

EMPOWER

Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Newsletter #9

May 2022

More Carbon Reduction by Dynamically Monitoring Energy Efficiency

IN THIS EDITION

Dear Reader,

Welcome to EMPOWER's ninth Newsletter.

The project was extended for one more year and partners have been very busy with learnings and plannings to improve the implementation of their Regional Action Plans (RAPs) with new projects. The main goals of their actions are Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies in public buildings.

In this edition you will find information about EMPOWER's activities over the past months.

Our project website is also a great source of information for news, updates and progress on key outputs.

Follow us on www.interregeurope.eu/empower

- EMPOWER extension
- EMPOWER Energy Monitoring and Energy Poverty Peer Reviews
- EMPOWER Energy Poverty Technical Workshop
- Upcoming event in Paris
- Partners & Contacts

We hope you enjoy learning more about EMPOWER!

EMPOWER AT A GLANCE

EMPOWER aims to reduce carbon output by dynamically monitoring energy efficiency in buildings, with special focus on the use of innovative financial instruments.



Ready to continue learning and improving!

Read more about EMPOWER at:
www.interregeurope.eu/empower

Empower project is extended

EMPOWER is continuing with works on the exchange of good practices and on dynamically monitoring energy efficiency in buildings. The main objective is to reduce CO₂ emissions from buildings using energy monitoring tools, innovative technology and effective energy management. All partners will aim to reduce carbon emissions from buildings also addressing the challenge of energy poverty that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

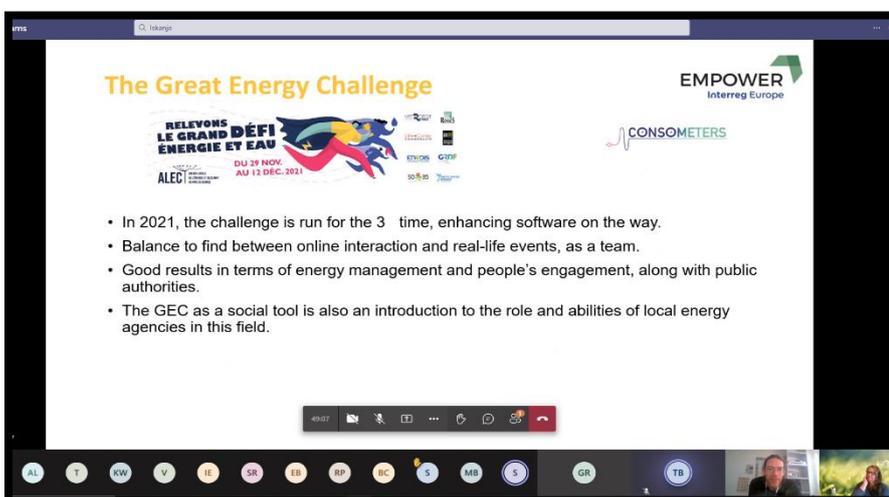


Empower Energy Monitoring and Energy Poverty Peer Reviews

At the end of 2021, two Peer Review events were organized online. The first was organized on the topic of Energy Monitoring by a Swedish partner, the Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden and the second on Energy Poverty from an Irish partner, the Southern Regional Assembly. At both of the events many good practices were presented and participants had the opportunity to learn more from each other, to exchange their knowledge and ideas on Energy Monitoring and Energy Poverty.



At the end, all participants also evaluated all presented practices. Based on these two events, a Register of Good practices will be prepared. [More](#)



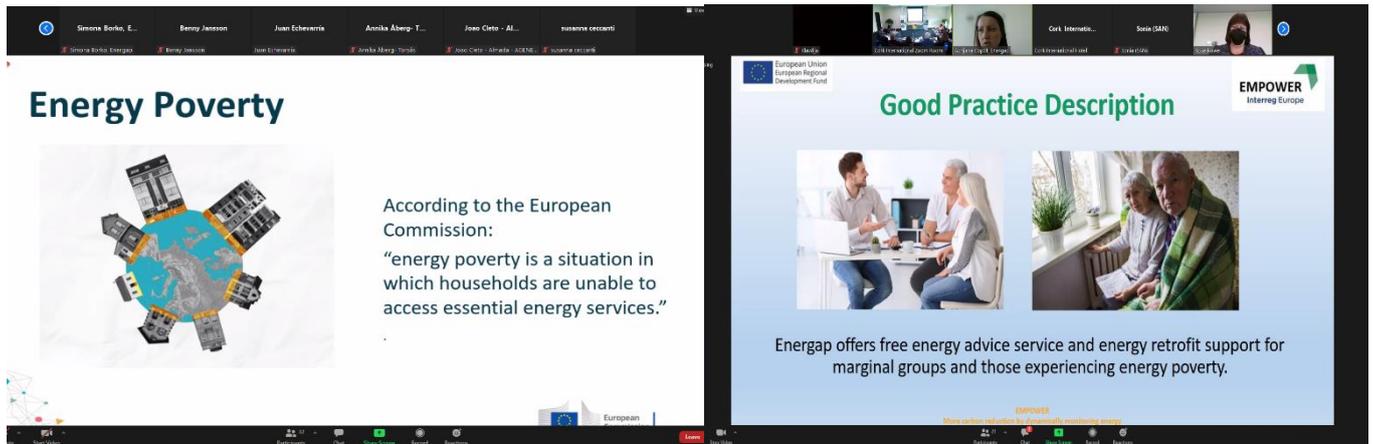
Empower Energy Poverty Technical Workshop

