

# Energy poverty in Europe: uncovering and addressing inequality

**Professor Stefan Bouzarovski**

Chair of the EU Energy Poverty Observatory

University of Manchester / Gdańsk University / University of Bergen

@stefanbuzar

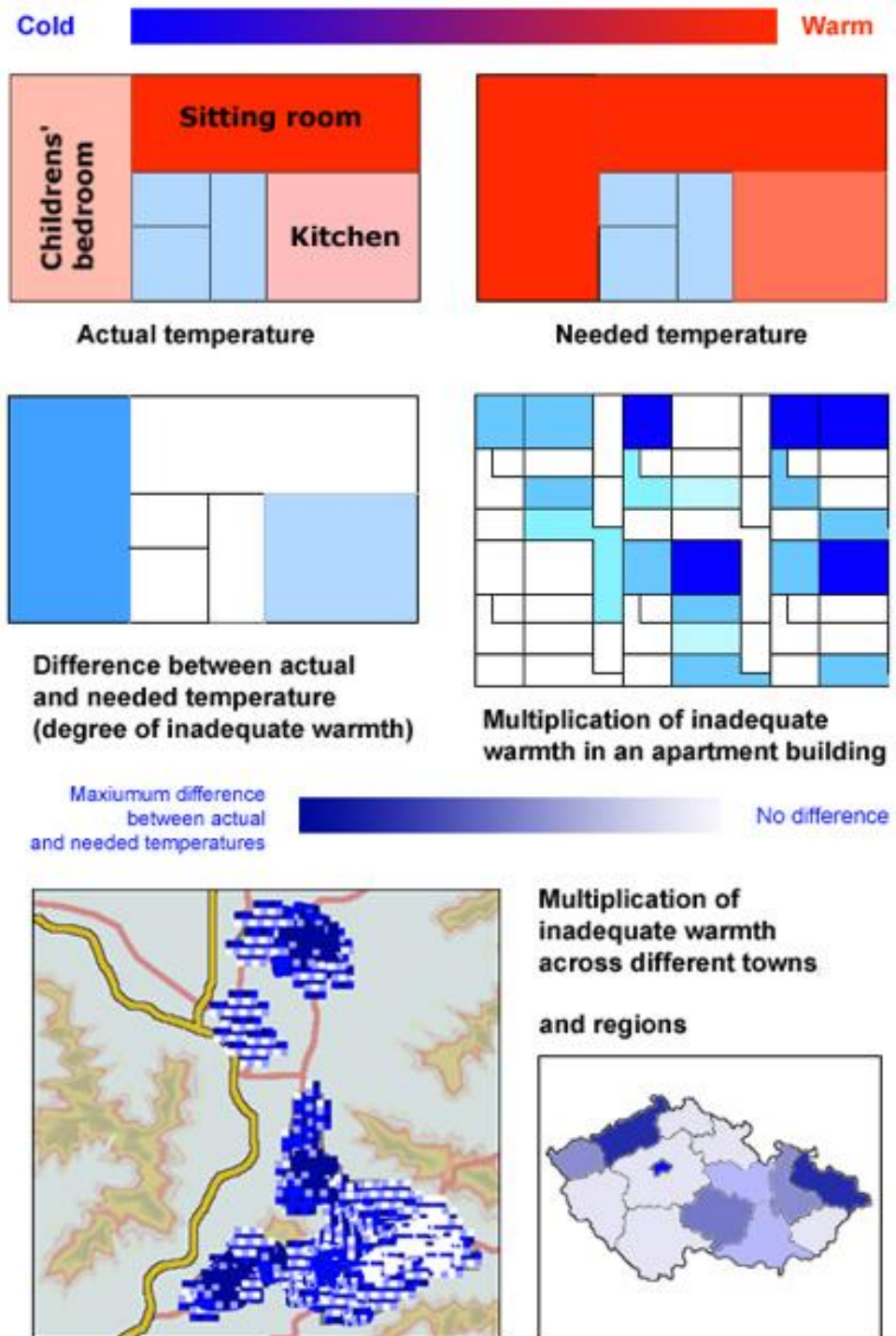


# The challenge of identifying and measuring energy poverty





Energy poverty – the inability to secure adequate energy services in the home – is generally a private and hidden problem, but its effects are cumulative, and multiplied across cities, regions, countries

