

“Energy policy behind the front door: gender perspective on access to energy in the EU”

Drs. Mariëlle Feenstra MSc

University Twente

Department of Governance and Technology for Sustainability (CSTM)

**UNIVERSITY
OF TWENTE.**

Gendered perspective on energy access in the EU

- Gender and energy poverty
- More than 50 million people in the EU living in energy poverty
- Gender-equality Index 2017: income disparity between men and women in the EU



Objectives of the research

- To gain insights into energy poverty as experienced by women and men, mediated by social characteristics, within the European Union;
- To review through a gender lens existing EU legislation related to addressing energy poverty;
- To define indicators of energy poverty applicable within the context of the European Union reflecting the national variations;
- To provide recommendations on support measures to address energy poverty in a gender equitable way.

Research Methodology

- Literature review
- Survey EIGE experts (n=100)
- In-depth interviews key informants
- Case study: Italy, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, UK



Energy poverty definition

The situation in which individuals or households are not able to adequately heat their homes or meet other required energy services at affordable cost.

Gender-dimension < - > intersectionality:

- Age
- Parenthood
- Disability
- Household
- Employment



Characteristics of indicators of energy poverty

1. Support a definition of energy poverty that is broadly accepted across key stakeholders;
2. The ability to be updated over time without excessive effort or cost;
3. Provide comprehensive spatial coverage, at least at the Member State level but potentially with additional spatial granularity;
4. Allow for comparability of the indicator(s) across Member States, and their effective implementation.
5. Reflect the gender dimension of energy poverty and the intersectionality of this issue in policy measurements.

How can you contribute?

- Share our research in your (social) network
- Send information on the topic
- Suggest case studies, literature, key informants
- Can we interview you or can you suggest someone?

THANK YOU!

m.h.feenstra@utwente.nl

Twitter: @mfprojects