

Clean energy for EU islands

RETRIEVE

Technical assistance for Pantelleria, Italy

Published on 11/03/2022

Authors: Leandro Vaz, Jorge Rodrigues de Almeida, Lucija Rakocevic, Christina Protopapadaki Reviewers: Marina Montero Carrero, Jan Cornillie

RETRIEVE project, on Pantelleria (Italy), foresees the implementation of two medium-sized renewable energy plants: one PV plant and a wind farm. The implementation of this project was already foreseen in Pantelleria's CETA, which was developed in the pilot phase of the Island's secretariat.

In this context, the island required technical assistance on the development of the project's financial model, combined with a risk assessment. Furthermore, the Islands secretariat helped with the project's legal and regulatory framework by providing a roadmap to community-owned power plants suitable for the island.

On the legal and regulatory part of the study, the following options for co-ownership were examined:

- Public-private partnership.
- Special Purpose Vehicle with crowdfunding.
- Collective self-consumption.
- Renewable or citizen energy communities.

In turn, for each of the options, the following aspects were assessed:

- The legislative framework.
- The ownership and management of the plants.
- The procedures for applying.
- Limitations, advantages vs disadvantages.
- Examples on islands .

On the financial side, the Islands secretariat financial team carried out a variety of tasks and tools:

- A model was provided to assist RETRIEVE team in looking for financing.
- A company spreadsheet was supplied to estimate the key financial metrics.
- The CAPEX for RETRIEVE project implementation was estimated.
- A risk assessment tool was developed that enables the island beneficiaries to assess the risks associated to the RETRIEVE project implementation, in a quantitative and qualitative manner.
- A training session on financial topics, where topics of relevance to the project development were discussed.

This technical assistance builds up on the support that the Clean Energy for EU islands secretariat provided to Pantelleria during Phase I (at the time focused on the publication of a CETA). The island has continued working on the development and implementation of the clean energy transition, and with the tools provided as part of this technical assistance RETRIEVE's maturity level will be able to increase to soon be financed by private investors.