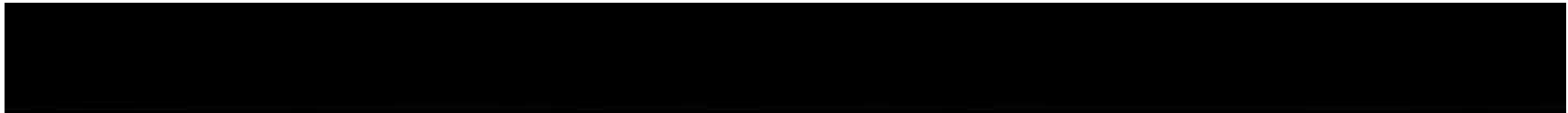


EU Energy Poverty Advisory Hub –

Dora Biondani



Energy Poverty Advisory Hub

The leading EU initiative run by the European Commission at the request of the European Parliament, is a collaborative network of stakeholders aiming to eradicate Energy Poverty and accelerate the just energy transition of European local governments.

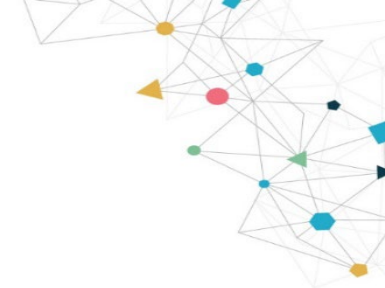
Mission

To become the central platform of energy poverty expertise in Europe.

Website energy-poverty.ec.europa.eu Helpdesk @ info@energypoverty.eu

Twitter [EPAH EU](https://twitter.com/EPAH_EU) Newsletter [subscription](#)





Partners



Climate Alliance

NOVA

NOVA SCHOOL OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ecoserveis

akaryon^o

WEBTOOLS • UMWELT • FÖRDERUNGEN



Antennas



Croatia – DOOR

Ireland – South East Energy Agency

Cyprus – Cyprus Energy Agency

Poland – Polish Network of Energy Cities

Bulgaria – Sofia Energy Center

Hungary – CA Hungary

Greece - Anatoliki

Energy poverty – A socio-technical challenge

Heating



Cooling



“(48) ‘energy poverty’ means a household’s lack of access to essential energy services that provide basic levels and decent standards of living and health, including adequate heating, hot water, cooling, lighting, and energy to power appliances, in the relevant national context, existing social policy and other relevant policies, caused by a combination of factors, including but not limited to non-affordability, insufficient disposable income, high energy expenditure and poor energy efficiency of homes”

Wellbeing



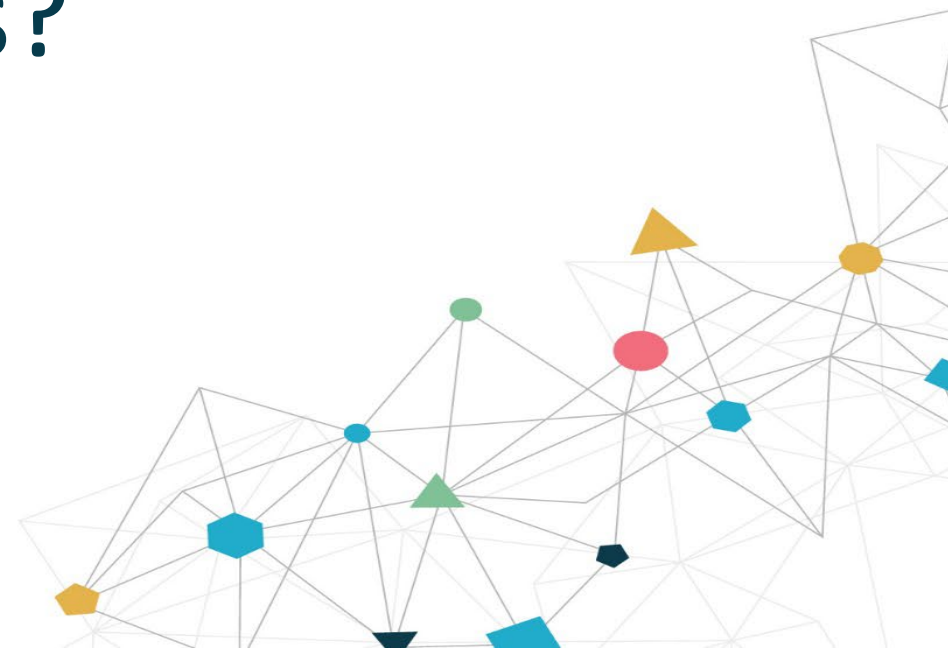
Social inclusion

Vulnerable consumers





What do we offer
to governments?

