

Advancing Public Participation and stakeholder engagement
for the improvement of renewable Energy policies

ACTION PLAN 2020-22 FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE POLICIES FOR RENEWABLE ENERGIES IN CASTILLA Y LEÓN



León, May 2021

This action plan is a deliverable of

APPROVE - an Interreg Europe Low-carbon economy project

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ENTE REGIONAL DE LA ENERGÍA
DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN



Junta de
Castilla y León



RÉGION
NORMANDIE

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Partnership: Regional Public Energy Entity of Castilla y León – EREN

Country: Spain - Region NUTS2: Castilla y León

Contact: *M^a del Puy DOMINGUEZ* ✉ dompermi@jcyl.es 📞 +34 987 987 849 395

Rafael AYUSTE ✉ ayucupra@jcyl.es 📞 +34 987 987 849 395

Text written by: *M^a del Puy DOMINGUEZ y Rafael AYUSTE* – Regional Public Energy Entity of Castilla y León – EREN; León, May 2021

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

The objectives of this three-year plan for the development of renewable energy sources (RES) are to promote:

- participatory financing using *crowdfunding* platforms, among other methods.
- participatory management and ownership through the establishment of, for instance, renewable energy cooperatives, social economy institutions, etc., including in this category those projects run by energy supply companies.
- links between education and RES.
- cooperation between rural communities.

In addition to these objectives, a further three aims are to be considered:

- to simplify and facilitate procedures.
- to improve and enhance the skills of current (and potential) users, managers, suppliers, etc.
- disseminate the use of RES.

For the purposes of this document, renewable energy projects associated with participatory financing and ownership, the cooperation between rural entities, or involving links between education and RES, will be called “Plan Projects”.

Interest in this type of initiatives has been growing over the course of the Interreg Europe APPROVE project, in particular, concerning the role of cooperatives and crowdfunding. In this regard there has been a considerable exchange of experiences with the Normandy region.

In addition, the increasing interest in both education & RES links and the possibilities for collaboration between rural entities led to the final objective for our action plan: the promotion of the new cooperative economy in the energy sector. For successful experiences in these areas of interest, education, and community collaboration, we took our cue from, respectively, Epirus and Lapland.

If we then add to this, our Plan’s high potential for replicability and transferability to other economic sectors; its capacity to improve our rural environments and reverse depopulation; and its ability to foster better social acceptance of renewables, then here we have more than enough reason to justify the Plan projects.

Promoting our Plan Projects defines the “why” of this initiative, the “how” becomes apparent in the five concrete energy policies that pave the way for the five actions in the current Plan and their corresponding measures.

Action	Measure
Improvement of the energy policy instrument: ERDF Operational Pro-	Improve and enhance the skills of students in vocational training enabling them to obtain practical experience in publicly funded RES projects.
	Bring together educational institutions and RES installations, using public funds to finance the construction of renewable energy facilities on educational sites.

gram for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20.	Bring together educational institutions and RES installations, ensuring that any publicly funded renewable energy project incorporates facilities that can be visited by educational institutions.
Improvement of the energy policy instrument: ERDF Operational Program of the General State Administration for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 – 20.	Supporting, specifically in terms of public subsidies, those RES installations that are under participatory management or ownership (for example, renewable energy communities).
	Bring together educational institutions and renewable energy installations, using public funds to finance the construction of renewable energy facilities on educational sites.
	Improve and enhance the skills of students in vocational training by enabling them to obtain practical experience in publicly funded RES projects (traineeships).
Improvement of the energy policy instrument: Law on Climate change and energy transition for Castilla y León. (Energy and Climate Law)	Ensure that the Law on Climate change and energy transition for Castilla y León includes explicit reference to the promotion of participatory funding and ownership, cooperation between rural entities, and links between education and RES.
	Work on the distribution and assessment of RES installations that include participatory funding and ownership, cooperation between rural entities, or links between education and RES.
	Complete two pilot projects involving the development of RES installations that include cooperation between rural entities.
Improvement of the energy policy instrument: Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy of Castilla y León (ETR).	Ensure that the ETR includes explicit reference to participatory funding and ownership, cooperation between rural entities, and links between education and RES.
Improvement of the energy policy instrument: ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27.	Ensure that the content of the next ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27 includes explicit reference to participatory funding and ownership, cooperation between rural entities, and links between education and RES the funding.

A transversal activity of disseminate the information about the implemented activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website will be carried out.

At every stage of these actions, the key to success will be the close involvement of various institutions, businesses, associations, professionals, and other parties linked directly to the sector using previous participants in the APPROVE projects as a reference.

With respect to resources, the work involved in this Plan requires both human resources (for example: communication, capitalisation, monitoring, and organising) financed solely by the Autonomous Community (AC) as well as economic resources in the form of subsidies and direct investment co-financed by central government (or the AC of Castilla y León) and the European Union.

In total, this Plan will mobilise the following economic resources:

- Direct subsidies: €20,000 k

- Investment in public buildings: €2,000 k
- Expenditure on promotion and dissemination: €60 k
- Expenditure on monitoring and capitalisation: €13 k

PART I – GENERAL INFORMATION.

Traditionally, the region of Castilla y León has been a net exporter of electricity. This is due to the region's important coal reserves that supply the large coal-fired power plants and its watercourses that power hydroelectric generation.

