

POWERTY

Guide of Good Practices

Renewable energies for vulnerable groups



#POWERTY

Web <https://www.interregeurope.eu/powerty/>

1 Introduction to the POWERTY project and this Good Practices Guide

The decarbonisation of the energy system requires that all European citizens can make full use of renewable energies. However, there is a high percentage of citizens with many difficulties to have renewable energy facilities and equipment, in particular the vulnerable groups, including those affected by "energy poverty". These difficulties are

motivated by economic and technological issues (renewable energy solutions are not adapted to vulnerable groups), but also by other factors of a social and cultural type, use and owners of housing, etc., which influence the types of solutions that should be used, as well as how to manage them.

The general objective of POWERTY is to increase the use of renewable energies in vulnerable groups. This way, thanks to the project, new renewable energy installations will be facilitated to provide safe and clean energy to vulnerable households. In addition, companies supplying renewable energies will be encouraged through the project to offer technological solutions that are adapted to vulnerable groups, activating their corporate social responsibility.

In this way, POWERTY will help to tackle energy poverty, promoting vulnerable households with adequate energy supplies, thanks to renewable energies. Given the exceptional conditions of these households, social innovation measures will be promoted, based on greater participation, integration and empowerment of vulnerable groups.

The project will develop a complete learning process to facilitate an effective knowledge flow among regions, counting on 6 partners with different complementary expertise and different levels of competences (regional/national) which enriches the transfer of knowledge. More than 50 best practices and almost 50 events involving 60 stakeholders will establish 5 Regional Action Plans covering a population of more than 25 million inhabitants.

The POWERTY project, approved by the European Commission in the framework of the Interreg Europe programme, began in August 2019 and runs until 2023, with a budget of 1.227.226 euros.

The good practices database is the cornerstone of the project. For this reason, one of the main outputs to be delivered for the first semester is a Guide of Good Practices. This document is organised by regions and main topics and compiles and makes available to the general public the good practices detected among the consortium and identified and characterised by every consortium partner. These good practices are intended to be incorporated into the Policy Learning Platforms as “success stories”.

During the POWERTY project, the fruitful interchange of ideas will enlarge and perfect this Guide. It is also expected that, following the periodical consortium meetings as dedicated interregional seminars and other project meetings, the planned study visits will be held, where additional information on the good practices will be provided. This way, visiting consortium regions could make an initial approach on how to adapt these good practices, the ultimate aim of this project.

The POWERTY project aims to ensure the real impact of the achievements in the long term, which will be achieved through new and innovative initiatives put in place and adapted to the local needs and expectations of society.

2 Identification of Good Practices. Guidelines and Methodology

For a successful good practices compilation exercise, a methodological framework was provided as “guidelines” available for every consortium partner to help to identify good practices in renewable energies and energy poverty in Europe, to be done at a regional level.

Identification of good practices: Methodology

According to the Interreg Europe Programme:

Good practices is defined as an initiative (e.g. project, process, technique) undertaken in one of the programme’s priority axes which has proved to be successful in a region and which is of potential interest to other regions. Proved successful is where the good practice has already provided tangible and measurable results in achieving a specific objective. Although the Interreg Europe programme primarily refers to good practices, valuable learning also derives from bad practices where lessons learnt can be taken into consideration in the exchange of experience process.

In line with the project's objectives, in the frame of **POWERTY**, good practices shall be categorised into the following topics:

1. Identify renewable energy technologies, tools and methods;
2. Highlight new financing mechanisms;
3. Overcome barriers of a normative character;
4. Empower citizens and local authorities.

These guidelines will be used in the POWERTY project to assist the partners in selecting their good practices.

The methodology hereinafter proposed is oriented towards results being achieved. That is why these guidelines have been produced following the project deliverable structure, in order to ensure that all relevant aspects have been taken into account.

It should be reminded that the present document focuses only on the regional assessment stage of the project’s first semester (from August 2019 to January 2020) and expects to be enlarged together with the fruitful interchange of ideas among the consortium members.

