



# POWERPOOR

Empowering Energy Poor Citizens through Joint Energy Initiatives

## POWERPOOR Key Results in Portugal

Working on the ground with energy-poor households and policymakers to mitigate energy poverty.

[www.powerpoor.eu](http://www.powerpoor.eu)

## Telheiras's Renewable Energy Community (Lisbon neighbourhood)

On 17 Feb 2022, Coopérnico participated in an informative session called "Renewable Energy Communities: Why? How? and in Telheiras?", at the auditorium of Telheiras' library organized by Parceria Local de Telheiras.

Telheiras is a neighbourhood in Lisbon which has a dynamic citizen movement and Parceria Local de Telheira, belonging to this area, brings together various institutions, organizations, and informal groups from Telheiras.

Coopérnico made its presentation "First steps towards achieving a local renewable energy community" and during this informative session the Working Group from Parceria Local de Telheiras, called Comunidade de Energia de Telheiras, was mobilized and wanted to create a renewable energy community, with the objective to involve a local authority, residents of Telheiras neighborhood, and also energy poor families.

Later, under the POWERPOOR project, several members of this Working Group of Telheiras became POWERPOOR Energy Supporters and Mentors, a situation that boosted several working meetings.



With Coopérnico's expertise in REC complemented by the support of internal capacity building workshops provided by the POWERPOOR project, Coopérnico and this Comunidade de Energia de Telheiras working group developed joint efforts. This partnership was further strengthened when Associação Viver Telheiras was selected in 2022 to receive free technical assistance through the EPAH program. EPAH invited Coopérnico as an institution that provides technical assistance for the creation of the Telheira's REC, in Lisbon.

Comunidade de Energia de Telheiras working group aims to promote collective self-consumption and energy sharing in Telheiras neighbourhood. This renewable energy community integrates the implementation of measures to combat energy poverty through the sharing of energy between local public entities and the citizens of Telheiras. In a first step, the renewable energy community will consist of a Junta de Freguesia do Lumiar (Parish of Telheiras) building where the panels will be installed on the rooftop,

the Parish Council of Lumiar itself and 17 residents of Telheiras's neighborhood where 3 of these people are beneficiaries of the social energy tariff.

### **POWERPOOR Energy Supporters and Mentors**

Several Energy Supporters and Mentors have completed the POWERPOOR training sessions and got the certification and supported local communities.

An Energy Supporter from Olhão, Algarve (south of Portugal), who is involved with the fishing community on the island of Culatra and who, together with the University of the Algarve, intends to create a renewable energy community and support the population to implement measures to improve energy efficiency so he also supported the local community by performing home visits and disseminating the potential of a renewable energy community.

An Energy Mentor, from Porto, who is involved with a small town of 132 inhabitants, in Alfândega da Fé (north of Portugal), also worked in a project that aims to transform the village into an "intelligent village, a more sustainable place from an energy point of view" intends to empower the community with the knowledge acquired in the training and based on the experience of home visits that he has been developing.

A Mentor from Coimbra (central Portugal) who is also working on another European H2020 project, the REVERTER project, performed home visits in this region. This particular mentor when visiting vulnerable households, brought with him his young daughter. This made him more approachable and increased building the trust between him and the vulnerable consumers.

Coopérnico has been committed to presenting POWERPOOR in various community groups in Lisbon's neighborhoods and with this developed collective capacity sessions triggering very interesting group dynamics, from which it has been able to attract home visits. These sessions help people to build confidence and better understand the work we are doing.