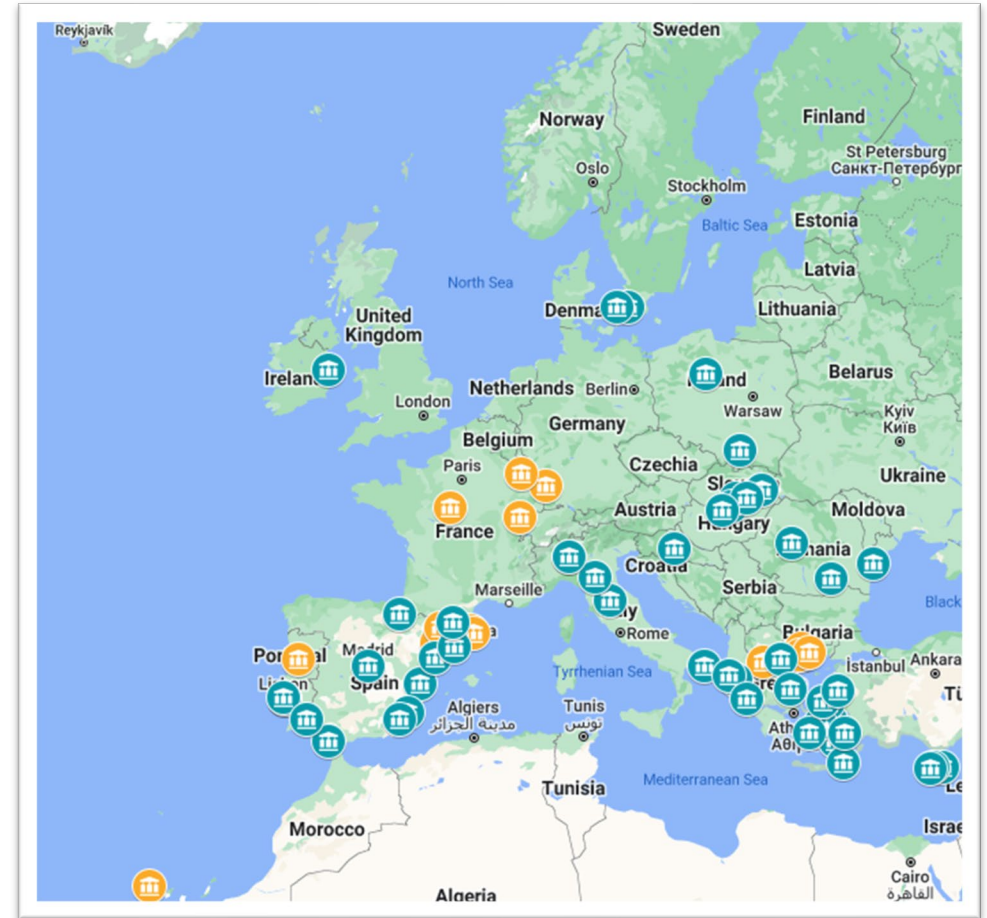


Achievements

Tailored support to 85 municipalities

- 13 EU countries: CYPRUS | CROATIA | DENMARK | FRANCE | GREECE | HUNGARY | IRELAND | ITALY | PORTUGAL | POLAND | ROMANIA | SPAIN | SWEDEN
- (Some of the) TOPICS ADDRESSED: Energy poverty diagnosis | energy equity | renewable energy communities | one-stop-shops, rural areas | elders | information and awareness | deep renovations
- (Some types of) ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED: capacity building | skills development | surveys and questionnaires | data analyses | awareness campaigns | events and tools | stakeholder mapping | methodological development | roadmaps etc.

All municipalities on the [EPAH website](#).



Assistance provided – Trio of collaboration

Local government

*Formulate and steer
Their process*



Expert organisation

*Supports with contextual
experiences and expertise*

EPAH team

*Connecting with a wider
network and provides EU
wide experiences*



Croatia - Zagreb

In depth analysis of areas with higher risk of energy poverty in Zagreb



Municipality of Zagreb, Croatia



Energy poverty phase



Intervention type



Professionals involved

Members of local government
Students
Technicians

Sustainable development goals



City of Zagreb is Croatia's capital, with the total surface area of 641,24 km² and a population of close to 800 000. The risk-of-poverty rate in Croatia was 18,3% in 2020. The highest average monthly net earnings per person in 2021 was €1.126. 13% of the total number of unemployed citizens in Croatia are from Zagreb. The highest rates of risk of poverty are among these social groups: over 65, especially women, unemployed, people with disabilities, single parents, and families with 3 or more children, and social welfare benefits users.

In 2021, 12,2% of the city budget was allocated to the services related to improvements in housing and community and 8,8% to social protection. In 2022, City of Zagreb started to work on the Energy Poverty Mitigation Programme.

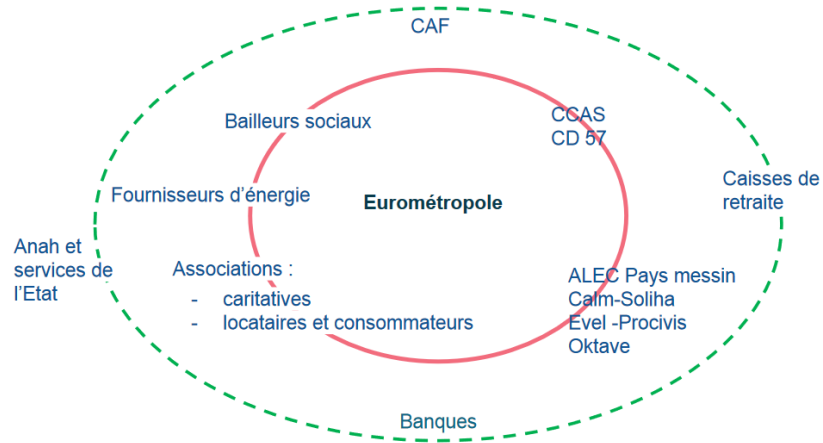
The City of Zagreb aims to receive dedicated support to finalise the Energy Poverty Mitigation Programme. In particular, the objective of the technical assistance is to gather data through a questionnaire developed through previous projects to help identify key aspects of energy poverty and to propose criteria and indicators for the Programme.

The questionnaire covers key aspects, such as housing characteristics and conditions, energy infrastructure, energy use behavior, health, socio-economic aspects, etc. The questionnaire will be used to collect data from a representative sample of citizens in Zagreb. This data will then be directly used to support ongoing development of Zagreb's Energy Poverty Mitigation Programme.

- The city developed the ENERGY POVERTY MITIGATION PROGRAM planning actions until 2030
- The effective diagnosis on energy poverty supported the process of individuation of funding resources to tackle it and effectively pushed for an inclusion of this topic in the budget of the municipality.
- A strong group of stakeholders had been of primary importance to achieve such results.
- Interview extract: [LINK](#)



France – Metz Eurometropole



➔ Ecosystème riche, mobilisation et animation essentielles

New data strategy to tackle energy poverty in Metz territory

Eurometropolis of Metz (EMM)

Collaboration between
Eurometropolis of Metz (EMM)
City of Metz

Energy poverty phase

Diagnosis Planning

Intervention type

Capacity building Stakeholders' engagement

Professionals involved

Members of local government
Technicians

Sustainable development goals

15 3 7 11 17

Statistics from studies on the territory have enabled the municipality to draw a typical portrait of the energy poor household: a single person between 25 and 59 years old, renting and using town gas. In addition, the proportion of households below the poverty line is 24% in the EMM compared to 22.4% in France.

