



FACT SHEET

Strengthening household energy security & resilience

Developing a practical roadmap to strengthen municipal responses to energy poverty through coordinated provincial support.

CONTEXT

The Household Energy Security & Resilience Project emerged from ongoing provincial and municipal discussions about rising household vulnerability and increasing pressure on municipal electricity systems.

Several interconnected challenges have highlighted the need for a coordinated response:

- Escalating electricity tariffs alongside declining disposable income among low-income households
- Increasing regulatory requirements relating to cost-of-supply implementation
- Growing strain on cross-subsidy mechanisms that have traditionally protected poorer households
- Fragmented approaches to indigent support and affordability interventions

These challenges demonstrate that energy affordability is not simply a policy issue, but a structural systems challenge that sits at the intersection of poverty, municipal finance, energy reform and regulatory compliance.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Develop a structured Provincial Energy Affordability Roadmap that enables municipalities to more effectively access and utilise provincial government support in addressing energy poverty.

INNOVATION

The project strengthens coherence across existing mandates by combining intentional systems thinking, co-creation and continuous learning over a three-year period. It creates an enabling framework that aligns provincial support functions with municipal implementation through an iterative, evidence-led roadmap development process.

STRATEGY & ACTIVITIES

The project combines stakeholder engagement, systems analysis and evidence generation to develop a practical Provincial Energy Affordability Roadmap.

Activities include co-creating a shared understanding of energy affordability, undertaking research and gap analysis, developing a Theory of Change, documenting municipal case studies, testing intervention pathways, establishing governance and peer-learning platforms, and translating evidence into practical guidance and knowledge products that support coordinated provincial and municipal action.



RESULTS

Through this collaborative process, the project is expected to deliver:

- A shared provincial framing of energy affordability.
- Greater clarity on how municipalities can access provincial support mechanisms.
- Identification of priority institutional and data gaps.
- A practical, phased Provincial Energy Affordability Roadmap.
- Strengthened coordination through a Steering Committee and peer learning platform.

Ultimately, the roadmap aims to support poverty alleviation, strengthen municipal fiscal resilience and contribute to South Africa's broader energy transition by enabling more coordinated provincial support for municipal action.

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