The guidelines also provided the partners with a template that contains the description and specific required information defining good practices. This template is attached as an annex.

There is no limit on the number of good practices to be collected among the consortium members. As a requisite, a total minimum number of 50 shall be collected, an average of 10 for every region. For the POWERTY project purposes we will consider

the above quoted definition for Good Practice as stated in the Interreg Europe Programme taking into account the key criteria suggested for the Good Practices selection:

- The action is finished or in progress, but in any case, with proven results.
 - The action has a clear potential for replication in other territorial contexts.
 - The action can be classified under one or more than one of the 4 topics defined in the Application Form (AF), namely:
 - Identify renewable energy technologies, tools and methods;
 - Highlight new financing mechanisms;
 - Overcome barriers of a normative character;
 - Empower citizens and local authorities.
 - The action has already provided tangible and measurable results in achieving a specific objective. It is recommended (if possible) to be related to one or more of the self-defined performance indicators in the Application Form. This is direct impact estimation.
1. **Policy 1.** Additional capacity for renewable energy production for vulnerable groups (kW)
 2. **Policy 2.** N° of residential housing that consume renewable energy (collective or individual projects) concerning vulnerable groups
 3. **Policy 3.** Number of funded projects with energy poor households applicants
 4. **Policy 4.** N° of homes/buildings that consume renewable energy belonging to vulnerable groups.
 5. **Policy 5.** Number of households with increased energy efficiency addressed to vulnerable groups.

Any other features that may enhance the Good Practice potential will be welcome. In particular, impact on some success indicators might be collected, as:

- Total renewable energies associated to the practice
- Reduction of CO2 emissions
- Reduction of energy spending
- Perceptions by users by survey (comfort quality of life...)
- Research and patents output
- Total investment outcomes
- Number of jobs created
- Etc.

During the good practices collection, it was recommended to the consortium partners that the good practices selected are meant to help other partners' to fully or partially cover their regional needs, previously identified in their respective regional analysis. Also, partners need to meet the output performance indicators stated in the Application Form for each policy instrument as the project success depends partially on it. In consequence, special attention should be paid to the above when making the final selection of regional good practices.

3 Good Practices Repository

The good practices collected are listed as follows:

Andalusia (Spain)

The following fiche includes information from the first good practice identified by Andalusia and presented during the Kick-off meeting in Seville in September 2019.

1. General information	
Title of the practice	Insertion of people in situation of vulnerability in the renewable energy and self-consumption labour market
Does this practice come from an Interreg Europe Project	No
Main institution involved	Stakeholder (Spain) (ECO00)
Location of the practice	Country Spain
	NUTS 1 Madrid
	NUTS 2 Madrid

2. Detailed description	
Detailed information on the practice	<p>In the coming years, the number of renewable energy installations will increase substantially, in order to achieve a decarbonisation of the EU energy system. This will require an increasing number of workers, in particular from medium and low self-consumption power plants.</p> <p>On the other hand, there are people with severe difficulties in entering the labour market, in particular those at risk of social exclusion who, in many cases, are affected by energy poverty.</p> <p>This good practice consists of integrating people at risk of social exclusion into the renewable energy and self-consumption labour market. The promoters of this action are the non-profit renewable energy company ECO00, and the insertion companies Amoverse and El Zaguán. These two insertion companies have created a temporary union of companies (UTE) to provide ECO00 service, which provides its experience in the solar energy sector and the installation of self-consumption in buildings.</p> <p>The objective of the temporary union is to provide a service of a photovoltaic self-consumption installation in order for the people hired to broaden their professional profile with quality training in a growing sector and with great</p>

