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Report on citizens' knowledge, interest and attitudes on urban regeneration and sustainability

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&
in collaboration with all project partners

March 2025



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Citizens' survey infographic

Introduction

FREELAND is an educational project aimed at promoting students' civic engagement and participation in democratic life and at increasing their interest and competence in STEAM subjects, through the development of urban regeneration activities based on an innovative learning methodology and related learning materials.

The term *urban regeneration* refers to a set of actions aimed at the recovery, reuse and reactivation of unused spaces, abandoned infrastructures and public interest services. In addition to limiting land consumption and promoting sustainability, urban regeneration also encompasses economic, environmental, social and cultural aspects, engaging local communities in the creation of inclusive places and liveable environments for everyone.

A fundamental aspect in urban regeneration approaches is the involvement of local communities and stakeholders in the phases of understanding, designing, and implementing the spaces to be redeveloped. Physical and spatial recovery is not the sole objective of these transformations; they must also trigger an improvement in the social and environmental context.

On the basis of such assumptions, one of the actions in the FREELAND project is dedicated to investigate citizens' interests and feelings about the topics of urban regeneration, environmental sustainability and climate change in the partner countries, in order to try and shape a trend that can support the development of the project methodology and learning products. The investigation process was based on a specific online survey designed by Major Cities of Europe (MCE) with the support of the other partners, aimed at investigating citizens' interests and attitudes towards the topics of urban regeneration, climate change and city sustainability as possible contexts where co-operation with schools and local communities can improve life quality and social cohesion.

This document summarises the followed approach and the results of such investigation.

The citizens' survey

The survey was prepared with the Google Form tool and included the following sections:

1. Part I - Personal information
2. Part II: Urban regeneration and civic engagement
3. Part III: Sustainability and climate change

Both Part II and Part III were structured in three different subsections:

- Knowledge and Experience
- Interests
- Attitudes

The purpose of such structure was to focus on different aspects of citizen's involvement in the project topics, since not only it's interesting to understand how much citizens already know about urban regeneration, climate change and city sustainability, but also to evaluate their interest in learning more and being involved in concrete actions, even in collaboration with schools.



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The survey was made in [English](#) and translated in [Italian](#), [Croatian](#) and [Polish](#), in order to facilitate the spread in partner countries through specific links that the consortium members circulated through their own distribution channels. The Italian version was also made available on the website of the Municipality of Prato (associated partner), while the English version was circulated among MCE members.

The analysis of results was made separately on each of the four survey forms, which means by country groups with an additional group represented by those who responded to the English version of the survey. The decision of building separate analyses was taken to avoid biases and inhomogeneities due to the country factor. Data collected in the four corresponding Google sheets were elaborated by MCE in Excel to produce graphic outputs.

The full version of the survey is reported in Annex I.



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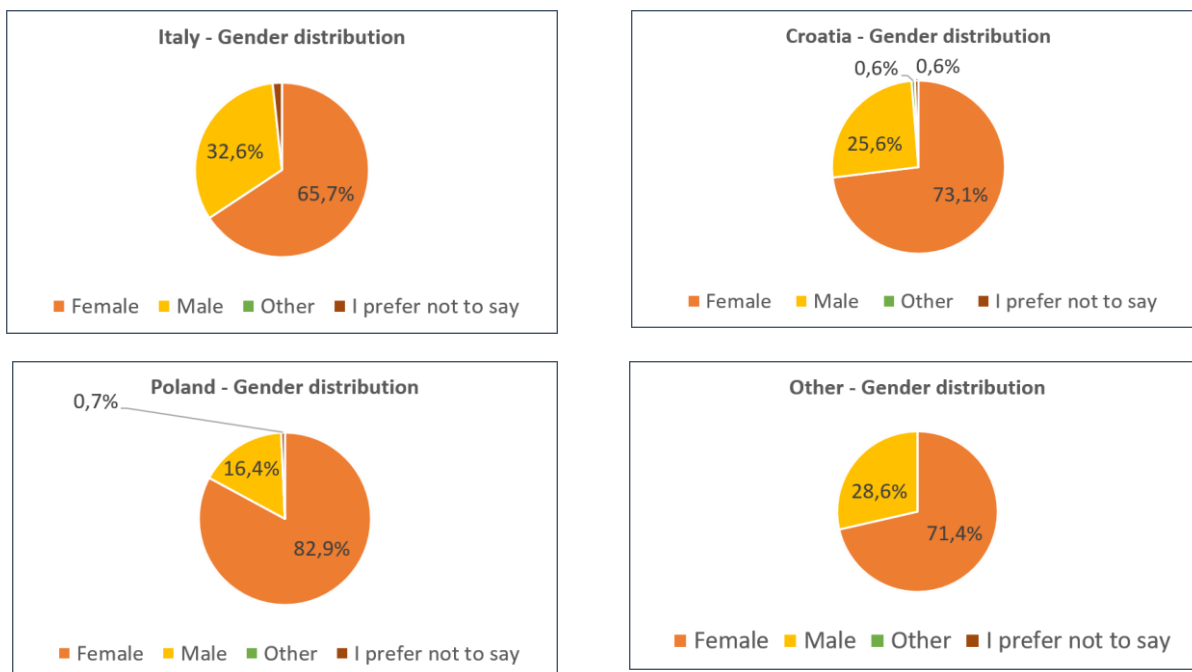
The survey results

Personal Data

The total amount of responders in the different countries is as follows, where the item “Other” includes responders from different countries reached through the English version of the survey:

- Italy - 176
- Croatia - 158
- Poland - 147
- Other¹ - 15

In terms of **gender**, the analysis shows in all situations a large majority of women responders, namely 65.7% in Italy, 73.1% in Croatia, 82.9% in Poland and 71.4% in Other.



The **age distribution** is mostly concentrated in the +55 range for Italy (70.3%), while in Poland and Other there is a peak in the 35-54 range (84.2% and 71.4% respectively); eventually, Croatia shows a more uniform distribution: 21.2% in the 18-34 range, 35.9% in the 35-54 range and 37.2% in the +55 range.

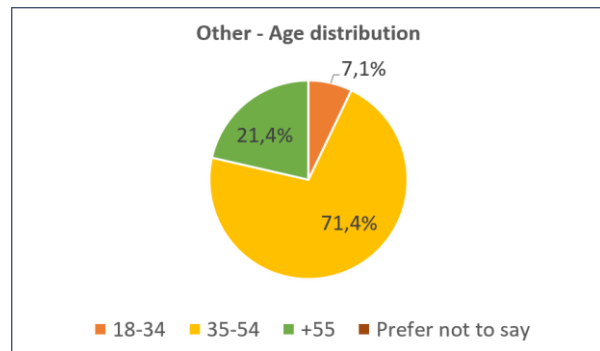
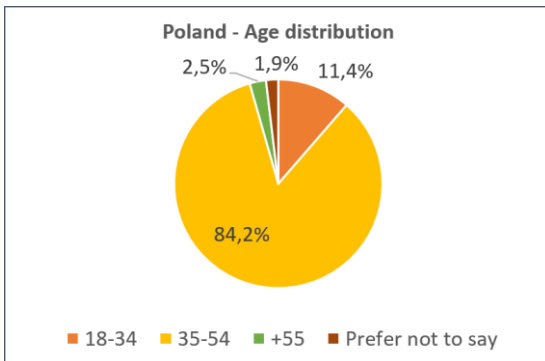
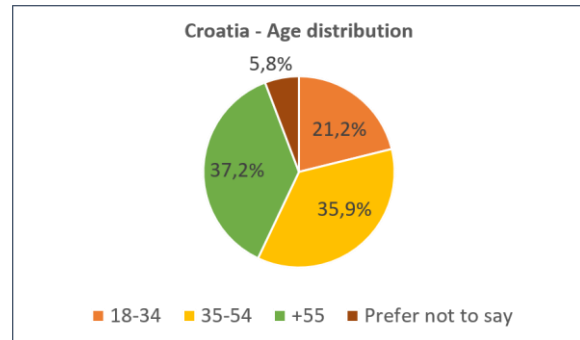
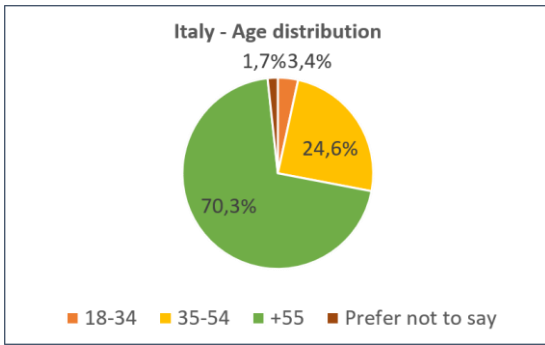
¹ Responders in this category come from different countries: 2 from Italy, 2 from Spain, 1 from The Netherlands, 1 from Lithuania, 1 from Norway, 1 from Poland, 1 from Slovenia, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Cyprus, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Denmark, 1 from Germany and 1 from Greece. Due to the scarcity of responders and country inhomogeneity, the sample is less meaningful than the others.



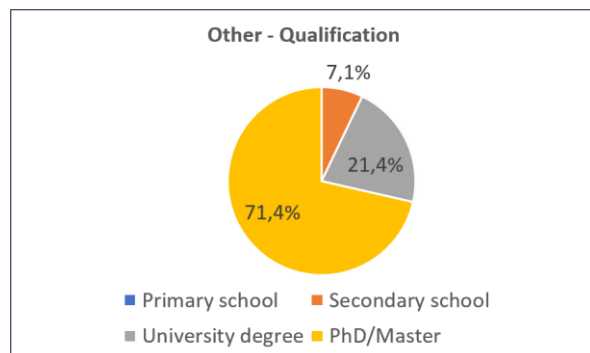
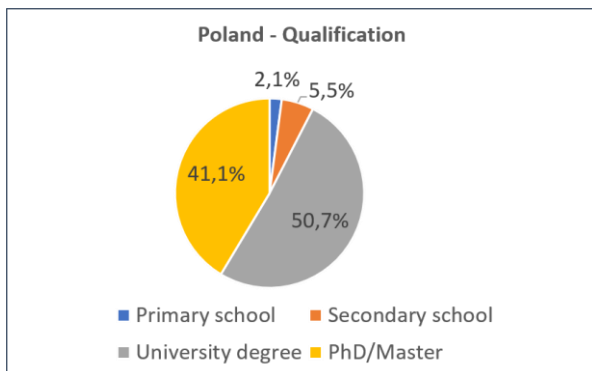
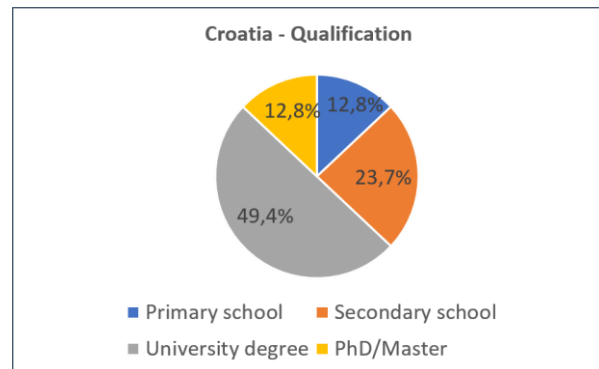
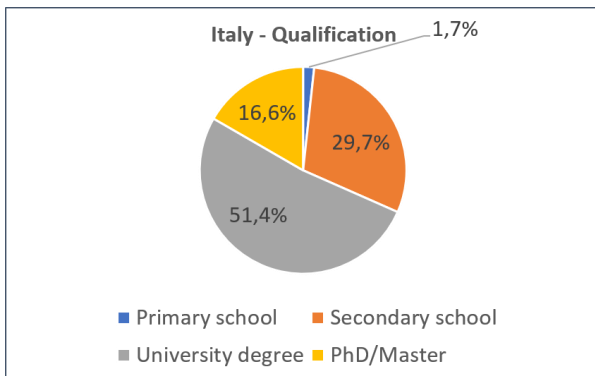
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As for **qualification**, the large majority has a university degree (Italy 51.4%, Croatia 49.4% and Poland 50.7%) or a Master/PhD degree (Other, 71.4%), although in Italy and Croatia a relevant percentage has a Secondary school degree (29.7% and 23.7% respectively).



