



Focus: Process of bringing REACH to the national level in Slovenia

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How it started? (March 2014)

An official from the Ministry of Infrastructure – Directorate for Energy had some previous work on energy poverty and was aware of our project Achieve. She was present on the REACH conference in March 2014 in Ljubljana, where we started talking about the possibility of starting a pilot project on the national level. There was also an official from the Ministry of Environment, who was also fond of the idea.

Second step - first meeting (May 2014)

That was followed by the first meeting with both of them. Coming closer to the idea of developing a program of energy advising in socially disadvantaged households, which would be carried out by the national network of energy advisers EN-SVET¹, because this is the structure, which is already in place. Energy advising would be based on methodology, used in ACHIEVE and REACH projects. Funding for the project would be carried out by Eco fund and the funds would come from Climate fund. For that, Ministry of Environment had to give their approval.

Third step - second meeting (May 2014)

Second meeting was held in extended lineup: Focus, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Environment, Eco fund, GI ZRMK (who are running the EN-SVET network). Official from Ministry of Social affairs could not attend. All agreed on the suitability of the idea to go forward.

¹ [EN-SVET](http://www.reach-energy.eu) is coordinated by GI ZRMK (construction institute). The network includes more than 50 energy advisers in more than 30 locations – offices all over Slovenia. Energy advisers are mostly people, who are employed elsewhere or retired experts, who work in this offices one hour per week. Office is paid by municipalities and payment for their work is paid by the Eco fund. They are paid per numbers of advising sessions. People, who want information regarding energy efficiency make an appointment and come to the office. Mainly these are people who are planning a bigger investment (building a new home, renovating their home, changing their heating system, energy refurbishment of the building, changing windows,...) - so mostly people, who have some funds for the investment. Energy poor households or socially disadvantaged households are mainly not their target.

Conclusions of the meeting:

- We have defined which households would be entitled for the free of charge energy advising in their household – households, who are receiving any kind of social support.
- Leaflet for households should be prepared.
- Centers for Social Work will give these leaflets to households and will also collect the applications from the households.
- Focus prepares and implements (in cooperation with GI-ZRMK and Ministry of Infrastructure) a training for energy advisers EN-SVET.
- Funds for saving devices, that are given to the households (efficient light-bulbs, aerators,..), and for implementation of the training for energy advisers is covered by Climate fund – approximately 20.000 EUR ($\frac{1}{2}$ for devices, $\frac{1}{2}$ for training).
- Funds for payments for energy advisers is covered by Eco fund (energy advising in households is financially treated as normal advising in their office + travel costs) via their regular contract with EN-SVET network.
- In year 2014 it is planned that energy advising is implemented in 300 households.

Fourth step (from May to September 2014)

A lot of meetings, working on details:

- Ministry of Infrastructure prepared a short description of the program/project, based on what we agreed. This text had to be approved by higher level in the Ministries. None of the Ministers was directly involved in the process, but all gave their approval for the program. The process and the program is an example of good cross-sectoral cooperation, because 3 Ministries are included in the program.
- Program on energy advising in energy poor households became part of the Action plan for Energy Efficiency 2020.
- Leaflet for households is finalized.



- Centers for Social Work start with promotion (using the leaflet) of the service and gathering applications from households. Households can also apply directly to EN-SVET/GI ZRMK. There is one person in charge of the EN-SVET network and he is also responsible for gathering all applications and forwarding them to advisers. Ministry of Social affairs had informed all Centers for Social Work in the country about the project and sent them leaflets in digital versions. Centers had to print them by themselves.
- It was agreed that Focus is implementing the visits in Zasavje and Pomurje region (where we are implementing Reach project) and the rest of Slovenia is covered by the national project.
- Methodology of the visits is agreed. Instead of two visits per one household, there will be only one visit, where advisers do the analysis and give devices and advices to the household. Report and results from the analysis is sent via mail to the household afterwards. Every household gets more or less standard package of devices (3 efficient light-bulbs, tap aerator, efficient shower head or flow regulator for shower, several meters of sealing tape for windows, power strip with on/off button, reflective panel for radiator – all worth app. 30 eur).
- Excel tool and data collection sheet are slightly modified (from REACH version).
- Materials and presentations are prepared for the training.
- Agreement on which devices should be bought (in discussion with Focus, Ministry of Infrastructure and Ministry of Environment). Purchase of devices (formally run by Ministry of Environment).

