

Challenges in monitoring and assessing impacts of energy efficiency measures to alleviate energy poverty

Background studies for the development of measures to combat energy poverty in Slovenia

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Energy poverty- recent situation in Slovenia

- Energy poverty in SI is addressed within **Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Energy**; important stakeholders are Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and Eco fund, Slovenian Environmental Public Fund
- Until recently (October 2022, governmental regulation) there was no definition of energy poverty
- *Now: (1) **Energy poverty is a situation in which a household whose income is below the poverty risk threshold is unable to meet its basic energy needs due to inadequate living conditions or the inability to meet these needs at affordable prices or the low energy efficiency of living spaces. Basic energy needs include the costs of heating, sanitary water preparation, cooling, cooking and lighting.***
- *(2) Energy poverty is also the state in which a household is in, whose cost of energy use represents a large proportion of expenses in relation to the available income of this household.*

- The **Eco Fund** offers a number of measures to reduce energy poverty:
 - Among them 100 % of the subsidy for certain investments in the renovation of residential buildings (multi-apartment buildings)
 - thermal insulation of the roof and/or ceiling;
 - thermal insulation of the facade;
 - installation of energy-efficient windows and/or front doors;
 - replacing the hot water preparation system with a water heater with solar energy receivers;
 - replacing an inefficient hot water preparation system with a heat pump water heater;
 - installation of local ventilation by returning heat from waste air;
 - 100 % of the subsidy for replacement of old individual heating devices with new biomass heating devices (as well as in multi-apartment residential buildings- 100 % subsidies for exchange of old heating boilers)
 - Impacts are evaluated in a **same way as for non energy poor households** (national catalogue)

- ZERO500; financial subsidies for 500 households for example: isolation of walls, floors, roof, window change, change of inefficient heating systems... (5 mio EUR)
- ZERO; free consulting from energy consultants for energy poor households (small package for reducing energy consumption)
- Effects from ZERO500 and ZERO are not monitored, impacts on GHG emissions and energy use are not evaluated
- *thermal insulation of the roof and/or ceiling; thermal insulation of the facade; installation of energy-efficient windows and/or front doors; and visits from energy consultants were adressed with streamSAVE (tool was presented to the stakeholders)*

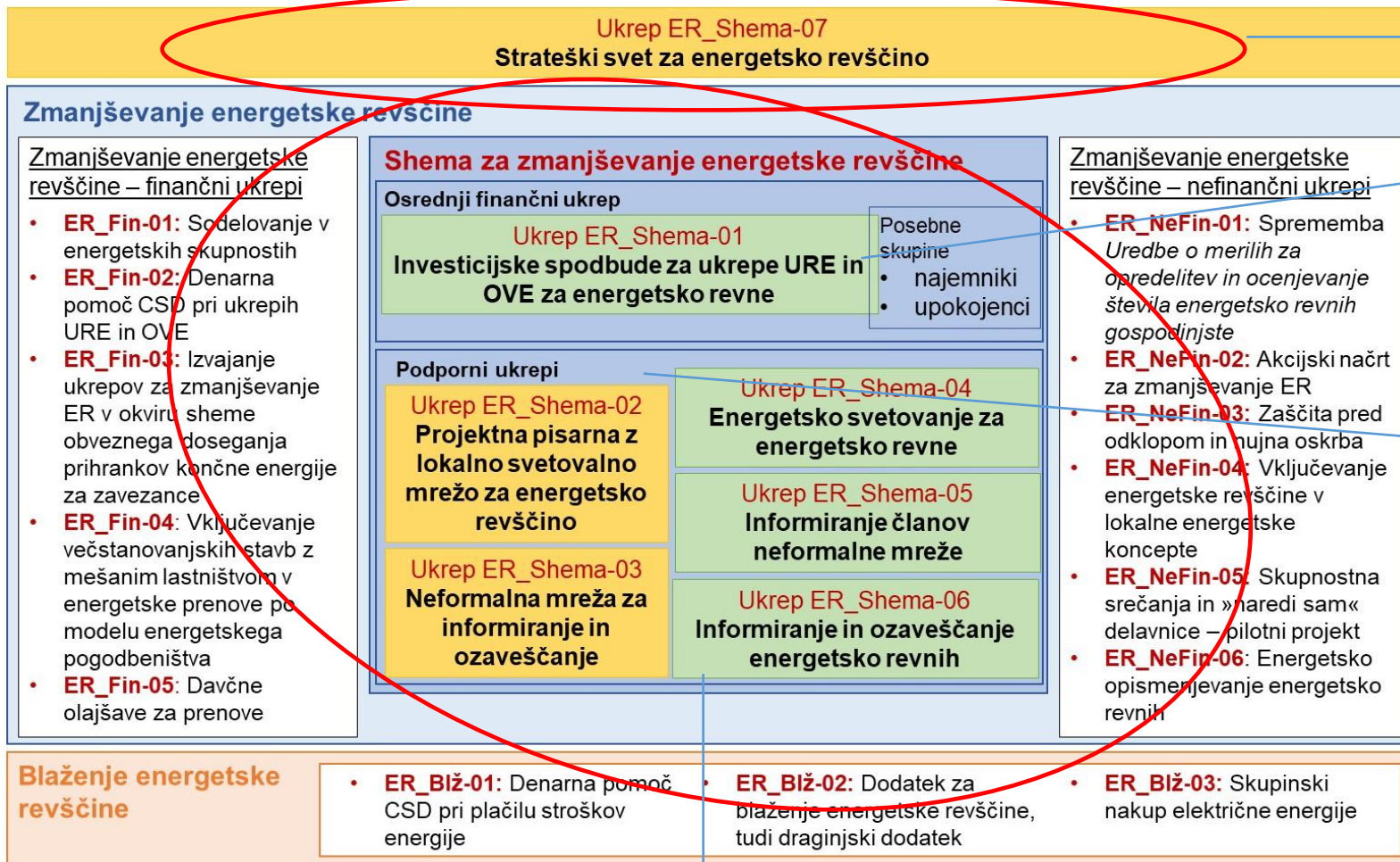
Ongoing developement on Energy poverty in Slovenia

