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D 2.2.1 - Citizen Survey, Youth Think report, Financing the transition: evaluation report

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Abbreviations

CaN	Carbon Neutral
CEF	Connecting Europe Facility
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELENA	European Local Energy Assistance
ESPA	Greek Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework
EU	European Union
FZOEU	Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund Croatia
GHG(s)	Green House Gas(es)
LIFE	EU Programme for Environment and Climate Action
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework
PNRR	Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan
PV	Photovoltaic
RRF	Recovery and Resilience Facility
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
VR	Virtual Reality
WP	Work Package
YTT	Youth Think Tank



Executive summary

This report presents Deliverable 2.2.1 of the **CO2 PACMAN project**, developed within Work Package 2 (Multilevel Participation) and evaluates three interconnected activities designed to support climate neutrality pathways in Mediterranean island contexts. The deliverable focuses on three main components: the **AskyourcitizenonCaN survey**, the **Youth Think Tank activities**, and the **Financing the Transition activity**. These three components are connected and aim to assess citizens' perceptions, support participatory processes, and link co-designed scenarios with financial feasibility.

The starting point of the report is that **climate neutrality** is not only a technical challenge but also a **social process**. For this reason, the first step is understanding **citizens' perceptions** and **willingness to change**. The **AskyourcitizenonCaN survey** was implemented in the three pilot islands (Brač, Crete, and Elba) with a total of **549 respondents**. The results show that most citizens are **aware of climate change** and consider **climate neutrality important**. At the same time, **participation** in community events remains **low**, confirming a gap between awareness and action.

The **Youth Think Tank** represents the second component of the report and focuses on **youth engagement**. The activities follow a structured pathway composed of four phases: developing critical thinking, transferring knowledge, CO2 PACMAN Tool simulation, and co-design scenarios. This structure allows **students** to move **from awareness to active participation**. **Across the three pilot islands, the activity engaged approximately 300 students from 4 high schools and 4 universities. The results demonstrate that participatory and interactive learning approaches were highly effective in strengthening engagement, systems thinking, and the development of locally relevant decarbonisation proposals, particularly in the areas of energy, mobility, waste, and ecosystem management.**

The **Financing the Transition activity** represents the third component and focuses on **financial feasibility**. Its objective is to connect the outputs of the Youth Think Tank, The landscape analysis, and the CO2 PACMAN Tool results with **available financial instruments**. This activity supports stakeholders in identifying **funding opportunities** and understanding **how to implement decarbonisation solutions**. The findings highlight **financing complexity** as one of the **main barriers** to implementation, particularly in Mediterranean island contexts characterised by geographical isolation, seasonal demand, and higher infrastructure costs. The analysis suggests that successful implementation will require a **multi-layered financing approach** combining **public funding, private capital, and innovative financial mechanisms**.

Deliverable 2.2.1 shows that **the path to climate neutrality** is built **step by step**, starting from **citizens' perceptions** and **willingness to change**. Understanding how people perceive the transition creates the basis for **engagement** and **participatory processes**,

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enabling citizens, youth and stakeholders to **co-design shared scenarios**. At the same time, the **Financing the Transition activity** helps move ideas emerging from participation and the CO2 PACMAN Tool towards **implementation**. In this sense, perceptions, participation and financing form a single pathway, ensuring that **climate neutrality scenarios** are **shared, realistic** and **grounded in local contexts**.



Introduction

The **transition towards climate neutrality** in Mediterranean islands is a **social** and **cultural process**. Technologies, planning tools and mitigation strategies are essential, but they are not sufficient on their own. During the CO2 PACMAN project, a set of activities has been developed to foster broad **public participation**, **shared responsibility** and a **cultural shift** capable of supporting changes in behaviours, lifestyles, governance practices and local plans.

Within this framework, **WP2** of **CO2 PACMAN**, titled “**Willingness to Change**”, brings together different **participatory activities** aimed at assessing and strengthening **the readiness of local communities to contribute to climate neutrality**. The **on-site survey AskYourCitizenonCaN** collects citizens’ opinions on climate-neutrality pathways, their willingness to adopt behavioural changes, and their perception of opportunities and obstacles. The **Vox Populi interviews** complement this information by giving space to personal stories, local insights and concerns that may not fully emerge from structured questionnaires. The **Youth Think Tank activities** involve students in imagining the island they would like, linking climate neutrality to everyday life, future aspirations and territorial identity. In particular, the AskyourcitizenonCaN survey and the Youth Think Tank activities build on and further develop approaches and tools experimented within the **BLUE DEAL** project, adapting them to the specific focus on climate neutrality that characterises CO2 PACMAN.

At the same time, the transition towards **climate neutrality** requires **concrete implementation conditions**. Shared **scenarios** need to be connected with **financial opportunities** and enabling mechanisms. For this reason, the **Financing the Transition activity** plays a key role in linking **participatory outcomes** and **scenario-building** with the practical question of how climate-neutral solutions can be supported and implemented. This step helps identify **financial barriers**, **possible tools** and **policy supports** needed to move from ideas to action.

WP2 does not treat **perceptions**, **awareness**, **participation** and **financing** as separate dimensions, but as **interconnected steps** of a single pathway. By grounding the transition in the voices, expectations and capacities of local communities, CO2 PACMAN contributes to the development of **climate neutrality strategies** that are **shared**, **realistic** and **rooted** in the specific characteristics of Mediterranean island contexts.



AskyourcitizenonCaN

Methodology

The **AskyourcitizenonCaN survey** was developed to provide project partners with a **common methodology** for **investigating citizens' perceptions** of climate neutrality and their **willingness to contribute** to local **decarbonization pathways**. The survey was implemented in the three CO2 PACMAN pilot islands (Brač, Crete and Elba) to ensure a scientific and rigorous approach across territories.



As shown in Figure 1, the AskyourcitizenonCaN survey process was divided into five key phases:

1. Identification and description of the citizens behaviour

Definition of the research scope, the target population and the pilot areas where the survey was implemented.

2. Design survey

Development of a common questionnaire in English and translation into Croatian, Greek and Italian.

3. Systematic sampling

Selection of households through a structured sampling method aimed at ensuring territorial coverage within each survey area.

4. Fieldwork Interviews

Administration of the questionnaire through interviews with selected respondents in the three pilot islands.

5. Results Elaboration

Organisation, analysis and interpretation of the collected data at island level.

This activity aimed to promote **citizens' cooperation** and **active participation** in co-CO2 PACMAN – Deliverable 2.2 Citizen Survey, Youth Think report, Financing the transition: evaluation report



creation processes, ensuring that local decarbonization initiatives are informed by the perspectives, needs and motivations of the **communities involved**. In line with the broader CO2 PACMAN Toolkit described in **Output 1.1**, AskyourcitizenonCaN contributes to linking participatory processes with the development of **shared climate neutrality scenarios**. For the implementation of the survey, a set of guidelines was prepared and subsequently implemented by the partners responsible for the activity in the three pilot islands of the project. Each identified area had a population between 1,500 and 15,000 inhabitants, corresponding to an entire island, part of an island, a coastal zone or a section of a city. This phase was led by UNISI, which prepared both the implementation guidelines and a set of questions in English, in agreement with the partnership. The questionnaire was then **translated into the local languages** of the pilot areas: Croatian, Greek and Italian. It consisted of **22 items**, including closed-ended questions, multiple-response items, 5-point Likert scale statements and open-ended questions, although the latter are not reported in this document.

The questionnaire was structured into **three sections**. The first section, corresponding to Questions 1–11, collected **general information** about respondents, together with qualitative perspectives and insights. Based on the answer to Question 11, the interview then continued with one of two follow-up sections. Questions 12–19 explored **knowledge** of Climate Neutrality and climate-related issues, as well as the willingness to take action and propose solutions, and were addressed to respondents who selected option d in Question 11. Questions 20–22 investigated the **willingness to support or adopt solutions** aimed at reducing environmental impacts and collected further suggestions from those who selected options a, b or c. At the end of the questionnaire, participants could optionally provide their email address to receive further information about the CO2 PACMAN project.

The **final dataset** included **22 variables**, one for each questionnaire item. The analysis was carried out first at the level of each island and then, where feasible, at aggregate level. Cross-island results were reported only for items that were fully comparable across questionnaire versions. Aggregate analysis was not provided when comparability was affected by differences in wording, response options or administration format, including cases where questions originally designed as single-response items were administered as multiple-response items, specifically Questions 5, 6, 9, 20 and 21.

The AskYourCitizenonCaN survey involved **549 respondents** across the three CO2 PACMAN pilot islands: **207** in **Brač**, **240** in **Crete** and **102** in **Elba**. The questionnaire was distributed face-to-face between **February** and **June 2025**. The lower number of respondents recorded in Elba is partly attributable to the fact that the survey was conducted shortly after an extreme weather event — a heavy storm — which had temporarily displaced part of the island's population. The results were analysed separately for each pilot island in order to present the specific perceptions, attitudes and priorities



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emerging from each territorial context.

In order to **share** the main **results** of the survey, an **online platform**¹ was developed and informative **leaflets** were produced, used for **dissemination** purposes during the project's Living Labs.

¹ The AskyourcitizenonCaN platform is available at: askyourcitizenoncan.unisi.it
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AskYouCitizenonCan – Brač (Croatia)

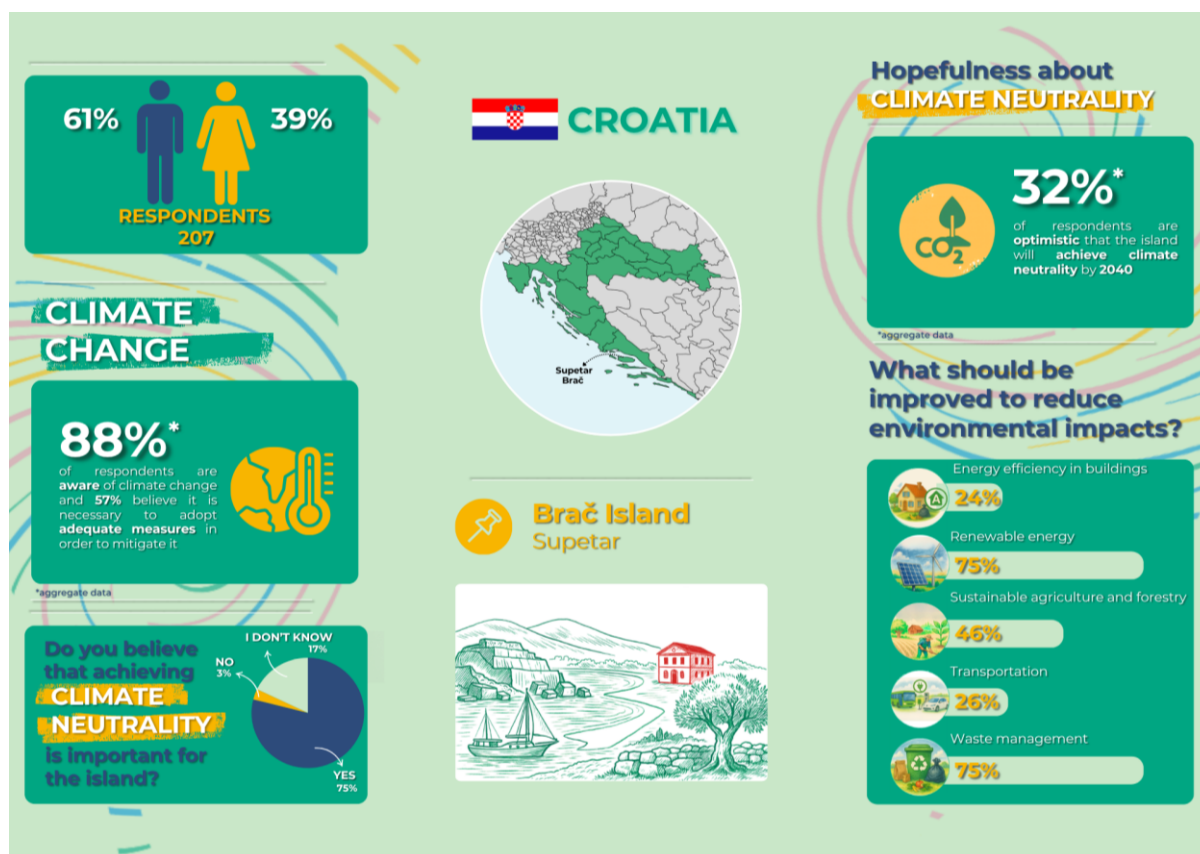


Figure 2. AskYourCitizenOnCan Brač results

In Brač, **207 citizens** answered the survey. Regarding climate change awareness, **88%** of respondents stated that they are **aware of climate-related concerns** and **57%** of them believe that adequate measures are needed to mitigate the problem. This result indicates that climate change is recognised by a substantial share of the local community as an issue requiring concrete action.

When asked whether **achieving climate neutrality** is **important** for the island, **75%** answered “**yes**”. This shows that the objective of climate neutrality is generally perceived as relevant for the local context. Support also emerges in relation to the **2040 climate neutrality target**: **32%** strongly **agree**. As regards **the areas** on which the island should focus to **reduce environmental impacts**, respondents mainly selected **waste management (75%)** and **renewable energy (75%)**. These priorities point to a strong interest in solutions related to recycling, composting and renewable energy deployment. **Sustainable agriculture and forestry** were also mentioned by **46%** of respondents, while **energy efficiency in buildings** and **transportation** were selected by **24%** and **26%**, respectively.



AskYouCitizenonCaN – Crete (Greece)

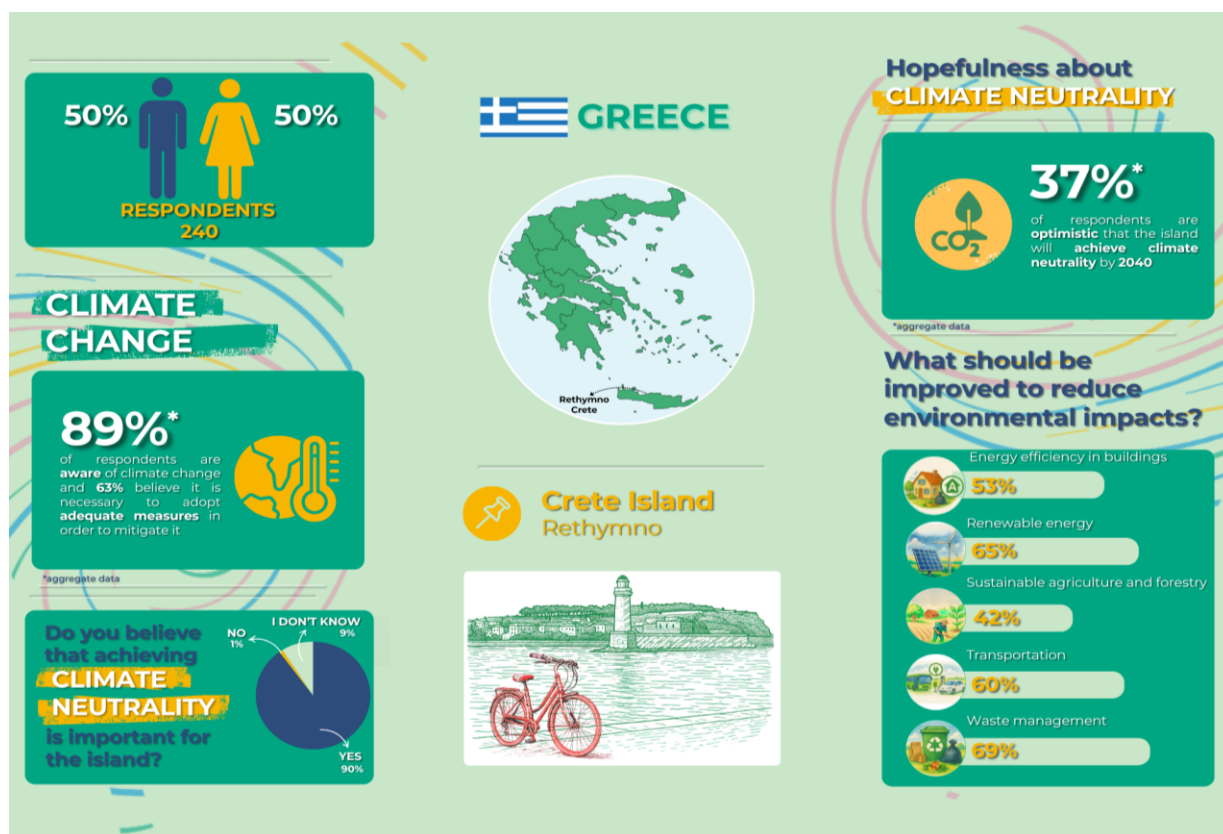


Figure 3. AskYourCitizenOnCan Crete results

In Crete, **240 citizens** participated in the survey. On **climate change awareness**, **89%** of respondents stated that they are aware of climate-related concerns and **63%** of them believe that **adequate measures should be adopted**. This result shows that climate change is perceived as a concrete issue and that mitigation action is considered necessary by a large part of the sample.

The **importance of climate neutrality** for the island is clearly recognised, with **90%** of respondents answering “yes”. This indicates strong support for climate neutrality as a local objective. The **2040 climate neutrality target** also receives broad agreement: **37%** strongly agree. This suggests that the target is generally considered appropriate and desirable.

Regarding the reduction of environmental impacts, respondents identified several priority areas. **Waste management** was selected by **69%**, followed by **renewable energy (65%)** and transportation (**60%**). Other relevant areas include **sustainable agriculture and forestry (42%)** and **energy efficiency in buildings (53%)**. These results suggest that environmental protection and climate crisis mitigation is perceived as requiring action across multiple sectors.



AskYouCitizenonCan – Elba (Italy)

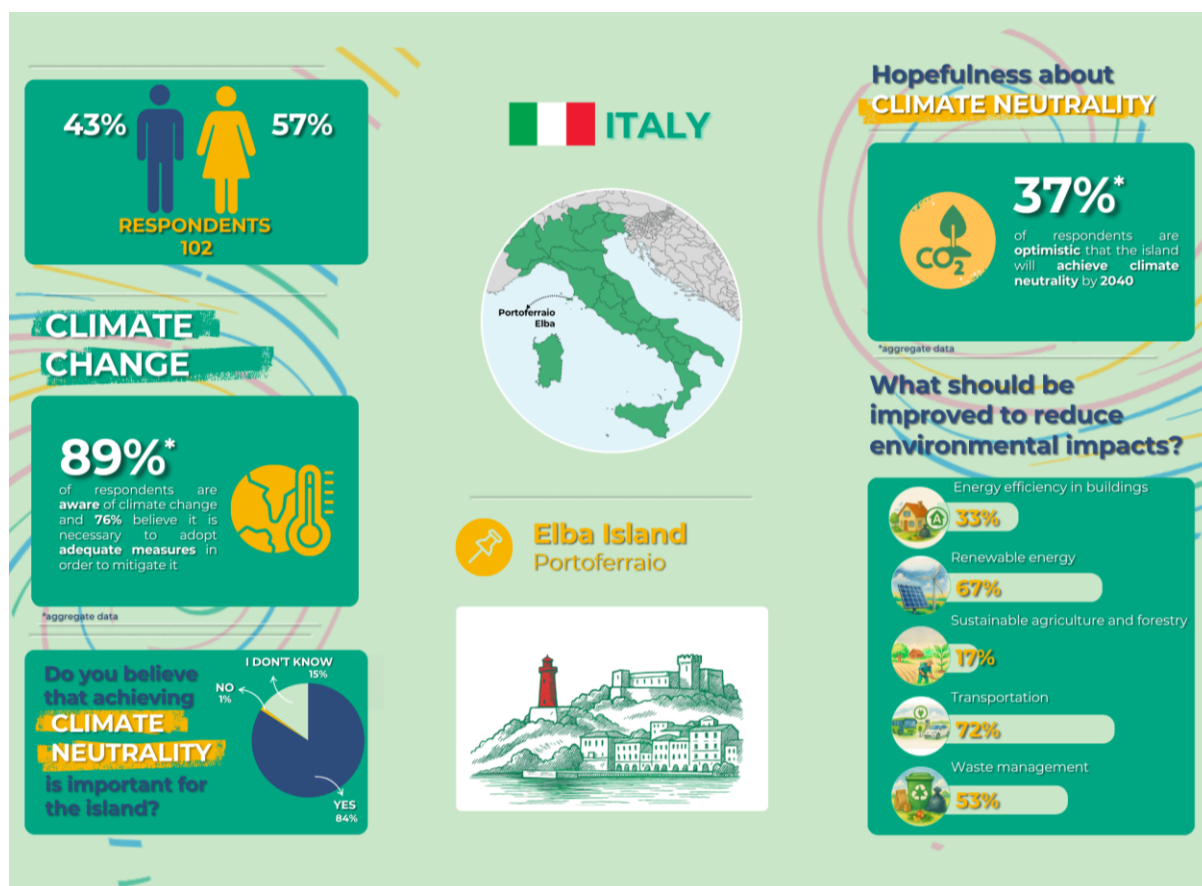


Figure 4. AskYourCitizenOnCan Elba results

In Elba, **102 citizens** answered the survey. On climate change awareness, **89%** of respondents stated that they **are aware of climate-related concerns** and **76%** of them believe that **adequate measures are needed** to mitigate the problem. This result shows a strong recognition of the need for climate action within the local sample.