However, over the last 20 years, Castilla y León has been implementing a major strategy for the introduction of renewable energy generation. Castilla y León has many advantages in this undertaking, including its large land area, the extensive existing electricity distribution infrastructure and a variety of natural resources including wind, solar, and biomass. In this way, the territory has become a national leader in renewable energy generation, particularly wind energy, which now covers 80% of internal electricity demand.

All of which, given the locations of these new energy resources, has generated new jobs, and promoted rural development in addition to creating an important network of associated businesses.

Currently, Castilla y León is immersed in a period of energy transition that while appropriate does mean the largescale closure of coal-fired power plants. Thus, the process brings with it the termination of the region's mining activity which has been, historically, the principal source of employment for whole districts in Castilla y León.

In addition, the region suffers from demographic problems, specifically depopulation. This is particularly acute in rural areas and solving this problem is vital for the prosperity and wellbeing of our society as a whole.

In the last decades, rural areas have suffered from an inability to benefit from the digitalisation of society and from a lack of infrastructure in general (healthcare, transport, communications, and so on). These areas are further disadvantaged due to the high rate of dependency amongst the older generation.

Such factors are creating tensions in a great many countries, not only in Spain. Rural populations naturally feel that they are being left behind, and indeed, they are without doubt, places where opportunities are hard to come by.

In this way, the implementation of well-designed rural policies should take advantage of local assets and coordinate all interested parties to ensure that these areas become more prosperous and so able to offer a better standard of living to their inhabitants.

Further, renewable energy sources (RES) are important for Castilla y León because:

- They place Castilla y León as a leader in the field of renewable electricity generation (RES-E) and as a specific reference for wind energy generation, giving this region great importance in the drive to achieve the renewable energy goals both of the Spanish government and the European Union.
- They contribute to job creation and furthermore, they promote rural development and the establishment of new production and business networks to a greater extent than other forms of energy generation.
- They use resources indigenous to regions that, in many instances, are experiencing phenomena such as depopulation or the termination of traditional activities such as mining, the socioeconomic effects of which could be alleviated by the securing and placing of value on these resources.
- They place Castilla y León in an unbeatable position with respect to the prospective energy transition which will be based both in the electrification of the economy and in the establishment of renewables as a substitute for fossil fuels in thermal and electrical energy production.

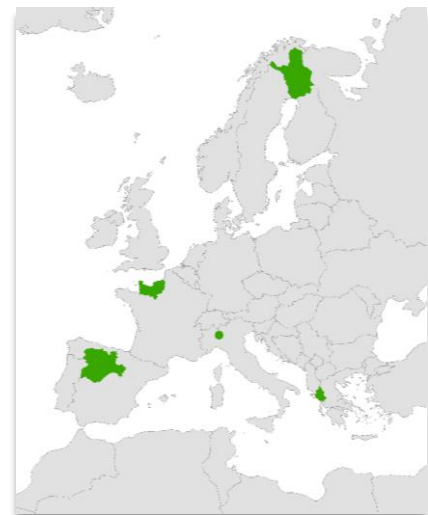
This action plan has been enabled due to EREN's participation in the EU Interreg Europe APPROVE project. The objective of this project is to improve renewable energy policies in four very distinct European regions: Lapland in Finland, Epirus in Greece, Normandy in France, and Castilla y León in Spain.

APPROVE considers issues such as awareness raising, the enhancement of skills among administrations, consumers, and suppliers, as well as the participation of all interested parties as being key elements in renewable development, addressing barriers such as:

- a low level of knowledge among the general public
- the lack of experience among certain advocates for renewables, especially in administrative matters
- the poor management of public opposition to certain projects.

The four regional authorities involved in APPROVE (the regional councils of Lapland, Normandy, and Epirus and the energy agency of Castilla y León, EREN), have shared and transferred experiences and knowledge in order to improve their energy policies. This has been taken forward through a process of interregional cooperation and the kind of participation mentioned above, and in collaboration with Poliedra (a consortium of Politecnico di Milano), our consulting partner.

This process, initiated in 2018, has included a study of the RES sector in each region to assess the potential problems and opportunities in each region, as well as to identify so called "good practices" that might be replicated in other places. The results of this work can be found at: www.interregeurope.eu/approve/.



In the case of Castilla y León (CyL), a regional working party was formed (the Regional Stakeholders APPROVE Group CyL, RSG-CyL) with the participation of key actors in the renewable energy sector. This enabled the identification of strengths, barriers, and opportunities in the RES sector within the Autonomous Community (AC) and has served as the basis for the proposed action plan. The working party met for discussions on 5 occasions:

The working party met for discussions for the first time in 2018, then had a series of bilateral meetings in the first part of 2019, and other 3 plenary meetings in 2019-2020 (30/11/2018, bilateral meetings during the 2nd semester (01/12/2018 - 31/05/2019), 22/11/2019, 15/05/2020, 20/11/2020).

Among the issues discussed, Castilla y León's considerable experience in the development of RES stands out. Examples include the case of wind energy; the hosting of the international biomass technology fair in Valladolid, Expobiomasa; the renewable energy cluster, an association with ties to the business sector; and the leading-edge R&D projects run by specialist departments such as IRENA at the University of León and departments at the Universities of Valladolid and Salamanca as well as by technology centres such as Cartif, Cidaut, CTME, and ITCL.

On the other hand, several areas concerned with the administration of RES were highlighted as being too widely distributed and disconnected from the renewables market.