On 23 and 24 March 2022, the Southern Regional Assembly hosted the Interreg Europe EMPOWER Technical Workshop on Energy Poverty in collaboration with Energy Poverty consultants from the 3 Counties Energy Agency (3CEA), an antenna organisation in Ireland for the European Energy Poverty Advisory Hub. The Workshop provided a platform to understand the causes of Energy Poverty, the prevalence of Energy Poverty across Europe and the need for countries now, with rising energy prices, to seek opportunities to identify and reduce Energy Poverty more than ever through presentations from the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub in Brussels and from Dr Niall Dunphy, Director, Cleaner Production Promotion Unit, University College Cork, Ireland.



After identifying the need to address Energy Poverty, the event continued with presentations of a number of good practices from EMPOWER partner stakeholders on how regions could identify or reduce Energy Poverty or implement behavioural change programmes to reduce Energy Poverty, including:

- How Build Upon 2 identifies Energy Poverty in Social Housing from Brian Cassidy, Senior Executive Engineer, Cork City Council, Ireland.
- Derek Roddy, Chief Executive Officer for Climate and Co-founder of Energy Cloud, Ireland, presented a mechanism on how wasted/unused renewable energy could be used to support households in Energy Poverty.
- “How Living Consciously”, Energy Poverty behaviour change programme, can not only address energy poverty but also create more of a community in disadvantaged areas, by Sergio Gatteschi, Regional Agency for Waste and Resource Management, Florence, Italy.
- Sonia Sotero, Santander City Council, Spain, gave us a presentation of “A Worthy Winter” which aims to reduce Energy Poverty by replacing coal-fired boilers with centralised biomass boilers.
- How “Act 4 Eco” Energy Poverty behaviour change programme is being used free of charge by more than 10,000 people across Europe to help them reduce their energy consumption and costs, by Dr Wendy Rowan and Dr Stephen McCarthy, University College Cork, Ireland and Sotiris Papadelis, HEBES Intelligence, Greece.



- Adriana Copot, from Energap, Slovenia, presented how “energy counselling” reduces Energy Poverty for citizens with the aid of up to 100 % funding through the Eco Fund in their region.
- How “Smart Invent Application” is helping to identify Energy Poverty in Mazovia, Poland, by Żaneta Latarowska from the Mazovia Energy Agency in Poland, by creating an online platform that mirrored the accommodation’s heat standard, heat source, income level and energy consumption for more than 25,000 buildings to date.
- Simone Maggiore from Gestore Servizi Elettrici, Italy, presented how the “Energia su Misura” Energy Poverty behaviour change programme helps reducing Energy Poverty in social housing by installing smart devices and meters in these households.
- How “RetroKit” is creating a one stop shop platform and digitalisation to improve home energy upgrades to reduce Energy Poverty from Xavier Dubuisson, Chief Executive Officer of RetroKit, Ireland. [More](#)

Upcoming event in Paris, France

On 11 and 12 May 2022 EMPOWER partners & stakeholders will finally meet again in Britany House in Paris, France for a second Technical Workshop.

The Workshop will be held in person and also online. Partners, stakeholders and experts will present good practices and new ideas on energy efficiency and monitoring.

Stay in touch and follow our workshop conclusions and final project progress on the project website [here](#).



Partners & Contacts

For further information, please contact the **Project Coordinator and a Communication leader at Energy Agency of Podravje**, Institution for Sustainable Energy Use, Maribor, Slovenia

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Project partners

- Energy Agency of Podravje – Institution for Sustainable Energy Use (SI) – Lead partner
- Local Energy Management Agency of Almada, AGENEAL (PT)
- Southern Regional Assembly (IE)
- Regional Resource Recovery Agency, ARRR (IT)
- Municipality of Lorient (FR)
- Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden (SE)
- Mazovia Energy Agency (MAE) (PL)
- Santander City Council (ES)

