

AZORES

Leading the energy transition

THE AZOREAN DIRECTORATE FOR ENERGY

The Azorean Directorate for Energy (Direção Regional da Energia in Portuguese), is the entity of the Azorean Government (Governo dos Açores in Portuguese) responsible for all energy-related matters. It follows-up all energy vectors within the Azores, as well as their local production and use. It oversees energy-related installations such as those of the local electricity utility, filling stations or gas networks. It is responsible for adopting European and national legislation to the regional context as well as proposing its own. It drives the regional programs for energy, namely energy efficiency programs, renewable energy generation, energy transition, sustainable mobility, promotion of energy literacy and cooperation with other regions.

The Directorate is composed of about 35 people, mostly engineers, with an extensive background on energy, with the support of an widespread network of diverse stakeholders.

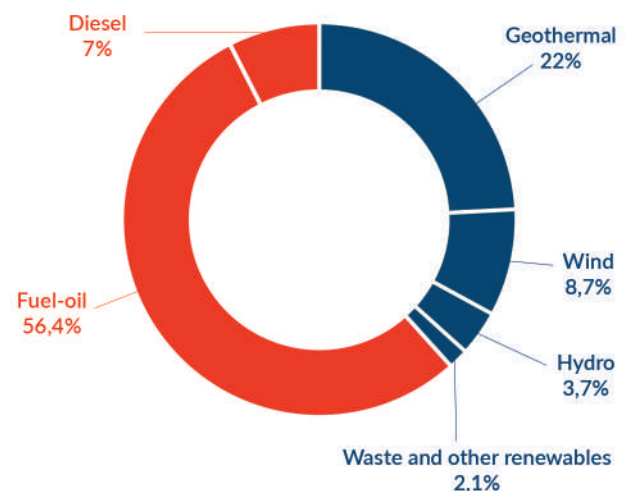


CHALLENGES

The main challenges for the Directorate are related to its mission of balancing out a secure, accessible and sustainable energy system in an outermost and archipelagic region. The small-scale of the islands hinders economies of scale while the distance to mainland, and geographical dispersion of the 9 islands, makes for an even greater challenge.

Specific market solutions must be adopted, incentivizing private investment within a public framework, making for a unique living lab.

36,5% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY IN 2023



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A UNIQUE PARTNER AND ENERGY LIVING LAB

Today, DREn is focused on the development of a long-term energy policy towards decarbonisation while promoting stability and reducing uncertainty. This policy promotes energy efficiency and the use of renewable electricity, the transition to electric mobility and the development of energy storage to reduce the need for grid stabilisation from thermal power plants. New legislation is also underway, envisaging a higher degree of liberalisation.

GREEN CORVO
LPG replaced by renewable energy sources for water heating.

GRACIÓLICA
Powered by the sun, wind and batteries, Graciosa has reached over 60% renewables in electricity. This has leveraged his role as a model island for sustainable mobility.

PRISTINE WATERS
Powered by abundant water sources, Flores island showcases 60% renewables in electricity from hydropower.

DRAGON ON THE SHORE
Harnessing the power of the Atlantic ocean since 1994, the Cachorro marine power plant has proven a milestone in marine power research.

EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANOES
Sitting on the Atlantic drift area, the Azores have been leading geothermal technology which encompasses about 25% of local electricity generation.

A HELPING HAND
Leading Vehicle-to-Grid technology under test paving the way for electric vehicles to become major actors in power grid stability.

BLOWIN' IN THE WIND
The first wind power plant powered the island of Santa Maria in 1988, predicting a promising future as a central base for the Atlantic air control and future spaceport. As the sunniest island in the Azores, large photovoltaic investments are also underway.



WHAT WE BRING TO THE TABLE

- Political commitment
- Local and international dissemination
- Engaged stakeholders
- Know-how within a highly qualified body of technicians
- Data
- Project impact through legislative power and unique market conditions
- A whole innovation ecosystem
- Azorean hospitality!

Contact us today for an enduring partnership



**GOVERNO
DOS AÇORES**

Direção Regional da Energia



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