	<p>possibilities of insertion in the ordinary market. For its part, ECOOO is committed to carrying out qualified marketing and supervision.</p> <p>In this way, the three organisations seek the formation of a more just society, promoting the energy transition towards a sustainable and decentralised energy model and generating qualified technical employment for people in situations of social vulnerability.</p>
Resources needed	3 people are needed for the management of this project.
Timescale (start/end date)	Ongoing
Evidence of success (results achieved)	<p>This good practice has led to the creation of HAZ Solar, the first company of photovoltaic self-consumption installers resulting from the union between Amoverse and El Zaguán with ECOOO, for the development of businesses that allow the hiring of people in vulnerable situations with a view to their professional training and their insertion in the ordinary market.</p> <p>Nº of persons participating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 (full time) and 1 (part time). • Another 3 people dedicate part of their work to the management of this project. <p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 photovoltaic installations in single family homes • High degree of customer satisfaction both in terms of the quality of the installation and for the humane treatment of the team members.
Difficulties encountered/ lessons learned	<p>The logics of any learning process of a new activity: slow rhythms, doubts about how to perform specific work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training from scratch of people who had not had access until now to a regulated job in our country, nor contact with photovoltaics beyond a theoretical and practical course. • The business start-up of this activity within the legal-technical framework of an insertion company without experience in this type of work. <p><u>Lessons learned</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is necessary to invest time in training and to assume that these learning processes take time. • People coming from labour insertion environments can perfectly develop professional work as installer assistants. • The role of the team leader is essential both in the training of the assistants and in the relationship with the end customer.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strong commitment is needed from all the companies and entities that offer the service.
Potential learning transfer for or	<p>As can be seen from the EPOV indicators, energy poverty is a phenomenon that affects all European countries, to a greater or lesser extent. In addition, renewable energies and the need to integrate all citizens (including vulnerable groups) is a priority of EU energy policy, which will necessarily have to be reflected in the regulations and strategies of the different countries and regions.</p> <p>Therefore, the transfer potential of this good practice is very high.</p>
<p>Contact details <i>[Technical: the contact details will be visible only to "Policy Learning Platforms registered members"]</i></p> <p><i>ECOOO - Calle Escuadra 11, 28012 Madrid - Tel: 91 294 00 94 / 64 - http://www.ecooo.es</i></p>	
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Other good practices developed in Andalusia and Spain are presented next. They are not included in the previous fiche format, as there is still not enough information available.

1. Photovoltaic installation on a farm where people at risk of social exclusion work

The project has consisted of a photovoltaic solar energy installation for an irrigation well on the agricultural property of the Bioalverde labour insertion company. Thanks to this new energy source, it has been possible to multiply by four the surface area of organic crops and, therefore, give opportunities to a greater number of people in need of employment and training.

The entities participating in the project have been:

- Cáritas Diocesana of Seville, who has carried out the general coordination.
- Bioalverde. Non-profit and insertion company promoted by Cáritas Diocesana of Seville, to achieve social and labour insertion of people in situation or risk of social exclusion, as well as to raise awareness and increase fair and sustainable consumption. Its main activity is the management and agricultural exploitation of an ecological plot of 20 hectares, in the province of Seville (municipality of Dos Hermanas).
- Endesa, financing the project.
- Energía Sin Fronteras ("Energy without Borders") has coordinated the energy feasibility study of the project and has been responsible for the supply, implementation and assembly of the solar photovoltaic installation and accessories.

2. Subsidy programme for the energy development of Andalusia

As described previously, the Andalusian Regional Government, through the Andalusian Energy Agency, develops a subsidy programme to facilitate the use of renewable energies, among other energy improvement actions, offering a higher percentage of economic assistance to social housing. To facilitate the processing of these subsidies, this programme is developed in collaboration with the "collaborating entities", which are companies in the energy sector that help and represent the beneficiaries of the subsidies throughout the processing. These companies also carry out the material action that is the object of the subsidy (for example, assembly of a photovoltaic installation).

3. Andalusian Housing and Rehabilitation Plan

Complementary to the subsidy programme for sustainable energy development, the Andalusian Regional Government, through the Social Housing and Energy Rehabilitation Agency, offers financial assistance to people with low income to rehabilitate their homes, including renewable energy facilities.

