



EU Local Initiative to tackle  
Energy poverty

# ENERGY POVERTY ADVISORY HUB

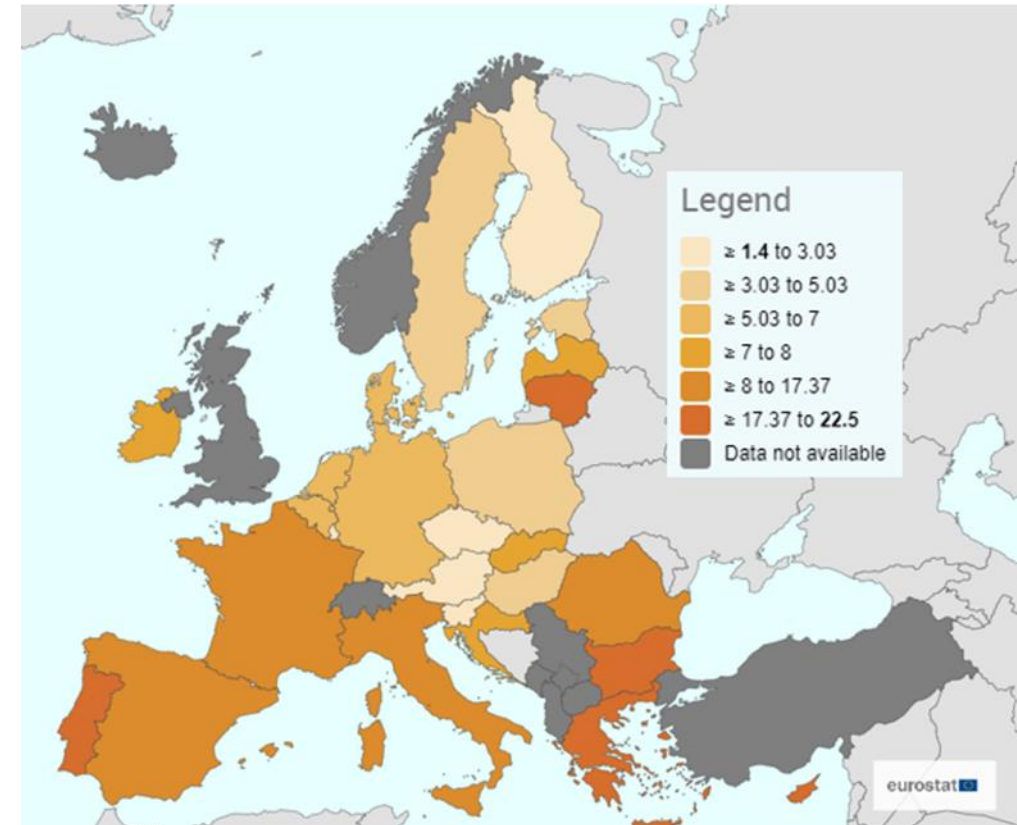
*Ion Liviu STOCHITA, DG ENER, Unit B1*

*European Commission*

*[Ion.stochita@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Ion.stochita@ec.europa.eu)*

# State of play in the EU

- **9,3% of population unable to keep dwelling adequately warm (2022)**
- **6.9% of population presented arrears on utility bills,** reflecting the inability to face high energy costs compared to income (2022)
- Between 2019 and 2022, on average across Member States:
  - the share of energy expenditure in overall household spending increased by more than one third (relative change of 34%) (*transport fuel costs excluded*)
  - low-income groups spent on average 10-13% more on energy compared to the highest income groups
- **16.7% of population reported living in a dwelling with leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames/floors (2021)**



# Challenges

- The energy crisis brought the issue to the forefront
- Too early to draw conclusions – much of the legal framework is not yet transposed
- For some Member States, until now, energy poverty is seen as a general poverty issue, which is addressed exclusively through social policy – **move from ensuring affordability to tackling energy poverty at its root causes**
- Energy poverty not yet addressed in all the NECPs – reporting is thus also not adequate for all Member States.
- lack of timely data collection and effective multilevel governance coordination (role of local, regional and national authorities in tackling energy poverty)
- Identification of energy poverty crucial for the development of (national) Social Climate Plans to access funding under the Social Climate Fund.

