



Almada Study Visit

Sun4All CoP | February 2024





This document has been prepared in the framework of the European project Sun4All – “Eurosolar for all: energy communities for a fair energy transition in Europe”.

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 101032239.

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1. Introduction

This document includes the main results of the 3rd Study Visits organised in Almada as part of Community of Practice Observers' Group (CoP) support and sharing actions. This Study Visit was organized by AGENEAL and CMA and counted with the participation of 5 CoP members and some external actors.

Organization	Role
AGENEAL	Pilot partner of Sun4All
CMA	Pilot partner of Sun4All
Município de Braga	CoP Member
València Clima i Energia e Las Naves	CoP Member
Junta de Freguesia do Lumiar	CoP Member
Energia Bonita	CoP Member
Unité des Communes Valdôtaines Grand- Paradis	CoP Member
SEnergia	External actor
Coopérnico	External actor
RdA	External actor
CSPCR	External actor

The morning session provided CoP members with a greater understanding of Almada Pilot and the concepts for the future Renewable Energy Nucleus, as well as the opportunity to meet some key actors in Portugal's energy sector and other projects taking place in other towns:

External actors were:

- **S.ENERGIA** - an intermunicipal energy agency that plays an active role with municipalities, supporting their energy and environmental strategies and encouraging other local stakeholders such as schools, community groups, sports associations, social solidarity institutions, businesses, and citizens, in general, to act according to best energy and environmental practices. This aims to collectively build a more sustainable and environmentally balanced Setúbal peninsula.
- **Coopérnico** - a Portuguese cooperative focused on renewable energy projects. It enables individuals to collectively invest in initiatives like solar

and wind power, promoting local energy production and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. With a democratic and transparent approach, Coopérnico empowers members to shape the organization's direction and fosters community engagement in building a sustainable energy future.

- **RdA Climate Solutions** - an advisory boutique specialized in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, working with a special focus on circular economy, energy transition and sustainable finance. With a deep market knowledge and track record, RdA partner with their clients providing bold, integrated and independent solutions to address their business challenges, helping them to prosper with low-carbon and climate resilient solutions.
- **Centro Social Paroquial de Cristo Rei (CSPCR)** - a non-profit Private Social Solidarity Institution established by the Cristo Rei Parish in Pragal under the initiative of Father José Afonso Marques Pinto. It aims to support the most vulnerable populations within the parish, providing various services such as kindergarten, after-school activities, and home support. Managed by a volunteer-based board of directors, CSPCR currently serves over 650 individuals through its various social assistance programs and community initiatives, continually striving to meet the evolving needs of the community it serves.

The afternoon was dedicated to the Almada Pilot visit, which included the participation of an important stakeholder, the Community Centre of 3 Vales, where the lunch was served. This social institution belongs to the Association [CSPCR](#) (Centro Social Paroquial Cristo Rei) and works with home care providers, daycare facilities, families, and the local community.

Later, the participant CoP members presented the projects they intend to implement to address energy poverty by adapting the Sun4All scheme. After the presentations, the partners participated in a working session with peer-to-peer exchange.

2. Dynamic with CoP members

The afternoon session for CoP members followed the format of a working session with a peer-to-peer dynamic. The members of the Sun4All Community of Practice were divided into three groups and discussed the similarities and differences on the various aspects of their projects, as follows:

	Braga	Energia Bonita	Grand Paradis	Lumiar	Valencia
Target area	Braga municipality areas surrounding the energy information desk (one-stop-shop) Energy community area surrounding area	La Palma, 2 km distance from REC	Buildings in 4 municipalities with Social Housing	Neighborhood of Telheiras Civil Parish of Lumiar	Pilot test in 5 cemeteries: General Cabanyal Campanar Benimàmet Grau
Target users	Population living in energy poverty in the surrounding areas of the one-stop shop Population in energy poverty living in the	Vulnerable consumers sent by social services Third-sector actors working with poverty	Low-income householders High energy consumption houses	The Civil Parish Council itself Local citizens Vulnerable households	Vulnerable households located in different neighborhoods (maximum 2 km apart) from the PV installations and identified by Social Services

	surrounding areas of REC				
Types of incentives	<p>Bill discount</p> <p>Energy advice sessions</p>	<p>Not having to pay the 100€ obligatory social capital</p> <p>Cap price on cooperative fee (never paying more than they would pay with the state discount in their bills)</p> <p>other services as energy workshops, energy advice,...</p>	<p>At present:</p> <p>sharing of best practices and tips&tricks for energy saving</p> <p>sharing information on regional and national funding</p> <p>sharing information about the renewable energy communities.</p> <p>In the future:</p> <p>financial help in paying bills</p> <p>collective self-consumption model development</p>	<p>Being members of a local Renewable Energy Community (REC) - in the case of vulnerable households, without paying entry costs</p> <p>Receive their share of energy produced by the PV installation owned and managed by the REC, translating in reductions in electricity bills</p> <p>Free energy advice</p>	<p>Energy Communities: roof procurement (ownership of installations) with energy shares for vulnerable households.</p> <p>Municipal cemeteries: renewable energy for vulnerable households, bill optimization and energy advice.</p>

