Sun4All Open Call FAQ

November 2022

Sun4All – Community of Practice - Application

To ensure that Sun4All is sustainable and replicable throughout Europe, the Sun4All project team and especially our pilot cities and regions are searching for alliances to work together on **energy poverty alleviation** and **a fair energy transition** throughout Europe.

For this purpose, we are looking for highly motivated local public authorities and local public utilities interested in tackling energy poverty and empowering vulnerable consumers at the local level.

Foster energy communities for a fair energy transition in your city! Become a member of the Sun4All Community of Practice!

Further information about Sun4All and the Open Call can be found on the project website: https://sunforall.eu/community-of-practice .

More information on the Sun4All Open Call application process can be found below:

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Sun4All project about?

Sun4All (Eurosolar for all: energy communities for a fair energy transition in Europe) is a project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 101032239. The Sun4All project sets-up a financial support scheme that is already running with success in the United States of America. The existing New York State initiative – utility bill assistance programme named "Solar for All" is now adopted into the European context.

Who are the Sun4All project pilots?

Four European cities and regions (Almada (Portugal), Barcelona (Spain), Coeur de Savoie (France) and Rome (Italy)) are acting as early adopters of the Sun4All financial support scheme for renewable energy access.

- **Almada (Portugal)** – within the scope of the Sun4All program, the city of Almada aims at supporting residents of social housing buildings, with a special focus on residents with a monthly income below the Social Support Index, as well as elderly inhabitants.
- **Barcelona (Spain)** – with the start of the Sun4All project in the city of Barcelona, focus will lie on supporting the inhabitants of two specific

buildings with the installation of photovoltaic panels on the rooftops of those buildings.

- **Coeur de Savoie (France)** – in the Coeur de Savoie region the Sun4All support scheme will be applied and tested to subsidise vulnerable households, which suffer from high energy costs.

- **Rome (Italy)** – in the city of Rome the Sun4All support scheme will particularly provide support for families living in proximity to photovoltaic installations, for residents of social housing and for households in a vulnerable economic condition.

After testing and evaluating the model in pilot cities and regions, replication and up-scaling of the programme is foreseen in other European cities and regions.

What is the Sun4All Community of Practice about?

The objective of Sun4All is to be sustainable and replicable throughout Europe. To ensure this goal the Community of Practice of 10 cities and utilities will be engaged to follow the project and plan a replication in their regions. The Community of Practice will accompany the pilots' implementation to know the experience first-hand, and thus work on their own specific energy poverty eradication plans and local business model more effectively.

What is the Sun4All Engagement Programme?

The Sun4All Engagement Programme is designed to assist members of the Community of Practice with the adoption of the Sun4All programme in their city. The Engagement Programme includes the key following activities:

- **Creation of a local multi-stakeholder group** to ensure appropriate and effective transfer of knowledge of the Sun4All programme project locally.

- **Study visit to at least one of the implementing cities and regions** (Almada (Portugal), Barcelona (Spain), Coeur de Savoie (France) and Rome (Italy) during the different stages of implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

- **Development of organized social dialogues** with the communities and potential beneficiaries to identify opportunities that could facilitate the adoption of the programme locally.

- **Exchange sessions (online and onsite)** with pilot cities and regions to exchange lessons learned and experiences in the model implementation.

- **Development of a plan for a sustainable implementation** of Sun4All locally.

<u>Why</u> to apply to become a member of the Sun4All Community of Practice?

Being a member of the Sun4All Community of Practice will provide cities and public utilities with the opportunity to:

- **Accompany** the pilots' implementation process and learn from first-hand experience.
- **Participate** in study visits to at least one of the implementing cities and regions (Almada (Portugal), Barcelona (Spain), Coeur de Savoie (France) and Rome (Italy)).
- **Join** exchange sessions with pilot cities to hear about lessons learned and experiences related to the model implementation.
- **Develop** an organised social dialogue with the communities and potential beneficiaries.
- **Bring forward** their own specific energy poverty eradication plan(s) and local business model.

<u>Who</u> can apply to become a member of the Sun4All Community of Practice?

Any public authority or public utility established in a European Union Member State or an associated European Union country willing and able to actively participate in the Sun4All project's activities can apply:

- **Public authority** means (a) any government or other public administration, including public advisory bodies, at national, regional or local level; (b) any natural or legal person performing public administrative functions under national law, including specific duties, ac. (source: European Commission).
- **Public utility** means an enterprise concerned with the provision to the public of essentials, such as electricity or water (source: European Environment Agency).

