



European Energy Network

A voluntary network of European energy agencies

Online | 14 March 2023 | 10h00-13h00 CET ([Check event in your timezone](#))

[Registrations open](#)

Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe Potential role for Renewable Energy Communities

EnR Study on Policy and Implementation status across Europe

The European Commission has emphasized the need for alleviating energy poverty, which represents a complex issue, as a key pillar in the context of a just and fair transition within the EU Green Deal, and the subsequent Renovation Wave.

Energy poverty is severely affecting many European countries. We face this reality at a moment when, to deliver on the European Green Deal and substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions, massive energy savings must be achieved, and at the same time we must speed up deployment of renewable energy sources to decrease our dependence on imported fossil fuels. Energy efficiency measures that can help tackle energy poverty require large and long-term investments, but these have positive externalities such as reduced health costs and other macroeconomic benefits.

The European Energy Network developed a study on policy implementation and the current status of energy poverty in Europe. The study focuses on the enabling role of energy agencies in the context of renewable energy communities to combat energy poverty. It covers the effectiveness of current policy measures, including strategies for just clean energy access, and financing mechanisms considering special emergency measures for the recovery from the Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine. Under the leadership of the Industry and Energy Transition Department (DITE) at ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency, the study was coordinated together with six other agencies joining the study's Steering Committee (ADEME, Agency for Ecological Transition, France; AEA, Austrian Energy Agency; CRES, Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, Greece; Dena, German Energy Agency; Energy Saving Trust, United Kingdom, RVO, Netherlands Enterprise Agency) and received contributions from a total of 14 agencies across Europe.



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Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe, potential role for renewable energy communities

14 March 2023 | Online | Agenda

Opening Session

10:00 – 10:10 | **Nelson Lage**, President of EnR & ADENE
Ana Fontoura Gouveia, Secretary of State of Energy and Climate, Portugal

Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe, potential role for renewable energy communities

10:10 – 10:30 | **Renewable Energy Communities in Energy Poverty Mitigation**
Adela Tesarova, Head of Unit for Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition (ENER.B.1), Directorate-General for Energy (DG-ENER), European Commission

10:30 – 11:00 | **Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe: Potential role for Renewable Energy Communities**
Manuel Casquiço, Director of Industry and Energy Transition, **ADENE**, Portugal

11:00 – 11:50 | **Roundtable discussion**
Moderator: Manuel Casquiço, Portuguese Energy Agency (**ADENE**), Portugal
Panelists presenting best practice examples

- **René Schellekens**, Senior Consultant Energy Transition and Energy Poverty at **RVO**, Netherlands
- **Lise-Marie Dambrine**, Executive Director Prospective and Research at **ADEME**, France
- **Alessandro Fiorini**, Researcher at **ENEA**, Italy

Energy Poverty, barriers and opportunities for mitigation with Renewable Energy Communities

11:50 – 12:10 | **Project focus | [POCITYE](#)**, A POSitive Energy CITY Transformation Framework
Nuno Bilo, Évora Municipality (PT)

12:10 – 12:55 | **Roundtable discussion**
Moderator: Catarina Pereira, Project Manager **[POWERPOOR](#)**, **[Coopernico](#)**

- **[Energy Poverty Advisory Hub](#)** | **Jeppe Mikel Jensen**, Project Coordinator
- **[Covenant of Mayors](#)** | **Miguel Morcillo**, Project Coordinator
- **[Ecoserveis](#)** | **Marta García**, CEO
- Cascais Municipality (PT) (*tbc*)

Closing session

12:55 – 13:00 | **Nelson Lage**, President of EnR & ADENE



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Speaker info | Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe, potential role for renewable energy communities

Opening Session

Nelson Lage | President of the Board of Directors, ADENE, Portugal & President of EnR 2022

(ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency)

Nelson Lage is the President of the Board of Directors of the Portuguese Energy Agency, ADENE, and the President of European Energy Network, EnR, in 2022. Nelson Lage has a degree in Political Science - International Relations and an Executive Master in Management and Leadership Development (Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics). He has 15 years of public sector experience in the fields of energy, innovation and international relations. He has served as an advisor in several governments. In 2011 he joined ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency and is currently the President of the Board of Directors.

