

Mentor programme for tackling energy poverty



Municipality of Józsefváros Hungary



Energy poverty phase



Diagnosis



Planning

Intervention type



Data analysis



Communication



Capacity building



Policy support

Professionals involved

Members of local government

Social workers

Technicians

Sustainable development goals

1

NO POVERTY



3

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



7

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



17

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



The Municipality of Józsefváros (8th district of Budapest) has a population of 77 000 people and 46 242 households. Most of them live in multi-family buildings. The heating season starts in October and ends in April. Despite the Hungarian measures of control on energy prices, winter still puts pressure on low-income households, mostly on those who live in inefficient, 100-year-old (or older) buildings. Moreover, many buildings are protected as historic ones, which makes energy retrofitting and other interventions complicated to be performed.

In Budapest, around 90 000 households are estimated to be affected by energy poverty and according to the latest social figures related to Józsefváros, more than 10% of the local inhabitants live in extreme poverty. Social vulnerability after COVID-19 waves has become even worse since 37% of the inhabitants are existentially affected by the epidemic.

The objective of the municipality of Józsefváros is to better understand the different types of energy poverty affecting the district. By adopting a structured approach, it will be possible to get additional information that, added to the already available data, can then guide the identification of possible policies and measures to be introduced. The data analysis is designed to also facilitate the identification of the local indicators to include energy poverty in the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP).

Municipal staff and in particular social workers will receive dedicated capacity building on how to perform qualitative and quantitative assessments and how to overcome barriers that can be present when interacting with vulnerable consumers. Based on data analysis, the expert will work jointly with the municipality to identify engagement strategies to increase awareness on energy poverty and the available services.