



Empowering Communities

Leveraging Data to Combat Energy Poverty

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JRC C.7 | 26/06/24 | Brussels

European Economic and Social Committee
**Conference on Affordable Energy:
Turning civil society views into action**

Joint
Research
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Our work this year

Published: Energy communities and energy poverty

- Examination of energy communities as tools for tackling energy poverty, analysis of barriers to participation, relative policy initiatives in the EU, case studies and examples of energy communities engaging in energy justice

In press: Shedding Light: Unveiling the dynamics of energy poverty in the EU

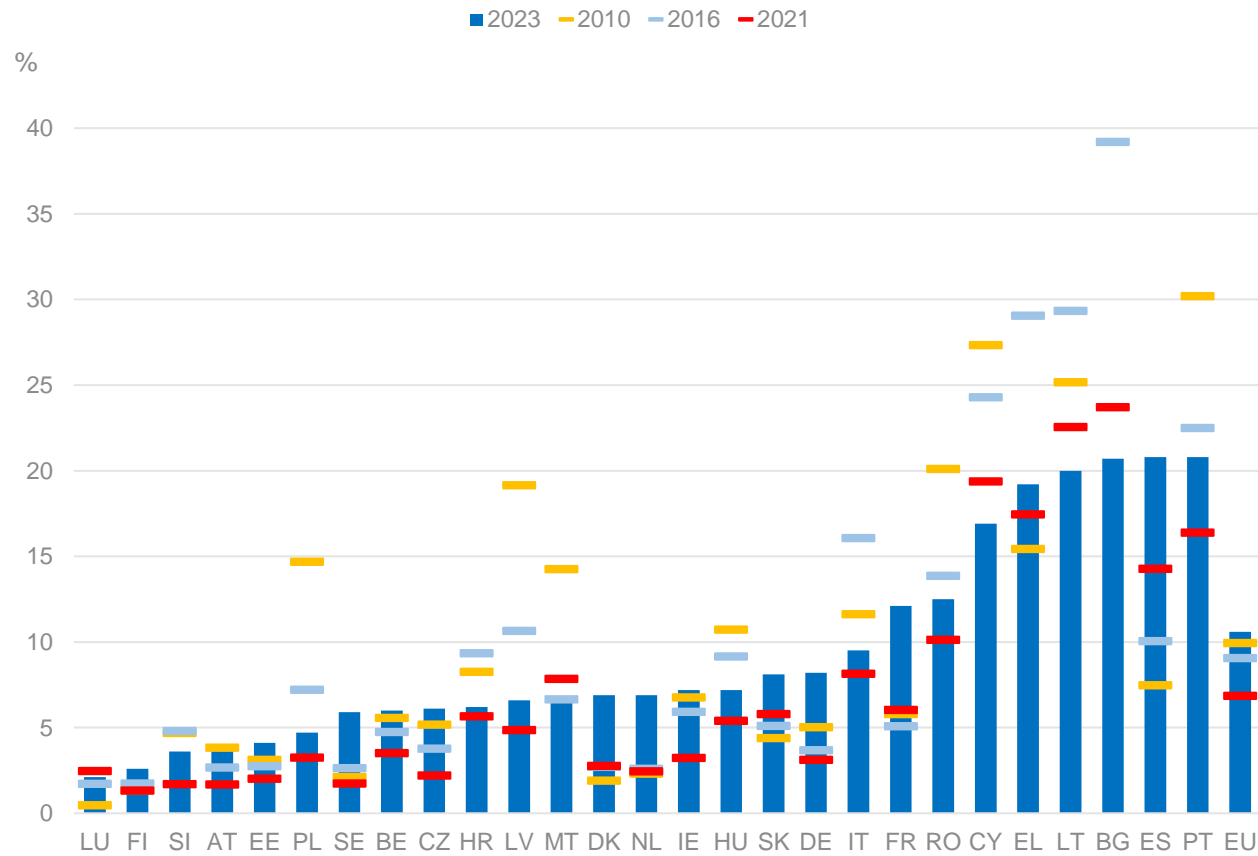
- Disaggregated data and statistical analysis on energy poverty indicators across EU Members States, regions and socioeconomic strata