When asked whether **achieving climate neutrality is important** for the island, **84%** answered “yes”. This confirms that climate neutrality is perceived as an important objective for the territory. Support for the **2040 climate neutrality target** is also significant: **37%** strongly agree by 2030.

As regards the areas on which the island should focus to reduce environmental impacts, respondents mainly selected **transportation (72%)** and **renewable energy (67%)**. **Waste management** was also identified as a relevant priority (**53%**), followed by **energy efficiency in buildings (33%)** and **sustainable agriculture and forestry (17%)**. These results suggest that, for Elba, the transition is mainly associated with mobility, clean energy and the improvement of waste systems, while buildings and land-based activities remain secondary but still relevant areas of intervention.



The survey results provided a structured picture of citizens' opinions on climate-neutrality pathways, their willingness to adopt behavioural changes, and their perception of opportunities and obstacles across the three pilot islands. To complement this information, Vox Populi interviews were conducted during the project's Living Labs, giving space to personal stories, local insights and concerns that may not fully emerge from structured questionnaires.

While the survey was designed to ensure methodological consistency across the three pilot islands, some **limitations should be acknowledged**. Differences in response formats, local implementation conditions, and sample sizes across Brač, Crete, and Elba affected the comparability of selected questionnaire items. In addition, as the survey relied on face-to-face interviews and self-reported responses, findings may reflect potential response bias and should be interpreted with appropriate caution. Nevertheless, the survey provides a robust and valuable overview of citizens' perceptions, priorities, and willingness to engage in climate neutrality pathways across the pilot territories.

The **Vox Populi** activity was designed to directly capture the **perceptions, expectations** and **concerns** of **local citizens** regarding climate change and their island's transition pathway. Unlike the structured format of the survey, the interviews provided a more **spontaneous** and **qualitative insight** into the broader social context within which decarbonisation strategies would need to be implemented, reflecting the understanding that climate neutrality requires not only technical solutions, but also the active engagement, **acceptance** and behavioural contribution of local communities. All interviews are available on the project's **YouTube**² channel.

² The CO2 PACMAN Youtube channel is available at: youtube.com/@CO2PACMAN
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Youth Think Tank

Methodology

The **Youth Think Tank activities** developed within the CO2 PACMAN project are designed as a structured **participatory pathway** to involve **young people** in the discussion and co-design of climate neutrality scenarios for Mediterranean island contexts. In line with the broader approach of the project, the methodology combines **awareness-raising, knowledge transfer, scenario-building** and **co-design**, progressively guiding students from an initial **understanding** of **climate challenges** to the formulation of **concrete decarbonisation proposals**.

The activities are carried out in **schools** located on the **pilot islands** (Brač, Crete and Elba), in order to strengthen the connection between learning processes and the specific environmental, social and economic challenges of each territory.

The pathway is addressed mainly to students across all years of **high school** and to **university students**. **Teachers** and **school managers** are also involved as **key facilitators**, ensuring continuity between educational activities and local engagement processes.

The **activities** took place between **September 2024** and **November 2025**, with students presenting the **outcomes** of their work during the second round of **Living Labs** — the "The Island I Would Like" lab — and at the project's final conference.

The Youth Think Tank pursues three main objectives. First, it aims to develop students' **critical thinking** on climate change, decarbonisation, climate neutrality and landscape scenario. Second, it promotes **peer-to-peer learning** and debate, enabling young participants to explore different perspectives and understand the complexity of local transition pathways. Third, it allows students to **contribute ideas** and **scenarios** that can support the use and refinement of the CO2 PACMAN Tool. Through this process, **young people** are not treated only as recipients of information, but as **active contributors** to the definition of possible futures for their islands.

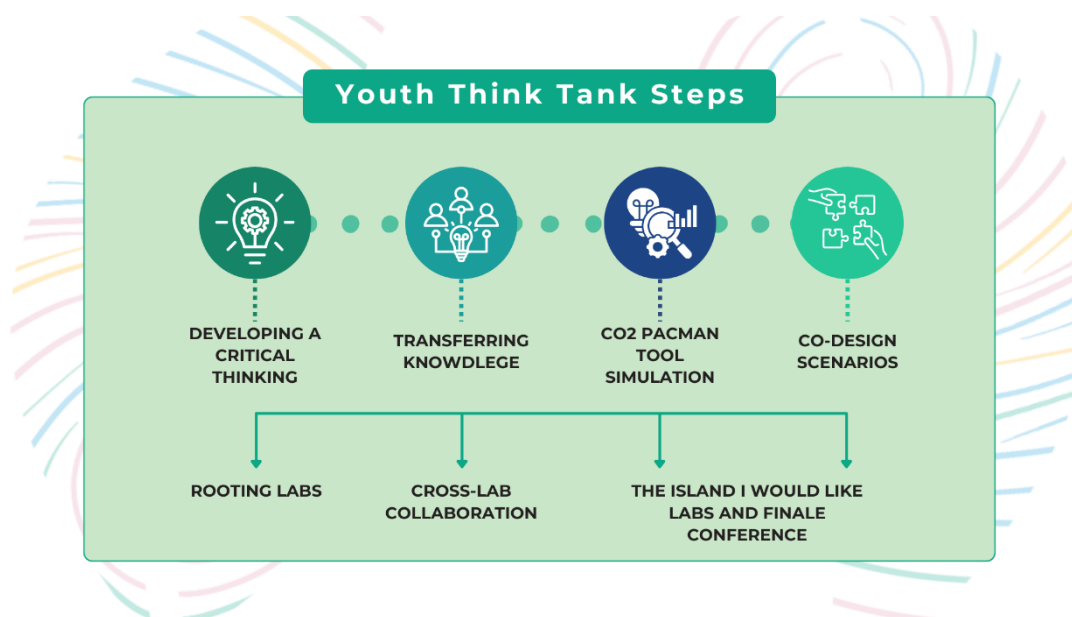


Figure 5. Sequential phases of CO2 PACMAN Youth Think Tank

The Youth Think Tank is organised into sequential phases, as shown in Figure 5.

The first phase, **Developing Critical Thinking**, builds a shared conceptual basis. Introductory workshops address key topics such as greenhouse gas emissions, carbon footprint, ecosystem services, climate neutrality and landscape transformation. Interactive formats, visual materials and guided discussions are prioritised to make complex concepts accessible and to avoid purely frontal teaching approaches. This phase was carried out in parallel with the first round of Living Labs, the Rooting Labs, connecting classroom activities with the broader community engagement process underway in each pilot island.

The second phase, **Transferring Knowledge**, deepens the analytical dimension of the pathway. It may include peer-to-peer exchanges between high school and university students, technical presentations, geospatial analyses and participatory exercises. The objective is to strengthen students' capacity to interpret data, understand territorial specificities and assess the feasibility of different mitigation options.

The third phase introduces the **CO2 PACMAN Tool Simulation**. Through guided exercises, students test different combinations of measures related to mobility, housing, renewable energy, waste management and policy interventions. This phase supports systems thinking and helps students understand how individual measures interact within broader decarbonisation pathways using the CO2 PACMAN Tool.



Both the second and third phases were conducted between Living Lab rounds, providing dedicated time to work alongside students and support them in the development of their projects.

The final phase, **Co-design Scenarios**, invites students to develop their own vision of a climate-neutral island. The ideas emerging from this process were collectively discussed and presented during the second round of Living Labs, the "The Island I Would Like" lab, and at the project's final conference, where student voices became an integral part of the broader project dialogue.

The Youth Think Tank produces both educational and operational outputs. From an educational perspective, it **raises awareness** and strengthens **analytical skills**. From a project perspective, it generates **student-driven ideas** and solutions that can inform the development of island-specific decarbonisation scenarios and support the use of the CO2 PACMAN Tool.

Overall, the Youth Think Tank activity involved approximately **300 students** from **4 high schools** and **4 universities** across the three pilot islands.

All activities are systematically documented in order to ensure transparency, consistency and evaluation. For each event, partners collect key information, including agendas, materials, participant data, communication materials and short summaries of results. Where possible, feedback questionnaires are also gathered.



Youth Think Tank – Brač (Croatia)

The Youth Think Tank pathway on Brač was developed as a progressive process combining awareness-raising, knowledge transfer, tool-based simulation and scenario co-design. Activities involved both high school students and university students, creating an intergenerational exchange between local visions and technical expertise. The pathway helped students move from an initial reflection on climate change and climate neutrality to the formulation of concrete proposals for the island's transition.

Phase 1: Developing a critical thinking

Event: "Rooting Lab in Brač: the Youth Think Tank activity"

Date and place: 19 September 2024, Supetar and Bol

Participants: 54 high school students from Supetar High School and Bol High School

The first phase introduced students to key concepts such as climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, carbon footprint, climate neutrality and the role of landscape in the transition process. Through visual materials, interactive questions and guided discussion, students were invited to **connect global climate dynamics** with **everyday island issues**, including mobility, housing, waste generation and land use.

The activity also included a short questionnaire aimed at capturing students' initial perceptions, familiarity with climate neutrality, perceived solutions for the island and feedback on the experience. The full set of questions and responses is reported in the following table:

Question	Results
<i>How do you feel about the climate crisis?</i>	63% of participants declared feeling worried, while 6% reported feeling anxious. Only 2% described themselves as optimistic.
<i>Were you already familiar with the term "Climate Neutrality"?</i>	55% of students stated that they did not know the term before the workshop, while 30% reported already knowing the concept. 13% of them associated it with an incorrect or ironic interpretation and 2% defined themselves as experts.
<i>When you think of decarbonization... (in just one word)</i>	The most common term is defined with "I don't know". Other terms related to CO₂, carbon, weather, warming, energy .
<i>In your opinion, what are the most relevant solutions?</i>	The most common solutions related to planting trees followed by using public transportation, renewable energy sources, and limiting tourism.



What are the best possible solutions for this island? (on a scale from 1 to 5)	• Changing people's behaviours (4,12); • Renewable energies (2,47); • Planting trees (2,16); • Sustainable mobility (1,14); • Circular economy-based solutions (1,06); • Energy renovation of buildings (0,92)
What do you think of this experience?	57% of participants rated this experience as <i>wonderful</i>, 23% as <i>wonderful</i>, 11% as <i>fantastic</i> and 9% as <i>brilliant</i>.
How do you feel after this experience?	A majority (59%) reported feeling <i>more optimistic</i> than before, while (30%) felt <i>less optimistic</i> and (11%) felt <i>exactly the same</i>.

Phase 2 and 3: Transferring Knowledge and CO2 PACMAN Tool Simulation

Event: "CO2 PACMAN Youth Think Tank"

Date and place: 26 September 2025, Supetar

Participants: 5 university students from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Geodesy, University of Split, and 15 high school students

The second phase strengthened the analytical dimension of the pathway. University students contributed **geospatial** and **landscape analyses** on traffic patterns, light pollution, terrain inclination, woodland coverage and other territorial features. These data helped high school students interpret the **island** not only as a physical space, but as a **complex system** where decarbonisation measures interact with mobility, energy demand, environmental constraints and landscape values.

The **CO2 PACMAN Tool** was then used to test different mitigation options and to observe how choices related to housing, mobility, and policy measures affect the overall emissions balance. The activity supported systems thinking and encouraged students to discuss opportunities, limits and trade-offs among different transition strategies.

The workshop confirmed the importance of **peer-to-peer learning**. University students provided technical inputs and spatial data, while high school students contributed local knowledge, perceptions and reflections on social feasibility.



Phase 4: Co-design Scenarios

Event: “The Island I Would Like”

Date and place: 16 October 2025, Supetar

Participants: 6 university students from the University of Split and 11 high school students

The final phase invited students to translate the knowledge acquired during the previous activities into concrete scenarios for a climate-neutral island. University students developed **GIS analyses** and databases that supported the use of the CO2 PACMAN Tool, including calculations on roof surfaces, burned areas, woodland coverage, population seasonality, traffic, light pollution, protected habitats and coastal conditions.

These inputs informed the work of thematic groups focused on buildings, mobility, waste, water and environment. The proposals included the energy renovation of residential buildings, the installation of solar panels on public roofs, the introduction of electric buses, the partial electrification of ferry transport, the reduction of unsorted waste, the afforestation of burned areas and the use of smart water meters.



Youth Think Tank – Elba (Italy)

The Youth Think Tank pathway on Elba was developed with students from the **ISIS Raffaello Foresi** in Portoferraio. The process moved gradually from awareness-building to participatory learning, from the use of the **CO2 PACMAN Tool** to the co-design of local climate neutrality proposals. Across the different phases, students were encouraged to reflect on emissions, behaviours, landscape, mobility, ecosystem services and the feasibility of transition measures in the island context.

Phase 1: Developing a critical thinking

Event: “The CO2 PACMAN Project Meets the Students of the High School ‘Raffaello Foresi’”

Date and place: 10 December 2024, Portoferraio

Participants: 70 high school students from four classes

The first session introduced students to climate change, decarbonisation, carbon footprint, climate neutrality and the role of landscape in transition processes. The questionnaire administered to Elba students included a dedicated question on the role of landscape in the transition, recognising its particular relevance for the island's territorial identity and decarbonisation pathway. Through interactive presentations and live questionnaires, the activity collected students' perceptions, emotional responses and initial level of knowledge.

The results of the questionnaire are shown in the table below:

Question	Results
<i>How do you feel about the climate crisis?</i>	51% of participants declared feeling worried, while 24% reported feeling anxious. A further 24% stated that the topic does not interest them, and only 2% described themselves as optimistic.
<i>Were you already familiar with the term “Climate Neutrality”?</i>	58% of students stated that they did not know the term before the workshop, while 35% associated it with an incorrect or ironic interpretation. Only 5% reported already knowing the concept, and 2% defined themselves as experts.
<i>When you think of decarbonization... (in just one word)</i>	The most recurrent terms referred to CO₂, emissions, pollution, carbon and plants.
<i>In your opinion, what are the most relevant solutions?</i>	The most recurrent solutions referred to solar photovoltaics and wind energy followed by tree planting, sustainable mobility and behavioural change.
<i>What are the best possible solutions</i>	Renewable energies (3.52);

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for this island? (on a scale from 1 to 5)	• Changing people's behaviours (3.31); • Sustainable mobility (2.17); • Planting trees (1.93); • Improving energy efficiency in buildings (1.33); • Circular economy-based solutions (1.12).
What role do you think the landscape plays in this transition process?	65% of participants considered the landscape <i>important</i> and stressed the need to protect it from degradation, while 24% described it as <i>decisive</i> , recognising its potential to actively suggest appropriate transition pathways. Only 10% viewed the landscape as merely a background element, and 2% considered its role marginal.
How do you feel after this experience?	A majority (58%) reported feeling <i>more optimistic</i> than before, while 38% felt <i>exactly the same</i> , and only 4% felt <i>less optimistic</i> .

Phase 2: Transferring Knowledge

Event: "Young ideas for a zero-emissions future on Elba Island"

Date and place: 11 March 2025, Portoferraio

Participants: 47 high school students from three classes

The second phase focused on **willingness to change** and on the collective dimension of the transition. The session adopted a **game-based learning approach** through two activities: the **Fish Game**, a participatory simulation exploring the balance between human consumption and the planet's capacity to regenerate, reflecting on biophysical limits, cooperation and intergenerational equity; and the **COOL Game**, a board game specifically designed for the CO2 PACMAN Youth Think Tank activities, which invited students to navigate an island-themed scenario making personal and systemic choices to reduce CO₂ emissions and build a carbon-neutral future.

The activities helped translate abstract sustainability concepts into practical experiences. More than 72% of students stated that the workshop increased their awareness of sustainability, particularly in relation to resource management and ecosystem preservation. 73% expressed interest in taking part in similar activities in the future. The feedback also provided useful suggestions for improving the COOL Game, especially in terms of clarity, balance and structure.

As in the previous session, an interactive questionnaire was administered at the end of the activities to capture students' perceptions and learning outcomes. The complete set of questionnaire responses is presented in the following table, providing a detailed overview



of students' answers.

Question	Results
<i>Which of the activities did you find most engaging and effective?</i>	91% found the Fish Game to be the most engaging and effective activity, while the COOL Game was preferred by 9% .
<i>What did you learn during today's activities?</i> <i>Write at least one new thing you've discovered or a concept that has struck you.</i>	The majority of students (over 72%) stated that the experience raised their awareness of sustainability, particularly in relation to resource management and ecosystem preservation .
<i>How much do you think today's activities have raised awareness about sustainability?</i>	Although only 9% reported a very strong impact , most (73%) felt moderately sensitized .
<i>Would you like to participate in similar activities in the future?</i>	A total of 73% would be interested in taking part in similar activities in the future, while about 27% showed less interest .
<i>Were the COOL GAME questions easy to read?</i>	Over half (54%) found the questions in the COOL Game easy to understand , although 64% suggested improvements , mainly related to game balance, language clarity, and event structure.
<i>Have you participated in the previous CO2 PACMAN session held in December?</i> <i>If so, how much did it help you to better understand the March activities?</i>	All respondents had attended the previous CO2 PACMAN session in December, and 80% felt it helped (moderately or highly) to better understand the March activities.

This phase strengthened the transition from awareness to practical experimentation, preparing students for the subsequent use of the CO2 PACMAN Tool.

Phase 3: CO2 PACMAN Tool Simulation

Event: "A workshop to co-create decarbonisation scenarios with the CO2 PACMAN Tool and become protagonists of Climate Neutrality"

Date and place: 12 November 2025, Portoferraio

Participants: 56 high school students from three classes



The third phase introduced students to **scenario-building** through the **CO2 PACMAN Tool**. The workshop opened with an updated overview of Elba's greenhouse gas balance, including sectoral emissions and the island's natural CO₂ absorption capacity. The discussion also addressed seasonality as a key factor affecting mobility, waste production and energy demand.