4. Social Germinator

The Social Germinator is a competition promoted by Som Energia and Coop57 whose objective is to stimulate the creation of new projects that generate innovative models of social initiatives, renewable energy and energy efficiency within the framework of the social and solidarity economy, and which aim to achieve energy transition. This competition is open to initiatives within Spain that are recently created (less than 3 years old) and to those that already exist and are starting a new line of activity.

Three calls have already been held. In the last call, a special award was created in the field of energy poverty, rewarding projects that aim to mitigate the causes and consequences, structural and contextual, of energy poverty.

The awards consist of a non-refundable contribution to be distributed among the winning projects. This amount comes from the resources received through the voluntary donation of the electricity contracts of the members of the Som Energía cooperative. In addition, if a loan is granted by Coop57, it will have a 50% reduction in the associated financial cost during the first two years.

5. Self-consumption and collective renewable energies - ECOOO

The non-profit company ECOOO promotes collective and social self-consumption through different lines of action and strategies, in order to make it easier for citizens to benefit, directly or indirectly, from renewable energies. Among its lines of action, the Solar Wave programme is highlighted, in which ECOOO installs and manages PV solar energy installations in different locations. In Andalusia, in the town of Lebrija (Province of Seville), pv installations have been installed on the roofs of 11 municipal buildings, ceded by the Town Hall (public schools, a senior centre, a fire station, a sports centre, etc.). The 11 facilities, with a collection area of 7,200 m², have a total peak power of 233 kW, with an annual production of 350,738 kWh, equivalent to the electricity consumption of 117 homes, which avoids the emission of 103 tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere each year, equivalent to the emissions from driving 665,000 km. Citizens have

been able to participate in this project from a reduced investment of only 100 euros, as a "co-participant" of the installation. More than 150 people have participated. The profitability obtained has reached 6% after taxes. ECOOO wanted to make visible the positive impact that the Lebrija Solar Wave installations has on the environment by sponsoring the plantation of cherry trees in Valle del Jerte (Cáceres). A total of 11 cherry trees have been planted, one for each photovoltaic installation in Lebrija, so that the citizens who participate in the Lebrija Solar Wave facilities, will collect the fruit from the cherry trees of which they will be co-owners.

6. Collective citizen financing for the photovoltaic installation of the Saint Agustí Convent

The Civic Centre of the Saint Agustí Convent in Barcelona is a municipal building with a solar energy panel for self-consumption that will be built with the investment of the citizens, through crowdlending. The project aims to encourage an active role of the residents in the evolution towards a new more sustainable energy model. The photovoltaic installation will generate 38,880 kWh, the equivalent of the electricity needed to cover the needs of seventeen homes, and will be used for self-consumption by the building itself.

This crowdlending is being developed through the ECROWD collective financing platform. A total of 166 people (investors) have participated and the total amount has been 105,000 euros.

7. Eléctrica de Cádiz and self-consumption

The public energy company, Electrica de Cadiz, develops a line of activity that facilitates households to have self-consumption installations. This public company offers turnkey projects, with financing tailored to its clients, from the design to the installation, legalisation and all the administrative procedures required.

Any citizen, whether or not they are a client of the public marketing company, and with a home anywhere in Spain, can opt for this service. Customers who contract this service will benefit from compensation for their surplus production, which will vary between 18% and 41% depending on whether the facilities are shared or contracted individually.

8. Energy Poverty Action Plan in Cádiz

The objective of the Cadiz City Hall's Energy Poverty Action Plan is to help families in a situation of vulnerability in the city to manage energy properly, solve energy problems and make their contracts cheaper. As part of this plan, training workshops have been held, in which more than 2,000 families have been trained in electricity billing and energy saving. In addition, energy advice has been given to more than 200 homes and domestic maintenance activities have been carried out (general and electrical).

This plan received the recognition of the association of energy agencies in Spain, EnerAgen, and was awarded the best performance in 2019 in the area of awareness and dissemination of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

9. Som Energía finances a photovoltaic project aimed at alleviating the effects of energy poverty

Som Energia has financed its first photovoltaic project in Lleida aimed at alleviating the effects of energy poverty. The project, called "Llars del Seminari", has been developed in collaboration with the Enre Tots i per al Bé de Tothom foundation, in a building of 19 houses in Lleida. This project allows 19 families in a situation of social or economic vulnerability living in this building to save around 30% in energy costs each year.

