



COUNTRY	CITY	POPULATION	MITIGATION TARGET	EMISSIONS IN 2016
SPAIN	CÁDIZ	120,000	REDUCING EMISSIONS BY 40% COMPARED TO 2030 BASELINE SCENARIO	305,681 tCO <sub>2</sub> /YEAR

## Cádiz, at the forefront of the municipalisation of energy

A port city of 120,000 inhabitants located in the south of Andalusia, capital of the eponymous province (1,200,000 inhabitants), Cádiz is considered as a model of municipal energy policy in Spain and in Europe. A signatory to the Covenant of Mayors for Energy and Climate in Europe since its launch in 2009, Cádiz committed to reducing its emissions by 21% in 2020, as compared to 2007. Though no results were reported, the city announced the publication of an adaptation plan and an Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and the update of its emissions inventory at the end of 2021, with a target of reducing emissions by 40% by 2030. In 2016, it was [estimated](#) that the city's carbon footprint amounted to 305,681 tCO<sub>2</sub>/year.

### Participatory municipalisation of energy

The originality of Cádiz is based on the existence, since 2000, of the largest semi-public electricity distribution and supply company in the country, Eléctrica de Cádiz (EdC), which is 55% owned by the municipality (the rest by Endesa and Unicaja Bank).

Since 2015, EdC has encouraged active participation in the public management of electricity through the organisation of round tables on energy transition ([MTEC](#)) and against energy poverty (MCPE). A decision by an MTEC led EdC to supply certified 100% renewable electricity, thanks to guarantees of origin. This performance allowed EdC to claim a reduction of 58,500 tCO<sub>2</sub> compared to before.

Cádiz struggled for a long time to develop the production of electricity from renewable energy on its territory, even though the city benefited from one of the highest levels of sunshine in Europe – conducive to the development of photovoltaics. EdC does not produce its own energy and does not directly invest in renewable generation capacities. But it has encouraged self-consumption since 2018. In January 2020, a 50% exemption from the property tax was [implemented](#) by the municipality for all housing and premises which installed photovoltaic panels for their own consumption, in addition to a

95% reduction in the tax on constructions, installations and works.

### The fight against energy poverty

Since 2015, the fight against energy poverty has become a priority for the government "del cambio", an alliance of the two coalitions "Ganemos Cádiz" and "Cádiz sí se puede". Hard hit by the economic crisis of 2008, Cádiz then had one of the highest unemployment rates in Europe (30%). A diagnosis revealed the municipality's energy wastage and citizens' lack of understanding of their energy bills. The new majority therefore launched a first "Shock plan against energy poverty". Three editions of this plan made it [possible](#) to provide personalised follow-up to 2,218 families, the organisation of 155 workshops on energy savings and understanding electricity bills (in which 1,670 people participated, including households suffering energy poverty). In 2017, an MCPE led to the adoption of a social tariff ([Bono Social Gaditano](#)), funded in equal parts by the municipality and EdC to reduce the energy bills of the most impoverished families.

In November 2020, EdC signed a new agreement with the municipality of Cádiz and the social services to establish the "Annual Energy Coverage" ([Cobertura Energética Annual](#) – CEA), a new aid intended to guarantee minimum access to energy to the neediest families who struggle to pay

their bills. In return for this measure, which was trialled for a year in 30 families during a pilot phase, each beneficiary household must attend a training workshop on energy efficiency. The CEA also offers EdC a new pricing rationale for consumers. There is a [national social tariff](#) to which each of the country's 500 electricity suppliers contributes, but only a handful of "Benchmark suppliers" are entitled to distribute, thus favouring large national suppliers at the expense of municipal companies.

[Source : Eléctrica de Cádiz](#)