

## LIFE-BECKON

*Boosting Energy Communities massive deployment by equipping local authorities with comprehensive technical assistance cookboOk, integrated services and capacity buildiNg*



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# Financial support programs for EC - Spain

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This document provides an outline of the financial support programs available in Spain to finance energy communities and related projects. **May 2023**

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## 1. Introduction

This document outlines some financial support programmes available to Energy Communities (“ECs”) in Spain.

Some programmes are directed specifically to ECs, while others are addressed more generally to participants in the energy sector, but are still available to ECs or their members.

Moreover, some of the programmes included in the document focus on the promotion of specific activities, such as electric vehicle mobility or generation of hydrogen. In consequence, those programmes will be relevant only to those ECs that engage or are willing to participate in these activities.

## 2. CE Programmes

The aforementioned financing sources are available for Spanish projects. In this section we will focus on determining specific tools applicable in Spain and their access requirements. Firstly, we will explain the CE Program's funds and later on the other available aids in Spain.

### 2.1. Initial CE Programmes

As a result of the European NextGeneration funds and the Spanish Plan for Recuperation, Transformation and Resilience the Spanish national Institute for the Diversification and Saving of Energy (IDAE) issued three support programmes directed to Energy Communities (“ECs”). The aim of those programmes is to support the different phases of creating an energy community: learning about ECs, planning an EC and implementing an EC. Those three support programmes are:

- CE Aprende (EC Learn): This programme focuses on promoting and providing information on the concept of ECs to natural persons and organisations and to help them identify future members of ECs.
- CE Planifica (EC Plan): This programme focuses on providing advice and funding for the planning and the constitution of ECs. It includes the development of feasibility studies, contract models and technical and legal assistance.

- CE Implementa (EC Implement): The programme funds the implementation costs of EC projects up to 60% of the implementation costs, in the field of renewable and thermal energy, energy efficiency and/ or e-mobility.

In this case there are some requirements to be met in order to access those subsidies. The most important requirements are that this program introduces a definition on Energy Communities which limits the access to the subsidy to legal entities based on open and voluntary participation effectively controlled by its members/partners which are natural persons, local entities and SME which develops renewable energy projects, energy efficiency and sustainable mobility which are owned by this legal entity.

Based in Order TED/1446/2021, which regulates the CE Implementa, the rules implemented in said order are valid until December 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. At the moment of presentation of this report, there has not been any update of the validity period of said order, or any new order amending the former. However, between April 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 and April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024, there is a public consultation procedure on the order that regulates the CE Implementa. Therefore, we can expect an amendment to the previous order or a new order.

Furthermore, at the moment of presentation of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls would be presented in the National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information on the CE Implementa programme can be accessed in: [Link: Programa de Incentivos a Proyectos Piloto Singulares de Comunidades Energéticas \(CE Implementa\)](#).

## 2.2. CE Oficinas (EC Offices)

The EC OFFICES Program complements the three already existing CE Programmes, and aims to set up and operate Community Transformation Offices (OTCs), either newly created or by adapting other types of existing public offices, for the promotion and revitalization of Energy Communities. The regulatory bases were approved by the ORDER TED/1021/2022, of October 25th. Actions must be fully carried out before December 31st, 2025.

OTCs can be either a physical or a virtual space, and its staff can be either associated and existing staff, or new staff. Activities of OTCs include: the dissemination of the concept and aspects related to energy communities, advice and support to citizens, SMEs and local entities.

In this case, the eligible costs are the acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of inventory assets, as long as its use for the established purpose is not less than 5 years for assets that can be registered in the public registry. The aid covers a maximum of 80% of the costs.

Specifically, the EC OFFICES Programme covers:

- The management of the application and the justification of the performance of the aid actions with a limit of € 7,000 per file.
- The drafting of the bidding documents for the execution of the actions.
- The hours of work of new personnel. An annual total of 1,650 hours will be taken as a basis.
- The contracting of services.
- Other eligible costs such as supporting material for conducting seminars.