[LinkedIn Profile @nelsonlage](#)



Ana Fontoura Gouveia | Secretary of State for Energia and Climate, XXIII Government, Portugal

Ana Fontoura Gouveia holds a PhD in Economics from the Nova School of Business and Economics, where she completed her studies in 2015. She is an Economist at Bank of Portugal and, between 2004 and 2008, worked on in the areas of National Financial Accounts and External Accounts. She served at the European Central Bank until 2014. In 2015, she worked at the Office of Strategy and Studies of the Ministry of Economy, where he led the Economic Scenario Analysis team. Ana held duties in the Ministry of Finance until 2018, having been responsible for the Department of Economic Analysis, Research and Forecasting. In 2018, she returned to Bank of Portugal and from the end of 2019 to January 2023, she was an Economic Advisor in the Prime Minister's Office.

Ana is a visiting Professor at Nova School of Business and Economics, where she teaches since 2016. In 2012/2013 she obtained a study license from the ECB, that took her to Nova School of Business and Economics, the University of Liège and the Toulouse School of Economics as part of her PhD. She is the author of several publications in the area of public policies, a theme in which she specialized. Over the years, she has been participating, as a representative of Portugal, in several international Working Groups, notably the OECD, the European Commission and the European System of Central Banks.



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Keynote | Renewable Energy Communities in Energy Poverty Mitigation

Adela Tesarova | Head of Unit for Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition (ENER.B.1), Directorate-General for Energy (DG-ENER), European Commission



Adela Tesarova is the Head of Unit for Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition in DG ENER. She is an economist, with experience in the European Commission working on energy, climate and environment policies as well as EU economic governance and taxation. She also worked in PwC Prague before joining the Commission.

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EnR Study | Energy Poverty mitigation in Europe: Potential role for Renewable Energy Communities

Manuel Casquição | Director of Industry and Energy Transition at ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency

MSc in Computer Science and Business Management. Degree in Civil Engineering and Post-Graduation course in management and business strategy. Manuel joined ADENE in 2007 as an Auditor, checking the quality of the EPC issued by the qualified experts under the National Certification System for Energy. He participated in several European projects as well as in some Working Groups of the European Energy Network, EnR.

Until 2017 developed and coordinated projects in the field of energy efficiency, focusing on information technologies. In 2017, he steered the development of a consumer information and simulation tool on the liberalized electricity and natural gas markets (<https://poupaenergia.pt>). Currently is the Director of the Industry and Energy Transition Department, whose mission includes helping consumers and promoters of renewable energy communities on the implementation of the projects and development of web platforms to help consumers on the energy transition.



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EnR Agencies' Roundtable | The Role of Energy Agencies in Energy Poverty Mitigation

Moderator | Manuel Casquiço | Director of Industry and Energy Transition at ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency

René Schellekens | Senior Consultant Energy Transition and Energy Poverty at RVO, Netherlands Enterprise Agency



René Schellekens has been working with local authorities on the subject of the environment and sustainability for over 20 years now. René strives to foster local authorities incorporate sustainability in their overall policies, as sustainability can be a catalyst for social cohesion and development, local economic development, health, etc. René's main professional goal is to have an inclusive energy transition in all local and national governments.

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[@RVO Nederland](#)

Lise-Marie Dambrine | Executive Directorate Prospective and Research at ADEME, France

French Agency for Ecological Transition (ADEME)



Alessandro Fiorini | Researcher at the Monitoring Energy Policies for Energy Efficiency Laboratory at ENEA, Italy

Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)



Alessandro Fiorini is a Researcher in the Laboratory for Monitoring Energy Efficiency Policies and Measures at ENEA Energy Efficiency Department. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Sapienza University of Rome, post-graduate studies in economics and statistics at the University of Rome Tor Vergata and Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium.