The Eurometropolis of Metz aims to develop an operational roadmap based on the results of the pilot project "Pacte-15%" (focusing on housing renovation for low-income households). Important relevance will be given to identifying possible sustainable solutions to the challenges that have been experienced during the pilot project. Moreover, the municipality is interested in defining possible financial solutions, increasing the access to energy renovation and training municipal staff. Another point will be to brainstorm possible activities to encourage households to take actions.


In order to reduce energy poverty, the following target groups have been identified: low housing energy efficiency, low resources, high energy expenditures (energy effort rate > 8%), cold housing conditions statement and health level.

- The Eurometropolis of Metz started the technical assistance as one of the most advanced cities having already a first diagnosis developed for the city of Metz.
- High turnover of the human resources connected with a lack of stable and continuous funding programmes made it difficult to develop the TA.
- The expert decided to work on a feasible report focusing on the different stakeholders and how they can support the municipal work in case of need.
- The municipality and the expert advocate for a more consistent framework that facilitate medium and long term strategies.

Some local government needs identified through the technical support

- Multi-level governance approach to align EU, national and local efforts.
- Reinforced network of stakeholders at all levels of governance
- National strategy to guide the local level
- Upskilling of local actors: Capacity building needed
- Data collection improvement


Milan, Italy





The **Municipality of Milan**, in cooperation with the **Agenzia Mobilità Ambiente e Territorio (AMAT)**, initiated technical assistance to improve the effectiveness of the help desk tested by the Milano Inclusiva project.


RESULTS

1st technical assistance of the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub 2022-2023

DISCOVER EPAH 

 August 2022 - November 2023

 **Energy poverty phase:** Diagnosis


 **Topics:** Energy poverty diagnosis

Objectives

Originally, the project aimed to refine the structure of the help desk, which in an initial experiment had found it difficult to intercept its proper users. The launch of the consultancy made clear the need to **link the help desk's operations to a broader strategic vision**, capable of activating an eco-systemic action, inside and outside the public administration.



Activities & Outcomes


In the energy poverty analysis phase, work based on collective intelligence mechanisms was chosen. Thus, stakeholders deemed strategic were involved in workshops facilitated with tools based on the futures & foresight approach. After mapping the strategies affected by the issue of energy poverty, work was done to build a **shared long-term vision** and the elaboration of a future-proof action plan, which would provide guidelines for the help desk 2.0.

The municipality took the leap and focused not only on energy vulnerability but also on taking anticipatory action to create energy welfare. 


Future

The municipality has started an internal process to build a strategy, which incorporates the findings of the process supported by EPAH. In parallel, it intends to carry out a **mapping of the territory** to identify entities, active in areas and towards subjects considered strategic, with which to build an experiment useful for implementing help desk 2.0.