The project has been promoted by the initiative of the Lleida Local Group of Som Energia as a result of a power optimisation study carried out in these homes (Llars). The financing has been possible thanks to the voluntary contributions that can be made through the electricity bill. For an average use of a family (approximately 200 kWh / month), this represents a contribution of 2 euros per month (0.01 euros / kWh).

10. "No home without energy" ("Ni Un Hogar Sin Energía").

"No home without energy" (www.niunhogarsinenergia.org) is the ECODES´ programme to promote energy efficiency among citizens (ODS 7), fight energy poverty (ODS 1) and contribute to climate action (ODS 13). This initiative offers information and tools to understand and reduce energy supply bills, learn responsible energy consumption habits and learn about energy efficiency measures to be implemented in their homes, as well as financial assistance or programmes to finance them provided by national, regional and local public administrations. The information is transmitted to the population, and especially to the most vulnerable people, through different channels: web, on-line energy management tools, workshops, service points, home visits, publicity and dissemination, corporate and citizen volunteer programmes.

From its website, citizens can fill in the "I want to save" questionnaire with which they will receive recommendations on efficient energy consumption habits, energy efficiency and optimisation measures of their contract to reduce energy bills. All of this is done in a personalised way with respect to their family, work and economic situation and the state of their homes, equipment and private energy consumption. In addition, it allows them to know if they can benefit from (or not) the electrical social bond from the parameters stipulated in the legislation. If you do not have the bond, instructions are provided in order to obtain it, as well as the form from your reference marketer. In this sense, the "No home without energy" project has developed an online tool for the management of energy poverty (ENERSOC) with the objective of facilitating the diagnosis and attention to vulnerable people by social NGOs, city councils, consumer organisations and corporate volunteer programmes. Moreover, it allows the technicians to know additional information about the particular situation of the user that allows an exponential improvement in the treatment of other situations of vulnerability, either physical or material. This tool has received the support and collaboration of different companies, public administrations and non-governmental organisations.

“No home without energy” has been conceded the award as the Best Spanish Project of Social Innovation to Tackle Energy Poverty in the second edition of the Programme for Social Entrepreneurs “Social Innovation to Tackle Fuel Poverty” of Schneider Electric Foundation and Ashoka Foundation.

Rhône-Alpes (France)

Good practices developed in this region are presented next. They are not included in the previous fiche format, as there is still not enough information available.

➤ Related to **“Innovative renewable energy technologies”**:

1. **Air-bois wood fund.** This local fund subsidizes the replacement of obsolete wood heating equipment with high-performance equipment. An additional bonus is given to vulnerable households to facilitate their access to these technologies.
2. **Toit vosgien (résidence J. Ferry).** Social landlord which builds passive and low-tech housing supplied by RES.
3. **Sol solidaire.** Financing by donations (patrons) of photovoltaic energy for collective self-consumption in social housing with a specific metering system.

➤ Related to **“New financing formulas”**:

4. **Third-party investment by citizen cooperatives.** Production of wood or solar heat (e.g. Buxia énergies ou ForestEnr).
5. **Alec Nièvre.** Valorization by a ‘company with the aim of employment’ of the wood scouring residues into wood energy wood (to be confirmed)

➤ Related to **“Regulatory framework”**

6. **Convergence of renovation assistance schemes for precarious households.** New mechanism (January 2020) to help investment in renewable energy and energy savings ‘Ma prime rénov’ managed by the ANAH, which supports households in their renovation projects.

➤ Related to **“Empowerment of vulnerable groups and social innovation”**

7. **Programme CEE AEELA / MSA** - "Energy Saving Accelerator for Farmers' Housing" with accompanied self-rehabilitation.
8. **Pilot fund "dans la dentelle" CREAQ** - Support of renewable equipment for (only) 5 households in precarious conditions with self-construction (wood or solar thermal mass stove).

