

FAIR ENERGY TRANSITION

for all



European Conference for a Just
Transition

04/03/2024

Content

1. Why
2. How
3. Key messages



To succeed, fairness and inclusivity are vital

- Citizens are not equal in the face of climate change nor energy transition
- Transition perceived as elitist, costly, unaffordable
- Vulnerable people as passive victims or obstacles to the transition, when they could be actors and partners
- Polarization of our societies



FETA: a dialogue with vulnerable citizens on energy transition



- Listen to their concerns, fears, hopes and expectations (housing, mobility, financing)
- Develop policy recommendations combining energy transition and social justice
- Inspire national and European policy-makers for fairer policies

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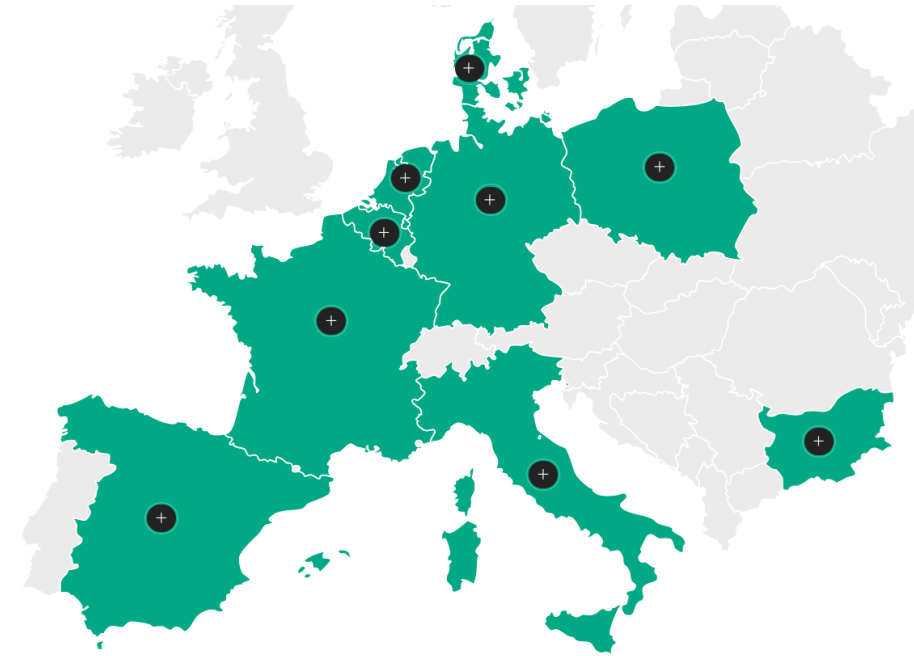
OPEN SOCIETY
EUROPEAN POLICY
INSTITUTE

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2. **How**
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- A people-centered policy-design, from start to finish
– Leave no one behind!
- 9 countries
- 963 citizens in difficult financial or social situation
- 120 experts
- 18 local operational partners
- A core team with complementary expertises (ifok, Climate Outreach, EPC, KBF)
- 1 external evaluator - ODS



www.fair-energy-transition



The target group

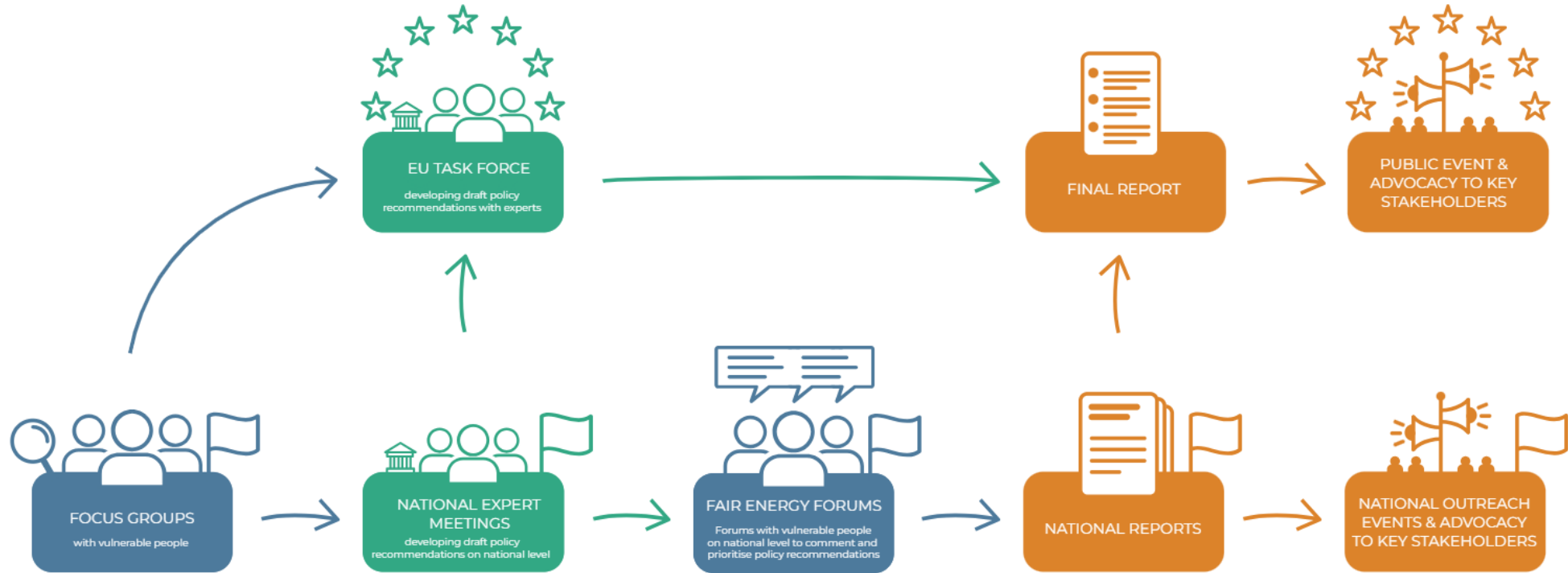
- People who are socially or economically disadvantaged and non-represented (hard-to-reach / unheard)
- A unique and innovative recruiting approach
 - Go where they are!
 - Safe space where all voices can be amplified – dialogues for evidenced-based policies
 - Dry-runs and agile methodology



