

Energy poverty in Slovenia



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Specifics on energy poverty in Slovenia

- An increasingly pressing issue in Slovenia (winter, summer)
- Groups with higher risk of poverty: unemployed, self-employed, retired, single-member households, single-parent households with at least one dependent child
- Households with lower income pay more to ensure energy needs
- The economic situation of households is often linked with the poor energy efficiency of their homes.

Specifics on energy poverty in Slovenia

The phenomenon of energy poverty is mostly affected by:

- Low income,
- High energy prices,
- High energy consumption (depends on the energy efficiency of housing and the behavior of residents).

There is no data on the extent of energy poverty in Slovenia (we do not have a definition and calculation methodology).

EP poorly addressed in our National Energy Climate Plan.

Specifics on energy poverty in Slovenia

1. A phenomenon of "hidden energy poverty", where households limit their energy consumption due to lack of financial resources.
2. A phenomenon where households prioritize energy expenditure over other expenditure.

Specifics on energy poverty in Slovenia

- Slovenia is characterized by a high proportion of home ownership,
- Energy inefficient and poorly isolated homes,
- Poor owners with no money to invest in efficient energy renovation of their property,
- 70% of homes are older than 30 years.

Winter shows the depth of energy poverty issue



- Low-income households choose cheaper energy (e.g. wood) for heating
- Older, inefficient furnaces = lower air quality (winter)
- Most energy is spent on heating homes and water.

Existing measures to address energy poverty

- Only for recipients of financial social assistance, security allowance (stigmatize as socially vulnerable citizens)
- free counseling of the energy consultant ENSVET at the home of a socially vulnerable citizen (ECO Fund)
- Non-refundable financial incentives for socially vulnerable citizens to invest in energy efficiency measures (Eco Fund, e.g. PROGRAM ZERO500)
- **More information in TRECE E-learning under Module 6: Subsidies for energy poor people- financial models in each country**

Energy voucher

- Proposed measure to address energy poverty in Slovenia (due to Energy crisis in the EU and Slovenia)
- The increase in energy prices in wholesale markets is reflected in retail prices for heating
- A big hit for socially disadvantaged families
- Energy prices for household heating are rising (by 50 to 60% increase in some municipalities)
- The legal basis for the introduction of energy vouchers is being prepared
- The vouchers would be introduced in the prem quarter of 2022
- The Ministry of Infrastructure is responsible for introducing vouchers
- The Ministry of Labor also participates in the preparation of the criteria
- Unofficially, 66.000 of the poorest households are eligible.
- Solving problems at the state and local level.

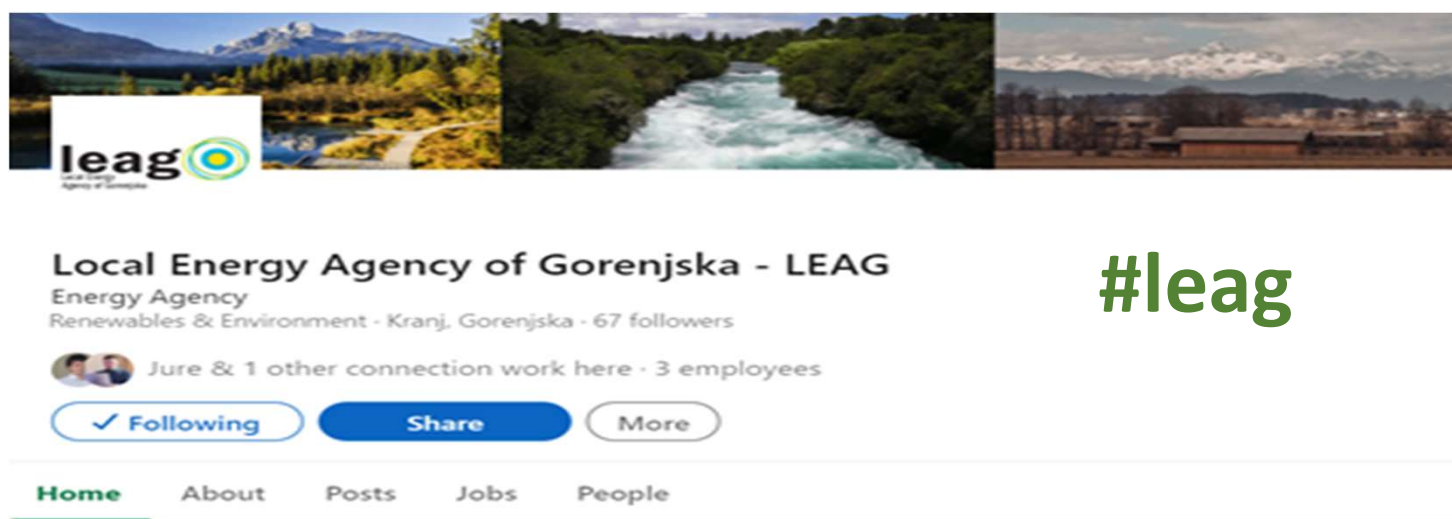
How to address energy poverty in Slovenia

- Complex problem = cooperation between different sectors, levels is important
- A key step is to link the energy, social, environmental and health sectors.
- Measures to increase the energy efficiency of buildings (the energy rehabilitation of buildings) have been highlighted as crucial in reducing energy poverty.

Future alleviating energy poverty measures?

- With an approach without attaching the stigma of energy poverty to the individual (e.g. energy audits, subsidies for energy efficient homes based on EP criterias, on local level).
- More awareness actions about the existing EP measures and how to get it.
- New EP alleviating measures (e.g. energy universal basic income, energy communities, pilot EU projects on EP)

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Thank you for your attention 😊

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