

**SOCIAL**



**INNOVATION**

**TO TACKLE FUEL POVERTY**

# The problem: energy poverty

## In Europe

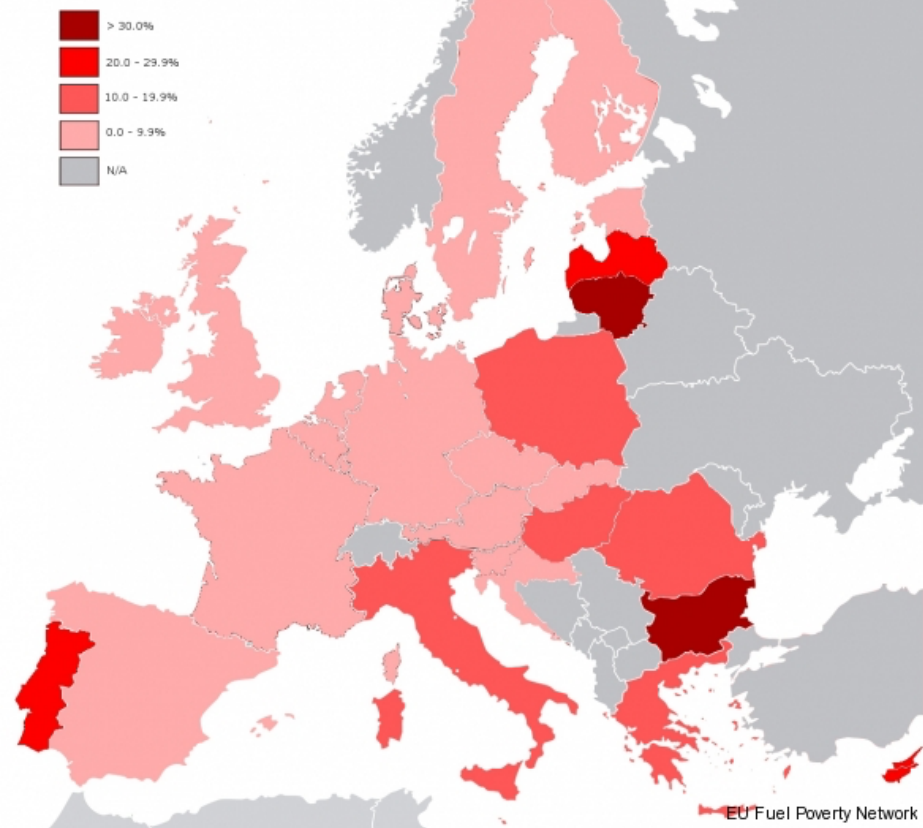
Energy poverty has become an important issue in Europe. It is calculated that between 50 and 125 million of people do not manage to warm up and light their households in an appropriate way and in accessible price (European Parliamentary Research Service). This has a negative impact on their health and well-being.

## In Greece

When a household spends more than 10% of the family income for its energy needs, then we consider that it is affected by energy poverty (Prof. Panas, University of Athens/ Research on energy poverty in Greece, 2012).

# The European reality

% of households unable to afford to keep their home adequately warm  
Source: EU SILC 2011



Fonte: Wand, C.R. (2013)

# The partnership as a solution

After a successful partnership in 2015-2016, the Schneider Electric Foundation, under the aegis of the Fondation de France, and Ashoka, have renewed their commitment to helping improve the living conditions of millions of people facing fuel poverty in Europe.



# The Schneider Electric Foundation

Created in 1998, the Schneider Electric Foundation, under the aegis of the Fondation de France, has worked together with its partners to implement solutions to address the energy issues faced by the world's most underprivileged people.

- In emerging economies, the Foundation supports professional training programs in energy-related trades, thereby contributing to the Schneider Electric Access to Energy program.
- In mature economies, the Foundation fights against fuel poverty by offering training and awareness-raising programs for the concerned households.

