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Preface

**This document uses the European numeric format. Therefore, a comma is used as a decimal separator and a full stop is used to separate thousands, i.e. five point two is written '5,2' and one thousand three hundred is written '1.300'.*

The aim of the Strategic Guidelines for Menorca (DEM [for explanations of Spanish/Catalan acronyms see glossary at end of document]) is to foster the culture necessary for Menorca to transition towards a sustainable model of living. This process fits into the goals of the UNESCO MaB (Man and the Biosphere) programme, under which Menorca has been categorised as a Biosphere Reserve, entailing a commitment to become an example of sustainability reproducible on a global scale.

Within this framework, the DEM-energy guidelines aim to provide society with the knowledge required for discussion and decision-making regarding the energy sector and its applications. This document, called *Menorca's first energy transition*, is an analysis of the island's current energy system. It will serve as the basis for setting out a vision of how we would like Menorca's energy future to look, a future we define as Menorca's *second energy transition*. The data and discussion presented here are intended to shed light upon the most relevant aspects of the island's current energy situation, within a regional and global context. Some important aspects of the island's energy system do not fall within the framework of the current study, such as food and the energy received by Menorca in the form of raw materials and imported goods, but these should nevertheless be taken into account going forward.

The DEM-energy process aims at driving the transition towards a new energy model compatible with Menorca's environmental commitments as a Biosphere Reserve. This transition consists essentially in replacing non-renewable, concentrated and high-density energy sources with renewable, low-density, intermittent and distributed energy flows. It means setting out a path that will allow us to reconcile human activity, both in the short and long-term, with the preservation of the environment and ecosystems.