

EmpowerMed

Empowering women to take action against energy poverty in the Mediterranean

Society for Sustainable Development Design /
Društvo za oblikovanje održivog razvoja (DOOR)
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EmpowerMed objectives



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Overall objective of **EmpowerMed** is to contribute to **energy poverty alleviation and health improvement** of people affected by energy poverty in Mediterranean countries, with a particular focus on women, through:

- implementing practical solutions to empower over **10,000** people affected by energy poverty in the Mediterranean
- assessing the impacts of those measures to formulate local, national and EU policy recommendations
- promoting policy solutions for tackling energy poverty at local, national and EU level among **220** decision-makers, **560** social actors, **100** utilities, **180** health experts and **100** energy poverty experts.



Pilot areas

Practical measures are implemented in 6 pilot areas with large partnerships approach



Albania
Croatia
France
Italy
Slovenia
Spain



EmpowerMed expected results and impacts



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- **10,200** people empowered to tackle energy poverty
- Engaging over **1000** key actors
- **6** pilot areas
- At least **60%** of women participants
- Contributions to policy: **8** policies or measures recommended
- Primary energy savings: **6.5 GWh/year**
- Reduction of CO2 emissions: **1,600 t CO2/year**
- Investments in sustainable energy: **160,000 €**
- Economic savings: **780,000 €**



Structural changes to tackle energy poverty

- We need to recognize that energy poverty causes go far beyond the triad of "low income - poor energy efficiency - high expenditure", which is traditionally considered to set the context to addressing energy poverty
- Drivers of energy poverty are more structural - they span, at least, across our current economic, social, employment, energy, climate, taxation, welfare, housing and health policies.
- Tackling energy poverty means questioning housing policies (especially in regions with high tourism expansion)
- Energy efficiency upgrades to the buildings if not done inclusively can increase the structural injustices, which can lead to unaffordable housing, gentrification and segregation.
- Tackling energy poverty also means rethinking our labour policies in way that low-quality and precarious jobs are put lower in the list of priorities, while focus is given to the quality employment with decent earning.



Policy recommendation for the advocacy campaign

- Tackling energy poverty through **integrated policies**
- **Include summer energy poverty, gender and intersectional aspects into the energy poverty definition, energy poverty criteria, and energy poverty indicators as well as in Energy poverty alleviation programmes**
- **Raise awareness about gender / intersectional aspects and energy poverty**
- Increase the investments in renewable energy sources to tackle energy poverty including summer energy poverty
- **Prioritize women in renovation and renewables deployment for people affected by energy poverty**
- **Prioritise women, especially the ones affected by energy poverty, in training and jobs related to renovation and renewables efforts of the new EU policies**
- Protect women against rising rents or other costs due to renovation or deployment of renewables



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