Students worked in six groups and tested different mitigation measures, assessing their effects on the island's emissions balance. Transport emerged as a central issue, together with the need to strengthen public transport and reduce dependence on private cars. Renewable energy, especially solar photovoltaics and wind power, was considered important, although students also reflected on landscape impacts and tourism compatibility. Forest expansion, carbon sequestration and maritime transport were also discussed as relevant but complex fields of intervention.

The session confirmed the usefulness of the CO2 PACMAN Tool in supporting data-based discussion, negotiation and collective decision-making. Due to national regulations prohibiting the use of mobile phones during school hours, the planned Slido questionnaire could not be administered.

Beyond the pilot islands, the CO2 PACMAN Tool and the Youth Think Tank methodology were also tested with additional schools and universities in the Tuscany Region, providing a broader basis for collecting feedback on both the tool's usability and the overall engagement process. This allowed the project to gather valuable insights and suggestions for further refinement, representing in itself a relevant outcome of the participatory pathway developed within WP2.

Phase 4: Co-design Scenarios

Event: "The Island I Would Like"

Date and place: 24 March 2026, Portoferraio, De Laugier Center

Participants: 41 high school students from two classes

The final phase invited students to transform previous learning into **project proposals**. Three main ideas were developed. **THALASSAEA** healthier sea focused on reducing emissions from maritime transport through alternative ferry solutions, including electrification. **FOUR B-System** proposed a modular carbon capture system for port areas, based on active carbon filters installed under piers. **PENELOPE** addressed the restoration and sustainable management of *Posidonia oceanica* meadows, combining coastal protection, CO₂ sequestration and circular economy approaches.



Youth Think Tank – Crete (Greece)

The Youth Think Tank pathway in Crete was developed as a **long-term, multi-level engagement** process, conceived and led by the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Systems Laboratory of the Technical University of Crete (**ReSEL-TUC**). The pathway progressively involved **students** from **different educational levels** — including junior high school, high school and university — as well as teachers, school directors and **local education authorities**, exploring climate neutrality pathways for the island through a combination of digital **tools, immersive technologies** and **participatory approaches**.

Phase 1: Developing a critical thinking

Events and Dates:

- "Co-designing for a Carbon Neutral Future with School Communities" — 10 October 2024, Municipal Council Hall, Rethymno
- Open-air Participatory Lab with Citizens and Youth — 10 October 2024, Four Martyrs Square, Rethymno
- "TUC Youth Think Tank Teams Up for the Decarbonisation of Crete" — 13–19 May 2025, Technical University of Crete, Chania
- CO2 PACMAN YTT Decision Making Workshop — 17 December 2025, Municipal Council Hall, Rethymno

Participants: approximately 60 students from the Experimental Schools of Rethymno, around 30 university students from the TUC Environmental Engineering department, several teachers and directors from junior and senior high schools, representatives of the Secondary Education Directorate and of the Municipality of Rethymno, as well as a large number of citizens, younger pupils and local stakeholders who took part in the public events.

The first phase aimed at introducing the CO2 PACMAN project and **climate neutrality concepts**, stimulating **critical thinking** and creating the conditions for active youth participation. On 10 October 2024, two complementary activities were held in Rethymno as part of the CO2 PACMAN Rooting Lab: an **indoor workshop** bringing together students, teachers and project partners, where **key concepts** around carbon footprint, greenhouse gas emissions and decarbonisation were presented and discussed; and an **open-air participatory laboratory** in the city centre moderated by university students, which transformed a public space into a platform for climate dialogue involving younger citizens and the broader community through **interactive stations**, eco-footprint mapping and SWOT analysis exercises. The session also featured a **VR simulation** and an interactive game developed by the GEO partner, offering an immersive visualization of renewable energy technologies and landscape interventions. In addition, students from the same



school presented "**Aurora Borealis**", a digital **3D game** with storytelling, designed to raise awareness of environmental issues. In May 2025, university students engaged in a week-long **collaborative design exercise** using the **COMPOSE planning methodology** to develop **proposals** for a climate-neutral Crete across key sectors including energy, transport, waste and tourism. Finally, in December 2025, a dedicated workshop with school directors, teachers and municipal education authorities secured institutional endorsement for the **integration** of the Youth Think Tank into **formal educational processes**, establishing the governance conditions for the subsequent co-design phases.

Phases 2 and 3: Transferring Knowledge and CO2 PACMAN Tool Simulation

Between the introductory phase and the final co-design activities, students engaged in a series of intermediate activities aimed at deepening their understanding of **climate neutrality** concepts and building the **analytical skills** needed to develop concrete transition proposals.

The **knowledge transfer** activities focused on strengthening students' capacity to interpret **territorial data**, understand the specific environmental and socioeconomic characteristics of Crete, and assess the feasibility of different **decarbonisation options**. Through peer-to-peer exchanges, technical presentations and participatory exercises, students explored key **greenhouse gas-emitting sectors** including energy, transport, tourism, waste and water management, connecting global climate challenges with local realities. University students additionally worked with acknowledged energy and climate planning models, including the **Sustainable Energy Planning Toolbox** developed by TUC-ReSEL, which enabled them to explore the technical and governance dimensions of climate-neutrality transitions.

The **scenario simulation** activities introduced students to the **CO2 PACMAN Tool**, through which they tested different combinations of **decarbonisation measures** and explored their effects on Crete's emissions balance. Working in groups, students examined the role of **natural carbon sinks**, assessed the potential of **renewable energy** deployment, **sustainable mobility**, **circular economy** practices and **nature-based interventions**, and discussed the specific pressures of tourism on the island's energy, water and waste systems. These activities supported the development of **systems thinking** and **evidence-based decision-making**, preparing students to move from analytical reflection to the co-design of locally grounded climate-neutrality proposals.



Phase 4: Co-design Scenarios

Events and Dates:

- "The Crete I Would Like" and Climate Neutrality Ambassadors Award Ceremony 28–30 April 2026, House of Culture, Rethymno

Participants: approximately **80 students** across junior **high school**, senior high school and **university** level, several **teachers**, and several community members, local and regional stakeholders, policy actors and citizens attending the public events.

The final phase invited students to transform the knowledge and tools explored in previous phases into **concrete climate-neutrality proposals**. Through structured coaching sessions and group-based scenario development, students worked with real data, explored sectoral challenges and developed transition proposals for Rethymno and Crete. **Junior high school** students focused on **identifying local environmental challenges** and developing initial sustainability ideas, while **senior high school** students adopted a more **evidence-based approach** incorporating surveys, local observations and basic carbon footprint assessments. **University** students applied the **COMPOSE methodology combined** with the **CO2 PACMAN Tool** and **landscape scenarios** to develop advanced, cross-sectoral transition pathways. The process resulted in a diverse range of outputs including posters, physical models, videos, short films, podcasts and technical scenarios. Student proposals and outputs were then **presented** to the **public** during the "**The Island I Would Like**" Living Lab in Rethymno, where local authorities, stakeholders and citizens engaged in open dialogue on climate-neutrality pathways for Crete. The phase concluded with an **award ceremony** during which more than 80 students were **officially recognised as Climate Neutrality Ambassadors**, marking the establishment of a **network committed** to promoting climate action within their schools and local communities.



Overall, the Youth Think Tank demonstrated strong potential as a **participatory methodology for engaging young people** in climate neutrality discussions and scenario development across the three pilot islands. The activities showed that interactive, place-based, and collaborative learning approaches were particularly effective in increasing awareness, strengthening systems thinking, and encouraging active participation.

Across all pilot territories, students showed high levels of engagement with key topics such as renewable energy, sustainable mobility, waste management, and ecosystem protection. The results also highlighted the value of combining technical tools, participatory exercises, and peer-to-peer learning in supporting the development of locally relevant and innovative transition proposals. Overall, the Youth Think Tank confirmed that youth engagement can play an important role in strengthening long-term climate neutrality planning and local transition processes.



Financing the transition

Methodology

The **Financing the Transition activity** is part of the **CO2 PACMAN Toolkit** and is positioned within the broader phase dedicated to **Scenario Development**. Its role is to connect the participatory and creative outputs of the project with the **financial conditions** required for implementation. While activities such as The Island I Would Like Labs, the Youth Think Tank, the CO2 PACMAN Tool and the Open Innovation Collaborative Action contribute to the definition of shared climate-neutrality scenarios, the financing activity helps translate these scenarios into actionable and economically viable pathways.

The activity addresses a key question of the transition process: how can **local visions, technical solutions** and **co-designed scenarios** be **supported** by appropriate **financial instruments**? To answer this, the module provides local authorities, SMEs, citizens and project partners with a structured overview of European, national and innovative funding opportunities. It supports stakeholders in identifying suitable mechanisms, including grants, loans, guarantees, equity instruments and blended finance models.

For Mediterranean islands such as Brač, Elba and Crete, the transition to climate neutrality requires not only technological innovation and social engagement, but also **targeted investment strategies**. Islands often face higher implementation costs due to geographical isolation, small-scale markets, seasonal demand, limited grid capacity and strong dependence on external supply chains. For this reason, financing strategies need to be adapted to **local conditions** and aligned with wider **European policy frameworks**, including the European Green Deal, NextGenerationEU and national recovery plans.

The activity focuses on three key sectors emerging from the CO2 PACMAN approach: **energy**, with particular attention to renewable energy, storage and energy communities; **transport**, including sustainable mobility and low-carbon infrastructure; and **waste**, with a focus on circular economy and resource management. By matching proposed solutions with appropriate financial mechanisms, the Financing the Transition activity helps ensure that climate-neutrality scenarios are not only technically sound and socially shared, but also economically feasible.

The "Financing the Transition" is structured into four distinct phases to ensure that stakeholders do not just receive information passively but gain the practical skills needed



to secure funding. These phases are illustrated in Figure 7.

1. Preparation

Mapping of European, national, regional and innovative funding opportunities, adapted to the specific context and needs of each pilot island.

2. Presentation and discussion

Interactive session to introduce the main funding instruments and discuss practical constraints, such as eligibility rules, administrative capacity and territorial specificities.

3. Workshop and practical application

Hands-on work on concrete project ideas, matching proposed solutions with suitable funding opportunities and financial instruments.

4. Follow-up and consolidation

Sharing of selected resources, links and guidance notes to support further development of project ideas and future funding applications.

The **Financing the Transition activity** connects the different components of the **Scenario Development** phase:

- It supports the ideas emerging from **The Island I Would Like Labs** and the **Youth Think Tank** by assessing their financial feasibility.
- It links the **Open Innovation Collaborative Action** with suitable funding opportunities for technological solutions.
- It helps operationalise the scenarios developed through the **CO2 PACMAN Tool**, identifying possible grants, loans, equity or blended finance mechanisms.
- It connects with **Landscape Analysis** and **Virtual Reality** activities by highlighting funding opportunities for nature-based solutions and landscape-sensitive infrastructure.



General overview of the EU financial ecosystem

To achieve the objectives of the **European Green Deal**, the European Commission has committed to mobilising at least €1 trillion in sustainable investments over the next decade through the **Sustainable Europe Investment Plan**. In this framework, 30% of the EU multiannual budget and **NextGenerationEU** has been allocated to green investments. In addition, Member States are required to dedicate at least 37% of the resources received under the **Recovery and Resilience Facility** to investments and reforms supporting climate objectives, in line with the “do no significant harm” principle.³

EU climate spending is also intended to mobilise additional private investment. The **European Investment Bank** plays a key role in this process, particularly through loans, guarantees and financial instruments that reduce investment risks. The **Just Transition Mechanism** further supports public investments in territories most affected by the transition, helping ensure that the shift towards climate neutrality is both environmentally effective and socially fair.

Within this framework, the European Union provides diversified financial instruments (e.g. grant, loans, guarantees, equity and subsidies).

This financial ecosystem provides the basis for identifying suitable funding opportunities for the CO2 PACMAN pilot islands, combining EU programmes, national instruments and innovative finance mechanisms according to the scale, maturity and risk profile of each proposed solution.

Financing challenges for Mediterranean islands

Mediterranean islands face **specific barriers** that influence the bankability and implementation of climate-neutrality projects. Their **geographical isolation** often increases the cost of infrastructure, logistics and maintenance. Energy systems may be small, fragile and highly dependent on **imported fossil fuels**, making the transition to renewable energy more complex because of the need for storage, grid adaptation and demand management.

Seasonality is another relevant factor. Tourism creates strong **fluctuations** in energy, water, waste and mobility demand, requiring infrastructure able to respond to **summer peaks** while remaining underused during the rest of the year. This can reduce the attractiveness of investments and make returns more uncertain.

³ European Commission. (2020). Finance and the Green Deal. https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/finance-and-green-deal_en

CO2 PACMAN – Deliverable 2.2 Citizen Survey, Youth Think report, Financing the transition: evaluation report



Regulatory and **territorial constraints** also play an important role. National frameworks are often designed for mainland systems and may not fully account for the additional **costs** and **vulnerabilities** of **islands**. At the same time, competition for land, landscape protection, biodiversity conservation and the economic value of coastal areas can limit the feasibility of large-scale renewable energy or infrastructure projects.

For these reasons, financing climate neutrality in islands requires a **multi-layered approach**. For each of the decarbonisation scenarios identified through the CO2 PACMAN Toolkit, a set of possible financing instruments has been explored and suggested as potential support pathways.

The **CO2 PACMAN Toolkit** was applied in each of the three pilot islands through a set of complementary activities oriented towards the research and development of territorially tailored decarbonisation scenarios. Among these, **three activities** were particularly relevant for the purposes of this financing section: the **CO2 PACMAN Tool**, which enabled stakeholders to analyse and compare alternative policy combinations and estimate their effects on GHG emissions; the **landscape scenario development**, which translated mitigation priorities into spatial configurations, exploring how technological and policy interventions would interact with territorial characteristics and land-use patterns; and the **Open Innovation Cooperative Actions**, which connected local challengers and solvers, including SMEs, to explore concrete technological and business responses. The financing section of this document builds on those scenarios, offering examples and suggestions, not prescriptive proposals, of instruments and mechanisms that could potentially support their implementation.

Public funds can reduce risk and support early-stage development, while private capital can contribute to implementation when projects become sufficiently mature and bankable. The ability to combine different instruments is therefore central to transforming climate-neutrality scenarios into concrete actions.

Islands such as Brač, Elba and Crete face an “Island Premium”, due to higher logistics costs, small-scale inefficiencies and seasonal demand. For this reason, a single grant or loan is rarely sufficient to cover an entire transition project.

A more effective approach is to strategically **combine** different **funding sources**, using each instrument to address a specific phase, need or risk. In this perspective, financing is a pathway through different EU, national and regional mechanisms. Dividing complex projects into manageable steps can help local communities identify the most appropriate support for each stage of implementation.



For the pilot islands, the funding architecture can be organised into three levels:

- **Infrastructure Tier**, supported by national recovery funds such as RRF, PNRR or ESPA, for physical assets such as renewable energy plants, waste facilities and sustainable transport infrastructure.
- **Innovation Tier**, supported by Horizon Europe and Digital Europe, for digital tools, smart sensors, data platforms and innovative solutions.
- **Collaborative Tier**, supported by Interreg and LIFE, for cooperation, pilot actions, knowledge exchange and transferability across territories.

Innovative instruments can further help reduce the bankability gap of island projects. These include blended finance debt platforms, blue and nature-based bonds, and community crowdfunding or Living Lab models, which can involve citizens, local businesses and tourists in shared transition projects.

The framework of the funding instruments has been presented during the living lab to the participants and stakeholders involved. The discussion was further enriched by the contribution of external experts in public and private financing, who provided insights into the European funding landscape and potential instruments applicable to island contexts. Among them, Angela Pispola (Partner, Accounting and Financial Advisory Services, Ernst & Young S.p.A.) and Constantina Kottaridi (Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Piraeus) offered their perspectives on financing mechanisms and investment strategies relevant to the climate neutrality transition.

The following section presents, for each of the three pilot islands, a selection of representative scenarios drawn from the Toolkit activities, accompanied by suggested financing instruments and mechanisms that could potentially support their implementation.



Financing the Transition – Brač (Croatia)

For Brač, the financing strategy should support the integration of renewable energy, green mobility and smart resource management. The proposed solutions require a combination of EU funding instruments, national decarbonisation funds, innovation instruments and community-based mechanisms.

Proposed solutions	Example of funding resources
<i>OPEN INNOVATION COLLABORATIVE ACTION</i>	
Smart waste routing	- Interreg Italy-Croatia - Life + Circular economy and quality of life sub-programme - Integrated Territorial Programme 2021-2027 (ITP)
Fibre-optic water leak detection	- LIFE + Circular economy and quality of life sub-programme - Horizon Europe EIT Water (Innovation Focus)
E-FAST Initiative: Integrated EV Fire Response for Enhanced Safety and Sustainability	- Horizon Europe Cluster 5: Climate, Energy, and Mobility - LIFE + Clean Energy Transition
<i>LANDSCAPE SCENARIOS</i>	
Agrivoltaic pergolas	- LIFE + Clean Energy Transition - Interreg Italy-Croatia - Integrated Territorial Programme 2021-2027 (ITP)
On-shore wind turbines	- Modernisation Fund-Croatia - LIFE + Clean Energy Transition - CEF Energy (Connecting Europe Facility)
<i>CO2 PACMAN TOOL</i>	
Field-mounted photovoltaic systems	- Integrated Territorial Programme 2021-2027 (ITP) - Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (FZOEU) - Renewable Energy Programme 2026–2030



<i>E-bike sharing and green mobility solutions</i>	- Interreg Italy-Croatia (Objective 3. A more connected Europe by enhancing mobility) - Interreg EURO Mediterranean (EURO MED) Promoting green living areas and Enhancing sustainable tourism missions
<i>Carpooling</i>	- LIFE + Clean Energy Transition - Interreg Italy-Croatia (Objective 3. A more connected Europe by enhancing mobility)



Financing the Transition – Crete (Greece)

For Crete, the financing strategy is oriented towards circular economy, waste valorisation, smart mobility and digital solutions. The proposed actions can be supported through Greek national and regional funds, EU innovation programmes and blended finance instruments for larger infrastructure projects.

Proposed solutions	Example of funding resources
<i>OPEN INNOVATION COLLABORATIVE ACTION</i>	
General environmental and climate-neutrality solutions	- ESPA / NSRF 2021-2027 Regional Programme for Crete (ERDF, ESF+) - Policy Objective 2 (greener, low-carbon transition) - Crete 2021-2027 ROP - National sectoral programme "Environment and Climate Change"
Circular Peat and organic waste valorisation	- EAFRD under 2023-2027 CAP Strategic Plan (up to 80% eligible costs) - LEADER programme (Local Action Groups, Crete) - Horizon Europe Cluster 6 (Food, Bioeconomy) - Green Fund - LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
Effiwaste and circular economy initiatives	- Crete 2021-2027 Regional OP – Policy Objective 2 (ERDF) - LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme (60% for demo sites) - Recovery and Resilience Plan ("Greece 2.0") – non-repayable grants 40-50% - Interreg Euro-MED, Greener MED priority - EIB preferential loans via Hellenic Development Bank
<i>LANDSCAPE SCENARIOS</i>	
Floating photovoltaic systems Off shore wind parks	- ERDF Sustainable Energy Priority Axis – Crete 2021-2027 ROP - EAFRD agri-environment-climate payments (up to 40% sustained costs) - Electricity tariff maintenance (<€1.20/kWh for farmers/energy communities) - Horizon Europe Cluster 5 - Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Energy)



<i>Photovoltaic pergolas on port and agriculture area</i>	- ERDF Sustainable Energy Priority Axis – Crete 2021-2027 ROP - EU Solar Rooftop Initiative (REPowerEU) - EAFRD agri-environment-climate payments (up to 40% sustained costs) - Electricity tariff maintenance (<€1.20/kWh for farmers/energy communities) - Horizon Europe Cluster 5 - Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Energy)
<i>Agrivoltaics – inner agricultural territories</i>	- EAFRD Pillar II investments (CAP Strategic Plan) - Young farmer support (CAP) - National ESPA 2021–2027 sectoral programmes (competitiveness, environment) - Greek dedicated agrivoltaics call – RRF (non-repayable grants up to 40%) - Hellenic Development Bank credit (guaranteed access for young farmers' cooperatives)
<i>CO2 PACMAN TOOL</i>	
<i>New trees plantation</i>	- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity sub programme
<i>Trucks electrification</i>	- Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) - Regional Programme Crete 2021-2027
<i>Blue energy systems</i>	- Horizon Europe EU Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters - Blue Invest Fund - EMFAF (climate mainstreaming, coastal communities) - Crete regional programme 2021–2027 - Just Transition Fund (national programme "Green Technologies and Skills")



Financing the Transition – Elba (Italy)

For Elba, the financial mapping connects climate neutrality with the green and blue economy. The proposed solutions focus on renewable energy, circular tourism, agro-ecological innovation and marine ecosystem protection, with potential support from Italian national funds, rural development instruments and Mediterranean cooperation programmes.

