



### AURA-EE – A Regional Energy Agency Supporting Local Authorities: From Vision to Implementation

Enabler

#### How AURA-EE Came to Be

**Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Énergie Environnement** (AURA-EE) is one of the first regional energy agencies created in Europe, established nearly 48 years ago to support local authorities in addressing energy challenges.

Initially focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy, the agency has continuously evolved alongside public policies and territorial needs. Today, AURA-EE operates as a **regional energy and climate agency**, supporting territories in a comprehensive approach that combines mitigation, adaptation, resilience and sustainable development.



#### Network

AURA-EE works closely with municipalities, inter-municipal structures, departments and regional authorities. Its role is not to replace local decision-makers, but to support them throughout the **entire project cycle**. The agency:

- helps translate political objectives into operational strategies,
- supports the design of local energy and climate plans,
- assists in structuring and implementing concrete projects,
- and provides technical, organisational and financial expertise adapted to local contexts.



Energy Agency



Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



Financial support from the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional Council and private companies from the energy sector



1978 – ongoing

This long-term evolution reflects a strong belief that **local and regional authorities are key actors** of the energy and climate transition, and that they need dedicated, trusted partners to turn ambitions into action.



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### Achievements and Progress

Secured

€8.5 million  
in co-financing

Contributed to the development of  
**more than 80**  
European projects

Worked with  
**150 regional partners**

Helped trigger  
**€130 million**  
in investments in sustainable energy and climate projects



### Challenges

- The creation of the energy agency required demonstrating the **need for a dedicated technical structure to support the energy transition**, while securing stable public funding in a context of limited awareness and budget constraints. Establishing credibility and defining a clear institutional role were also key challenges.



### Successes for Replicability

- Strong **expertise** in financial engineering, helping territories to identify **suitable funding** mechanisms and combine different tools. This includes:
  - **European** and **national** funding schemes,
  - **innovative** financing mechanisms,
  - **enabling structures** such as one-stop-shops, energy agencies or project facilitators.
- Bringing regional practices into European projects — and European innovation back to the territories.



### Contact Info



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