

EmPowerIngUs

Innovative Transfer Network Quarterly Network Journal no. 4



URBACT



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Interreg

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This document represents the Quarterly Network Journal no. 4 for the EmPowerIngUs ITN project partnership. It was developed by the Lead Expert Klemen Strmšnik with city-level inputs from all ULG Coordinators – Alejandro Lopez Parejo (Getafe, ES), Yasin Tatou and Fabio Barbero (Etterbeek, BE), Fernando Gomes and Liliana Fernandes (Maia, PT), Georgi Petkov (Pomorie, BG), Eleni Myrilla, Konstantinos Karampourniotis and Laoura Vavaliou (Trikala, GR) – with the support of their project teams and ULG members. It aims to present the EmPowerIngUs project partnership and communicate our transfer progress to interested cities across Europe.

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1. ABOUT THE EmPowerIngUs PROJECT AND OUR CITIES

The success of the Energy Poverty Intelligence Unit (EPIU) and its recognition as a Good Practice by the URBACT Programme have positioned Getafe (ES) as one of the most active and innovative cities in the fight against energy poverty.

To fully grasp the logic behind the EPIU project and its good practice, one must first understand its underlying philosophy, which can be summarized in the following statement:

***"A home is much more than just a building.
It encompasses the entire built environment,
including the people who live within it."***



EPIU's integrated and participatory approach operates across three scales (Home, Building, and Neighbourhood), utilizing three key tools (Intelligence Unit, One-Stop Shop, and Tailor-Made Solutions) to drive action through three stages (Understand, Support, and Act).

This enabled Getafe to compose a transnational partnership and develop the EmPowerIngUs Innovative Transfer Network – a project aiming to reflect on the key achievements and lessons learned from the EPIU Good Practice while transferring its methodologies and approaches to four other cities: [Etterbeek \(Belgium\)](#),

[Maia \(Portugal\)](#), [Pomorie \(Bulgaria\)](#), and [Trikala \(Greece\)](#).

Rather than being a static model, EPIU was designed as an evolving process – one that is continuously refined to better serve the citizens of Getafe and beyond. This commitment to innovation is why Getafe is leveraging the EmPowerIngUs project to further enhance and improve the EPIU Good Practice.



For more information about the EPIU Good Practice please visit the [EPIU project website](#), the [EPIU UIA profile](#), or the [EPIU Portico profile](#). You can follow the progress of the EmPowerIngUs project on [our URBACT website](#), as well as [EMSV's website](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

2. ABOUT THE PROGRESS MADE IN URBACT LOCAL GROUPS

2.1 Progress made by the ULG of our Lead Partner city – Getafe (ES)

The URBACT Local Group (ULG) in Getafe was established through a participatory process building on the partnerships and collaborative networks developed within the EPIU Hogares Saludables project. The group ensures a cross-sectoral approach to citizen empowerment, energy transition, and social inclusion by bringing together institutional, social, academic, and community-based actors. The ULG is coordinated by EMSV Getafe, the municipal housing company, and includes:

- **Ayuntamiento de Getafe**, represented mainly through the Urban Planning, IT, Environment, Education, and Social Welfare and Health departments, providing political support and municipal resources.
- **Red Cross Getafe**, as a principal member for social response and development of solutions at the household level.
- **Public companies such as LYMA** (environmental services and waste management), **GISA** (local economic development and entrepreneurship), and **ALEF** (training and employment programs).
- **Carlos III University, Rey Juan Carlos University and Polytechnic University of Madrid**, contributing academic knowledge and research on energy transition, social innovation, and urban regeneration.
- **Fundación Naturgy**, promoting social energy rehabilitation through its social fund, in collaboration with Universidad Pontificia Comillas to drive actions on the territory.
- **Federation of Neighbourhood Associations of Getafe**, acting as a bridge between residents and institutional actors to encourage citizen participation.
- **Social organizations including Murialdo Getafe, APANID Getafe, YMCA Getafe, and AECC Getafe**, which support vulnerable groups and promote social inclusion.
- The directors of civic centres (Alhóndiga and Juan de la Cierva) **and the Municipal Music School Maestro Gombau**, which serve as community reference points for citizen engagement and cultural activities.
- **Getafe Potencia**, the first residential energy community in Getafe, facilitated through EMSV's Office of Community Transformation (OTC). The OTC continues to promote collective self-consumption, community-led energy solutions, and pathways for local residents to participate in energy transition initiatives that reduce bills and foster sustainability.
- **Additional community actors and residents** actively engaged through the OHS and OTC in workshops, informational sessions, and capacity-building initiatives related to energy efficiency and community empowerment.

Since January 2026, the ULG has strengthened its role as a coordination and governance space supporting integrated urban regeneration policies in Getafe. Collaboration with municipal departments has remained a key line of work, which has, however, highlighted issues that will need to be addressed in the coming months, such as the involvement of the IT department in certain key areas. Coordination with the Maintenance Department has focused on ongoing and planned works in schools and streets, incorporating sustainability and energy-efficiency criteria into maintenance actions. At the same time, cooperation with the Urban Planning Department has centred on strategic urban initiatives, including the Urban Agenda, the Strategic Plan, and the development of the new ACAR neighbourhood, which aims to integrate principles aligned with a positive-energy district model.

The ULG has continued organising thematic meetings with stakeholders, maintaining collaboration with organisations such as the Red Cross (February 6 - <https://emsvgetafe.org/noticia/ayuntamiento-de-getafe-y-emsv-impulsando-derecho-a-vivienda-y-energia/>) and reinforcing alignment between social, technical, and environmental perspectives on housing rehabilitation, climate adaptation, and energy vulnerability.

Between January and March 2026, EMSV Hogares organised the III Week against Energy Poverty and for the Right to Energy in Getafe, reaching nearly 400 families through workshops, information sessions, and awareness activities focused on energy literacy and access to support mechanisms. The programme included a joint workshop with the university Carlos III and the municipal Health Department, linking housing conditions, energy use, and public health.

Gender-sensitive community engagement was promoted through activities linked to International Women’s Day (March), which gathered more than 50 participants and highlighted the role of women in neighbourhood cohesion and sustainability transitions.

Collaboration with academic and research institutions also continued, including an exhibition of student projects developed with Universidad Rey Juan Carlos (February 20, - <https://emsvgetafe.org/noticia/universidad-de-perales-del-rio-expone-trabajos-de-alumnos-con-emsv/>) and joint work with the CSIC to define material characteristics and technical criteria for public works supporting climate adaptation and urban resilience.

In mid-March 2026, we had the opportunity to visit Maia, which allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of the work carried out by the Municipality of Maia and its public housing company. The visit provided valuable insight into the Portuguese context, which shares significant similarities with the Spanish situation in certain areas. It also offered an excellent opportunity, through the participation of the EMSV Manager, to strengthen institutional ties and reinforce collaboration at the organisational level. The management and handling of information, as well as the feedback received during the sessions, will be instrumental in finalising aspects of the testing actions and refining the different plans and strategies. These insights will support the continuity and consolidation of the initiatives implemented and reinforced during URBACT, ensuring that lessons learned in Maia can inform the ongoing development and adaptation of local policies and actions in Getafe.

A key upcoming milestone will take place on 9 April 2026, when the ULG will present a newly developed building data visualisation platform. The event will bring together experts and stakeholders to reflect on housing rehabilitation and built environment regeneration from an energy poverty perspective, strengthening data-driven decision-making and coordinated urban action.

These activities have reinforced the ULG as a stable collaborative platform connecting policy design, technical implementation, and community participation, supporting inclusive and energy-efficient urban strategies in Getafe.