Bulgaria

The good practices developed in this region are presented next.

1. Campaign for free replacement of old combustions plants/stoves on solid fuel with alternative forms of heating.

AIM: to reduce air pollution from domestic heating, which is one of the main air pollutants:

- Winter Air pollutants of PM10 are several times higher than those in the summer season, which proves the strong influence of household burning during this period.
- 35% of the air pollution in Sofia Municipality [SM] comes from solid domestic heating.
- 55,000 households are heated by coal or firewood in SM.

Homeowners may wish to switch to:

- Gas
- Electricity (air conditioner (A2A) or other type of heatpump)
- Combustions plant on pellets
- district heating

Campaign coverage: 20,000 households on the territory of SM

- Two financial mechanisms are available - OP Environment ; Life+

The campaign also includes:

- large-scale awareness raising campaigns on how to apply
- National TV information campaigns on how to improve the air quality
- Technical assistance

Pre-phase selection (13 March - 13 June) - 5,875 applications were received

- Switch to pellets - more than ½

- A2A heatpump – ¼
- 500 households – gas boiler/ connection to the gas heating network
- Very low interest on connecting to the district heating network

28 Municipalities are eligible to apply for funds for better Air Quality.

SM is the leading one / paving the way

Conclusions:

Households will experience:

- Increased energy efficiency
- Lower energy/ heating expenditures
- Greater thermal comfort
- Increased environmental awareness

2. PVs coupled with BESS

Main target

- To enhance the integration of PVs and battery energy storage systems [BESS] in the building environment.

Why?

- To transform buildings into a controllable energy source;
- To enable the transition towards Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) concept;
- To add flexibility to the electrical network.

How?

- Through an innovative management scheme of the hybrid PV+ BESS.

Methodology

- Analysis of existing policies and regulatory frameworks in the participating countries;
- Development of an innovative management scheme for hybrid PV+storage systems;
- Development of optimization tools to evaluate the performance of the hybrid PV+Storage systems under different electricity pricing policies;
- Implementation of pilot installations for the assessment of the hybrid PV+Storage under real-field condition.

Scope: to meet the energy needs of the building in an optimal way:

- Maximizing building self-consumption rate (SCR)
- Maximizing owner's profit for an investment in hybrid PV+storage system

Opolskie (Poland)

The good practices developed in this region are presented next.

1. General information	
Title of the practice	STOP SMOG
Does this practice come from an Interreg Europe Project	NO

2. Detailed description	
Detailed information on the practice	<p>Basic conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - financing the replacement (elimination) of less-efficient or obsolete heat sources and thermo-modernization in residential buildings of energy-poor people, - municipality obtains up to 70% co-financing of investment costs from the state budget. <p>Target group:</p> <p>The program is designed for energy-poor people who are owners or co-owners of single-family residential buildings.</p> <p>The formal basis for the implementation of thermomodernization projects of residential single-family buildings belonging to energy-poor people combined with the replacement of high-emission heat sources in these buildings for low-emission ones.</p> <p>The programme applies from 2019 to 2024 (deadline for entering into agreements with municipalities and transferring funds from the budget).</p> <p>Financing: state budget funds (up to 70%) and municipal self-government funds (up to 30%, including possibly own contributions of residents).</p>
Further information	https://www.gov.pl/web/rozwoj/stop-smog

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1. General information	
Title of the practice	<i>WARM-UP YOUR BUSINESS</i>
Does this practice come from an Interreg Europe Project	<i>No</i>

