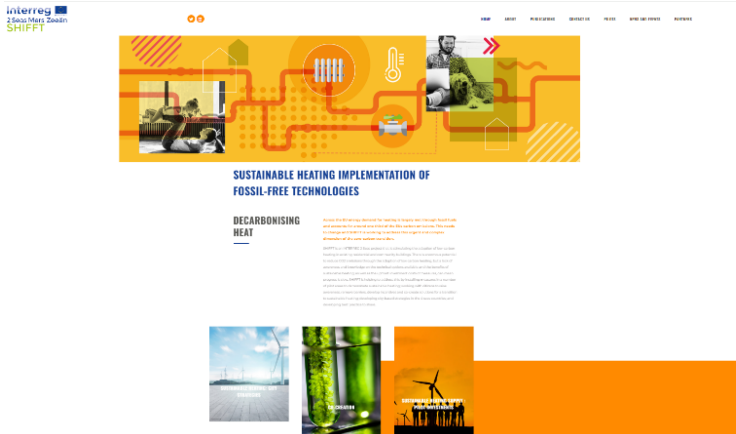


# SHIFFT: Co-Creation and Stakeholder Engagement for Sustainable Heating



The screenshot shows the SHIFFT project website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like HOME, ABOUT, PROJECTS, RESULTS, PARTNERS, and CONTACT. Below the navigation bar is a large orange banner with the title 'SUSTAINABLE HEATING IMPLEMENTATION OF FOSSIL-FREE TECHNOLOGIES' and 'DECARBONISING HEAT'. The banner features a stylized graphic of a house with a red arrow pointing to a thermometer icon. Below the banner, there are three small images: a solar panel, a green plant in a glass, and a wind turbine.

### Good to Know

Households in Europe typically use 79% of energy for space and water heating. Of this, 84% of this energy is fossil-fueled. Few structures currently use sustainable heating sources due to the lack of awareness and knowledge on technical options and to the high initial investment costs. The potential to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with wide-scale adoption of low carbon heating is thus enormous.

## TOOLBOX CATEGORIES

This guide provides a methodology, good practices and case studies, and facilitates collaboration and co-creation of solutions to decarbonize heat, ultimately driving the heating transition.

- Country:** England, France, the Netherlands and Belgium (Flanders)
- Category:** Other
- Media:** Guide
- Language:** English, French and Dutch
- Source:** <https://shifftproject.eu/publications/shifft-guidance-en-how-to-accelerate-the-heat-transition-a-guide-for-local-government-and-actors/>

### Summary:

This guide offers valuable guidance to government stakeholders, private investors, and citizens at the local level in Europe. By providing a methodology, good practices, and case studies, the tool facilitates collaboration and co-creation of solutions to decarbonize heat in cities, ultimately driving the heating transition. Developed as part of the EU Interreg 2 Seas funded project SHIFFT, this guide targets barriers and levers to growth of zero carbon heat in households and communities. It specifically addresses the role of municipalities in engaging citizens and stakeholders, emphasizing the importance of maintaining involvement throughout the process. Additionally, the guide is part of a comprehensive four-part series covering financial instruments, city heat strategies, and technologies, providing users with a holistic approach to accelerate the heat transition in cities. Through co-creation and stakeholder engagement, SHIFFT enables users to contribute to sustainable heating solutions, fostering innovation and collaboration across the EU.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

**Title:** Sustainable Heating: Implementation of Fossil-Free Technologies (SHIFFT)

**Objective:** Support the shift towards a low-carbon economy by accelerating the market adoption of sustainable heating solutions in existing household and community buildings in cities in the 2 Seas area.

**Duration:** 2019 - 2023

**Partners:**

- |  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| • City of Bruges (Belgium)                 | • Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)      | • Municipality of Fourmies (France) |
| • City of Middelburg (Netherlands)         | • City of Mechelen (Germany)                        | • Woonpunt Mechelen (Germany)       |
| • Places for People Group (United Kingdom) | • Center for Development of Ecoenterprises (France) |                                     |

**Approach:**

The SHIFFT project supported the shift towards a low-carbon economy by accelerating the market adoption of sustainable heating solutions in existing household and community buildings in cities in the 2 Seas (England, France, the Netherlands and Belgium) area, in detriment of heating solutions that rely on fossil fuels. It adopted a result-oriented, community-driven approach with the focus on the accelerated introduction of sustainable heating in homes and community buildings, combining intensive community engagement with the delivery of tangible demonstrations of sustainable heating solutions. The main outputs comprised 4 pilot investments with different sustainable heating technologies in residential, social housing and community buildings schemes; 6 co-creation pilots involving residents, neighborhoods and communities in different settings/countries; and a guide for local authorities and community groups on how to facilitate and accelerate the transition to sustainable heating of residences and community buildings.

