



TULCEA, Romania



Tulcea town, situated in Romania's South-Eastern part near the Danube Delta biosphere reserve, is home to around 82,000 inhabitants. The region experiences a temperate-continental climate with varying temperatures (-26 to 40 degrees Celsius) and persistent winds. The population primarily resides in multi-apartment buildings and small houses (33,588 units, avg. 39 sqm). Nearly 25% of households in Tulcea are energy-poor, spending over 10% of their income on energy bills due to low incomes, high energy costs, and inadequate building efficiency. The region of **Dobrogea**, including Tulcea, suffers from a **high energy poverty rate of about 70%**, significantly surpassing the national average of 40%. The presence of outdated heating systems, poor insulation, and reliance on expensive fuels compounds the issue. A **holistic approach** involving **policy measures, incentives, and community engagement** is essential to combat these challenges.

The Municipality of Tulcea aims to address energy poverty by obtaining a clear understanding of its levels and underlying factors. The technical assistance will provide a scientific and objective **diagnosis**, identifying energy vulnerability sources, social structures, and types of poverty. This data-driven approach will facilitate policy and measure identification, **capacity building for municipal staff**, and **awareness-raising strategies**. The analysis will help integrate local indicators into the SECAP and guide engagement strategies. The goal is to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy vulnerability, and develop targeted solutions for both multi-apartment buildings and individual households.

