



BAIX EMPORDÀ COUNCIL, Spain



The Baix Empordà Council seeks technical assistance for addressing energy poverty in its region, covering 34 out of 36 municipalities, due to the urgent need for comprehensive management. The area is impacted by tourism, seasonal employment, and inefficient housing, resulting in inequities and poverty risks. With 20-25% of households at risk of poverty, the council aims to enhance energy efficiency, support vulnerable households, and streamline services. The region's distinct rural and urban dynamics, along with a high volume of requests for energy assistance, stress the social services system. Collaborating with other bodies, such as Diputació de Girona, demonstrates dedication to energy efficiency improvement. Despite not being a Covenant of Mayors signatory, the council actively supports its municipalities in sustainable energy and climate action planning.

The primary objective of the technical assistance is to **optimise the management of energy poverty across different areas** (Social Action, Energy Transition, Housing) within the Baix Empordà Council (CCBE). By **assessing existing operating protocols**, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and creating applicable protocols, the council aims to enhance assistance to diagnosed cases and better align with Covenant of Mayors commitments. The focus includes monitoring local energy poverty, implementing energy interventions in vulnerable homes, conducting awareness campaigns, engaging vulnerable households in energy communities, and establishing criteria for participation. Additionally, prospecting and identifying energy poverty cases beyond the current procedure will help **prevent structural poverty**.