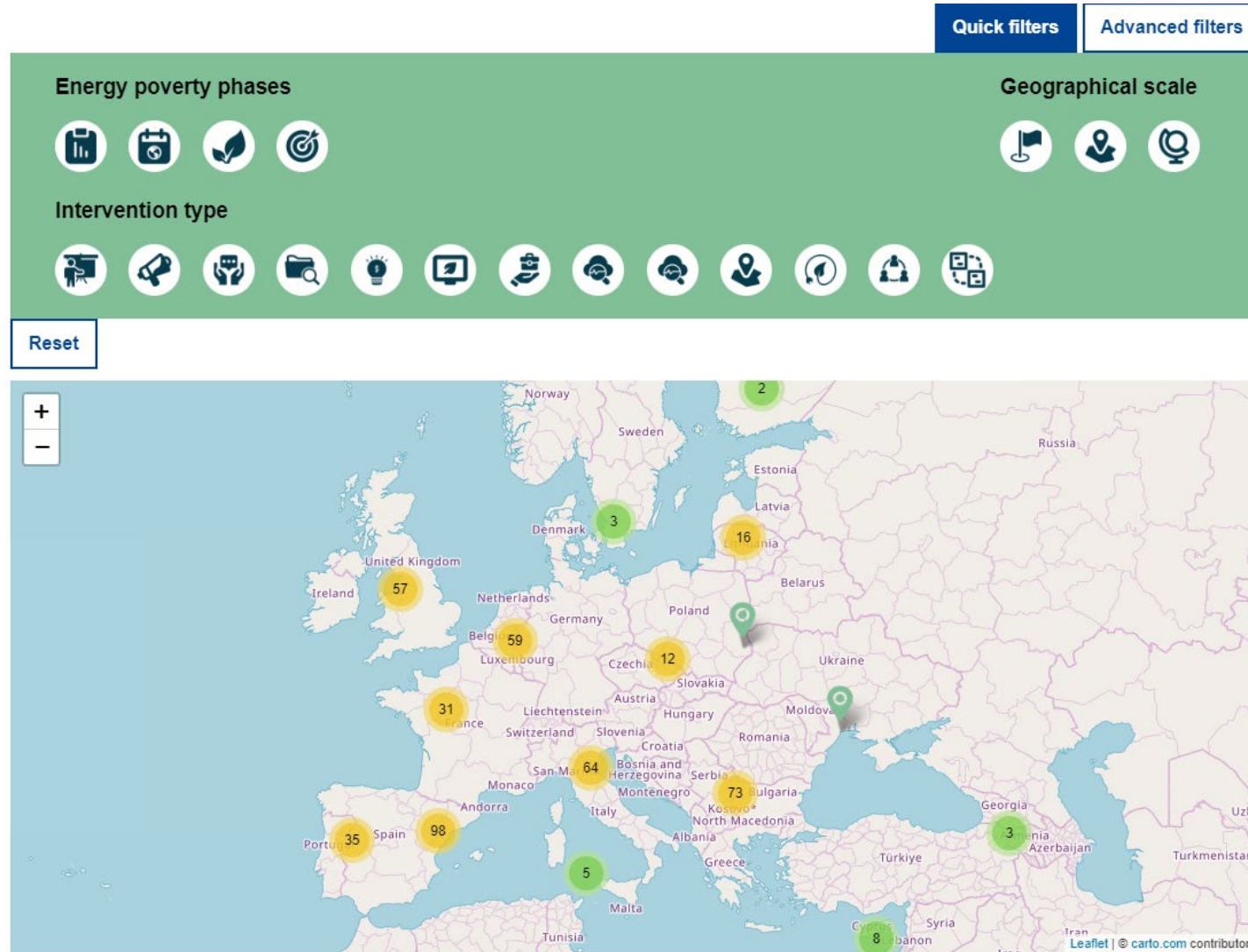


EPAH Milan Technical Assistance, Results





Database of cases - EPAH ATLAS



energy-poverty.ec.europa.eu/discover/epah-atlas

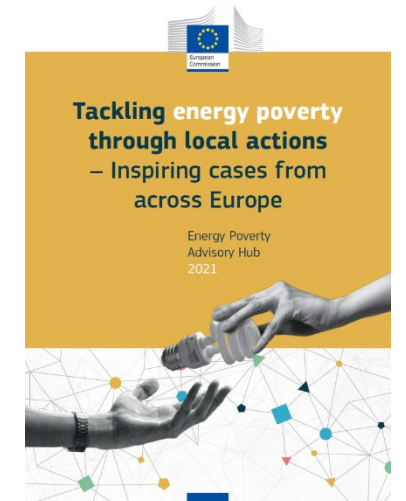
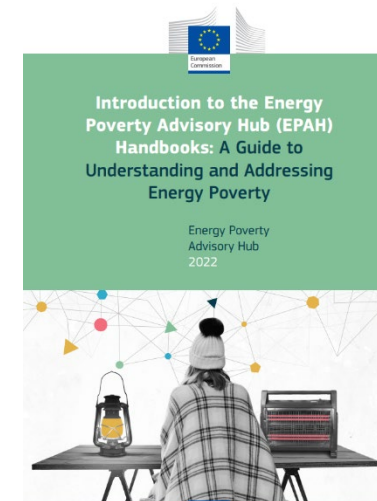
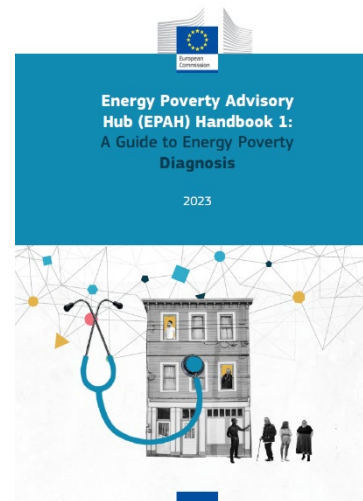
Capacity building

3 ONLINE COURSES

- 3 free open online courses developed suitable for all levels of knowledge
- Self-paced
- Include presentations from experts, interviews with practitioners and interactive activities

elearning.energy-poverty.eu

PUBLICATIONS



Browse by topics

Climate Facilities/housing Mobility Socio-economic aspects

Clear selection

View data Browse data by indicator Data source Disaggregate data by

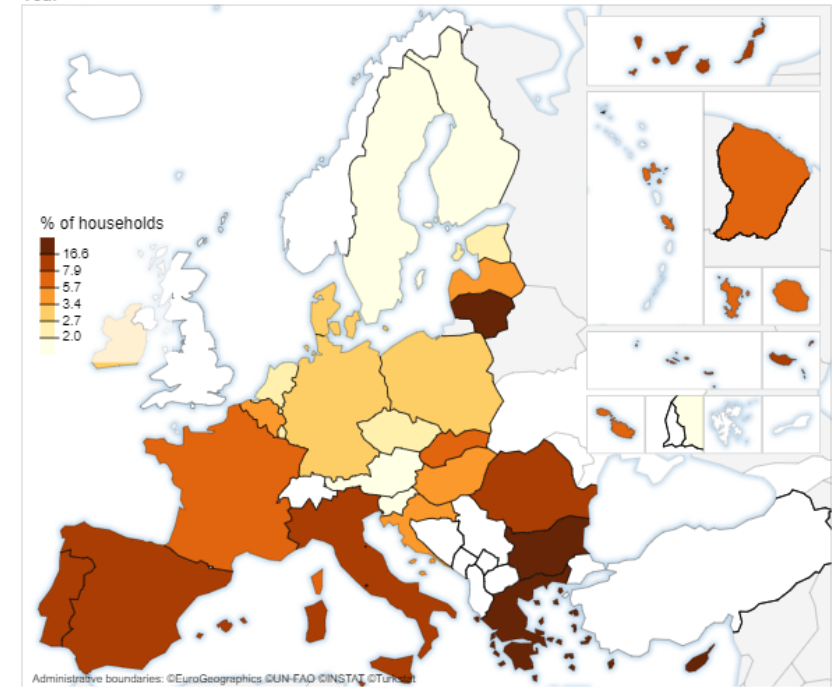
by indicator by country Inability to keep hom... EUROSTAT Househ... No disaggregation

Inability to keep home adequately warm

No disaggregation - Country average

The inability to keep home adequately warm indicator represents the share of (sub-) population /households not able to keep their home adequately warm, based on the question "Can your household afford to keep its home adequately warm?".

Year 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Unit % of households OR % of population

Source EU-SILC and JRC

Last update 2021

Download
Dataset: CSV / EXCEL
Map: PNG
Map, graph and info: PDF

Compare countries

Select an item

Bear in mind
This indicator refers to an individual's perception of 'adequately' which may differ from one country to another or between age-groups, etc. The indicator only refers to the warmth and does not cover summer energy poverty. The indicator does not provide information on the causes for the inability; hence it should be analyzed together with other indicators, such as energy expenditures, for identifying potential causes. [Learn more](#)

