



The Formentera Department of Environment is working to craft a pergola fitted with photovoltaic panels and five double recharge stations in the Antoni Blanc Sports Centre car park. The unique, 260-panel structure is expected to generate 134,486 kWh each year — clean energy that will either be fed back into the pergola's five recharge points or used by the nearby fitness centre. According to data from the Consell's energy portal, the Antoni Blanc Sports Centre uses 231,984 kWh of energy each year. Put another way, the net energy from the solar-equipped pergola will essentially cover half of the facility's energy needs.

The project has currently secured funding to the tune of €238,000, including a recently granted €185,000 from the Balearic Department of Energy Transition. The latter was secured as part of the impost de turisme sostenible (ITS), or “sustainable tourism tax”, designed to promote sustainable tourism. The work will be put to tender in September; the pergola is expected to go up in winter and to be operational by 2022.

Environment chief Antonio J. Sanz welcomed news of the grant's approval, insisting it was key to “creating a local source of clean energy”. “We live in an ideal place for green policies”, said Sanz, “and the Consell works hard to promote initiatives like this one”.

Councillor Sanz said a new energy portal on the Consell de Formentera website serves to “temper, readjust and reduce Formentera's energy consumption and turn the local focus toward eco-friendly ways to produce energy”.

In 2019 island decision-makers signed the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy — a pledge to hit EU targets for greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

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## Coming soon: Formentera's first car park with solar panel-equipped pergola

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