

Clean energy for EU islands

# FORUM 2024

THE POWER OF ISLANDS

building resilience through renewables



European  
Commission

14-15 May 2024  
Pantelleria, Italy



## Clean energy for EU islands forum 2024

### Agenda

#### THE POWER OF ISLANDS: BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH RENEWABLES

*DAY 0 | 13 May 2024*  
*Arrival and informal gathering*

**15:30 – 19:30**  
**CEST**

*Arrival at Pantelleria & participants pick-up*

**19:30 – 22:00**  
**CEST**

*Welcome Reception*



VOLCANOLOGY MUSEUM, PANTELLERIA

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DAY 1 | 14 May 2024

 **Venue:** Mursia Hotel | Contrada Mursia, 91017 Pantelleria

**09:00 – 09:30**  
CEST

## Registration

Check-in for on-site participation | Livestreaming

**09:30 – 09:45**  
CEST

## Welcome and objective setting

Welcoming of the participants from the Secretariat, DG ENER, and local host.



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**09:45 – 10:00**  
CEST

## The islands within the EU climate and energy framework



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:00 – 10:15**  
CEST

## The “Green Islands” funding programme from the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:15 – 10:20**  
CEST

## Views / Videos from the islands

### Kythnos Smart Island

“Kythnos Smart Island” (KSI) is a large-scale research and development project implemented in the Greek islands by DAFNI in collaboration with academia, delivering interdisciplinary innovative solutions in the broader area of sustainable and smart infrastructure management. Thanks to KSI, Kythnos, a historical test-bed island for renewable energy systems, evolved to a living lab, not only for clean energy and smart grids, but also for the coupling of energy with water, waste and mobility management solutions while in parallel smartening existing port facilities and delivering extensive urban regenerations of public spaces and retrofitting of the municipal building stock. KSI has demonstrated the urgent need for the transition of island economies, especially those significantly dependent on tourism, to more diverse, circular, and sustainable ones.



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:35 – 10:50**  
CEST

## Results from the Secretariat’s regulatory study on the resilience of insular power grids

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*The Secretariat has been working closely with stakeholders regulating or managing electricity systems of the insular regions of Europe in the past year. The goal has been to understand challenges these systems face to integrate high share of renewable energy and still provide security and quality of supply. Through joint discussion, best practices were identified. Resulting recommendation and guidelines are relevant for both electrically connected and non-interconnected islands. This session will give insights into the main recommendations and best practices.*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:50 – 11:20**  
CEST

*Group work by Member State – Assessment of grid codes and regulatory / legislative frameworks for the development of RES on islands*

**11:20 – 11:40**  
CEST

*Coffee Break*

**11:40 – 12:10**  
CEST

*Discussion of the outcomes from the group works*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**12:10 – 13:00**  
CEST

*Panel discussion on future-proofing electricity systems of islands*

*The panellists will provide their view on the recommendations from the study and the reactions of the Member State groups. They will discuss activities happening on the EU or national level that can help push forward implementation of recommendations and necessary policy and regulation changes for islands electricity systems to enable the energy transition.*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**13:00 – 14:00**  
CEST

*Lunch Break*



MURSIA HOTEL – POOL AREA

*Parallel working groups with experts and island representatives*

*Working group - The specific challenges of energy communities and cooperatives on islands*

**14:00 – 15:45**  
CEST

*The development of community-owned energy projects on islands encounters numerous challenges from a regulatory, administrative, and technical perspective. Regardless of the source of energy and technology to be deployed, restrictive or unclear regulations on shared ownership models, as well as poor financing and remuneration schemes constitute significant barriers for the realization of such projects. Additionally, on islands with no or constrained*



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*power connection to the mainland, the development of community-owned power plants is further endangered by the limited capacity of insular grids to host renewables. The working group, starting from the experience of the panelists, will discuss these and other challenges related to energy communities and energy cooperatives on islands, trying to identify possible solutions, financing opportunities, and policy interventions.*



MURSIA HOTEL – WORKSHOP AREA 1

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*Working group - The opportunities for grid balancing and stabilisation arising from sector coupling*

*Power grids of islands which are weakly or non-connected to the continental grids can have limited capacity to accept renewables. Nevertheless, significant benefits may arise from the possibility to couple the power system with other services, such as transport, water production and waste management. The working group, starting from the experience of the panelists, will discuss these and other opportunities, trying to identify the policy measures needed for enhancing sector coupling practices.*



MURSIA HOTEL – WORKSHOP AREA 2

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**15:45 – 18:00**  
**CEST**

*Site visit at the Hybrid Solar PV – Storage plant*

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*Site visit at the Water desalination system*