What do successful applicants commit to contribute to the Sun4All project?

Selected public authorities or public utilities will be asked to sign the Memorandum of Understanding to commit their support to develop the Sun4All project by implementing the key following activities:

- Accompany the Sun4All pilots' implementation process and work on planning a sustainable adoption of the Sun4All locally.

- Develop the organised social dialogue with the community and potential beneficiaries to identify opportunities that could facilitate the adoption of the Sun4All programme locally.
- Create the local multi-stakeholder group to ensure appropriate and effective transfer of knowledge of the Sun4All programme project locally.
- Participate in the Sun4All project's study visits, online and onsite exchange sessions, capacity building and knowledge sharing events.
- Evaluate the potential of adopting and up-scaling the Sun4All programme.
- Respond to emails and other requests in a timely manner.

Is any financial support provided?

Yes, financial support will be provided to the Members of the Sun4All Community of Practice. Up to 8 000 EUR need-based financial support will be available for each Member of the Sun4All Community of Practice to work on developing a plan for a sustainable implementation of Sun4All locally, including the travelling expenses of up to two representatives of each Member of the Sun4All Community of Practice visiting the Sun4All pilot cities and regions for up to two days. The exact amount of the financial support to each Member of the Sun4All Community of Practice will be determined based on the local needs of each Member of the Sun4All Community of Practice and will be specified in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Which language will be spoken?

The official and working language of the Sun4All project is English. All meetings between all partners as well as all publications are in English. In addition to English, Sun4All project experts speak Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, French, Italian, etc. Thus, are supporting multilingualism in sustaining transferability and upscaling of Sun4All in Europe. The use of the local languages of the pilot cities and regions in communication, dissemination, capacity building and knowledge sharing activities with the members of the Community of Practice where appropriate is acceptable. Members of the Community of Practice will be responsible for the translation of any project materials to local languages if necessary.

What is the duration of the activities of the Sun4All Community of Practice?

Duration of the Sun4All project is 36 months. Starting date: 1 October 2021. Activities of the Community of Practice will take place between January 2023 and September 2024. The established cooperation, capacity building and knowledge sharing between the pilot cities and regions and members of the Community of

Practice are supposed to last far beyond the end of the project, by building long-term relationships between involved parties.

How can public authority or public utility apply?

The application must be submitted electronically before the deadline via the EUSurvey service platform under the following link: link.

What is the timeline of the Sun4All Open Call?

The selection of members of the Sun4All Community of Practice will be done according to the timeline below. Future dates could be slightly adjusted in case of necessity. Any changes will be announced.

Table 3-1 Sun4All Open Call Timeline

Step	Step description	Schedule
Step 1	**Open Call preparation and promotion**	August-September 2022
Step 2	Open Call announcement	September 2022
Step 3	Open Call Advisory activities	Throughout the application period
Step 4	Open Call Informative webinar	December 2022
Step 5	Open Call applications evaluation	On a rolling basis
Step 6	Open Call results announcement	As soon as the composition of the Sun4All Community of Practice will be completed

What information should be included in the application?

The application form must be completed and all mandatory questions answered. No further documents need to be submitted. Successful applicants will be asked to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

How will the application be evaluated and matched?

The evaluation will be based on the Sun4All Open Call Application Forms submitted by the applicants through the EUSurvey service platform under the following link: link.

At least two remote independent evaluators with expertise in the field of public authorities and utilities cooperation and mutual learning, energy poverty at local level, and just energy transition, will assess each application for the Sun4All Open Call.

The Open Call Evaluation process involves the following three stages:

Stage 1: Eligibility Evaluation

Initial filtering to determine whether an applicant is eligible (inclusion criteria) or not eligible (exclusion criteria) to participate in the Sun4All Open Call and to become a member of the Sun4All Community of Practice. The basis for the applicant eligibility evaluation is a set of the eligibility evaluation criteria (Table 3-2). These criteria describe characteristics that all applicants of the Sun4All Open Call must share.