Energy week – Information point in Perales del Rio Neighbourhood (18/02/2026)



Energy week – Walk in Juan de la Cierva with Neighbourhoods and CSIC (20/02/2026)



Energy Week – information point in Calle Madrid (17/02/2026)



CSIC Meeting – 03/02/2026

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Green Offices Spanish Network – online meeting (17/02/2026)



Urban Agenda Meeting - 12/02/2026 (GISA, Education Area, ALEF, Housing Area, Health Area)

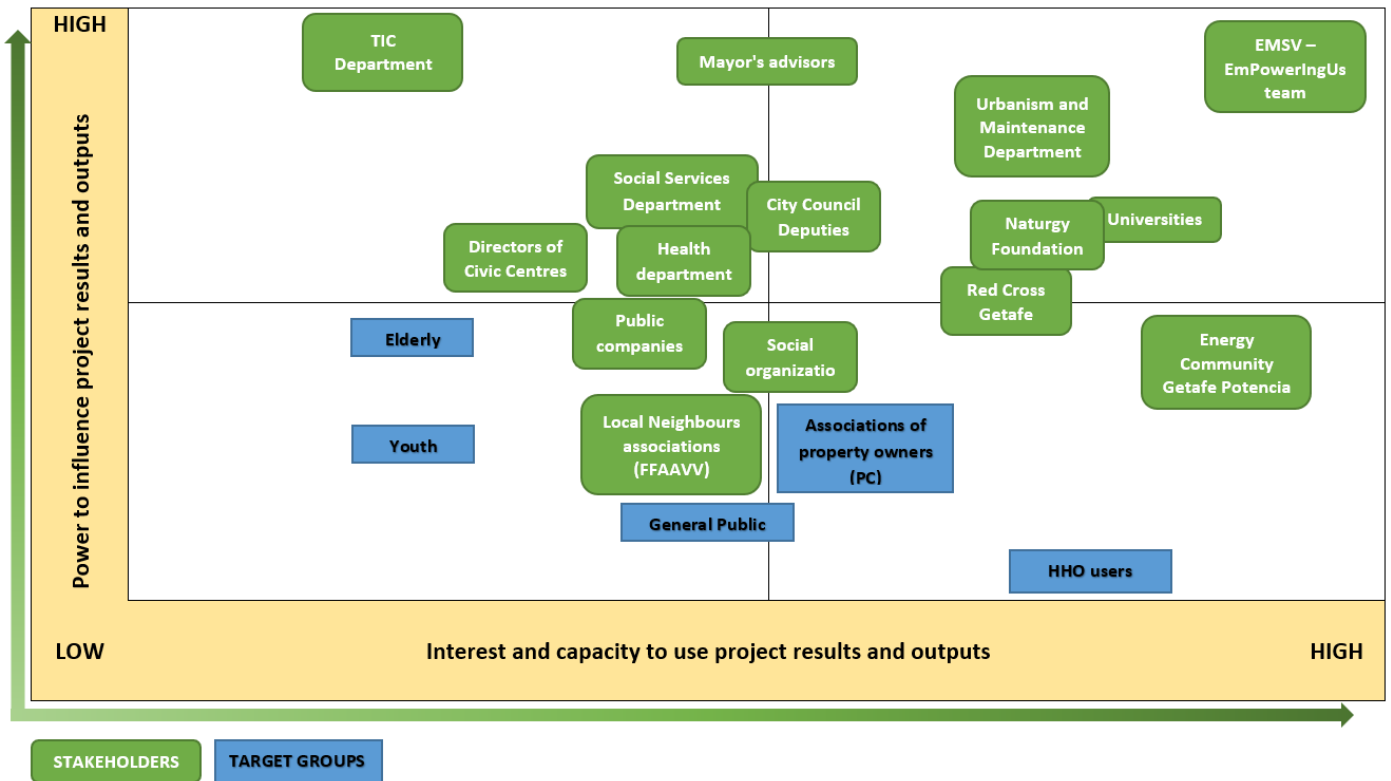


Women's workshop – 9/03/2026

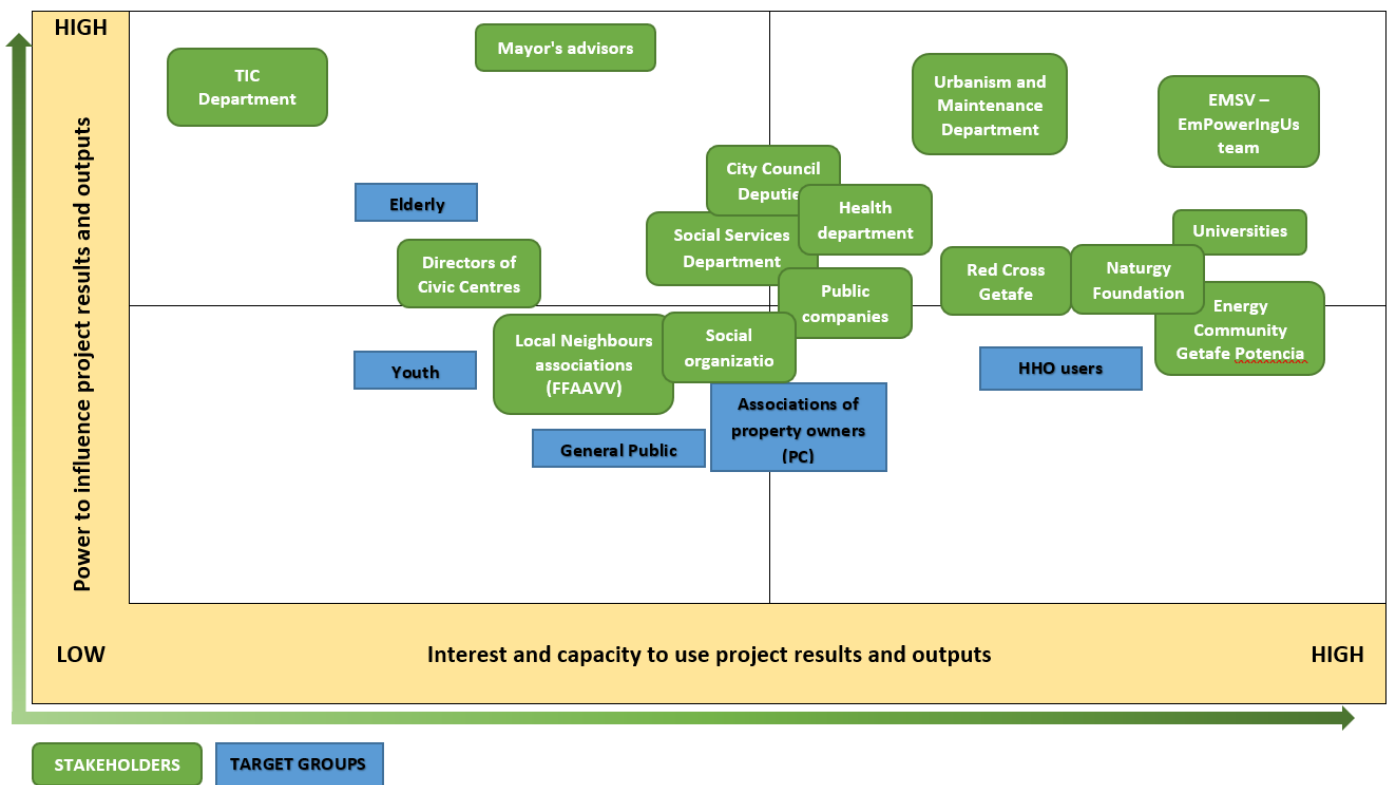


Neighbourhood associations Workshop on urban regeneration project in Juan de la Cierva – 08/03/2026

WHO WAS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN GETAFE DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER



WHO IS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN GETAFE - STAKEHOLDERS POWER/INTEREST MATRIX TODAY
 EmPoweringUs – Preliminary Analysis of key Stakeholders and Target Groups



Note:

- As a result of the onset of the 2027 electoral dynamics, it is becoming increasingly difficult to reach and maintain contact with the Mayor's Office advisers. This is also due to growing tensions related to the execution of European funds and the expected deadlines.
- Coordination with the IT department has continue increasingly complicated due to operational issues and IT workload.
- The coordination with Urbanism has been reinforced by the development of and participation in procedures and processes within urban-scale actions like Urban Agenda, Strategic Plan for the city of Getafe or the new ACAR – Neighbourhood area. Weekly progress continues to be made with Urbanism in the development of joint actions and criteria on different urban works ongoing.
- The coordination with Maintenance has been reinforced by the development of and participation in procedures and processes within urban-scale actions. Weekly progress continues to be made with Maintenance in the development of joint actions and criteria.
- Progress is also being made on UC3M's user management tool, which is expected to enter its beta phase in the second quarter of 2026. In addition, a print and digital publication of the studies and work carried out during 2025 is being finalised with URJC, alongside an exhibition showcasing the projects of URJC architecture students. Work is also ongoing with the CSIC on the development of sensory systems and the definition of materials for public works and urban interventions, supporting data-driven decision-making and climate-adapted urban strategies.
- Good coordination and collaboration with social services have been maintained, with no significant changes.
- Collaboration has taken place with the Health Coordinator in a workshop, and EMSV has been invited to participate in the municipal health working groups, which are currently pending, to contribute to the definition and adjustment of testing actions.

2.2 Progress made by the ULG of our Transfer city – Etterbeek (BE)



Etterbeek's ULG consists of a core group (Level 1) with a stable composition, and a broader group (Level 2) whose membership is more flexible, adapting to the themes addressed and the expertise required. The core group consists of the following institutions and individuals: the Municipality of Etterbeek (Jean-François Maljean and Valérie Baron, Project Development and Financing; Fabio Barbero, Coordinator of the Climate Plan); the social property agency "AIS" (Yasin Tatou, Head of the Agency); the Public Centre for Social Action "CPAS" (Benjamin Sornin de Leysat, Energy advisor), the Municipal property agency

“Régie Foncière” (François Fillâtre, Architect). The level-2 members and their engagement level are stated in the monitoring and presented on the matrix below.

Etterbeek’s ULG activities during the reporting period (major developments in **bold**)

1) Transnational meetings

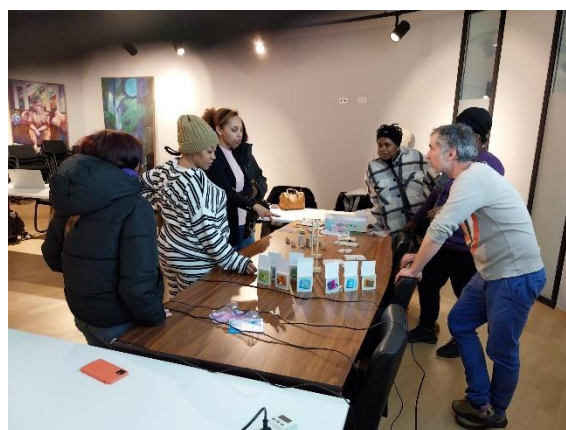
- Preparation for and participation at the **transnational city visit to Maia** (Portugal).
- Feedback from the Etterbeek delegation and sharing of the lessons learned with the ULG.

2) Testing activities

- Etterbeek’s main testing activity (“energy cadastre” of the Régie Foncière housing stock) is ongoing. The EPB certificates have been collected during the reporting period and the consulting firm selected is currently busy to provide an overall analysis. The first results are expected in mid-May 2026. Following a meeting with the “Régie Foncière”, it was asked to **include in the final deliverable an analysis of the status of ventilation in the buildings**, so as to tackle the issue of buildings overheating in summer (response by the firm is pending). This was identified as a challenge to address to anticipate future complaints about overheating in summer and future increases in electricity bills due to an increased use of climatization.

- Awareness-raising workshops on the rational use of energy and the proper use of heating techniques addressed to the tenants of the Municipal Property Management Agency (Régie Foncière). The public procurement was **approved by the municipal authorities on 22 January 2026**. The public procurement was open for submissions until 3 March 2026. The Régie Foncière is currently **evaluating the offers**. Workshops will be carried out in autumn-winter 2026.

- **Workshops on the understanding of the energy market in Belgium** (see photos attached). Benjamin Sornin de Leysat, the energy advisor, animated the sessions. The goal of the activity was to help participants understand how the energy supply chain works, starting with raw materials and covering energy production, transport, and distribution, as well as familiarizing them with all the stakeholders involved in this sector, right through to the consumption of gas and electricity in households. At the end of the workshop, the participants expressed their satisfaction at having gained a broader perspective and a better understanding of the issues related to the energy market. This activity gives everyone the opportunity to take control of and manage their energy consumption.



- **Aerial thermography campaign** (see article in the municipal magazine attached). The public procurement was published in December 2025 and the firm was selected mid-December 2025. A launch with the technical team and the other participating municipalities took place at the end of January 2026 and a municipality-wide communication was sent to all citizens’ mailboxes in February 2026. A flight to capture the thermographic images was scheduled on 18-19 March 2026, but was not successful because of the refusal to authorize it by the control tower in Brussels, despite all the pre-flight authorizations required were obtained. A dialogue is now ongoing with the entity dealing with special operations within the control tower (SPACC) to clarify the motivations of the refusal. If this dialogue is successful, the weather conditions are appropriate and the heating systems are still operational, a flight may take place in the first weeks of April 2026. Otherwise, it may be need to be postponed to autumn-winter 2026.



- Members of Etterbeek’s ULG took part in the launch of a project that aims at strengthening the **resilience of the municipality to climate change** (Pathways to Resilience project “Res’ETT” – Resilience for Etterbeek’s Transition and Transformation). The project is currently in its design phase

and the project focus is being narrowed according to a vulnerability and capacity assessment. First discussions pointed to summer overheating in buildings as the main focus. Data collection needs are being analysed to better assess vulnerabilities. The project has several complementarities with EmPoweringUs and some themes related to energy precarity may be dealt with beyond the duration of the EmPoweringUs project through Res'ETT.

3) Drafting of Etterbeek's Investment Plan (IP)

The ULG focused on the drafting of a first version of Etterbeek's IP, which was then later improved and reworked taking into account the feedback from EUI expert Donal O'Herlihy. The URBACT Innovation Transfer Networks "Prepare for Re-Use Stage" meeting (Paris, 4–5 February 2026) as well as the peer review exercises in Maia proved to be very useful in this process. Key strengths and attention points of our draft IP are detailed below.

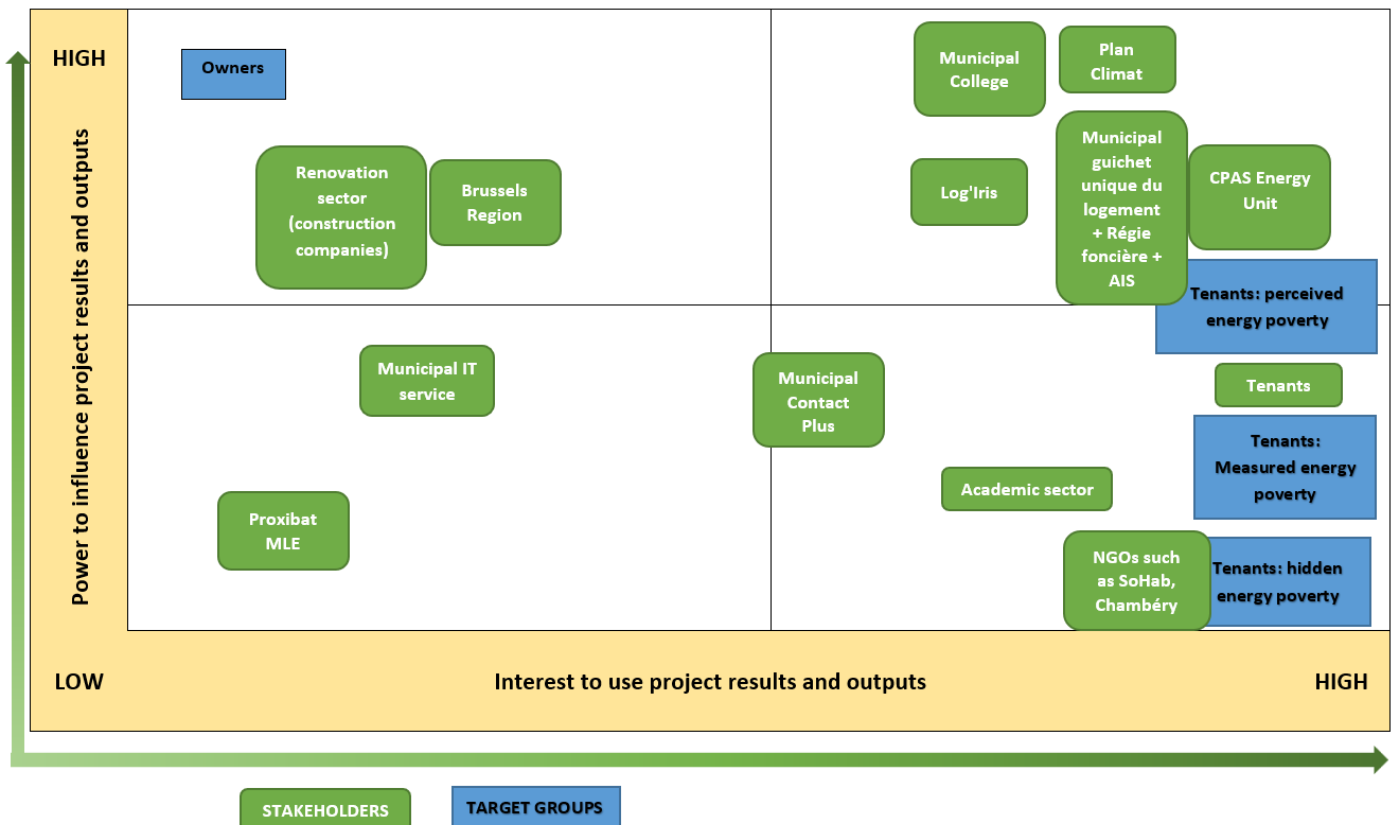
Strengths of our draft IP:

- A clear and well-targeted intervention scope
- A strong integrated approach combining social and climate objectives
- A credible governance ecosystem and institutional positioning

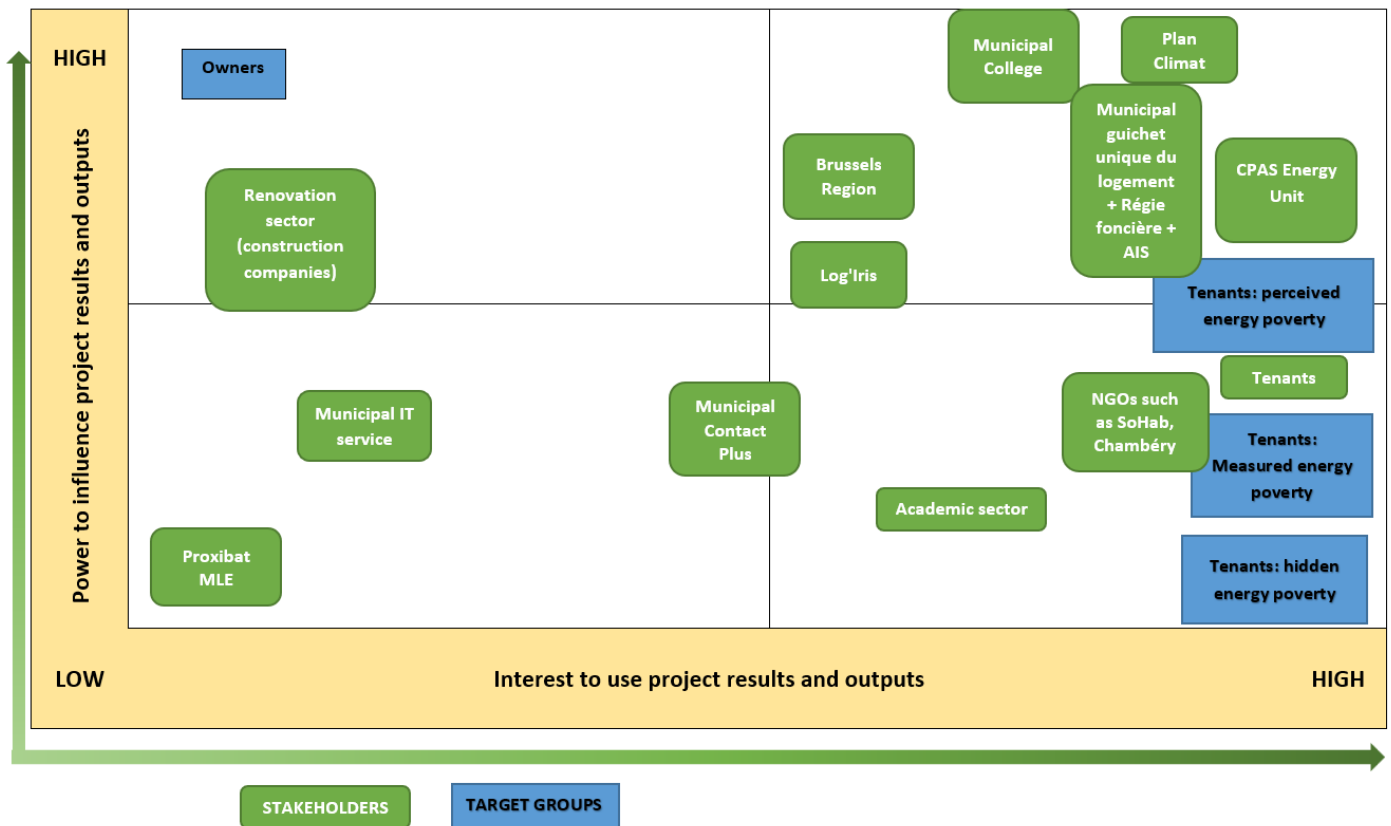
Attention points FOR our IP:

- Dependency on external funding for large-scale implementation
- Limited scope beyond the municipal housing stock
- Need to further structure monitoring of social impact (methodology for measuring reductions in hidden energy poverty over time)
- Relate data with testing actions
- Reinforce the implication of tenants, e.g. by including the possibility to co-design workshops

WHO WAS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN ETTERBEEK DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER



WHO IS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN ETTERBEEK - STAKEHOLDERS POWER/INTEREST MATRIX TODAY



2.3 Progress made by the ULG of our Transfer city – MAIA (PT)

Maia’s ULG has been following a dual philosophy – working with Maia’s Municipality internal Ecosystem and Maia’s External Ecosystem. As one can expect, **Maia’s Municipality Ecosystem** is a more “restrict” format allowing fluid and effective discussions among internal units, always targeting agile decision-making processes. Some examples of topics we focused on in the last period are:

- Energy and Mobility;
- Data;
- Social Development;
- “Espaço Municipal” – Social Housing;
- Maia University.

This setup supports **Maia’s External Ecosystem** – a decentralized approach has also been adopted, with ULG sessions being held across strategic locations in the territory, the ten (10) parishes). This format aims to foster closer engagement with local communities and directly involve key territorial actors and citizens. We’ve already targeted 2: “Cidade da Maia” and “Castêlo da Maia”. Next stop in April: Milheirós.

Until now, we’ve already organized 7 ULG meetings. We plan to have our next 8th ULG meeting by end of April 2026.

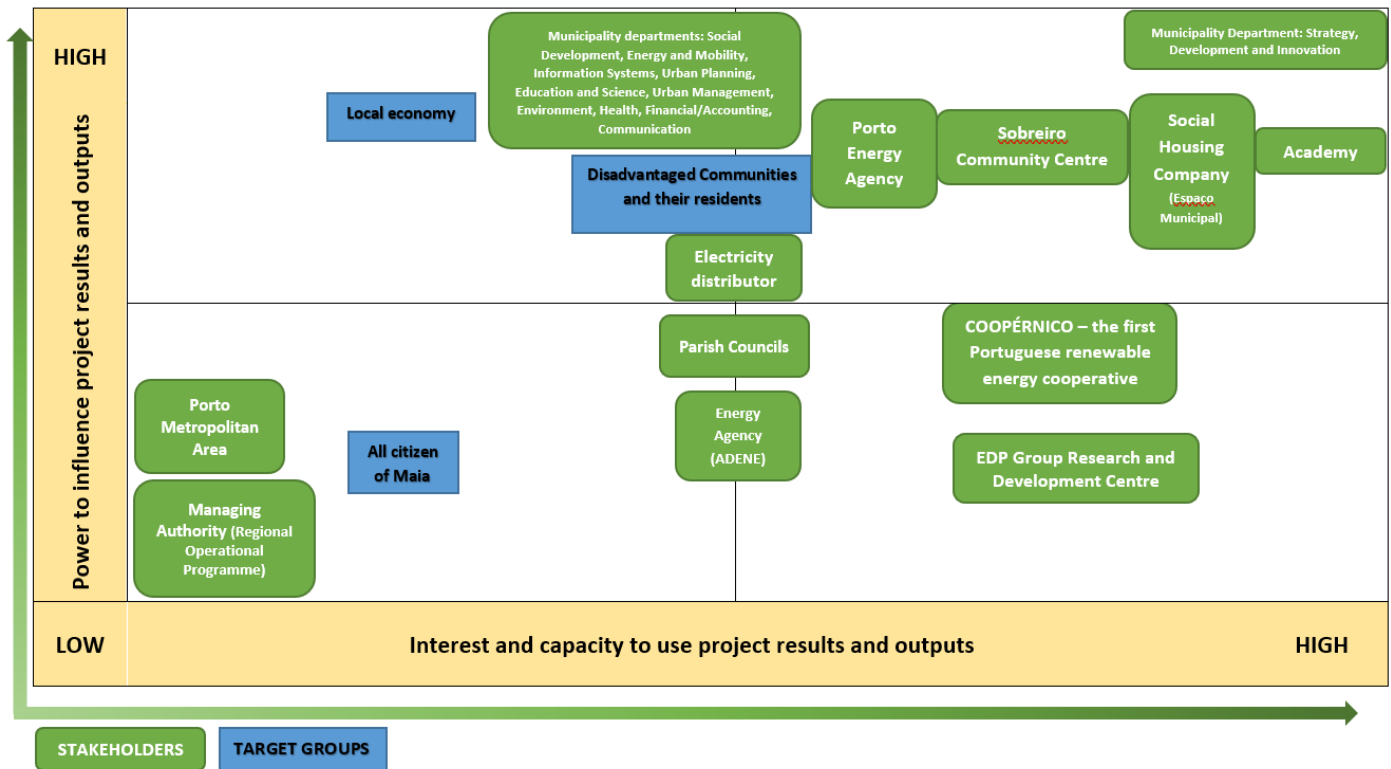
Since the elections, we have just recently stabilized our ULG group, having on board a new member that we believe will further help us with the internal validation of our Investment Plan. The Head of the Construction, Maintenance, Energy and Mobility Municipal Department, will not only play the part so far played by the Head of the Energy Municipal Division, as it is a key figure in the internal ecosystem, and along with the Strategy, Innovation and Development Unit will be essential to mobilize the municipal board.

We plan to have our next ULG meeting by end of April 2026, and we hope to be able to better involve our parishes in a more effective way – the OSS/Espaços Energia properly disseminated through our territory.

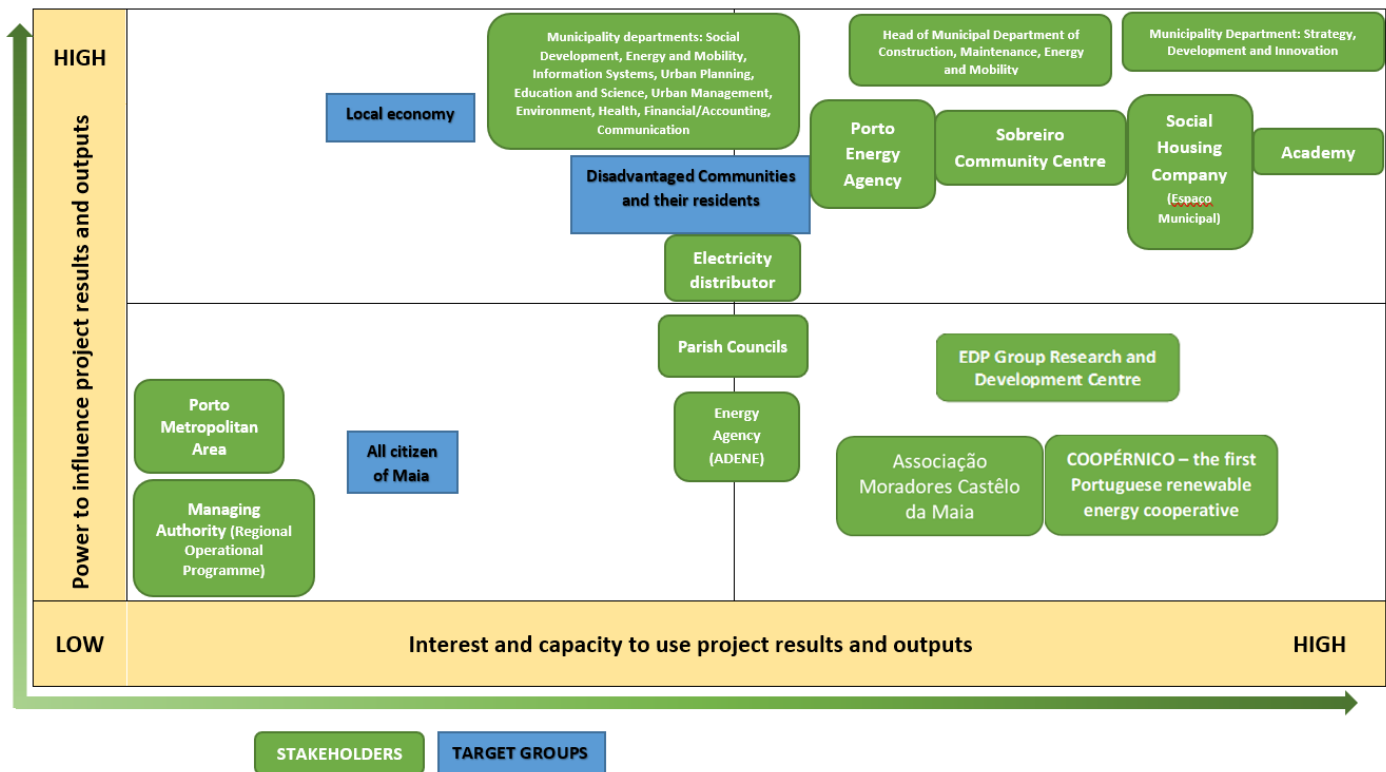
Additionally, we’ve prepared the TNM Meeting here in Maia. Not only did it take a long public procurement procedure – which took from us a lot of work! – it also allowed to take this opportunity to internally discuss the project and what the next ULG will be as we discussed the presentations/site visits to be shared during the TNM Maia meeting. Colleagues from the Information Systems (for Data), Maia University, Espaço

Municipal and the Municipal Service Office – where we could visit the available first response service for Energy – took an active part in it.

WHO WAS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN MAIA DURING THE PREVIOUS PERIOD



WHO IS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN MAIA - STAKEHOLDERS POWER/INTEREST MATRIX TODAY



Note:

- We decided to include the Head of Municipal Department of Construction, Maintenance, Energy and Mobility. Integrating this partner is a strategic move, bringing an integrated vision and cross-disciplinary expertise to the project. As a key municipal point of contact, this new member provides a vital operational perspective for on-the-ground implementation. Beyond simply replacing the former head of the Energy unit, this transition elevates our strategic standing, strengthening our ability to bridge the gap between our goals and the effective execution of energy poverty solutions.

2.4 Progress made by the ULG of our Transfer city – POMORIE (BG)

During the last quarter the Pomorie team in close cooperation with the ULG group continued working on the Investment plan. The ULG members served as the primary vehicle for stakeholder cooperation. Meetings were held on a monthly basis to collect inputs, visions, and expertise to ensure the plan aligned with both strategic municipal challenges and local policy demands.

In this quarter we organized **4 ULG Meetings**, where we focused our discussions on the following topics:

- Following the review by URBACT Ad-Hoc Expert Donal O'Herlihy, the Investment Plan for Pomorie has been refined and the changes have been presented to the ULG Group.
- Information about the progress of the project, about identified funding opportunities for the Investment plan and the idea of including new ULG members.
- A review on the “Prepare for Re-Use Stage” meeting held from 03–05 February 2026 in Paris, alongside the results from the two-part peer review of Investment and Continuity Plans. Especially, the peer-review of the Horta Nord Investment plan gave the Pomorie team valuable input about the design of the activities we can use in our case too. We also tried to recreate the Funding Readiness and the Storytelling Workshops, designed to help networks communicate their impact effectively.
- A review of the TNM in Maia, Portugal (March 16–19, 2026). The ULG coordinator informed the members about the funding training sessions. The meeting was focusing on the Investment Peer Reviews and project finalization. During the meeting the group has accepted new ULG members – Nikolay Kostadinov - Korrekt stroi 2000 EOOD- local business - construction works, Nikolay Boiadjiev and Sabina Chaneva – representatives of LAG Pomorie and Jivko Taljokov – representative of FLAG Pomorie. With this act the number of the ULG members has risen to 18.



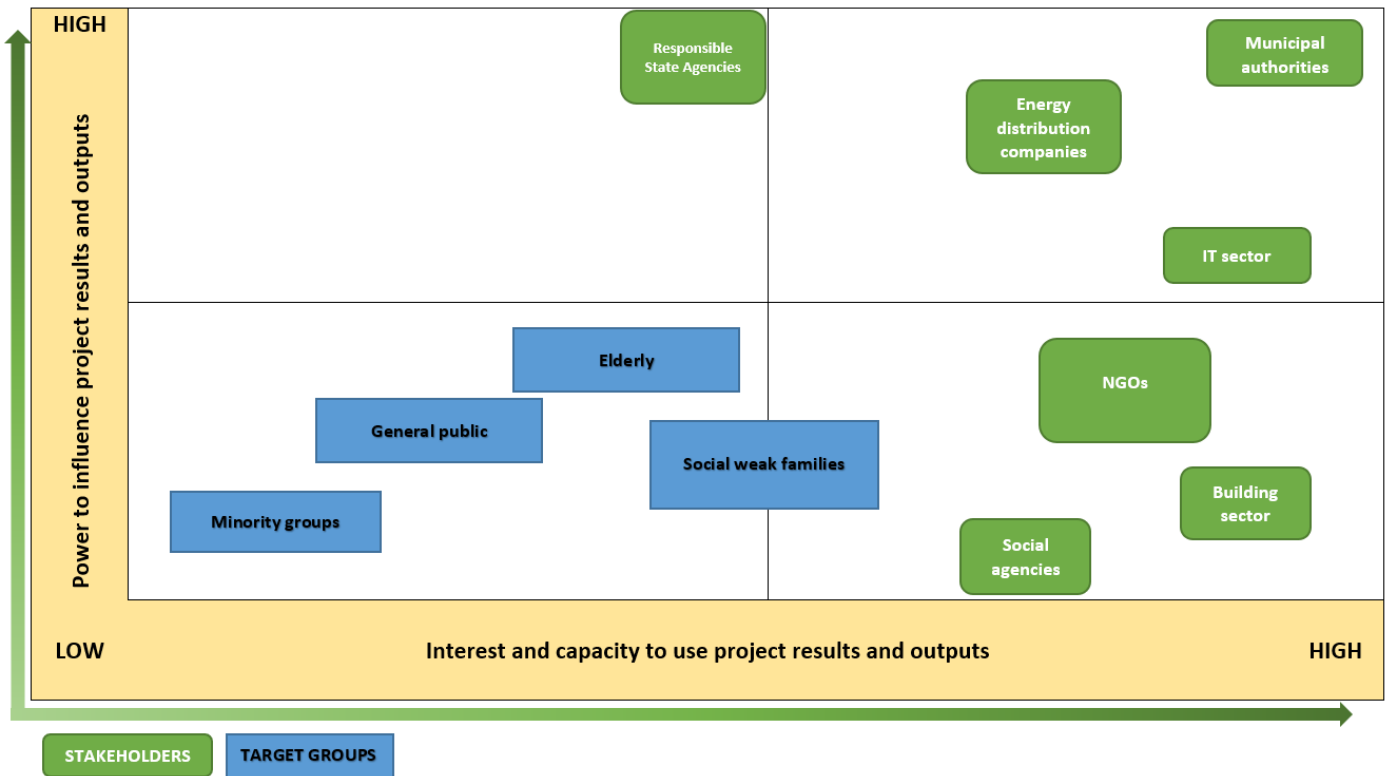
In line with the EmPowerIngUs Communication Plan we delivered the first two articles, related to the Getafe TNM and the Annual meeting of Bulgarian local authorities on 12 October 2025 in Albena.

The Annual Meeting of Local Authorities is the biggest event in the country for local policies and trends in local self-government. We participated in one of the main panels “European Urban Initiative and URBACT – Municipalities without Borders” on the methodology of URBACT IV, specifically exploring how municipalities can transcend administrative and geographical boundaries through strategic cooperation.

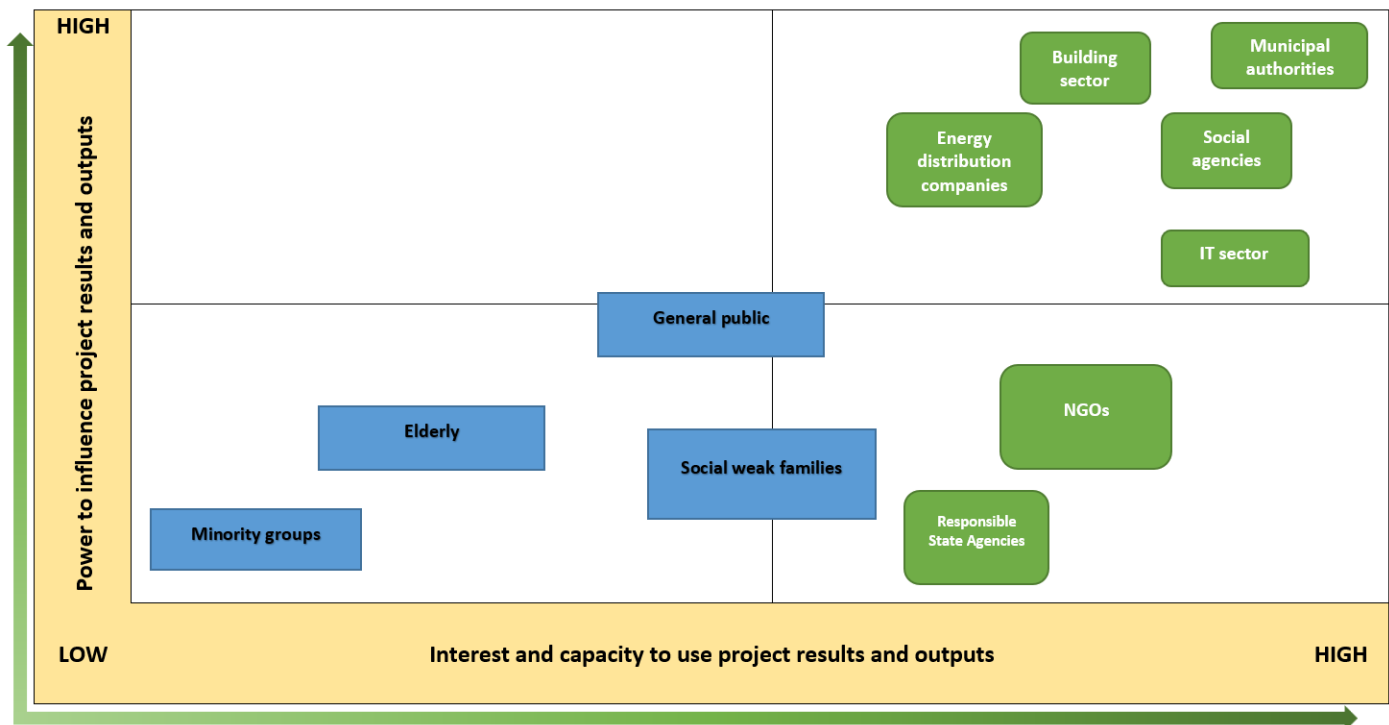
The core themes of the event were perfectly aligned with the objectives of the EmPowerIngUs (EPIU ITN) project. During the panel, Georgi Petkov, our ULG coordinator, presented the unique challenges it faces regarding energy poverty. This presentation underscored the project’s overarching goal: transferring the innovative “Energy Poverty Intelligence Unit” practice, originally developed in Getafe, to diverse urban contexts across Europe. The discussion highlighted several critical pillars of the EPIU ITN network’s mission. Central to these is the use of Data-Driven Solutions, specifically the Data Analytics System (DAS), which leverages AI and machine learning to uncover “hidden” energy poverty that traditional metrics often miss. Furthermore, the panel emphasized the importance of Inclusive Governance through the establishment of URBACT Local Groups (ULGs). These groups ensure that social policies are not just theoretical but actually reach the most vulnerable populations, including the elderly and migrant communities.

Participation in the panel served as a vital platform to demonstrate how the project’s transnational partnership is successfully translating complex European urban policies into tangible local actions. Ultimately, this event reinforced the profound relevance of the EmPowerIngUs network, proving that the specialized tools developed in Getafe are essential catalysts for the green and social transition of municipalities throughout the European Union (URL: <https://namrb.org/bg/sabitiva/godishna-sreshta-na-mestnite-lasti-2025>).

WHO WAS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN POMORIE DURING THE PREVIOUS PERIOD



WHO IS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN POMORIE - STAKEHOLDERS POWER/INTEREST MATRIX TODAY



Note:

- *Responsible Stage Agencies* – It became clear, that the state agencies are not the driving force for Pomorie Municipality to achieve the project results
- *Social agencies* – This stakeholder moved forward, because of its importance for the project. They are a linking chain between the vulnerable households and the Municipality
- *Building sector* – The building sector has shown a great interest in the Investment plan. The ULG groups has a new member of this sector. Three building companies have contributed for the preparation of the Investment plan.

2.5 Progress made by the ULG of our Transfer city – TRIKALA (GR)

Although there were no official ULG meetings during the last quarter, the ULG in Trikala demonstrated steady progress through active collaboration, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement.

The ULG received valuable input from the Community Centre regarding energy poverty challenges. Despite existing subsidies (50–70% reductions in electricity costs), many households still struggle with high energy bills. It was emphasized that future awareness campaigns should provide tangible incentives (e.g., energy kits and practical advice) to encourage participation from vulnerable groups.

Progress was also made in relation to the distribution of energy kits under the Restart mAI City project. Discussions focused on identifying target groups (e.g., tech-savvy younger individuals and residents in social housing) and addressing technical challenges such as installation costs and the need for qualified personnel. The importance of developing a clear distribution strategy was highlighted, especially given the project's timeline (ending June 2026).

Additional updates included:

- Planned installation of digital gas meters in Trikala, with priority given to the city.
- Development of a municipal application for monitoring water consumption via digital water meters.

Looking ahead, the next steps of the ULG focus on moving from planning to implementation, particularly in engaging vulnerable households and delivering tangible results. A key priority is the organization of the awareness-raising campaign on April 20th, which will aim to attract participants by offering practical benefits such as energy-saving advice and demonstration of energy kits. At the same time, efforts will concentrate on finalizing the strategy for the distribution of energy kits, including identifying target groups and addressing installation challenges. The ULG will also proceed with its revised format of meetings as interactive workshops and dissemination events to increase impact, with the next being scheduled on April 20th.



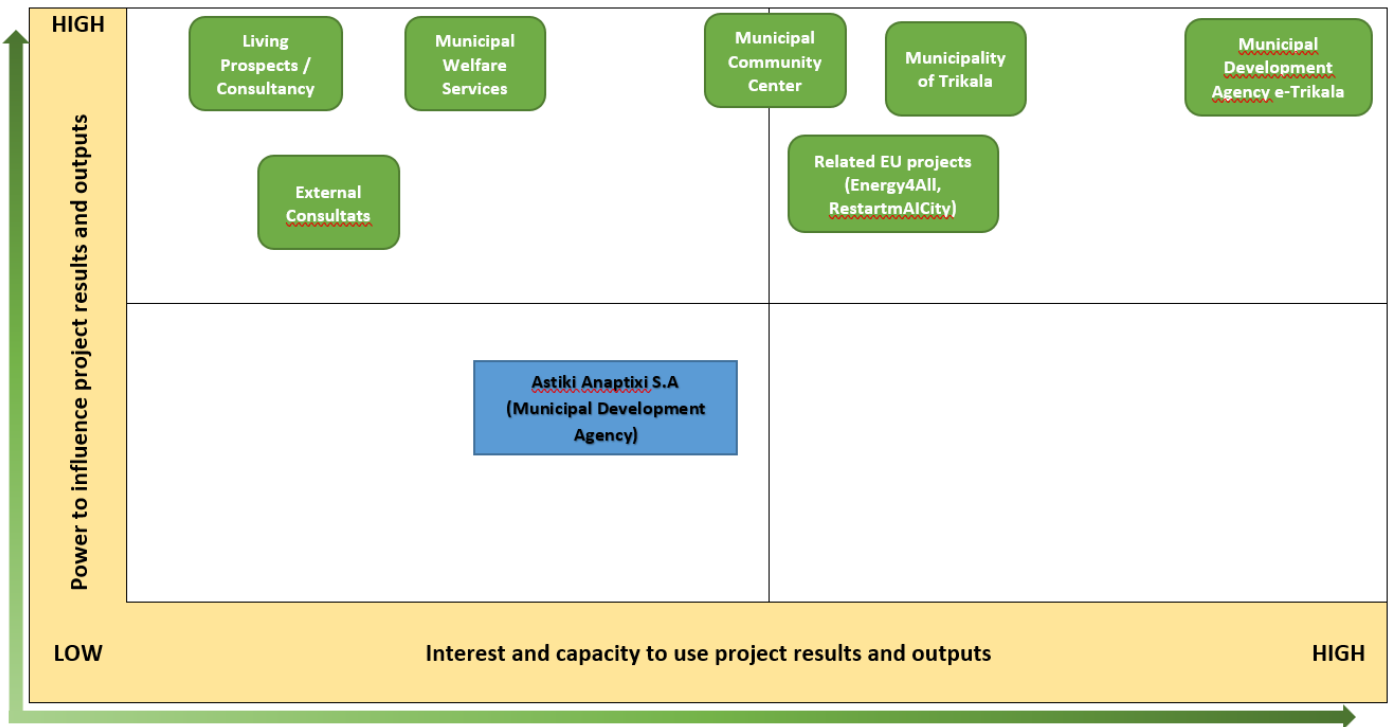
Citizen Empowerment & Service Delivery at the newly established Trikala Energy Office.

In parallel, the status of the Energy Office is operational since March 2026, strengthening local support structures, while ongoing coordination with stakeholders will ensure the integration of digital tools (e.g., smart meters and monitoring applications) into the overall approach.

Furthermore, Trikala has made significant progress in the development of the city's Investment Plan. The plan outlines two funding scenarios for the continuation and further enhancement of the municipality's Energy Office, established through the EU-funded Energy4All project. A particularly constructive milestone was e-Trikala's participation in the URBACT Reuse meeting in Paris, where exchanges with experts opened new perspectives for the development and optimisation of the Investment Plan. Another important moment was the latest TNM meeting in Maia, Portugal, in late March. During the peer review exercise, and under the guidance of the URBACT Ad Hoc Expert Donal O'Herlihy, the team received valuable feedback and insights, which will be incorporated into the Investment Plan.

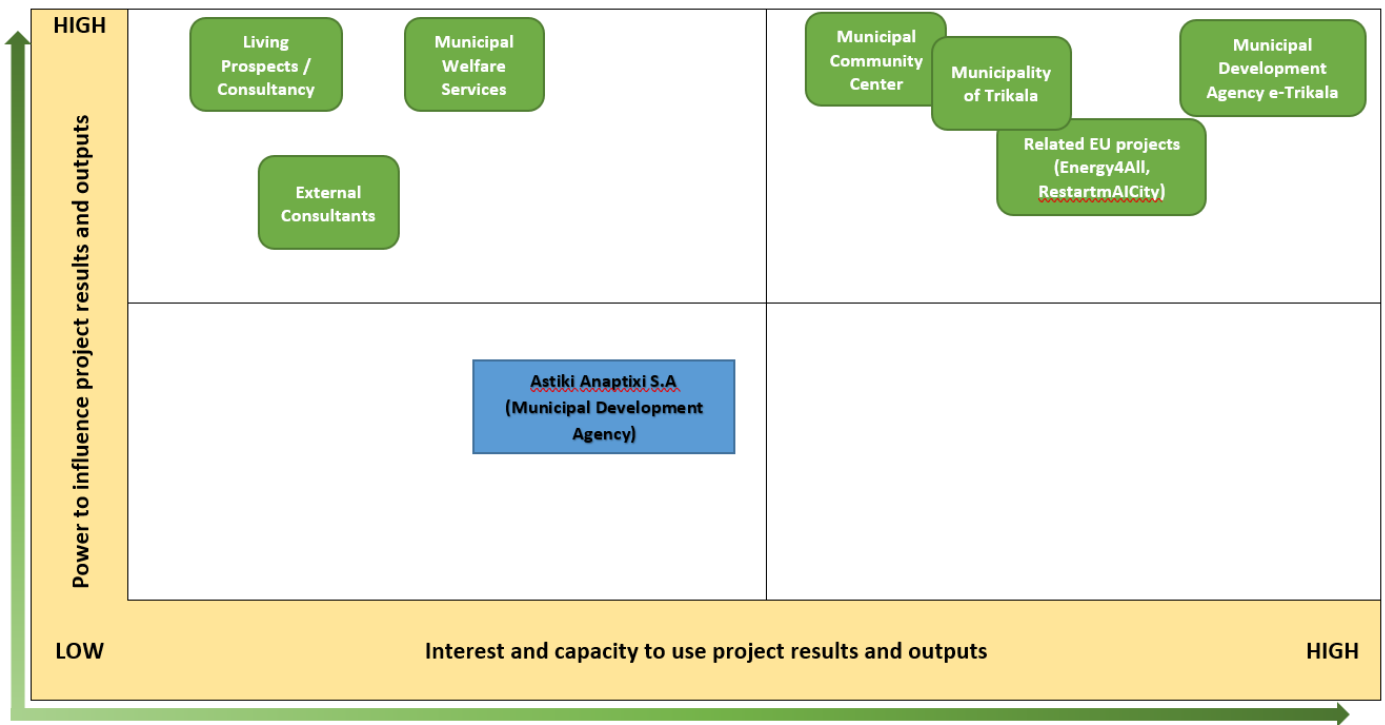
Overall, the last quarter was marked by enhanced coordination, clearer strategic direction, and concrete steps toward implementation, particularly in engaging vulnerable households and advancing energy-related interventions.

WHO WAS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN TRIKALA DURING THE PREVIOUS PERIOD



STAKEHOLDERS TARGET GROUPS

WHO IS SITTING AROUND THE TABLE IN TRIKALA - STAKEHOLDERS POWER/INTEREST MATRIX TODAY



STAKEHOLDERS TARGET GROUPS

Note:

- The Municipal Community Centre has shifted along the horizontal axis of interest, reflecting its instrumental role in utilizing the project's results and outputs. As a public institution working directly with vulnerable populations, many of whom are affected by energy poverty, the Centre has expressed a strong interest in acquiring the necessary knowledge on this critical issue. This will enable it to better support these groups and enhance their awareness. At the same time, the Centre will serve as the primary interface for engaging these populations in the network's upcoming awareness-raising event.

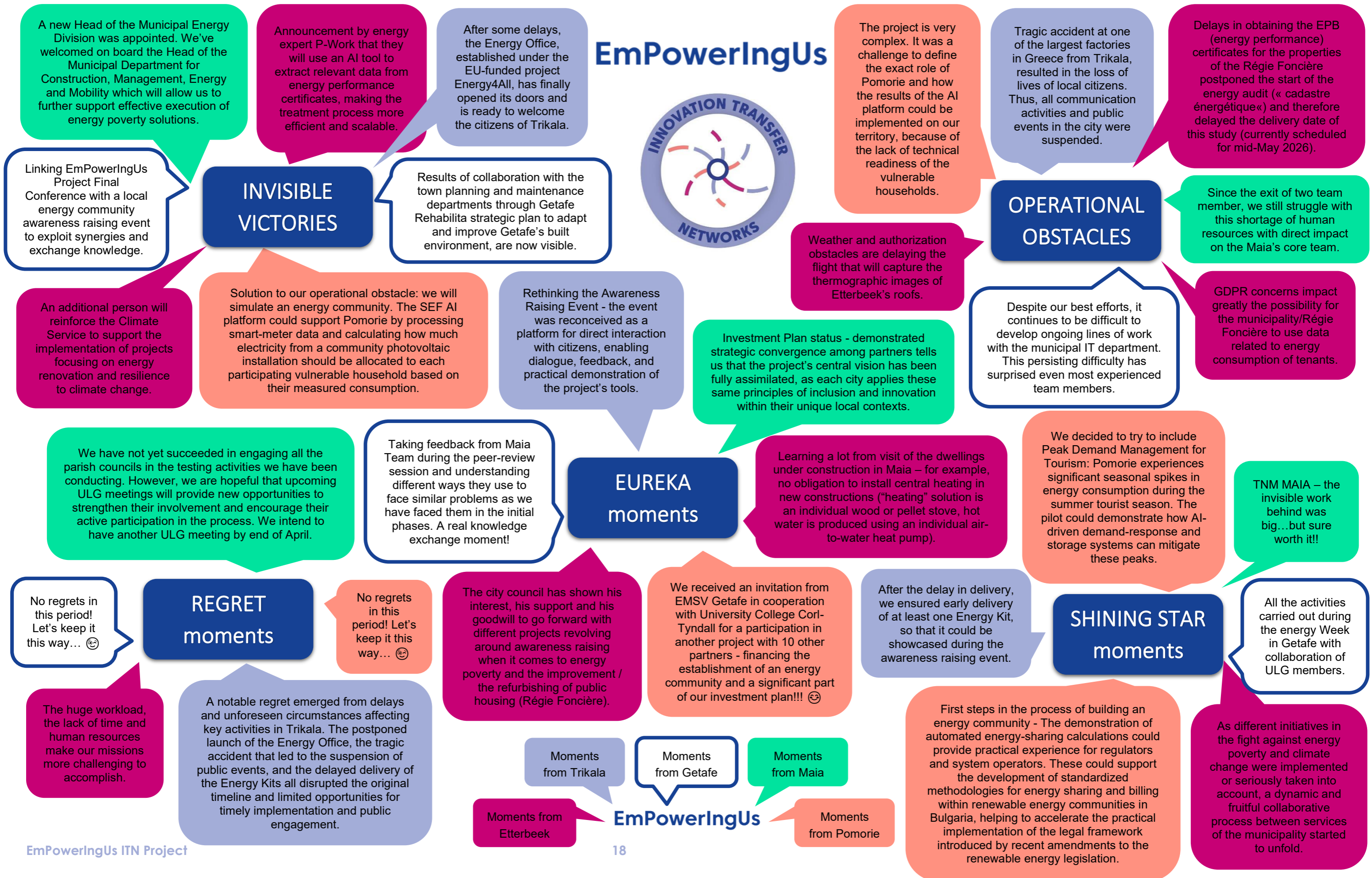
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- *Since the 4th ULG meeting and up to March 2026, a notable shift has been observed among stakeholders related to EU projects, particularly the Energy4All project, across both the vertical and horizontal axes. With the establishment of the Energy Office, which has been operational since March 2026, the project now holds significant potential to influence the EmPoweringUs results and outputs, as it will serve as a key source of data. At the same time, the Energy4All project has already begun to make use of EmPoweringUs outputs and insights, incorporating selected training modules into the capacity-building activities of the Energy Office staff.*
- *Several stakeholders who were included in the initial SH/TG mapping are not currently reflected in the updated influence/interest diagram. This is primarily because, during the early phase of the ULG's work, the focus was placed on engaging a core group of highly relevant stakeholders to ensure continuity, ownership, and coherence in the development process. As the project progresses, particularly with the upcoming testing activities and the preparation of the Investment Plan, we expect higher participation from all ULG member and, therefore their move on the matrix diagram is projected. The engagement of a broader range of stakeholders, depending on the thematic focus and local implementation needs is also expected. This phased approach allows for more targeted engagement and efficient coordination.*
- *Stakeholders who remained in their original positions on the influence/interest diagram continue to represent key actors in the ULG process. Their position reflects a consistent level of engagement and relevance to the project. These stakeholders have maintained their interest and/or influence throughout the initial phases, actively participating in meetings and discussions. Their steady involvement contributes to continuity and helps anchor the group's strategic direction as the project evolves.*

3. OUR IMPRESSIONS FROM THE 4th TRANSNATIONAL NETWORK MEETING IN MAIA (PORTUGAL)

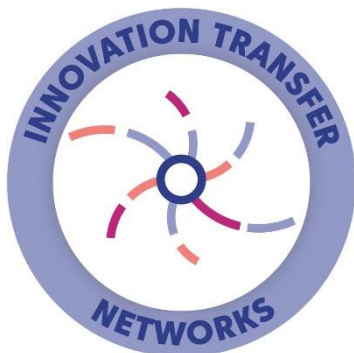


4. "HOT DEBRIEF" – OUR KEY TRANSFER PROCESS MOMENTS FROM THIS QUARTER





EPIU Getafe
Hogares saludables



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