Energy crisis in CEE/SE region: how to make sure homeowners are better prepared for next winter?

ComAct webinar, June 14th, 1:00 PM CET

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Description

Title: *Energy crisis in CEE/SE region: how to make sure homeowners are better prepared for next winter*?

Date: June, 14th, 2023, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM CET

Platform: Zoom Webinar. A link will be provided at a later stage.

Concept note

The unprecedented crisis of 2022 made countries in Europe, and in particular in the CEE/SE region even more vulnerable to energy poverty. According to a recent analysis by European Environmental Bureau on gas and electricity saving measures adopted by EU states, the governments of CEE countries have achieved less energy demand reduction than Western European countries.

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the question of energy and (in)dependence of Russian gas has amplified the need to reduce gas demand on the EU side by incentivizing faster energy efficiency improvements and encouraging behavioural changes among consumers. This session aligns with current interests of the EU and offers a perspective to address energy poor living in the multi-apartment buildings that are most represented in the CEE/SE region.

This webinar will be an opportunity to look back at the past winter in the Central and Eastern and Southern European (CEE/SE) region focusing on energy prices, affordability, and the comfort levels of homeowners. We will discuss the current risks and possible solutions to protect vulnerable groups/consumers from the cold and/or higher bills in the coming winter.

Who will attend? Practitioners working in the field of residential energy efficiency and energy poverty, policy makers, government/municipality representatives from CEE/SE, consumer organizations, homeowners, practitioners from regional, international and EU institutions.

Why attend? This webinar will offer participants the possibility to learn more about the topic and to contribute and shape the discussion. Through 3 presentations and based on Bruegel's recent report, we will capture how the CEE/SE governments reacted to the energy crisis; and share concrete learnings from the past winter from the CEE/SE region. Next, panelists will discuss the challenges created by energy poverty in the CEE/SE region from various perspectives, including homeowners, local and national governments. The discussions will lead to concrete recommendations for further measures to address energy poverty of people living in multi-apartment buildings.

Agenda

11:00 Setting the scene- reflections on thematic EU policy. *Vivian Dorizas, BPIE*

11:05 Energy crisis in the CEE/CIS region: what have the EU and CEE/SE governments done to tackle the energy crisis?

- o National fiscal policy responses to the energy crisis (2022), *Giovanni Sgaravatti, Bruegel* – 10 min + questions
- o Reflecting on the impacts of the energy crisis on CEE countries – example from ComAct pilots, *Hanna Szemzo, MRI*– 10 min + questions
- o Reflecting on the impacts of the energy crisis on SE countries – example from Greece, *Alice Corovessi, INZEB* – 10 min + questions

11:35 Panel discussion and Q&A: Collecting experiences on challenges and successful measures to address energy poverty.

Moderator: Rutger Broer, BPIE. Panelists: Giovanni Sgaravatti, Bruegel; Hanna Szemzo, MRI; Alice Corovessi, INZEB; Veronika Jirickova, DG ENER (TBC), Talia Brun Marcen, CINEA (TBD)

Questions to address include:

- What type of strategies were followed by poor homeowners? And how did these strategies affect the operation of buildings?
- What were the main policy responses/measures taken by local/national governments? To what extent were they successful?
- Were the measures taken sufficient, especially in countries with higher energy poverty rates?

12:15 Closure, BPIE.

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