# Approved legislation, not yet transposed

- **Recast Energy Efficiency directive, transposition deadline within 2 years of publication**
- **Social Climate Fund**
- **Recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive**

## Legislation in inter-institutional negotiations

- **Review of Electricity Directive:** proposal put forward in March 2023

# Commission support to Member States and local communities

- Recommendation on energy poverty
- Coordination group on energy poverty and vulnerable consumers with Member States established in 2022
- Identification of energy poverty – Commission guidance on identification in 2020 and technical assistance/training has been made available through Energy Poverty Advisory Hub

# The Covenant Community has a growing political commitment to act on energy poverty and EPAH is providing the tools, examples and expertise to fulfil these local political ambitions. ...**co-creating the third Covenant Pillar**

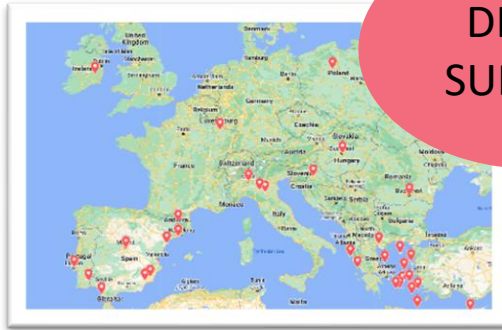
- Set up in early 2021 by the Commission
- Replaces earlier Energy Poverty Observatory and assumes and further expands its functions
- Main role: technical assistance to municipalities and other local actors in designing concrete programmes to address energy poverty



# Main achievements

Direct support to 35 municipalities to tackle energy poverty.

NEW CALL FOR MUNICIPALITIES OPEN NOW!



**DIRECT SUPPORT**

**Training**

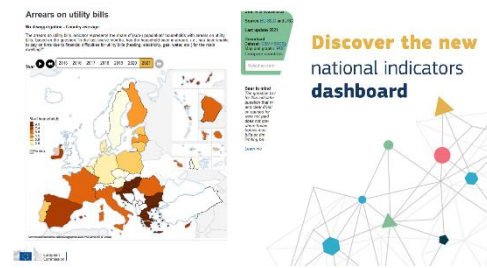
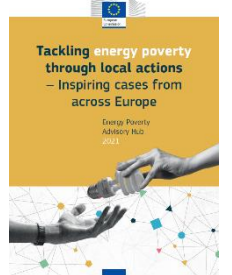
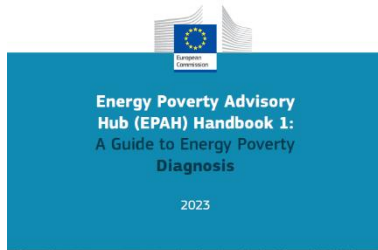
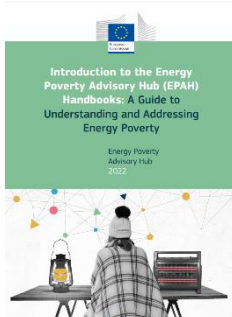


**NEW COURSE**

**Energy poverty in Europe: From policy framework to integration in local action plans**

New extended on-line course for municipalities available

**LEARNING MATERIAL**



**NETWORKING**



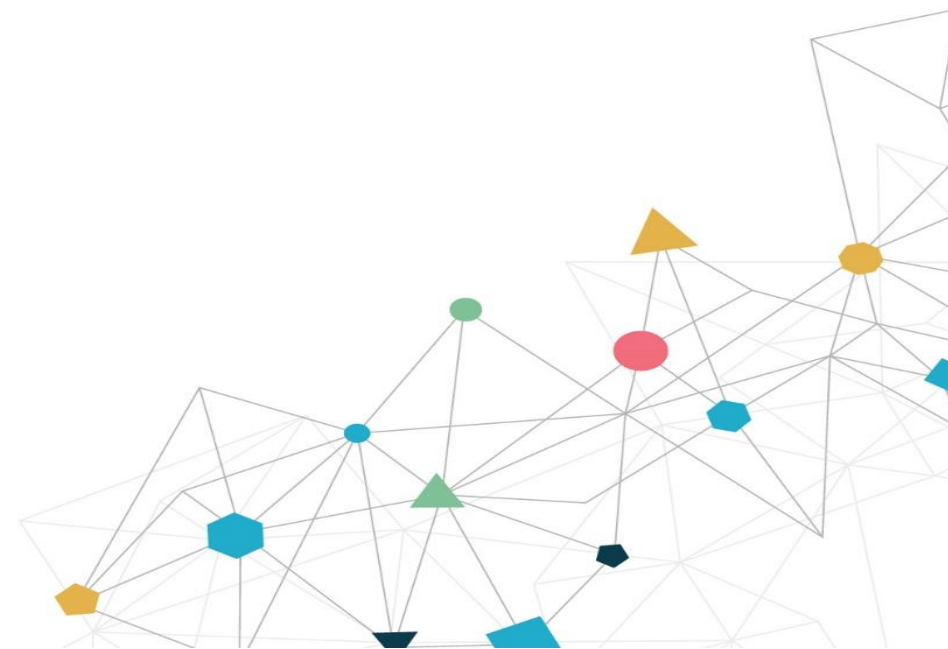
- EU wide
  - National
  - Regional
- exchange of experiences

