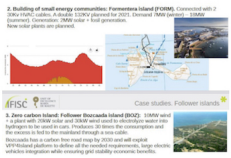

The Formentera Department of Environment reports that this October the island began participation in VPP4Islands, an EU-funded consortium aimed at developing renewable energy. The aim of the project is to support the integration of renewable systems, accelerate the transition to smart and green energy and help islands in Europe leverage potential for energy efficiency.

Participation in the consortium will see Formentera working together with 19 member entities in eight countries to develop a four-year, 7.2-million-euro project, with the Consell receiving €358,000 in funding to promote related actions.

Environment chief Antonio J. Sanz described involvement in the project as “one more step toward the transition to zero emissions and a 100% sustainable island”. “VPP4Islands is on the same path as us”, asserted the conseller, who described current work on a plan to implement renewable energies — a scheme he anticipated would be operational in the coming months.

Self-supply and smart energy management

At the core of the VPP4Islands initiative are small interconnected renewable energy installations that store energy virtually. The project additionally promotes people’s active involvement in energy production, the ultimate goal being energy self-sufficiency. Sanz framed the project in terms of “promoting self-sufficiency and smart management of distributed energy resources”, “amplifying the yield of energy systems” and “creating new local business niches”.

Formentera helms the project together with the Turkish island of Bozcaada in the Aegean Sea. Gökçeada (Turkey), Bornholm (Denmark) and Grado (Italy) will participate as well, supporting work to collectively lauch sustainable smart energy plans.

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Department of Communications
Consell de Formentera