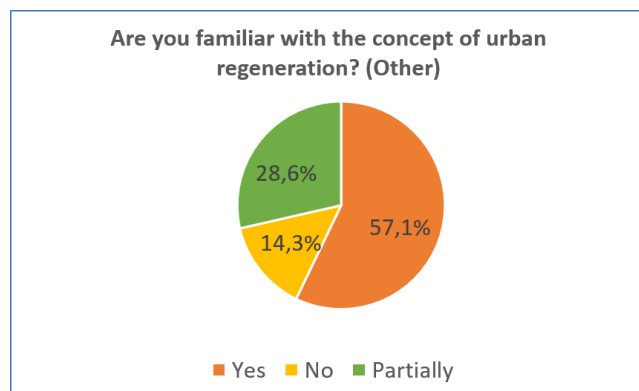
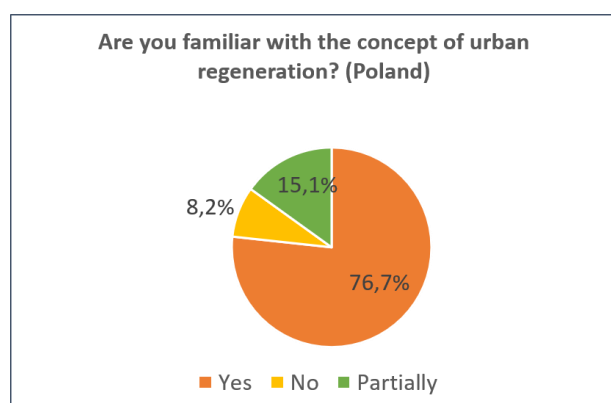
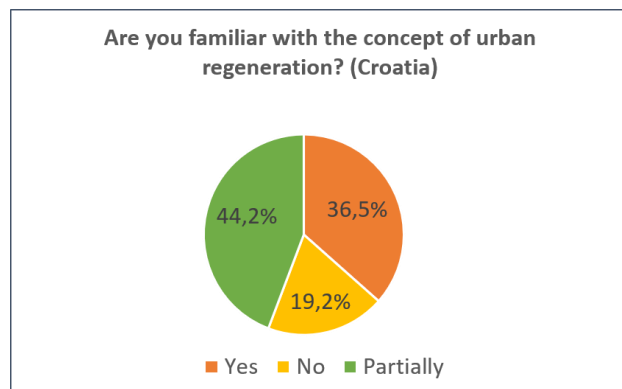
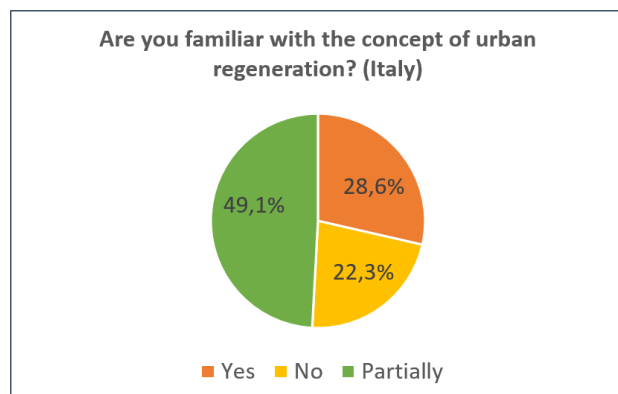
Urban regeneration and civic engagement

This section reports the results of the survey related to the issues of urban regeneration and civic engagement, from three different perspectives: previous knowledge and experience, interests and attitudes. The aim was to build a knowledge basis for further activities in the project that might foresee citizens' contribution and support.

Knowledge and experience

Q. - Are you familiar with the concept of urban regeneration?

The sample in Italy and Croatia shows in the majority a **partial knowledge** of the concept of urban regeneration (49.1% and 44.2% respectively), while the large majority in Poland (76.7%) is definitely well aware of such concept and so it happens for Other, where the **yes** option was chosen by 57.1%. This result is quite encouraging in the case some activities might be planned assuming to involve citizens as contributors.





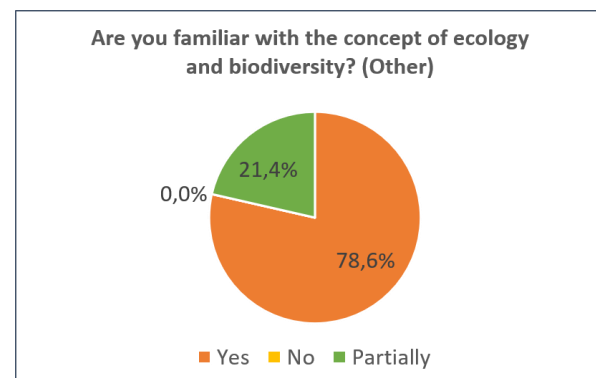
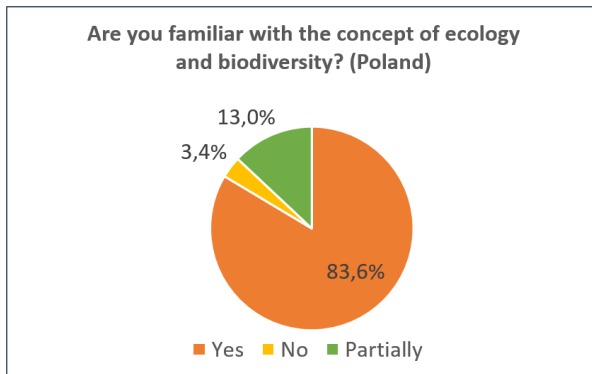
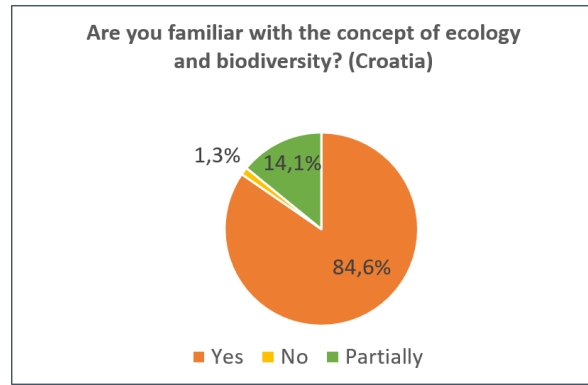
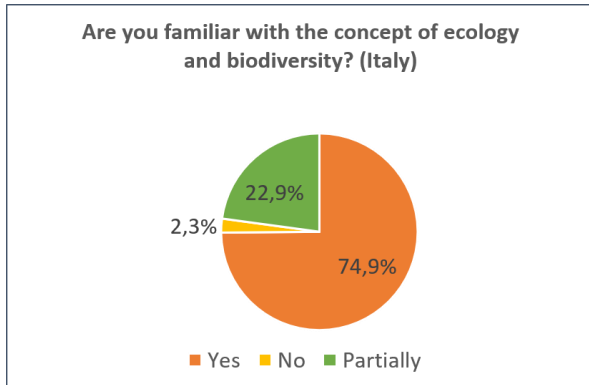
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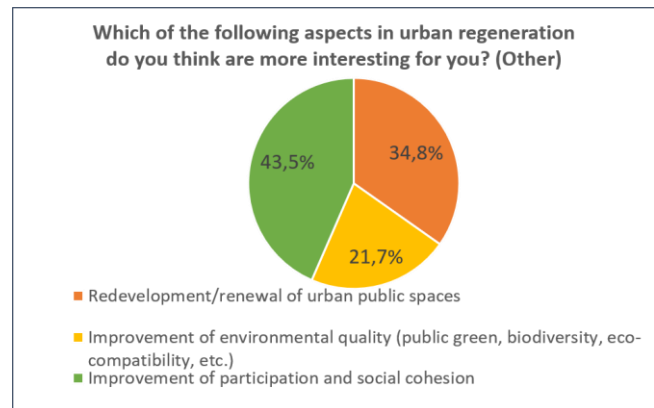
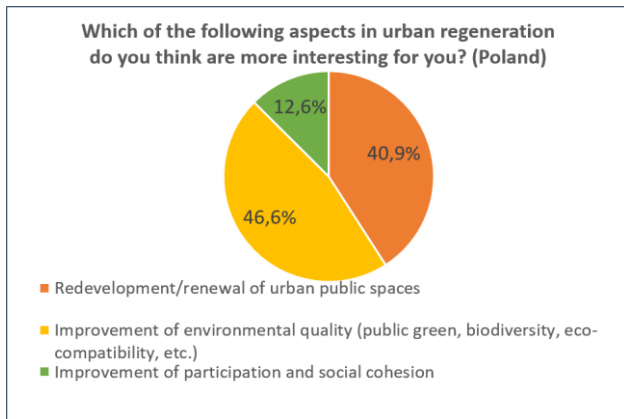
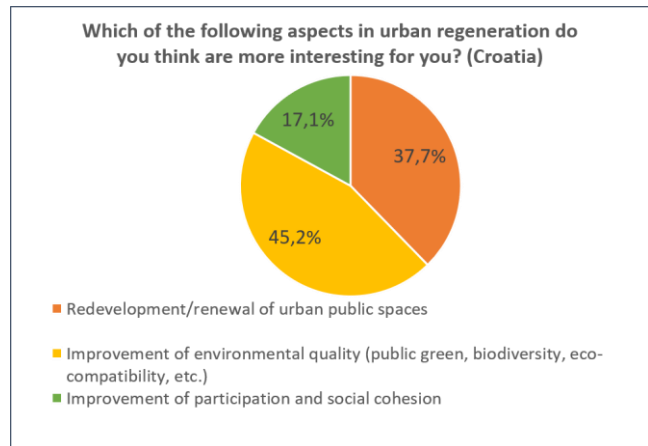
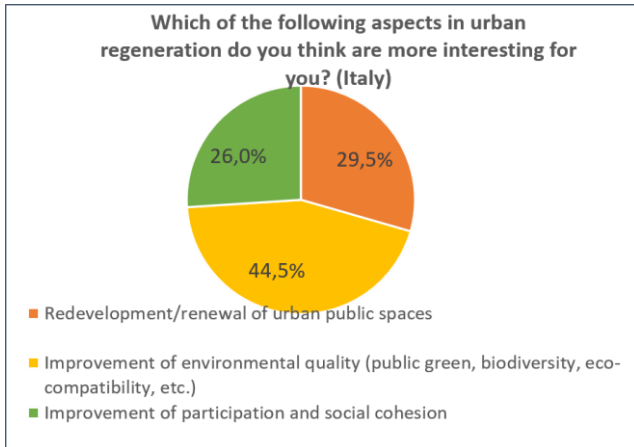
Q. - Are you familiar with the concept of ecology and biodiversity?

In all cases, the large majority of the sample shows a **very good knowledge** of the concept of ecology and biodiversity, namely: 74.9% Italy, 84.6% Croatia, 83.6% Poland and 78.6% Other. This result also represents a very good basis for the design of environmental actions.



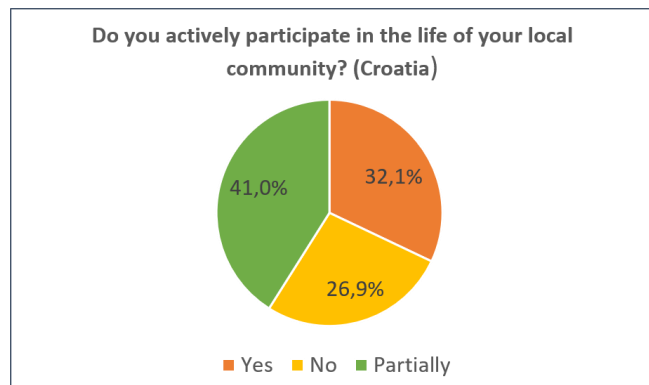
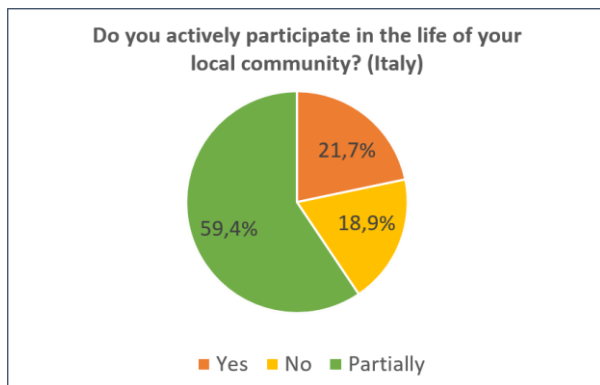
Q. - Which of the following aspects in urban regeneration do you think are more interesting for you?

This question is focussed on the main features characterising urban regeneration approaches, aiming at discover which is reputed the most important for responders. In Italy, Croatia and Poland, the majority was most interested in the **improvement of environmental quality** issue (44.5%, 45.2% and 46.6% respectively), while only 21.7% of Other chose such option. The **improvement of participation and social cohesion** issue was considered most relevant by the 43.5% of Other responders, while the same issue was chosen by 26% in Italy, 17.1% in Croatia and 12.6% in Poland. Regarding **the redevelopment/renewal of urban public spaces** issue, this was selected by 29.5% in Italy, 37.7% in Croatia, 40.9% in Poland and 34.8% in Other.



Q. - Do you actively participate in the life of your local community?

For all samples, the most selected answer to this question was **partially**, namely: Italy 59.4%, Croatia 41%, Poland 45.2% and Other 42.9%. To be noted that the **yes** option was chosen also by 42.9% in Other, while it was much less popular in the three other groups: 21.7% Italy, 32.1% Croatia and 19.2% Poland. The **no** option was chosen by 18.9% in Italy, 26.9% Croatia and 14.3% Other.



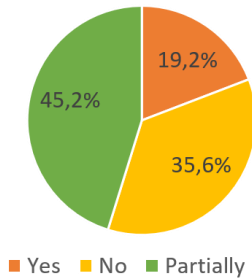


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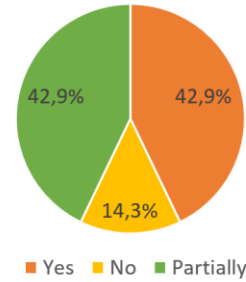


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Do you actively participate in the life of your local community? (Poland)



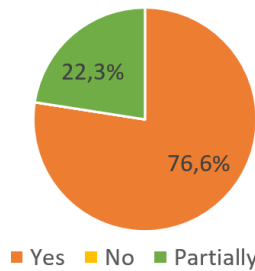
Do you actively participate in the life of your local community? (Other)



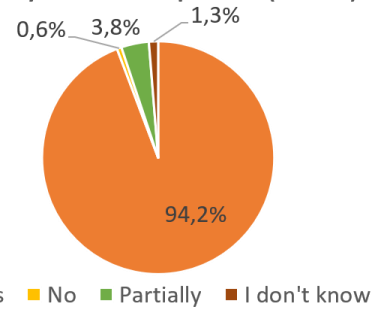
Q. - Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved?