With respect to skills, there appears to be lower employability levels among professionals with vocational training compared to those with a university qualification (principally in the sectors of engineering and economics).

At the same time, during the course of project workshops (interregional workshops 1 and 2), potential examples of good practice were identified within the APPROVE project consortium. It was hoped then that these examples will serve as inspiration to improve policy instrument OT4: Supporting the shift to a low-carbon economy in all sectors (Operational Program ERDF for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 – 20).

Examples of good practice identified by all partners in the project were presented during a workshop held in September 2019 in Valladolid (interregional workshop 3), coinciding with Expobiomasa 2019. From this point, the exchange of information between partners moved to a more active phase, taking advantage of opportunities such as the interregional workshops (specifically, 4 and 5). In addition, bilateral meetings were held, the first of these being presential with delegates from Lapland (Rovaniemi 22/10/2018) and the second with Normandy, involving two Normandy businesses, an energy cooperative and an association for monitoring air quality and odour management (Valladolid 23/09/2019). Latterly, during the pandemic, meetings have taken place over the telephone or online and these have concerned good practices learned from several successful partner experiences: "A crowdfunding and citizen-focused renewable energy project" (Normandy); "PV plant as an education facility" (Epirus); in addition to "From Stump to Boiler, Bioenergy educational environment" and "Arctic Smart Rural Community Cluster" (Lapland).

For the EREN, interaction with other European regional authorities has led to the inclusion in its own policies of specific elements including, cooperatives, or energy communities; participatory funding; collaboration with all tiers of the energy market among other items, many of which, until now were either only recommendations or in some cases, totally ignored.

The proper recognition of these improvements to renewable energy policy will be consolidated with the approval the Action Plan presented here. In the case of Castilla y León, the policies that this Action Plan seeks to improve are those contained in the ERDF Operational Program and apply equally to the sections of this program managed by the regional or national administrations, the renewable thermal energy strategy, and the AC's law on climate change and energy transition.

Project: APPROVE - Advancing Public Participation and stakeholder engagement for the improvement of renewable Energy policies (<https://www.interregeurope.eu/approve/>)

Associate organisation: Regional Public Energy Entity of Castilla y León (ERDF)

Other interested organisations (if relevant):

Country: Spain.

Region NUTS2: Castilla y León

Corresponding author: Name: Rafael Ayuste

email: ayucupra@jcyL.es

telephone: 987.84.93.93

PART II – INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Intended contributions of the Action Plan:

- Program for growth and employment
- Program for regional European cooperation
- Another policy instrument for regional development

Name of associated policy instrument:

Five Instruments

- **ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20.**
- **ERDF Operational Program of the General State Administration for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20.**
- **Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition for Castilla y León.**
- **Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy of Castilla y León.**
- **ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27.**

Concerning those parts of the ERDF program 2014-20 in Spain aimed at de-carbonising the economy, the intention is that some elements should be taken forward by the national government while others should be the responsibility of ACs.

In both instances, the same funding scheme will apply, with half of the funds provided by ERDF and the other half coming from the national administration or responsible AC.

The Junta de Castilla y León (CyL council) independently decided to direct 60% of available resources into providing subsidies to invest in RES projects led by citizens, businesses, non-profit organisations, or local entities, putting the remaining 40% towards funding RES installations in buildings housing the AC administration.

Concerning the last example, the EREN jointly with the Education Office assigned a total of 6,4M€ to be invested between 2018 and 2021 for the building of six biomass generators in six high schools and one in the EREN building itself, and two heating networks and a major photovoltaic installation for on-site consumption at a public hospital.

Furthermore, the national government, via the state energy agency, IDAE, will use the government contribution to provide subsidies for investment in projects planned to go ahead between 2020 and 2022.

In this instance, IDEA has committed to draft call for grant applications in partnership with the ACs to take account of specific regional criteria and peculiarities arising from the various levels of development in the renewables markets in each AC.

Continuing on the same point, discussions are already being held concerning the content and reach of the next ERDF program 2021-27 which will extend into 2030. These discussions include consideration of not only technical issues, such as for example, whether solar energy should be prioritised over biomass or heat pumps, but also of procedures and alternative forms of funding or ownership, for instance, renewable energy communities.

Equally, the last few years have seen a huge proliferation in policies, laws, and treaties referring to climate change and energy transition. These documents have addressed all levels of law-making from the international (the Paris Agreement) to the national (Climate Change Law 2019 and the Integrated National Plan for Energy and Climate 2020) right down to that of the ACs (Regional Strategy for Climate Change 2009 – 2012 – 2020).

Further, on 29th June 2017, the Castilla y León regional parliament called on the AC government to commit to the sustainable development goals of the United Nation's Agenda 2030.

In the same vein, the 26/2020 agreement of 4th June passed by the Junta de Castilla y León (CyL council) approved certain anti-climate change measures including the drafting of the Climate Change and Energy Transition Law. This law includes a large component concerned with energy and is currently in the process of being finalised.

In addition, concerning renewable thermal energy sources, the 2017 Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy for Castilla y León was formulated as a result of the cross-European collaboration program, RES-HC. Its application to the current context and its approval is one of the commitments made by the present AC administration with the first draft expected to be complete by the summer of 2021.