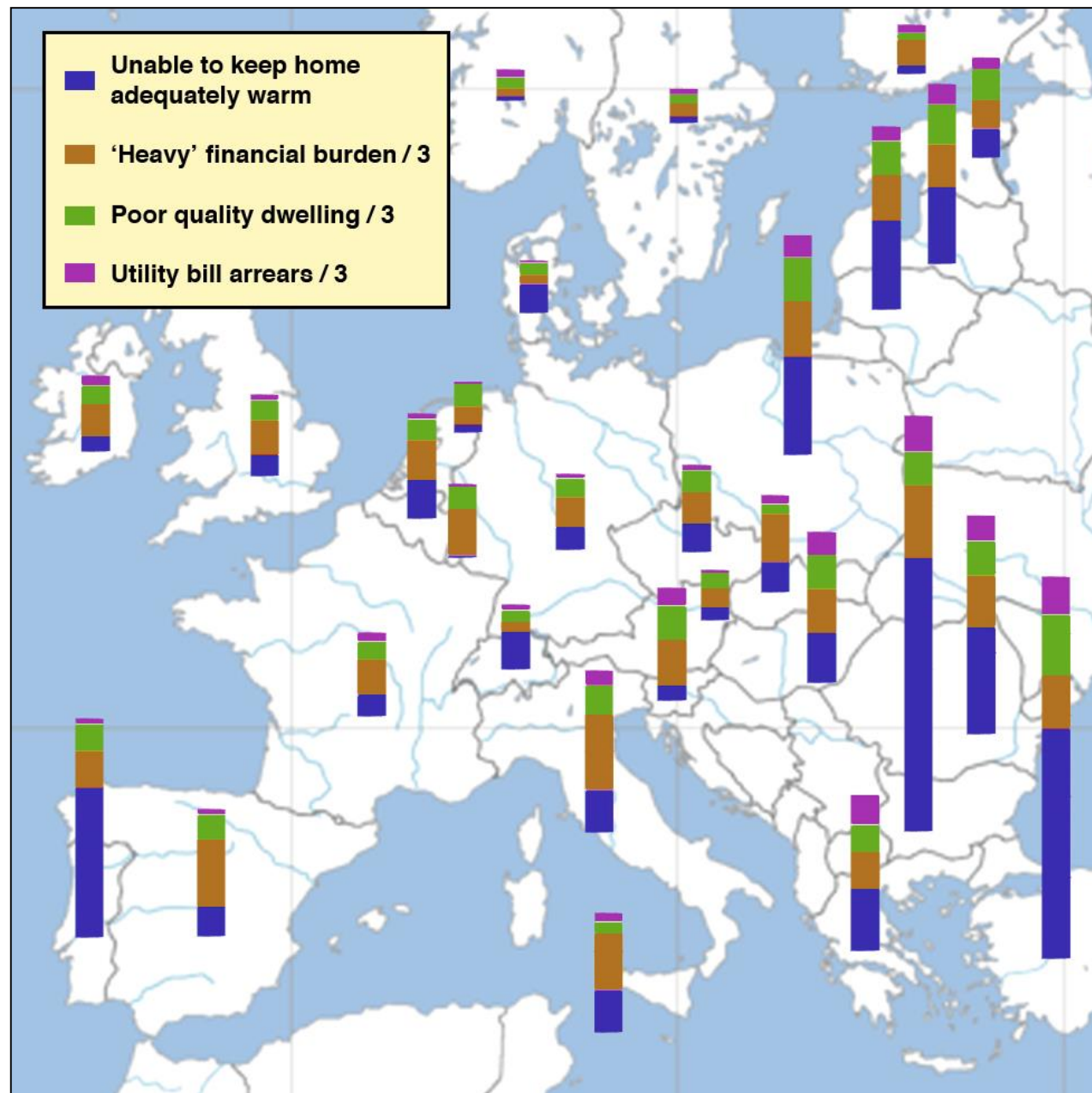


# Energy poverty is prevalent in Central, Eastern and Southern European countries

Source: Bouzarovski, 2014

