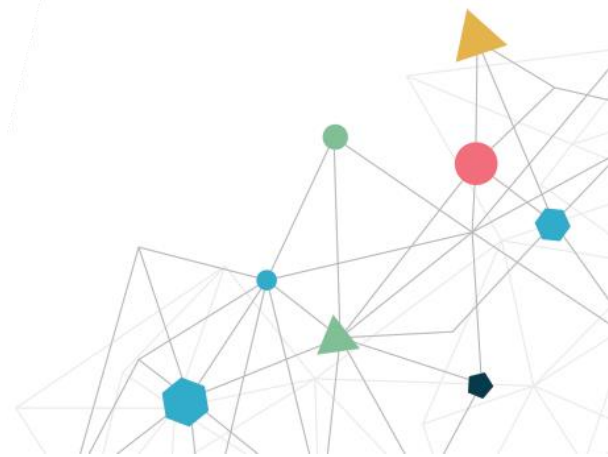




# Energy Poverty Advisory Hub Annual Conference

**Open call for  
sessions organisers**

*19-20 September 2023, Warsaw Poland*



# Event description

Organised by the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH) and the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) of the European Commission with the support of the Committee of the Regions and the Polish Network Energie-Cités (PNEC), the **Energy Poverty Advisory Hub international annual conference is taking place on 19-20 September in Warsaw, Poland**. This annual meeting promises to be a crucial gathering of local governments, policymakers, experts, and stakeholders dedicated to addressing energy poverty and fostering sustainable solutions at the local level.

The event aims to **address the transition from emergency coping mechanisms to sustainable policies and measures to reduce energy poverty for all including energy-poor and vulnerable consumers and debate on recommendations for member states and municipalities as appropriate frameworks to use in tackling energy poverty**.

National and local governments in Poland are mobilised to address energy poverty, including by applying for technical assistance to develop local actions through the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub calls. The city of Warsaw has been a frontrunner in the climate and energy transition and has made it one of its priorities to tackle energy poverty. By bringing the 2023 Energy Poverty Advisory Hub international annual conference in Warsaw, we aim to reflect on the transition from temporary emergency strategies to sustainable policies and initiatives with the objectives to:

- ▶ Put the new reality of energy poverty on the agenda at all levels of governance.
- ▶ Exchange between cities with different track records of tackling energy poverty.
- ▶ Support cities to identify and adopt long-term policies to tackle energy poverty.
- ▶ Reflect on possible EU recommendations for good practices to tackle energy poverty at the local and national levels.

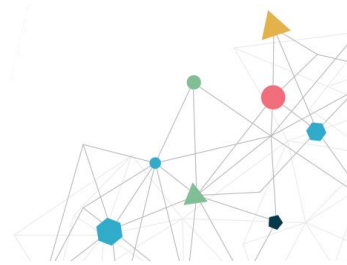
The detailed **agenda** of the event will be announced soon. Participants will be able to attend:

**High-level Opening Sessions** with interventions from influential policymakers, decision-makers, and senior representatives from EU, national and local level.

**Panel Discussions** that will be in thought-provoking debates and interactive sessions to exchange ideas, share experiences, and identify innovative approaches for tackling energy poverty.

**Workshops**. During those interactive sessions the aim is to gain practical insights, get inspired, learn and share good practices from stakeholders working on the ground.

**Site Visit** to experience firsthand the impact of successful energy poverty initiatives in Warsaw through a guided visit to a local action that has made a significant difference in its community.



**Networking Opportunities** to connect with like-minded professionals, stakeholders, and experts in the field and foster collaboration.

## Open call for session organisers

The Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH) is the leading EU initiative aiming to eradicate energy poverty and accelerate the just energy transition of European local governments. EPAH's mission is to be the central platform of energy poverty expertise in Europe for local authorities and all stakeholders interested in taking action to combat energy poverty in Europe by **building a collaborative network of stakeholders interested in taking action to combat energy poverty in Europe**.

This year, EPAH has decided to reinforce its collaborative network by **calling upon all interested entities to apply for a session under the umbrella of its annual conference**. The goal is to bring together likeminded organisations, institutions, projects, initiatives and all interested stakeholders to share their experiences and finally support local governments in their efforts to tackle energy poverty.

## Sessions' format and requirements

Interested applicants can find here information about the format and requirements for the sessions.

**Duration:** The allocated time per session will be fixed to 1 hour and 30 minutes.

### Format

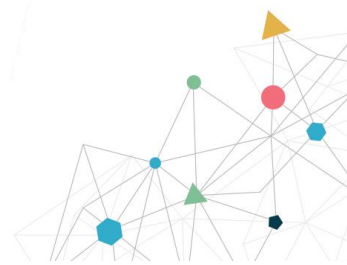
The sessions will have the format of interactive workshops. They need to be focused on showcasing experiences, good practices and tips for local governments and/or debate on policies and measures at national, regional or local level. Each session can include up to 4 speakers (including the moderator) and they need to include at least 1 interactive activity that will last minimum 30 minutes. All sessions will be held in English.

