

Energy Poverty Coordination Group (EPCG)

Tasks

- 1) To serve as the **main platform for the exchange and discussion** between the Energy Community Contracting Parties on best practices, lessons learned, and the way forward in developing and implementing **existing and future legislations and policies** for reducing energy poverty and in **collecting data** on the causes and impacts of energy poverty.
- 2) To assist the Contracting Parties in **developing a comprehensive set of energy poverty and just transition elements** in their National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and other relevant national strategies and policies.
- 3) To contribute to **improving the range and quality of data** on energy poverty and its main drivers as well as to facilitate data collection for the purpose of monitoring the status quo and effectiveness of measures applied to address energy poverty.
- 4) To **identify the needs** of the Contracting Parties with regard to effectively addressing energy poverty, including at regional and local levels.
- 5) To **plan and start appropriate actions and coordinated solutions** based on Contracting Parties' individual needs.
- 6) To serve as a platform for strengthening **regional coordination and cooperation** among the Contracting Parties while facilitating links with external partners such as IFIs, NGOs, banks, donors and international organisations.

Specific tasks for 2023

- 1) With reference to the EU Energy Support Package for Western Balkans¹, the Group shall **report on budget spent** by the Contracting Parties to mitigate the impact of increased energy prices on socially vulnerable and energy-poor households.
- 2) **Discuss and identify the needs** of the Contracting Parties with regard to **effectively addressing energy poverty**, including the necessity to address the existing data gaps and involve local authorities in the process of alleviating energy poverty.
- 3) Discuss the current status of development of the **NECPs** and identify the required improvements regarding energy poverty.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip_22_6478/IP_22_6478_EN.pdf