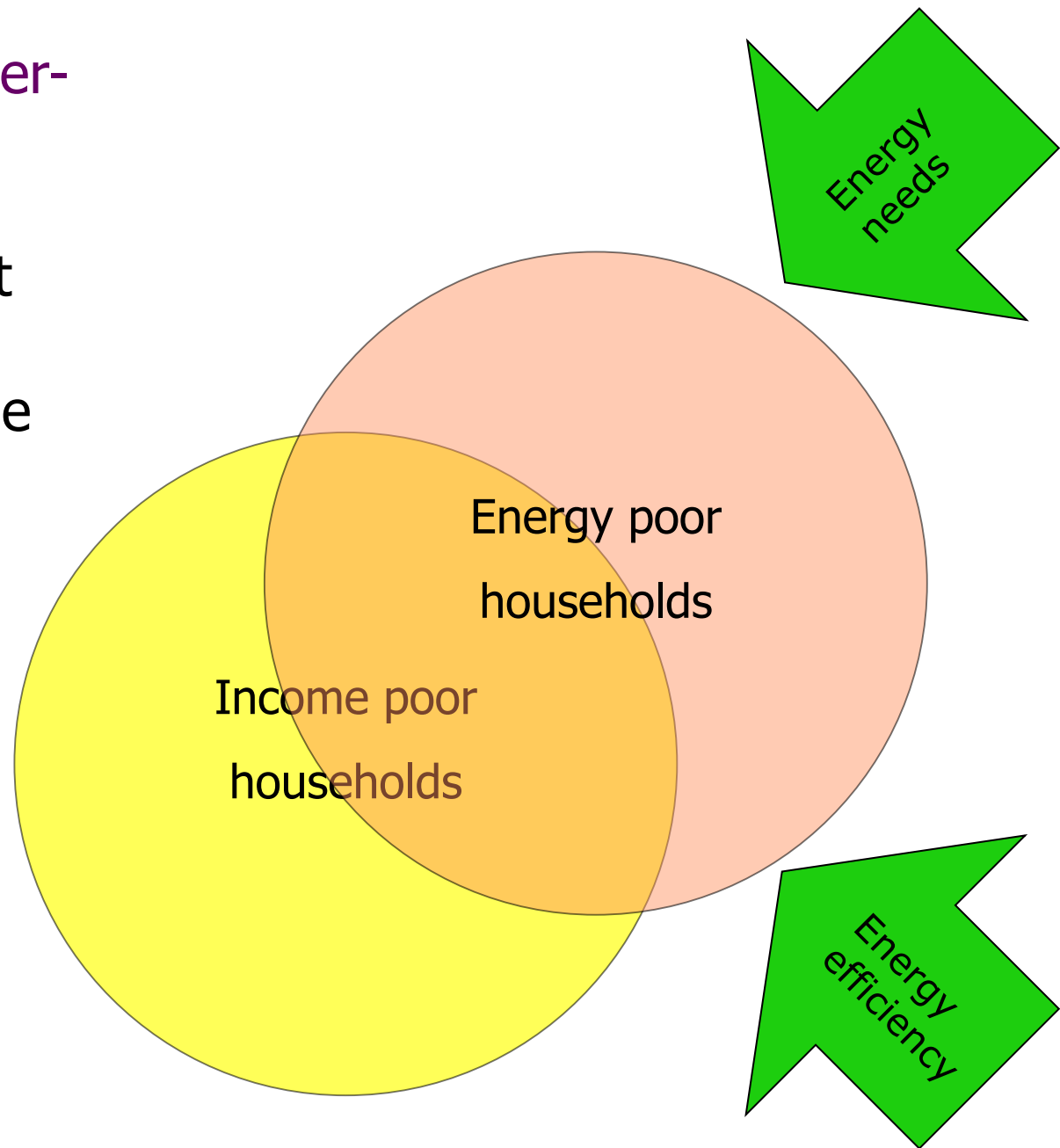
Energy-poverty relevant indicators in the EU's Statistics on Income and Living Conditions survey