Prior to ENEA, Alessandro held positions at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (Directorate for Energy, Transport and Climate), in the Italian National Agency for Investment Attraction and Business Development and in the Institute for Competitiveness in Rome. In over ten years of experience, he has carried out research studies aimed at delivering policy monitoring and evaluation works; developing evidence-based recommendations for policy support; drafting scientific and technical publications. His research interests lie in the field of socio-economic impact of sustainable transition; green finance; methods for policy impact evaluation and industrial innovation and competitiveness.

He has lengthy experience in data analysis, production and use of statistics, layout methodological guidelines for data collection, validation and processing, and econometric modelling for addressing socioeconomic issues. He is currently representing ENEA in the EEFIG (Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group) working groups on energy efficiency investment data collection and Energy Efficiency 1st Principle implementation.

Project Focus | POCITYF, A POSitive Energy CITY Transformation Framework

Nuno Chorão Bilo | Évora Municipality (PT)

Project focus | [POCITYF](#), A POSitive Energy CITY Transformation Framework

Experienced Mechanical Engineer with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration and industry. In the last decade, has been developing work and projects focused on energy transition, energy efficiency and smart cities, which inevitably contribute to the commitment assumed by the Municipality of Évora with the Covenant of Mayors, combating climate change. Among the works carried out, the implementation of the first pilot network for electric vehicles charging, "Mobi-E", the contribution of the Municipality in the installation of the first Portuguese electric smartgrid – Évora EDP Inovcity, the total change of public lighting in the Municipality of Évora to LED technology, with remote management and self-regulation of lighting levels, the installation of photovoltaic solar power plants on municipal land and the development of projects related to smart city planning, energy poverty, decarbonization, positive energy blocks in protected historic areas, such as the FP7 – INSMART project, the "Living Laboratory for Decarbonisation of Évora" and the H2020 SCC - POCITYF project, in which stands out the implementation of innovative solutions for the production of photovoltaic energy in the historic center of Évora."



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Roundtable | Energy Poverty, barriers and opportunities for mitigation with Renewable Energy Communities

Moderator | Catarina Pereira | Project Manager [POWERPOOR](#), [Coopérnico](#)



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Catarina Pereira holds a MA in Architecture from Faculty of Architecture of Lisbon University and a postgraduate degree from CRATERRE-ENSAG (France) on Earthen Architecture, building cultures and sustainable development. During several years she conducted her work as a Qualified Expert on energy certification of buildings and lately she has been working on renovation building design as a freelancer. Catarina is a project manager at Coopérnico coordinating POWERPOOR. Coopérnico is a Portuguese renewable energy cooperative which combines 3 main activity areas: renewable energy production, energy supply and diverse energy services, including the dissemination of the energy community model throughout the country and supporting the creation of new ones. Coopérnico has been a facilitator of energy communities, working with local communities and public entities in order to share information and know-how on this topic, namely by developing information and capacity building sessions with municipalities.

Jeppé Mikél Jensen | Project Coordinator, [Energy Poverty Advisory Hub](#)

Jeppé Mikél Jensen is Project Manager at Climate Alliance, a European network of more than 1800 local authorities. Having worked on strengthening local climate action in the EU UN contexts for over ten years, he is working on the EU initiative Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH) together with the EPAH consortium. With Jeppé's background the focus will be on operationalizing the efforts from the former Energy Poverty Observatory to local actions on the ground in the new Energy Poverty Advisory Hub. Jeppé brings the experiences from his work with existing EU initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors and the Clean Energy for EU Islands.

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Miguel Morcillo | Project Coordinator, [Covenant of Mayors](#)

Environmental and security engineer, authorized waste and emissions agent and consultant instructor for health and safety by the Technical University of Giessen in Germany, he is responsible of CO₂- Monitoring in Climate Alliance and has developed CO₂ monitoring municipal methodologies used by more than 2.000 local entities in the countries of Germany, Austria, Italy, Luxemburg, Ukraine and Georgia. He has developed the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of several municipalities and counties in different countries, and has work as adviser for the GIZ. He has been working from the early beginning as Technical Helpdesk the Covenant of Mayors and Covenant of Mayors East, playing a big role by the development the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan methodology for municipalities. He is actually part of the Covenant of Mayors EU office working in CO₂ monitoring and reporting and also non key expert the Covenant of Mayors East and Japan, being also involve in the technical working groups the Global Covenant of Mayors defining CO₂ monitoring and reporting rules for municipalities all over the world.