Research results: the national indicators database

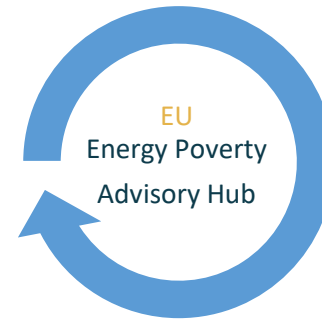
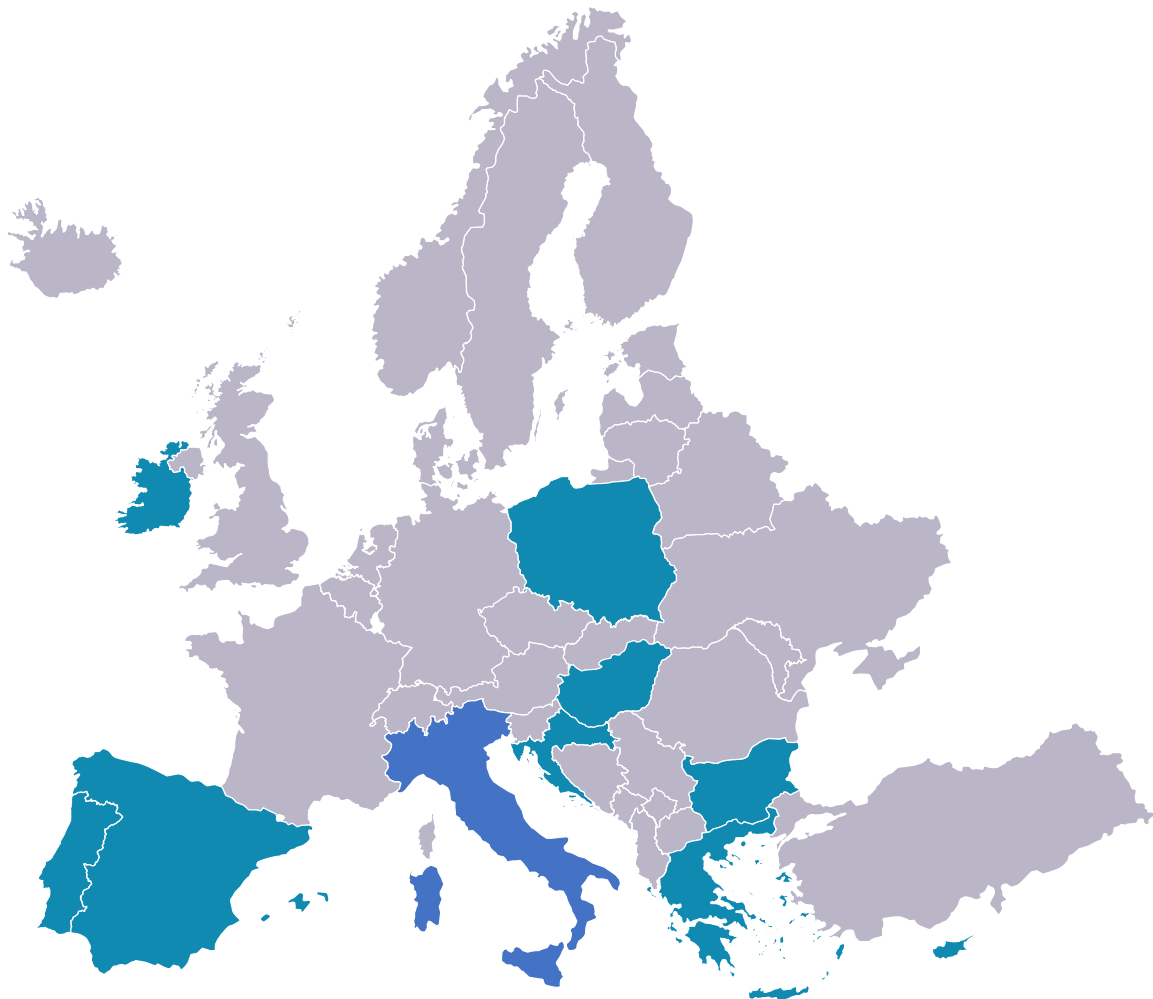
- Classified into four primary topics aligned with the guidelines of the Covenant of Mayors on energy poverty indicators at the local level (CoM, 2022)
- 29 indicators
- Data source: EU-wide datasets (EUROSTAT, EU-SILC, JRC)
- Analysis of the indicator including their definition, constraints, practical applications with examples, and insightful analysis of their significance.

Network engagement

- International conferences – onsite (latest in Warsaw 2023: 330 participants from 23 countries)
- National events in 11 countries
- Lunch talks and webinars



Form of collaboration for input



Challenges and solutions



CHALLENGES

- Policy and regulatory challenges
- Lack of technical, human & economic resources
- Lack of technical
- Lack or Limited & complicated funding
- Behavioral and cultural factors
- Poor housing quality
- Data and monitoring
- Difficult to engage the political will



SOLUTIONS

- Collect data of the households at local level
- Creating condition for citizen participation
- One Stop Shops
- Educate on energy poverty
- General overview of the possible measures, stakeholders & actions
- Visibility of regulatory framework
- Detailed definition of strategic documents
- Soft loans for households

Policy ideas



POLICY IDEAS

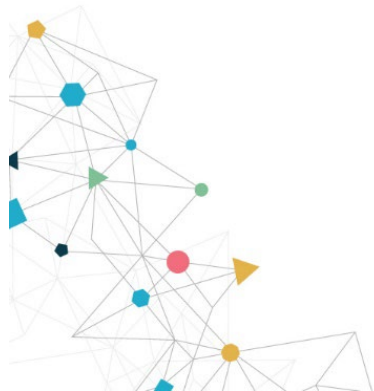
- Empowering local authorities as key stakeholders
- Empower citizens through energy literacy, clear information and step by step support
- Involve citizens in policy implementation and tailor approaches
- Facilitating access to information & financial resources
- Alignment of various policies
- Integration of various sectors (e.g. energy, housing, social welfare, and health)
- Gender mainstreaming
- Facilitate the relationship with utilities to share their datasets
- Development of interactive databases (with standard methodologies)

Upcoming - Policy Conference

“Empowering Local Governments: Bridging Policy and Practice in Tackling Energy Poverty”

