



NIEPOŁOMICE, Poland



Technical assistance is urgently required for Niepolomice, an urban-rural municipality facing energy poverty challenges. Its varied landscape includes a town with 14,550 inhabitants and villages with 15,553 residents. With temperatures ranging from -13°C to 38°C, lack of district heating and outdated housing (16% predating 1945, 54% from 1945-1988), energy poverty affects 200 households due to high energy costs and low income. The Air Protection Department and eco-advisors are advising on energy-efficient investments, while the Local Anti-Smog Resolution enforces stricter regulations. Despite being a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors, assistance is vital to mitigate energy poverty's impact on vulnerable households, including Ukrainian refugees attracted to the area.

The objective is to address energy poverty in Niepolomice by leveraging **Energy Communities (EC)**. Current challenges include insufficient gas network availability, energy grid vulnerability, and lack of affordable heat sources. Installing individual Renewable Energy Systems (RES) offers cost-free energy and financial benefits. The plan involves **document analysis, public consultations, and EC courses for inhabitants**. The Town Hall's Air Protection Department (APD) will **create a methodology, handle implementation, secure financing, and promote EC**. The National Energy Conservation Agency (BN) will manage promotion and education, while Krakow Metropolitan Area (KMA) assists with financing and EC creation.

