**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Improving people’s everyday lives

70%

Percentage of people who can’t afford to adequately heat their home

Source: Eurostat 2012

CASE STUDY: LITHUANIA

- **EU Funding**
- **National budget**
- **Used to leverage**
  - €500M in bank loans
- **To renovate...**
  - 80K HOMES for 200K PEOPLE
  - Zero cost
  - Paid for with savings from energy bills
  - Fast
  - Finished in under two weeks
  - Bonus upgrade
  - New free bathroom or kitchen

CASE STUDY: NETHERLANDS

- **EU and NL start-up money**

80K HOMES for 200K PEOPLE

To renovate...
REFERENCES

The fuel poverty numbers are from Eurostat and show the percentage of people below the poverty threshold who cannot afford to properly heat their homes. About 25% of the EU population falls in this category. Details in ‘Alleviating fuel poverty in the EU’, by BPIE.

Energy efficiency is considered to be the main way to future proof Europe’s housing against fuel poverty. Commissioner Arias Cañete has pointed out that every one percentage point increase in the 2030 efficiency target means lifting up to seven million people out of fuel poverty (Reuters, 09/09/2016). We agree with the S&D party that ‘no one should have to choose between heating, cooling and eating’.

The Lithuanian case study: roughly 35% of the Lithuanian population is unable to afford proper indoor thermal comfort (Source: Eurostat). In response, the government aims to renovate over 3500 apartment blocks by the early 2020s. Over 1250 have already been completed. Approximately 300 SMEs are engaged in the work. Energy use is being reduced by about 40% on average. This is cutting energy bills and boosting living standards for over 200,000 people (a significant share of the country’s 3m inhabitants).

Homeowners receive grants for 35-40% of the renovation costs (low income families receive 100%). The remainder is financed with low interest (3%) loans with the support of the European Investment Bank and the Commission (the JESSICA fund).

This year (2016) the Lithuanian leverage scheme was launched. With EIB support, €100m of EU Structural and Investment Funds and national resources is being used to leverage €500m in low interest bank loans.

Data from the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment and independent experts.

The Dutch case study: Energiesprong (‘energy jump’) was launched in the Netherlands with the support of EU research funds and the Dutch government. The programme focuses on social housing. So far 1000 family homes have been renovated to net zero standards. About 15,000 more are in the planning stage. Energiesprong is in the process of expanding to the UK and France. Average renovation costs (in the Netherlands) have fallen significantly: from about €140,000 per home to €65-70,000.

Energiesprong’s main selling point is the speed and quality of the renovation: they guarantee that the work will be done in less than two weeks and aim for less than one week. They also include a free kitchen and bathroom to increase the appeal of carrying out the retrofit. Investment costs are reimbursed thanks to the savings on energy bills.

Details available at energiesprong.eu