

# FROM LOCAL TO EUROPEAN: BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO TACKLE ENERGY POVERTY



**ASSIST**  
2GETHER  
JOINT ENGAGEMENT FOR ENERGY

FINAL CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE,  
BRUSSELS

2 APRIL 2020 | 9H00 - 13H00

With the support of  
  
European Economic  
and Social Committee

## DRAFT AGENDA

### 9h00 – 9h25 Opening and Welcome

- Marina Varvesi, ASSIST coordinator
- Kadri Simson, Commissioner of DG Energy, European Commission (tbc)

### 9h25 – 10h35 Round table: How local actions and social innovations are necessary to put vulnerable consumers at the heart of policies addressing energy poverty

Moderator: **Marta Garcia**, ECOSERVEIS

- Discussion with National Vulnerable Consumers Steering Committee members from Italy, Spain, Finland, UK, Poland and Belgium
- Discussion with the audience

### 10h35 – 11h20 Challenges to tackle energy poverty: views from EU projects

- Silvia Vivarelli, EASME
- Marina Varvesi, ASSIST coordinator
- European projects on Energy Poverty
  - Cezara Popovici, STEP coordinator, Horizon 2020 project
- Clotilde Clark-Foulquier, FEANTSA
- Discussion with the audience

### 11h20 - 11h45 Coffee break & networking

[WWW.ASSIST2GETHER.EU](http://WWW.ASSIST2GETHER.EU)



This Project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 754051.

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## DRAFT AGENDA

### 11h45 - 12h55 Round table: EU policy to tackle energy poverty and protect vulnerable consumers in Europe: proposal and recommendations

Moderator: **Mathias Maucher**, European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)

- **Maria Jeliaskova**, EAPN Bulgaria, ASSIST partner presenting the *Vulnerable Consumers Protection Framework Paper*
- **Pierre-Jean Coulon**, President of the TEN section at the EESC
- **Pablo Sánchez Centellas**, EPSU
- **Cornelia Ernst**, Member of the European Parliament, GUE/NGL group
- **Giustino Piccolo**, Covenant of Mayors
- **Julien Dijol**, Housing Europe
- **Discussion with the audience**

### 12h55 - 13h10 Closing

- **Pierre-Jean Coulon**, President of the TEN section at the EESC

## ASSIST IN A NUTSHELL

### The challenge

How to develop **concrete solutions** to improve the levels of **empowerment** and **engagement** of vulnerable consumers and energy poor in a scenario of increasing market complexity?

### The response

ASSIST offers a two-way approach to the problem: **active engaging** of consumers in the energy market as well as a **positive change of behaviour** in relation to energy use, and to **influence the design of policies** at all levels to tackle energy poverty issues.

The project has generated **in depth knowledge** on consumer vulnerability and on energy poverty, with the aim to foster the development of a clear and unique definition for its identification and measuring in Europe.

### The impact

- Nearly 100K vulnerable consumers reached through "soft" and big actions.
- Energy saving of 2 % of > 12K vulnerable consumers.
- > 500 trained Home Energy Advisors (HEA) in 6 countries.
- Identification of national measures and best practices to address energy poverty in Europe.



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