A very large majority in all samples outlines the **need to improve the quality of urban spaces** in their city: 76.6% in Italy, 94.2% in Croatia, 74.7% in Poland and 78.6% in Other. To some extent the **partially** answer was selected as well, in Italy (22.3%), Poland (24%) and Other (21.4%).

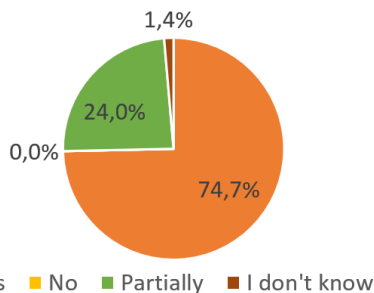
Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved? (Italy)



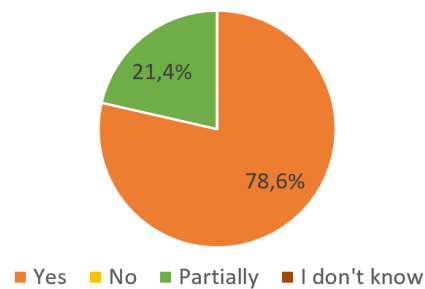
Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved? (Croatia)



Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved? (Poland)



Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved? (Other)

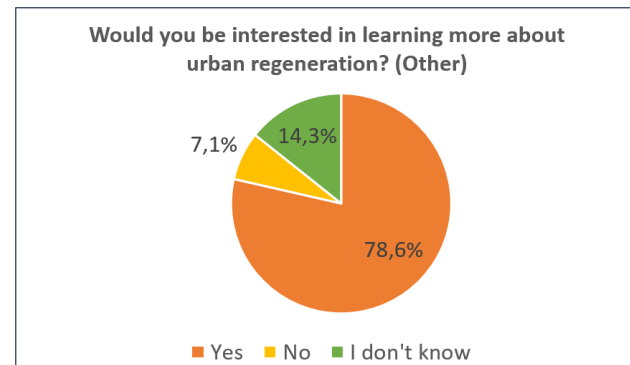
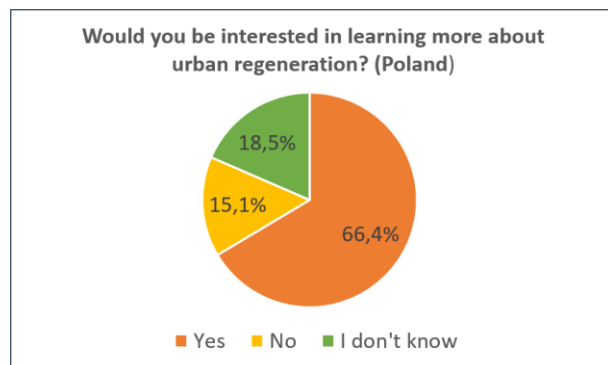
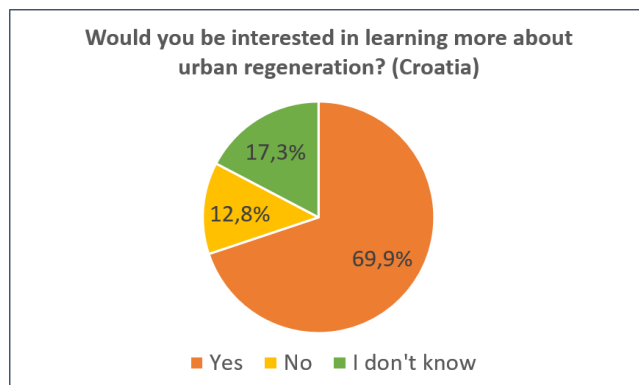
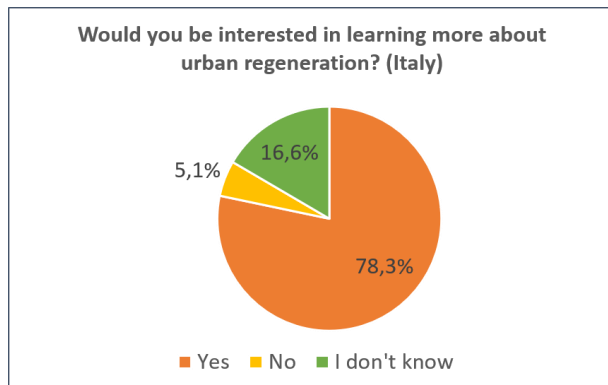




Interests

Q. - Would you be interested in learning more about urban regeneration?

All samples show a **great interest** in learning more about urban regeneration, even those who showed a good knowledge on such topic. In particular, in Italy the percentage is 78.3%, in Croatia 69.9%, in Poland 66.4% and in Other 78.6%. The **no** percentage is very low in Italy (5.1%) and in Other (7.1%), while it's a little higher in Croatia (12.8%), in Poland (15.1%). There is also a part of the sample who chose the **I don't know** option: 16.6% in Italy, 17.3% in Croatia, 18.5% in Poland and 14.3% in Other.



Q. - Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology?

As in the previous question, the large majority in all cases shows **interest in learning more** on such topics: 77.7% in Italy, 73.1% in Croatia, 67.8% in Poland and 57.1% in Other. This last one also presents a good percentage choosing either the **no** option (21.4%) or the **I don't know** option (21.4%). In the other samples, the **no** option is chosen by 13.1% in Italy, 12.8% in Croatia and 17.1% in Poland, while the **I don't know** option is chosen by 9.1% in Italy, 14.1% in Croatia, 15.1% in Poland.

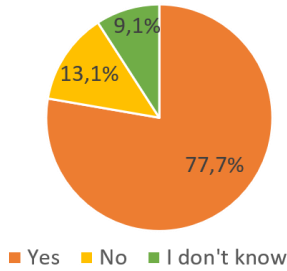


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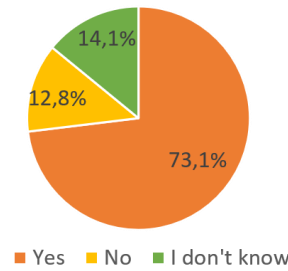


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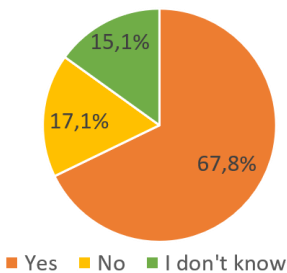
Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology? (Italy)



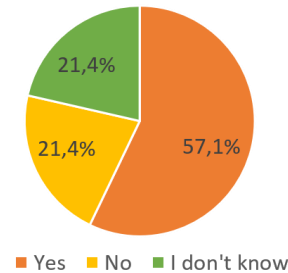
Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology? (Croatia)



Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology? (Poland)



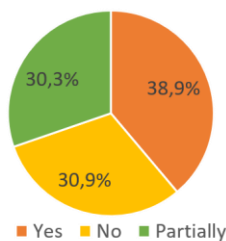
Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology? (Other)



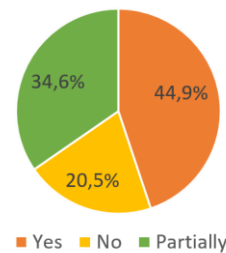
Q. - Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects?

The **most interested** subjects in cooperation with schools are in Croatia (44.9%), followed by Italy (38.9%), Other (35.7%) and Poland (26%). The **no** option is mainly selected in Poland (42.5%), followed by Italy (30.9%), Other (28.6%) and Croatia (20.5%). Finally, the **partially** option is most popular in Other (35.7%), followed by Croatia (34.6%), Poland (31.5%) and Italy (30.3%).

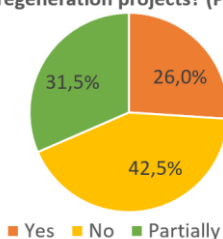
Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects? (Italy)



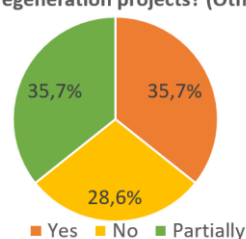
Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects? (Croatia)



Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects? (Poland)



Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects? (Other)





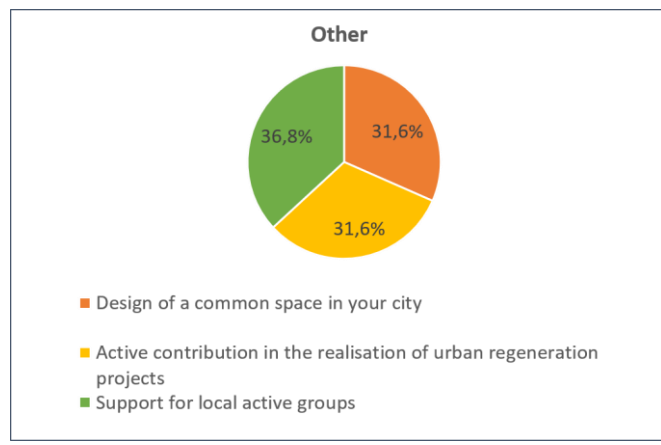
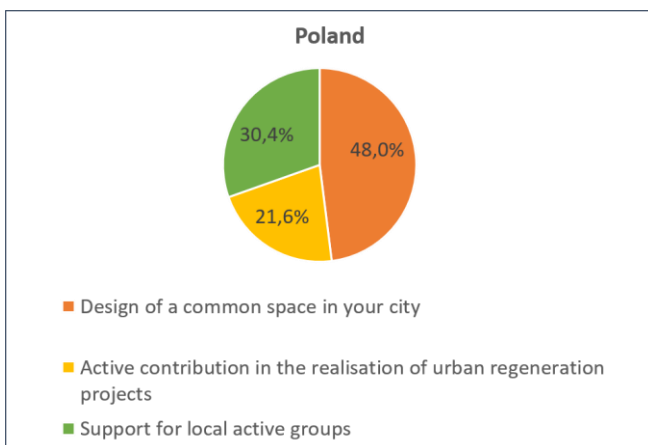
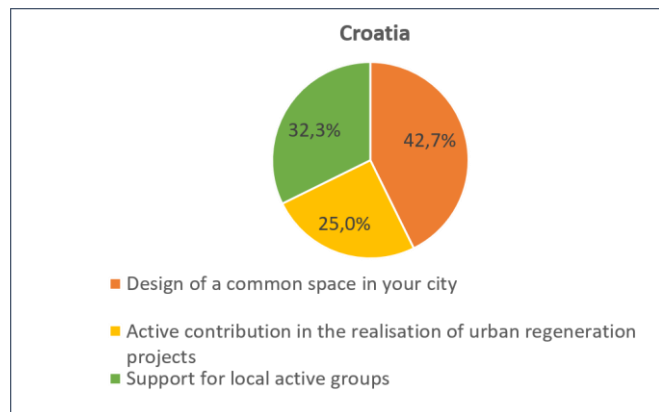
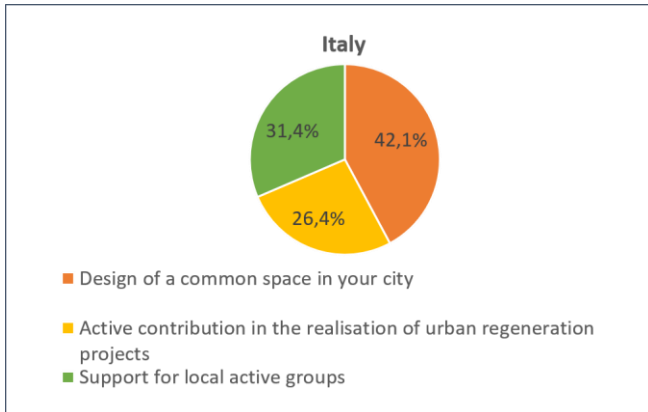
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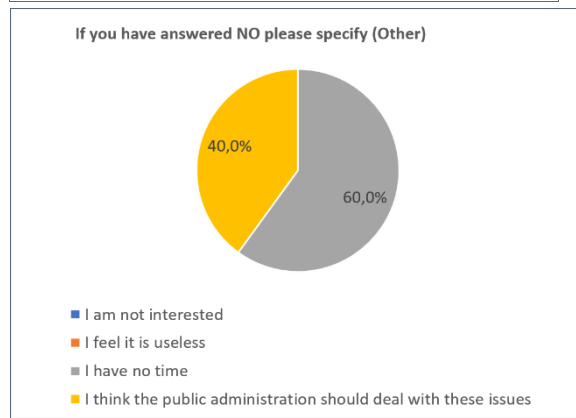
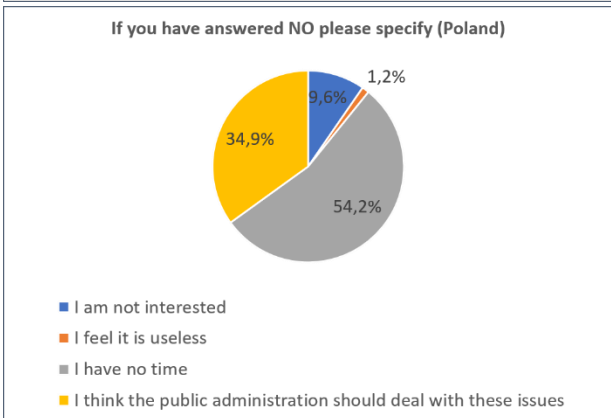
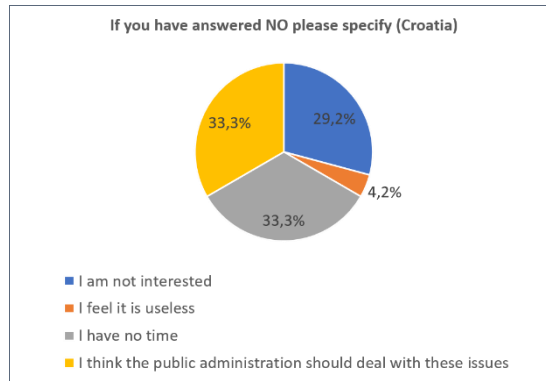
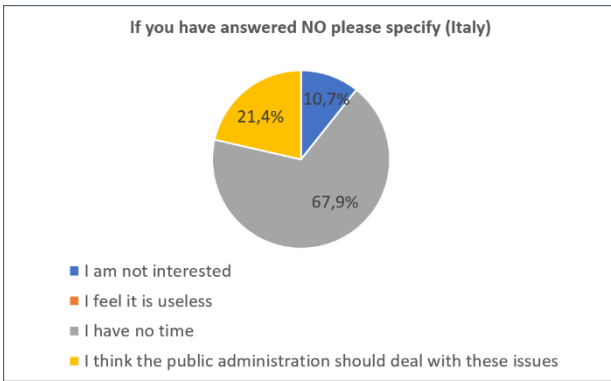
Q. - If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY, please specify which type of action you would like to participate in

The **design of a common space in your city** option was chosen by 42.1% in Italy, 42.7% in Croatia, 48% in Poland and 31.6% in Other. The **active contribution in the realisation of urban regeneration projects** option was selected by 26.4% in Italy, 25% in Croatia, 21.6% in Poland and 31.6% in Other. Finally, the **support for local active groups** option was selected by 31.4% in Italy, 32.3% in Croatia, 30.4% in Poland and 36.8% in Other.



