



SocialWatt utilities have successfully contributed to the fight against energy poverty!



EVENT

SocialWatt Final Conference - Meeting need with ambition: Boosting energy efficiency to alleviate rising energy poverty in Europe

of energy poverty. This reinforces the need for a Just Transition leaving no one behind, as promoted with the new provisions on energy poverty in the proposed recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive. The final conference of the Horizon 2020 project SocialWatt will share experience in designing and implementing energy efficiency schemes to alleviate energy poverty, and will discuss how to address three key challenges to scale up support to the energy poor, which is particularly important as needs grow. The event also includes a workshop that focuses on monitoring and evaluating schemes, jointly organized with the Horizon 2020 project streamSAVE.

The event will take place on 16 March 2023 and it will be a hybrid event, in Brussels and online.

Agenda:

- Opening – energy efficiency to alleviate energy poverty: European context and experience with Veronika Jirickova (European Commission - DG ENER), Talia Brun Marcen, (European Commission - CINEA), Andriana Stavarakaki (ICCS, coordinator of SocialWatt)
- First panel: Designing and implementing schemes to alleviate energy poverty: how to make them effective and grow with Ester Sevilla (NATURGY / SocialWatt project), Sara Casas (Red Cross Spain), Dimitra Drakaki (Energy Poverty Advisory Hub), Diana Yordanova (Housing Europe / POWERPOOR project), Hande Barlin (Gebze Technical University / Zero Discrimination Association) Moderator: Jean-Sebastien Broc (IEECP / SocialWatt)
- Second panel: Financing deeper energy renovations for energy poor households with Quentin Hoffer (ANAH, France), Aleksander Śniegocki (Reform Institute, Poland), Anna Bajomi (FEANTSA), Klemens Leutgöb (e-sieben / ProRetro project) Moderator: Louise Sunderland (RAP / SocialWatt)
- streamSAVE workshop: Assessing the impacts of energy efficiency schemes alleviating energy poverty with Guillermo Borragán Pedraz (VITO / streamSAVE), Katarina Trstenjak (JSI - Jozef Stefan Institute, Slovenia), Mariana Jiménez (IREC - Catalonia Energy Research Institute, Spain / EmpowerMed), Niall Dunphy, (UCC – University College Cork, Ireland / EnergyMeasures) Moderator: Kelsey van Maris (VITO / streamSAVE)

You can download the full agenda [here](#) and you can register for the event in this [link](#).

POLICY BRIEF

Policy brief on implementing the new Energy Efficiency Directive to alleviate energy poverty

The Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), one of the most important Directives for achieving the European Union's climate targets, is now under revision as part of the European Commission's proposals to

deliver the 55% carbon emissions reduction target by 2030, the REPowerEU the plan to make Europe independent of Russian fossil fuels and the European Green Deal.

SocialWatt has developed a policy brief that outlines the proposed provisions in the EED that have the potential to increase the provision of energy efficiency support to energy poor households to alleviate energy poverty. It also sets out recommendations for national implementation, for better defining and targeting energy poverty, as well as for better designing and delivering schemes for these households. You can read the policy brief [here](#).

REPORT

SocialWatt utilities Energy Poverty Action Plans

SocialWatt aims to enable energy suppliers and utilities across Europe to develop, adopt, test and spread innovative energy poverty schemes. As such, seven utilities and energy companies from Croatia (HEP ESCO), Greece (PPC), Italy (EVISO), Latvia (FORTUM), Portugal (EDP NEW) Romania (CEZ VANZARE) and Spain (NATURGY) have developed an Energy Poverty Action plan, which outlines innovative schemes and actions that they are now implementing in their respective countries to alleviate energy poverty.

The Energy Poverty Action Plans of six of the project partners can be downloaded [here](#). EDP NEW Energy Poverty Action Plan will be published soon.

REPORT

Boosting the EU energy savings obligation: Review of negotiations on Article 8 of the Energy Efficiency Directive

The recast of the EED includes significant changes to the Directive's cornerstone article on the energy savings obligation, Article 7 (now Article 8). The energy savings obligation in Article 8 requires EU Member States to trigger a certain amount of energy savings among

end users. Getting the specifics of this obligation right is vitally important for Europe's energy transition.

RAP's Marion Santini, Samuel Thomas and Louise Sunderland analysed the negotiations on Article 8 on 15 June 2022, to assess three critical requirements: the energy savings rate, the exclusion of fossil fuel technologies and the energy poverty sub-target. They identify the important issues and options for decision-makers who are looking to align the Energy Efficiency Directive with climate neutrality, energy security and equity goals. You can read more [here](#).