<http://www.schneider-electric.com/en/about-us/sustainability/foundation.jsp>

# Ashoka

## WE FIND AND SUPPORT THE BEST SOCIAL INNOVATORS AND CONNECT THEM IN A GLOBAL NETWORK

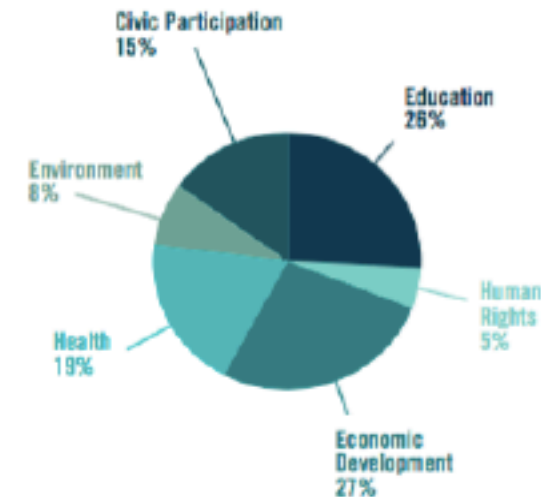
As one of the **top 20 most influential global NGOs** and with **35-year experience** Ashoka is the leader in sourcing, selecting & supporting the growth of socially-driven start-ups and social entrepreneurs through their various stages of growth to maximize their social impact.

Ashoka has developed a network of over **3,000** leading social entrepreneurs – ‘Ashoka Fellows’ – in **88 countries** working with global partners to scale their solutions.

Our mission is to advance an **Everyone a Changemaker** world, in which everyone is able to step in quickly and efficiently **to tackle social challenges**.

To achieve this, **we work in collaboration with** social innovators and leading social entrepreneurs, schools and universities, corporates, the public sector, business leaders and the media.

## WHAT IS THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASHOKA FELLOWS ACROSS FIELDS GLOBALLY?



# How?

THE SUPPORT WE PROVIDE ENABLES SOCIAL INNOVATORS TO MAXIMISE THEIR IMPACT AND TRANSFORM SECTORS



## NETWORK ACCESS

Providing connections to partners, advisors, corporations and philanthropists.



## VISIBILITY

Connections to journalists and the media as well as speaking opportunities.



## PEER-TO-PEER NETWORK

Connections to over 3,300 social entrepreneurs in all fields.



## TRANSFORMATIVE SKILLS

Access to pro bono partners, accelerator programmes and workshops.