Elba's financial overview is characterized by a strong connection to the Tuscany Region and the Italy-France Maritime cooperation, focusing on the synergy between the "Blue" and "Green" economies.

Proposed solutions	Example of funding programme
<i>OPEN INNOVATION COLLABORATIVE ACTION</i>	
Agro-ecological improves for nutrient and water retention in semi-arid viticulture	- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) - AGRIP programme
Digital Platform for Sustainable and Low-Carbon Event Management	- MIMIT - Piano nazionale Transizione 4.0
GreenShift Elba and circular tourism initiatives	- Supporting Sustainable Competitiveness in Tourism (SMP-COSME) - PowerUp NetZero - Fesr 2021-2027 regional programme - ETS2 Buildings, road transport and additional sectors
<i>LANDSCAPE SCENARIOS</i>	
Offshore wind plant	- Transition 5.0 - Conto Termico 3.0 - Innovation Fund Large-Scale Decarbonization - Connecting Europe Facility CEF Energy
Ground-mounted photovoltaic systems	- Transition 5.0 - LIFE + LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme - Renewable Energy Communities (CER) - Regional Funding: Tuscany (POR FESR 2021-2027)



<i>Agrivoltaic pergolas</i>	- Transition 5.0 - LIFE + LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme - Conto Termico 3.0
CO2 PACMAN TOOL	
<i>Blue energy systems</i>	- Transition 5.0 - Horizon Europe Mission oceans and waves - Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) - Conto Termico 3.0
<i>On-shore microwind turbines</i>	- Transition 5.0 - European Regional Development Funds (FESR) (PR FESR Toscana) - Conto Termico 3.0
<i>Ground-mounted photovoltaic systems</i>	- Transition 5.0 - LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme - Regional Funding: Tuscany (POR FESR 2021-2027)

Overall, the Financing the Transition activity demonstrated that financial feasibility remains one of the most critical challenges in translating climate neutrality scenarios into implementable actions across the three pilot islands. While a wide range of European, national, and regional funding opportunities exists, access to these instruments remains constrained by administrative complexity, co-financing requirements, limited local capacity, and the specific structural challenges of island territories.

The analysis confirms that **renewable energy, sustainable mobility, and circular resource management** represent the most promising investment areas across Brač, Crete, and Elba. At the same time, the findings highlight that no single funding instrument is sufficient to support complex decarbonisation pathways. Successful implementation will therefore require a multi-layered financing approach combining grants, public funding, private investment, and innovative financial mechanisms. This confirms that financing should be understood not as a single step, but as **a strategic and continuous process within climate neutrality planning**.



Conclusions and Strategic Outlook

Deliverable 2.2.1 demonstrates that the transition towards climate neutrality in Mediterranean islands is a **multi-dimensional process** that cannot be reduced to technical solutions alone. The three components presented in this report, the **AskyourcitizenonCaN survey**, the **Youth Think Tank activities**, and the **Financing the Transition activity**, represent interconnected steps of a single **participatory pathway**, designed to move progressively from understanding to action.

The **survey** results from Brač, Crete and Elba reveal a broadly shared **awareness** of climate change and a general **recognition** of the **importance** of **climate neutrality** across the three islands. At the same time, the data confirm a persistent **gap** between **awareness** and **active participation**, suggesting that engagement strategies need to go beyond information provision and create concrete opportunities for citizens to contribute to the transition. The priorities identified by respondents, renewable energy, waste management and sustainable mobility, provide a shared basis for locally adapted decarbonisation strategies.

The **Youth Think Tank** activities confirmed that young people are capable of moving from initial awareness to the formulation of **concrete** and **creative proposals** when supported by appropriate methodological frameworks. Across the three islands, students engaged with real territorial data, used the **CO2 PACMAN Tool** to test different scenarios, and developed proposals ranging from maritime transport electrification and port carbon capture systems to marine ecosystem restoration. The diversity of approaches adopted in the three pilot islands also demonstrated the **adaptability** of the Youth Think Tank **methodology** to different local contexts and educational systems.

The **Financing the Transition** activity confirmed that the path from shared vision to **concrete implementation** requires dedicated attention to **financial feasibility**. **Mediterranean** islands face specific **barriers**, geographical isolation, seasonality, small-scale markets and regulatory constraints, that make a multi-layered funding approach necessary. The scenarios developed through the **CO2 PACMAN Toolkit** were matched with suggested financing instruments across EU, national and regional levels, providing local stakeholders with orientative references rather than prescriptive solutions.

Taken together, the three components of this deliverable show that climate neutrality **strategies** are more **robust** when they are **grounded** in the voices and **expectations** of **local communities**, informed by the creativity and vision of younger generations, and connected to realistic financial pathways. The CO2 PACMAN project has contributed to building this integrated approach in three distinct Mediterranean island contexts, CO2 PACMAN – Deliverable 2.2 Citizen Survey, Youth Think report, Financing the transition: evaluation report



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generating **transferable methodologies, replicable tools** and **locally rooted proposals** that can support the broader transition agenda in similar territories across the Mediterranean region.



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Annex AskyourcitizenonCaN

Following the complete report of the results of the AskyourcitizenonCaN questionnaire.

The questionnaire was conducted in three Mediterranean Island sites:

- Supetar, Brač Island (Croatia),
- Rethymno, Crete Island (Greece),
- Portoferraio, Elba Island (Italy).

The final total sample size achieved was 549 interviews, divided among each site as follow:

Site	Achieved sample size (n)
Brač Island	207
Elba Island	102
Crete Island	240

Regarding the data elaboration in problematic cases, labels and categories were harmonised, but aggregation was not undertaken in the absence of substantive equivalence. Multiple-response items are explicitly flagged; for these items, percentages are computed over the number of respondents to the specific item and category totals may exceed 100%. Results for multiple-response questions are presented primarily using horizontal bar charts.

Below is the analysis of the questionnaire responses.

Question 1: Gender

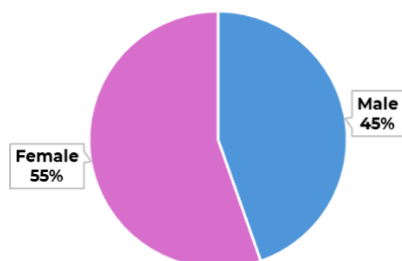
At the aggregate level, 44.63% of the respondents were males and 55.37% were females. At the island level, there was an equal proportion of male and female respondents on Crete Island, whereas the other sites are characterized by a prevalence of female respondents.

Table and Figures 1. Distribution of respondents by gender

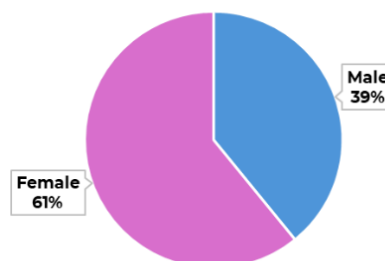
Gender	Aggregate Level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
Male	44.63%	39.13%	50.00%	43.14%
Female	55.37%	60.87%	50.00%	56.86%



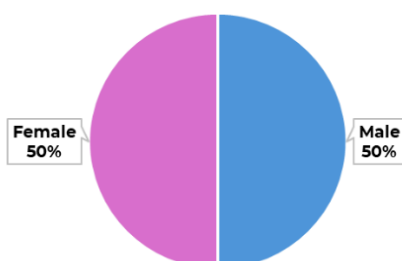
Aggregate Level



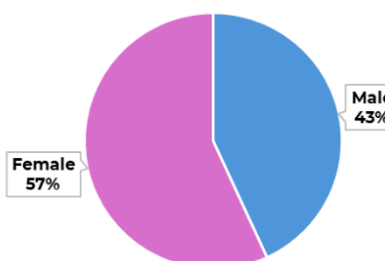
Brač Island



Crete Island



Elba Island



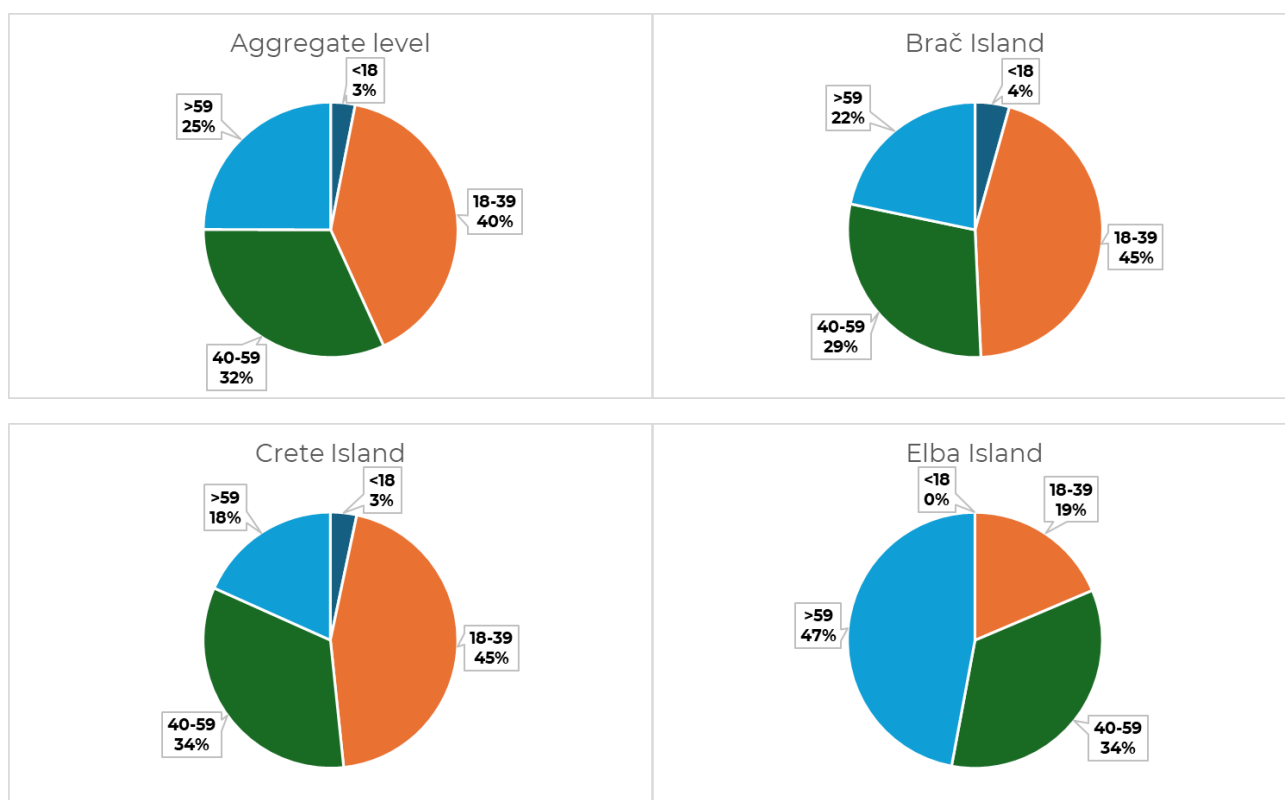


Question 2: How old are you?

At the aggregate level, 3.10% of the respondents were under 18 years old, 40.07% were between 18 and 39, 31.88% between 40 and 59, and 24.95% were over 59 years old. This distribution was also reflected in Brač Island and Crete Island. Elba Island showed a different distribution, with the majority of participants over 59 years old and none under 18 years old.

Table and Figures 2. Distribution of respondents by age

Age	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
<18	3.10%	4.35%	3.33%	-
18-39	40.07%	44.93%	45.00%	18.63%
40-59	31.88%	28.99%	33.33%	34.31%
>59	24.95%	21.74%	18.33%	47.06%



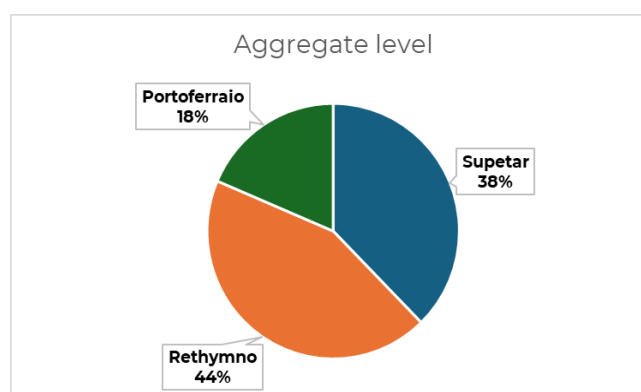


Question 3: Place of residence

All respondents from the Brač island live in Supetar, those from the Crete island are from Rethymno, and those from Elba Island are from Portoferraio. At the aggregate level, 37.7% of respondents are from Supetar, 43.72% from Rethymno, and 18.58% from Portoferraio.

Table and Figure 3. Distribution of respondents by place of residence

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
Supetar	37.70%	100%	-	-
Rethymno	43.72%	-	100%	-
Portoferraio	18.58%	-	-	100%



Question 4: Are you a resident or a tourist in this area?

All respondents indicated they are residents in the area and not tourists.

Table 4. Distribution of participants by status: tourist or resident

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
Resident	100%	100%	100%	100%
Tourist	-	-	-	-



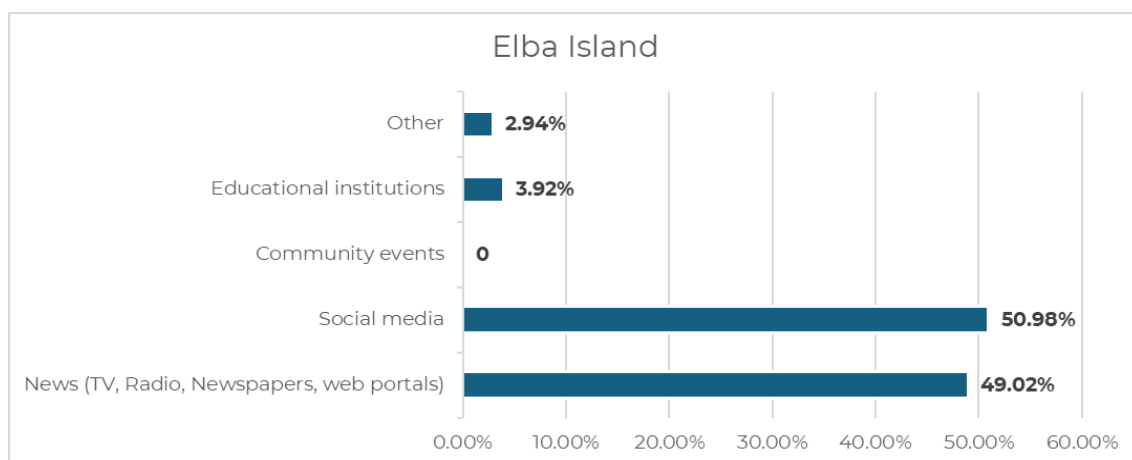
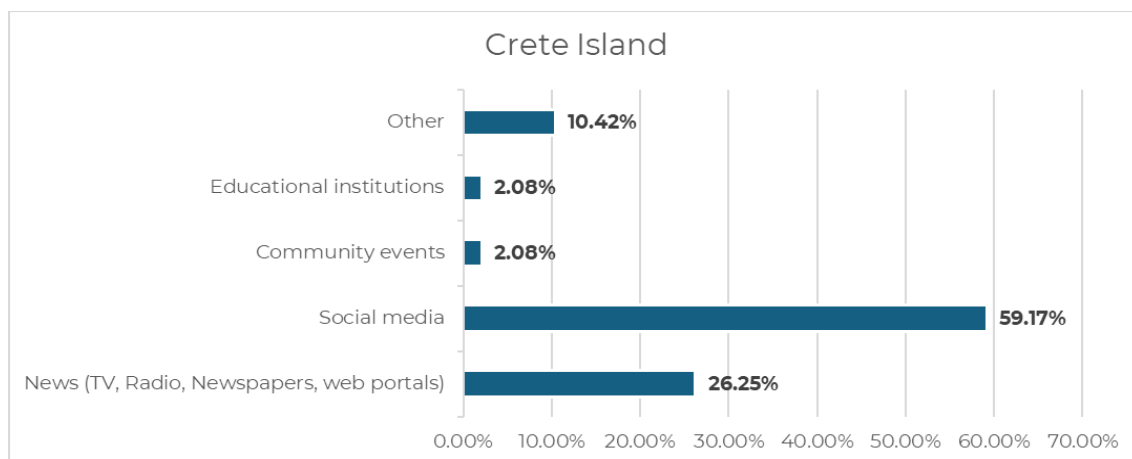
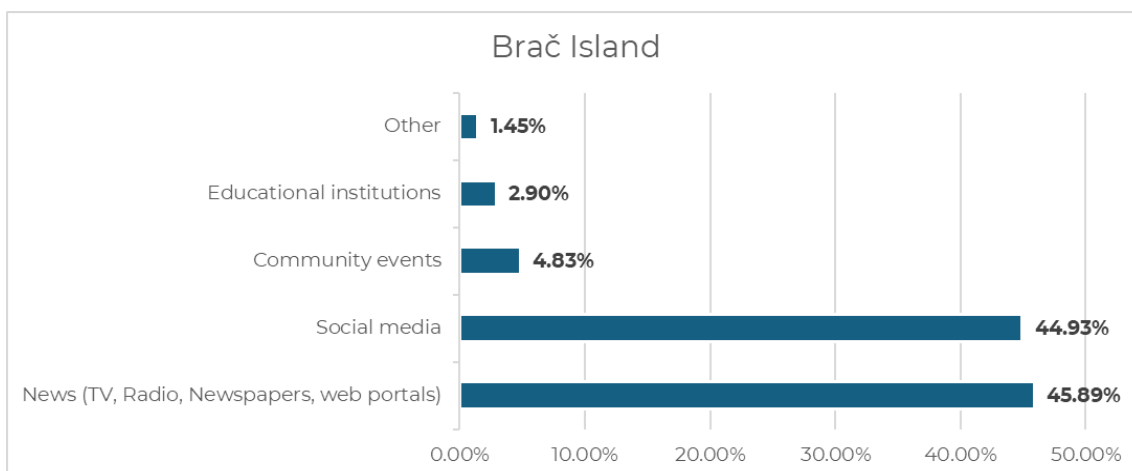
Question 6: Where do you get most of your information about environmental issues? (Multiple choice question)

Respondents from Brač Island mainly obtain information on environmental issues from news (45.89%) and social media (44.93%), with minor contributions from community events (4.83%), educational institutions (2.9%), and other sources (1.45%). On Crete Island, social media are the primary source (59.17%), followed by news (26.25%), while community events and educational institutions are rarely mentioned (2.08% each) and 10.42% report other sources. On Elba Island, news (49.02%) and social media (50.98%) dominate, with smaller shares for educational institutions (3.92%) and other sources (2.94%), and no respondents reported community events. For this question results were not fully comparable across islands and no aggregate distribution is presented, because only on Elba this item was administered as a multiple response, for which percentages may exceed 100%.