2. Detailed description	
Detailed information on the practice	<p><i>Competition for young innovators organized by STP Opole (Science and Technology Park in Opole) and ECO Opolskie (Heat Engineering Company of the Opole Region). Both of these institutions are stakeholders in the POWERTY project</i></p> <p>Goals (2nd edition in 2019):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>development of eco-friendly energy technologies,</i> - <i>building of a startup ecosystem that enables the creation of an innovative environment for new types of start-ups, spin-offs, etc.</i> <p><i>The initiative is addressed to a wide audience, including students, doctoral students, startups, inventors, but also high school students as well as foreign students.</i></p> <p><i>Ideas can be submitted in three areas in the field of energy:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>solutions for changing or developing technologies,</i> • <i>pro-ecological and pro-environmental solutions as well as organizational and marketing solutions.</i> <p><i>The authors of the 10 best ideas will take part in free training in public speaking, building business models, design</i></p>

	<p><i>thinking, commercializing research and patents, as well as in individual meetings with mentors.</i></p> <p><i>Winners: (prize of 2.500 EUR: "Backyard wind panel" - simple and cheap technology for small wind turbines operating at low wind speeds (noiseless, height of 150 cm, diameter of 10 cm, possible combination for larger modules. 300 W (250 x 153 cm) panel cost around 210 EUR.</i></p> <p><i>The indicated practice may apply to reducing the phenomenon of energy poverty in our region. The solution proposed by the winners of the last edition may increase the production of energy from renewable sources and improve the situation of vulnerable groups - both in relation to economic factors and other factors causing energy poverty.</i></p>
Timescale (start/end date)	April 2019 - ongoing
Potential for learning or transfer	<p><i>This practice allows the selection of the best innovative technical solutions enabling the use of renewable energy sources to reduce energy poverty. An example of the awarded invention that has great potential in the field of combating energy poverty is a backyard wind panel (winner of the 2nd edition of the competition). This panel allows the use of low wind speeds for energy production. The awarded installation has a large surface area, but takes up a small space and could be used in any other EU country.</i></p>
Further information	<p><i>Link to where further information on the good practice can be found</i></p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIYGfTBM6GU&list=PLegn1P_QYC9X5erHmRYv5P-6Re8cWEw44&index=4</p> <p>https://pnt.opole.pl/index.php/pl/986-warm-up-your-business-with-eco-pnt-edycja-druga</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zpy7mhM2-il</p>
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Lithuania

1. Bureaucratic nightmare solution

Problems

- ❖ Lithuanian legislation to install small scale renewable energy source power plants was difficult and lengthy process
- ❖ Very limiting legislation related to the prosumers (electricity production from renewable energy sources)

Solution (review and amendment of existing legislation)

- ❖ Procedures (to become prosumer) reduced from 11 to 4
- ❖ Number of documentations to install RES reduced from 30 to 3
- ❖ Number of days to install RES reduced from 105 days to 21 days
- ❖ Simplified procedures for power plants up to 30 kW
- ❖ Maximum power plant per prosumers 500 kW object of consumption
- ❖ Differentiated fees for the connection to the grid introduced in 2018 to make it cheaper for households to become consumer
- ❖ Companies can become prosumers (save extra electricity on the grid)

2. Financing tool

Problem

- ❖ Lack of long-term financing for relatively small-scale RES and EE projects.

Solution

- ❖ Investment platform established.
- ❖ Relatively low price for EE and RES projects due to:
 - Low return on the investment requirement from investor.
 - National promotional institution involved (as not seeking profit maximization entity).
 - International financial institutions involved – EIB (EFSI), EBRD.
- ❖ Strong cooperation with the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania.

3. Virtual RES power plants

Problem

- ❖ Need to increase the number of the prosumers in the country and promote use of RES
- ❖ Technical challenges to install RES

Solution

- ❖ In 2019 Lithuanian Parliament approved amendments to the Law on Renewable Energy which opened the opportunities for any electric energy user to become electricity producing consumers and consume electricity generated from remotely situated RES
- ❖ Accumulation period from the 1st of April until the 31st of March next year (balancing annual production and consumption)
- ❖ Electricity saved on the grind for a fee
- ❖ Partially owned or rented model introduced

4. Crowding-in platform

Problem

- ❖ Promotion of RES among natural persons in Lithuania
- ❖ Technical difficulties to become prosumer

Solution

- ❖ On 1st of October 2019, the world's first nationwide platform Saulės Parkai (Solar parks) has been launched and is available to residents willing to produce solar energy for their homes
- ❖ Platform acts as independent and neutral to all market players entity bringing together solar parks developers and prosumers
- ❖ Added value to demand and supply sides
- ❖ Commercially viable platform (no grant element included)

5. Carrot-stick

Problem

- ❖ Even with grants available vulnerable group representatives (retired people, low income families) being against EE projects (uncertainty).

