

APREN and UNEF organize joint event

"Agrovoltaics in the Iberian Peninsula: Innovation for a Sustainable Future"

Lisbon, **January 16**, **2025** – The <u>The Portuguese Renewable Energy Association</u> (APREN) joined <u>Unión Española Fotovoltaica (UNEF)</u> to hold, on January 22, in Badajoz (Spain), the event "<u>Agrovoltaics in the Iberian Peninsula: innovation for a sustainable future".</u>

This Iberian initiative, which will take place at the Cajalmendralejo Financial Headquarters, in Badajoz (Spain), from 9:00 a.m. (Spanish time), aims to offer a comprehensive and innovative vision of the reality of agrivoltaics in the Iberian Peninsula. It will bring together key players from the energy and agriculture sectors, including experts, researchers and institutional representatives, to address the challenges and opportunities of this transformative technology.

Through a multidisciplinary approach, the event aims to explore success stories, negotiation models and financing strategies that position themselves in agrivoltaics as a sustainable solution for rural development and energy transition.

The event is thus aimed at public institutions, the media, photovoltaic producers, installation companies and operators of photovoltaic plants, and companies or people interested in learning about the photovoltaic sector.

The initiative confirmed the participation of several prominent speakers, such as:

- Mercedes Morán (Government of Extremadura, Councillor for Agriculture, Livestock and Sustainable Development);
- Raquel Pastor (Municipality of Extremadura, Director General of Industry, Energy and Mines);
- Paulo Carmona (DGEG Directorate-General for Energy and Geology, General--Director);
- Juan Eloy Rodríguez (Municipality of Extremadura, Director-General of Community Agrarian Policy);
- José Luis González (Ayuntamiento de Badajoz, Managing Director of the Projects, Lighting, Energy Efficiency, Public Transport and Municipal Mobile Park);
- José Donoso (UNEF, CEO);
- Nelson Lage (ADENE, Chairman of the Board of Directors);
- Pedro Amaral Jorge (APREN, CEO).



The event will feature several Iberian panels, dedicated to the following themes:

- Agrivoltaic success stories;
- Agrivoltaic business models;
- State of play of the agrivoltaic sector and agricultural outlook in the Iberian Peninsula;
- Opportunities and benefits of agrivoltaics;
- Lines of financing and economic support;
- Research on crops adapted to agrivoltaics.

Pedro Amaral Jorge, President of APREN, highlighted that "this event represents an important milestone in the collaboration between Portugal and Spain to explore the potential of agrivoltaics. It is a unique opportunity to delve into a topic that is trending in the world of energy, demonstrating how we can combine technological innovation with agricultural sustainability, contributing to the decarbonisation of the Iberian Peninsula and strengthening the resilience of our rural territories."

José Donoso, CEO of UNEF, said that "we are facing a historic opportunity to foster synergy between renewable energy and agriculture. Agrovoltaics not only optimizes land use, but also allows farmers to diversify their incomes and be key players in the energy transition".

This initiative is a pioneer in the Iberian context and aims to highlight the double opportunity to combine agricultural practices with the production of solar energy, promoting a more sustainable future.

You can consult the full program here.



About APREN:









The Portuguese Renewable Energy Association (APREN) is a non-profit association founded in October 1988. Its mission is to coordinate and represent the common interests of its members, promoting renewables energies in the electricity field. APREN works together with official bodies and other similar entities, at national and international level, constituting an instrument of participation in energy and environmental policies through the use and valorization of natural resources for electricity production, namely in the fields of hydro, wind, solar,

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geothermal, biomass, biogas and urban solid waste

About UNEF:





https://bsky.app/profile/unefotovoltaica.bsky.social

The Spanish Photovoltaic Union (UNEF) is the sectoral association of photovoltaic solar energy in Spain. Made up of more than 800 companies, entities and groups from the entire technology value chain, it represents more than 90% of the sector's activity in Spain and brings together practically all of it: producers, installers, engineering companies, manufacturers of raw materials, modules and components, distributors and consultants. UNEF also holds the presidency and co-secretariat of FOTOPLAT, the Spanish technological photovoltaic platform. The platform brings together universities, research centres and leading companies in photovoltaic R+D in Spain.

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