**The EPAH lunch talk series**

Sharing experiences among key stakeholders across Europe to tackle energy poverty



# EPAH Technical Assistance in Rural Areas







# GRAND CHAMBORD & BEAUCE VAL DE LOIRE, France

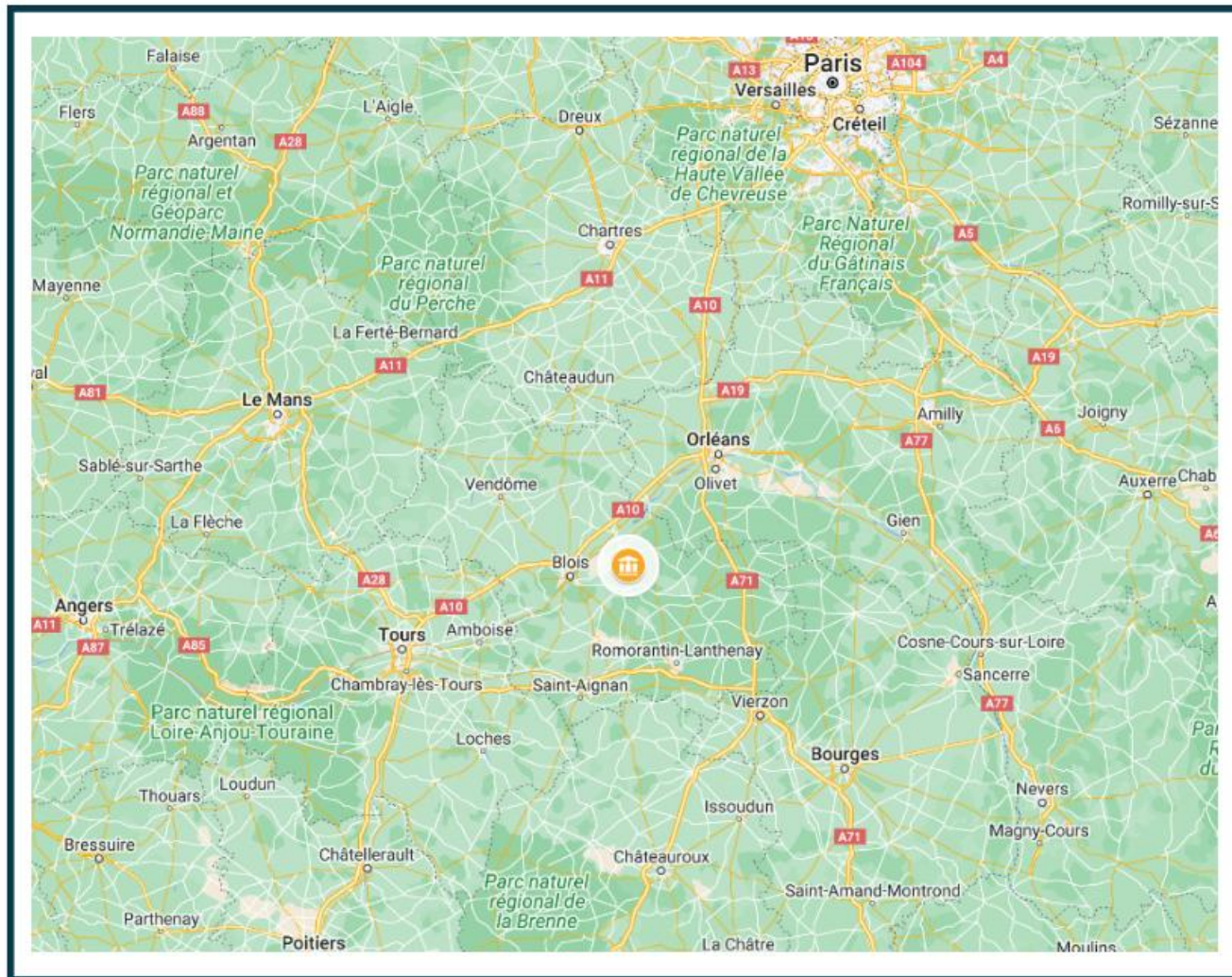


Grand Chambord and Beauce Val de Loire have around 20,710 and 19,882 inhabitants, respectively. The levels of energy poverty in Grand Chambord are around 21.40% and 24.40% in Beauce Val de Loire. These two supra municipalities created the “Entente intercommunautaire” to mix their competences and work together on different activities.