(2003-2009 population percentage averages, stacked up)



Energy poverty is **inter-sectoral** – requires working across different government departments and involving multiple stakeholders

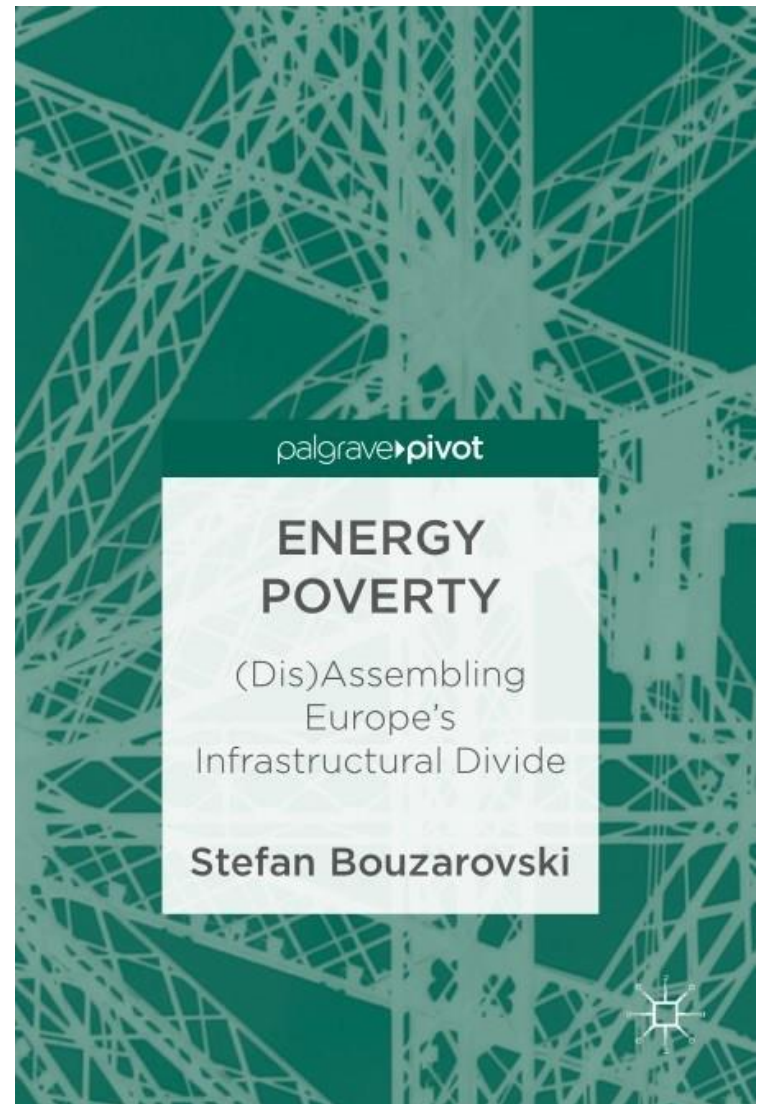
Is **not a subset of income poverty**, but rather overlaps with it



# Building on a substantive knowledge base ....

- EVALUATE, funded by the European Research Council
- European Commission studies on prices, vulnerable consumers and indicators
- European Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency project
- French and Greek observatories ...