In press: The persistence of energy poverty in the EU

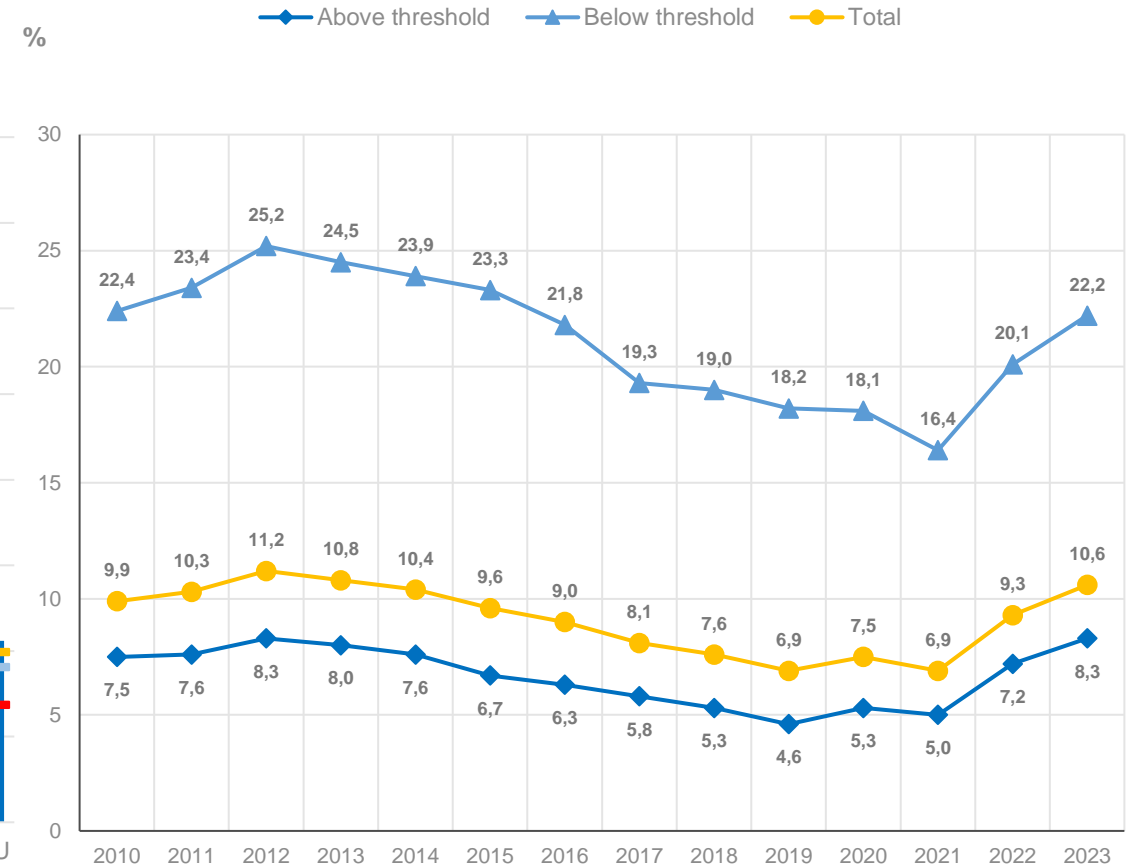
- Socioeconomic insights into EU's long-term energy poverty via statistical analysis