Although the first call for applications is already closed, new calls for the CE Oficinas programme may ensue. Nevertheless, the regulation of the CE Oficinas implemented by the mentioned ORDER TED/1021/2022, are valid until December 31<sup>st</sup> 2025, and, at the moment of presentation of this report, there has not been any amendment to this validity period or a new order regulating CE Offices.

Further, currently, at the presentation of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls would be presented in the National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information on the CE Offices programme can be accessed in [Link: Ayudas a Oficinas de Transformación Comunitaria para la promoción y dinamización de comunidades energéticas \(Programa CE OFICINAS\) | Idae](#).

### 3. Aid for Self-Consumption, Storage, Removal of Asbestos Roofing and Installation of Canopies

Royal Decree 477/2021, of 29 June, approves aid to the Autonomous Communities for the implementation of various incentive programmes linked to self-consumption and storage with renewable energy sources, within the framework of the European Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (NextGenerationEU) (hereinafter, “**RD 477/2021**”). RD 477/2021 has been modified by Royal Decree 377/2022, of May 17th, in order to increase the types of beneficiaries. Further, considering the amendment implemented by Royal Decree 1178/2023, of December 27<sup>th</sup>, the validity of the Incentive Programs established by RD 477/2021 is until July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, however, the request of financing related to the Incentive Programs must be presented up to the moment indicated in the specific call, which cannot be later than December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The Incentives Programs are the following:

- Incentives program 1: Realisation of self-consumption facilities, with renewable energy sources, in the services sector, with or without storage.
- Incentives Program 2: Realisation of self-consumption facilities, with renewable energy sources, in other productive sectors of the economy, with or without storage.
- Incentives program 3: Incorporation of storage in self-consumption facilities, with renewable energy sources, already existing in the service sector and other productive sectors.
- Incentives program 4: Realisation of self-consumption facilities, with renewable energy sources, in the residential sector, public administrations and the third sector, with or without storage.
- Incentives Program 5: Incorporation of storage in self-consumption facilities, with renewable energy sources, already existing in the residential sector, public administrations and the third sector.
- Incentives Program 6: Realisation of thermal renewable energy installations in the residential sector.

The aids cover a percentage of the eligible costs, which varies depending on the incentives program, the cost covered and the type of beneficiary.

Although this programme is explicitly aimed for self-consumption, ECs may participate in it in order to fund their renewable energy self-consumption installations.

Considering the mentioned validity period of the Programme described in this section, at the moment of presentation of this report, no more requests related to the Incentive Programs of RD 477/2021 can be presented. At the moment of presentation of this report, there has not been any further update or extension to the period for presentation of requests.

More information can be accessed in: [Para Energías Renovables en Autoconsumo, Almacenamiento y Térmicas Sector Residencial](#)

#### **4. Renocogen Programme**

The RENOCOGEN Programme offers incentives to projects that produce electricity and heat from renewable Energy in substitution of producing it from fossil fuels. The Programme was approved by Order TED/641/2023, of June 14th, within the framework of the European Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (NextGenerationEU).

This programme, thus, implies renouncing to being beneficiary of the special retributive system of Royal Decree 413/2014, of June 6th.

The eligible projects are:

- Generation installation of electrical energy or cogeneration:
  - o Installations producing electricity or cogeneration from biomass.
  - o Installations producing electricity or cogeneration from biogas.
  - o Electrical energy production facilities from wind energy with electrical storage.
  - o Hydroelectric plants with electrical storage.
  - o Photovoltaic solar installations with electric storage.
- Thermal energy production facilities.

- o Thermal energy production facilities from biomass.
- o Production facilities for thermal energy from biogas.
- o Thermal energy production facilities from geothermal or hydrothermal.
- o Thermal energy production facilities from aerothermal.
- o Thermal energy production facilities from solar energy with thermal storage.

Based on the mentioned TED Order, the rules established by said order are valid until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026. Furthermore, at the moment of presentation of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls would be presented in the National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information about this programme can be accessed in [Programa RENOCOGEN | IDAE](#).