“Maison de l’Habitat Grand Chambord Beauce Val de Loire” is a proximity public service that aims to facilitate the life of the residents by replying to their questions about their houses and by providing advice on different fields (e.g. juridic, urbanism, thermal renovation, home adaptation, energy poverty etc.). The Maison de l’Habitat is not only an information point but also provides free support to residents.

Two running programmes provide additional subsidies for renovating houses, connecting professionals working on thermal renovation, and contributing to growing communication around energy transition.

With the assistance of EPAH, the supramunicipalities wish to **increase the number of people getting support** and address energy poverty in the rural countryside. The supra municipalities aim to **diagnose energy poverty** in the area and further develop tailored solutions.

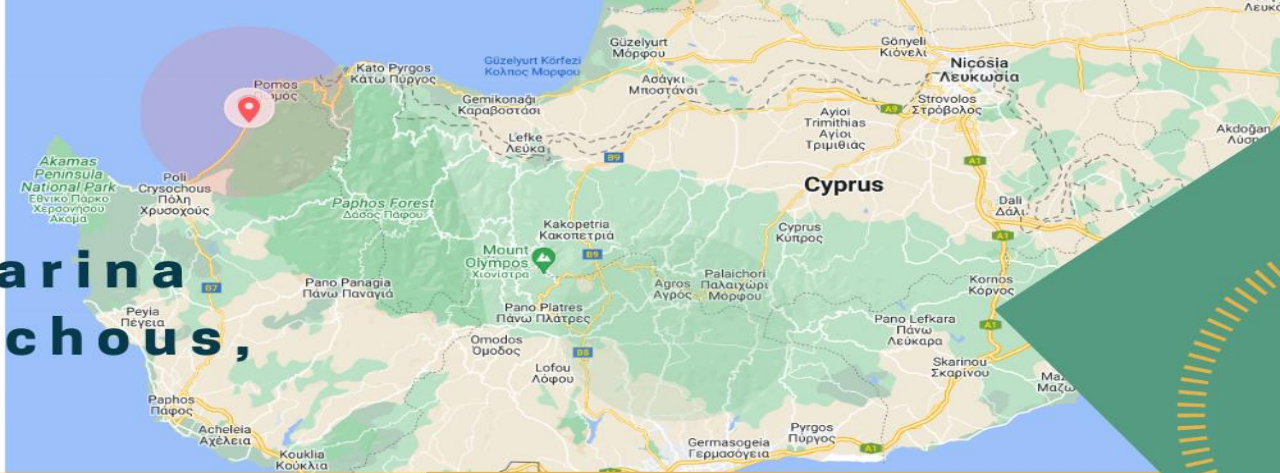




# Planning for



## Aya Marina Chrysochous, Cyprus



### Energy poverty phase



Diagnosis



Planning

### Intervention type



Data analysis



Communication and awareness



Capacity building

### Professionals involved

Members of local government  
Technicians

### Sustainable development goals

1



3



7



11



17



Aya Marina is a community in Paphos. It is situated 14km northeast of Poli Chrysochous and is built at an average altitude of 190m. Most of the population is employed in other villages or cities, while working in the agriculture sector in their community. The community consists of around 350 households of about 700 permanent residents but, due to its touristic nature, in the summer the residents are almost doubled.

The local authority carried out a survey regarding the living (& heating) conditions in the community, which revealed an issue with thermal comfort. The elderly represent around 20% of the permanent population and are mostly affected. They often live in inadequate buildings which lack energy-efficient equipment and suffer from extremely high and low temperatures due to levels of disabilities and health issues and their lack of knowledge on how to improve their thermal comfort.

The experience of the local authority in assisting & supporting the elderly showed that this resident group has limited understanding of the overall impact of their energy consumption. Therefore, the local authority needs technical assistance to become a hub of information, awareness-raising and capacity building for tackling energy poverty for all residents and especially the elder population.

The technical assistance aims to empower the local municipality, strengthen their understanding of the local context and support them in the identification of possible future actions to implement focused on rural areas.



# Thank you

Website [energy-poverty.ec.europa.eu](http://energy-poverty.ec.europa.eu)

Helpdesk [info@energypoverty.eu](mailto:info@energypoverty.eu)

Twitter [twitter.com/EPAH\\_EU](https://twitter.com/EPAH_EU)

Newsletter <https://bit.ly/EPAH-newsletter>

Project coordination: [ENER-B1-SECRETARIAT-1@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ENER-B1-SECRETARIAT-1@ec.europa.eu)

Contact person Ion Liviu Stochita, policy officer/SNE [ion.stochita@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ion.stochita@ec.europa.eu)