Q. - If you have answered NO please specify

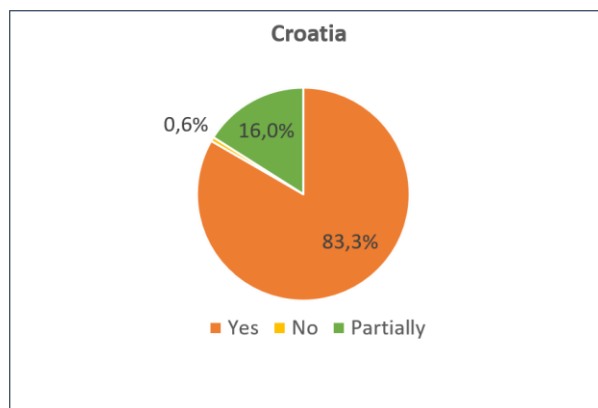
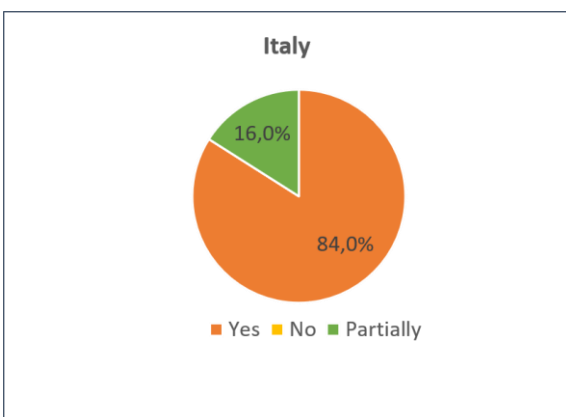
The **most selected option** in this case was the **I have no time** option: 67.9% in Italy, 33.3% in Croatia, 54.2% in Poland and 60% in Other. Even the **I think the public administration should deal with these issues** option collected several responses: 21.4% in Italy, 33.3% in Croatia, 34.9% in Poland and 40% in Other. The **I am not interested** option was chosen by 10.7% in Italy, 29.2% in Croatia and 9.6% in Poland. Very few responses were given to the **I feel it is useless** option: only 4.2% in Croatia and 1.2% in Poland.



Attitudes

Q. - Do you feel that local small interventions in urban open spaces self-organised by local communities, can improve life quality in the city?

The **large majority** of responders in all cases selected the **yes** option: 84% in Italy, 83.3% in Croatia, 82.9% in Poland and 78.6% in Other. The **partially** option was selected by 16% both in Italy and Croatia, 15.8% in Poland and 14.3 in Other. The **no** option was selected by very few: 0.6% in Croatia, 1.4% in Poland and 7.1% in Other.

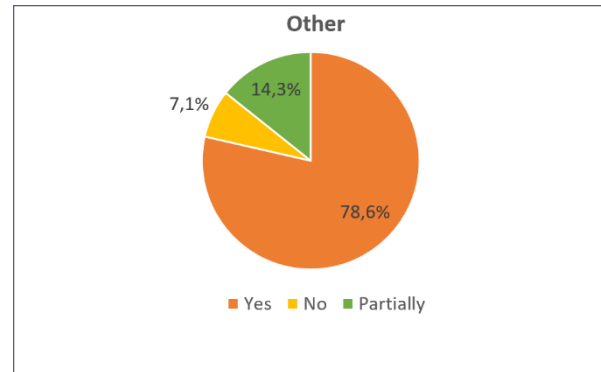
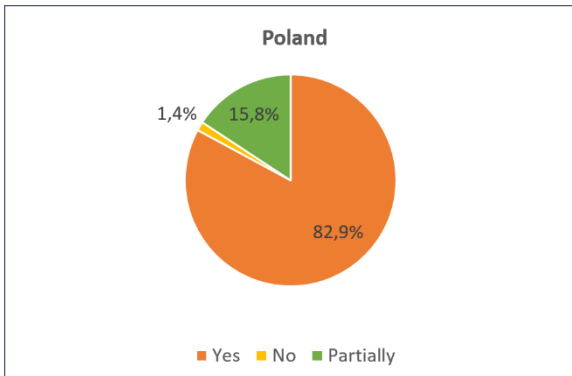




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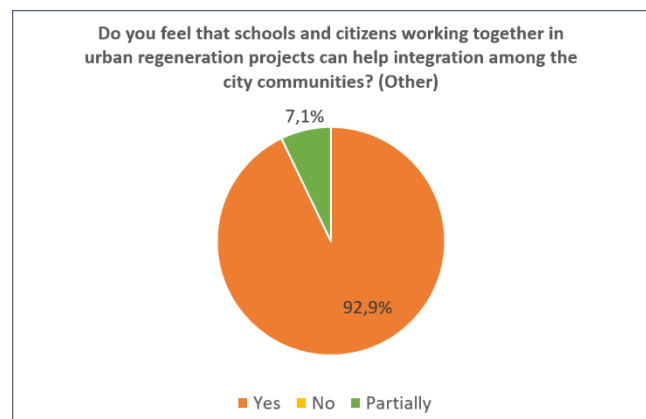
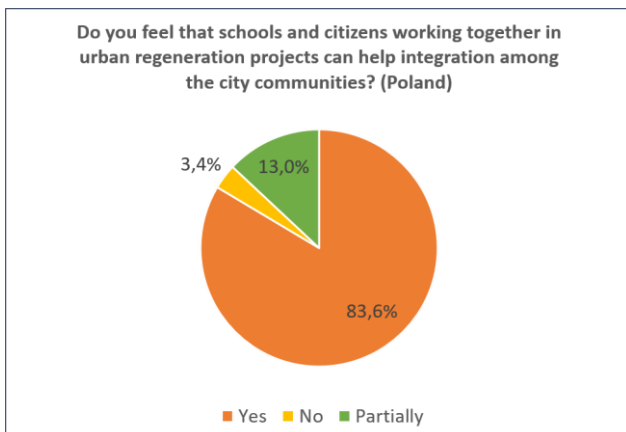
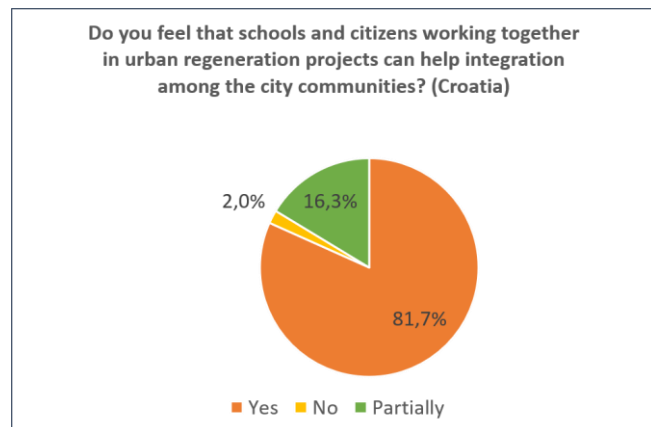
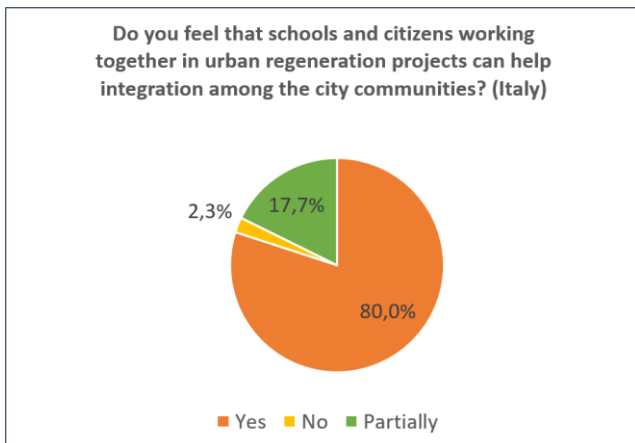


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Q. - Do you feel that schools and citizens working together in urban regeneration projects can help integration among the city communities?

In all cases the **large majority** selected the **yes** option: 80% in Italy, 81.7% in Croatia, 83.6% in Poland and 92.9% in Other. The **partially** option was selected by 17.7% in Italy, 16.3% in Croatia, 13% in Poland and 7.1 in Other. The **no** option only got very residual percentages.





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Comments

The main purpose of this part of the survey was to analyse both citizens' interest towards urban regeneration, biodiversity and ecology topics and their attitude in being involved in urban regeneration activities in their city. Actually, some interesting elements are emerging from the collected answers, that can help in outlining possible actions in the partner countries that might include the participation of citizens.

Responders in all partner countries appear well aware on the topic of urban regeneration, biodiversity and ecology, but are also interested in learning more and this can pave the way to the organisation of informative opportunities to increase such knowledge.

The most appreciated aspect in urban regeneration seems the improvement of environmental quality, followed by the renewal of public spaces, while less attention is given to aspects related with social inclusion and community reinforcement. Therefore, it seems there is some work to be done to improve the perception of the impact of such essential issue in effective urban regeneration actions.

The possibility of collaborating with schools is also appreciated by a large majority of responders in all partner countries, both including available and partially available subjects. This result opens up the possibility to design some interesting opportunity for testing a collaborative approach inside the project. In particular, most of the responders seem more interested in design applications, although a significant percentage is also available for a more concrete involvement and support.

As far as the willingness of working together for reaching common results is concerned, only very few persons think this is useless, which is a quite encouraging result. On the other hand, it's important also to highlight the declaration of some percentage of responders about having no time for being involved in collaborating activities, together with the opinion that it's a duty of public administration to manage urban regeneration plans. This leads to the need of reflecting carefully on the type of collaborative actions that might be put in place, that on one hand should identify those who might be more available and, on the other hand, try and design flexible opportunities to involve as much persons as possible. On the other hand, it should be observed that, rather encouragingly, really few persons feel a sense of uselessness in doing something for improving the quality of life in the city.

At the end of this document, an infographic form is available that summarises the main results from the survey on the topics of urban regeneration and civic engagement. The form is printable in A3 format.

Sustainability and climate change

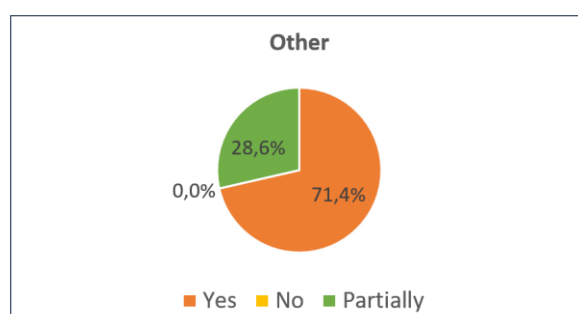
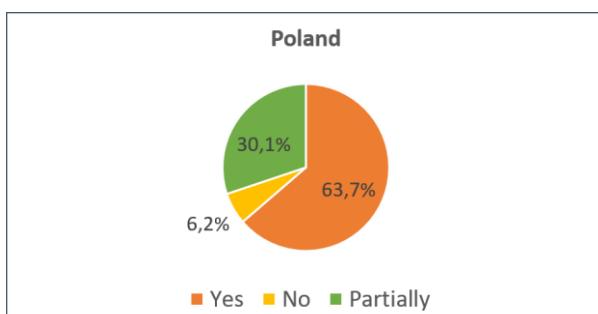
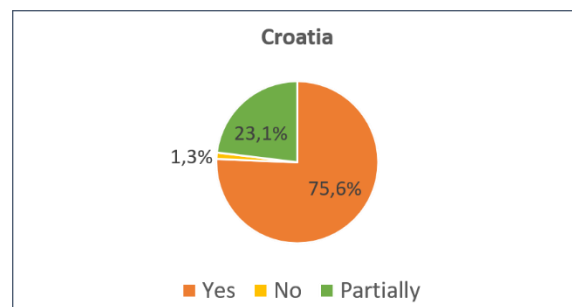
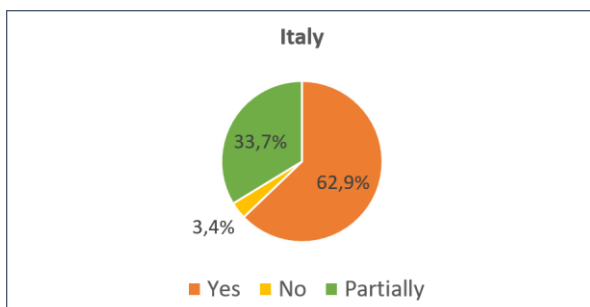
This section reports the results of the survey related to the issues of sustainability and climate change, that are an important complementary aspect in urban regeneration actions, since the latter might be also aimed to mitigate climate change effects and improve city sustainability. In addition, some investigation is done also on the topic of circular economy, that might as well be an asset in urban regeneration approaches like Tactical Urbanism, where the use of recycled material can be largely adopted and encouraged.

