

MANIFESTO OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO COMBINE HEALTH AND ENERGY POVERTY ACTION



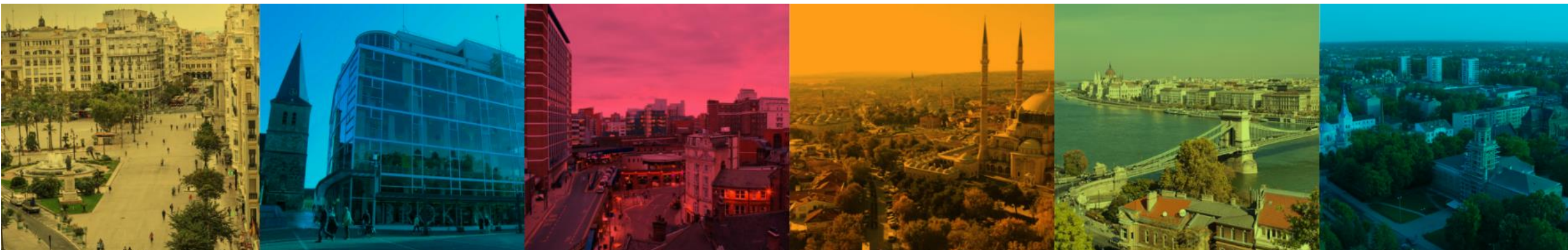
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Energy Cities



LAS NAVES



València
Clima i Energia

INCLIVA | VLC
Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria

Hveloce
I+D+i

Erasmus MC
Universiteit Maastricht
Universiteit Radboud



DemirEnerji

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

TNO
innovation
for life



Spedali
Galliera



MUTK



ASIDEES



Heerlen

Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE CENTRAL TO MAKING THINGS HAPPEN



This manifesto is aimed at local leaders with a series of actions that are in reach of local authorities. The cities who sign recognize their role to fight energy poverty need to go beyond short-term emergency solutions.



- Much needs to happen at the local level
- Local government action can be more immediate
- We need person-centred and place-based approaches

The Energy Poverty drama



Energy Poverty: A Humanitarian Crisis

Energy poverty has become a humanitarian crisis affecting millions of people throughout Europe. This crisis not only threatens the dignity and quality of life of our citizens but also has devastating effects on their physical and mental health. We recognize:

1. **Undermined Dignity:** No one should be subjected to precarious living conditions, devoid of adequate access to the energy essential for a dignified existence.
2. **Disproportionate Suffering:** Energy poverty disproportionately affects vulnerable groups perpetuating social inequalities.
3. **A public health challenge:** living in inadequate home temperatures during the coldest or hottest months and poor housing conditions have adverse consequences for physical and mental well-being.

The health drama



Unacceptable Health Consequences

- Energy poverty has a significant impact on the physical and mental health of individuals:
1. **Respiratory Diseases:** Exposure to extreme temperatures and excessive humidity in poorly conditioned homes increases the risk of respiratory illnesses such as asthma and respiratory infections.
 2. **Mental Health Struggles:** Anxiety, depression, and stress associated with energy poverty are harmful to mental health.
 3. **Exacerbation of Chronic Illnesses:** Inadequate heating can worsen chronic medical conditions, further diminishing the quality of life for patients.

Local leaders take action!

Our commitment to create healthier homes in our cities

At the local level, we acknowledge our responsibility in addressing energy poverty and its detrimental effects on physical and mental health. Amongst the actions that we are ready to foster on our territories are:

- ✓ **Connect energy poverty and health targets in early stages of planning, i.e. embed both in local strategic plans such as the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans - SECAPs (using appropriate indicators, identification of those most affected and systematic monitoring)**
- ✓ **Foster continuous training of professionals (housing companies/social workers/health professionals) on the close links between energy poverty and health**
- ✓ **Create a coalition, working group or roundtable of energy and health actors to push forward the agenda (including health, social care and energy actors)**
- ✓ **Provide support and means to regular and widespread energy audits and other energy advice services, especially targeting people in vulnerable situations to speed up renovations according to the “worst first” principle**
- ✓ **Create one or several one-stop-shops (or a local network of advice) including energy poverty alleviation services and health support**

KNOW A CITY THAT COULD JOIN?

A close-up photograph of a person's hands signing a document. The person is wearing a light blue shirt and is using a black pen to write on a white piece of paper. The background is blurred, showing other people in a meeting setting.

Each local government that signs means...

...a first step towards better local action programs that reduce energy poverty and improve people's health.