POLICY BRIEF

The EED Energy Savings Obligation and Energy Poverty Alleviation

SocialWatt and [ENSMOV](#), two projects funded under Horizon 2020, have jointly developed a policy brief for national authorities, energy and social policy experts and advocates. This policy brief provides an overview of the new requirement under the energy savings obligation in the EC's recast proposal for a revised EED, and explains how the shares are calculated for each Member State. It then focusses on the policy measure that contributes the most to the aggregate achievement of the energy savings obligation target, the Energy Efficiency Obligation Schemes (EEOSs). Finally, the briefing shares lessons from countries where EEOSs are used to alleviate energy poverty. The policy brief is available to download [here](#).

EVENT

SocialWatt webinars on how energy efficiency schemes can tackle energy poverty



Energy efficiency schemes to tackle energy poverty

The SocialWatt project organised a series of webinars to discuss how energy efficiency schemes can tackle energy poverty, especially in the context of the Article 7 of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)

This [first webinar](#) provided an update about the current proposal for the EED recast, and discussed what can be learnt from the available experience in this field.

This [second webinar](#) provided an overview of the Analyzer SocialWatt Tool developed for the project, presented the French and Italian observatory on energy poverty along with the Belgian barometer on energy and water poverty.

This [third webinar](#) provided an overview of the Lessons learnt from the SocialWatt plans and what can be done for Member States to scale up their energy efficiency measures tackling energy in the light of previous experiences of energy utilities, public authorities and NGOs.

EVENT

Presentation of SocialWatt in Saluzzo, Italy

On the 21st September 2022, eVISO organised in Saluzzo, Italy, the 2nd Annual Reseller Meeting. During the meeting, the results of SocialWatt were presented along with the schemes developed to energy resellers, social organisations, bank foundations and utilities. A debate followed between participants, surfacing a number of interesting conclusions. You can read more [here](#) (in Italian).

REPORT

Express Rehabilitation of energy poverty homes in Spain

Naturgy Foundation, recently presented two studies (in Spanish) that delve into the subject of Express Rehabilitation for energy poverty homes.

- 1) ["Express energy rehabilitation. Analysis and contributions of social entities"](#)

This study was prepared after more than four years carrying out low-cost retrofits, with the support of the Solidarity Fund for Energy Rehabilitation. During this time, Naturgy foundation rehabilitated more than 3,000 homes, in collaboration with over 20 social entities, benefiting approximately 31,000 people.

- 2) ["Express energy rehabilitation for vulnerable homes. Low-cost solutions"](#)

This study offers almost a hundred measures that can be implemented to improve energy

efficiency of vulnerable homes and incorporates information on new and innovative techniques in low-cost energy retrofit.

AWARD

Gold Recognition for Best Practices Award in Romania

The programme "Shelter with Energy", developed by CEZ Vanzare in Romania and implemented within the framework of SocialWatt, has been awarded the Gold Recognition for Best Practices, at the Sustainable Cities Category, in the Community Index competition.

The pilot phase of "Shelter with Energy", aimed to reach energy-poor households and alleviate energy poverty by providing communities with financial support to adopt the best solutions and raise awareness on energy poverty. The programme launched a competition, between May and December 2022 in consultation with NGO stakeholders and organised in partnership with CSR Nest Association, where ideas were proposed for innovative social projects with a medium and long-term impact, as well as for improving comfort inside homes (by increasing energy efficiency, energy renovation, supporting the payment of bills, providing smart meters, connection aid, green energy promotion etc.). The winning project of Vasiliada Association – Targu Jiu branch, equipped the homes of 15 children from single-parent families with

appliances designed to increase households energy efficiency and comfort. Find out more in [this video](#).

EVENT

Creative Awareness Raising on Energy Poverty Alleviation

The Regulatory Assistance Project, presented its project's work and findings at the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy's Summer Study conference in June 2022. The poster presentation was accompanied by a recording of the song composed by the authors on energy poverty alleviation in the Energy Efficiency Directive, to the tune of the Beatles' song "Let it Be". The poster won the conference prize for best use of humour. The song also won the approval of the conference choir (an impromptu group that formed during the week) which sang it, with audience participation, at the closing plenary.

Just one more way that the SocialWatt project is raising awareness on energy poverty alleviation. Find out more [here](#).

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