The same three different perspectives as in the previous context were analysed: previous knowledge and experience, interests and attitudes. Again, the aim was to build a knowledge basis for further activities in the project that might foresee citizens' contribution and support.

Knowledge and experience

Q. - Are you familiar with the concepts of sustainability and climate change?

On the overall, all samples show a **very good knowledge** on the topics of sustainability and climate change. In particular, as for the **yes** option, the percentage of responders is 62.9% in Italy, 75.6% in Croatia, 63.7% in Poland and 71.4% in Other. To this, we can add the **partially** percentage, equal to 33.7% in Italy, 23.1% in Croatia, 30.1% in Poland and 28.6% in Other. Only a very small percentage in all samples answered **no**.



Q. - Are you familiar with the concepts of circular economy?

In all cases, a **strong majority** of the sample shows a good knowledge of the concept of circular economy, if we consider both **yes** and **partially** responders. In particular, the first option was chosen by 51.4% in



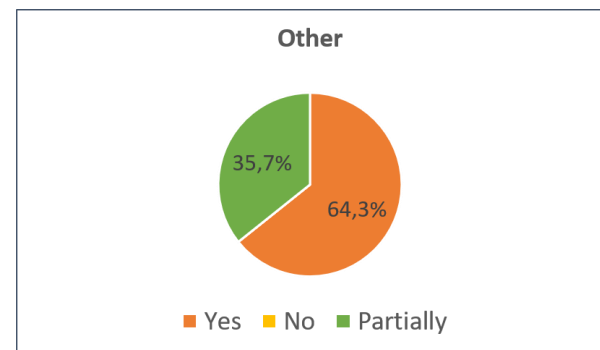
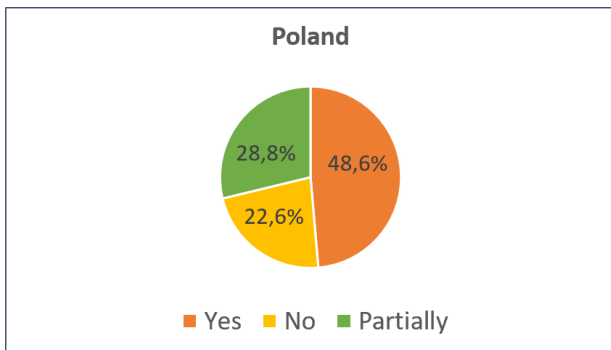
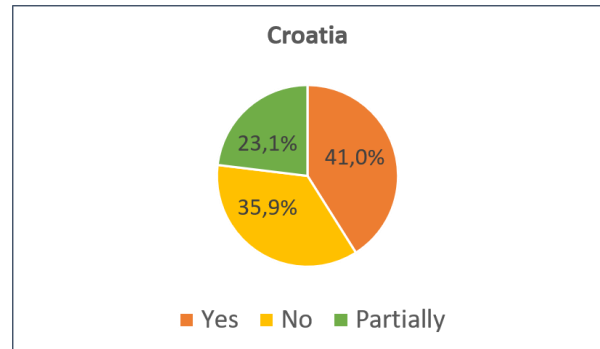
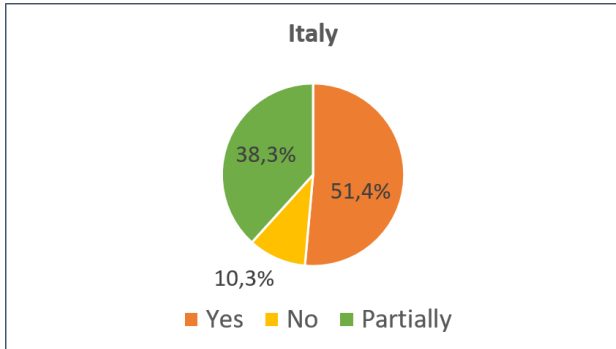
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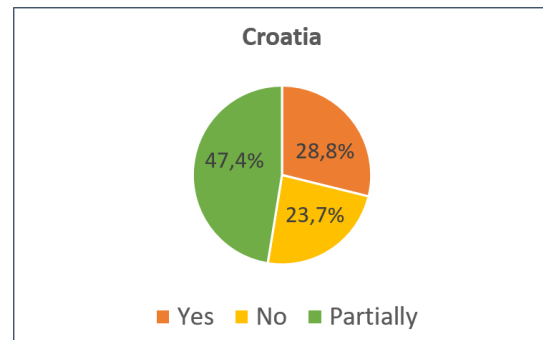
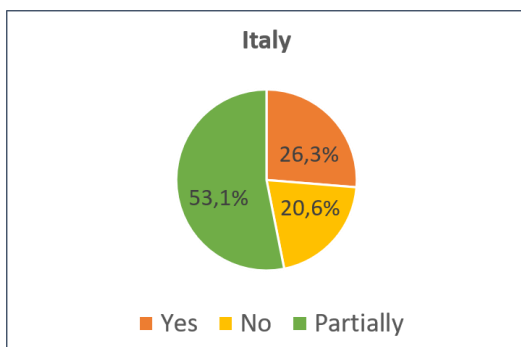
Italy, 41% in Croatia, 48.6% in Poland and 64.3% in Other, while the second option was selected by 38.3% in Italy, 23.1% in Croatia, 28.8% in Poland and 35.7% in Other.

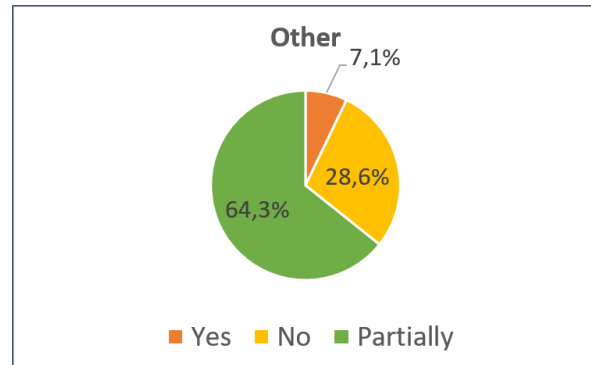
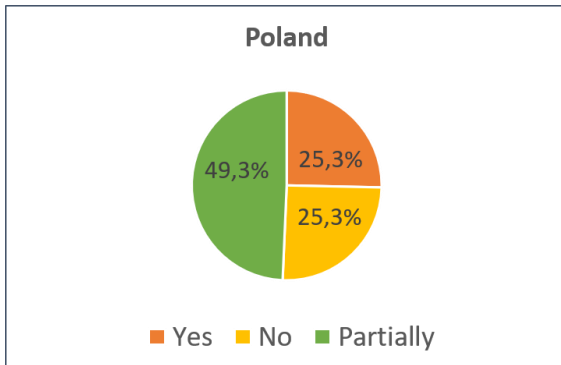
On the other hand, Croatia and Poland included also somewhat relevant percentage in the **no** option, namely 35.9% and 22.6% respectively.



Q. - Are you actively involved in actions to mitigate climate change and improve sustainability in your city?

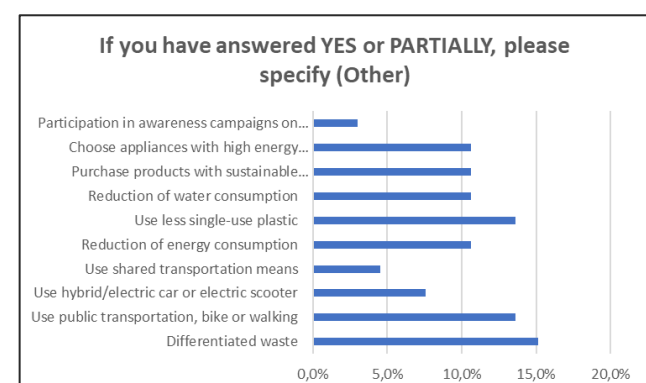
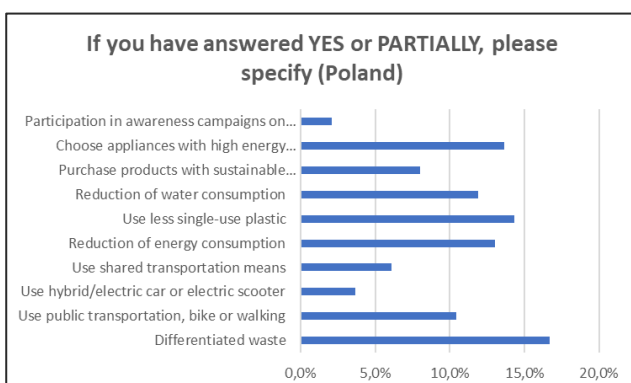
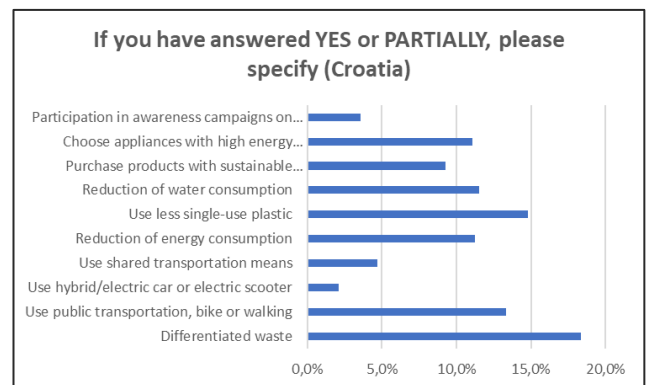
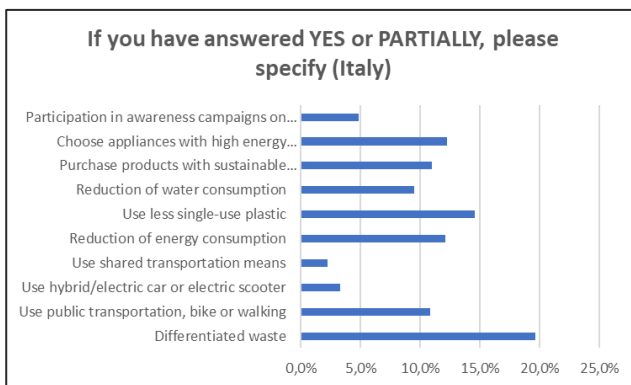
This question aimed at evaluating the current experience of responders in actively facing climate change challenges. In all cases, a **significant majority** selected the **partially** option, namely 53.1% in Italy, 47.4% in Croatia, 49.3% in Poland and 64.3% in Other, while the **yes** option was chosen by 26.3% in Italy, 28.8% in Croatia, 25.3% in Poland and 7.1% in Other. Relevant choice regards also the **no** option, selected by 20.6% in Italy, 23.7% in Croatia, 25.3% in Poland and 25.6% in Other.





Q. - If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY, please specify

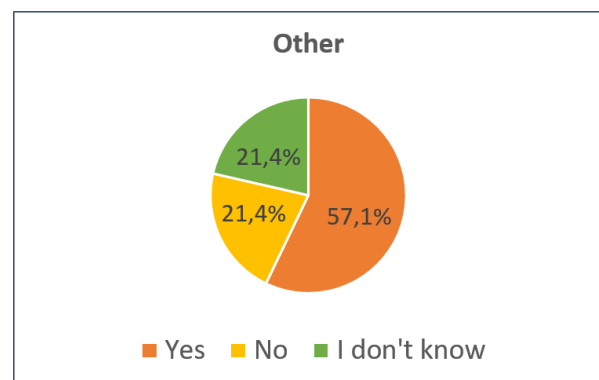
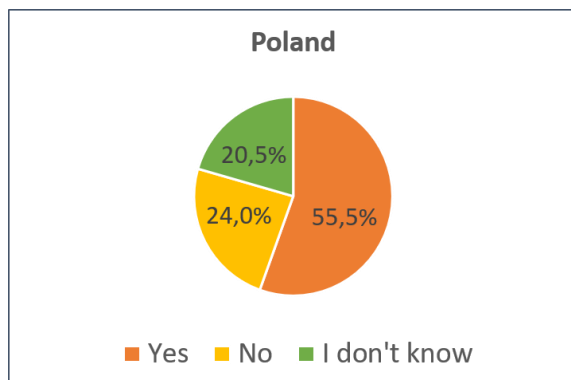
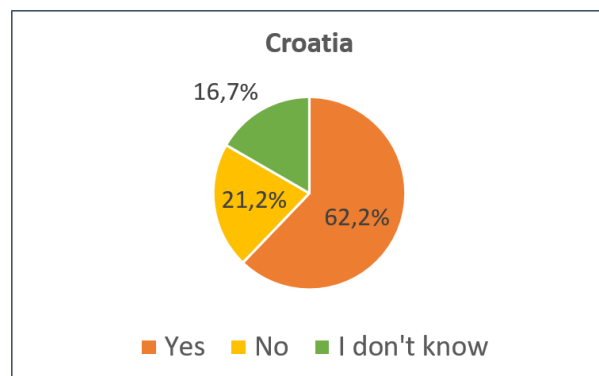
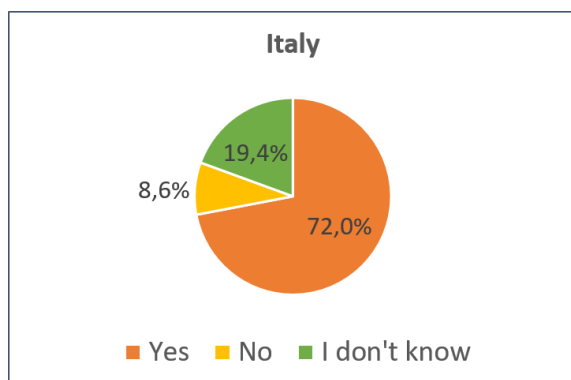
Several possibilities were here available for those who answered yes or partially in the previous question to specify in which sector they are most active. Since responders could select more than one option, on the overall we have a rather uniform distribution in all cases for the most commonly adopted sustainable life styles. In particular, the most popular actions are related with **differentiated waste, public transportation, reduction of energy consumption, reduction of water consumption, use of less single-use plastic** and choice of **appliances with high energy efficiency**. Less popular are the use of electric/hybrid cars and shared transportation means and the participation in awareness campaigns.