<http://www.energystudies.net>

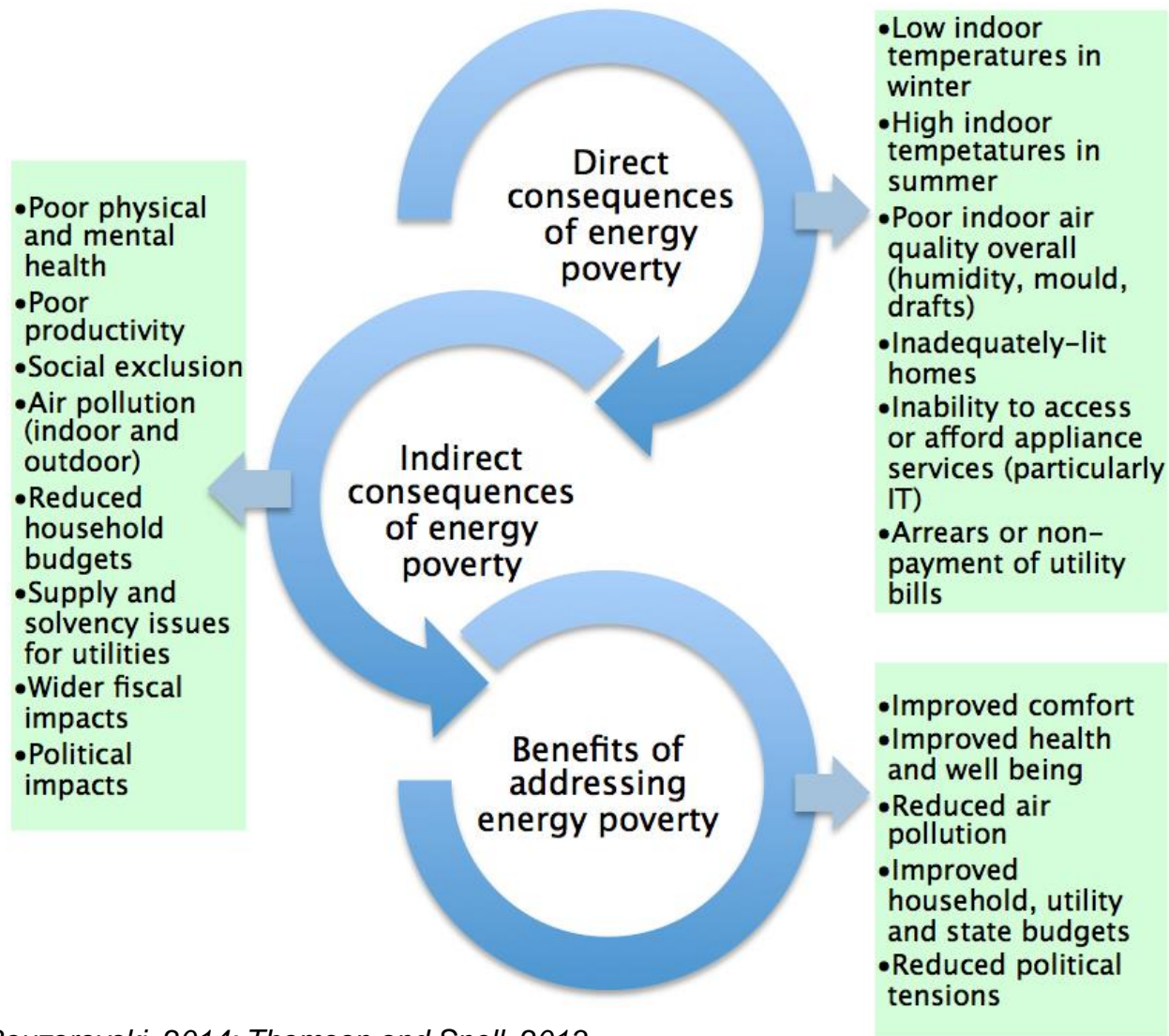




# Context

- Growing recognition and integration of energy poverty policy in the activities of EU institutions;
- Extensive network of stakeholders active on the subject;
- Lack of focused monitoring, reporting and understanding;
- Need for a knowledge hub that will
  - Provide an outwardly-facing comprehensive information resource;
  - Catalyse the development of cutting-edge insights;
  - Assist the formulation and implementation of innovative policies and practices to address energy poverty.