## 5. Moves III Programme

MOVES III Plan aims to incentivize the execution of programs linked to electric mobility. It promotes green infrastructure and the energy transition. The Programme was approved by Royal Decree 266/2021, of April 13<sup>th</sup>, within the framework of the European Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (NextGenerationEU). It has been modified by Royal Decree 406/2023, of May 29<sup>th</sup> and Royal Decree 821/2023, of November 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. The specificities of the programme are developed by each Autonomous Community and will be in force until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

MOVES III covers, as eligible costs, the following elements of an EV battery recharging system:

- The project;
- Civil works;
- Engineering and construction management costs;
- The cost of the charging infrastructure;

- The installation or updating of any electrical element (including the transformer), the works to connect the system to the distribution network, sectioning and transforming centres and medium voltage connection, the necessary works to connect the recharging infrastructure to the network or to the production unit or local electricity storage;
- The adaptation of land or roads;
- The cost of related and necessary permits;
- The costs of the renewable production unit or local storage to generate or store electricity, if any, only if they are exclusively dedicated to the charging point and can be considered part of the charging station (therefore, renewable energy production units connected to the grid may not be eligible);
- The payment system integrated in the charging station, the signage of the charging station and the management, control and security system, if any.

More information can be accessed in: [Programa MOVES III | Idae](#).

## **6. MOVES Singular Projects II Programme (incentive programme for singular projects in electric mobility)**

MOVES SINGULAR PROJECTS II is a line of aids that aims to promote unique projects related to experimental and innovative developments related to electric vehicles. It was approved by ORDER TED/800/2021, of July 23rd.

Incentives are provided to technological developments in electric mobility that promote the transition to electric and fuel cell vehicles and encourage the development of projects by Spanish companies in order to achieve technological maturity for the commercialisation.

The Programme covers 40% of the eligible costs, which may be increased by 10% in case of medium-sized companies.

Currently, at the presentation date of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls would be presented in the National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information can be accessed in: [Programa MOVES Proyectos Singulares II | Idae](#).

## 7. Incentives program for the innovative value chain and knowledge of hydrogen

The Incentives program for the innovative value chain and knowledge of hydrogen was approved by Order TED/144/2021, of December 24th, within the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan.

The program consists of four incentive programmes, which subsidise the following activities:

- Incentives program 1: Capacities, Technological Advances and implementation of test and/or manufacturing lines.
- Incentives program 2: Design, demonstration and validation of hydrogen-powered mobility.
- Incentives program 3: Large electrolysis demonstrators - innovative renewable hydrogen production projects.
- Incentives program 4: Challenges of basic-fundamental research, innovative pilots and training in key enabling technologies within the value chain.

The programme will be in force until December 31st 2025. Currently, at the presentation date of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls will be presented in National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information can be accessed in: [Programas de ayuda a la cadena de valor innovadora del hidrógeno renovable en el marco del Plan de Recuperación, Transformación y Resiliencia | Idae](#)

## 8. H2 Pioneers Programme

H2 Pioneers programme aims to promote pioneering and unique renewable hydrogen projects. The regulatory bases were established by Order TED/145/2021, of December 22nd, within the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan.

The program incentivizes the set of comprehensive actions for the production, distribution and use of renewable hydrogen, which make up a project located in national territory that,

furthermore, can be considered pioneering and unique. The actions must lead to effective environmental improvement and reduce carbon dioxide emissions through the use of renewable sources directly and/or indirectly.

The programme will be in force until December 31st, 2025. Currently, at the presentation date of this report, there are no calls of this Programme with an open application process. Future calls will be presented in the National Database of Subsidies (*Base de Datos Nacional de Subvenciones*) and the Spanish Official Gazette of the State (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

More information can be accessed in: [Programa H2 Pioneros. Ayudas para proyectos pioneros y singulares de hidrógeno renovable | Idae.](#)

## 9. Other programmes

Apart from public financing instruments established at the national level, it is possible for other administrations in other levels of government, such as Autonomous Communities or Municipalities, to offer aid schemes and incentives to the development of energy communities.

Energy Communities would be advised to check if such local aid is provided in the area in which they already operate or in which they will potentially be active in the future.