Interests

Q. - Would you be interested in learning more about climate change?

On the overall, the **majority of responders** showed interest in learning more on the climate change topic by selecting the **yes** option, namely 72% in Italy, 62.2% in Croatia, 55.5% in Poland and 57.1% in Other. On the other hand, a significant percentage in Croatia, Poland and Other had **no** interest in the learning more (21.2%, 24% and 21.4%, respectively), while In Italy such option was chosen only by 8.6%. Finally, a significant number of responders in all cases chose the **I don't know position**: 19.4% in Italy, 16.7% in Croatia, 20.5% in Poland and 21.4% in Other.



Q. - Would you be interested in learning more about sustainability?

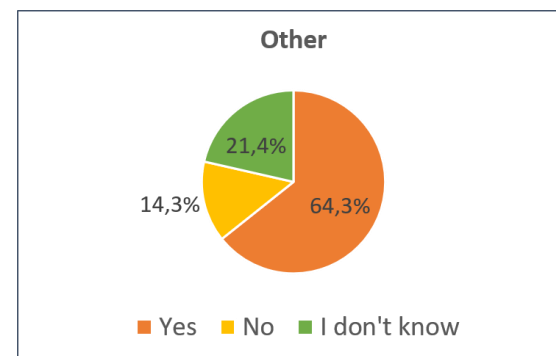
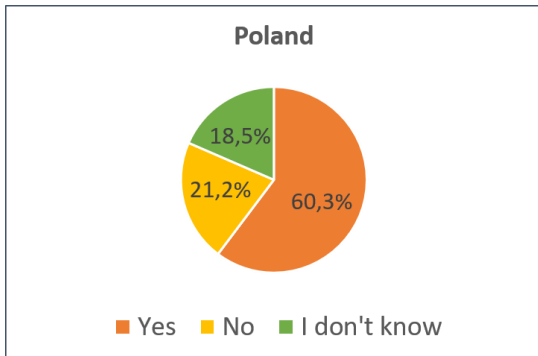
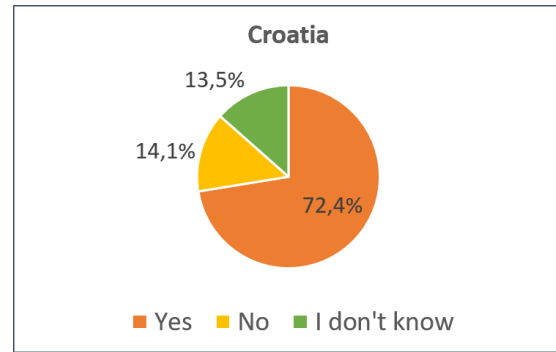
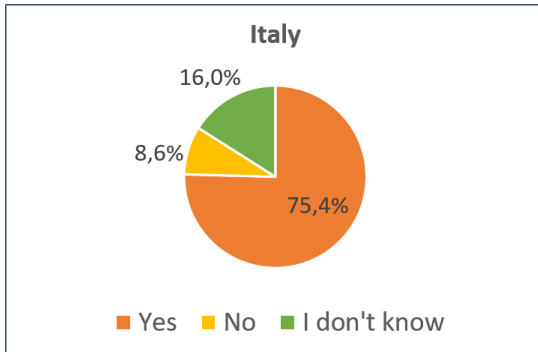
A similar trend as in the previous question is shown in the answers to this one, although with a **larger majority** in all cases in favour of the **yes** option: 75.4% in Italy, 72.4% in Croatia, 60.3% in Poland and 64.3 in Other. The **no** option was selected by 8.6% in Italy, 14.1% in Croatia, 21.2% in Poland and 14.3% in Other, while the **I don't know** option had the favour of 16% in Italy, 13.5% in Croatia, 18.5% in Poland and 21.4% in Other.



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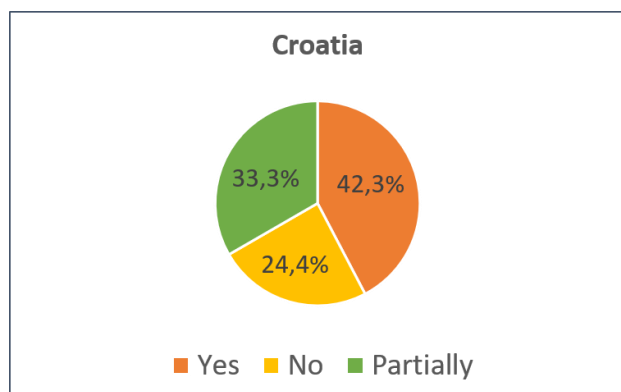
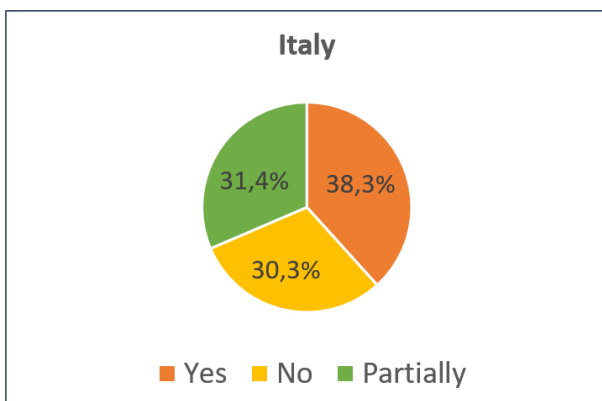


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Q. - Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to improve city sustainability and mitigate climate change effects?

On the overall, answers to this question are rather distributed on the three options in all samples. In particular, the **yes** option was selected by 38.3% in Italy, 42.3% in Croatia, 26.7% in Poland and 35.7% in Other. The **no** option was selected by 30.3% in Italy, 24.4% in Croatia, 44.5% in Poland and 21.4% in Other. Finally, the **partially** option had the favour of 31.4% in Italy, 33.3% in Croatia, 28.8% in Poland and 42.9% in Other.

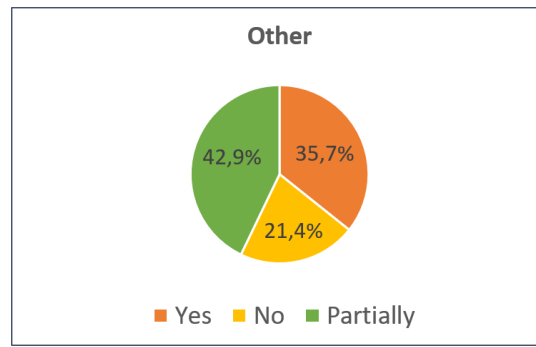
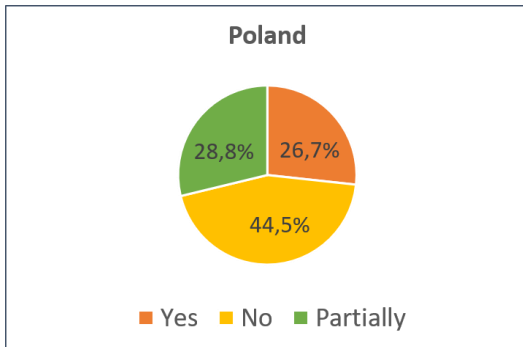




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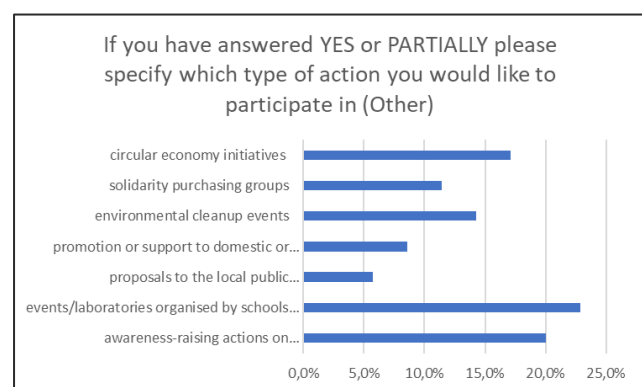
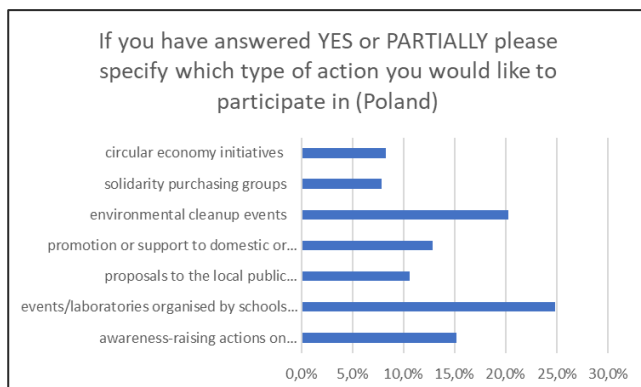
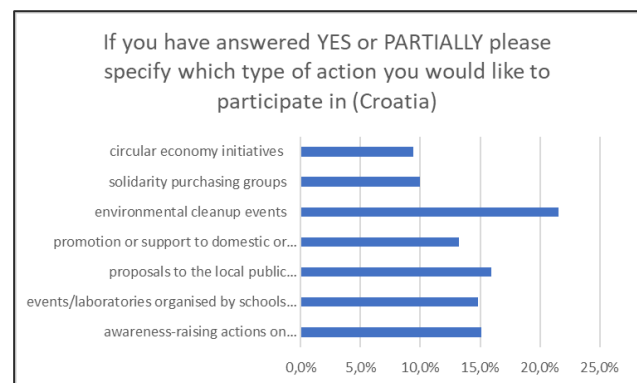
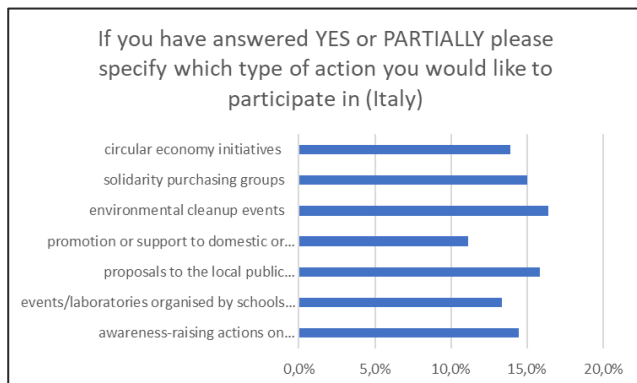


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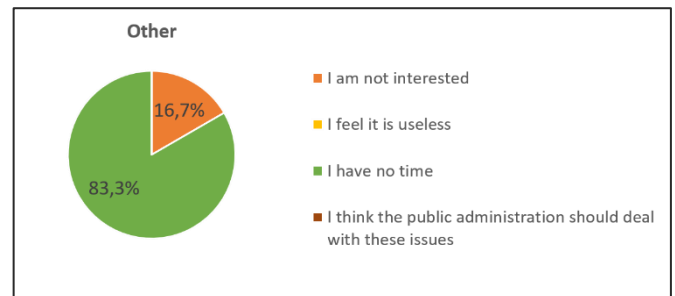
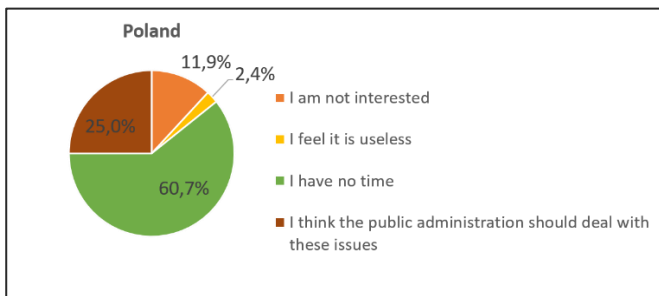
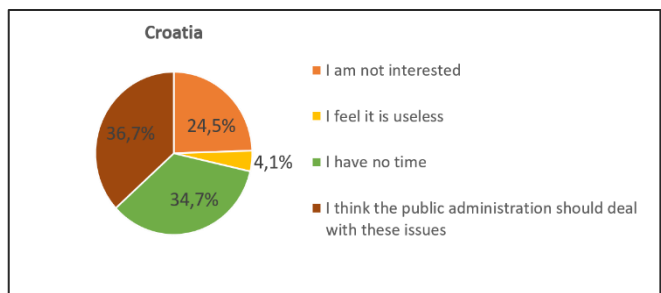
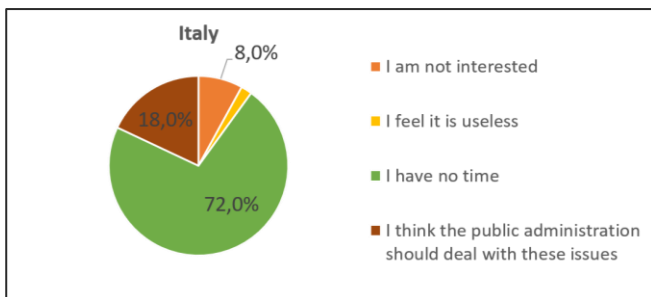
Q. - If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY, please specify which type of action you would like to participate in

Responders answering yes or partially in the previous question had the possibility to specify in which type of activities they would like to collaborate with schools, by selecting more than one option. On the overall, there is a rather uniform distribution across the different options; most appreciated appears the **participation in awareness-raising actions** on sustainability and climate change, **events/laboratories organised by schools and local communities** and **environmental cleanup events**.