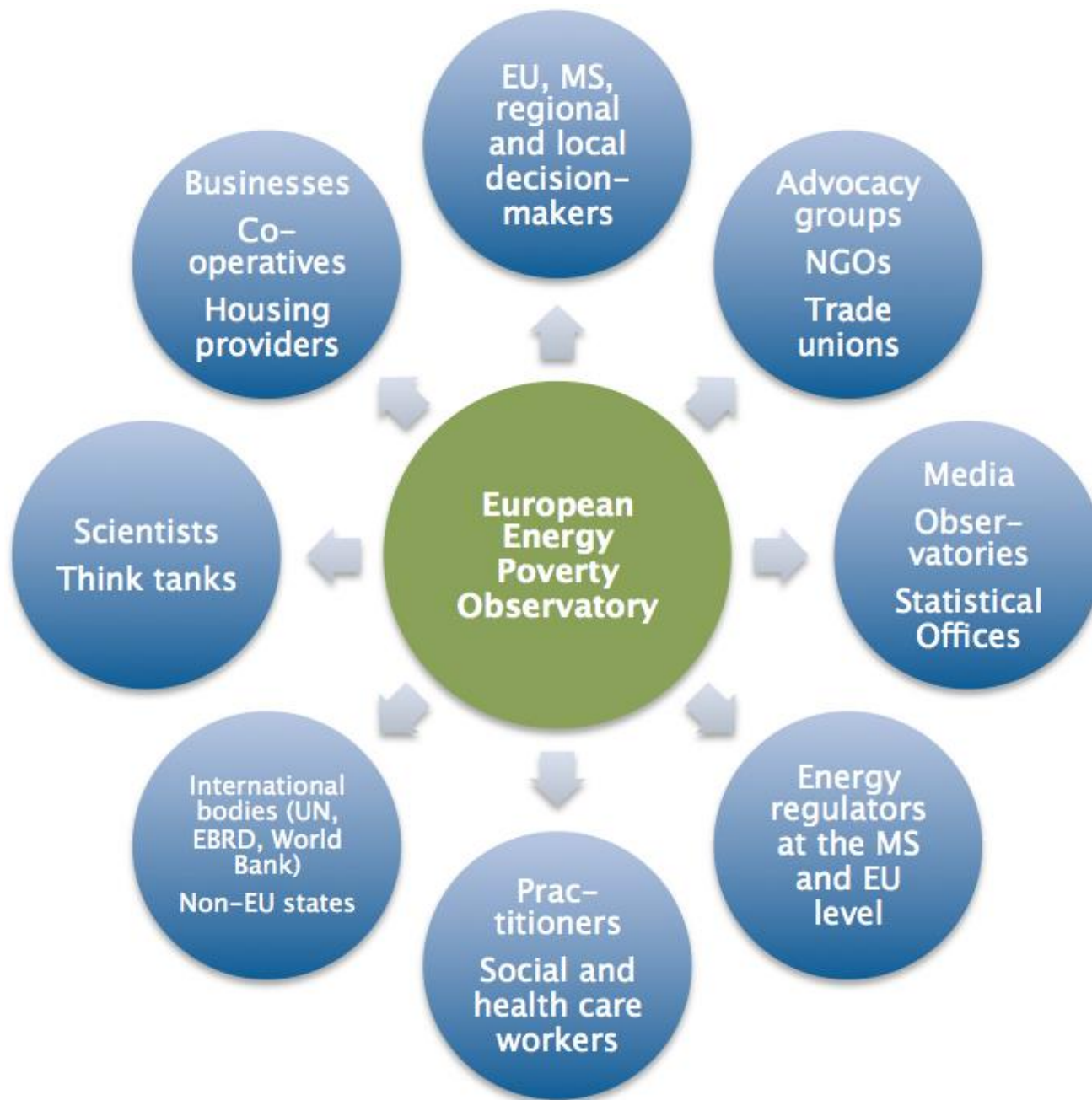


Sources include: Bouzarovski, 2014; Thomson and Snell, 2013.