Solution

- ❖ Measure introduced where vulnerable groups, getting heating bill compensation and voting against EE project in multi-apartment buildings gradually lose their compensation.
- ❖ After projects are completed monthly installments of low-income families are compensated by municipalities.

Annex 1. Good Practice Fiche Template

NB: **in orange**: 2 optional fields. All other fields are compulsory.

1. General information	
Title of the practice	[100 characters]
Does this practice come from an Interreg Europe Project	Yes or no [Technical: Good Practices outside the IR-E projects relevant to the topics and validated by the Policy Learning Platforms experts will also be included in the database]

In case 'yes' is selected, the following sections appear:

Please select the project acronym	Drop down menu with all acronyms
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Specific objective	Drop-down list of the 6 specific objectives [Technical: In case a project is selected, the specific objective is automatically completed]	
Main institution involved	[Technical: The name of the institution and location of the practice are per default those of the practice author. They remain editable.]	
Location of the practice	Country	Drop-down list
	NUTS 1	Drop-down list
	NUTS 2	Drop-down list
	NUTS 3	Drop-down list

2. Detailed description

<p>Detailed information on the practice</p>	<p>[1500 characters] Please provide information on the practice itself. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the problem addressed and the context which triggered the introduction of the practice? - How does the practice reach its objectives and how it is implemented? - Who are the main stakeholders and beneficiaries of the practice? <p><u>POWERTY specific considerations:</u></p> <p>Define the practice as one addressing both energy poverty and the need to increase energy production from renewable resources</p> <p>Explain which energy poverty drivers, consequences and vulnerable groups are affected</p> <p>Show links to existing energy poverty initiatives and policies - regionally, nationally and internationally (i.e. EPOV)</p> <p>Emphasize the regionally-specific elements of the practice</p>
<p>Resources needed</p>	<p>[300 characters] Please specify the amount of funding/financial resources used and/or the human resources required to set up and to run the practice.</p>
<p>Timescale (start/end date)</p>	<p>e.g. June 2012 - May 2014/ongoing</p>
<p>Evidence of success (results achieved)</p>	<p>[500 characters] Why is this practice considered as good? Please provide factual evidence that demonstrates its success or failure (e.g. measurable outputs/results).</p> <p><u>POWERTY specific considerations:</u></p> <p>To the greatest extent possible, use available energy poverty indicators to demonstrate success</p> <p>Highlight not just reductions in energy poverty but also the increased participation of vulnerable groups in decision-making, and improved access to energy market mechanisms</p>
<p>Difficulties encountered/lessons learned</p>	<p>[300 characters] Please specify any difficulties encountered/lessons learned during the implementation of the practice.</p>

	<p>POWERTY specific considerations: Refer to the SWOT analysis template in terms of weaknesses addressed and opportunities pursued</p>
Potential for learning or transfer	<p>[1000 characters] Please explain why you consider this practice (or some aspects of this practice) as being potentially interesting for other regions to learn from. This can be done e.g. through information on key success factors for a transfer or on, factors that can hamper a transfer. Information on transfer(s) that already took place can also be provided (if possible, specify the country, the region - NUTS 2 - and organisation to which the practice was transferred)</p> <p>[Technical: A good practice be edited throughout a project life time (e.g. to add information on the transfers that have occurred)]</p>
Further information	Link to where further information on the good practice can be found
Contact details [Technical: the contact details will be visible only to "Policy Learning Platforms registered members"]	
Name	
Organisation	
Email	
Expert opinion	[500 characters] [Technical: to be filled in by the Policy Learning Platforms experts]