Energy poverty in the EU 1/3

People unable to keep the home adequately warm

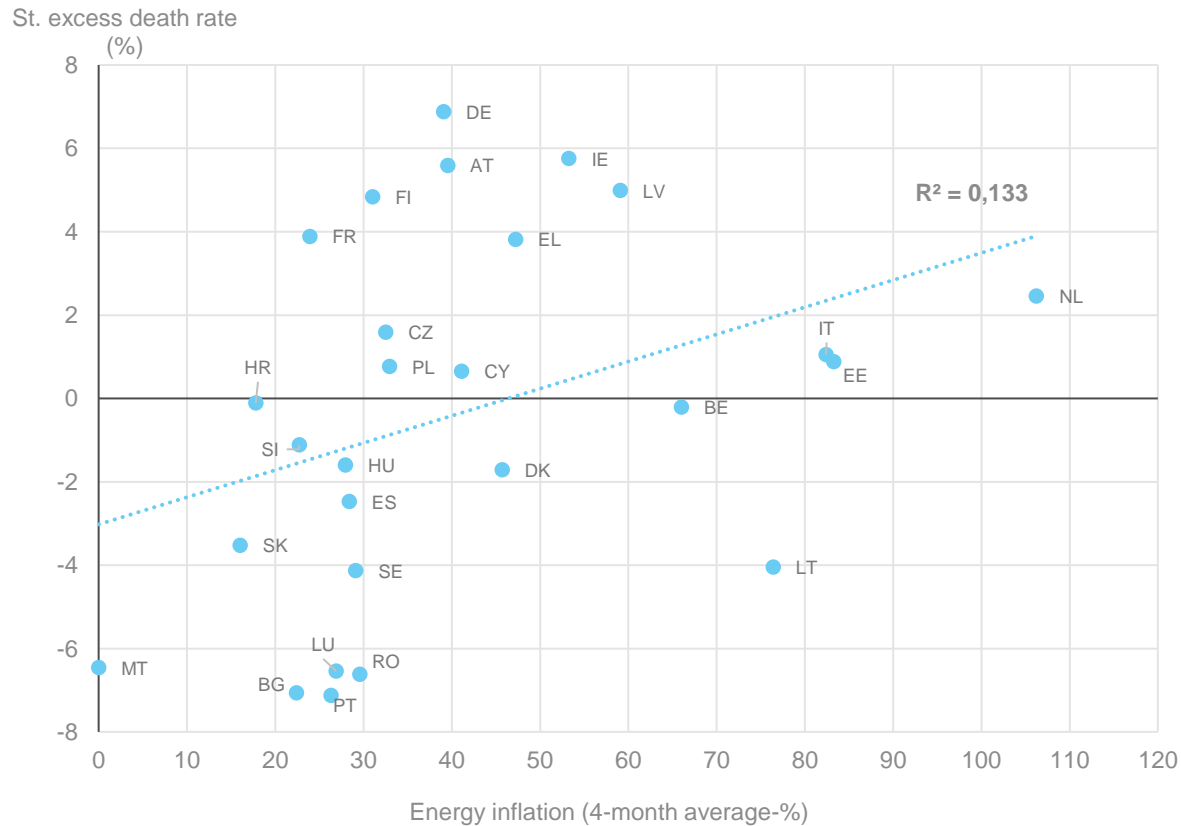


People unable to keep their home adequately warm by at-risk-of-poverty threshold status