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**20:00 – 23:00**  
**CEST**

*Dinner*

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DAY 2 | 15 May 2024

**09:00 – 09:30**  
CEST

## Registration

Check-in for on-site participation | Platform for online participation opens

**09:30 – 09:35**  
CEST

## Welcome

Welcome, progress on the Forum, agenda of the day



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**09:35 – 10:10**  
CEST

## Technical assistance and capacity building

Presentation of the 30 islands receiving the technical assistance and update on the capacity building activities, and presentation of the call for follower islands



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:00 – 10:05**  
CEST

## Views / Videos from the islands

**10:05 – 10:20**  
CEST

## The Islands Pact (TBC)



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**10:20 – 11:05**  
CEST

## Pitch session – The energy transition for enhancing the resilience of economic activities on islands

Keynotes:



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

**11:05 – 11:20**  
CEST

## Moving to the breakout rooms

## Parallel working groups with experts and island representatives

**11:20 – 13:00**  
CEST

## Working group – Energy and water efficiency for the residential and hospitality sectors

Reducing the demand should be the first step to energy transition. Bioclimatic architecture was used to centuries to adapt the building to the environment, ensuring the



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*conservation of the local traditional landscapes. Such architecture techniques should be considered at early stages when designing new buildings and planning the renovation of both residential and tourist reception buildings. A paradigm is thus created between modern housing and traditional housing, with an attempt to adapt energy efficiency interventions to the protection of the landscape and architectural heritage. In addition, the energy and water demand of the whole building sector on islands is often stressed by the high seasonality of the tourist presences, which might require different approaches in the planning of the interventions and management policies depending on the purpose of the specific buildings, considering heating, air conditioning and ventilation, appliances, water use, and domestic hot water. The working group, starting from the experience of the panelists, will discuss the specific characteristics of energy and water efficiency for the buildings of islands, trying to identify solutions, opportunities, and policy recommendations.*



MURSIA HOTEL – WORKSHOP AREA 1

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*Working group – Climate action, nature conservation, agriculture, tourism: how to bring competing land uses together for islands resilience?*

*The climate change urgency is affecting land use and landscape character everywhere. Agriculture, often the main economic activity along with tourism, is affected by and affecting changes linked to climate change, such as renewables and nature conservation. This is particularly the case of islands where space is limited and the visual impact is significant. Land use claims competing with agriculture include tourism, biodiversity and habitat conservation and restoration and rural development. In a context like this, sectoral approaches and market regulations are insufficient, solutions must be found through dialogue and collaboration. The framework of the ambitious climate goals and the islands' efforts to move to clean energy calls for policy integration and a collaborative spatial planning approach, which can create synergies and opportunities for additional income, local ownership and better living conditions.*



MURSIA HOTEL – WORKSHOP AREA 2

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*Working group – Aligning different stakeholders for a robust energy transition plan conscious of all economic activities on islands*

*The energy transition of islands requires ambitious vision and realistic planning. These must be based on quantitative, reliable data (hence the importance of the development of a Clean Energy Transition Agenda – CETA) and should take into consideration all economic activities of the islands. For the realization of the roadmap towards full decarbonization, buy-in from all relevant stakeholders must be achieved, and their interests and expectations aligned and respected. For this purpose, communication and negotiation strategies play a crucial role in understanding the different perspectives and finding a compromise between them, to align all stakeholders towards the common goal,*

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*while ensuring economic sustainability. Through targeted presentations and interactive activities this working group will explore common situations of conflict of interests and provide strategies for effectively managing them through negotiation skills.*



MURSIA HOTEL – WORKSHOP AREA 3

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**13:00 – 14:00**  
**CEST**

*Lunch Break*



MURSIA HOTEL – POOL AREA

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*Financing the energy transition of islands: the CE4EUI Marketplace*

**14:00 – 14:45**  
**CEST**

*The Energy transition of islands requires important financing resources. Some specific constraints are related to island energy projects (smaller size, regulatory, ...). After presenting the scope of the CE4EUI Marketplace, the Clean energy for EU islands secretariat would like to brainstorm with islanders on their needs in terms of financing.*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

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*Reports from the working groups*

**14:45 – 15:15**  
**CEST**

*Two representatives from each of the working groups of the two days of forum will report on the main outcomes of the discussions*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

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**15:15 – 15:30**  
**CEST**

*Concluding remarks*



MURSIA HOTEL – PLENARY & LIVESTREAM

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**15:30 – 18:00**  
**CEST**

*Site visit to the “Giardino Pantesco” (Pantelleria Garden)*

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*Site visit to the energy efficient “Dammuso” (typical local building)*

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