- Project under Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Energy- aim to develop long term strategy for combation energy poverty, with relevant policies, measures, as well as monitoring system
- Duration: december 2021 – january 2023; 2 phases; 1. phase; literature review, situation in Slovenia, proposition **on definition for energy poverty and goals**; 2. phase developing measures, capacity building and policy interconnection
- »Jožef Stefan« Institute, Energy Efficiency Centre, Institute for Economic Research, FOCUS- association for sustainable developement

Preparation of proposal for energy poverty measures

- **Main starting point for its preparation**
 - **Already existing and planned measures for reduction of energy poverty in Slovenia** (NECP, Long term strategy for building renovation 2050)
 - **Stakeholder experiences with current measures** (work meetings, interviews, workshops)
 - Literature review of measures in other countries in EU and broader (17 countries, 12 EU)
- **Structure of measures**
 - Measures for mitigation energy poverty
 - Measures to **reduce** energy poverty (organisational, financial, non financial)
 - Main stakeholders: **MECE, MLFCE, Eco fund**

Proposal of energy poverty measurements; energy poverty scheme



Strategic council for energy poverty

Main financial measure; investment subsidies for energy efficiency and renewable energy measures for energy poor people

Support measures: project office with local consulting network; informal network for information and awareness raising among energy poor households, informing members of informal network, informing and awareness raising among energy poor people

Establishing Scheme in 2 Phases: one pilot project in two regions, then full operation – from 2017 onwards

Challenges faced – assessing impacts

- Methodology for assessing impacts of measures; good data is crucial! Questionnaire for energy poor households before and after the measures, also questionnaire for control group (not receiving measures); **difficult to gather data; specific group of people, vulnerable people, hard to gain trust, to let people in (also predicted in measures: also to study the option to assess the situation 6 months or 1 year after the implementation of measures-renovation)**
- Big houses (80 % of apartments in SLO is owned), people living in (too) big houses-countryside, (just one person); impacts?
- Crumbling buildings, people do not want to move; what to do?
- Priority is **to improve quality of living, living standards, health condition**, to get the help to the people that need it; assessing impacts on energy savings and GHG emissions is not the priority

Other challenges

- Urgent need for interconnection of energy and social policies! And working together
- Capacity building! On ministries, other institutions
- How to include people (energy poor) that are tenants. Ideas?
- Guarantee constant financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy measures (investment subsidies)
- Addressing other policies; general housing policy, health, inequality....

What is next?

- **Inclusion of energy poverty in NECP**

Objectives (and indicators for their monitoring), framework of measures, conditions for their long-term implementation, financing...

- **Preparation of Action Plan (until June 2023)**

In a way that it will actually help in implementation of measures, to ensure that the Scheme will be established, and also to make other measure to life; **key question who, what, how, until when**

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Thank you for your attention!

Hvala za pozornost!

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Namen projekta

- Razviti **dolgoročno strategijo** boja proti energetske revščini z ustreznimi, trajnostno naravnanimi politikami in ukrepi, vključno s **spremljanjem izvajanja**
- Podpreti **prenos odgovornosti** za reševanje energetske revščine **na raven odločevalcev na nacionalni ravni**
- **Spodbuditi komunikacijo, povezovanje in sodelovanje** med deležniki, ki delujejo na področju zmanjševanja energetske revščine
- Začeti z **umeščanjem** energetske revščine v **širši kontekst relevantnih politik** (energetske, podnebne, socialne, razvojne, stanovanjske, zdravstvene ...)