

Multiple Impacts Calculation Tool

# POLICY BRIEF: THE FIRST STEP IN CO-DESIGNING AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR SUPPORTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICY DESIGN



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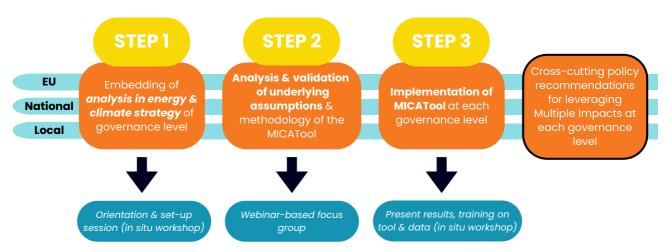




## **Executive Summary**

Assessing, quantifying and monetising the multiple impacts of energy efficiency measures is an effective strategy for increasing investment in the energy transition. Although other projects have successfully set up tools able to consider multiple impacts in policy impact assessments through cost benefit analyses, the approach is scarcely applied in policy-making. The main goal of the Multiple Impacts Assessment Tool (MICAT) project is to involve European, national, and local governing bodies as well as relevant stakeholders and policy-makers in the entire development process of the resulting MICATool, which will allow for better tailoring of the tool to these actor's needs. The involvement process envisages three steps that are paramount to achieving this goal, specifically the gathering of data inputs and expectations, validation, as well as training, of which the first has been implemented amongst all three governance levels. This brief summarises the results of the first step on all levels.

In energy policy, the multiple impacts approach emphasises co-benefits of energy efficiency, essentially increasing the cost effectiveness of related measures from a holistic perspective. A number of projects on the topic have been funded in the past (e.g. COMBI and the ODYSSEE-MURE Multiple Benefits Facility - MB:EE) constituting an important starting point for the development of a tool facilitating the policy design process. However, the developed calculation methodology has neither been adopted systematically nor considered for future policies' impact assessments. Since the MICATool aspires to fill this gap, be highly policy-relevant, and directly involved in the drafting of energy efficiency legislation, it was built with a strong stakeholder engagement component, in order for it to be tailored to the needs of its target groups, namely governments at the European, national, and local level. For each of these, engagement will take place over the course of three steps until the end of the project.



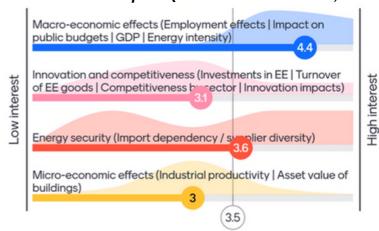
Summarised below are the results of the Step 1 workshops held on the three governance levels, whose goal was to gage stakeholders interest about MICAT's indicators and their expectations of the tool.

### **EU level workshops**

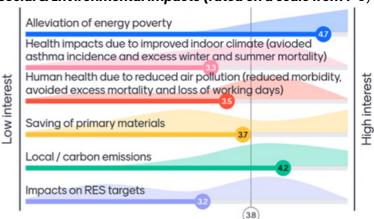
Participants: European Commission officials from DG ENERGY (Energy Efficiency Unit), DG CLIMA (Foresight, Economic Analysis and Modelling Unit), and CINEA (LIFE Energy and LIFE Climate).

The European Green Deal levers on economic benefits deriving from the energy transition, thus economic indicators are considered important at the EU level as they would reduce the gap with investors and the market. Environmental indicators are also high on participant's agenda, which claim that reduced emissions are а key area interest. Furthermore, in terms of social impacts, alleviation of energy poverty by far presents the most interest as an indicator for the EU agenda. Concerning possible future applications of the MICATool, the new Article 3 of the energy efficiency directive (EED) recast regarding the **Energy Efficiency First principle (EEIst) could** benefit from the use of the tool in the Life Cycle Assessment's cost benefit analysis.

#### Economic Impacts (rated on a scale from 1-5)



#### Social & Environmental Impacts (rated on a scale from 1-5)



### **National level workshops**

Participants: Ministries - Economic Affairs and Energy, Environment, Energy Efficiency Center (DE); Ecological Transition - Energy Department and Environment Department (IT); Economic Development and Technology, Climate and Environment (PL); National Agencies - DENEFF, UBA (DE); ENEA, ISPRA (IT); KOBIZE, KAPE (PL); Other Participants - IIT Berlin, KfW, BiBB, Agora Energiewende (DE); GSE, Confindustria (IT); Pro Akademia, University of Science and Technology (PL).

The level of interest in the different set of indicators varied amongst the three countries, where each showed a clear interest in environmental and economic indicators (both macro and micro), highlighting how the MICATool could be used for assessment against the EU taxonomy. Concerning social indicators, Polish stakeholders showed high interest for energy poverty indicators, which are of utmost importance as Polish households tend to have comparatively high energy expenditures. Datadriven improvements of measures targeted at low-income households would be an asset, also considering support programmes such as the Just Transition Mechanism.

Slightly less interest for social indicators was shown in Italy and Germany as both countries interpret energy poverty as a symptom of general poverty that is to be tackled using the tools of the welfare state rather than a distinct form of deprivation requiring a dedicated Nonetheless, official from approach. an Germany explained that energy poverty is increasingly being regarded as a separate form of deprivation in German ministries, in line with the European Union's definition. Concerning possible future application of the MICATool, all three countries highlighted its usefulness for the update of their NECPs and for the reporting obligation under the new Article 3 of the EED.

### Local level engagement and workshops

MICAT pilot cities	VITORIA-GASTEIS	CALVIÀ	TARTU
Inhabitants	250,000	52,000	95,000
Participants	Mostly city administration departments (all cities); an environmental association (Tartu), a regional energy agency (Tartu), a large local employer (Tartu), a business association (Calvia), regional government (Calvia)		
Focus	Alignment with SDG policy frameworks	Energy Efficiency in the tourist sector	Growing private sector and energy communities

Step 1 at the local level came to fruition through a number of bilateral meetings, the content of which was adapted based on cities' needs. Local stakeholders needed further guidance on the concept of multiple impact than higher governance levels and were briefed through the preparation and distribution of a paper, explaining the approach and the work carried out by the development team. Interactive sessions were used to identify input data alongside desired outputs resulting in two sets of lists – the MICAT indicators list and the list of measures and related data included in the cities' SECAPs. In order to keep local cities engaged, it is important to act in their areas of

interest laid down in their sustainable energy and climate plans, use relevant datasets and derive results which can have an impact on local energy and climate policies. Municipalities therefore have a reasonable interest for a tool that supports them in assessing policy options regarding energy efficiency and multiple impacts. The challenge that surfaced after the first round of workshops has been to identify use cases where the tool could actually be utilised. It is expected that the future collaboration will bring the issue of a possibly simple integration into municipal working procedures to fruition. This is the aim of MICAT's future work which will continue to be carried out on the local level.

The MICATool is foreseen to be of use at the local, national and EU levels, and will be validated during Step 2 of the project. To learn more about MICAT's three step process or the MICATool, contact mara@ieecp.org.

### **PROJECT PARTNERS**

















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