Q. - If you have answered NO please specify

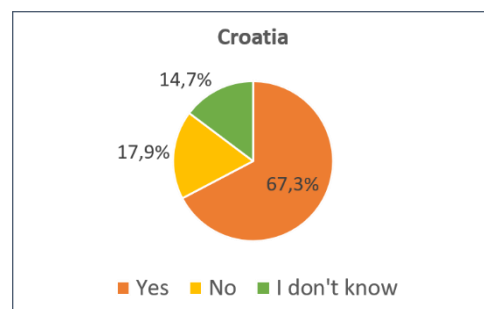
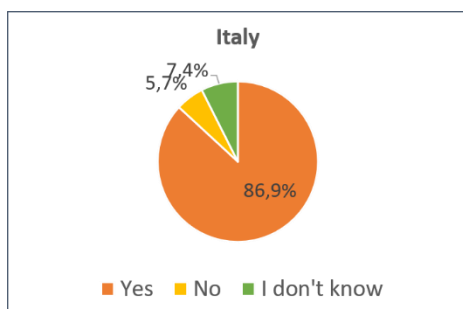
The **most selected** option in this case was the **I have no time** option: 72% in Italy, 33.7% in Croatia, 60.7% in Poland and 83.3% in Other. Even the **I think the public administration should deal with these issues** option collected several responses: 18% in Italy, 33.7% in Croatia and 25% in Poland. and 40% in Other. The **I am not interested** option was chosen by 8% in Italy, 24.5% in Croatia, 11.9% in Poland and 16.7% in Other. Very few responses were given to the **I feel it is useless** option: 2% in Italy, 4.1% in Croatia and 2.4% in Poland. Encouragingly, only few chose the **I feel it is useless option**.



Attitudes

Q. - Do you feel that climate change and sustainability are one of the most important challenges that cities are now facing?

The **large majority** of responders in all cases selected the **yes** option, although with some relevant difference: 86.9% in Italy, 67.3% in Croatia, 58.2% in Poland and 85.7% in Other. The **no** option collected 5.7% in Italy, 17.9% in Croatia, 16.4% in Poland and 14.3% in Other. Finally, the **I don't know** option was selected by 7.4% in Italy, 14.7% in Croatia and 25.3% in Poland.

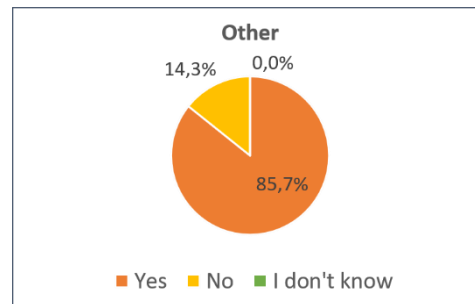
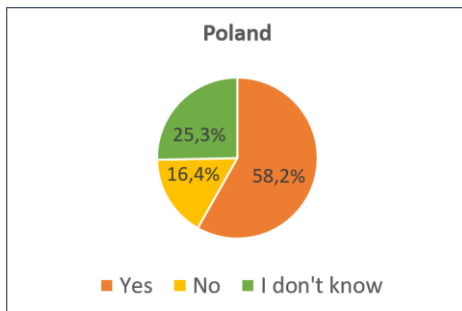




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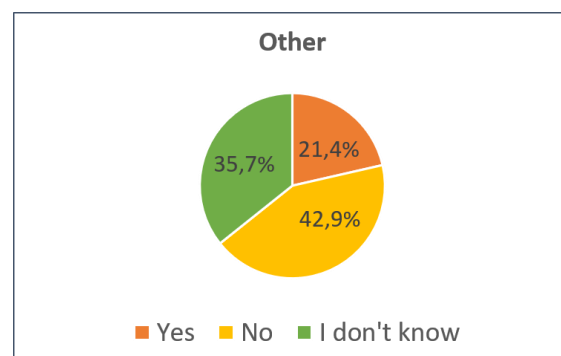
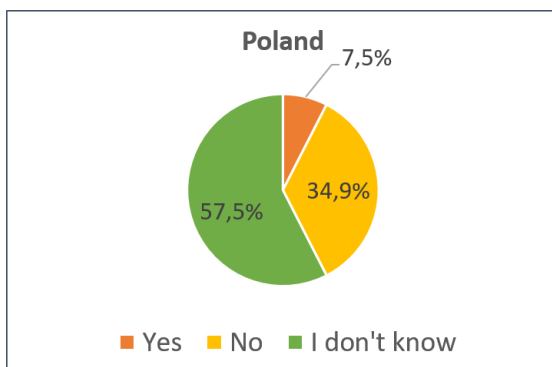
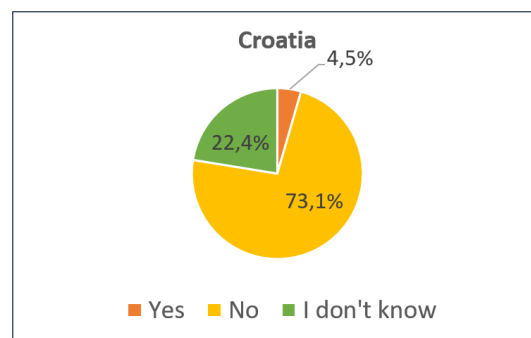
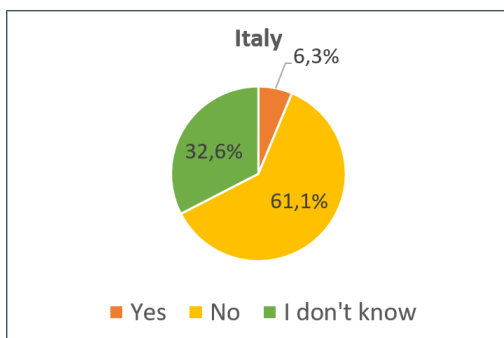


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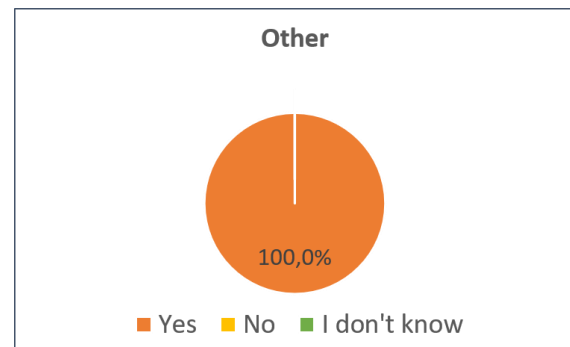
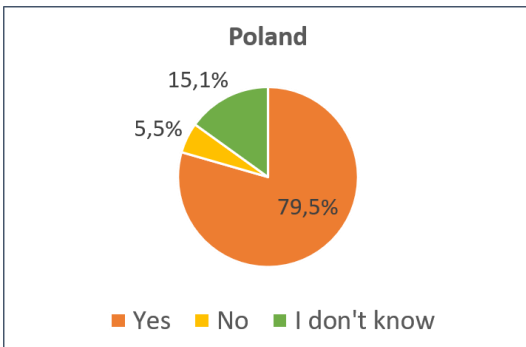
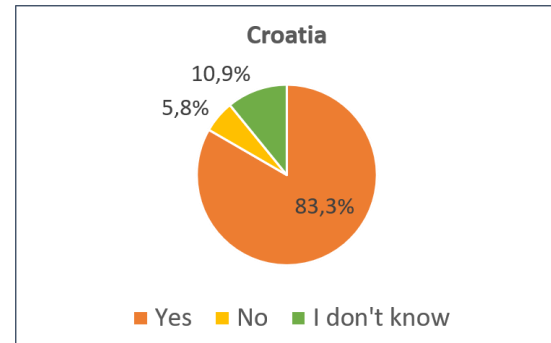
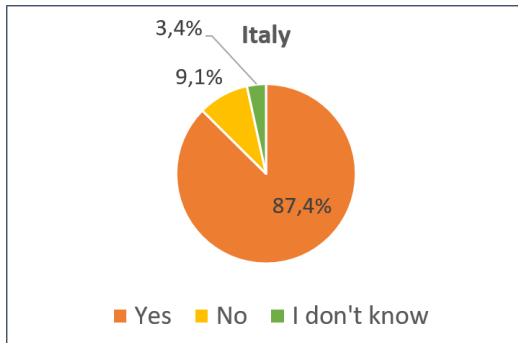
Q. - Do you feel that your city administration is doing enough to face climate changes and manage sustainability?

The **no** option was selected by 61.1% in Italy, 71.1% in Croatia, 34.9% in Poland and 42.9% in Other, while the **I don't know** option was chosen by 32.6% in Italy, 22.4% in Croatia, 57.5% in Poland and 35.7% in Other. The **yes** option gained just small percentages with the exception of Other where it reached 21.4%: in Italy it was 6.3%, in Croatia 4.5% and in Poland 7.5%.



Q. - Do you feel that both each individual and local communities should be responsible for doing their part in facing climate change and improving sustainability in the city?

On the overall, a **large majority** in all cases expressed a preference for the **yes** option: 87.4% in Italy, 83.3% in Croatia, 79.5% in Poland and 100% in Other. The **I don't know** option was selected by 3.4% in Italy, 10.9% in Croatia and 15.1% in Poland, while the **no** option was chosen by 9.1% in Italy, 5.8% in Croatia and 5.5% in Poland.



Comments

The main purpose of this part of the survey was to analyse both citizens' interest towards sustainability and climate change topics, together with their attitude in being involved in collaborative actions aimed at increasing environmental awareness in their city. Like in the case of the urban regeneration issue, some interesting elements can be outlined to better understand the possibility of including citizens as partners in actions that might be developed with a focus on climate change and sustainability.

Responders in all partner countries appear well aware on the topic of climate change and sustainability, but are also interested in learning more and, like in the case of urban regeneration, this opens up the possibility of organising informative opportunities to increase such knowledge. This is reinforced also by the consideration that a large majority is also in favour of collaborating with schools in activities oriented to increase environmental awareness.

Most of responders in all partner countries adopt a variety of strategies aimed at reducing climate change effects and improve sustainability. There is also a strong feeling that individuals and communities are both responsible for facing climate change effects in cities and improving sustainability, which leads to opportunities for reinforcing collaboration at different levels (including the public administration).

On the other hand, it's worth to outline that environmental sensitivity might somehow differs from country to country, as for example was observed in the case of the question on climate change being one of the greatest challenges for cities: such awareness seems much higher in Italy rather than in Croatia and Poland and this could be also due to the evolution of climate change effects in different areas. This might also impact on the different perception on the public administration's capacity to face climate change



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challenges registered in different countries: Poland shows the highest percentage of unawareness on such issue, while in Italy and Croatia the negative feeling is prevailing.

Conclusions

The present report illustrates the main results of the survey made by the FREELAND consortium to investigate citizens' knowledge, interests and attitudes towards the main topics that the FREELAND project wants to address: urban regeneration, city sustainability and climate change. A further issue of interest to be evaluated was citizens' availability to collaborate with schools in designing possible urban regeneration activities in their city, that might not only offer students the possibility on increasing their didactic skills, but also provide local communities with improved awareness on environmental issues and a stronger commitment for a better quality of life.

The survey was carried out in partner countries, Italy, Croatia and Poland, but also spread at European level through the MCE distribution channels. The total amount of responders was equal to 496, the largest groups were in Italy (176), Croatia (158) and Poland (147), while the European group (Other) was much smaller (15 responders).

Despite some differences, even relevant in some cases, among the responding groups, the investigation revealed a strong awareness on the project topics and even the interest of learning more. This seems to indicate that the design of urban regeneration activities should also include some informative opportunities dedicated to citizens in collaboration with schools, that were acknowledged as relevant subjects for cooperation.

Citizens expressed also the interest for being involved in concrete initiatives even in the design and realisation of urban regeneration solutions, but this might require a careful evaluation on how to involve different categories of people: lack of time appears the major obstacle, that might prevent citizens to actually take active part in collective initiatives, Therefore, flexibility in option management should be taken into account when asking for citizens' contribution.

In conclusion, several opportunities can be found to enhance cooperation within local communities (including schools) and between citizens and public administration, to foster city sustainability and improve the quality of life in urban contexts: information, education and knowledge building are basic and necessary steps, but there seems to be room also for more operational involvement and collaboration, where the final goal is not only to build something together, but to generate common value and strengthen community ties.



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ANNEX I - The citizens' survey

This survey is aimed at investigating citizens' interests and attitudes towards the topics of urban regeneration, climate change and city sustainability as possible contexts where co-operation with schools and local communities can improve life quality and social cohesion.

The survey is promoted by FREELAND, a project funded by the EU Erasmus+ Programme, aimed at promoting students' and teachers' civic engagement in the regeneration of urban areas with social and environmental challenges, through educational activities that involve STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) subjects.

By answering this survey, you will help us to build a very useful knowledge base for the development of the most appropriate learning methodology that will be experimented by the schools participating in the project.

