

Ayia Marina Chrysochous, Cyprus



RESULTS

1st technical assistance of the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub 2022-2023

DISCOVER EPAH



November 2022 - August 2023



Energy poverty phase: Diagnosis



Topics: Energy poverty diagnosis;
Rural areas; Equity and justice; Elders

The **Ayia Marina Chrysochous** community in Cyprus, consists of around 350 households of about 700 permanent residents but, due to its touristic nature, in the summer the residents are almost doubled. The community actively engaged to combat energy poverty, with the support of the **Cyprus Energy Agency** through a 9-month workplan. The agency provided capacity-building activities and assistance to help the municipality **diagnose and address energy poverty** issues.

Objectives

The project aimed to **formulate a strategy to address energy poverty** through capacity-building activities, assistance in diagnosis, and the identification of potential future actions in the area.

Future

The project's objectives expanded to address **transport poverty** amid the European fuel crisis. The custom toolkit for diagnosis and monitoring is a notable achievement, evolving in future technical assistance. Collected data offers valuable insights for exploration. Additionally, the community plans to sign the **Covenant of Mayors**, showcasing a lasting commitment to energy efficiency and climate resilience. The acquired knowledge will be shared with neighbouring communities, establishing the local authority as a regional pioneer.

Activities & Outcomes

The initial phase included online sessions to grasp local needs and set up diagnostic tools. Trained staff, after capacity-building, conducted home visits for data collection to identify residents affected by energy poverty. A **toolkit** was developed for continuous monitoring and support by the local authority. The technical assistance addressed the local authority's lack of expertise, focusing on knowledge building and expanding engagement in similar activities. Training provided theoretical and practical insights on the topic, deepening the Cyprus Energy Agency's understanding of challenges faced by rural communities.

This technical assistance offers a valuable example of effective leadership in small, rural municipalities with 2-3 staff members, showcasing adaptation and simplification of tools tailored to their unique context.



Cyprus Energy Agency



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