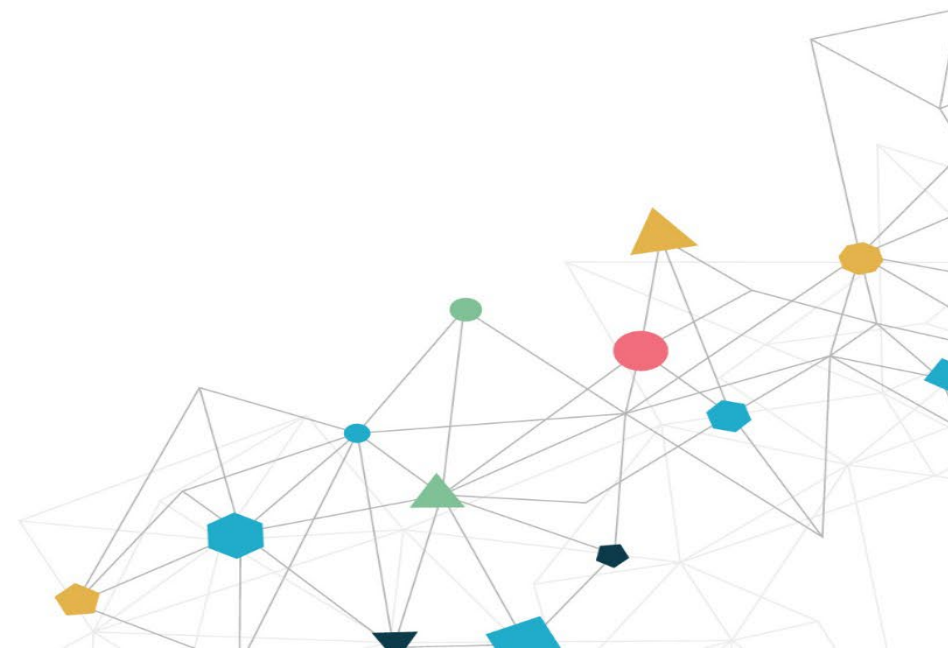
co-organised with the European Parliament.

10 April 2024, 14:00 CEST



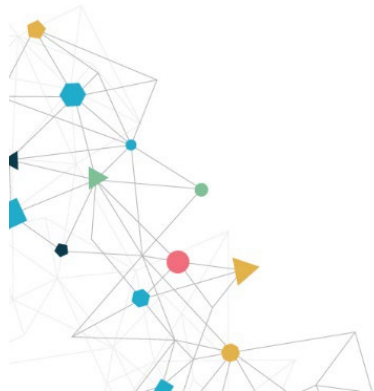
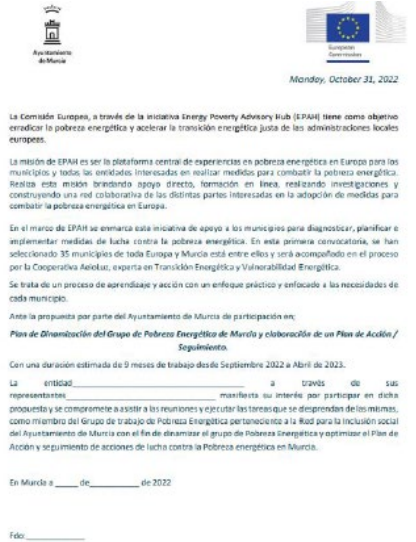


Other TA examples



Murcia (Spain)- objectives

- Part of the Action that the City Council have been implementing since 2017 in the Energy and Water Poverty Group.
- A process of accompanying the Energy Poverty group



Results – Murcia (Spain)

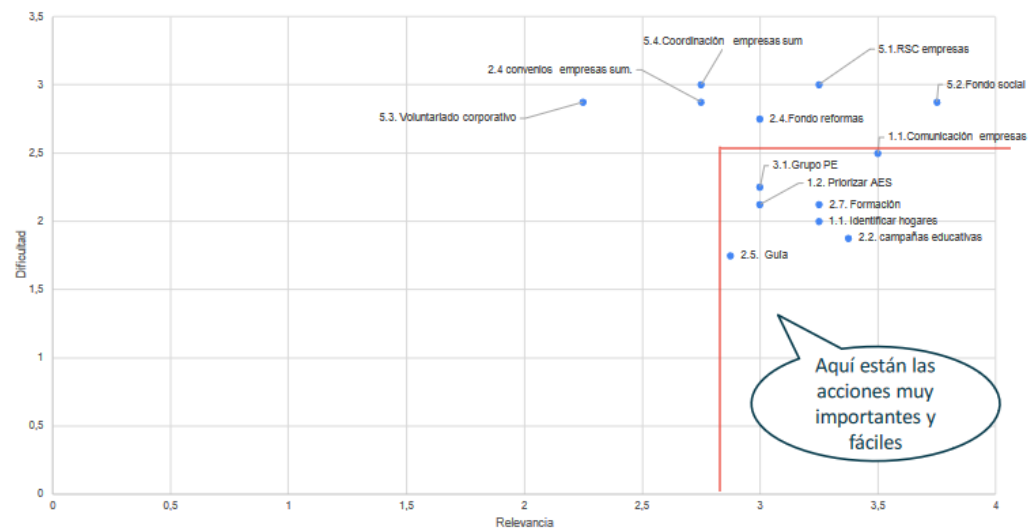
4. Formación y transferencia de conocimiento.

