

CHALLENGE

SMEs are the backbone of Europe's economy and play a fundamental role in world economies. Their energy consumption, although relatively low at an individual level, is high when considered collectively.

According to **IEA analysis**, **SMEs** account for at least **13% of global final energy consumption** annually (74 EJ) – about one-third of the industry and services energy demand.

The unlocked energy savings that could be achieved in SMEs with existing best available technologies and practices is up to 30% of their consumption.

Energy efficiency actions lead to energy savings that have a positive economic impact on SMEs and a series of indirect benefits such as reduction of waste generation, water consumption, GHG emissions and an improvement to the working environment.

BARRIERS

The lack of expertise, time and resources, together with a **shortage of specific and tailor-made energy efficiency policy** targeting SMEs, often prevents them from carrying out proper energy audits and adopting energy conservation measures.

In addition, where policies do exist, there are difficulties in reaching SMEs due to their high heterogeneity both in size and sector (about 25 million of SMEs in Europe), or there is a **lack of awareness** of the **investment opportunities** for SMEs.

APPROACH

LEAP4SME aims to support **policy makers** build the effective policies necessary to facilitate energy efficiency in SMEs.

How? Through the **assessment** and **development** of proper schemes for **energy audits**.

By understanding the **key energy needs** of SMEs and the existing barriers that block the path to energy efficiency, **LEAP4SME** will provide effective, relevant advice to national bodies.

The result? Energy audit policies that are good for the environment and great for business.



25 MILLION SMEs IN THE EU REPRESENT
99% OF ALL BUSINESSES



SMEs USE AT LEAST 74 EJ
OF ENERGY WORLDWIDE



OUR 9 ENERGY AGENCIES COVER
41% OF SMEs IN EUROPE



SMEs ACCOUNT FOR 2/3
OF EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE

The LEAP4SME consortium includes nine European National Energy Agencies and a communication partner to conduct research analysis and stakeholder involvement in nine countries.



REVOLVE



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LEAP4 SME

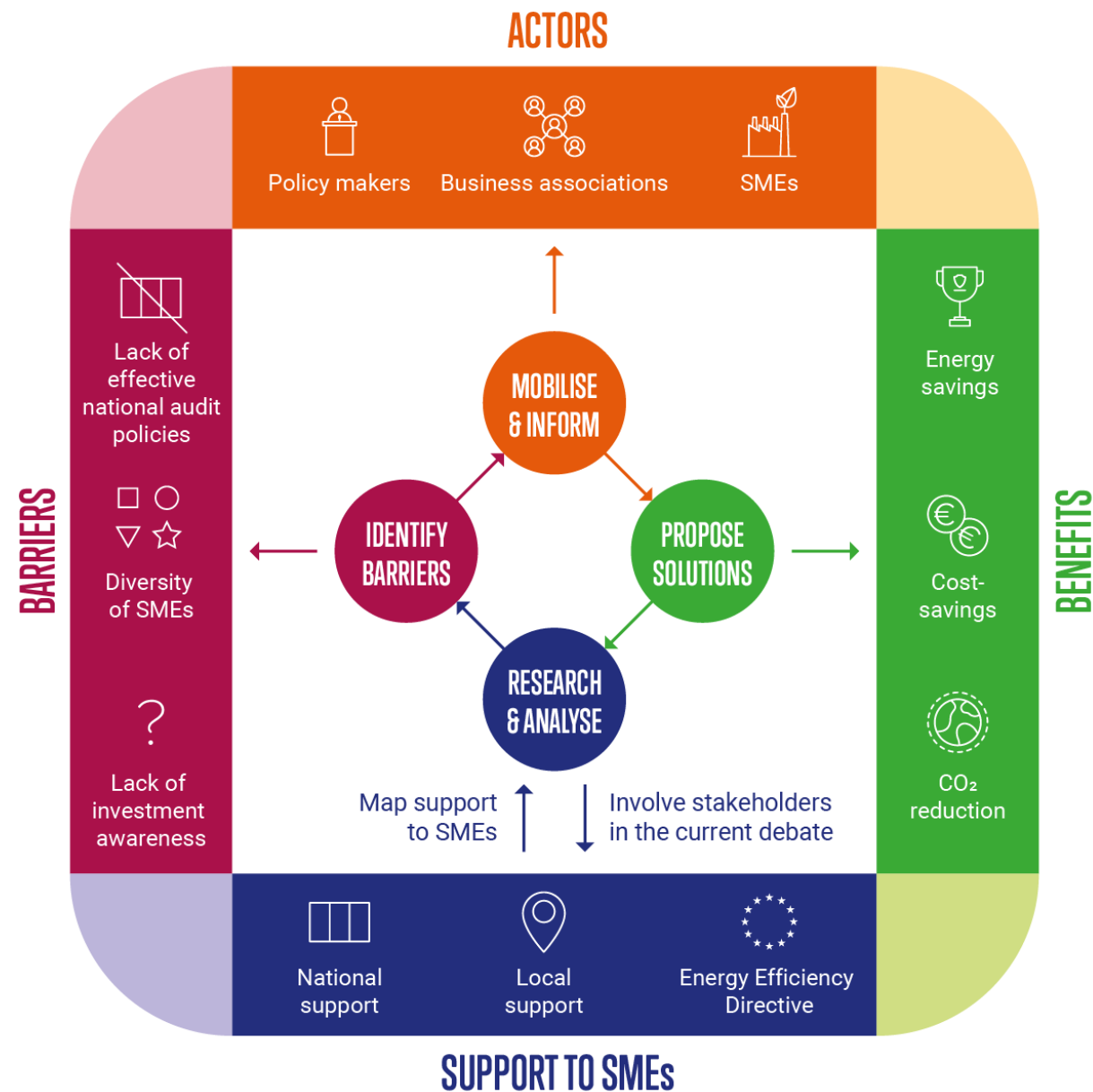
ENERGY AUDIT POLICIES TO DRIVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY



LEAP4SME AIMS TO SUPPORT MEMBER STATES IN ESTABLISHING OR IMPROVING EFFECTIVE POLICIES FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SMEs) TO UNDERGO ENERGY AUDITS AND IMPLEMENT COST-EFFECTIVE, RECOMMENDED ENERGY-SAVING MEASURES.

THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY:

- MAPPING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES
- ASSESSING ENERGY USE BY SECTOR
- DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE ENERGY AUDIT POLICIES WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS
- INTERACTING WITH POLICY MAKERS AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS
- PROPOSING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



LEAP4SME OBJECTIVES:

- Identify main barriers for unlocking the potential of energy efficiency measures through energy audit recommendations.
- Mobilise and inform private stakeholders of existing opportunities, facilitating discourse with policy makers.
- Propose solutions for policy makers for energy efficiency schemes with energy and non-energy benefits.
- Research, analyse and involve stakeholders in the current debate for a new definition for SMEs within Article 8 of the Energy Efficiency Directive.

GET INVOLVED

Policy makers

Stay engaged with the latest trainings and resources from **LEAP4SME** – with regular policy briefs, fact sheets and specific analysis relevant to member states – the benefits that **effective energy audit policies** can bring are at your fingertips.

Businesses

Watch out for stakeholder engagement activities on how your business or trade association can contribute to the current policy debate on energy and SMEs. Join our **webinars** to learn how your business can become more energy efficient.

Citizens

Follow **LEAP4SME** on social media for energy facts and information on how **Europe** is becoming more energy efficient. Watch out for updates on how **your country** is making policies to help both **businesses** and the **environment**.