Lumiar (Lisbon), Portugal



RESULTS

1st technical assistance of the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub 2022-2023

The Lumiar Parish Council, in collaboration with the Local Partnership of Telheiras and with the assistance of Coopérnico and CENSE, FCT-NOVA University of Lisbon, embarked on technical assistance (TA). The goal was to set up one of the first citizen-led and inclusive renewable energy communities in Portugal by tackling energy poverty and promoting energy democracy.

Objectives

The project aimed to raise awareness and diagnose energy poverty while offering counseling to vulnerable households and community intermediaries. The TA produced an open-access guide for building local energy communities, aiming for replication in Lumiar Parish Council and alignment with Portugal's multi-level energy and climate policies. Progress was monitored through indicators, tracking households engaged and actions taken during and beyond the pilot phase.

This TA established a robust local partnership, government support, financial aid for vulnerable families, a motivated network, and expert input, enabling international financial support through the DUT Partnership's Urban Doers Grant.

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Activities & Outcomes

Detailed energy poverty reports for Lumiar and Lisbon were produced. A pilot renewable energy project with 16 solar panels (7.0 kWp) benefitted members, including community energy-poor families, and the parish council itself. An inclusive financial model allowed participation without substantial upfront costs. Internal rules stressed equal participation as a non-profit. Successful participant recruitment and engagement of families were achieved energy-poor through community efforts. Regulatory approval and legal licensing were obtained in November 2023.

Challenge

In Portugal, inclusive energy communities face several barriers, with **licensing being** a complex and lengthy process.

Future

The Telheiras Renewable Energy Community is planning a **second solar project** to expand impact and share lessons for replication.





October 2022 - July 2023



Energy poverty phase: Diagnosis and planning



Topics: Energy poverty diagnosis; Renewable energy communities