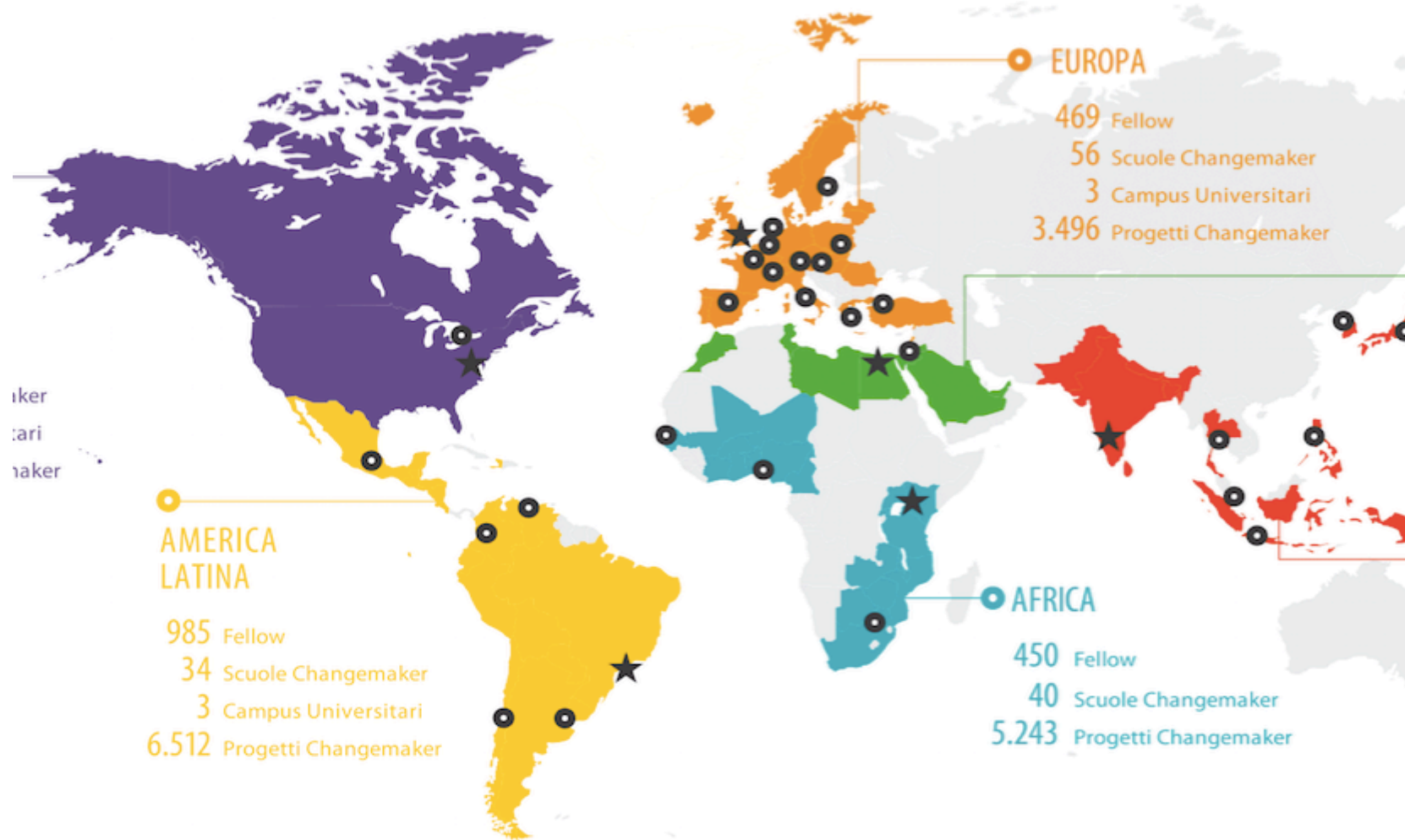


## TIME & INVESTMENT

Financial support through a stipend and support with raising investment.



# Ashoka in the world





# Social Innovation to Tackle Fuel Poverty

## The scope of the initiative

The 2017-2018 “Social Innovation to Tackle Fuel Poverty” program aims to identify, engage, and support to scale-up 15-20 innovative organizations that offer creative and systems-changing solutions to tackle fuel poverty and promote energy sustainability in five European countries: Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain.

## The benefits of the programme

A new Call for Projects will open on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017 to select the 15-20 most innovative organizations that offer creative and systems-changing solutions to tackle fuel poverty and promote energy sustainability in the five countries. The winners will be announced during the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP23) to the UN Convention on Climate Change in November 2017 in Bonn, Germany. They will then receive twelve weeks of personalized and specialized support, for a total of around 300 hours of dedicated mentoring sessions, with the goal of crafting an effective strategy to scale up. A final two-day European summit will give them the opportunity to present their strategy for scaling up.

I

# The key moments of the initiative

1

**Preparatory phase:** Presentation workshop 26<sup>o</sup> of May 2017 in Athens.

2

**Open call:** 12 June 2017 – 1 October 2017.

3

**Selection of projets:** 2 October 2017 – 20 October 2017.

4

**Event COP23 and public announcement:** 13-17 November 2017 (Bonn, Germany).

5

**Preparation of next phase:** November- December 2017.

6

**GlobalizerX:** January- April 2018.

7

**European Meeting:** Spring 2018 (Rome, Italy).

8

**Final report:** May 2018.

# The categories

- 1. Cross-sectoral collaboration:** Leveraging synergies with other sectors (e.g. health, social care).
- 2. Education, training and work:** Boosting education and promoting community engagement, creating new skills and/or jobs in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- 3. Energy efficiency:** Switching to more efficient energy solutions (e.g. off-grid solutions).
- 4. Innovative funding:** Offering funding and partnerships for private initiatives to build and/or renovate energy-efficient housing or equipment (e.g. credit, equipment leasing, third-party financing).
- 5. Mapping and raising awareness:** Gathering and/or sharing data with interoperable systems to improve the identification of the population affected by fuel poverty and their needs, and raising awareness among public authorities.

## Examples from 2015- 2016

### **SAMENLEVINGSOPBOUW – Stefan Goemaere - Category : Innovative funding**

Samenlevingsopbouw is a project destined to people with debts suffering from fuel poverty. Because of these debts, they can't replace their old consuming appliances for energy saving ones and they continue to have expensive energy bills. Samenlevingsopbouw is a lease/rent system where people can rent energy saving appliances and reduce their energy bill. This innovative project is a smart and replicable mean to give access to efficient appliances to people who could not afford them beforehand.

<http://www.samenlevingsopbouw.be/>

## Examples from 2015- 2016

### PLYMOUTH ENERGY COMMUNITY – ALISTAIR MACPHERSON - CATEGORY : EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As a Community Benefit Society run by its members on behalf of the people of Plymouth, PEC aims to help local people and organizations in Plymouth transform how they buy, use and generate power in the city.