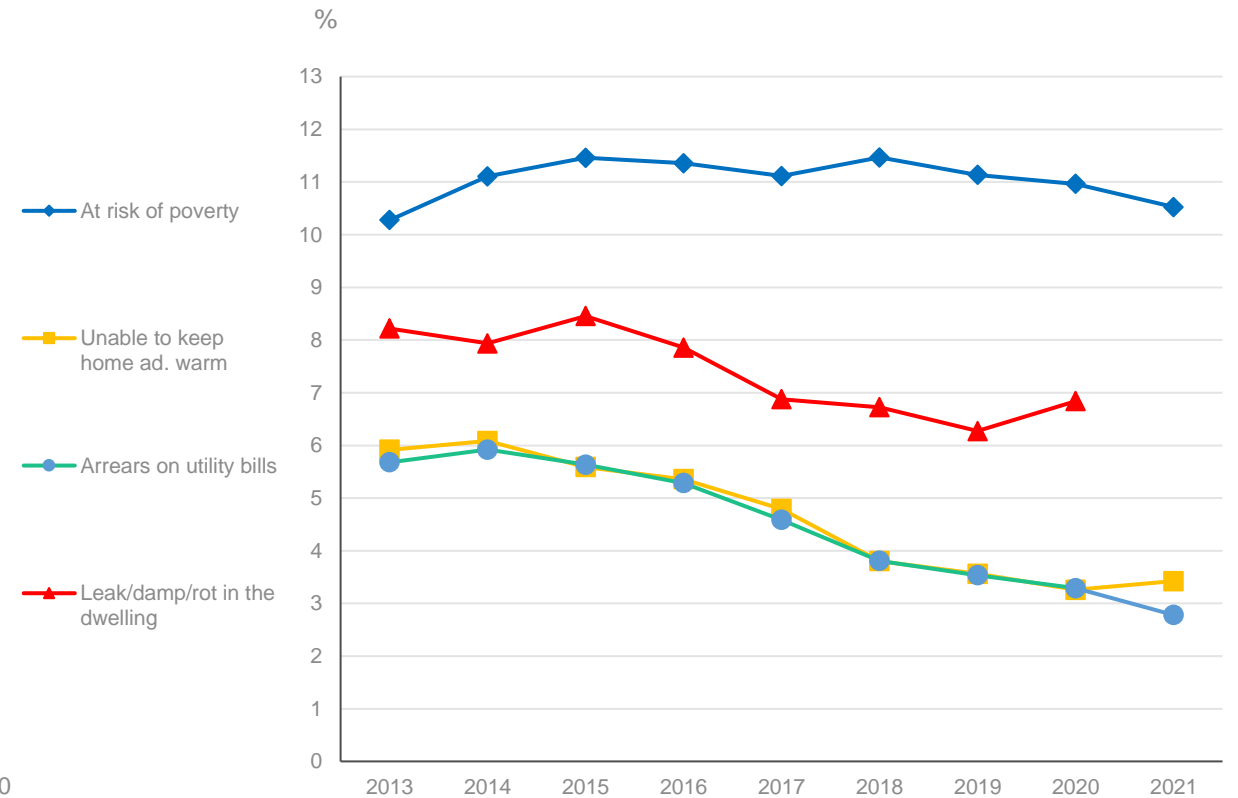


Energy poverty in the EU 2/3

Relation between standardised excess death rate and energy inflation, Nov. 2022-Feb. 2023

