

DESIGNING A REGIONAL PLANNING METHODOLOGY FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION IN RURAL AREAS OF BIZKAIA

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In line with its commitment to sustainable rural development, the **Provincial Council of Bizkaia**, through its **Department of Natural Environment and Agriculture**, has tasked NAIDER with designing a methodology to enable **Rural Development Agencies** (RDAs) to **incorporate the energy transition** into their regional development plans in a strategic, cross-cutting and participatory manner.

The aim of this project is to strengthen local capacity to address the challenges of decarbonisation from an eco-social perspective. This will ensure that energy projects promoted in rural areas respond to the unique characteristics of each region and align with provincial and regional policies on sustainability and climate action.

NAIDER will develop a common methodology for all ADRs, structured into four phases. First, the regulatory and territorial context will be analysed. Then, opportunities and transformative projects will be identified. Next, a strategic formulation will be developed for each region. Finally, the approach will be technically validated with the participation of the relevant entities.

This initiative sees the Provincial Council of Bizkaia take another step forward in its commitment to a fair energy transition, promoting structural rural transformation based on cooperation, energy efficiency, and the development of sustainable local solutions.