Table 3-2 Sun4All Open Call – Eligibility Criteria List

ID	Eligibility Criteria	Eligibility Check: Yes / No
A.1	The applicant is established in an European Union Member State or an associated European Union country	Yes / No
A.2	The applicant is (1) a public authority or (2) a public utility	Yes / No
A.3	The Application Form has been submitted electronically via the EUSurvey service platform under the following link: link.	Yes / No
A.4	The Application Form is filled in English	Yes / No
A.5	The applicant does not have any potential conflict of interest with the Sun4All Open Call selection process	Yes / No

Stage 2: Qualification Evaluation

The basis for the applicant qualification evaluation is a set of the qualification evaluation criteria (Table 3-3). These criteria describe the individual level of the required qualification (i.e. motivation, experience and capacity) characteristics of the applicants of the Sun4All Open Call.

Table 3-3 Sun4All Open Call – Qualification Criteria List

ID	Required Qualification Criteria	Score
B.1	Applicant's operational focus on the Sun4All topics: ▪ Tackling energy poverty ▪ Empowering vulnerable households ▪ Just energy transition ▪ Renewable energy systems ▪ Better energy efficiency	1 (low) to 5 (high)
B.2	Applicant's willingness and possibilities to share knowledge and experience with the project team and other public authorities and utilities	1 (low) to 3 (high)
B.3	Applicant's human, time and technical capacity to take an active part in the Sun4All activities: ▪ Creation of a local multi-stakeholder group ▪ Study visit to at least one of the implementing cities and regions ▪ Development of organized social dialogues with the communities and potential beneficiaries ▪ Exchange sessions (online and onsite) with pilot cities and regions ▪ Development of a plan for a sustainable implementation of Sun4All locally	1 (low) to 4 (high)

Stage 3: Desirable Qualification Evaluation

The basis for the applicant desirable qualification evaluation is a set of the desirable qualification evaluation criteria (Table 3-4). These criteria describe the individual qualification characteristics of the applicants of the Sun4All Open Call, which are desired for the potential member of the Sun4All Community of Practice but not necessary to qualify.

Table 3-4 Sun4All Open Call – Desirable Qualification Criteria List

ID	Desirable Qualification Criteria	Score
C.1	Applicant's familiarity working in English	1 (low) to 5 (high)

When and how will applicants be informed about the results?

All applicants will be informed about the Sun4All Open Call results after evaluation of all submitted applications with respect to the evaluation criteria through the email of the primary contact indicated in the Sun4All Open Call Application Form.

How many members will there be in the Sun4All Community of Practice?

The Sun4All Community of Practice will support 10 cities and utilities covering Europe's diversity.

How does the Memorandum of Understanding look like?

Sun4All *solar power to the people*   [*Insert organisation logo*]

Memorandum of Understanding

(* will be adapted to the local needs of the Member of the Sun4All Community of Practice)

Organisation:

Place: / (*City/Country*)

We, the **(Name of Signatory Organisation)**, hereby declare our intention to support the uptake of results of the European project:

Eurosolar for all: energy communities for a fair energy transition in Europe (Sun4All) *

The **Sun4All** project is implemented in the framework of the Horizon 2020 Programme and sets up a financial support scheme for renewable energy access for energy vulnerable households. The overall idea is to offer solar shares to vulnerable consumers instead of a traditional social subsidy.

More specifically, we declare our intention to support the implementation of **Sun4All** activities and the uptake of the project results, within our reach of competence. In particular, we aim to:

- Accompany the Sun4All pilots' implementation process and work on planning sustainable adoption of the Sun4All locally.
- Develop the organised social dialogue with the community and potential beneficiaries to identify opportunities that could facilitate the adoption of the Sun4All locally.
- Create the local multi-stakeholder group to ensure appropriate and effective transfer of knowledge of the Sun4All programme project locally.
- Participate in the Sun4All project's engagement activities, capacity building and knowledge sharing events.
- Evaluate the potential of adopting and up-scaling the Sun4All programme.

We understand that, by signing this document, no financial or other liabilities from the Sun4All project or its partners shall occur.

Any personal data we may provide during our cooperation with the Sun4All consortium shall be treated confidentially for the exclusive use of the Sun4All project in accordance with the provisions of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (2016/779/EU – GDPR).

Place – Date: -

(Organisation stamp)	*(Signature of Representative)*
	(Name and surname of Representative)
	* This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 101032239.

Where to find more information?

For more information, please visit the project website: https://sunforall.eu/community-of-practice or contact: info@sunforall.eu.