

## Reporting that seeks to empower

Marilyn Smith, COST Event, 22 Oct 2018, Paris



# Reporting that seeks to empower...

This means finding ways to engage, inform and explain.



# Everything everyone does – every day and everywhere – requires energy.

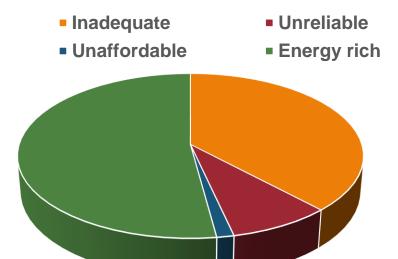
EnAct believes its time for everyone to 'get' energy.



### Two social challenges of energy

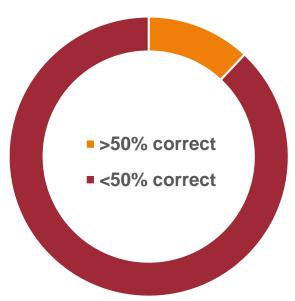
# High energy poverty (global)

**Energy access** 

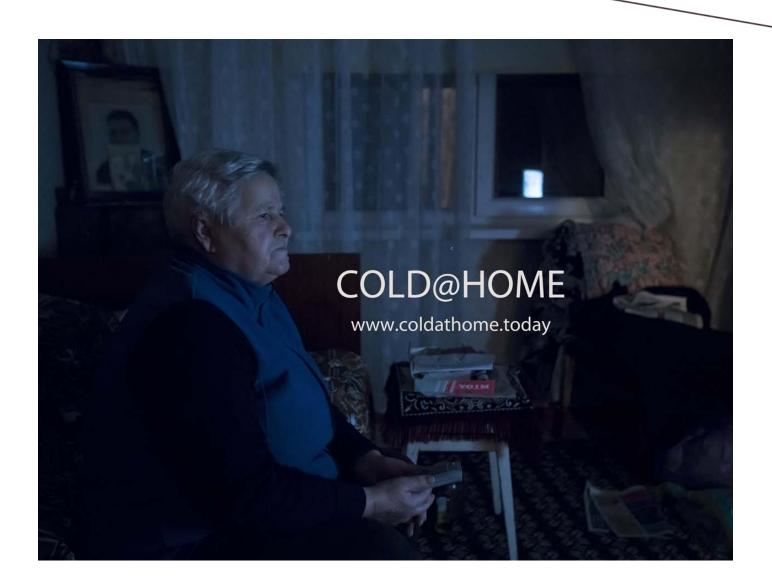


### Low energy literacy

**Basic energy test (US)** 









### **ENGAGE**

### **Documentary films & photo**

- Make the story of energy poverty personal
- Show & tell the impacts



Full photo essay: www.coldathome.today/exposed

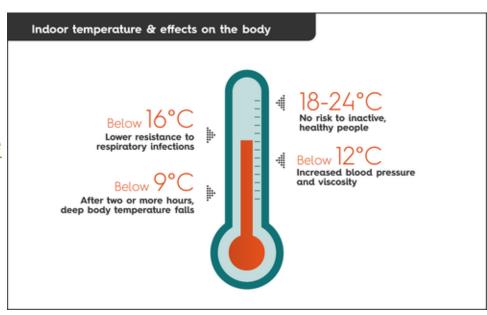


#### **INFORM & EXPLAIN**

## Features, blogs, interactive elements

### **Explain the background**

- Why did prices go up 280% in Ukraine? <u>Feature</u> <u>article</u>.
- What happens to people who are chronically cold?
   Blog series.



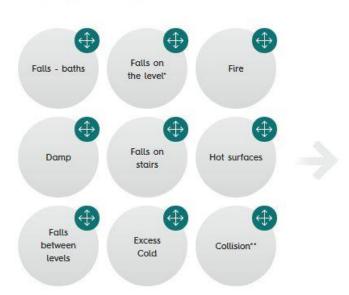


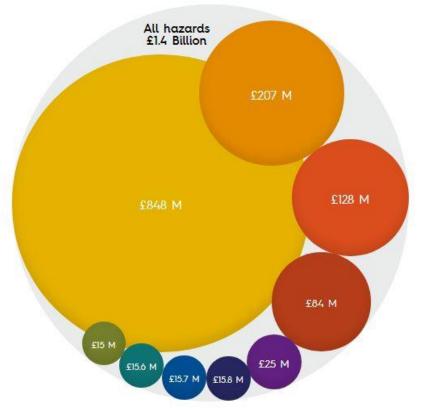
# FROM PERSONAL TO POLITICAL What do cold homes cost a country?

#### Interactive version

Can you match each of the Top 9 Hazards to the bubble that represents its annual cost?

Note, the size of the bubble reflects the portion of overall costs shown by the outer circle.





<sup>\*</sup> Includes any fall not associated with moving up/down stairs or with taking a bath.

<sup>\*\*</sup> This relates to injury from body parts getting trapped in doors and



#### WHO IS DOING WHAT?

## Solutions reporting to empower

- Highlight technology, policy and social solutions that are having positive impacts and could be taken up by others.
- Feature articles
- News briefs / fact sheets
- Editorials
- Infographics / interactive elements



# **SOLUTIONS REPORTING TO EMPOWER Who is doing what?**

### Researchers

**Podcast: Brenda Boardman** 



### **Policy makers**

Government of Ireland:
<a href="Warmth & Wellbeing Scheme">Warmth & Wellbeing Scheme</a>

- 2016: Reported launch / aims
- 2018/19: Reporting on outcome through coproduction



# SOLUTIONS REPORTING TO EMPOWER Who is doing what? Advocacy groups International action







# **SOLUTIONS REPORTING TO EMPOWER Who is doing what?**

### **Social innovators**





### **EMPOWER: WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

# Social media to raise awareness daily

- Provide energy-saving tips / explain why they work
- Facilitate access to services / give info & links
- Build up networks of energy activists to help those in need
- Encourage the 'energy rich' to be more conscientious consumers

Twitter: @EnActNow Instagram: @everyday\_energy



### **Energy saving tips / Samples**





Translated to Portuguese; French & Russian in the works.



### **Social Media**

Facebook (9,000 followers)

- Energy news, energy savings tips, EnFacts
- www.facebook.com/theenergyactionproject

Twitter (2,100) / @EnActNow

- News stories from around the world /
- Instagram (800) / @everyday\_energy
- What does energy poverty look like?
- How do we use energy every day?

**LinkedIn** (2,100)

Reaching out to experts



### Successes and challenges

#### **Successes**

- EnAct invited to join EPOV, R2E & SEF/Ashoka
- Documentary film / 1<sup>st</sup> prize Danish Press Agency
- Broad recognition of a unique communications tool
- Attracting diverse audiences public and actors
- Regular offers to contribute

### Challenges

- Raising our profile, building audience size
- Attracting media attention to get public audience
- Securing long-term, stable funding



### Wrap-up discussion

- Elevator pitches from others (2 minutes!)
- Feedback / exchange on opportunities to partner, advance, enhance or otherwise engage
- Any failures / pitfalls you can help others avoid?
- What challenges do you still face i.e. where is innovation still needed?



Websites: <a href="https://www.en-act.org">www.en-act.org</a> / <a href="https://www.coldathome.today">www.coldathome.today</a>

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