

April 17th, 2023

Specifications for the renewable heating comfort report “*THE COMFORT ZONE*” within the context of the *Coolproducts* campaign to decarbonise heating.

Context:

In December 2020, the European Council has adopted a -55% GHG emissions 2030 target to be enshrined in the EU Climate Law. To achieve such an objective and to be consistent with the Paris agreement, some sectors where decarbonised technology is mature, such as the heating and cooling sector must achieve much higher GHG cuts. Heat Pumps and Solar Thermal are among the best technologies available for heating and cooling decarbonisation as of today, but these technologies do not necessarily enjoy a positive narrative and are often accused of not being able to give full satisfaction when substituting fossil fuel heating on economical or comfort arguments. They are not perceived as a possible solution for those dwellings where a deep renovation is not possible. On the contrary, several high-temperature heat pumps (HTHP) have been placed on the market that specifically aim at one-for-one substitution of gas boilers in those dwellings where a deep renovation is not yet possible.

Objectives of the report:

Following up on “[The Comfort Zone](#)” report, this project will produce an EU-wide qualitative, consumer-centered report on the capacity of HTHP to deliver the same comfort as gas and oil boilers at reasonable costs, building on available European and US relevant literature, as well as on interviews to consumers that have already switched from fossil heating to HTHPs.

The document will investigate through documental analysis and the interviews:

- The quality of comfort (warmth, humidity etc.) provided by the technologies;
- The difference with previously-installed fossil fuels systems (if applicable);
- The savings/increase in the household bills and emissions;
- The relevance of national and regional incentive schemes in the choice of technology switch and trigger points for action;
- The time needed for the installation and possible nuisance they had to endure for it;
- Opinion and views of the surveyed/interviewed public about the chosen technologies;
- Opinion and views of the surveyed/interviewed public about the existing subsidy schemes (where applicable);
- The relationship with, and the relevance of the installer.

Content and methodology:

- The report will be based on an analysis of the performances of the HTHP based on the existing scientific literature (documents produced in the EU and US) and a survey reaching

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out to users of HTHP through the contacts provided by producers and installers.

The report will feature at least 20 in-depth qualitative interviews (to carry out via email, videocall or other suitable means) to be designed with EEB, to selected households that have adopted the above-mentioned technologies. Candidates for the interviews might be identified through to contacts with stakeholders and experts.

Other types of data and testimonies collection can also be suggested within the limits of the budget and timelines, and this will be integrated in the selection of the contractor.

Deliverables:

The report should be produced under non-proprietary/commonly used formats enabling an immediate dissemination through public relations and social media channels.

The final requested deliverables are:

- A MS word file containing the report with an executive summary containing the main findings & recommendations.
- An interview form.
- The list of interviewees (nationality/type of dwelling/other relevant details) and the interview template.
- The complete list of the texts resulting from interviews.
- A collection of pictures related to the buildings of the interviewees to be used for the layout of the report, upon their signed disclaimers.
- At least 5 Excell charts, based on the data sets to be defined with EEB before the finalisation of the work, to be integrated in the repor.
- A presentation (roughly 15 slides) to present the report.

Other deliverables can also be suggested within the limits of the budget and timelines and will be a key selection criterion to choose a contractor.

Timelines:

The work should be performed between May and June 2023. It is expected that the different drafts can be discussed and fine-tuned all along the period.

The deadline to deliver the report is July 15th .

An online event will be organised to launch of the report. The author(s) will be requested attend the event (online).

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A preview of the report will be made for the benefit of the EEB members. The author(s) will be requested to attend and present the report.

Both dates will be previously agreed with the authors.

Budget and payment:

The total budget including VAT (where applicable) and other potential expenses should not be over **11000€**.

The budget can either be destined to consultant work or be used to finance a master thesis or other study grants.

A first instalment of EUR 4000 can be paid at the time of signing the contract, The final instalment of EUR 7000 will be paid following the delivery of the report, within 30 days after the delivery of the last invoice by the contractor, and no later than end of 2023 fiscal year.

Approach:

While the methodology is to be presented by the potential contractors in their answer to this bid, here are some expectations:

- The author(s) is/are expected to present the overall structure (milestone 1); an intermediary stage discussion (milestone 2) and a finalized version of the deliverables (milestone 3).
- The contractor should be free to associate with any expert and potentially sub-contract part of the work, as deemed most relevant. In that case, direct links between the expert and the EEB can be established to discuss contents and policy recommendations of related brief, however, the contractor should be the sole responsible for ensuring a quality and timely delivery and emit the invoices. The potential contractors should describe in their technical offer to this bid with whom they intend to work.
- If interviews with qualified experts are deemed useful to collect information, data or evidence, they may be referred to in annex, but should not make the core contents of the report.

Future use of data and briefs:

EEB will have the property of the report.

The report will be published on the Coolproducts.eu website; all design files need to be submitted along with the final work.

The potential contractor shall collect valid document/disclaimers from the participants that enables the sharing and use of the data collected and pictures. Case-studies interviews will report name and location of the participants.

Award criteria:

- 1- Quality of the technical offer (40%), notably:
description and relevance of the approach, number of replies to the survey/case studies the contractor commits to deliver; possible extra analysis, and related quality control;
- 2- Respect of budget and ability to meet timelines (10%);
- 3- Experience on similar works and Curriculum of the contractor/contractor's team, including subcontracted experts (40%).
- 4- Additional criteria (10%): Design of the report and ability to make them appealing for readers, additional data collection, additional deliverable, innovative format.

Deadline

Please send your offer including the total contract price to:

Davide Sabbadin, Deputy Policy Manager for Climate & energy at davide.sabbadin@eeb.org before midnight on 28th April 2023.