

Formentera's environment office is calling on residents, businesses and local associations to submit requests to the Balearic government for financial assistance installing solar and micro-wind energy.

Details will be unveiled in the hall of ceremonies next Tuesday 21 January at a 4.00pm presentation where the regional minister of energy transition, Juan Pedro Yllanes, Formentera's environment councillor Antonio J Sanz, local land councillor Rafael González and Aitor Urresti, who heads the Govern balear's energy and climate change division, will all be on hand.

Mr Sanz encouraged islanders to come out for Tuesday's presentation: "This money is one more incentive to incorporate renewable energy and ween ourselves off the conventional power grid".

Small- and medium-sized businesses, business groups, property owners' associations and nonprofits can claim rebates on investments in new solar panel infrastructure, not to mention on expansion of existing installations of up to 50 kWp. For private homeowners, the limit is 3 kWp. Installations that exceed the limits are still eligible for assistance corresponding to the first 50 (or 3) kWp.

Small businesses, nonprofits, business groups and individuals that use micro-wind energy installations are eligible for aid corresponding to the first 10 kWp. Windmills must be integrated into surroundings and metallic, lattice-style supports are prohibited.

Eligible investments in lithium ion trapping systems incorporated into new solar and micro-wind installations must have a storage potential of 2 to 12 kwp and a minimum five-year guarantee certified by the manufacturer.

Total funding

For individual islanders, nonprofits and homeowners' associations, funding will be capped at half the total project cost. It will be capped at 30% of the project cost for small businesses and business groups.

Terms and conditions

Projects be conducted in the Balearic Islands between the day applications are submitted and the date the awarding process is finalised, and no later than 30 September 2020.

The application period started 7 January and concludes 28 March 2020.

The current call for applications is aimed at incentivising the use of renewable energy sources which reduce the strain on the conventional energy grid. Hence, submitted projects must not have begun before the date a funding request for is received. This does not include preparatory work such as permit gathering and preliminary feasibility studies.

Fifty percent of the current round of assistance is funded by the Balearic Islands' ERDF Operational Programme for 2014-2020.

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Consell de Formentera