

# APREN: a cooperative to accelerate the energy transition

## → PORTUGAL

**KEYWORDS: COMMUNITY ENERGY;  
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY**

**DURATION:** Since 1988

**WHO:** energy suppliers, individuals and communities

**BUDGET:** Unknown

## SUMMARY

The Portuguese Renewable Energy Association (*Associação Portuguesa de Energias Renováveis - APREN*) is a cooperative organisation set up in October 1988, promoting **renewable energy in the electricity sector**. The association collaborates with national (e.g. government and ministries), international institutions, municipalities and representatives of civil society related to renewable electricity generation. The association also represents an **instrument of participation** for the elaboration of energy policies in Portugal.

## GOALS

- Promote the use and valorisation of renewable energy for electricity production in Portugal;
- **Coordinate and represent the common interests** of the APREN members in the promotion of renewable energy in the electricity sector;
- **Cooperate with multiple national and international stakeholders** connected to renewable energy production;
- Promote the acceleration of the energy transition in Portugal.



## HOW IT WORKS

APREN is the main producer of renewable energy in Portugal, producing **over 90% of the total renewable electricity** in the country.



- At the national level, APREN is in constant dialogue with the Portuguese Government, ministries and other key stakeholders and networks related to energy and environmental issues.
- In the international arena, APREN participates in different European projects, such as **“Keep on Track”**. Additionally APREN collaborates with similar European associations to influence European Energy Policy in the renewable energy sector.
- The association is also active in the organisation of events, congresses and other activities related to the production of renewable energy and sustainability.

In 2016, Portugal was able to supply the demand for energy with renewables sources for four days, combining wind, hydro and solar power. This is a remarkable event considering the European dependency from fossil-fuel energy. It was the second case in Europe, after Denmark.

## TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL

APREN plays a key role in the production of renewable energy in Portugal. In addition, it has been capable of developing **multiple collaborations and networks** at local, national and international levels supporting the change of energy policies and other important regulations related to the energy transition. APREN represents a successful example of a renewable energy association.

### MORE INFORMATION

[APREN's website](#)

