



# Alleviating Energy Poverty in Germany

Best-Practice from across the EU

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The contents of this report are based on research conducted in the framework of the project “Perspectives of citizen participation in Germany’s energy transition taking into account distributional issues” on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

# Agenda

**1** Collection & Categorization

**2** Policy Assessment & Transfer

**3** Impact Analysis

# Policy Instruments and Measures

## 1. Direct Financial Support

- Winter Fuel Payment – UK
- Transfer Payments – Germany

## 2. Energy Efficiency Measures

- Habiter Mieux – France

## 3. Information and Guidance Schemes

- Charity & NGO – UK and Ireland

## 4. Other Measures

- Disconnection Safeguards – UK and Denmark
- Pay-as-you-go Meter – UK

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# Best-Practice Examples

Selected best-practice examples	Empirical examples	Why was this example selected?	Prevailing limitations	Transferability to the German context
<b>Direct financial support</b>				
Reimbursement of heating costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Household Benefit Package for people over 70 (Ireland)</li> <li>- Heating costs reimbursement for households on small pensions (Denmark)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Target group well defined</li> <li>- Extends direct and continuing support to additional vulnerable groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not address causes of energy poverty</li> <li>- Does not contribute to long-term climate goals</li> </ul>	Hybridization of the current German reimbursement system (with the Irish and Danish systems)
<b>Support for energy efficiency measures</b>				
Support for renovation measures for homeowners with low income or little savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Habiter Mieux, social funds for thermal energy renovation (France)</li> <li>- Warmth and Wellbeing (Ireland)</li> <li>- Affordable Warmth Grants (UK)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted</li> <li>- Sustainably addresses one of the causes of energy poverty</li> <li>- Contributes to overall climate goals</li> <li>- Often implemented locally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Depending on design, access to capital may still be an issue</li> <li>- Not likely to incentivize deep renovations</li> <li>- Rent may rise due to deep renovations</li> </ul>	Adaptation of Irish, French, and English examples

# Best-Practice Examples

Selected best-practice examples	Empirical examples	Why was this example selected?	Prevailing limitations	Transferability to the German context
<b>Information and guidance schemes</b>				
<b>Information on energy saving measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keep Well and Warm and The Warm Charity information programme (Ireland)</li> <li>- Secours Catholique and EDF (France)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted</li> <li>- Often local and peer-to-peer</li> <li>- Has the potential to reduce energy consumption in the long term</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financial barriers to implementation of measures may remain</li> </ul>	<p>Already exists in Germany, can learn from implementation in other countries</p>
<b>Other Measures</b>				
<b>Consumer protection against power cut-offs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy Safety Net (UK)</li> <li>- Winter Truce Program (France)</li> <li>- Legislative provisions in Denmark and Sweden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted</li> <li>- Provides immediate support and avoids exacerbating problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not sustainably address causes of energy poverty or reduce energy consumption in the long term</li> <li>- Does not contribute to long-term climate goals</li> </ul>	<p>Some provisions already in place in Germany, can learn from implementation in other countries</p>

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# Scenario 1 – Heating Cost Reimbursements