Their work focuses around three core energy goals: reducing energy bills and fuel poverty, improving energy efficiency and generating a local green energy supply in the city. Through working with a number of energy-related organizations, they have created the tools and relationships to help the community achieve these three energy goals. One of their primary aims is to raise awareness and help the local community understand more about their options and to give them the knowledge and power to take action to change their own energy future. <http://www.plymouthenergycommunity.com/>

## Examples from 2015- 2016

### CAMEL – GUILLAUME THIRIET - CATEGORY : INNOVATIVE FUNDING

CAMEL has a holistic approach of the fuel poverty issue. The organization has developed a project mobilizing social enterprises, businesses, social workers, funding agencies and energy companies to solve financial, social and technical issues to help people get out of fuel poverty. CAMEL is developing new financial tools such as social loans or third-party financing and a skill development program involving social workers, social enterprises, and people facing fuel poverty. They want to become an essential link in the development of energy efficiency to protect vulnerable households against fuel poverty.

<http://camel-habitat-energie.e-monsite.com/>



## Examples from 2015- 2016

### CHANCE FOR BUILDINGS – TOMÁŠ TRUBAČÍK - CATEGORY : ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Chance for Buildings is an alliance of over 300 companies across the entire value chain of building construction and renovation in Czech Republic. Their objective is to improve the energy efficiency of social housing in order to reduce fuel poverty in Czech Republic in the long run. Currently, social payments are covering energy bills for the vulnerable population living in social housing. However, Chance for Building advocates that a more strategic solution would be to reduce the energy bills with more efficient buildings. Their influence on public authorities will help them promote energy efficiency measures in the Czech legislation.

<http://www.sanceprobudovy.cz/english-section>

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# Partnership Opportunities

Given the complexity of the problem, it is important to work in various levels in order to make sure that the selected innovations really offer solutions capable to offer significant developments and to have a positive impact on the individuals affected by energy poverty, on the Greek and European society and to the environment.

## Three possibilities of partnership:

- 1. Network Partners:** Network Partners are organizations that spread the word about the “Social Innovation to Tackle Fuel Poverty” program through their networks so that we can find and select the most innovative social entrepreneurs.
- 2. Media Partners:** Media Partners are organizations that spread the word about the “Social Innovation to Tackle Fuel Poverty” program through the media so that we can optimize the number of social entrepreneurs we reach.
- 3. Ambassadors:** Ambassadors are experts in the field of fuel poverty and energy sustainability who help us identify potential candidates for our program.

## Network Partners

- Key contact person within their organization;
- Support of the partnership with a button, banner, and/or blog post on their website that links to the programme website;
- Nomination of innovative entrepreneurs;
- Announcements to their networks;
- Joining and promoting online activities or events related to the programme.



- Display the logo and a link to their organization's website on the website: [www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu](http://www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu);
- Invitation to attend our final two-day European Summit in April 2018;
- Support highlighted during the programme's events; and
- Opportunities for the organization's leaders to engage with participants and partners to expand their network.

## Media Partners

- Share information about the program, in particular the Call for Projects, to their network using the press release and social media posts we have prepared for you;
- Co-create stories about the programme and its winners
- Forward us any relevant enquiry from potential candidates so that we can provide them with more information about the program.



- Display of logo and a link of their organization's website on our website: [www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu](http://www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu);
- Invitation to attend the event at COP23 where winners are announced;
- Highlight support during our events; and
- Offer opportunities for the organization's leaders to engage with our participants and partners so as to expand your network.



## Ambassadors

- Support in mapping local ecosystem;
- Share information about the program, in particular the Call for Projects;
- Nomination of innovative entrepreneurs working in the field of fuel poverty and
- Take part in promotion activities.



- Display of name as Ambassador on website: [www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu](http://www.tacklefuelpoverty.eu);
- Invitation to become part of the local Selection Committee;
- Possibility of becoming a mentor during the mentoring phase; and
- Invitation to attend the final two-day European Summit in April 2018.





# Q&A



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**TO TACKLE FUEL POVERTY**

[More info:](#)

[www.tacklefuelpoverty.com](http://www.tacklefuelpoverty.com)

<https://www.ashoka.org/fr/histoire/meet-social-innovation-tackle-fuel-poverty-european-programme-winners>

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