At present, and in relation to the Plan Projects, the Junta de Castilla y León (CyL council) is developing a new *Intelligent Specialisation Strategy for Castilla y León 2021-2027*, as well as a specific project known as the *energy self-supply bureau for Castilla y León* aimed at promoting photovoltaic systems for self-supply. The intention would be for the current Action Plan to coordinate with this bureau.

EREN participation in regional policies is justified due to the premises of the law that created this entity (law 7/1996, of 3rd December 1996) in which it is given the following function (article 4):

“f) To advise the Junta de Castilla y León and other regional public entities in the area of energy planning and scheduling, in the rational use of energy and renewable energy sources.”

PART III – DETAILS OF PROPOSED ACTIONS.

3.1.- Justification and basic content of actions.

The primary objective of this Plan, and indeed other public actions of the regional administration, is not simply to increase the number of RES installations, but to satisfy their users, promoting new forms of ownership, funding and management, and raising levels of awareness for RES.

The basic idea is to use:

- a) the central government and AC components of current and future ERDF programs.
- b) the AC law concerning climate change and energy transition (the Energy and Climate Law).
- c) the Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy of Castilla y León.

To fund and promote certain RES projects, the so-called Plan Projects, that due to their particular characteristics are considered to be of high impact and have a high level of replicability.

These projects are directly inspired by the successes seen in the other regions working with the APPROVE project. Thus, they will include projects involving RES (biomass, solar, etc.):

- Resulting from participatory funding initiatives such as *crowdfunding* among others, inspired by the good practices developed in Normandy which used this type of participatory funding system to support several wind energy projects.
- Led by cooperatives, renewable energy communities, social economy enterprises, among others, inspired by our bilateral exchange with the Normandy region, particularly our experience with the “les 7 vents”¹ cooperative which spearheaded a number of different renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives.
- Directed towards education and the dissemination of ideas, inspired by the example of particular RES installations such as that in Epirus where educational visits are facilitated, and that in Lapland where a biomass generator is being managed partly by students.
- Developed within a framework of cooperative initiatives with isolated rural entities, inspired by the experience of Lapland where, over the last few years, Arctic communities have been involved in a program aimed at increasing domestic trade.

For the purposes of this Plan, these four types of RES project will be termed “Plan Projects”.

The interest of this Plan lies in the fact that this type of project barely exists in Castilla y León with most RES installations, in terms of scale, being either at one extreme, domestic, or at the other, mega-industrial.

Technological developments, including the growth of platforms such as Airbnb, grow.ly, Collectual and EnergEtica are not only enabling new forms of relating between either: clients and suppliers or businesses; or clients and financial backers in, respectively, the so-called *collaborative economy* and *participatory* funding schemes but they are also changing relationships of ownership.

¹ <https://www.7vents.fr/>

In addition, depopulation is an absolute priority issue for our region. In this sense, boosting the economies of rural entities through, for example, RES projects is something of great interest, particularly if it is possible to find synergies with other economic sectors and areas of the ERDF program.

For all these reasons, it is clear that this Plan, a consequence of the *APPROVE experience*, is an attempt to go further than increasing the number of RES installations or improving energy policy.

Thus, and this is the distinctive element in our Plan, besides encouraging the participation of all tiers of the market, our final objective is to promote a new kind of energy economy. We envisage that this new energy economy which will favour collective ownership and participatory funding (crowdfunding, crowdlending, or cooperatives), as well as rural entities, will function in such a way that it will impact upon other economic sectors.

Finally, and by way of a summary, our Plan comprises five actions that aim to improve five associated policy instruments with the objective of promoting our Plan Projects.

The actions and the policies they are associated with are as follows:

Action (and associated energy policy instrument)	Brief description
1.- Improvement of the current ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20	Learning from other experiences of involving vocational students in the construction and running of the EREN funded RES installations, or enabling students to visit such locations, we intend to formulate a guide to enable other similar installations funded by the Junta de Castilla y León to engage in this type of training and educational activity.
2.- Improvement of the current ERDF Operational Program of the General State Administration for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20	Enhance the appraisal score that Plan Projects can obtain in the call for grant applications associated with this operational program.
3.- Improvement of the upcoming Law on climate change and energy transition in Castilla y León (Energy and Climate Law)	Ensure that the text of this document contains explicit reference to the Plan Projects at the same time as implementing pilot projects in two provinces as part of a program for a wider roll out of this type of project, especially in association with rural entities.
4.- Improvement of the planned Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy of Castilla y León	Ensure that the text of this document contains explicit reference to the Plan Projects.
5.- Improvement of the planned ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27	Ensure that Plan Projects are prioritised in future funding rounds of this operative program.

See Annexe 1 for a more detailed description.

3.2.- Relevance, contribution of actions contained in the Plan for improvement of selected renewable energy policy instruments.

It is hoped that this Plan, besides the obvious objective of increasing the use of RES, will specifically promote new models for managing RES installation projects using tools such as *crowdfunding* and *renewable energy communities*. In this way we expect to see an improvement in the ways in which public policies are defined and implemented.

These improvements can be condensed, qualitatively, as the following:

- The inclusion of new types of projects in the measures contained in ERDF programs, climate change and energy transition legislation, and the regional Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy.

In the past years, there have been very few, indeed it would be better to say, almost no projects that could be classed as the type of project we are advocating in this action plan. In this way, we seek to promote projects, not for their technical characteristics, but rather for the way in which they are to be managed, financed, and promoted, with particular consideration of whether they possess significant potential for replicability or for making a positive impact on other economic sectors.