Danish Model



Households on small pensions

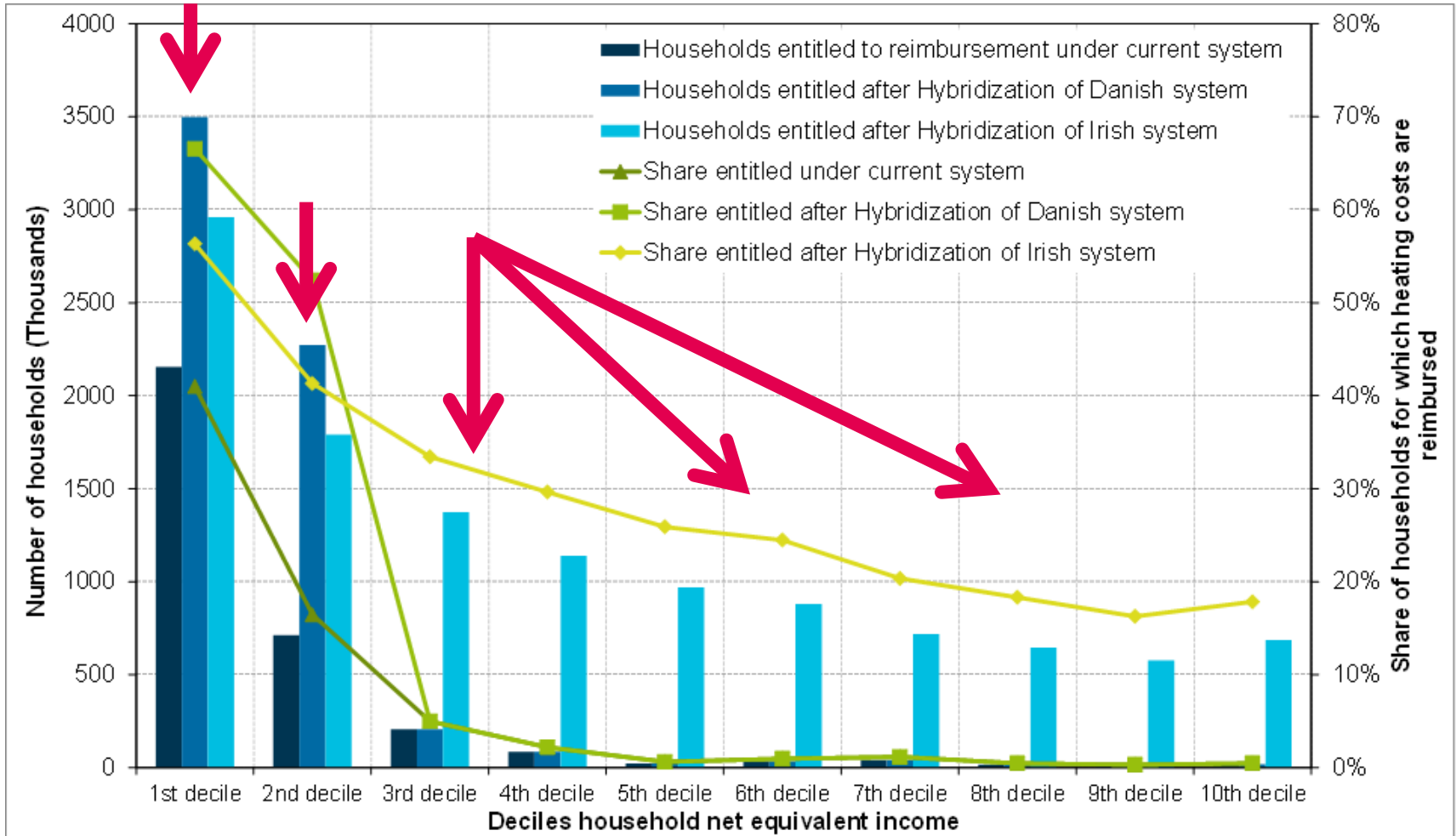
Irish Household Benefit Package



Households where head of household is 70 or older

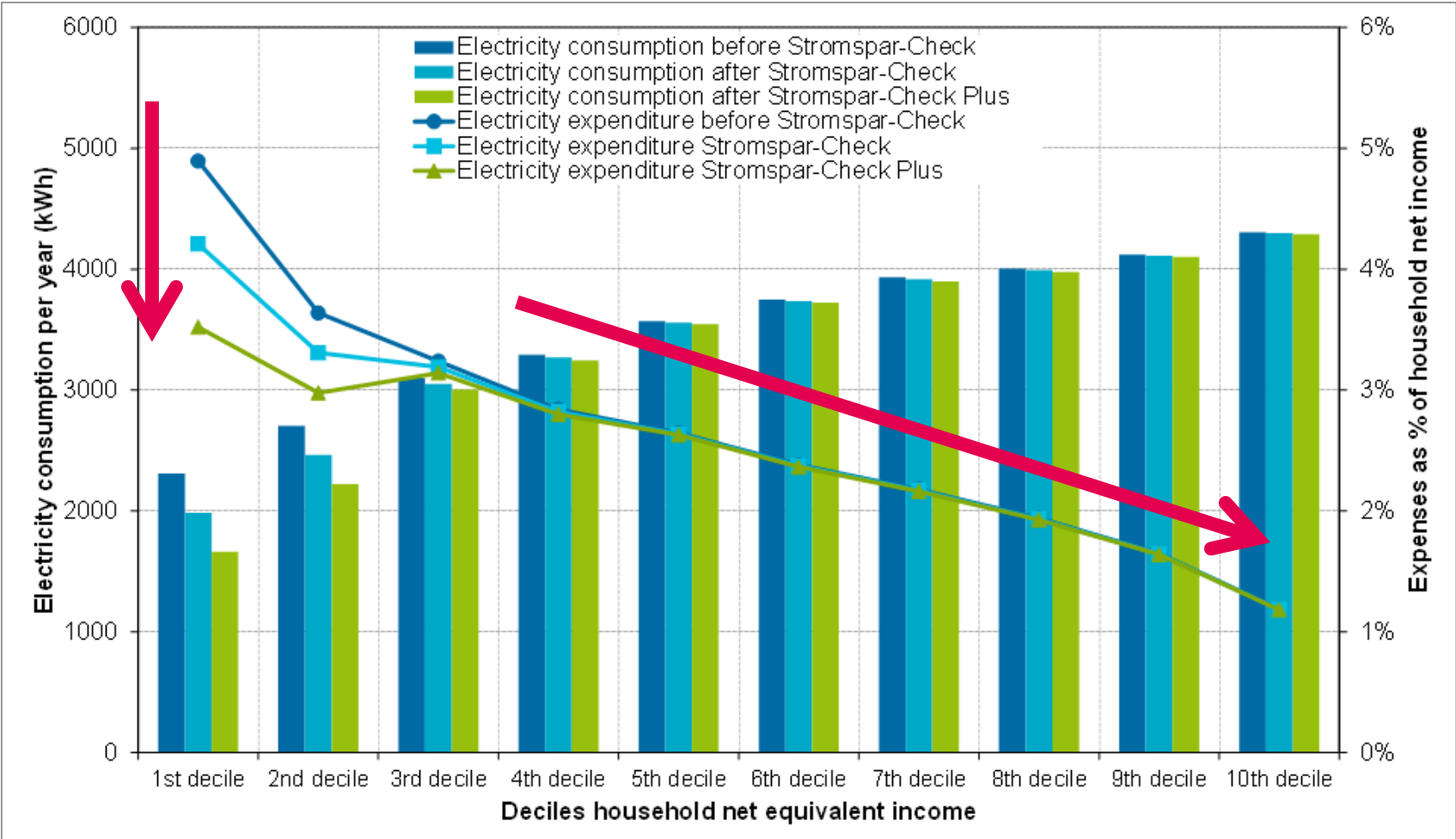


# Scenario 1 – Heating Cost Reimbursements



Source: Research Data Centre (FDZ) of the federal statistical office and statistical offices of the Laender: Income and Expenditure Survey 2013 (EVS 2013); own estimation and illustration

# Scenario 2 – Electricity Saving Check



Source: Research Data Centre (FDZ) of the federal statistical office and statistical offices of the Laender: Income and Expenditure Survey 2013 (EVS 2013); own estimation and illustration

# Conclusions



‘It is important for social policy to develop alongside energy and climate policy and, conversely, for energy and climate policy to be designed in a socially compatible manner’

Thank you for your attention!  
Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!

Do you have any questions?  
Haben Sie noch Fragen?



# Ihre Ansprechpartner

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