Your participation in this survey is completely anonymous and the results will be treated with full confidentiality. You will need around 5 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

To view information on how the data collected will be gathered, stored and managed, please [click here](#).

Part I - Personal information

- Gender (Female, Male, Other, Prefer not to say)
- Age range (18-34, 35-54, +55, Prefer not to say)
- Educational qualification (primary school, secondary school, university degree, PhD/Master, Prefer not to say)
- Country

Part II: Urban regeneration and civic engagement

In this section we want to measure your previous knowledge/experience, interests and attitudes on urban regeneration and civic engagement.

Knowledge and Experience

- Are you familiar with the concept of urban regeneration? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Are you familiar with the concept of ecology and biodiversity? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Which of the following aspects in urban regeneration do you think are more interesting for you? (please select the two most important)
 - Redevelopment/renewal of urban public spaces
 - Improvement of environmental quality (public green, biodiversity, eco-compatibility, etc.)
 - Improvement of participation and social cohesion
- Do you actively participate in the life of your local community? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Do you think that the quality of urban spaces in your city should be improved? YES, NO, PARTIALLY, I DON'T KNOW

Interests

- Would you be interested in learning more about urban regeneration? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects? YES, NO, PARTIALLY,
- If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY, please specify which type of action you would like to participate in (you can select more than one option):
 - Design of a common space in your city (abandoned area, public garden, square, etc...)



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- Active contribution in the realisation of urban regeneration projects
- Support for local active groups (economic, coordination, organisational, etc.)
- If you have answered NO please specify (you can select more than one option)
 - I am not interested
 - I feel it is useless
 - I have no time
 - I think the public administration should deal with these issues

Attitudes

- Do you feel that local small interventions in urban open spaces (e.g. green spaces, playgrounds, artistic spaces, etc.), self-organised by local communities, can improve life quality in the city? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Do you feel that schools and citizens working together in urban regeneration projects can help integration among the city communities? YES, NO, PARTIALLY

Part III: Sustainability and climate change:

In this section we want to measure your previous knowledge/experience, interests and attitudes about sustainability and climate change.

Knowledge and Experience

- Are you familiar with the concepts of sustainability and climate change? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Are you familiar with the concepts of circular economy? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- Are you actively involved in actions to mitigate climate change and improve sustainability in your city? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY, please specify (you can select more than one option)
 - Differentiated waste
 - Use public transportation, bike or walking
 - Use hybrid/electric car or electric scooter
 - Use shared transportation means
 - Reduction of energy consumption
 - Use less single-use plastic
 - Reduction of water consumption
 - Purchase products with sustainable packaging
 - Choose appliances with high energy efficiency (class A++)
 - Participation in awareness campaigns on climate change

Interests

- Would you be interested in learning more about climate change? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Would you be interested in learning more about sustainability? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to improve city sustainability and mitigate climate change effects? YES, NO, PARTIALLY
- If you have answered YES or PARTIALLY please specify which type of action you would like to participate in (you can select more than one option):
 - awareness-raising actions on sustainability and climate change
 - events/laboratories organised by schools and local communities
 - proposals to the local public administration for improving city sustainability
 - promotion or support to domestic or community composting
 - environmental cleanup events
 - solidarity purchasing groups
 - circular economy initiatives



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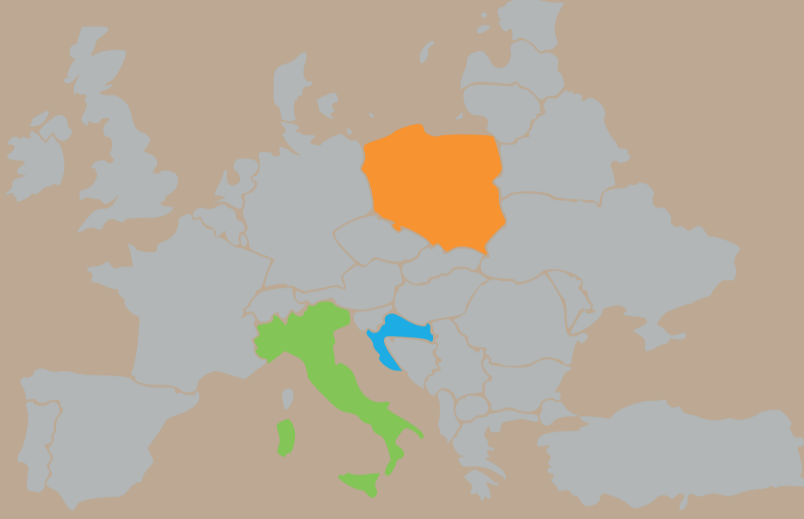
- If you have answered NO please specify (you can select more than one option)
 - I am not interested
 - I feel it is useless
 - I have no time
 - I think the public administration should deal with these issues

Attitudes

- Do you feel that climate change and sustainability are one of the most important challenges that cities are now facing? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Do you feel that your city administration is doing enough to face climate changes and manage sustainability? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW
- Do you feel that both each individual and local communities should be responsible for doing their part in facing climate change and improving sustainability in the city? YES, NO, I DON'T KNOW

PERSONAL DATA

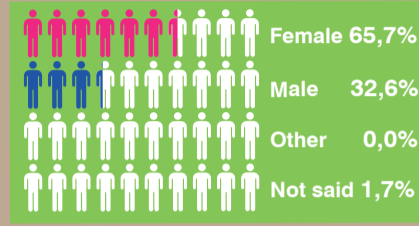
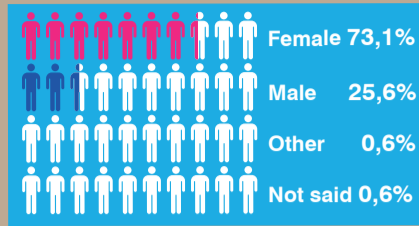
PARTNER COUNTRIES



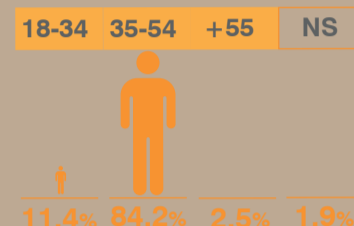
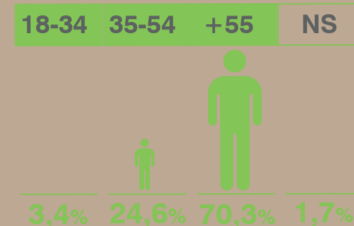
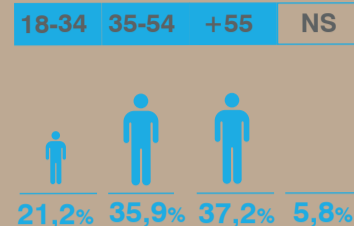
Answers



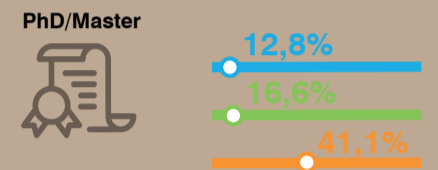
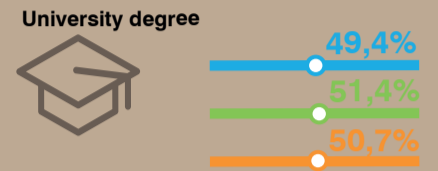
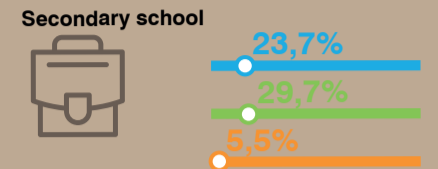
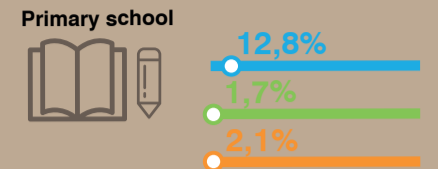
GENDER



AGE



QUALIFICATION



URBAN REGENERATION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



KNOWLEDGE

Q - Are you familiar with the concept of urban regeneration?

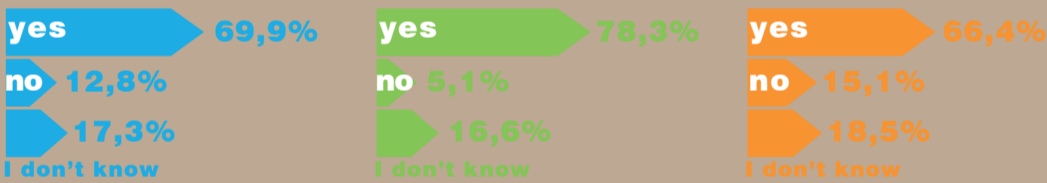


Q - Are you familiar with the concept of ecology and biodiversity?

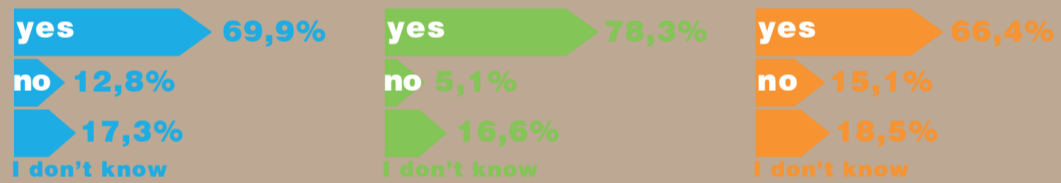


INTEREST ON LEARNING

Q - Would you be interested in learning more about urban regeneration?



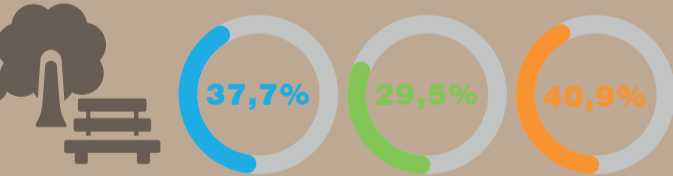
Q - Would you be interested in learning more about biodiversity and ecology?



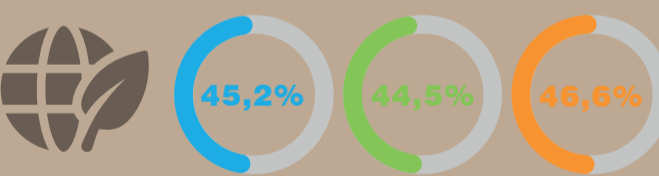
APPRECIATED ISSUES

Q - Which of the following aspects in urban regeneration do you think are more interesting for you?

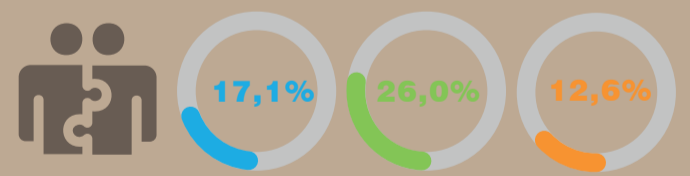
Redevelopment/renewal of urban public spaces



Improvement of environmental quality

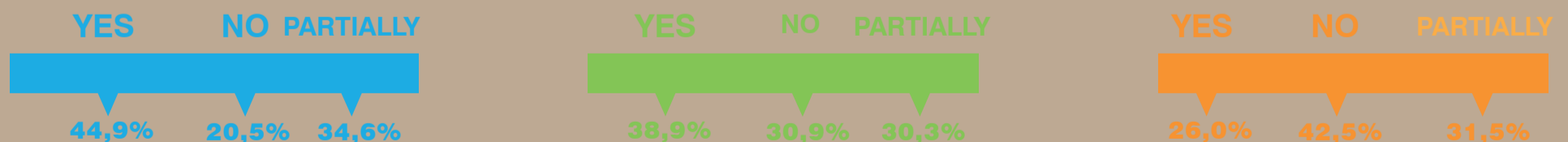


Improvement of participation and social cohesion



COLLABORATION

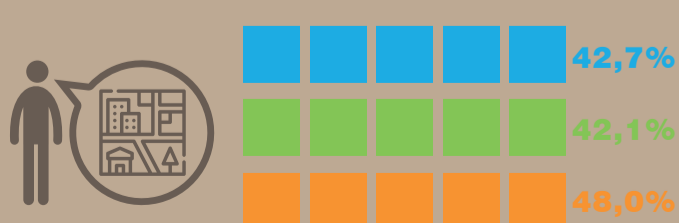
Q - Would you be interested in cooperating with schools and local communities to develop local urban regeneration projects?



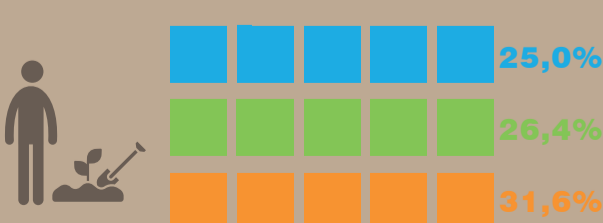
TYPE OF COLLABORATION

Q - Which type of action would you like to participate in?

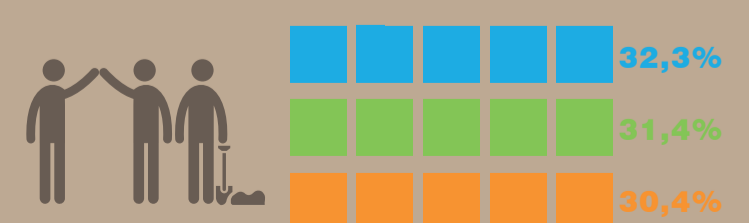
Design of a common space in your city



Active contribution in the realisation



Support for local active groups



Partners

Associated Partner



POLITECHNIKA GDANSKA (Poland)