EEB
European
Environmental
Bureau

May, 2026

Specifications for the report on"Independence Kits"

Context:

The European Commission has published in March 2026 the Citizens Energy Package and in April 2026 the AccelerateEU strategy. Both aim to strengthen the EU's energy self-reliance, notably through renewable energy and efficiency, and highlight the role of heat pumps, district heating, energy communities, solar thermal, geothermal energy and building renovations, among other solutions available in the short and medium term.

The EEB has written to the EU Commission proposing to adopt a comprehensive approach, at both EU and national level, to the deployment of technologies in buildings that can reduce energy consumption and cut fossil fuel imports, while also lowering energy bills for consumers. This approach highlights the value of combining heat pumps with enabling technologies, bundled (according to geography and technical considerations) into **"independence kits**". These would represent optimal combinations of technologies to minimise fossil fuel use, improve grid compatibility and strengthen the business case for households by reducing, shifting or self-supplying energy demand.

This approach would apply to both support schemes and guidance on planning and policies. Examples of enabling technologies include window replacement, solar thermal, PV with batteries, automated windows shading, thermal storage, energy communities, and the software and contractual arrangements needed to enable demand-side flexibility.

Objectives of the report:

The purpose of this study is to identify which combinations of enabling technologies would support the deployment of the highest number of heat pumps, based on the following criteria:

- Fastest payback time (considering the ETS2 and national incentives).
- Lowest grid demand.
- Highest CO2 savings.
- Greatest reduction in fossil fuel imports.

The study should cover at least **8 countries**, representing different climates, sizes and levels of purchasing power within the EU. It should include the EU's main economies, at least one island state, one south-eastern European country, and one central European country.

The exact **type of technologies** to be considered will be agreed with the researcher(s) but should range between 5 and 8 for simplicity.

For each Member State analysed, the report will propose an optimal **technology mix**, including estimated costs per household and at national level, benchmarked against simplified financing scenarios based on ETS2 and the Social Climate Fund.

Content and methodology:

The report will be based on official data from national and EU institutions and may build on existing or ongoing studies (e.g. on oil and gas import reductions), creating synergies where possible.

The work will be divided into two phases:

Phase 1: Mapping of Data Sources

The authors will update the data and build a model incorporating the latest information, such as:

- Average heating costs for a standard household, based on recent gas, oil and electricity prices.
- Existing funding schemes for heat pumps and solar energy in Member States (complementary to the Social Climate Fund),
- Current technology costs in Member States (simplified/standardised).
- Estimated energy contribution or savings per technology, per country.

The authors will then gather information on existing ETS2 modelling scenarios and agree with the EEB on simplified price and revenue distribution scenarios.

Phase 2: Analysing data and writing the report.

In this phase, the authors will investigate the following data:

- The extent to which the foreseen budget allocation of the Social Climate Fund (SCF) for each member state could subsidise the purchase of the identified technological mix, analysing different types of subsidy schemes currently available (i.e. *loans, grants, mixed measures*. See below **award criteria**), following what has been done, i.e. in the report Clean Heat 4 All.
- The extent to which the switch to these independence kits can reduce fossil fuel use/imports at the national and EU level.

The report will include:

- An EU-wide analysis in relation to renewable energy targets (RED) and heat pump deployment (REPowerEU or more recent frameworks), particularly regarding the mix of technologies supported

- A detailed country-level analysis highlighting both EU-wide trends and national specificities, including SCF redistribution schemes.
- A methodological annex, detailing the sources of the data.

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:

1. A spreadsheet containing data from Phases 1 and 2 (inputs and scenario outputs).
2. A word document containing the document as per Phase 2, containing:
    a. At least 5 EU-level charts, based on the data sets in the spreadsheet (to be defined with EEB before the finalisation of the work).
    b. At least 2 Member State-level chart, based on the data sets in the spreadsheet (to be defined with EEB before the finalisation of the work).
    c. A presentation (approx. 15 slides) summarising the report.

Additional deliverables may be proposed within budget and timeline constraints and will be considered in the selection process.

Timelines:

The work should be carried out between May and June 2025, with drafts reviewed iteratively throughout the process.

The final report is due by **30 June 2025**, with publication planned for July or September, depending on delivery.

An online launch event will be organised, and the author(s) will be expected to attend and present the findings. A preview session for EEB members will also be organised.

Dates for both events will be agreed in advance with the selected author(s).

Budget and payment:

The total budget including VAT (where applicable) and other potential expenses should not exceed **25000€**.

A first payment of EUR 10000 can be paid at the completion of the work at the request of the author(s). The final payment of EUR 15000 will be paid following the launch of the report, or by 30 days after the completion of the work and the first invoice.

Methodological approach:

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

- The author(s) are expected to present the overall structure of the work (milestone 1), an early-stage draft of the document (milestone 2), and a finalised version of the deliverables (milestone 3).
- Deliverable 2 should contain a methodology chapter.
- The contractor should be free to collaborate with any expert and potentially sub-contract part of the work, as deemed most relevant. In such cases, direct communication between the expert and the EEB can be established to discuss the contents and policy recommendations of related briefs. However, the contractor will be solely responsible for ensuring the quality and timely delivery of the work and for issuing invoices. Potential contractors should mention in their technical offer with whom they intend to collaborate.

Future use of data and briefs:

The EEB will retain ownership of the report and its publication through social media, email, op-eds, or press interviews. The report will be published on the Coolproducts.eu website, and all design files must be submitted along with the final work.

The potential contractor shall collect valid documents/disclaimers from the participants to enable the sharing and use of the data collected and pictures.

Based on the work of the authors and in agreement with them, the EEB will author the executive summary and the conclusions, as well as any potential policy recommendations. The sole responsibility for these sections will remain with the EEB unless otherwise agreed between the parties.

Award criteria:

1- Quality of the technical offer (40%), notably:

Description and relevance of the approach, number of countries analysed, financing schemes and technological options that the author(s) can safely commit to include..

2- Lower budget and/or ability to meet shorter timelines (10%);

3- Experience of similar works and Curriculum of the contractor/contractor's team, including subcontracted experts (50%).

Deadline for applications

Please send any enquiry/proposal about this call and/or your offer including the total contract price to:

Davide Sabbadin, Deputy Policy Manager for Climate & energy at davide.sabbadin@eeb.org before **midnight on 20th May 2026.**