<p>Legislative/ regulatory issues</p>	<p>Restrictive legislation</p> <p>Lack of information and practice</p>	<p>Unclear legal framework</p> <p>Define benefits and advantages for CER, following EU narrative</p> <p>Limit of 100kw installed power</p>	<p>The law on renewable energy communities has just been approved (24th January) and the guidelines were issued on 23rd February</p>	<p>The most difficult issues we have faced / are facing are related to licensing</p>	<p>Unclear legal framework</p> <p>Define benefits and advantages for CER, following EU narrative</p> <p>Limit of 100kw installed power</p>
<p>Country/pilot specific constraints/ opportunities</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Lack of human resources</p> <p>Financial resources</p> <p>Population involvement</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Target vulnerable population</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Lack of staff, experience and knowledge</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Tool for sharing energy</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <p>recent law on renewable energy communities</p> <p>lack of clear rules</p> <p>difficulties in involving people</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <p>First pilot project in Aosta Valley</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Bureaucratic issues</p> <p>Lack of awareness about REC by the public</p> <p>Financing</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Area with a large population</p> <p>Leveraging public and private financing</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <p>Lack of staff, experience and knowledge</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Tool for sharing energy</p>

<p>Main stakeholders' categories</p>	<p>Bragahabit Environmental and energy department Energy Agency of Porto AEB (Braga Business Association) AEM (Minho Business Association)</p>	<p>Municipalities Third sector entities Energy community Donors to energy poverty</p>	<p>Social Department Energy Agency (COA Energia) CVA Spa (energy supplier)</p>	<p>Participants/ promoters: Lumiar Parish Council (Sustainability Department, Social Department) Neighbourhood non-profit association (Viver Telheiras) Other partner associations (Local Partnership of Telheiras) Residents, including vulnerable households Other stakeholders: Lisbon Municipality (licensing, owner of the building for the PV installation) DGEG (licensing) PV installation company (PV unit installation) External experts: CENSE FCT-NOVA (university), Coopérnico EU Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (European Commission initiative)</p>	<p>Municipalities Third sector entities Energy community Donors to energy poverty</p>
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<p>Main data issues</p>	<p>Personal data sharing</p> <p>Lack on access to energy consumption</p>	<p>How to inform members on how the energy was produced, self-consumed, and shared</p>	<p>Access to historical energy data thanks to COA Energia</p> <p>New data and Privacy Issues</p> <p>Limited access to socio-economic sensitive data</p>	<p>How to inform members on how the energy was produced, self-consumed, and shared</p>	<p>Data protection:</p> <p>Can be solved with complete consent forms</p> <p>Data storage and treatment fully GDPR compliant</p> <p>Monitoring and management:</p> <p>Energy consumption monitoring</p> <p>Optimization of allocation coefficients</p> <p>Interaction with DSOs and suppliers</p>
<p>Energy Utilities ' Role(s)</p>	<p>E-Redes – energy distribution</p> <p>Energy sellers on the free market</p>	<p>DSO (billing processes, PV plant registration and operation, energy data and financial flows)</p>	<p>Ongoing agreements with CVA Spa (energy supplier) for:</p> <p>PV plant registration</p> <p>Billing processes</p>	<p>(E-Redes) is responsible for the smart metering of the energy injected into the grid and for its allocation to the members of the community</p>	<p>I-DE is the main DSO in the Valencia region</p> <p>COELCA is DSO at pilot project of CEL Castellar-L'Oliveral</p>

3. Main Conclusions

The third study visit dedicated to the members of the Community of Practice Observer's Group, proved to be highly productive.

In general, members of the community of practice have recognized the key points for implementing sun4all in their cities/regions. However, several general and frequent challenges may pose a primary impediment. This includes:

- Insufficient human resources with expertise in these areas;
- Confusing/undefined regulatory processes;
- Difficulties in accessing or estimating data regarding beneficiary energy consumption.

4. Figures

Here are a few pictures from the many parts of the event shot during the day.



Figure 1- Presentation of Sun4All video for Almada Pilot Interview during coffee-breaks.



Figure 2 – Almada Study visit welcome and opening presentation.



Figure 3 – Overview of Almada Pilot presentation.



Figure 4 – Visit to Almada Pilot site.



Figure 5 – Visit to Centro Juvenil dos 3 Vales with the local context of CSPCR.



Figure 6 – Group picture.



Figure 7 – Event closing.