The primary audience for the conference consists of local government representatives. Therefore, session organisers are strongly encouraged to structure their proposals in a way that benefits local governments and may include practical case examples from cities and regions in action.

If you wish to present running initiatives, programmes and projects during the session, it is necessary to share tangible results, outputs and lessons learned.

### Themes

The conference is focused on planning and implementing energy poverty measures, policies and actions at all levels of governance. More specifically, the conference aims to discuss:



- ▶ recommendations for member states and municipalities as appropriate frameworks to use in tackling energy poverty.
- ▶ the transition from emergency coping mechanisms to sustainable policies and measures.
- ▶ social inclusion and upskilling for a fair energy transition.

Suggested sessions need to fit under one of the aforementioned themes.

## Who can apply

- ▶ Initiatives and consortiums of partners of EU or local projects and initiatives
- ▶ Local and regional governments
- ▶ Civil Society Organisations (NGOs)
- ▶ Academic and research institutions
- ▶ Energy agencies
- ▶ EU institutions and committees
- ▶ Private organisations
- ▶ Public organisations

**Number of partnering entities per session:** At least 2 and maximum 4 entities can partner up together to submit a session proposal.

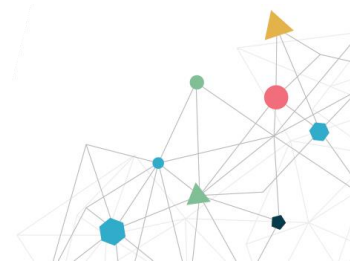
## Selection criteria

The final agenda of the conference will consist of sessions led by the event organizers as well as sessions selected through this open call. To ensure that a session proposal is successfully chosen, it must adhere to the following requirements:

**Theme relevance:** The session proposal should demonstrate a clear connection to the conference theme and its significance for local governments. It should address key challenges or opportunities that local governments face and provide valuable insights or solutions.

**Relevance to multiple stakeholders:** The session should have relevance and appeal to a broad range of stakeholders, such as local government officials, policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and community representatives. Sessions that foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among diverse participants are encouraged.

**Speakers:** The proposal should specify the number of speakers and their relevance in terms of expertise. The speakers should possess in-depth knowledge and experience related to the session's topic. Moreover, it is important to ensure a balanced representation in terms of gender among the speakers.



**Number of partnering organizations:** The proposal should indicate the involvement of partnering organizations, if any. Collaborations with relevant organizations can enhance the session's credibility, diversity of perspectives, and potential impact.

**Innovation and Novelty:** The proposal should demonstrate a fresh and innovative approach to addressing challenges or opportunities for local governments. Sessions that introduce new ideas, methodologies, or technologies are highly encouraged.

**Practicality and applicability:** The session should provide practical insights, tools, or strategies that local governments can readily implement. It should offer actionable takeaways and guidance that can be applied in real-world scenarios.

**Diversity and inclusion:** The proposal should emphasize diversity and inclusion in terms of perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds. Sessions that promote inclusivity and address issues related to underrepresented groups or marginalized communities are particularly welcomed.

**Interactive and engaging Format:** The session proposal should outline a dynamic and interactive format that encourages audience engagement. Innovative presentation styles, interactive activities, group discussions, or Q&A sessions can enhance the overall learning experience.

**Clear learning objectives:** The proposal should clearly state the session's intended learning outcomes and objectives. Attendees should gain specific knowledge, skills, or insights by participating in the session.

**Practical case examples:** Including practical case examples from cities or regions on the ground can provide concrete illustrations of successful initiatives or approaches. Proposals that highlight tangible results or best practices are highly desirable.

**Travel and accommodation costs:** Session organisers are responsible for covering the costs associated with their speakers' travel and accommodation at the conference location. This includes expenses related to transportation and accommodation to and from Warsaw. By submitting a session proposal, the organiser acknowledges and agrees to assume these financial responsibilities for their speakers. The conference organisers will provide logistical support and guidance but will not be responsible for covering the expenses of individual speakers. During the event, the conference organisers will provide the venue, IT equipment and catering. It is important for session organisers to plan and budget accordingly to ensure the participation of their speakers.

## How to apply

Interested applicants can submit their session proposals between **14 June to 3 July 2023 at 11:00 am CEST** through the [online application form](#).

Selected sessions will be notified by **14 July 2023**. None selected sessions will be provided feedback.

Applicants can contact the [EPAH helpdesk](#) for further information.

