



SUSTAINABILITY

The private sector is asking for mandatory measures to save energy

Calvo asks businesses and tourist companies to make an «extra effort» in relation to consumption

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA
@PeriodicAND

The services sector has asked the Government to introduce a series of mandatory energy saving measures to avoid unfair competition, as assured last Monday by the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainability, Sílvia Calvo, during a meeting with the press. She also thanked the business and tourism organizations for taking part in the administration of her return. For their part, the companies asked the Executive to explain to tourists the Energy Transition and Climate Change Act (Litecc) and how it will affect them, in case they feel less comfortable during their stay. Therefore, Andorra Tourism is launching a campaign to inform visitors about the Litecc.

Along these lines, Calvo regretted that the Government still does not have the energy savings data for the month of November corresponding to private individuals, since the law is expected to come into force before then. As for the savings accumulated by the public sector, during the month of October it reached 6.2%, and in November, 8.1%. Although it may seem like data that do not reach the goal set at the beginning, much more ambitious than what some neighboring countries have finally applied, the head of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainability asserted that they must also be taken into account visitor data and overnight stays in the country in 2021 compared to this year. Last year, Andorra welcomed 75,000 visitors, and in 2022, 146,000. Therefore, «it is not a complicated situation, there are also positive data, but the savings measures are real», she assessed.

With regard to public lighting, Calvo informed that the savings



►► Photograph of the facade of the FEDA headquarters in Encamp.



SÍLVIA CALVÓ
ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE
AND SUSTAINABILITY

«Not everything is a complicated situation, there are also positive data, and the savings measures are real»

will not be achieved because it is not being complied with. Currently, it corresponds to 12%, and the goal is 15%.

For his part, the Minister of Finance and Spokesman, Eric Jover, pointed out that energy saving has the purpose of avoiding, on the one hand, power cuts, as well as an increase in energy prices next ye-

ar These are two possibilities that have been attenuated by FEDA, which is currently in deficit to deal with the differential price that it did not want to apply to families in order not to aggravate their economic situation. In this regard, Calvo pointed out that many measures have been taken by the Executive to maintain the purchasing power of citizens, although we are now waiting to see how the month of December will go. In addition, Jover explained that the Government has transferred 15 million euros to the parapublic so that the company's investment plan is not affected.

Finally, with the Litecc, the Renova plan for the implementation of renewable energy in buildings has also been promoted, of

Public lighting does not comply with the marked saving of 15% and is three points less than the corresponding

which the minister made special mention, as it is a program that has been very successful. For now, 14% of the country's homes benefit from it, and it has received 3.5 million euros in subsidies. At the same time, although with energy production «we have not gone fast enough, the law allowed energy to be produced in the country». Currently, with photovoltaics and private electricity, light is given to around 3,000 homes in the country, that is to say, 6% of homes take advantage of national production, cogeneration and the regular growth it has had in recent years. Likewise, in 2012, 38% of energy was renewable. For now, the Principality is 60% away from having a more sustainable model. ≡

Esport points out that the Government had already built the national landfill

Competences fall on the municipalities, which have more land than the Executive.

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The head of government, Xavier Esport, indicated during the meeting with the media that the municipalities must have the initiative in ca-

se a national landfill is being built. «The Government has very little private property, and much of it belongs to corporations and quarters», he assessed. The Qualified Law delimiting the powers of the municipalities regulates it as such. If it weren't for these legal limitations, the head of government asserted that «we would have done it already, since we are having a very serious problem because

we are mortgaging all the works that are underway. From here, he explained that the Executive is pushing the municipalities to make efforts, and in this sense he observed that you cannot set excessive limits or try to provide service only to works of a certain parish, «and that's what we're working on,» he added.

In turn, the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainabi-

lity, Sílvia Calvo, assured that in the matter of waste, there must be a commonwealth tool in the expenses of the Executive and the corporations, with a management «more rationalized» of these. At the same time, Esport assured that there is a need for more coordination mechanisms, and this does not mean that the Government is above the municipalities, but that «the benefits and the weight of the decisions must be demonstrated», she assured, emphasizing that «if we want people to believe in the Government and in the municipalities, we must show that we have a common goal, because we are all Andorra. ≡



►► A machine works on a construction site.

ARXIU ANA

CHRISTMAS MEETING WITH THE MEDIA

Esport claims that the housing problem is here to stay

The head of government is in favor of activating «the private and public levers» to find solutions

The Executive self-criticizes and appeals to the opposition to find a «halfway» agreement for the good of the public

SFGA/C.ESTEVE



►► The Head of Government, Xavier Esport, during the Christmas meeting with the media, last Monday.

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA
@PeriodicAND

«The housing problem is here to stay». This is how forceful the Head of Government, Xavier Esport, was last Monday, in the Christmas meeting with the media in which, accompanied by the Minister of Spokesman and Finance, Eric Jover, the Minister of Territory and Housing, Víctor Filloy, and the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainability, Sílvia Calvó, addressed the main current political and social issues, with particular emphasis on the issues of rent and the loss of purchasing power. Faced with this situation, the head of government considered that the solutions must be «proper to a structural system», which in no case involve «ideologizing the problem, as the opposition intends» or «letting

the private sector or building social protection flats» from the Administration. In fact, Esport was in favor of activating «the private and public levers», although he recognized that from the Executive they cannot do it alone and they need «the municipalities to also become aware», since they are the ones who have the competences in matters of urban growth. «There are those who ask me how we can allow abuses in rents, but to determine what is an abuse you need a reference index and a series of information that is difficult to obtain», Esport excused himself, while admitting that «in Andorra we are not used to the culture of data facilitation between administrations [from the municipalities to the Government] or from the private sector to the public». In addition, he criticized the lack of collaboration and coordination between corporations, which it seems that



Xavier Esport
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«There are those who ask me how we can allow abuse, but we need information that is difficult to obtain»

they are just now trying to remedy with load studies and urban planning capacity under the same technical criteria and with a very similar structure.

For this reason, the latest acti-

on of the Ministry of Housing is to buy or rent buildings to rehabilitate them and have a network of public promotion flats. In this sense, Filloy recalled that the decisions are immediate, but the solutions will still take a few years to materialize, so that «we must intervene without thinking about it»: «Governance is essential and this is the basis that we propose; it will be improvable and there will be mistakes, but we had to start it», pointed out the minister. And the fact is that in recent months the Government has acquired a total of 772 homes - some of which are not yet available - through different initiatives designed for all kinds of social and family situations, taking into account the evolution of the economic model of the country. In relation to this, Filloy explained that in Andorra there are around 38,000 households with an average of 2.1% people per house,



Víctor Filloy
HOUSING MINISTER

«Governance is essential and this is the basis we propose; there will be mistakes, but we had to start it»

a downward trend, which will further complicate the situation.

A COUNTRY PROBLEM // All this to demonstrate that from the Government «we are perfectly connected to reality» and that «we are aware that there are many people who are having a hard time». As things stand, Esport asserted that 80% of tenants are currently protected thanks to the measures taken since 2009, despite being aware that there are also those who feel «great pressure and suffocation», such as young people who they want to become independent, unstructured families or newly arrived people. «And all of them deserve a dose of pragmatism and reality from all politicians, especially from the majority groups, but also from the rest. It is clear that not everything has been done well, and that there are things that could have been done better and earlier», reflected Esport, who appealed to the opposition to find an agreement «halfway» for the good of citizenship. «I know it's difficult because we're close to the elections, but in the face of this situation that worries so much, if we could sit down with all the political forces [...] and be able to accept that it's a country problem and row all in the same direction, it would be a step forward that the population would thank us for», he affirmed. ≡

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad