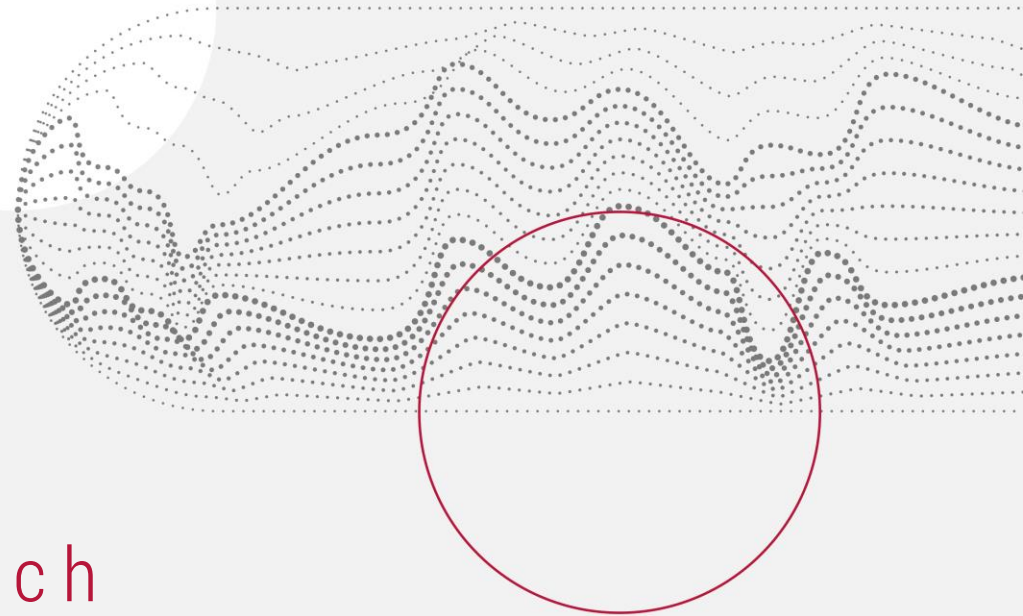


Energy poverty and the just transition agenda in Poland

JAKUB SOKOŁOWSKI

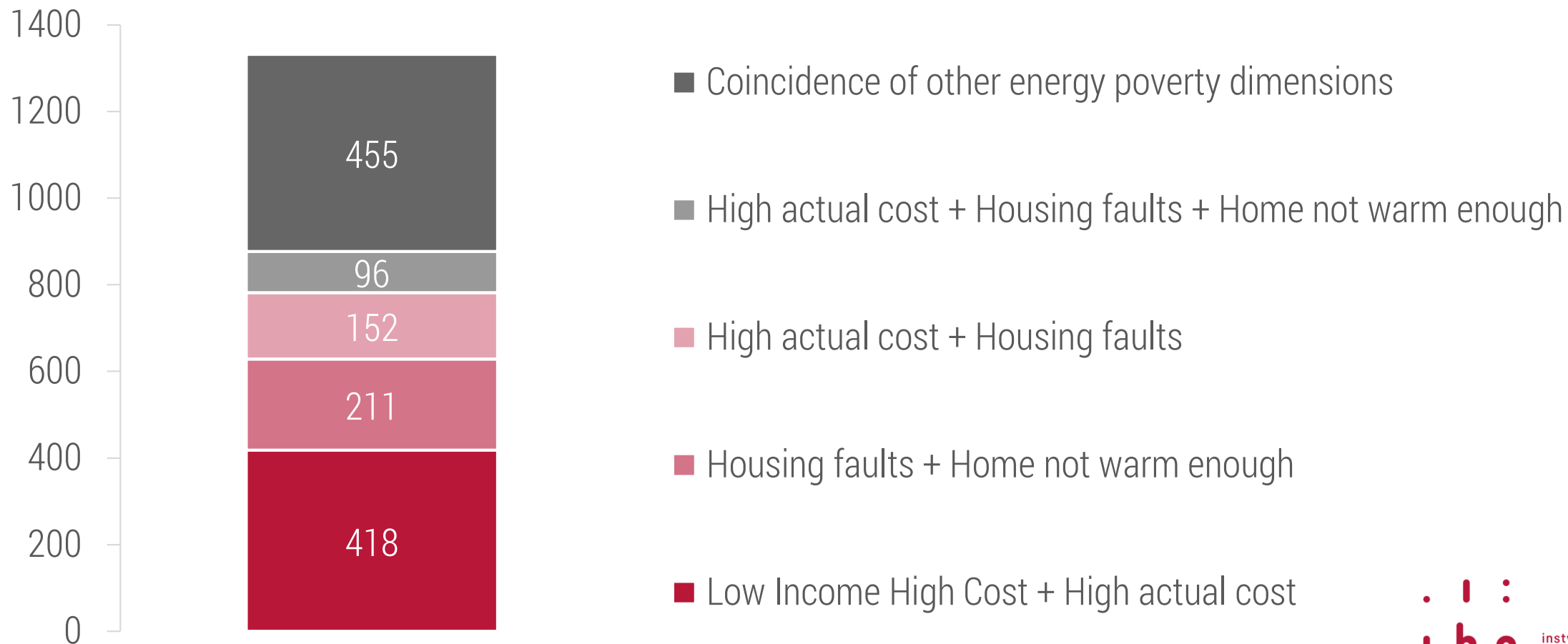
Institute for Structural Research



In 2018, 10% (1.3 million) of households in Poland were affected by multidimensional energy poverty



Coincidence of energy poverty dimensions among households (in thousand households)

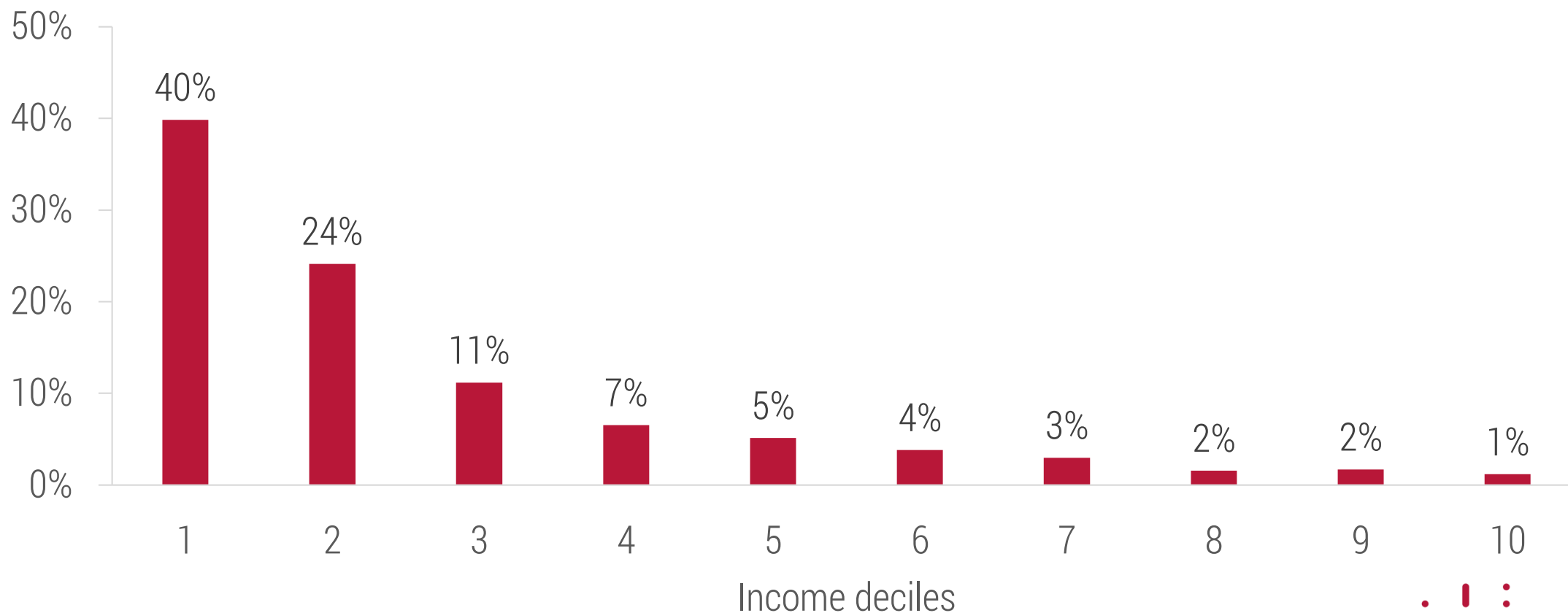


Source: Own calculations based on the Household Budget Survey data (Statistics Poland, 2018).

3/4 of households who are energy poor in a multidimensional sense are among 30% of households with the lowest incomes

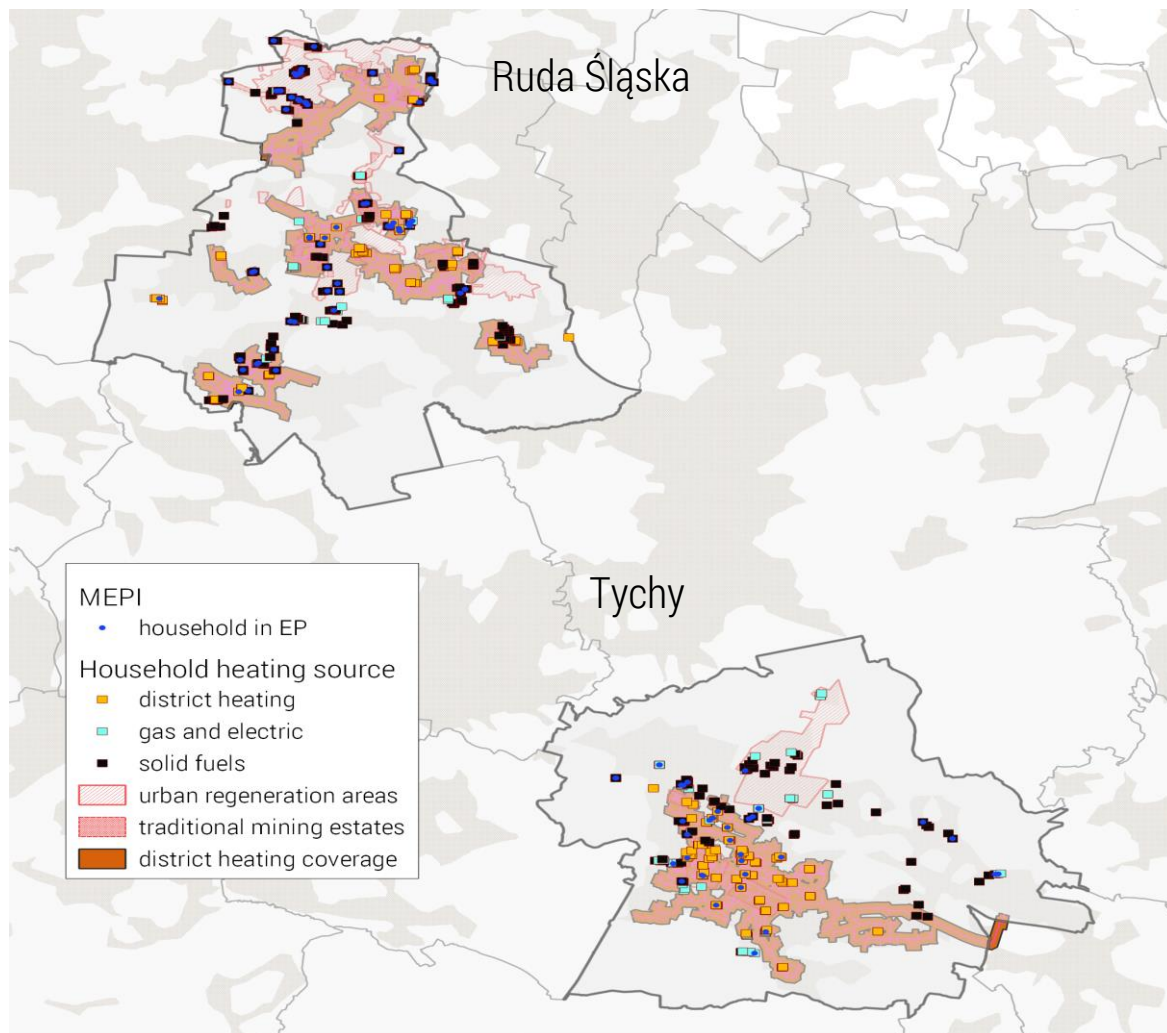


Distribution of energy poor households in Poland, by equivalised income deciles



Source: Own calculations based on the Household Budget Survey data (Statistics Poland, 2018).

In two cities located in the coal mining region of Poland, energy poverty hot-spots are located mostly outside the range of district heating



Source: Own calculations based on a locally-based survey ($n = 700$ households)

Households in energy poverty in Ruda Śląska and Tychy

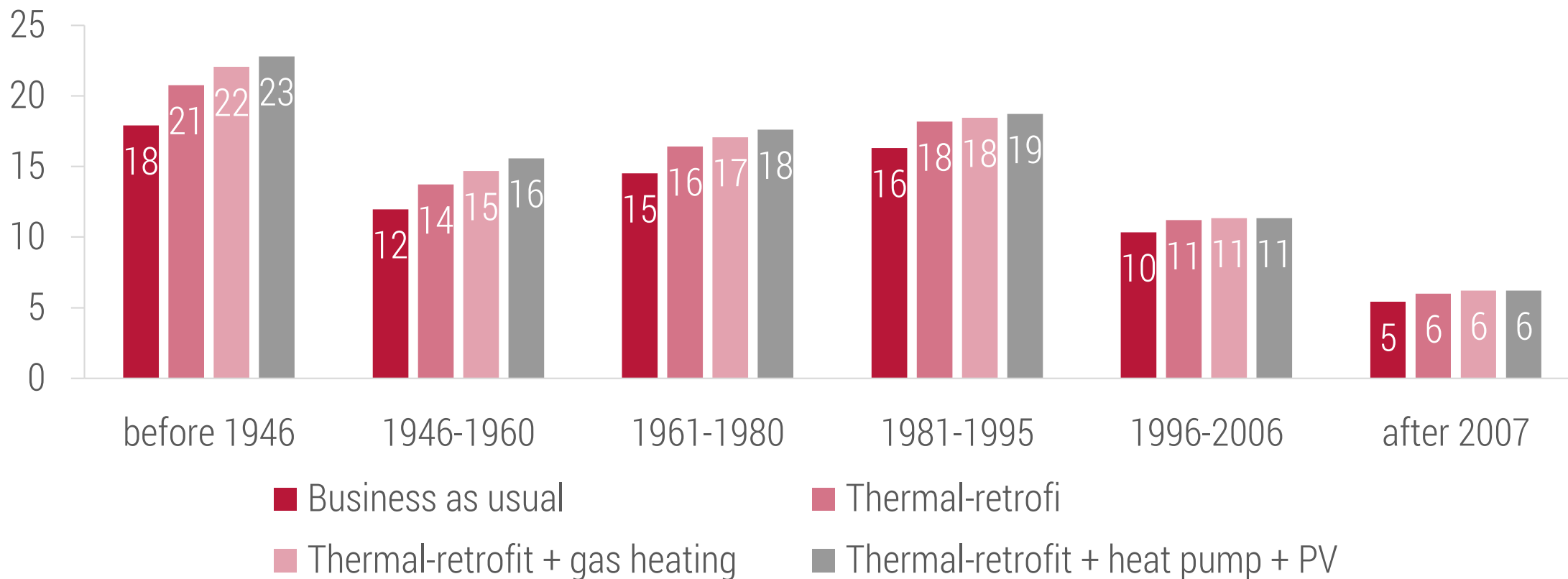
Upper Silesia is the largest area of hard coal mining in Europe.

It will be one of the main stakeholders of just transition policies.

E.g. in Ruda Śląska the energy-poor households inhabit mostly the urban regeneration areas and traditional mining estates.

In the energy transition process mostly the households in detached buildings from before 1946 are exposed to the increased risk of energy poverty

Risk of energy poverty in detached houses related to energy transition (%), according to the year of construction



Source: IBS & Forum Energii (2019)

There is no dedicated allowance for the energy-poor in Poland



- 3 social allowances **indirectly** addressing energy-poor households needs
- Housing and electrical energy allowances are **inefficient**
- Fuel allowance has **strict income criteria**
- 2 programmes for **new heating sources** and **thermal-retrofit** support
- The Clean Air Programme **90%** subsidy for people with an income of max. 140 EUR/per month
- *Stop Smog* – a dedicated programme for the poorest households **7 local communities** (*gmina*) participate (October 2020)

Decent housing, clean and affordable heating are a necessary condition for a just transition process



- Prioritising thermal retrofit programmes, investment in new heating sources and district heating connections.
- Large-scale investments in the renovation of energy-inefficient buildings, which would compensate the economic slowdown and unemployment in the heavy industry
- Increasing funds for renovation and investment of the social housing stock
- Providing direct compensation for higher energy expenditure for tenants who invest in a new heating source

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