Table and Figures 6. Distribution of respondents by sources of information on environmental issues

	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island*
a. News (TV, Radio, Newspapers, web portals)	45.89%	26.25%	49.02%
b. Social media	44.93%	59.17%	50.98%
c. Community events	4.83%	2.08%	-
d. Educational institutions	2.9%	2.08%	3.92%
e. Other	1.45%	10.42%	2.94%

*reply as a multiple choice question

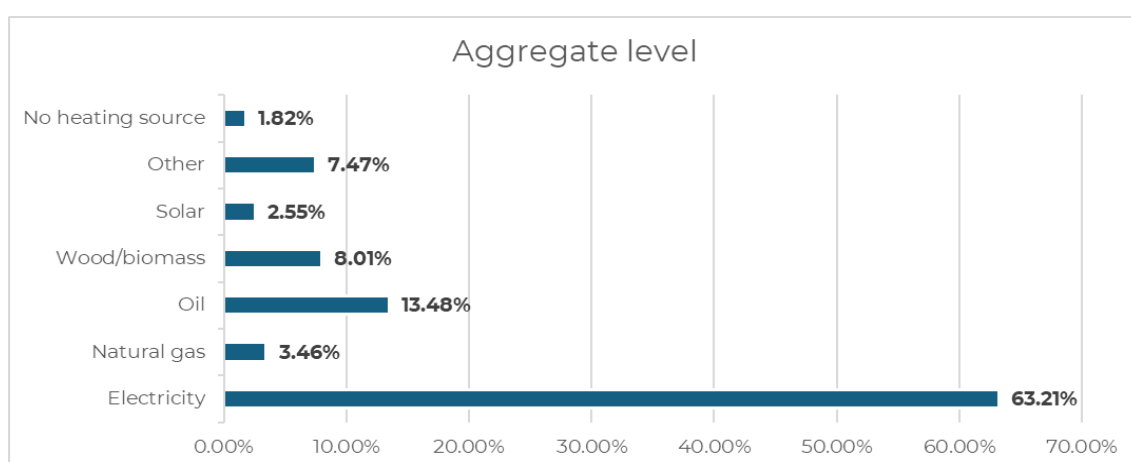


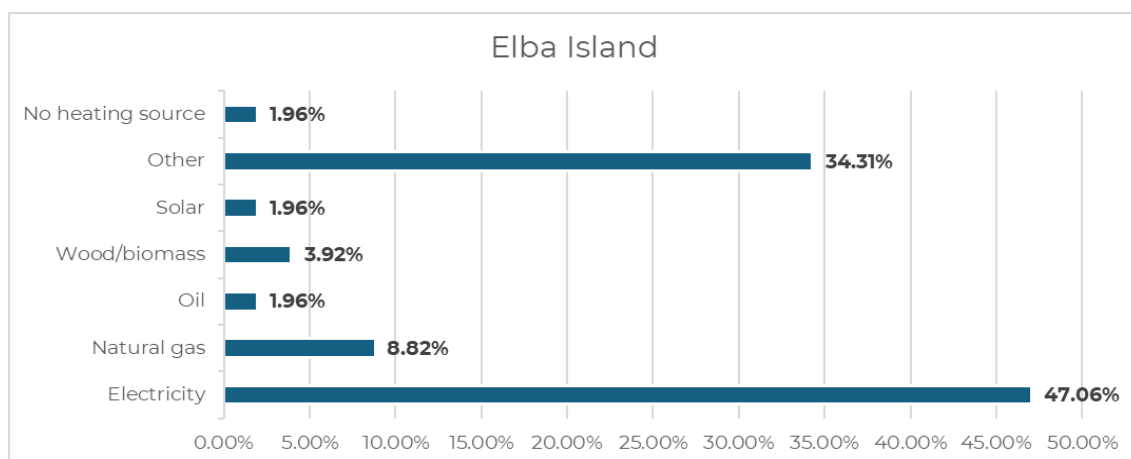
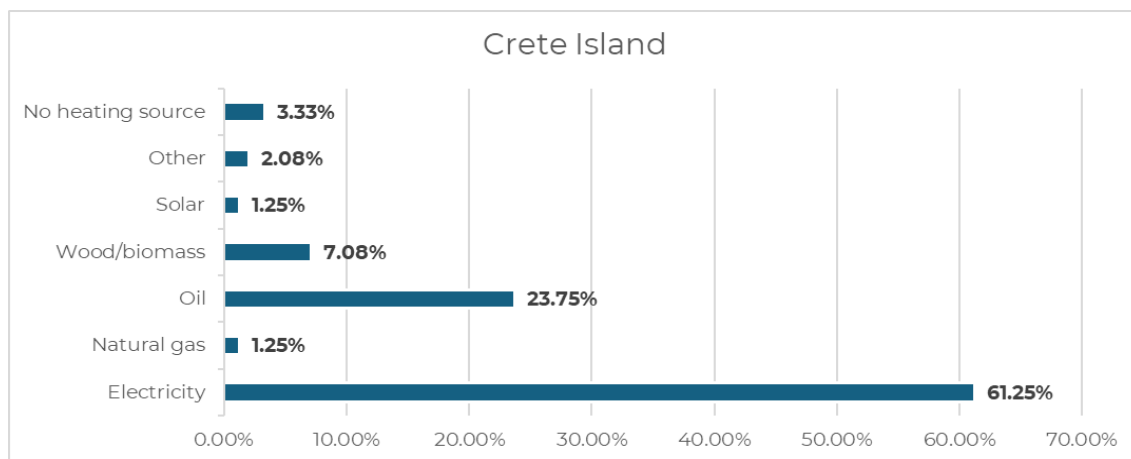
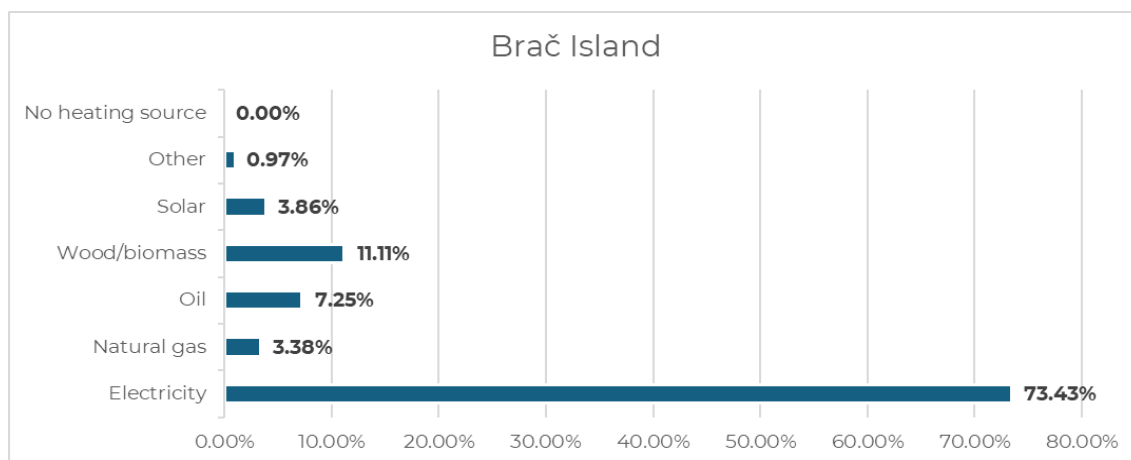
**Question 7: What is your primary source of energy for heating your home?**

At the aggregate level, the primary source of energy for home heating is electricity (63.21%), followed by oil (13.48%), wood/biomass (8.01%), and other sources of energy (7.47%), while natural gas and solar energy show low percentages. In all locations, electricity emerges as the main source of heating, with distributions broadly similar to the aggregate level. Notably, a high percentage of respondents from Elba Island, 34.31%, selected the option 'Other'.

Table and Figures 7. Distribution of respondents by primary source of energy for home heating

Primary source of energy for home heating	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Electricity	63.21%	73.43%	61.25%	47.06%
b. Natural gas	3.46%	3.38%	1.25%	8.82%
c. Oil	13.48%	7.25%	23.75%	1.96%
d. Wood/biomass	8.01%	11.11%	7.08%	3.92%
e. Solar	2.55%	3.86%	1.25%	1.96%
f. Other	7.47%	0.97%	2.08%	34.31%
g. No heating source	1.82%	0.00%	3.33%	1.96%





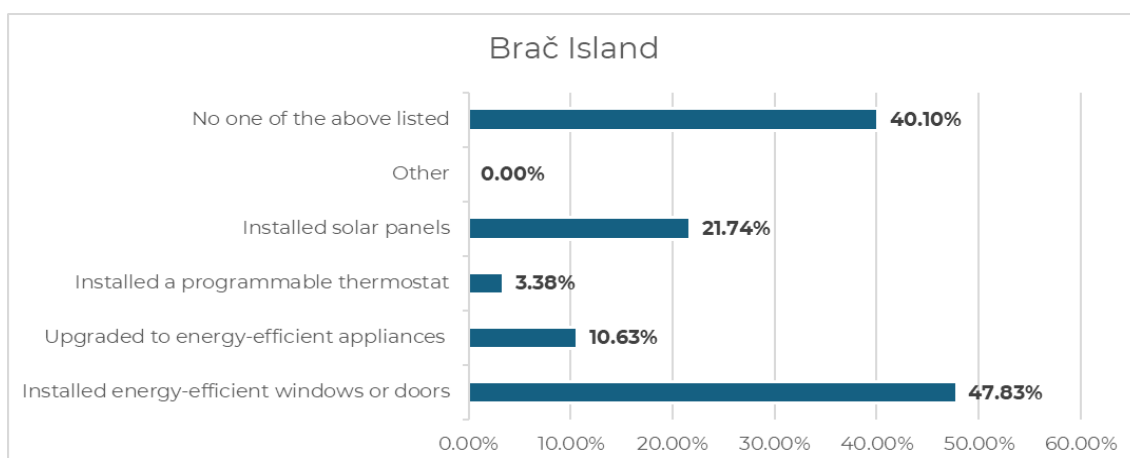
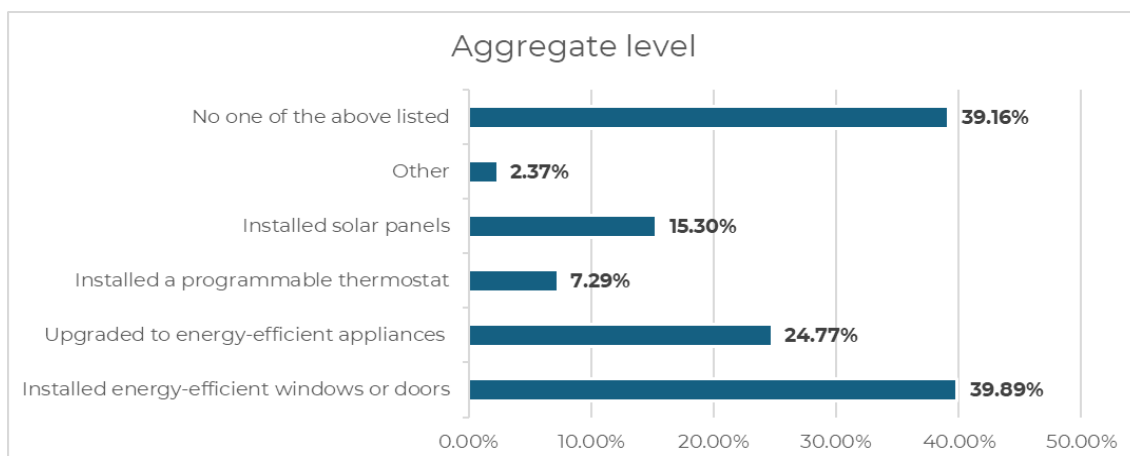


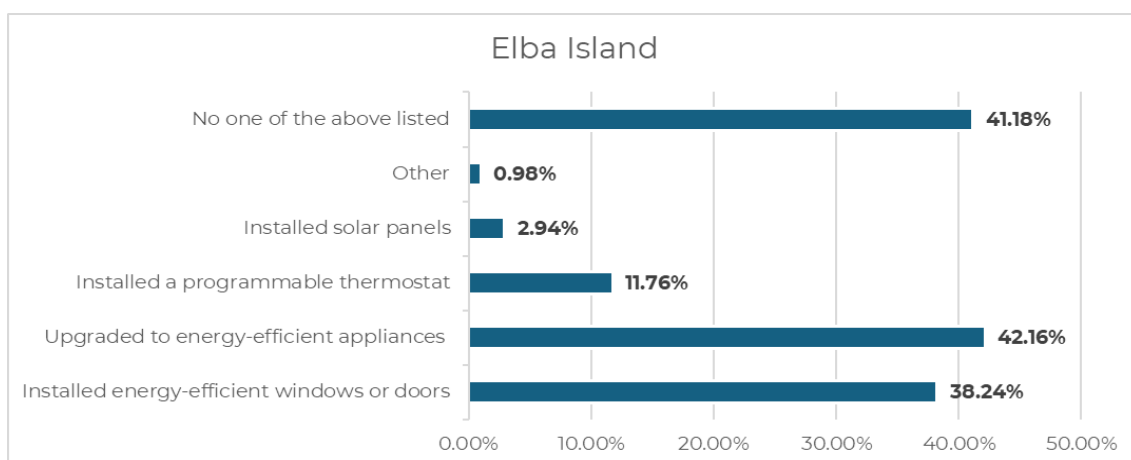
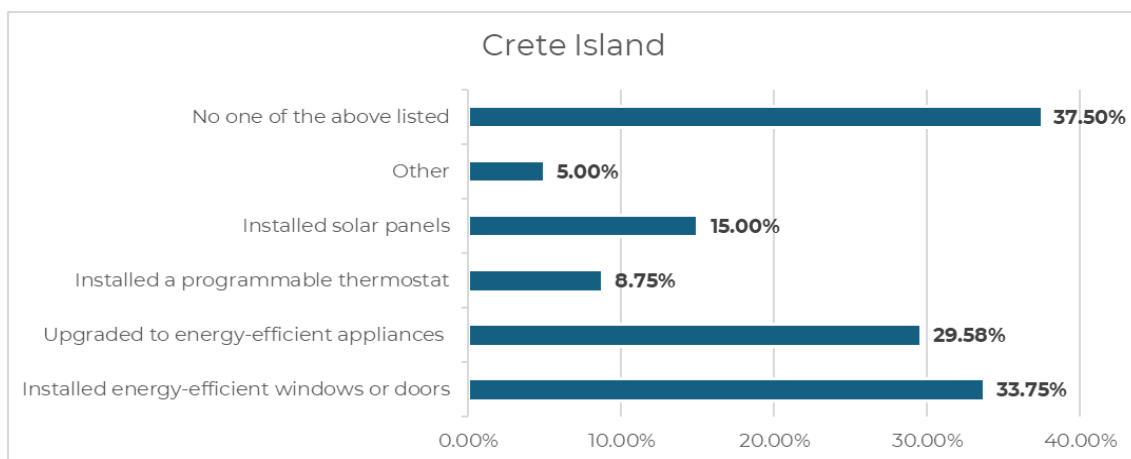
Question 8: Have you made any of the following home improvements to increase its energy efficiency? (Multiple choice question)

At the aggregate level, the most frequent measure is the installation of energy-efficient windows or doors (39.89%), followed by upgrading to energy-efficient appliances (24.77%) and installing solar panels (15.30%); programmable thermostats (7.29%) and the “other” category (2.37%) are less common, while 39.16% report none of the listed actions. Crete Island displays a distribution consistent with this articulation, with efficient windows/doors at 33.75%, efficient appliances at 29.58%, solar panels at 15.00%, programmable thermostats at 8.75%, “other” at 5.00%, and 37.50% indicating “none of the above”. Brač Island shows a different configuration, in which solar panels (21.74%) are more common than efficient-appliance replacements (10.63%), alongside efficient windows/doors at 47.83%; programmable thermostats stand at 3.38%, and 40.10% report “none of the above”. Elba Island is characterized by the prominence of efficient-appliance replacements (42.16%) and programmable thermostats (11.76%), the limited presence of solar panels (2.94%), and windows/doors at 38.24%; “other” stands at 0.98%, and 41.18% indicate “none of the above”. As this is a multiple-response item, percentages may exceed 100%.

Table and Figures 8. Distribution of respondents by home improvements made to increase energy efficiency

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Installed energy-efficient windows or doors	39.89%	47.83%	33.75%	38.24%
b. Upgraded to energy-efficient appliances	24.77%	10.63%	29.58%	42.16%
c. Installed a programmable thermostat	7.29%	3.38%	8.75%	11.76%
d. Installed solar panels	15.30%	21.74%	15.00%	2.94%
e. Other	2.37%	0.00%	5.00%	0.98%
f. No one of the above listed	39.16%	40.10%	37.50%	41.18%