A dialogue in 4 phases

DIALOGUE →

ADVOCACY →



Final deliverables

- National Reports
- EU Report
- Final Global Report
- Method guide

Fair Energy Transition for All
Final Recommendations

ENERGY TRANSITION: EVERYBODY IS AFFECTED SO EVERYBODY SHOULD BE HEARD

National Report of Italy
Results of dialogues about energy transition with vulnerable citizens and experts
September 2022
www.fair-energy-transition.eu

King Baudouin Foundation, Fondazioni CARIPLO, DBU, IKEA Foundation, STIFTUNG MERCATOR, OPEN SOCIETY EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTE, Network European Foundations, EPC, ifok, outreach

FAIR ENERGY TRANSITION FOR ALL – HOW TO GET THERE?
EU Wide Recommendations

Based on dialogues with vulnerable citizens in nine European countries, and with experts
November 2022
www.fair-energy-transition.eu

King Baudouin Foundation, Fondazioni CARIPLO, DBU, IKEA Foundation, STIFTUNG MERCATOR, OPEN SOCIETY EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTE, Network European Foundations, EPC, ifok, outreach

FINAL REPORT
FAIR ENERGY TRANSITION FOR ALL – HOW TO GET THERE?

Results of dialogues about energy transition with vulnerable citizens and workshops with experts in nine European countries
November 2022
www.fair-energy-transition.eu

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MAKE THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE

METHOD GUIDE
How to engage with hard-to-reach citizens for policy development?

Methodology, learnings, and best practices from the project “Fair Energy Transition for All”


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Key take-aways

- 
- Understanding of the need to break with coal, oil and gas
 - Not indifferent nor hostile to the transition, willingness to play a part and acceptance of the need for sacrifices, but fairness and equity are key to build and maintain support
 - Efforts and sacrifices to be shared out
 - Vulnerable citizens generally confused about how best to have an impact and where to find trustworthy information
 - Deep mistrust in politicians and their ability to meet climate goals
 - Energy transition also offers European society many opportunities – if managed well

Fairness

- Rise VAT on fossil fuels and carbon intensive products; cut VAT on public transport, renewable energy, sustainable food
- Energy poverty
 - Targeted income support when energy prices are high
 - Temporary income support and green investment targeting the most vulnerable for insulation or replacement
 - Local investments funds, soft loans for energy transition accessible to all
 - Direct and automated energy payments
 - Improved coordination between energy providers and public authorities when unpaid bills
- Improve public engagement (inclusive deliberations and assemblies)



“Everyone should benefit, but those with broad shoulders should carry more.”



Communication

- Clear and frank communication to build trust and understanding
- New narratives
 - EU-wide communication campaign about transition (what, why, how, effects)
 - Focus messages on community and social cohesion rather than on individual behavior
- Advice and trainings easily available
 - Energy advice offices and tutors at local level
 - Targeted training for vulnerable groups to learn skills for green jobs



"I bought a low-energy fridge that was twice the price and I know it's a good investment, but not everyone is aware of this or they don't know what the labels mean. People should be informed and educated about all this."



Housing

- Targeted (progressive) financial support for energy efficiency improvements (free renovation loans, voucher schemes)
- Improve social housing stock
- Encourage owners to invest (ban rental inefficient homes or oblige compensation to tenants, cap rent increases if renovation subsidies)
- (Local) Advise on how to save energy
- Inclusive and collective energy generation models (communities, cooperatives)

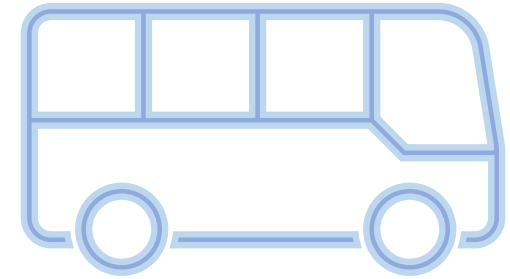


“It is from the grassroots that things start to move: what works are small, local ideas and ordinary people helping each other. We have to give those ideas more support and spread the word about them.”



Mobility

- Invest in public transport and inclusive car-sharing schemes (free or low cost)
- Urban planning
- Invest in low-emission public transport (accessibility, fair price, reliability, sustainability)
- EU standards for inclusive and sustainable transport
- Pay attention to mobility in rural areas
- Changing culture re domestic cars



“Better public transport would let people from my village get to the city more easily. That would give them the same chances as people in town and help their budgets because they wouldn’t have to buy a car.”



For more information

- www.fair-energy-transition.eu
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-sah2BSeG0>