Attention is particularly focused on rural entities, where it is important to support local economies to avoid depopulation. Thus, in rural areas, RES projects are of great interest especially in the formation of synergies with other economic sectors.

In addition, by involving local bodies (municipal and regional councils, and district associations) a further goal can be achieved as a by-product: the very necessary social acceptance of RES.

Furthermore, professionals will be able to reinforce their knowledge of RES with practical experience which gives these RES initiatives added value in general and in particular in the area of vocational training.

- Changes to management practices in publicly funded programs.

The principal change here is the proactive attitude adopted by the AC administration.

Thus, in parallel to policy instruments (funding rounds and the drafting of specific laws), there are two further processes at work: a proliferation of potential new users and RES installations and an increase in the level of skills and knowledge among these users and among all tiers of the energy market.

These two proactive processes will improve the policy instruments since they enhance the quality, clarity and maturation of projects and all the activity they generate (for instance, in technical and economic requirements, supply, finance, administrative procedures, ecc..). This in turn enables better ongoing management of these instruments as well as the selection of projects to be supported.

Equally, the continuous involvement of all tiers of the energy market will improve management processes in general and assist particularly in the seeking of synergies with other ERDF programs (and indeed, non-ERDF programs), or with other, non-energy related regulatory structure.

Similarly, integrating civil servants into these projects, such that they are linked to RES installations, will also contribute to better management in terms of ERDF financing and in other procedures, ultimately leading to the success of this action plan.

- Improvements in the concepts for the focus of future energy strategies.

We wished to include a capitalisation phase as part of this Plan. This phase will analyse the Plan's effectiveness, efficiency, and opportunity cost. The sole aim of this process is to inform the raft of policies referring to energy and the environment, rural development, and socioeconomic issues.

These analyses will improve how these policies design criteria to determine which types of projects should be supported and using which means.

3.4.- Budget and funding.

The budget of €22,273k is to be directed toward subsidies, EREN investment, and development activities (communication, capitalisation, monitoring, management, etc.) and can be itemised as follows:

Actions	Budget (k€)			Funding (k€)		
	Subsidies	Investment	Development and monitoring	Regional	National	E.U.
1.- Improvement of the current ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20		2,000		1,000		1,000
			13	13		
2.- Improvement of the current ERDF Operational Program of the General State Administration for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2014 - 20	20,000				10,000	10,000
			1	1		
3.- Improvement of the planned Law on climate change and energy transition in Castilla y León (Energy and Climate Law).			50	50		
4.- Improvement of the planned Renewable Thermal Energy Strategy of Castilla y León			8	8		
5.- Improvement of the planned ERDF Operational Program for the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27			1	1		
Total	20,000	2,000	73	1,073	10,000	11,000

PART IV - MONITORING.

For the purposes of this action plan, monitoring criteria have been established in the Annex against which to assess each action and the measures it comprises. In addition, there will be the need to address the possibility of contingency actions.

Of particular importance is the obligation for each action to have its own capitalisation document from which conclusions can be made concerning the performance in said action.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned, a single global indicator for the Plan has been established:

<i>Partner</i>	<i>Associated policy instrument</i>	<i>Self-defined indicator</i>	<i>Goal</i>
Regional Public Energy for Castilla y León - EREN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TO 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy. ERDF Operational Programme Castilla y León 2014-2020 Spanish Multi-regional Operational Programme (POPE) for the implementation of ERDF Community Funds for the 2014-2020 period in Castilla y León. Axis 4 of low carbon economy. First call for grant applications for investment in electricity generation facilities using renewable energy sources in the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León co-financed with European Union funds. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) • Castilla y León Climate Change and Energy Transition Law. Renewable Thermal Strategy of Castilla y León • ERDF Operational Programme Castilla y León 2021-2027. 	Number of measures put into effect as a result of actions set out in this Plan.	3

Date: 29th of July 2020

Endorsed:

Maria Isabel Campos López

General Director for Budget and Statistics

ANNEX I

Improving the energy policy instrument: TO 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy. ERDF Operational Programme Castilla y León 2014-2020.

