NESOI PLUS

Island Outermost Regions



NESOI Plus in Gran Canaria

Press Release

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Gran Canaria, 21 October 2026 – The EU-funded NESOI Plus project has selected 13 renewable energy community initiatives to receive tailored technical assistance following its first Open Call. The results were among the main topics discussed during the project's General Assembly, held on 7–8 October in Gran Canaria, Spain, and hosted by project partner **Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias (ITC).**

The **First Open Call** attracted **15 applications** from the **Canary Islands, the Azores and Martinique**, with 11 projects from the Canary Islands and two from Martinique ultimately selected for support. This marks an important milestone for NESOI Plus, which aims to support 30 energy community initiatives across the three European Outermost Regions.

Funded by the European Union under the LIFE Programme and coordinated by SINLOC, NESOI Plus builds on the experience of the previous NESOI initiative to help island communities overcome the technical, financial and organisational challenges that can prevent renewable energy projects from moving forward.

From selection to implementation

With the first projects selected, NESOI Plus is now entering a more operational phase. Between October 2026 and July 2027, beneficiaries are expected to receive specialised assistance covering technical feasibility, business model development, economic and financial analysis, and access to investment opportunities.

The consortium is also preparing a **Second Open Call**, scheduled for the first half of 2027, to identify a second cohort of municipalities, citizens, businesses and other local stakeholders interested in developing renewable energy communities on outermost islands.

Alongside the technical assistance to REC projects development, NESOI Plus will organise Short Study Tours to encourage practical learning and cooperation between beneficiaries. The first visit is planned for Tenerife in spring 2027 bringing together applicants selected through the first Open Call to exchange experiences and explore solutions adapted to island territories.

Another key priority is the continued development of the **NESOI Plus One-Stop-Shop**. Designed to facilitate access to technical resources, expertise and networking opportunities, the platform aims to become a reference point for stakeholders developing renewable energy communities in Europe's Outermost Regions and other European islands.

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Connecting European cooperation with local innovation

Hosted by Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias (ITC), the General Assembly also gave consortium partners an opportunity to discover some of the research and technological solutions being developed in the Canary Islands.

During a guided visit led by Gonzalo Piernavieja Izquierdo, Director of R&D&I at ITC, participants learned about innovative applications of algae in cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and food, health-related research, and technologies combining renewable energy with seawater desalination.

Among the highlights was **DESALRO 2.0**, ITC's innovative desalination technology, recognised with a Guinness World Record for its exceptional energy efficiency.

The visit highlighted the role that regional research and innovation can play in addressing sustainability challenges in island territories, reinforcing the importance of connecting European initiatives with local expertise.

About NESOI Plus

NESOI+ (New Energy Solutions Optimized for Island Outermost Regions) is an EU-funded project under the LIFE Programme (Grant Agreement No. 101216221). Building on the previous Horizon Europe NESOI initiative, it aims to support the development of 30 renewable energy community initiatives in the Canary Islands, the Azores and Martinique through tailored technical assistance, investment planning, capacity building and networking opportunities.

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1. Useful Links

Links	
Website	https://nesoi.eu
Sing up for the Nesoi Newsletter through the contact form at the bottom of the homepage.	

2. Social Media

LinkedIn	Instagram	YouTube
@NESOI Plus – Island Outermost Regions	@nesoiplus	@NESOI – Islands Outermost Regions

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