



# FUEL POVERTY

Brussels 24/3/10



# The French political context

6/7/07: launching of the Grenelle de l'Environnement (*Environment Round Table*) by Jean-Louis Borloo, Minister of the Environment, Energy, Sustainable Development and Sea

*The aim of the Environment Round Table, is to define the key points of Government policy on ecological and sustainable development issues for the coming five years*

Grenelle laws: I voted in Oct. '08, Grenelle II is being debated at the French National Assembly

Jan '09: creation of 'The Grenelle Building Plan'

Sept '09: creation of the Fuel poverty workshop requested by **Mrs Valérie Létard, Junior Minister** (new climate and green technologies)

Jan '10: actions led by **M. Benoist Apparu, Junior Minister for Housing Minister**



# The phenomenon in France

## Basic premise

A combination of 3 reasons for fuel poverty:

vulnerable households on low incomes

housing with poor thermic quality

cost of energy

Households who spend more than 10% of their income on energy are affected by fuel poverty

Poverty-stricken households **spend an average of 15%** of their income on energy, vs. 6% for the well-off

**3.5 to 7 million French households affected by fuel poverty**

**87% in the private stock  
62% are home-owners  
55% are over 60 years-old**



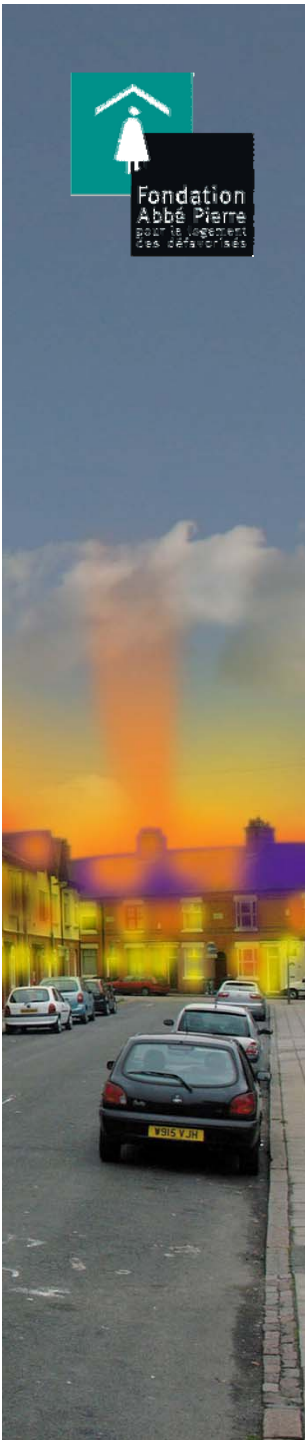
# Cumulative effects





# Fuel poverty Workshop

4 plenary meetings and additional work done via the Internet: over 80 persons in the Internet workshop, 32 blogs, 60 documents and contributions shared





# Principles for the proposals

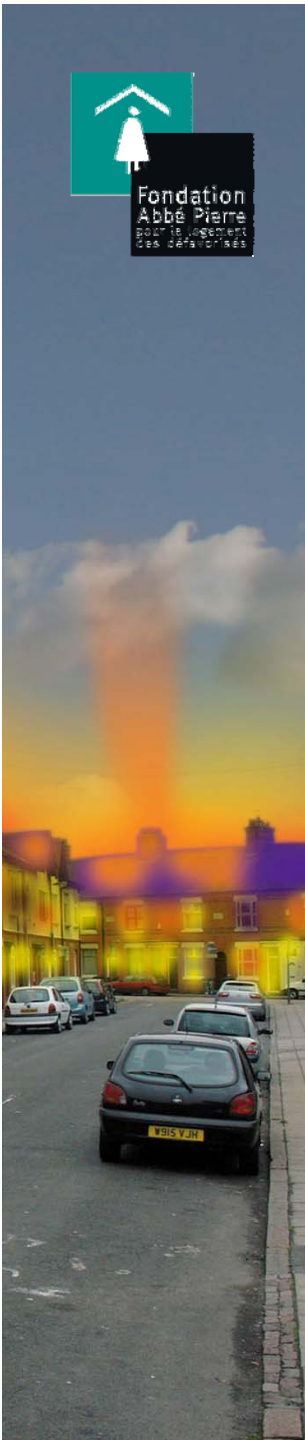
Human being is at the heart of the plan

Concentrate intervention on housing in order to get social, economical and ecological effects in the long term;

Give appropriate answers to households excluded from the common law system

Propose a local plan, coherent and coordinated

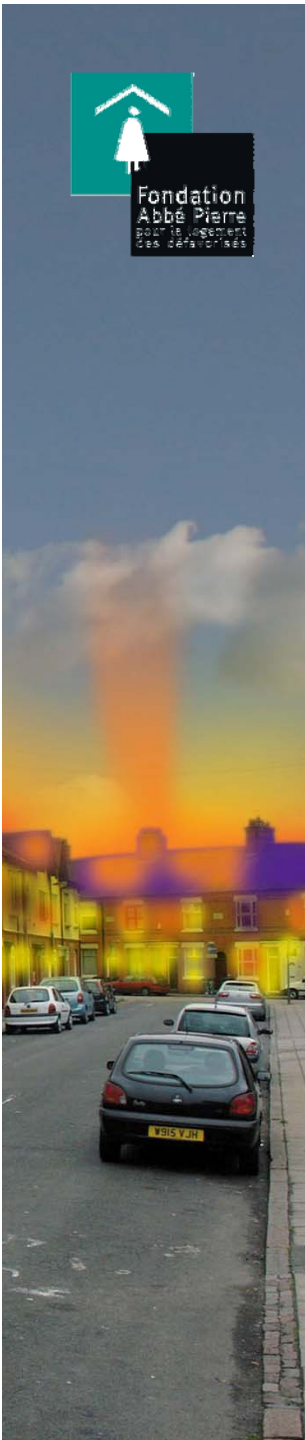
**9 proposals to fight against fuel poverty...**





# National measures

1. Have fuel poverty fall within the law in order to set measures  
*“Fuel poverty is said to occur when a household cannot heat its home to an adequate standard of warmth, mainly due to low income or bad housing conditions”.*
2. A **research institute** in order to identify and evaluate, support national measures
3. Reinforce the **energy shield**: an ‘energy check’ to help households cope with energy expenditure. Include all kind of energy
4. Have thermic performance added in the insalubrity and health laws to **fight energy waste**





# Local plans and financial support in order to be effective on housing on a long-term basis

5. Have a fuel **poverty section** in all departmental Housing plans for the homeless/housing excluded
6. Make **house call visits** in order to meet people and identify actions to be taken
7. Spread and reinforce **local Fuel poverty funds** in order to coordinate actions; be with the household while improvement work is carried out
8. Back local funds up with a national measure: '**green checks for domestic energy work**', in order to help households have an energy efficient home
9. Combine it with **better access to credit** for the most vulnerable







## Identified means

In order to have a nationwide Fuel poverty plan, we suggest to concentrate our action on households most affected by fuel poverty

Number of visits during the plan	Number of homes concerned
<b>600 000</b>	<b>300 000</b>

Means displayed (1 500 participants, grants for investment and loans, etc) require a 4 M€ global budget, for 10 years

Plan duration	State investment
<b>10 years from 2010 to 2020</b>	<b>1700 M€</b>



# Actions taken

## Creation of a National Fund for Thermic Renovation Work

Public targeted: 300 000 vulnerable home-owners living in their home, in rural areas

Duration: 7 years

Grant: 1.25 billion €

