTICES](#) section, which have been included in the Policy Learning Platform database with an assessment by Interreg Europe experts.
- In the [LIBRARY](#) section, the following documents are available:
 - The **good practices guide** in the [GUIDE OF GOOD PRACTICES](#) section that contains more good practices than those shown in the GOOD PRACTICES section since it contains good practices from countries that are not part of the project consortium.
 - The reports of the bilateral meetings: in the [BILATERAL MEETINGS](#) section.

FOCUS ON ANDALUSIAN ENERGY AGENCY (AEA)

[Andalusian Energy Agency](#) (AEA) is a government-owned entity assigned to the Regional Ministry of Presidency, Public Administration and the Interior and the Regional Ministry of Finance and European Funding, whose mission is to develop the policies of the Andalusian Regional Government aimed at optimising the energy supply of our region, from an economical and environmental point of view.



AEA´s major role is the **monitoring and implementation of the Regional Government´s Andalusian Energy Plan**. Specifically, the Agency coordinates and promotes the objectives established in the energy policies of the Andalusian Regional Government which currently takes shape in different Energy Strategies.

To do this, the following objectives will have to be reached:

- Improve the quality of energy services in the region.
- Collaborate in the extension and development of energy generation, transport and distribution infrastructures.
- Achieve maximum efficiency in energy applications.
- Strengthen the self-sufficiency of the region through the diversification of sources.
- Promote the application of technological innovation, as well as promote R&D in the energy sector in our Autonomous Community.
- Promote the use of renewable energies.
- Contribute to the development of less polluting energies, as well as limiting the emissions of polluting effluents into the atmosphere.

- Promote and stimulate energy saving and the rational use of energy, and especially avoid energy losses in homes and in public and private facilities.
- Collaborate with public and private institutions in the implementation of activities that improve the energy system.
- Contribute to reducing pollution and environmental impacts caused by the current energy system.
- Promote energy efficiency in transport in the Autonomous Community.
- Promote and collaborate in the development of devices for the most efficient use of energy.
- Contribute to the territorially balanced extension of energy production and supplies, especially promoting the electrification of isolated rural areas.
- Manage the incentive lines entrusted to it by the Ministry to which it is attached, in accordance with the provisions of article 117 of Legislative Decree 1/2010, of March 2, which approves the revised text of the General Law of the Public Treasury of the Andalusian Regional Government.
- Grant subsidies in accordance with the provisions of article 115 of Legislative Decree 1/2010 cited above.
- Produce an annual report on compliance with the objectives of the Energy Plan.
- Encourage and promote Local Corporations in the promotion of renewable energies.

AEA is the lead partner of POWERTY project and is involved in various European projects focusing on renewable energies and energy saving.

You can know more about the AEA and its activities in its website ([here](#)).

NEXT STEPS OF POWERTY PROJECT

For the next semester (01/02/2022 to 31/07/2022) as a result of the learning process of the previous five semesters, the **Regional Action Plan** of each of the European partners will be finalised, consisting of measures to be developed related to the objective of the project “Renewable Energy for Vulnerable Groups” influencing public instruments and social, cultural and local conditions to promote its implementation and durability.

In addition, meetings with **regional experts** will continue and additional **dissemination events** of the regional action plan of each European partner will be held.

Finally, the **pilot actions** will have been finalised and the results presented.

POWERTY CONSORTIUM

PROJECT LEADER



Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Infraestructuras,
Transportación, Política y Turismo
Consejería de Medio Ambiente
y Ordenación del Territorio

SPAIN: Andalusian Energy Agency



**Auvergne
Rhône-Alpes**
Energie Environnement

FRANCE: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes
Energy Environment Agency
(AURA-EE)



ЕНЕРГИЙНА
АГЕНЦИЯ
ПЛОВДИВ
ENERGY
AGENCY OF
PLOVDIV

BULGARIA: Energy Agency
of Plovdiv (EAP)



aglomeracja opolska

POLAND: The Agglomeration
Opole Trust (AOT)



LITHUANIA: The Public
Investment and
Development Agency (VIPA)



UNITED KINGDOM: University of
Manchester - EU Energy
Poverty Observatory (EPOV)

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The Interreg Europe programme of the European Union is an initiative of territorial cooperation for the period 2014-2020 which aims to encourage cooperation between regions of the European Union. The aim is to help European regions to design and implement regional policies and programmes more effectively, particularly Growth and Jobs programmes of the European Structural Funds and Investment, but also programmes of the European Territorial Cooperation, through the exchange of experiences, knowledge and best practices between stakeholders of all European regions. The programme has four thematic objectives: research and innovation, SME competitiveness, low-carbon economy, the environment and resource efficiency. The Interreg Europe programme covers the entire territory of the European Union, Norway and Switzerland.

POWERTY is part of the Interreg Europe programme, with a total budget of 1.127.226 euros, and co-financed with European Regional Development Fund up to 83,7%.
