14th Citizens’ Energy Forum

24 November 2022

DRAFT AGENDA

Energy consumers at the heart of the energy crisis

The 14th Citizens Energy Forum will take place in Dublin and live web streamed with the possibility for the audience to engage through Sli.do. The Forum will engage citizens’ interest groups, wide range of stakeholders including NGOs, businesses, as well as policy makers (ministries and regulators) on energy consumer issues in the context of the current energy crisis. Energy is an essential good and the war in Ukraine and related raising energy prices are hitting wide sections of the population across Europe.

Compared to past editions, the forum will feature an enhanced citizen and practical focus, looking at what has been done during this year by individuals and local actors to prepare for the difficult winter ahead, but also what can still be done by anyone even when winter is starting. The focus of the Forum will be on middle income and low income consumers and on solutions that they can access or put in place. Active participation at the Forum will be facilitated through Sli.do polls, citizen testimonies, hands-on informative and inspiring examples of consumer actions, and lively discussions in break out groups.

Back to back with the Forum, there will be two half-day events for specialised audiences at the EU and local level, the day before and the day after. The first being a regulatory roundtable co-organised with energy regulators, and the second a citizen workshop in Ireland co-organised with DG JUST involving Irish citizens.

24 November (Dublin, Ireland)

10:00 - 10:10 Chair’s opening remarks - Deputy Director-General Mechthild Wörsdörfer

10:10 – 11:30 Plenary session – Energy crisis and consumer bills
High level interventions and panel discussion on what policy makers are doing to ensure access to energy for all and help consumers to control their energy bills in the current context, and how they are helping consumers adapt for the future.

11:30 – 12:15 Plenary session – What citizens have done and can do to control their energy bills
The session feature actions citizens and cities have taken and can still take to prepare for the winter.

- 10 steps citizens can still take to reduce their energy bill
- Inspiring journeys: citizen testimonies on what helped them to take control over their energy bill during this year
- What cities have done to help their citizens prepare for winter

Q&A with moderator and audience

12:15 – 13:30
Lunch break

13:30 – 15:00
Multi-stakeholder breakout sessions
Audience will divide in smaller groups to engage on priority topics of today in a wider moderated discussion. Presentations of good practices will set the scene and trigger the debate. Online audience can participate via Sli.do.

Breakout group 1 – Consumer-supplier relationship in times of energy crisis
The overall purpose of this session is to discuss relationships between consumers and suppliers in times of crisis and practical solutions such as moratoria on bills and role of supplier of last resort.

Breakout group 2 – Rethinking communities and how we produce and consume energy
The overall purpose of this session is to discuss how consumers can get access to renewable energy in the short but also longer term (next winter), support and advice, including financial help. The focus will be on collective approaches to renewable energy, and facilitating access to renewable energy for vulnerable customers and those in energy poverty.

Breakout group 3 – Consuming less and saving more energy
The overall purpose of this session is to discuss how consumers can reduce consumption, increase energy efficiency and get access to tailored advice and financial help. The audience will discuss effective energy efficiency measures, and ways to communicate energy saving advice to consumers.

15:00 – 15:30
Break

15:30 – 16:30
Plenary: The way ahead: solutions to help consumers throughout the energy crisis

Rapporteurs report back on main findings respective sessions.

16:30 – 17:30
Wrap up and Conclusion of the Forum