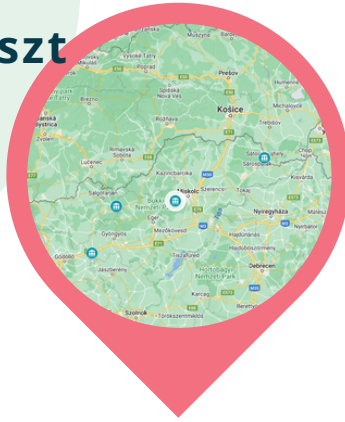


Bükkszentkereszt Hungary



RESULTS

2nd technical assistance of the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub 2023-2024

DISCOVER EPAH



September 2023 - June 2024



Energy poverty phase:
Implementation



Topics: Transition from wood burning, health

Bükkszentkereszt, a small settlement in the Bükk Mountains, faces significant energy poverty challenges. Most homes rely on firewood for heating due to a lack of natural gas infrastructure. A 2021 survey revealed outdated heating practices, low energy efficiency, high PM10 emissions, exacerbated by the use of wet firewood resulting to poor air quality and high energy costs for over a quarter of the population.

Objectives

The strategic objectives were:

- through action days and community planning, to start thinking together to **improve air quality** moving away from unhealthy wood burning.
- identify and study the feasibility of different **alternative technologies** to serve the area in a cost-effective, less polluting way.

Small villages typically lack their own energy strategies or plans. The work conducted under the EPAH project has been a crucial catalyst for collective reflection on the future of energy use in the village.

Activities & Outcomes

The experts involved the community with the organisation of public consultation. Specific **energy days** were organised at schools. An **on-line consultation** was designed to collect additional feedback. Meanwhile, the experts visited different factories exploring the **feasibility and cost effectiveness of different technologies**. The final concept focus on the development of an **energy courtyard** that aim to move away from unhealthy wood burning practice. Identifying the most viable solutions required compromise and adapting the original goals to ensure the community's full support and effective adoption of the new technology.

Future

The new energy courtyard concept is a comprehensive collection of tailored solutions for more affordable and cleaner wood heating. The proposal was publicly discussed and received positive feedback from the community. The municipality is eager to raise funds for its implementation.



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