Fifth step - training (September 2014)

Training for 50 energy advisers was implemented in 1 day session (from 9.00 to 17.00). It was carried out by Focus (which had experience with Achieve and Reach projects).

Agenda for training:

- presentation of energy poverty
- presentation of Achieve and Reach projects, with methodology for implementation of visits in households



- communication with socially disadvantaged households
- advices for efficient use of energy and water
- experience from Achieve project
- presentation of excel tool and data collection sheet
- example of using the excel tool
- practical work with excel tool

Every adviser had to implement an energy audit in his own household (as part of the training) in the week following the training and send the report to the person in charge of EN-SVET network.

Sixth step - starting with implementation (from October 2014)

Devices are distributed to advisers, based on the number of households they will visit.

From October on, visits in households are implemented.

Budget

Funds intended for implementation of project tasks, without preparatory costs and payments for actual energy advising are as follows:

- approximately 10.500 EUR excluding VAT or 12.600 including VAT for implementation of training for energy advisers,
- approximately 10.000 EUR excluding VAT or 12.000 including VAT for energy saving devices for households.

Together that is 24.600 EUR including VAT. Funds are earmarked in the budget of Republic of Slovenia for 2014, on a budget item from Climate Fund.

Approximate costs of energy and water saving devices:

- CFL, 20W, E27, 300 pieces, 4 EUR/piece,
- CFL, 11W, E27, 300 pieces, 4 EUR/piece,
- CFL, 11W, E14, 300 pieces, 4 EUR/piece,
- tap aerator, max flow 5 l/min, M42, 300 pieces, 4 EUR/piece,
- tap aerator, max flow 7,2 l/min, M22, 60 pieces, 5 EUR/piece,



- efficient shower head, max flow 6 l/min, 150 pieces, 13 EUR/piece,
- flow limiter for shower, max flow 9 l/min, 150 pieces, 3 EUR/piece,
- power strip with on/off switch, 300 pieces, 3 EUR/piece,
- draft proofing (sealing tape) for windows and doors, 12.000 m, 0,20 EUR/m,
- reflective panel for radiator, 1.500 m, 1 EUR/m
- single appliance monitor (watt meter) – used as equipment by energy advisers, 10 EUR/piece.

Energy adviser is paid approximately 40 EUR per 1 household. That costs include travel expenses.

Expected savings and effects

Following table present results from project ACHIEVE, on which project REACH and the national level project in Slovenia are based. Results present average savings per household per year. An average household, where energy advising was implemented, saved 108,87 EUR per year only on the basis of installed devices. Other possible impacts of the visits, such as more rational use of energy, changing of habits and behaviour, are not calculated in these savings.

		mean score
electricity	electricity (kWh)	274.0 kWh
	electricity costs	39.28 €
	electricity CO2	152.6 CO2 kg
water	water (m ³)	17.5 m ³
	water costs	35,98 €
heat energy	heat energy (kWh)	554.9 kWh
	heat energy costs	33.61 €
	heat energy (CO2)	168.1 CO2 kg
total	costs	108.87 €
	CO2 (kg)	320.7 CO2 kg



Apart from that, households gained new information and knowledge on energy and energy saving measures. They were presented with tools and advices for reducing their energy and water consumption and for changing their habits. This awareness raising component of the project should also be taken into account as a beneficial one.

Next steps

Already about 200 visits were carried out.

One more training for new ENSVET energy advisers (30) was carried out in January 2015.

Based on experience from 2014, the plan for 2015 is to finance and implement visits in 1000 households.

Partnerji



Focus, društvo za sonaraven razvoj, Slovenija

www.focus.si



DOOR – Društvo za oblikovanje održivog razvoja, Hrvaška

www.door.hr



EAP – Energy Agency of Plovdiv, Bolgarija

www.eap-save.eu



MACEF – Makedonski center za energetska učinkovitost, Makedonija

www.macef.org.mk

Sofinancirano s strani



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