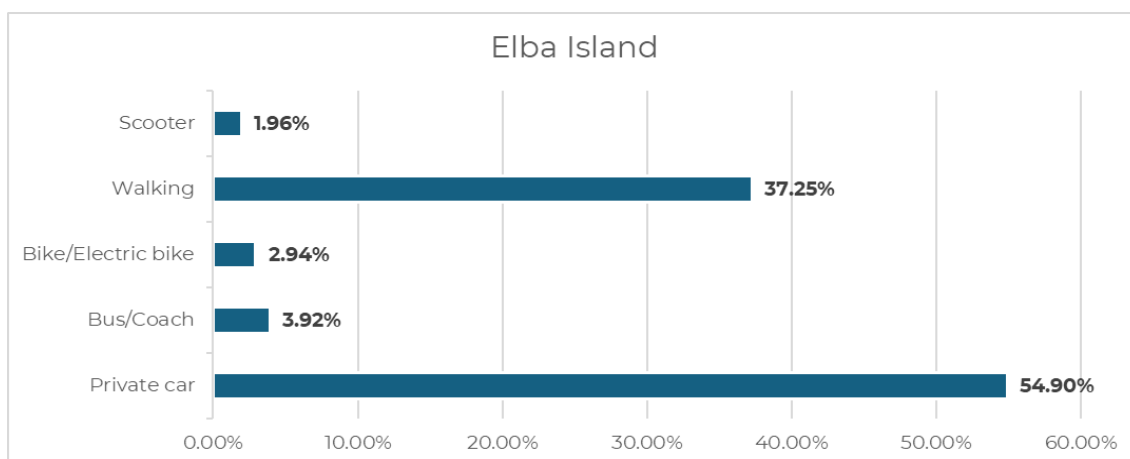
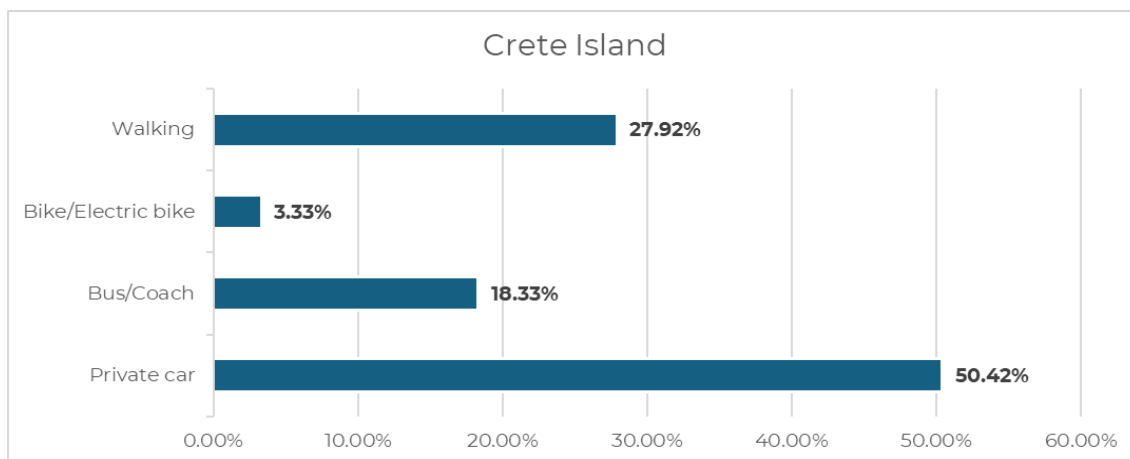
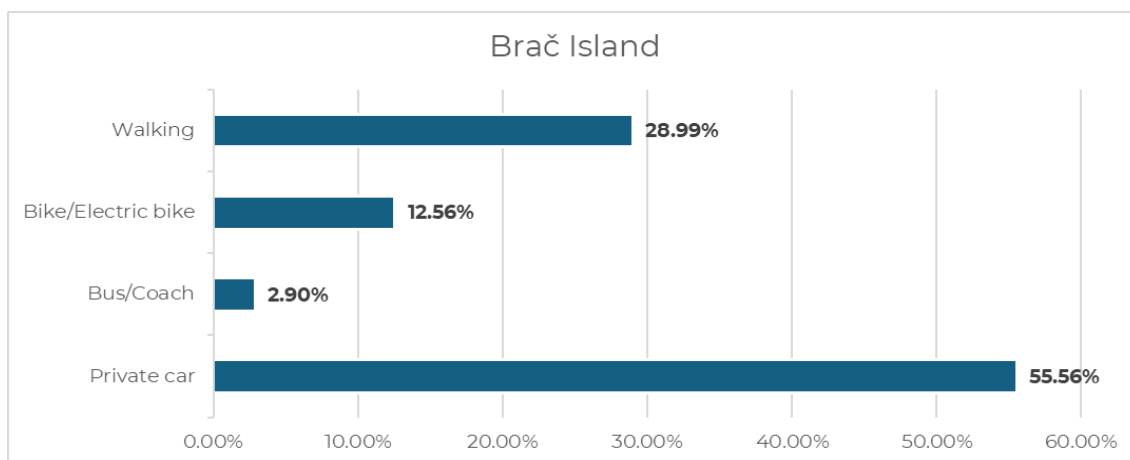
**Question 9: How do you usually travel in your everyday life? (Multiple choice question only for Elba area)**

Across the three islands, private car use emerges as the predominant usual means of everyday travel, with shares of 55.56% on Brač Island, 50.42% on Crete Island, and 54.90% on Elba Island. Bus/coach use is 2.90% on Brač, 18.33% on Crete, and 3.92% on Elba; bicycle or e-bike use is 12.56% on Brač, 3.33% on Crete, and 2.94% on Elba; walking reaches 28.99% on Brač, 27.92% on Crete, and 37.25% on Elba. It should be noted that the “Scooter” category was added only for some Elba responses. In fact, on Elba, an additional share of scooter use was reported at 1.96%. For this question, results were not fully comparable across islands and no aggregate distribution is presented, because only on Elba this item was administered as a multiple response question, for which percentages may exceed 100%.

Table and Figures 9. Distribution of respondents by usual means of travel in everyday life

	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island*
a. Private car	55.56%	50.42%	54.90%
b. Bus/Coach	2.90%	18.33%	3.92%
c. Bike/Electric bike	12.56%	3.33%	2.94%
d. Walking	28.99%	27.92%	37.25%
e. Scooter	-	-	1.96%

*reply as a multiple choice question



**Question 10: What do you think about the landscape of your island?**

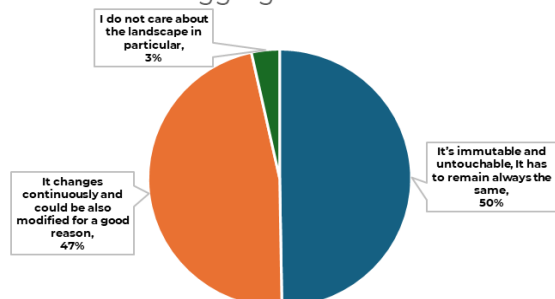
At the aggregate level, 49.73% of respondents perceive the island landscape as immutable and untouchable and believe it should always remain the same, 46.81% view it as continuously changing and potentially modifiable for good reasons, and 3.46% express no particular concern for the landscape. On Brač Island, there is a clear predominance of the immutability stance (74.88%), alongside a smaller share endorsing change for justified reasons (21.26%) and a residual share of indifferent respondents (3.86%). Crete Island is characterized by a majority endorsing change for justified reasons (61.25%) and a substantial incidence of the immutability stance (35.83%), with limited indifference toward the landscape (2.92%). Elba Island displays a prevailing view of the landscape as immutable (64.71%), together with a minority that accepts modifications for valid reasons (31.37%) and a small share of indifference (3.92%).

Table and Figures 10. Distribution of respondents by perception of the island landscape

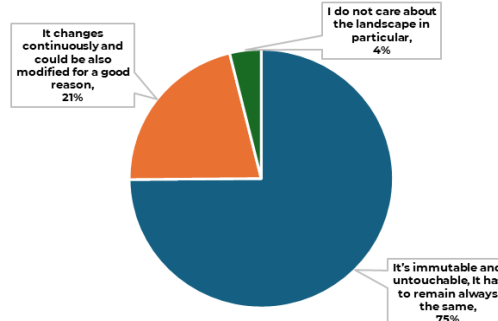
	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. It's immutable and untouchable. It has to remain always the same.	49.73%	74.88%	35.83%	64.71%
b. It changes continuously and could be also modified for a good reason.	46.81%	21,26%	61.25%	31.37%
c. I do not care about the landscape in particular.	3.46%	3.86%	2.92%	3.92%



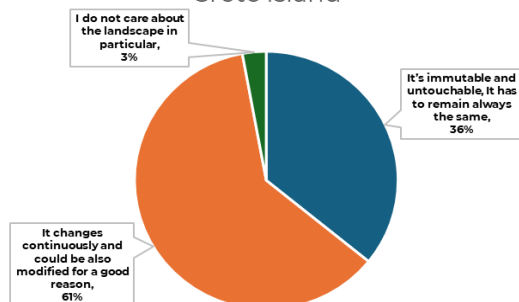
Aggregate level



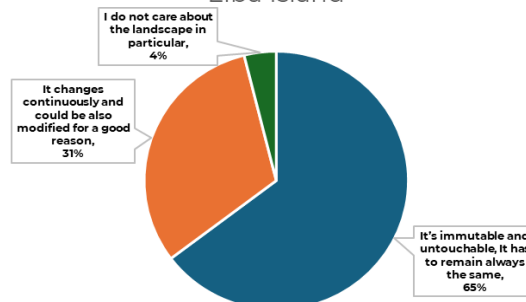
Brač Island



Crete Island



Elba Island



**Question 11: Are you aware of the concerns related to climate change?**

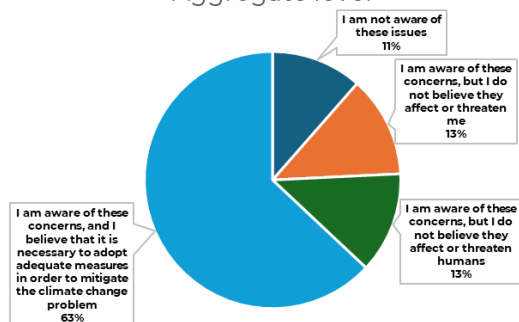
At the aggregate level, 11.48% of respondents report being unaware of these issues, 12.75% are aware but do not believe they affect or threaten them personally, a further 12.75% are aware but do not believe they affect or threaten humans, and 63.02% consider it necessary to adopt adequate measures to mitigate climate change. On Brač Island, the corresponding shares are 12.08%, 15.94%, 14.98%, and 57.00%; on Crete Island they amount to 11.25%, 14.17%, 12.08%, and 62.50%; on Elba Island they are 10.78%, 2.94%, 9.80%, and 76.47%. Across all islands, the stance favouring the adoption of mitigation measures is predominant.

Table and Figures 11. Distribution of respondents by awareness of concerns related to climate change

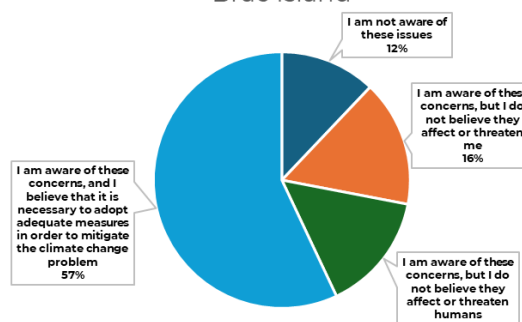
	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. I am not aware of these issues	11.48%	12.08%	11.25%	10.78%
b. I am aware of these concerns, but I do not believe they affect or threaten me	12.75%	15.94%	14.17%	2.94%
c. I am aware of these concerns, but I do not believe they affect or threaten humans	12.75%	14.98%	12.08%	9.80%
d. I am aware of these concerns, and I believe that it is necessary to adopt adequate measures in order to mitigate the climate change problem	63.02%	57.00%	62.50%	76.47%



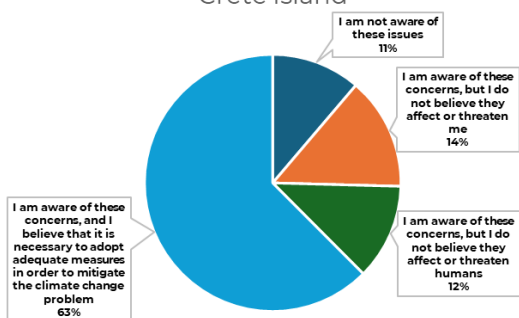
Aggregate level



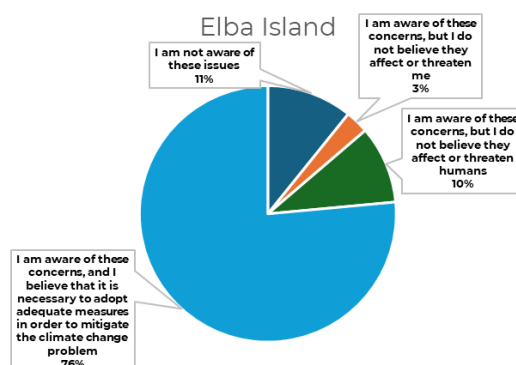
Brač Island



Crete Island



Elba Island



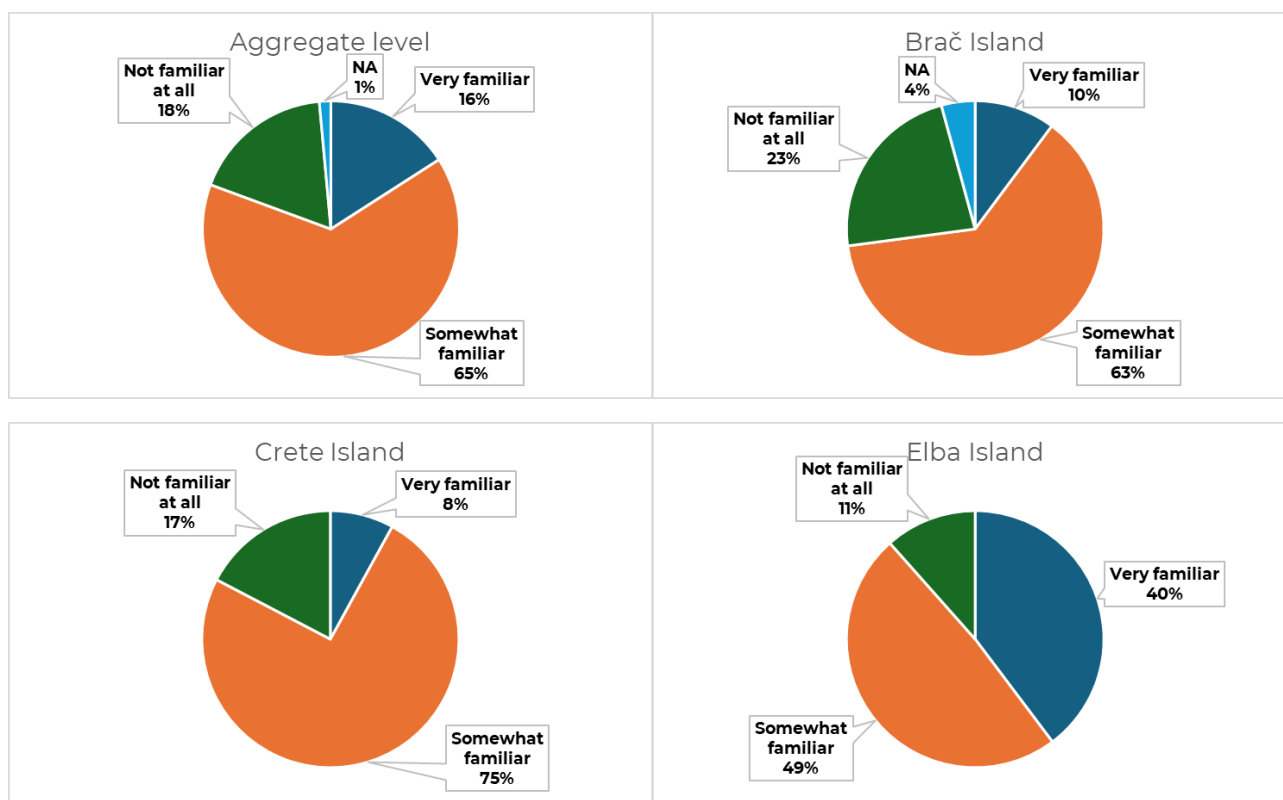


Question 12: How familiar are you with the concept of Climate neutrality (REDUCE EMISSIONS UP TO NET 0)?

At the aggregate level, 15.90% report being very familiar with the concept of climate neutrality (reducing emissions to net zero), 64.74% somewhat familiar, and 17.92% not familiar at all. On the Brač island, the shares are 10.17% very familiar, 62.71% somewhat familiar, and 22.88% not familiar; on the Crete island, 8.00%, 74.67%, and 17.33%; on the Elba island, 39.74%, 48.72%, and 11.54%. Missing values (NA) occur only on the Brač island and amount to 4.24%.

Table and Figures 12. Distribution of respondents by familiarity with the concept of climate neutrality (reduce emissions to net zero)

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Very familiar	15.90%	10.17%	8.00%	39.74%
b. Somewhat familiar	64.74%	62.71%	74.67%	48.72%
c. Not familiar at all	17.92%	22.88%	17.33%	11.54%
NA	1.45%	4.24%	-	-

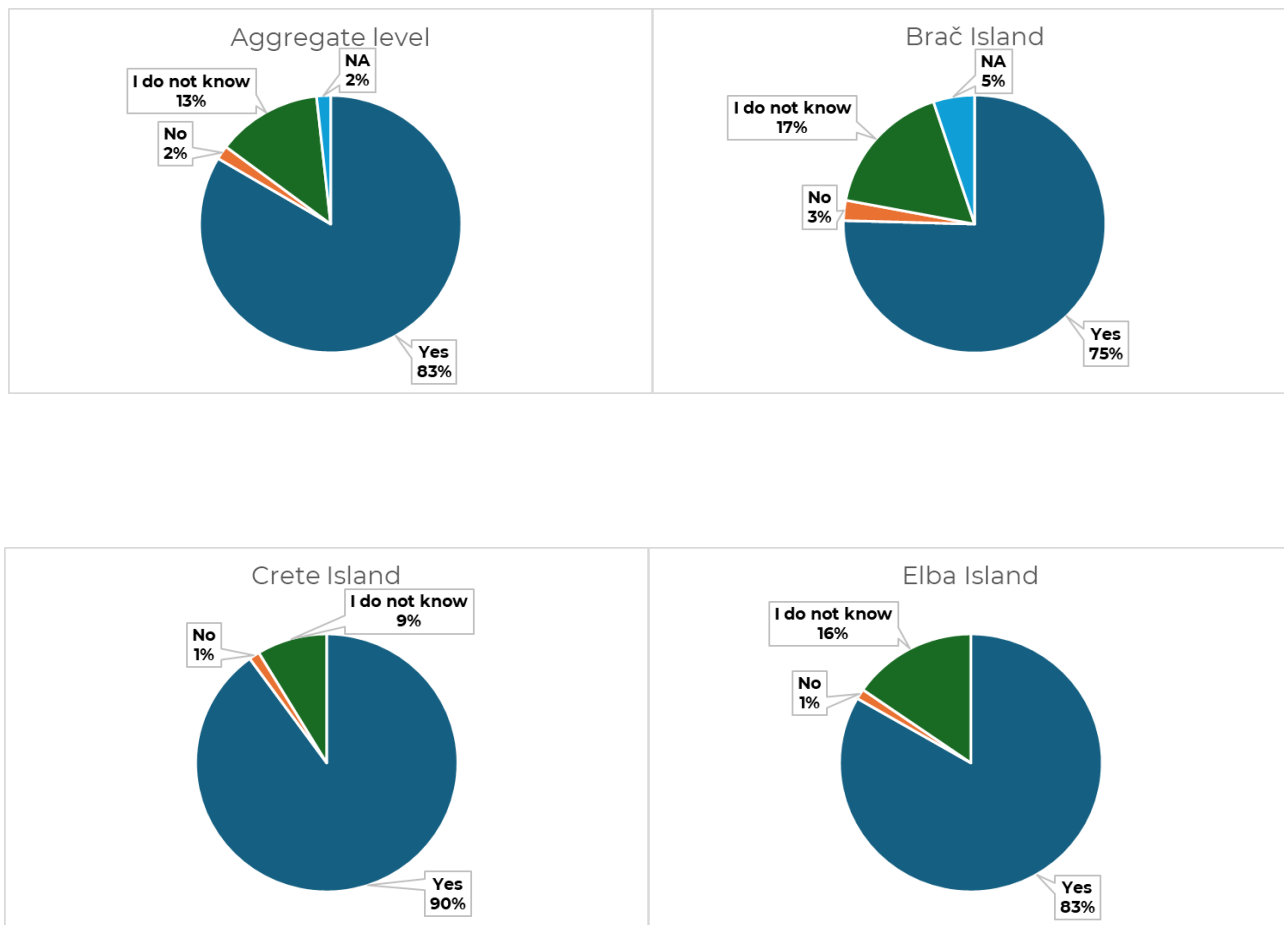


**Question 13: Do you believe that achieving Climate neutrality is important for the island?**

At the aggregate level, 83.53% consider achieving climate neutrality for the island important, 1.73% answer no, and 13.01% report not knowing. On the Brač island, the shares are 75.42% yes, 2.54% no, and 16.95% don't know; on the Crete island, 90.00% yes, 1.33% no, and 8.67% don't know; on the Elba island, 83.33% yes, 1.28% no, and 15.38% don't know. Across all islands there is broad agreement on the importance of the goal, with the strongest consensus in Crete Island, a relatively larger share of "I don't know" on Brač Island, and an intermediate configuration in Elba Island. Missing values (NA) occur only in the Brač island and amount to 5.08%.