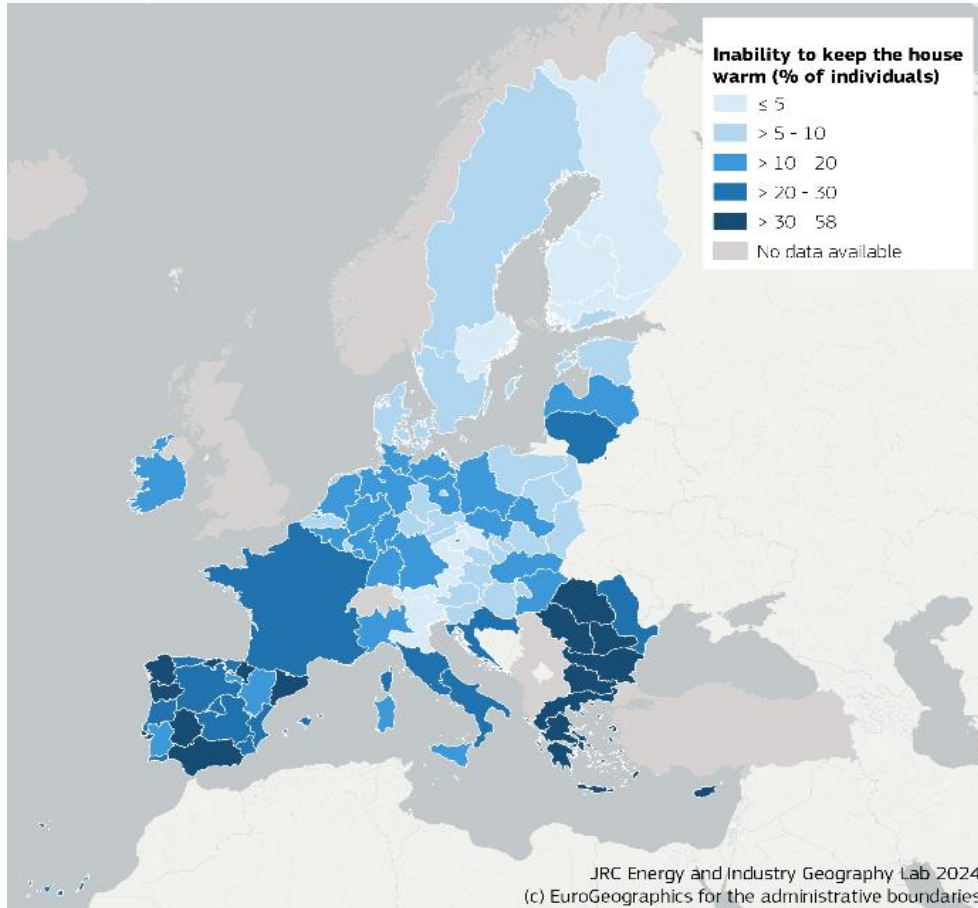


Persistency rates for monetary poverty and energy poverty indicators, 2013-2021

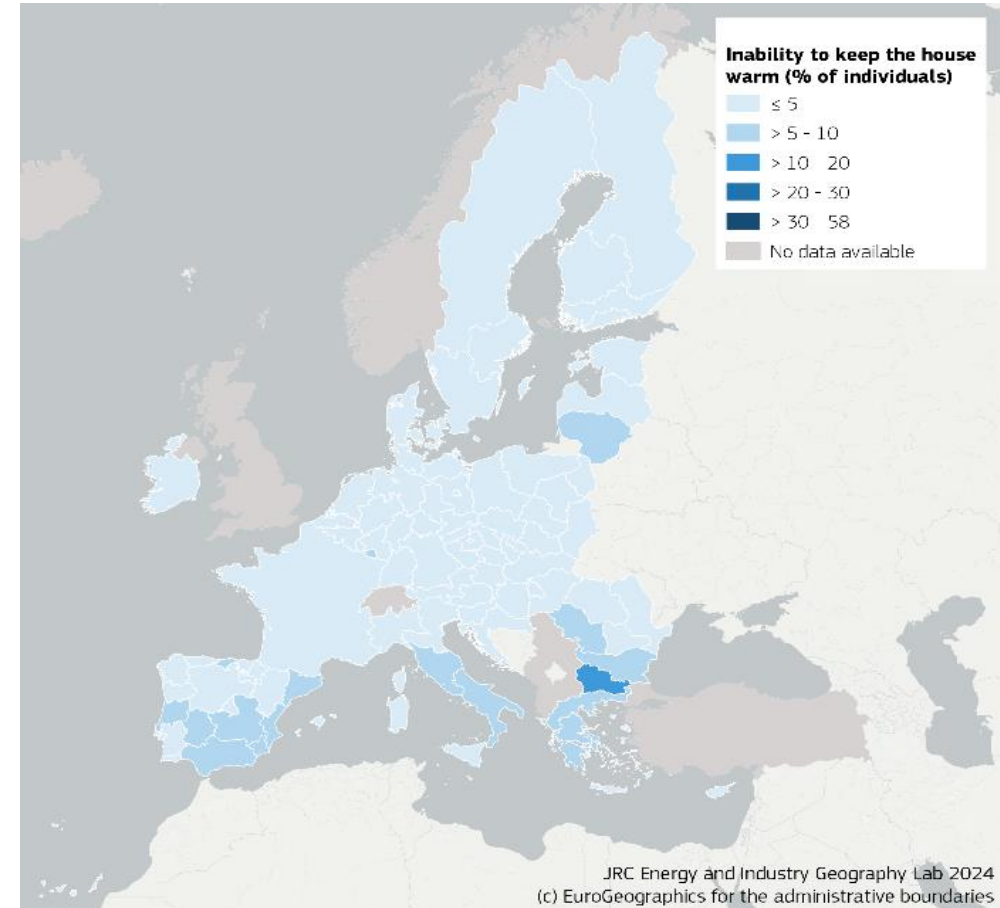


Energy poverty in the EU 3/3

Proportion of individuals unable to keep the house adequately warm per region, according to income quintiles, 2022



Lowest income quintile



Highest income quintile

Discrepancies and gaps in policy frameworks

Issues

Unclear relationship between energy and social policies

Legal framework focuses on transparency and informed market choices but for people in scarcity this is not enough

How to address?