2 formaciones: técnicos municipales y a entidades del grupo PE. (31 personas)
Entrega de materiales.
Cuestionario de evaluación de la formación



- Increased capacity
- Indicators identified
- Planning of priority action

Matriz de materialidad



Lorca (Spain)- objectives

➤ **The assessment** of the situation of energy poverty

➤ Use of qualitative methodologies

- Interviews
- * Questionnaires
- * Panel of experts
- * Participatory walkabout

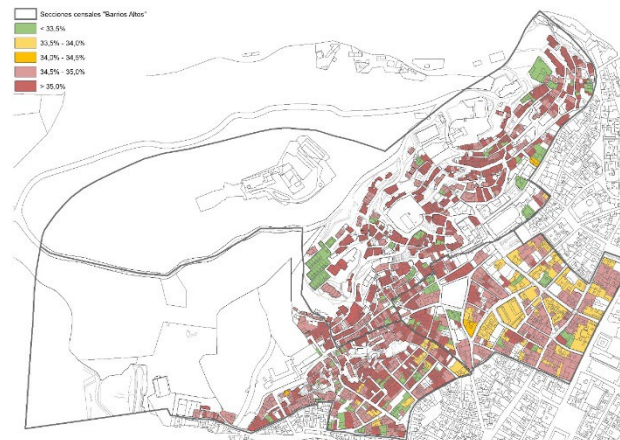
➤ Use of quantitative methodologies

- * Climate characterisation
- * Cadastral studies
- * Injury analysis and invoice analysis



Recommendations after the TA – Lorca (Spain)

- **Incorporate the health perspective**
- **Include a specific focus in the renovation of buildings**
- **Raise awareness of fire hazards** in homes with obsolete electrical installations.
- **Technical training on energy issues to advise households.**
- **Detection of free areas that can potentially be offered as a climatic refuge.**



Recommendations after the TA – Lorca (Spain)

- Urban conditions; accessibility; watertightness and insulation; structural safety and fire safety.
- **Audit lighting, ventilation and sunlighting.** Ensure habitability conditions; monitor aspects of habitability and comfort in housing.
- **Define tenure of dwellings and ensure tenants' rights.**



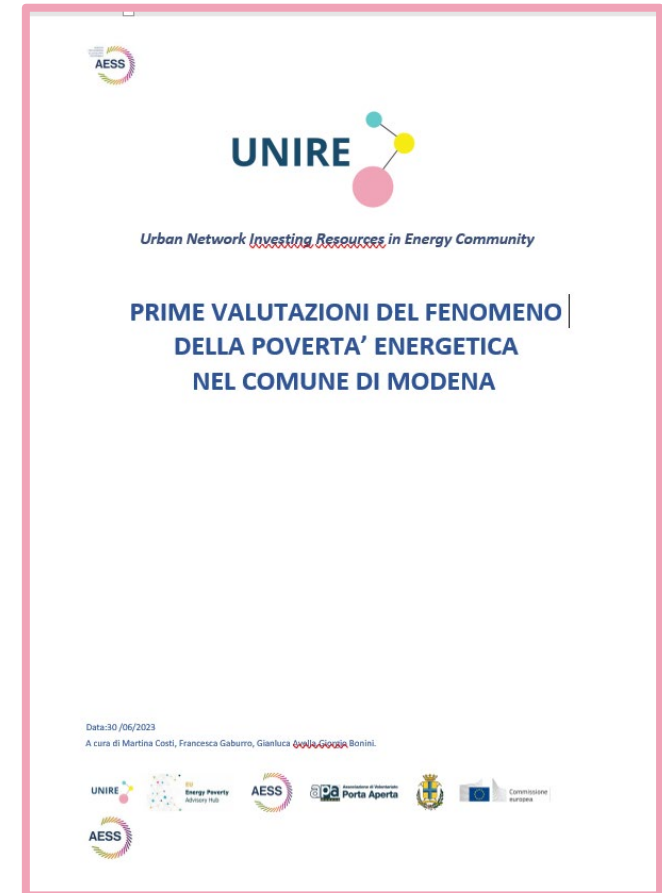
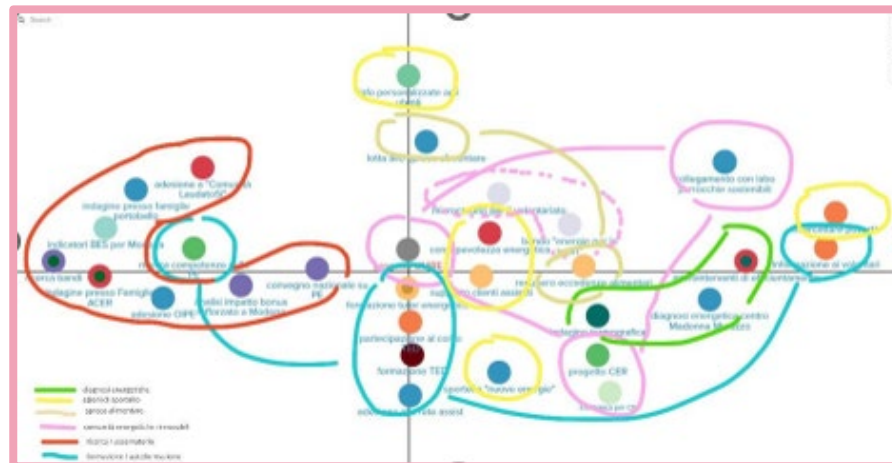
Objectives – Modena (Italy)

- **Understanding** the dimension of energy poverty and diagnosing the problem in the city of Modena
- **Mapping** local stakeholders and initiatives addressing the problem
- Carry out a **survey** on energy poverty in a neighbourhood of the city of Modena to set-up the energy community
- Analysing the **social context and the technical characteristics for the energy community**



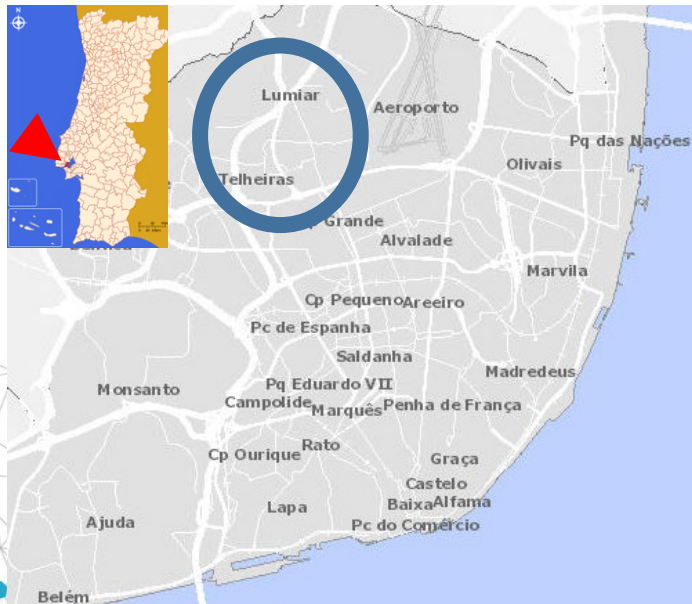
Results – Modena (Italy)