Indicator	Energy policy	Measures	Activities (Work to be carried out)	Objectives ¹	Time frame	Stakeholders involved	Cost	Funding	Monitoring the action	Source of inspiration ⁶ :	Pilot action
No. of measures implemented as a result of the Plan's actions.	TO 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy. ERDF Operational Programme Castilla y León 2014-2020. RES investments in regional public installations	To improve and enhance the skills of students in vocational training by facilitating internships with publicly funded RES projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The undertaking to provide traineeships to vocational students must be introduced into the legal documentation for the contracting procedures for new RES installations in public facilities associated with this policy instrument. Disseminate the information about the above activity through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. 5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. 7.- Disseminate the use of RES. 	2021 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Energy Business Association-Cluster). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry² General Directorate of Budget in Castilla y León Regional Government (ERDF MA). Regional Minister of Education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost³ Estimated investment: 2.000 k€⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% ERDF. 50% EREN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporated the requirements referring to procurement defined in the action. verified that these requirements have been fulfilled. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report.⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable Energy installation in Epirus (Greece) with education and training facilities. Biomass installation in a high school in Lapland (Finland), partly managed by its students. 	RES installation for the heating networks for three secondary schools in Avila. (2019-22)
		Bringing educational institutions closer to RES installations by providing public funding for the construction of RES installations in these institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and distribute a document containing recommendations and guidelines (the guide) to facilitate traineeships for vocational students that must be included in the regional and local contracting rules applying to new RES installations funded by regional or local administrations. Hold two dissemination webinars for civil servants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regional administration. ECLAP (School of Public Administrators). local administration (provincial and local). Disseminate the information about the above activity through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. 5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. 6.- Improve and enhance skills-building among current (or potential) users, civil servants, suppliers, etc. 7.- Disseminate the use of RES. 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Business Association-Cluster). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry. General Directorate of Budget in Castilla y León Regional Government (ERDF MA). Regional Minister of Education. Regional Minister of Health. Regional Ministry of Development and the Environment. Provincial and municipal administrations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 5 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> verified the completion of the guide described. distributed guides to more than 100 potential stakeholders both within and outside the regional administration. held the 2 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program.. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 		
		To bring educational institutions closer to RES installations, ensuring that publicly funded projects incorporate facilities that can be visited by educational institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a pilot and demonstration RES installation (biomass network) in a provincial capital. Develop a specific contracting procedure for the construction and operation of the facility. Hold training meetings to increase and improve the skills of users and officials involved in their authorisation and operation. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. 5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. 6.- Improve and enhance skills-building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. 7.- Disseminate the use of RES. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. Regional Minister of Education. Ávila City Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At no additional cost. Estimated investments: 2,000⁴ k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% ERDF. 50% EREN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> executed the described installation. developed a purchasing specification adapted to this circumstance. conducted training meetings with users and staff from the administration and city council. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program.. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 		
		To bring educational institutions closer to RES installations, ensuring that publicly funded projects incorporate facilities that can be visited by educational institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and distribute a document containing guidelines (the guide) concerning the facilitation of student visits which must be included in the contracting rules applying to new RES installations funded by regional or local administrations. Hold two dissemination webinars for civil servants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regional administration (ECLAP). local administration (provinces and localities). Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. 5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. 6.- Improve and enhance skills-building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. 7.- Disseminate the use of RES. 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Energy Business Association). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry General Directorate of Budget in Castilla y León Regional Government (ERDF MA). Regional Minister of Education. Regional Minister of Health. Regional Ministry of Development and the Environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 5 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> verified the completion of the guide described. distributed guides to more than 100 potential stakeholders both within and outside the regional administration. held the 2 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 		

¹ The complete set of objectives of the plan's actions is the following: 1.- Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). 2.- Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). 3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. 4.- Promote cooperation between rural entities. 5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. 6.- Improve and enhance skills building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. 7.- Disseminate the use of RES.

² Suppliers are understood to be installers, engineering firms, consultancies, manufacturers, technology centres, financial institutions, municipal authorities, etc. that could provide goods or services in the course of any proposed RES project.

³ "No additional cost" means that the action is going to be carried out with existing human and/or material resources from EREN or others. As this does not entail any new expenditure and it would be controversial to calculate EREN or other financing resources, the term "no additional cost" is preferred.

⁴ Investments associated with heating networks for the headquarters of the Junta de Castilla y León in Valladolid and three secondary education institutions in Ávila, photovoltaic installation for the Rio Ortega Hospital in Valladolid and the installation of a biomass boiler at the EREN headquarters.

⁵ The capitalisation report will take the form of a systematic analysis of the successes and failures of the action from several perspectives (technical, organisational, legal, etc.) A synthesis of the conclusions arising from this analysis will be used to inform future drafts of regional policies, both those concerning energy and others. The report will include analyses of opportunity cost, effectiveness, and efficiency.

⁶ <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3730/pv-plant-as-an-education-facility/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3309/from-stump-to-boiler-bioenergy-educational-environment/>

Improvement of the energy policy instrument: Spanish Multi-regional Operational Programme (POPE) for the implementation of ERDF Community Funds for the 2014-2020 period in ⁷Castilla y León. Axis 4 of low carbon economy. First call for grant applications for investment in electricity generation facilities using renewable energy sources in the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León co-financed with European Union funds. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Indicator	Energy policy	Measures	Activities (work to be carried out)	Objectives	Time frame	Stakeholders involved	Cost	Funding	Monitoring the action	Source of Inspiration:
No. of measures implemented as a result of the Plan's actions.	Spanish Multi-regional Operational Programme (POPE) for the implementation of ERDF Community Funds for the period 2014-2020 in Castilla y León. Axis 4 of the low carbon economy. First call for grant applications for investment in electricity generation facilities using renewable energy sources (RES) in the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León co-financed with European Union funds	Provide <u>support in the form of public subsidies</u> for RES installations under participatory management and ownership (<u>renewable energy communities, etc.</u>).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with cooperatives, as well as other stakeholders involved in the participatory management and ownership of RES ventures (RES communities, etc.) in order to explain the content of this energy policy instrument and the associated opportunities for public support. Hold a dissemination webinar specifically directed at enhancing stakeholders' skills in the participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.) of RES installations.(N.B.: This action has already taken place). Participate in the webinar concerning the call for applications for public subsidies associated with this energy policy instrument, with the intention to motivate those interested in this type of participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.) of RES installations. (N.B.: This action has already taken place). Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website.(N.B.: This action has already started). 	<p>2.- Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.).</p> <p>6.- Improve and enhance the skills building of current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc.</p> <p>7.- Disseminate the use of RES.</p>	2020 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. IDAE - Ministry of Ecological Transition. Energy co-operatives. Parties interested in participatory management and ownership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% ERDF. 50% IDAE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> held the meetings described. held the 2 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral exchange through meetings with partners in the Normandy region (France) and in particular the experience of the "les 7 Vents" cooperative.
		Bringing together <u>educational institutions and renewable energy installations by providing public funding</u> for the construction of RES installations in educational facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft the regulations public support grants associated with this energy policy instrument in such a way that projects for renewable installations built in educational institutions are more likely to be subsidised. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<p>2.- Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.).</p> <p>5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures.</p> <p>7.- Disseminate the use of RES.</p>	2020 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN IDAE - Ministry of Ecological Transition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget of the call for grants applications €20,000 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% ERDF. 50% IDAE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporated the requirements defined in the action into the official text of the call for proposals. supported more than 5 projects in the call for applications. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	
		Enhance the skills of <u>students in vocational training</u> by facilitating <u>traineeships with publicly funded renewable energy projects.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft the regulations for public support associated with this energy policy instrument in such a way that projects for the construction of renewable installations which include the participation of vocational students are more likely to be subsidised. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<p>3.- Enhance links between education and RES initiatives.</p> <p>5.- Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures.</p> <p>7.- Disseminate the use of RES.</p>	2020 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. IDAE - Ministry of Ecological Transition. Regional Minister of Education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget of the call for grant applications 20.000⁸ k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% ERDF. 50% IDAE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporated the requirements defined in the action into the official text of the call for proposals. supported more than 5 projects in the call for applications. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable facilities in Epirus (Greece) where access to training visits is facilitated. Biomass installation in a high school in Lapland (Finland), partly managed by its students.

