Grafting Cities
Cultivating our common future
October 2023 Modena
Supporting structures for hard-to-reach energy vulnerable households

The experience of the Citizen Action Lab in Città di Castello

Climate Alliance Italy
Energy transition. What do we need?

People “hard-to-reach”

Energy Justice

Energy Citizen

NO
Energy transition without the “Silent majority”
Motivating citizens who are not part of the Energy transition to participate
Who is energy poor?

Difficulties to make a link between definition and empirical observations

“Proxies” as an entry point
- Unemployed
- Older people
- Debts
- Low income

What Energy poverty concept?

Qualitative sampling ✓
Sampling based on particular empirical data ✗

- Income
- Housing characteristics
- Energy costs

Source: Ute Dubois & Anca Sinea
Why are “hard-to-reach” groups hard to reach?

There are good reasons why hard-to-reach groups are hard to reach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively</th>
<th>Subjectively</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>❘ No time</td>
<td>❘ Fear to be judged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❘ Caring responsibilities</td>
<td>❘ Shame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❘ Financial problems</td>
<td>❘ « Administration can’t help me anyway »</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❘ Language</td>
<td>❘ « Nothing can be done for my situation »</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Working group of the Città di Castello Lab

**Organisation Ps dialogues**
- Climate Alliance Italy
- Università degli Studi Roma 3

**Implementation partners**
- Social Department of the City of Città di Castello
- Caritas
- Università delle Tre Età
Process Log of CAL

Preparation meetings with Implementation Partners

Thinking about energy
Oct. 24, 2022
1st workshop

Energy and me
Nov. 7, 2022
2nd workshop

From me to us
Nov. 21, 2022
3rd workshop

Citizen Manifesto
Dec. 1, 2022
Town Hall meeting

Continuous follow-up with Implementation Partners

Media communication

Sharing results with Mayor

Sharing results with citizens

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Jun.-Nov. 2022
Lesson learnt & Outcomes

To reach energy vulnerable households, concentrate on intermediate partners **that have the trust of the target group**

**Participants were much better informed than we expected:**

- Sense of agency – there are things I individually and collectively can do
- An unrealistic assessment of what the local administration can do and not do
- Concrete facilitation needed by the public administration, e.g., in creating an energy community
Thank you