- Detailed report on the problem of energy poverty in Modena
- Information on stakeholders and activities implemented
- Analysis of the technical and financial characteristics of the energy community
- Signature of the Protocol on energy poverty with all local actors



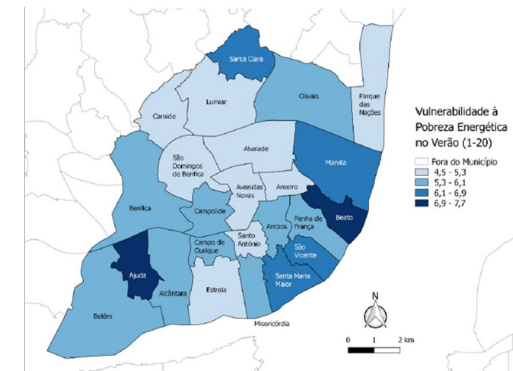
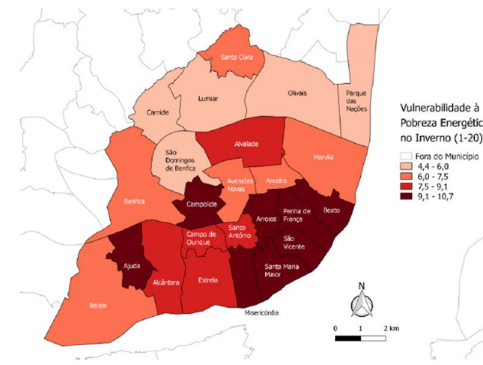
Results – Technical assistance to Lumiar (Portugal)

- Goal: setting-up one of the first citizen-led and inclusive renewable energy communities in Portugal with the goals of tackling energy poverty and promoting energy democracy.
- Consortium: Lumiar Civil Parish, Local Partnership of Telheiras, Coopérnico, CENSE FCT-NOVA.
- Duration of the technical assistance: from October 2022 to July 2023.



Results – Technical assistance to Lumiar (Portugal)

- Conducting an energy poverty vulnerability diagnosis
- Sizing renewable energy systems (1 civil parish, 13 local families, 3 energy-poor families).
- Developing an inclusive financial and operational model



Results – Technical assistance to Lumiar (Portugal)

- Defining internal regulations for the energy community
- Communicating with citizens and recruiting participants
- Identifying and engaging energy-poor families
- Starting the licensing process with the national authority.



Results – Ampelokipi-Menmeni (Greece)

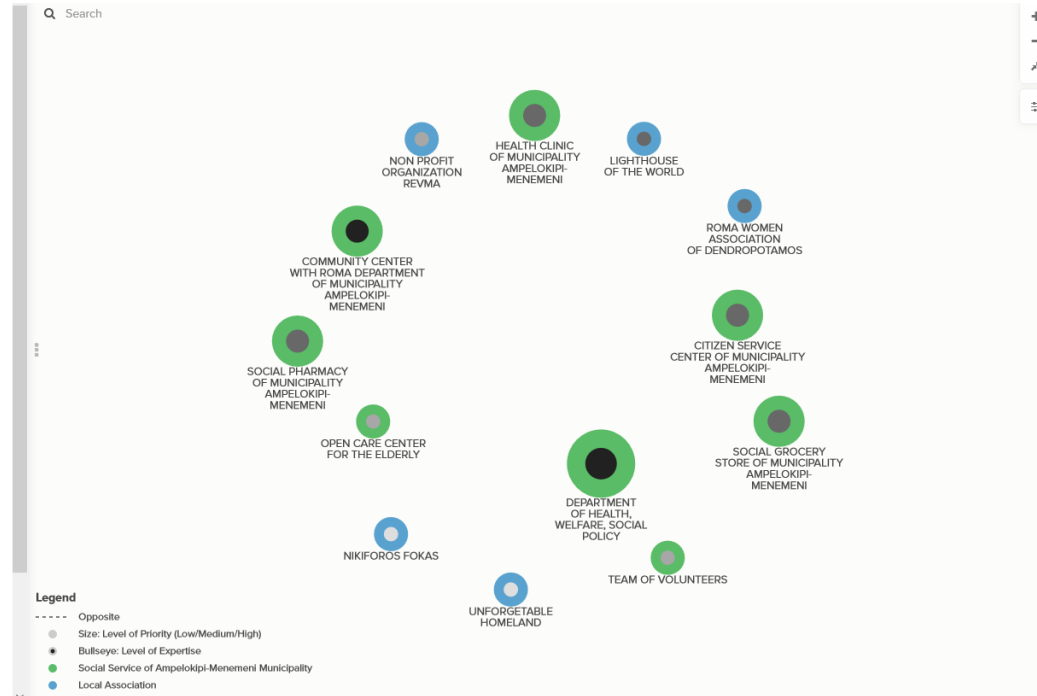
Overview Discussions

Energy Poverty TA - Municipality of Ampelokipi-Menmeni

The municipality of Ampelokipi-Menmeni, in collaboration with the Process Equipment Design Laboratory (PEDL) of the Aristotle University of, will receive direct support to develop the diagnosis of energy poverty. The expert organisation INZEB will provide 9 months of assistance to improve internal capacity of the whole diagnosis process and help municipal staff to develop methodological approach for recording and mapping energy poverty.

How to use the map.

The concept behind this map is easy to grasp. Each stakeholder is represented by a node. The node is then colored differently, according to the classification the stakeholders were given. Specifically, the stakeholders that belong to the category of Social Service of Ampelokipi-Menmeni Municipality are colored green, while the ones belonging to Local Association category are colored blue. At the same time, the size of the node differs depending on whether the Stakeholder is considered to be of Low, Medium or High priority for the project. The bullseye in the center of the node represents the technical skills the stakeholder has in relation to the technical requirements of the project, the darker the shade of the bullseye, the more expert



- Stakeholder mapping
- Survey and interviews performed
- Planning of new actions