Table and Figures 13. Distribution of respondents by belief in the importance of achieving climate neutrality for the island

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Yes	83.53%	75.42%	90.00%	83.33%
b. No	1.73%	2.54%	1.33%	1.28%
c. I do not know	13.01%	16.95%	8.67%	15.38%
NA	1.73%	5.08%	-	-



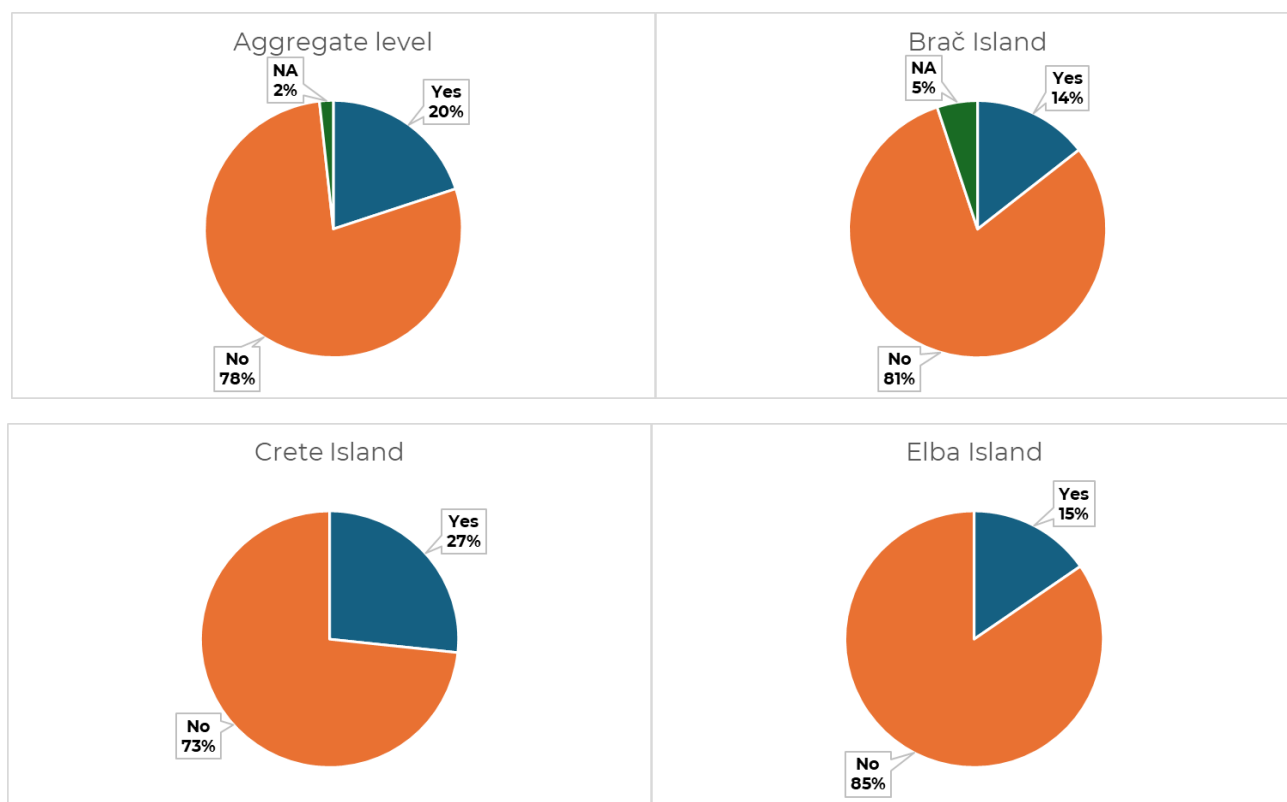


Question 14: Have you ever participated in Community events concerning Climate neutrality?

At the aggregate level, 19.94% report having participated in community events concerning climate neutrality and 78.32% report not having participated. On Brač Island, the shares are 14.41% yes and 80.51% no; on Crete Island, 26.67% and 73.33%; on Elba Island, 15.38% and 84.62%. Missing values (NA) are present only on Brač Island and amount to 5.08%.

Table and Figures 14. Distribution of respondents by participation in community events concerning climate neutrality

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Yes	19.94%	14.41%	26.67%	15.38%
b. No	78.32%	80.51%	73.33%	84.62%
NA	1.73%	5.08%	-	-

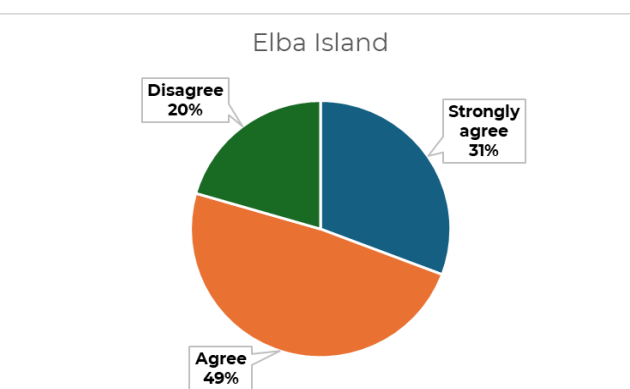
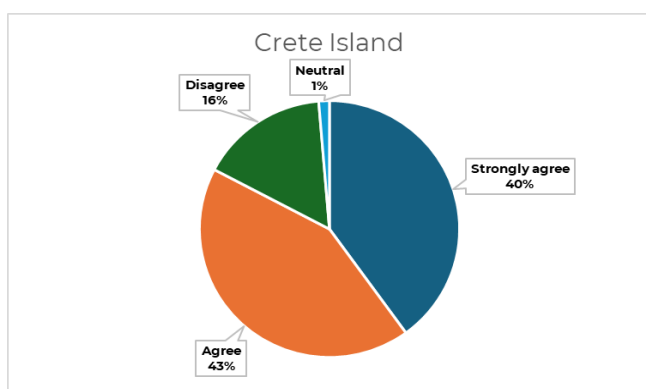
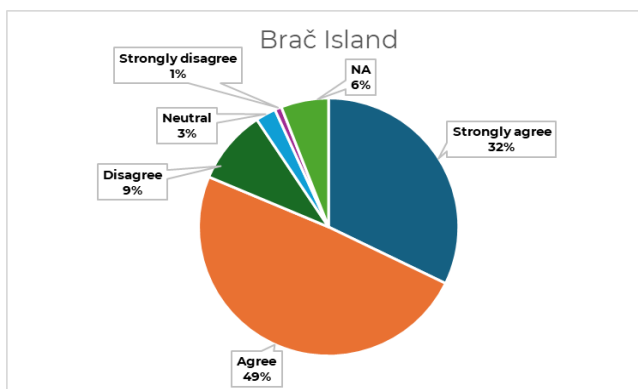
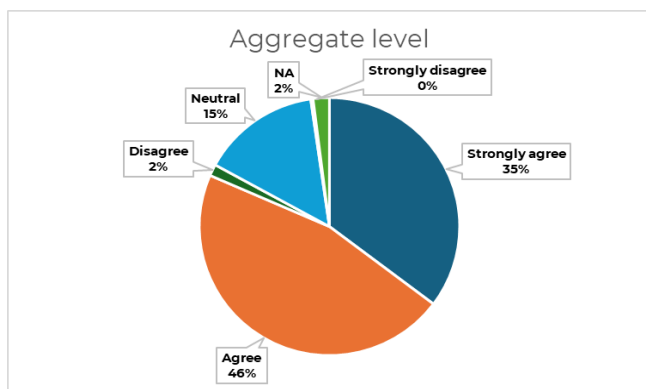


**Question 15: Do you agree with the sentence: the island should aim to reduce emissions up to net 0 (Climate neutrality) by 2030?**

At the aggregate level, 35.26% strongly agree and 46.24% agree with the statement that the island should aim to reduce emissions to net zero by 2030; 14.74% are neutral, 1.45% disagree, and 0.29% strongly disagree. On Brač Island, agreement predominates (32.20% strongly agree and 49.15% agree), with smaller shares for neutral (2.54%), disagree (9.32%), and strongly disagree (0.85%). On Crete Island, agreement is likewise predominant (40.00% strongly agree and 42.67% agree), with limited neutral responses (1.33%) and no strongly disagree reported, while disagree stands at 16.00%. On Elba Island, responses concentrate in the agreement categories (30.77% strongly agree and 48.72% agree) and in disagree (20.51%), with no entries for neutral or strongly disagree. Missing values (NA) occur only on Brač Island and amount to 5.93%.

Table and Figures 15. Distribution of respondents by agreement with the statement: the island should aim to reduce emissions to net zero (climate neutrality) by 2030

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Strongly agree	35.26%	32.20%	40.00%	30.77%
b. Agree	46.24%	49.15%	42.67%	48.72%
c. Disagree	1.45%	9.32%	16.00%	20.51%
d. Neutral	14.74%	2.54%	1.33%	-
e. Strongly disagree	0.29%	0.85%	-	-
NA	2.02%	5.93%	-	-



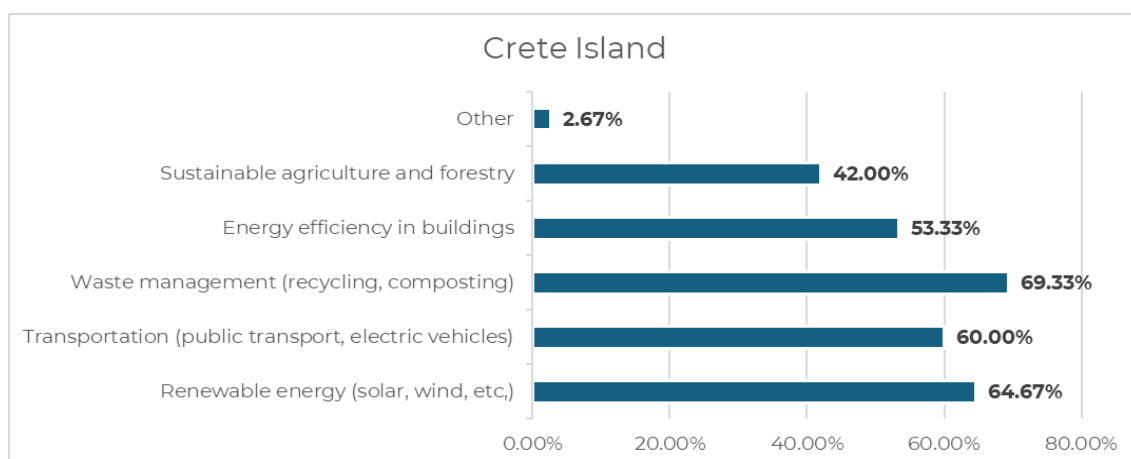
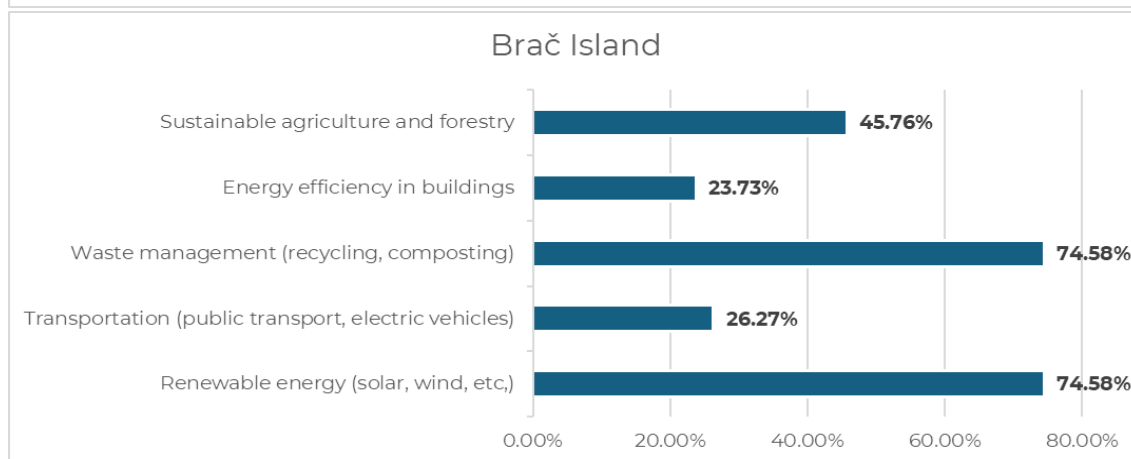
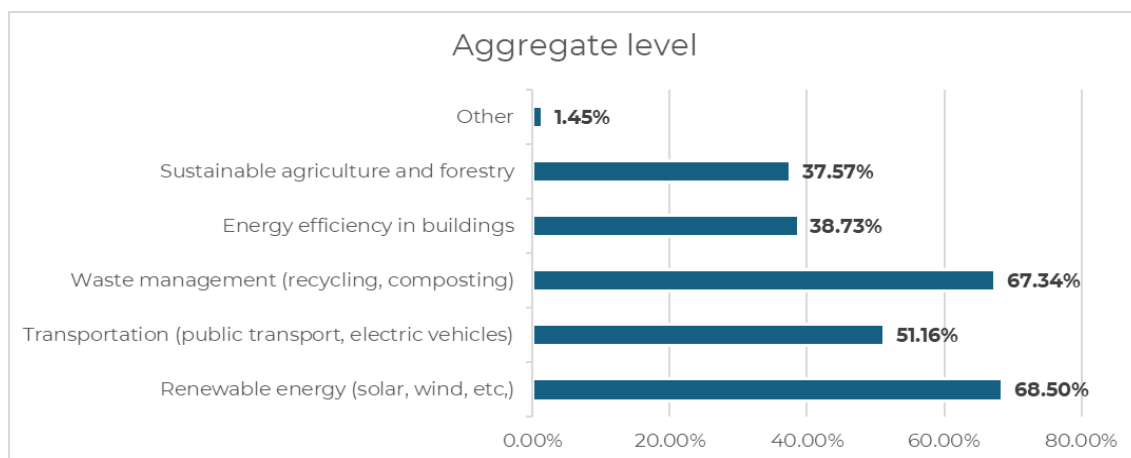


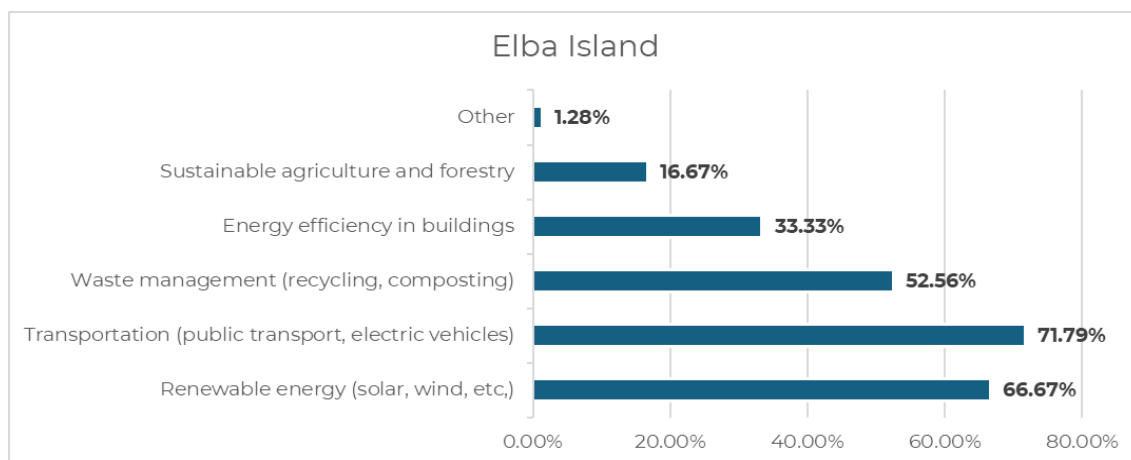
Question 16: In order to achieve the Climate Neutrality, on which topic should the island focus on? (Multiple choice question)

At the aggregate level, priority areas for achieving climate neutrality center on renewable energy (68.50%) and waste management (67.34%), followed by transportation (51.16%), energy efficiency in buildings (38.73%), and sustainable agriculture and forestry (37.57%); the “other” category is marginal (1.45%). On Brač Island, renewables and waste management jointly rank first at 74.58% each, followed by sustainable agriculture and forestry (45.76%), transportation (26.27%), and energy efficiency in buildings (23.73%). On Crete Island, attention is relatively broadly distributed, with a hierarchy led by waste management (69.33%), renewables (64.67%), transportation (60.00%), and energy efficiency in buildings (53.33%), followed by sustainable agriculture (42.00%). On Elba Island, priorities are concentrated on transportation (71.79%) and renewables (66.67%), with waste management at 52.56%, energy efficiency in buildings at 33.33%, and sustainable agriculture at 16.67%. As this is a multiple-response item, percentages may exceed 100%.

Table and Figures 16. Distribution of respondents by priority topics for achieving climate neutrality on the island

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Renewable energy (solar, wind, etc.)	68.50%	74.58%	64.67%	66.67%
b. Transportation (public transport, electric vehicles)	51.16%	26.27%	60.00%	71.79%
c. Waste management (recycling, composting)	67.34%	74.58%	69.33%	52.56%
d. Energy efficiency in buildings	38.73%	23.73%	53.33%	33.33%
e. Sustainable agriculture and forestry	37.57%	45.76%	42.00%	16.67%
f. Other	1.45%	-	2.67%	1.28%





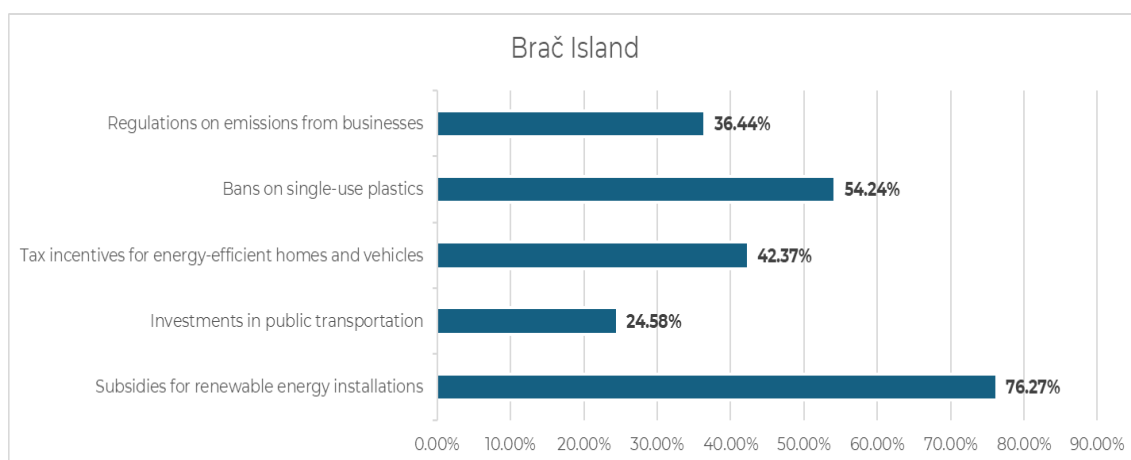
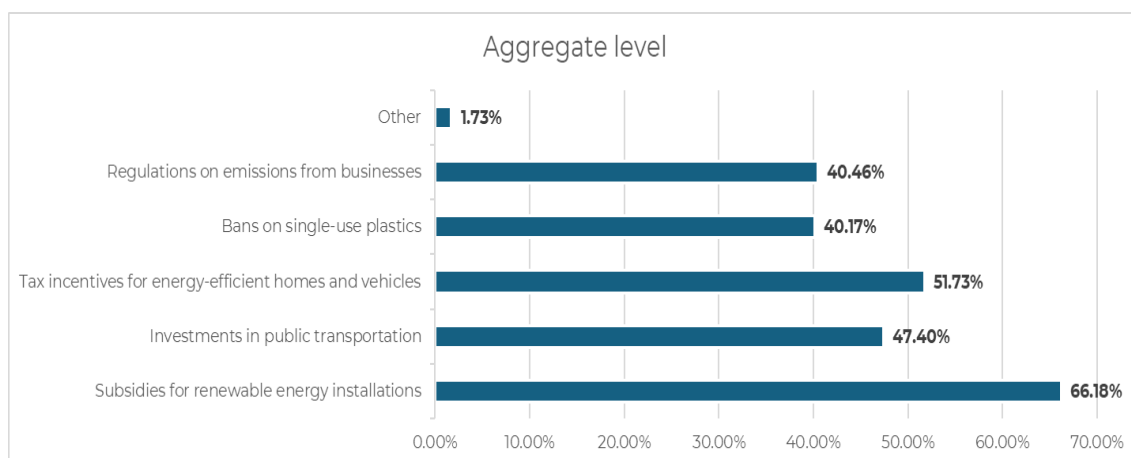


