

BEST PRACTICE



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Municipal PV installation

Es Castell, Spain – 7 455 inhabitants

Solar - PPPs – island

The City Council of Es Castell, in collaboration with the Consortium for Urban Waste and Energy of Menorca, initiated the procedures to install the first solar photovoltaic power plant of the island co-owned with the citizens.



Credits: MontanNito, Wikipedia

Project in a Nutshell

The plant is planned to cover the equivalent of the annual electricity demand of 716 families in the municipality. It consists in 4 824 solar panels with an energy generation of about 2 507 184 kWh / year. This installation will be located in the lot next to a flue gas denitrification plant. It is the result of a public-private collaboration: Es Castell City Council owns it, but local families and businesses can join the project by purchasing shares. According to the first calculations the installation will cost around EUR 1.6 million and would be paid off in 20 years.

Impact & Next steps

The energy produced will be injected into the electricity grid, hence annual revenues from the sale of this energy can be expected to be in excess of EUR 127 000 euros per year. The annual costs of operation and maintenance of this type of installation would represent between 10% and 15% of revenues, between EUR 12 700 and EUR 19 000 per year. 11.7 % of the electricity consumed in the municipality should be covered by the energy produced by this plant. Additionally, it will contribute to the reduction of polluting emissions from the Maó port thermal power plant.

Replicability: Challenges & Success Factors

The City Council of Es Castell and the Consortium for Urban Waste and Energy are committed to switch to renewable energy but also to an energy model which takes into account social factors. That is why they promoted co-ownership of the municipal plant that will improve both the living condition and the local economy.

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