The guide “how to accelerate the heat transition: a guide for local governments and actors”, which aims to guide local authorities and community groups in the generation of co-creation processes to accelerate the decarbonization of heating at community level, is divided into 4 modules:

- Module 1- “Co-creation and stakeholder engagement for sustainable heating”;
- Module 2 – “Financial policy instruments for sustainable heating”;
- Module 3 – “Non-financial policy tools city for sustainable heating: strategies, regulation and support”;
- Module 4 – “Technology choices, data, and mapping for sustainable heating” in cities.

## TOOL EVALUATION

**How to Use**

**1. Read and analyse the four modules of guide**

Read and examine the four modules of the guide within your organization/group. It is suggested that you answer the exercises presented in the guide and consult the links

suggested for further reading. Furthermore, analyse the real-life examples and the case studies presented and find relations with your own context.

## 2. Prepare a workshop/capacity building session adapted to your case

Using the guide as an inspiration, adapt the methodology to your reality (municipality/ country) and develop a workshop/capacity building session to implement it in your case. It is important to include in the session/workshop, and therefore in the co-creation process, all relevant stakeholders that are important for the local heat transition, so the first step is to identify who these are.

### Key Benefits

- Raise awareness and empower local authorities, citizens and communities as active agents on the decarbonization of the built environment in EU cities by implementing sustainable heating solutions that reduce the need for fossil fuels.
- Methodology based and tested on real-life case studies and lessons learned from a variety of investment and co-creation pilots. These include four countries, different geographical areas, different sustainable heating technologies and different settings (residential buildings, social housing and community buildings). Furthermore, the project benefited from inputs from partners from all relevant key sectors of the heating sector (local authorities, housing corporation, public care providers, local energy agencies, sustainable energy business networks and academic expertise).
- Although focused on the 2 Seas area, the guide and the practical solutions and tools presented are general enough to be applied across the EU territory.
- Replicable result-oriented, community driven and cross border approach.

### Cost Aspects

- The guide is freely available online to the public. However, you may be asked for an e-mail address to gain access.
- Economic and energy savings for homeowners, communities and local authorities due to the change to more efficient and sustainable space heating systems in households and community buildings.
- Savings: The project targeted a quantified reduction of 3983 tonCO<sub>2</sub> emission/year in the 2 Seas area, based on a reduction of 561 tonCO<sub>2</sub>/y resulting from 4 direct investments by partners in residential and community buildings. It also included a reduction of 3422 tonCO<sub>2</sub>/year because of the installation of sustainable heating systems and the adoption of more sustainable heating behavior by 4295 households in their homes in intensive co-creation processes in partner territories.
- Reduced reliance on fossil fuels.

### Evaluation

- **Challenges:** As the guide focuses specifically on the 2 Seas area, some mentioned specificities may not apply regarding the application of this methodology outside the 2 Seas area. Variability in regulations and legal framework in different EU countries may occur and affect the implementation of this methodology. Achieving consensus among diverse stakeholders on the proposed methodology.
  - **Success Factors:** Strong alignment with the EU climate goals. Comprehensive, detailed and replicable approach with links for further reading that supports European-level local planning. Raises awareness and empowers local authorities, citizens and communities as active agents on the decarbonisation of the heating sector, thus as active agents on the reduction of their
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environmental footprint, reduction of fossil fuels dependence, real state valuation of the house, improved air quality, etc.

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## MORE INFORMATION FOR WORKSHOP PREPARATION

**Contact:** Thomas Hoppe (author), [t.hoppe@utwente.nl](mailto:t.hoppe@utwente.nl), +31534897882

**Willingness to engage in dialogue or workshop participation:** Not contacted yet

**Possible support within REDI4heat:** -

**Similar Approaches in the Toolbox:** mPower

**Further information on topic (with focus on target countries):** -

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