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Marta García | CEO, [Ecoserveis](#)

Marta Garcia represents Ecoserveis association, a non profit strategic innovation consultancy working to bring energy closer to society by promoting a fair and sustainable energy model. Ecoserveis identifies society's energy needs, provides solutions and builds bridges between the public and technology, the market, research and innovation. Ecoserveis tackles energy poverty since 2006 and nowadays it is involved in projects around energy communities and vulnerability too.

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Cascais Municipality (Speaker tbc)





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About the European Energy Network (EnR)

EnR is a voluntary network currently numbering twenty-four European energy agencies, with responsibility for the planning, management or review of national research, development, demonstration or dissemination programmes in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy and climate change abatement. It seeks to strengthen cooperation between member agencies and other European actors on all issues relevant to sustainable energy (energy efficiency, sustainable transport and renewable energy). International comparison and information sharing takes place primarily through our eight Working Groups, which are also open to relevant non-member organisations. As well as this exchange of information, EnR Working Groups serve as *fora* for the conception and implementation of successful common projects within the framework of EU-funded programmes.

EnR provides a first point of contact for national energy agencies in EU Member States. EnR dedicates its efforts towards joint activities where its unique character provides added value at both a European and individual Member State level. It provides a channel for pan-European technical support on matters of energy policy, strategy, evaluation, programme design & delivery and marketing communications.

ADENE, Portuguese Energy Agency, holds the Presidency of the European Energy Network (EnR) in 2022. During its annual mandate, ADENE aims to leverage the work undertaken by previous presidencies, laying out an ambitious agenda and contributing to public policy design that drives forward the energy and digital transition of the EU. The Portuguese Presidency of EnR will focus on five thematic areas:

- **Energy Poverty** | Contribute to achieve the goals set out in EU's European Green Deal and Renovation Wave, focusing on the role of renewable energies in the fight against energy poverty;
- **Renewable Energy Communities** – Contribute to implement the Clean Energy Package by promoting renewable energy communities, focusing on business models that can foster wider adoption;
- **Water-Energy Nexus** | Drive a more efficient use of resources through discussion around the water-energy nexus, focusing on innovative financing mechanisms and on consumer willingness-to-choose for combined savings' opportunities;
- **Green Jobs** | Contribute to strengthening sustainable competitiveness and the just transition to a green economy, by outlining market needs and solutions to implement new professional profiles;
- **International Cooperation** | Promote existing cooperation initiatives by EnR members and foster new synergies, with a focus on EU-Africa exchanges, encouraging discussion on multi-level governance models.

Underpinning the five thematic areas, ADENE will highlight three major axes (**youth, territories, and digitalisation**), that will be present in all activities to be developed, including several studies and publications, highlighting the role of energy agencies in the referred topics. These will contribute to the European energy and climate agenda, namely to #EUGreenDeal, #RenovationWave, #EUSkillsAgenda, #EUAfricaPartnership.

Nelson Lage, President of the Board of Directors of ADENE, presides the EnR Presidency 2022 and the Troika Plus 2022, composed by the current (ADENE, PT), past (ADEME, FR) and future (dena, DE) presidencies, and joined by a former presidency holder (RVO, NL).

Find out more at:



enr.presidency@adene.pt



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Agência para a Energia

About ADENE – Portuguese Energy Agency

ADENE is a private non-profit association with public utility, which develops its activity in the context of the public interest in the energy sector and its interfaces with other sectorial policies, articulated with other entities in this field, including energy efficiency, mobility, water efficiency and in the development of the nexus water-energy, under the tutelage of the Secretary of State for Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action. ADENE also has a major role as an aggregating institution that mobilises and dynamises the application of public policies, an excellent partner of the business and associative sector, close to the citizen, contributing to strengthen Portugal's position at the forefront of decarbonization and energy transition.