- Budget of the call for grant applications 20.000 k€.
- Overall cost of monitoring of action 2: 1 k€.

⁷ Through the Instituto para la diversificación y Ahorro de la Energía - IDAE (Institute for Energy Diversification and Saving), part of the Ministry for Ecological Transition.

⁸ The amount of 20,000 k€ refers to the whole call for grant applications, before any distribution of funds is known i.e., how much will be used to support say, - renewable energy communities or projects with educational significance.

Improvement of the energy policy instrument: Castilla y León Climate Change and Energy Transition Law.

Indicator	Energy policy	Measures	Activities (Work to be carried out)	Objectives	Time frame	Stakeholders involved	Cost	Funding	Monitoring the action	Source of Inspiration: ¹
No. of measures implemented as a result of the Plan's actions.	Law on climate change and energy transition in Castilla y León (Energy and Climate Law).	Explicit references to promoting participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES installations to be included in the Energy and Climate Law of Castilla y León.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft the text associated with this energy policy instrument such that it includes an obligation to implement specific policies that promote participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing the links between education and RES installations. Disseminate information about the above actions through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. Promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Disseminate information about RES initiatives. 	2020 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. Junta de Castilla y León. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated the concepts defined in the action into the text of the law. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral exchange through meetings with partners in the Normandy region (France) and in particular the experience of the "les 7 Vents" cooperative. Renewable facilities in Epirus (Greece) where access to training visits is facilitated. Biomass installation in a high school in Lapland (Finland), partly managed by its students. Use of crowdfunding for wind projects in Normandy (France). Local cooperatives organised among "Arctic Communities" in Lapland (Finland).
		Disseminate information about and characterise RES-E installations associated with participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES-E installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and distribute a guide containing recommendations concerning the implications of the Energy and Climate Law. Guides will be aimed at both civil servants and third parties, and, in particular, should include guidelines on the promotion of participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhanced links between education and RES installations. Hold two webinars to disseminate the guide to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regional civil servants. ECLAP. local civil servants, companies, suppliers, etc. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. Promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Improve and enhance skills building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. Disseminate the use of RES 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. Junta de Castilla y León. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Business Association). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry . Parties interested in RES-E. Provincial and municipal administrations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 5 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> produced the guide described. distributed guides to more than 100 potential stakeholders both within and outside the regional administration. held the 2 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	
		Disseminate information about and characterise RES-E installations associated with participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES-E installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and distribute 3 guides containing recommendations for the development of RES-E facilities involving participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhanced links between education and RES-E initiatives. Guides will be aimed at current or potential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> suppliers of goods or services for the RES-E market. users and purchasers of RES-E installations. local decision-makers, local development agencies. Accompany the guides with webinars for each of the 3 groups mentioned above. Conduct a survey of suppliers in order to characterise the market for this type of RES installation in Castilla y León. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. Promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Improve and enhance skills building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. Disseminate the use of RES 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Business Association). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry. RES. Parties interested in RES-E. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 15 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> produced the 3 guides described distributed guides (each one) to more than 100 potential stakeholders held the 3 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. carried out the survey described with more than 50 suppliers. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	
To carry out two pilot projects to build and run new RES-E installations associated with cooperation between rural entities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold meetings with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> areas (districts or comarcas) with good potential for a pilot initiative selected by two Provincial Councils with the help of local energy agencies (if such exist). Provincial and local representatives of pilot project areas to highlight and characterise the problems they encounter in the implementation of collaborative energy initiatives (findings might be generalised and extended to other areas). Formulate a Regional Energy Plan (PEC) that outlines a series of potential renewable installations suitable for each of the areas involved with the principal objective of developing a regional energy plan.(EREN is supporter of the CoM from 2014). The points to be addressed will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> technical characteristics, local suppliers involved, ownership models, administrative and economic management, financing, and urban/environmental/social responsibility. <p>As well as the collaboration model to be adopted in relationships between partners in the different pilot project localities both within and outside the energy sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold an event to present the SGP to the local mayors involved. Disseminate information about the above actions through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. Promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Improve and enhance skills building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. Disseminate the use of RES 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry . 2 provincial councils and their energy agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 25 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> held the meetings described. elaborated 2 PECs held 2 presentation events for local mayors. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in the case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 			