Need of long-term institutional, structural and mixed interventions

Align energy and social policy as well as renewable and social economy sectors

Combine top-down and bottom-up approaches to energy justice

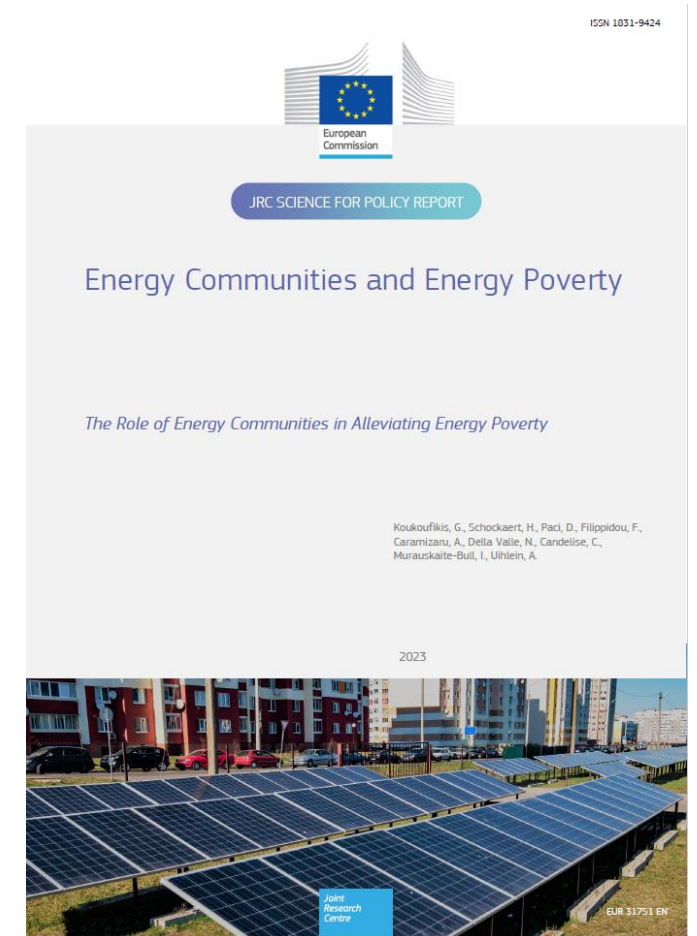
(Capacity building and technical assistance – Use of behavioral nudges and boosts - increase participatory decision making and consultations)

Energy communities: opportunities & barriers

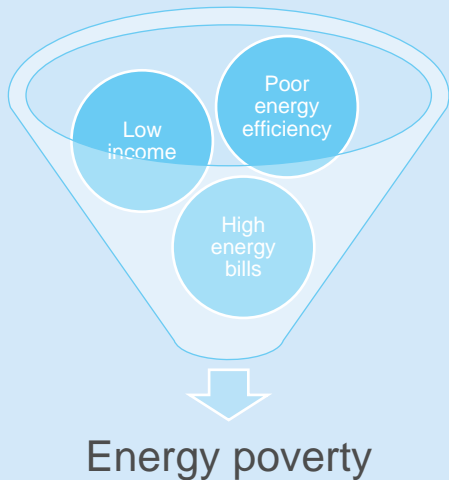
Energy communities are an undervalued tool in the just transition to net zero but not the silver bullet to solve the related socio-economic challenges

Need for targeted support and policy innovation to address the various barriers and unlock the full potential of energy communities in tackling energy poverty

Support energy communities to acquire roles beyond energy production



Way ahead



- Energy poverty rises due to a combo of low income - high energy prices
- The cost of the transition disproportionately affect low-income households & SMEs, as those are not be able to invest in measures lowering their energy burden
- The introduction of ETS 2 and SCF will be key - If now handled properly could cause further citizen's alienation and SMEs disruptions as production cost will be increased

- To address energy poverty, we need **robust frameworks with precise definitions and indicators**, developed through **consultations with stakeholders** and those directly affected by energy poverty

Thank you

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