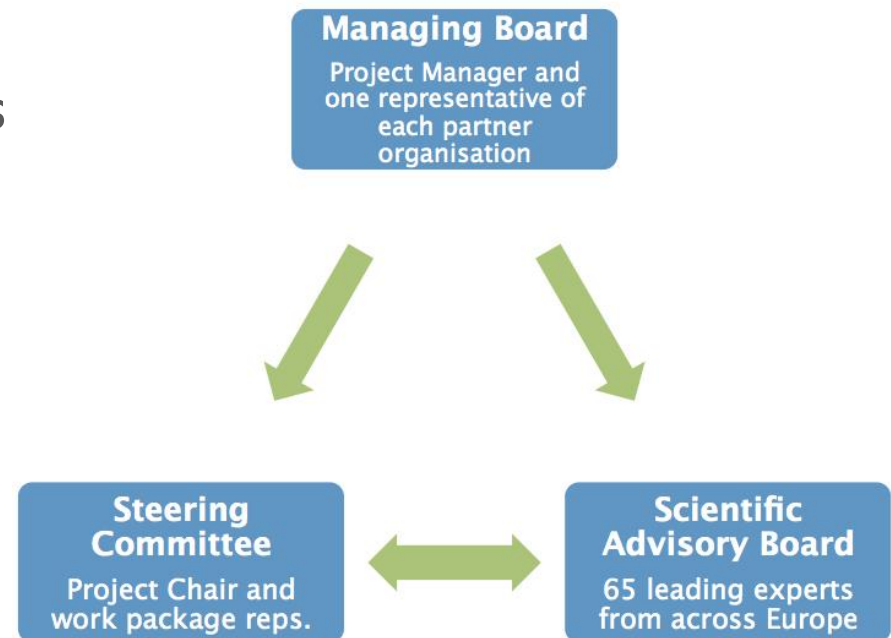
- Partnership of 6 organizations (University of Manchester, Ecofys, European Policy Centre, Intrisoft International, National Energy Action, Wuppertal Institute)
- 7 subcontracting bodies, International Advisory Board  
~100 people

- **Improve transparency** by bringing together the disparate sources of data and knowledge that exist across the EU
- **Develop** a user-friendly and open-access **information resource**
- **Enable networking** and facilitate knowledge sharing and co-production among Member States and relevant stakeholders
- **Disseminate information** and organise outreach work
- **Provide technical assistance** to the widest possible range of interested parties, based on a holistic approach.



# Work packages and project structure

- WP 1 - Web portal
- WP 2 - Indicator dashboard
- WP 3 - Energy poverty analysis and reports
- WP 4 - Evidence and best practice
- WP 5 - Networks
- WP 6 - Communications and training material
- WP 7 - Technical assistance
- WP 8 - Monitoring, quality control and feedback





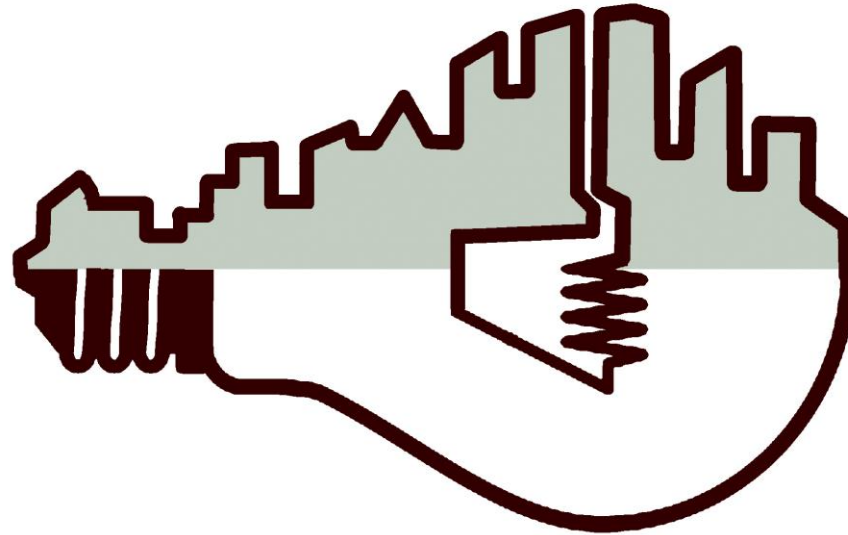


# Challenges for the new Observatory

**Integration:** Bringing together disparate strands of data

**Standardization:** Ensuring that information is presented in a commensurate and accessible manner

**Innovation:** Offering new ways to identify and monitor the condition



THANK YOU  
urban-energy.org

@stefanbuzar @uomcure

#EPOV #energyvulnerability