¹ Best practiques references:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/2976/crowdfunding-for-an-onshore-wind-farm-project-in-normandy/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3365/joint-development-of-wind-farm-projects/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3308/arctic-smart-rural-community-cluster/>

- Total cost: 45 k€.
- Overall cost of monitoring of action 3: 5 k€.

Improvement of the energy policy instrument: Renewable Thermal Strategy of Castilla y León.

Indicator	Energy policy	Measures	Activities (Work to be carried out)	Objectives	Time frame	Stakeholders involved	Cost	Funding	Monitoring the action	Source of Inspiration:
No. of measures implemented as a result of the Plan's actions.	Renewable Thermal Strategy of Castilla y León (RTS).	The RTS should include explicit references to participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft the text associated with this energy policy instrument such that it includes an obligation to implement specific policies that promote participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing the links between education and RES installations. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance the links between education and RES initiatives. Promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Disseminate the use of RES.. 	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporated into the text of the RTE the concepts defined in the action. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral exchange through meetings with the Normandy region (France) and in particular the experience of the "les 7 Vents" cooperative. Renewable facilities in Epirus (Greece) where access to training visits is facilitated. Biomass installation in a high school in Lapland (Finland), partly managed by its students. Use of crowdfunding for wind projects in Normandy (France). Local cooperation systems between "Arctic Communities" developed in Lapland (Finland).
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft and distribute a guide containing recommendations concerning the implications of the Energy and Climate Law. Guides will be aimed at both civil servants and third parties, and, in particular, should include guidelines on the promotion of participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES installations. Hold two webinars to disseminate the guide to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regional civil servants. ECLAP. local officials, companies, suppliers, etc. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES communities, etc.). Enhance the links between education and RES initiatives. To promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Improve and enhance skills building among current (or potential) users, officials, suppliers, etc. Disseminate the use of RES.. 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. Junta de Castilla y León. CyLSOLAR (Renewable Business Association). Current or potential suppliers of goods or services for the RES industry . Other interested in RE-SProvincial and municipal administrations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the action: 5 k€. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% EREN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> produced the guide described. distributed guides to more than 100 potential stakeholders both within and outside the regional administration. held the 2 webinars described with more than 30 attendees. reached more than 5 milestones in the EREN's dissemination program. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	

• Total cost: 5 k€.

• Overall cost of monitoring of action 4: 3 k€.

Improvement of the energy policy instrument: ERDF Operational Programme Castilla y León 2021-2027.

Indicator	Energy policy	Measures	Activities (Work to be carried out)	Objectives	Time frame	Stakeholders involved	Cost	Funding	Monitoring the action	Source of Inspiration:
No. of measures implemented as a result of the Plan's actions.	ERDF Operational Programme of the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021 - 27.	The next ERDF Operational Programme of the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León 2021-27 should include explicit references to participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft guidelines to promote renewable projects associated with participatory ownership or financing, cooperation between rural entities, and enhancing links between education and RES as a priority in an effective and efficient way. Present these guidelines to the regional management authority of ERDF in the Junta de Castilla y León. Disseminate information about the above activities through the various means provided by the EREN (website, Twitter, brochures, etc.) and posts on the APPROVE project website. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participatory financing (crowdfunding, etc.). Encourage participatory management and ownership (RES-E communities, etc.). Enhance links between education and RES initiatives. To promote cooperation between rural entities. Improve, simplify, and facilitate procedures. Disseminate the use of RES.. 	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EREN. General Directorate of Budget in Castilla y León Regional Government (ERDF MA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any additional cost. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring criteria include having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared the guidelines described. Made the presentation of those guidelines to MA. Verification of compliance with monitoring criteria. Implementation of contingency actions in case of insufficient compliance. Producing a capitalisation report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bilateral exchange through meetings with the Normandy region (France) and in particular the experience of the "les 7 Vents" cooperative. Renewable facilities in Epirus (Greece) where access to training visits is facilitated. Biomass installation in a high school in Lapland (Finland), partly managed by its students. Use of crowdfunding for wind projects in Normandy (France). Local cooperation systems between "Arctic Communities" developed in Lapland (Finland).

• Total cost: 0 k€

• Overall cost of monitoring of action 5: 1 k€.

Action plan Castilla y León (EREN) – Endorsement letter

Valladolid, 29th July 2021.

As Intermediate Body of the ERDF Regional Operational Plan of Castilla y León 2014-2020, I agree with the contents of the action plan for the Interreg-Europe project “APROVE” (Advancing Public Participation and stakeholder engagement for the improvement of removable Energy Policies), elaborated and to be carried out by the Regional Public Energy Entity of Castilla y León (EREN) during the project’s second phase.

Sincerely yours,

M.Isabel Campos López
Director General for Budget and Statistics