



Social Assessment of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) Technologies Interventions in Livestock Facilities

The goal of the Social Assessment (SA) was to evaluate the social impacts of deploying Renewable Energy Systems (RES) technologies in livestock operations across the four pilot farms involved in the RES4LIVE project. The SA is critical for assessing potential energy upgrades in livestock farms, as it offers a comprehensive understanding of the project's social effects on various stakeholders. This ensures that the benefits go beyond cost savings and environmental protection to include improved social outcomes, increased community acceptance, and greater sustainability.

The social assessment indicated that the overall SA Index remained positive across all scenarios and analyses.

Results from all farms showed that most participants had a generally quite positive perception of the farm's transparency in operations and reporting, particularly with regard to energy efficiency and emissions reduction. The most notable positive social impacts were observed in areas such as Environmental and Ethical considerations, Health and Safety, Human Rights, and Governance.

However, many workers reported no significant improvements in wages or compensation during the project interventions, despite an increase in workload and/or working hours due to the RES initiatives. Areas for improvement include providing more comprehensive training for farm personnel on the operation of new RES technologies to ensure the smooth running of farm operations. Additionally, efforts should be made to reduce disruptions during and after the installation of the systems.

This social impact analysis highlighted the positive effects of the RES4LIVE technologies and provided valuable insights, showing that future implementations of RES technologies can be better aligned with stakeholder expectations and lead to even more positive social outcomes.