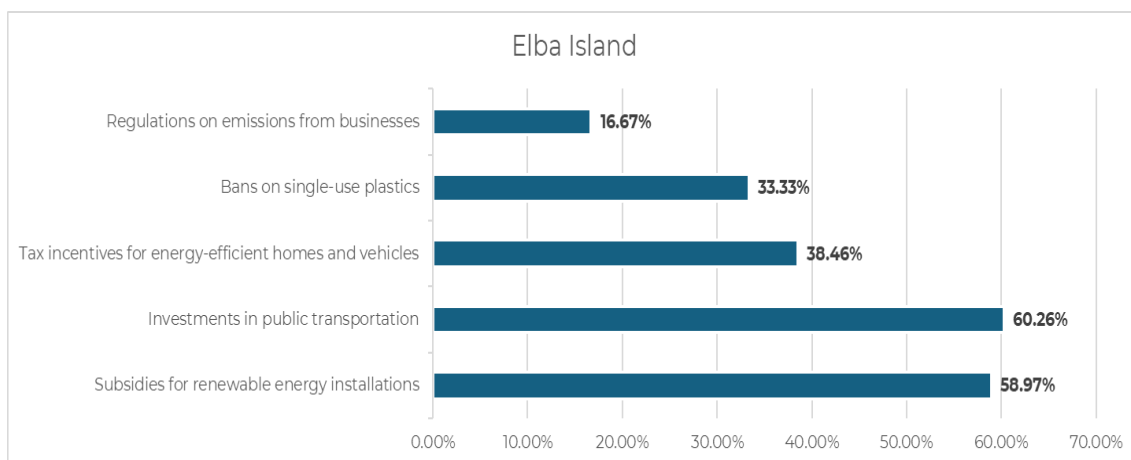
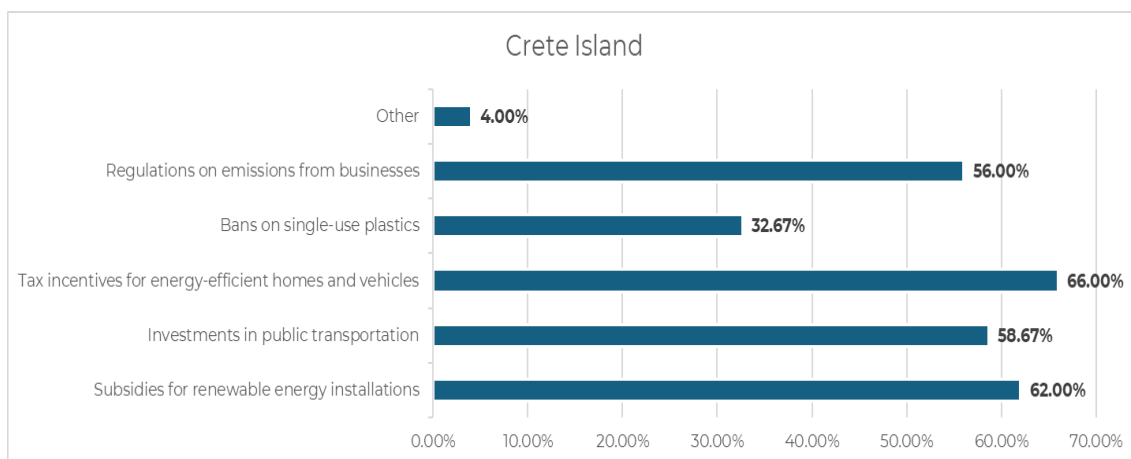
Question 17: Which of the following policies would you support to help achieving Climate Neutrality? (Multiple choice question)

At the aggregate level, the most supported policies are subsidies for renewable-energy installations (66.18%) and tax incentives for energy-efficient homes and vehicles (51.73%), followed by investments in public transportation (47.40%), regulations on business emissions (40.46%), and bans on single-use plastics (40.17%); the “other” category is marginal (1.73%). On Brač Island, support centers on subsidies for renewables (76.27%) and bans on single-use plastics (54.24%), with lower shares for tax incentives (42.37%), emissions regulations (36.44%), and investments in public transport (24.58%); “other” is not reported. On Crete Island, the main cluster of supported policies comprises tax incentives (66.00%), subsidies for renewables (62.00%), investments in public transport (58.67%), and emissions regulations (56.00%), with a smaller share for bans on single-use plastics (32.67%) and a limited “other” category (4.00%). On Elba Island, investments in public transportation (60.26%) and subsidies for renewables (58.97%) predominate, whereas tax incentives (38.46%), bans on single-use plastics (33.33%), and emissions regulations (16.67%) attract more limited support; “other” is not reported. As this is a multiple-response item, percentages may exceed 100%.

Table and Figures 17. Distribution of respondents by policies supported to achieve climate neutrality

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Subsidies for renewable energy installations	66.18%	76.27%	62.00%	58.97%
b. Investments in public transportation	47.40%	24.58%	58.67%	60.26%
c. Tax incentives for energy-efficient homes and vehicles	51.73%	42.37%	66.00%	38.46%
d. Bans on single-use plastics	40.17%	54.24%	32.67%	33.33%
e. Regulations on emissions from businesses	40.46%	36.44%	56.00%	16.67%
f. Other	1.73%	-	4.00%	-



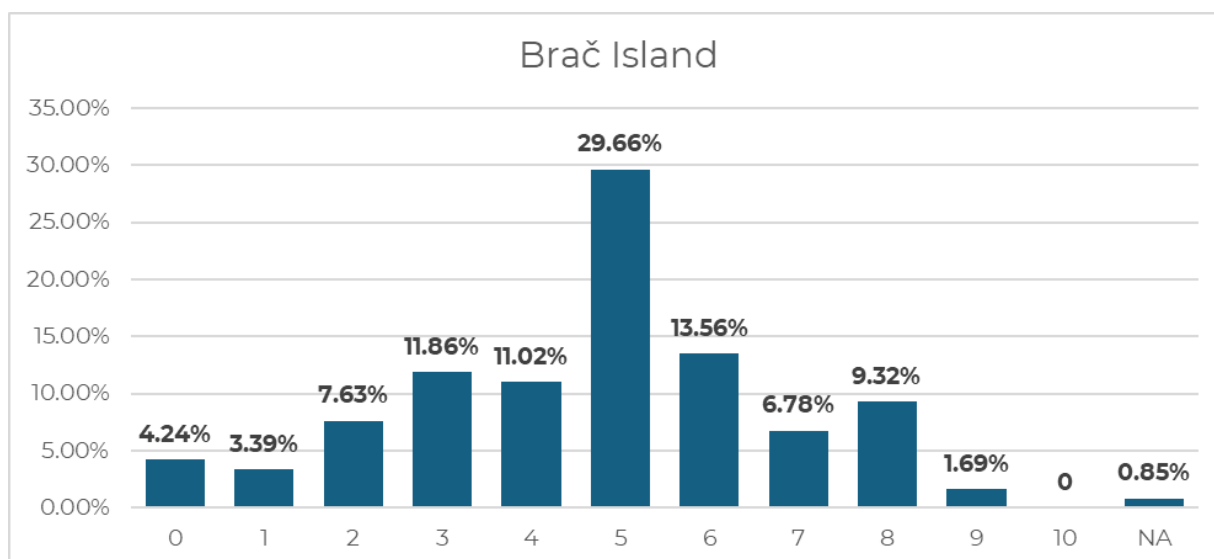
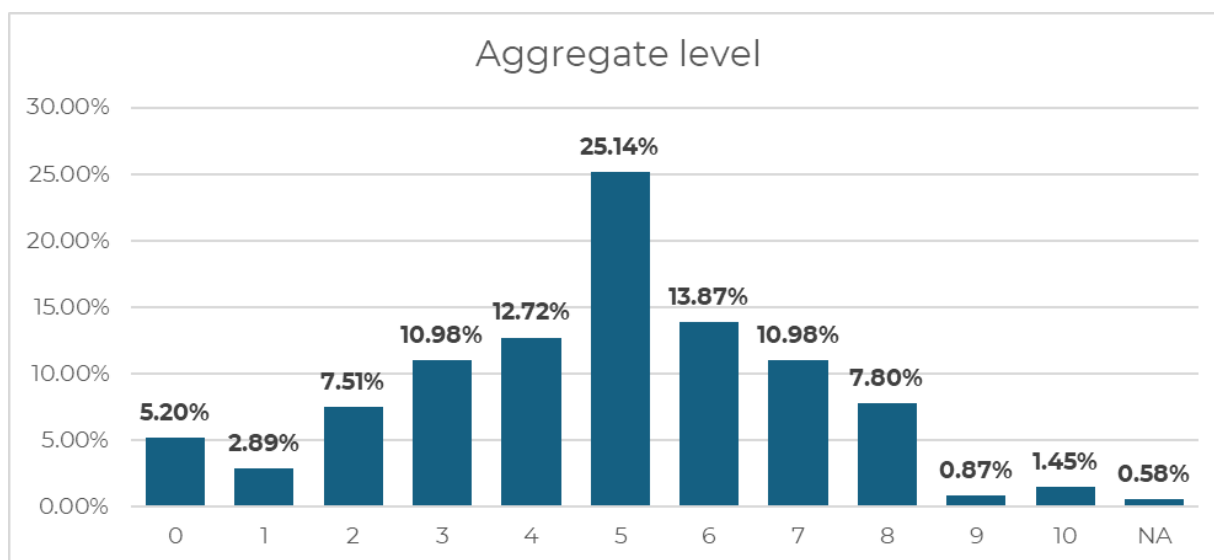


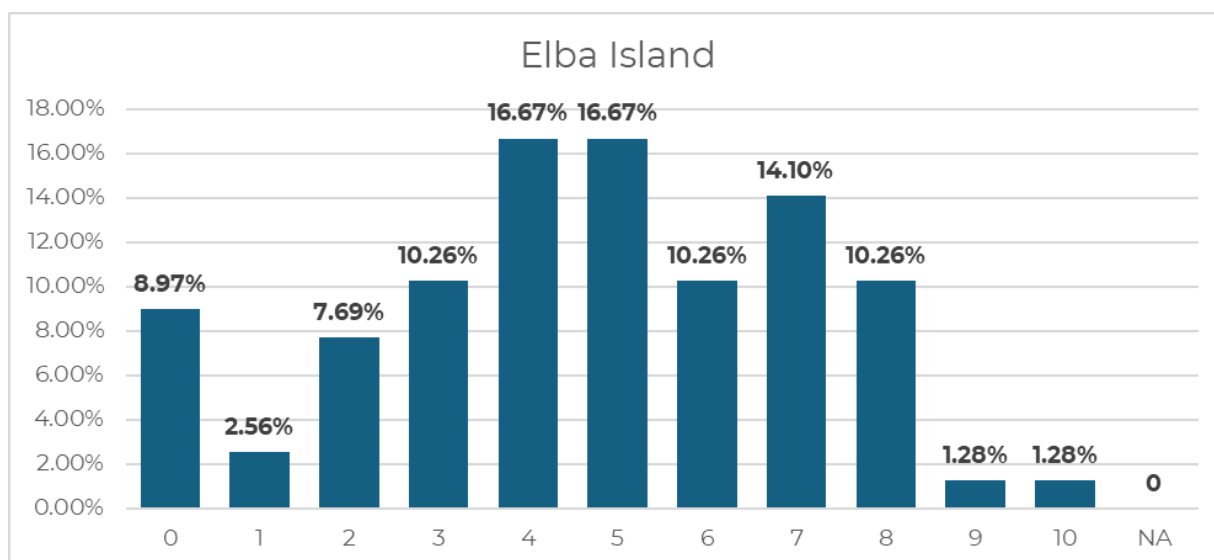
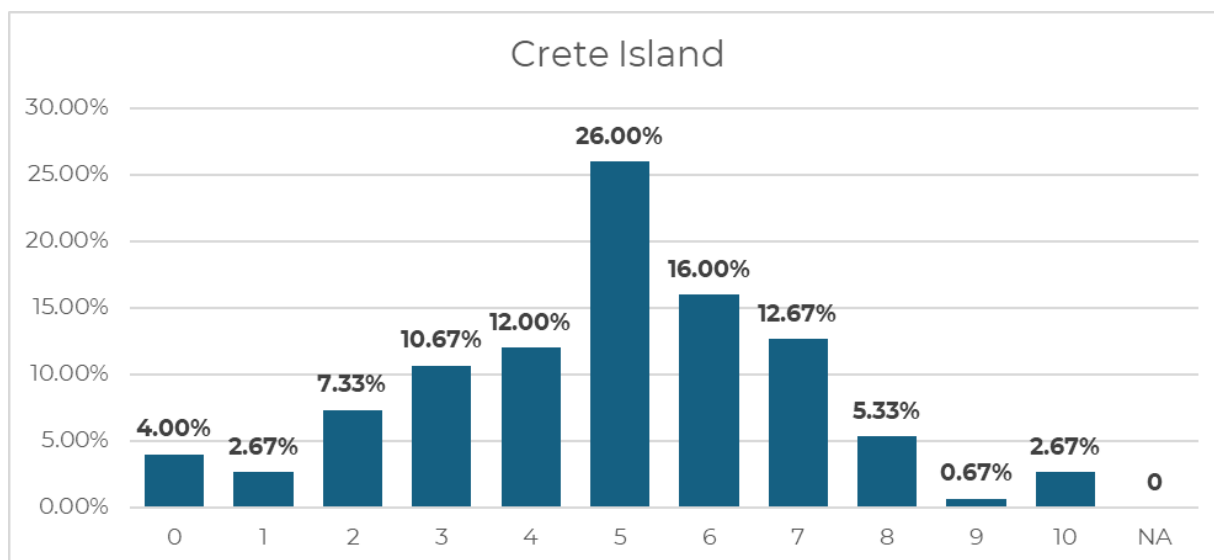
**Question 19: On a scale of 0 to 10, how optimistic are you that the island will achieve Climate neutrality by 2040?**

At the aggregate level, optimism about achieving climate neutrality by 2040 is concentrated in the mid-range of the 0–10 scale, peaking at score 5 (25.14%) with notable shares at 6 (13.87%) and 4 (12.72%), while the extremes remain limited (0=5.20%; 9=0.87%; 10=1.45%). On Brač Island, the pattern is similar, with a peak at 5 (29.66%) and a clustering around scores 3–6; on Crete Island, responses likewise concentrate in the middle categories, with higher values at 5 (26.00%), 6 (16.00%), and 7 (12.67%); on Elba Island, the distribution is comparatively flatter, with two joint maxima at 4 and 5 (both 16.67%) and non-negligible shares at 7–8 (14.10% and 10.26%). Missing values (NA) occur only on Brač Island and amount to 0.85%.

Table and Figures 18. Distribution of respondents by level of optimism about achieving climate neutrality on the island by 2040

	Aggregate level	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
0	5.20%	4.24%	4.00%	8.97%
1	2.89%	3.39%	2.67%	2.56%
2	7.51%	7.63%	7.33%	7.69%
3	10.98%	11.86%	10.67%	10.26%
4	12.72%	11.02%	12.00%	16.67%
5	25.14%	29.66%	26.00%	16.67%
6	13.87%	13.56%	16.00%	10.26%
7	10.98%	6.78%	12.67%	14.10%
8	7.80%	9.32%	5.33%	10.26%
9	0.87%	1.69%	0.67%	1.28%
10	1.45%	-	2.67%	1.28%
NA	0.58%	0.85%	-	-



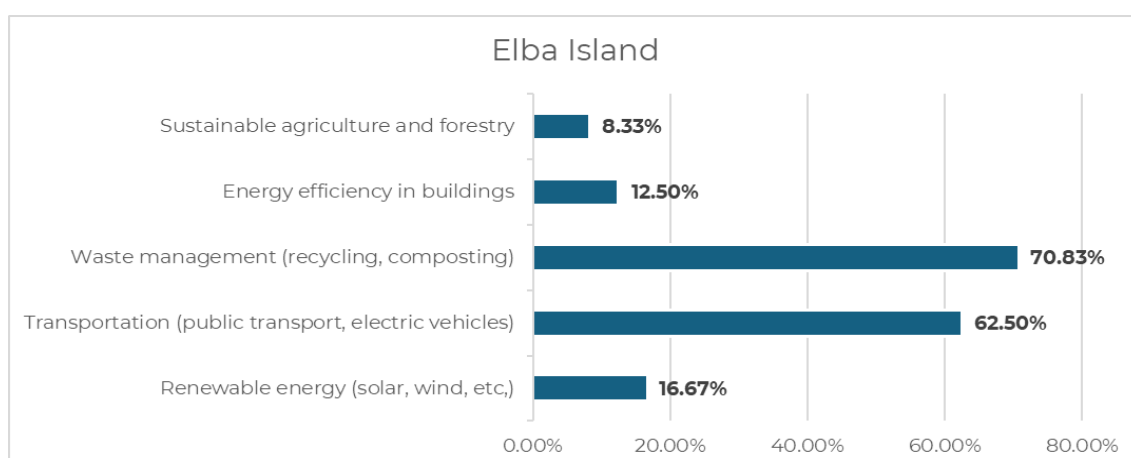
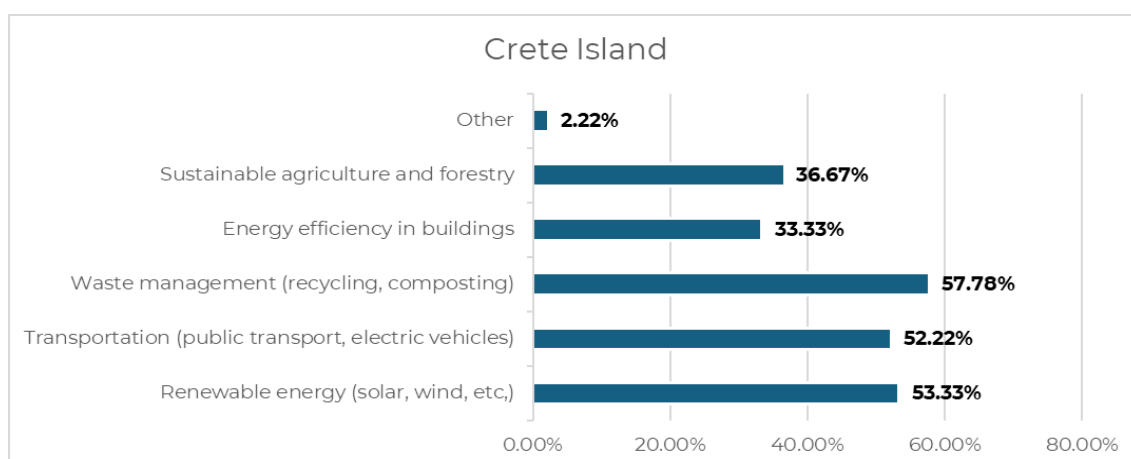
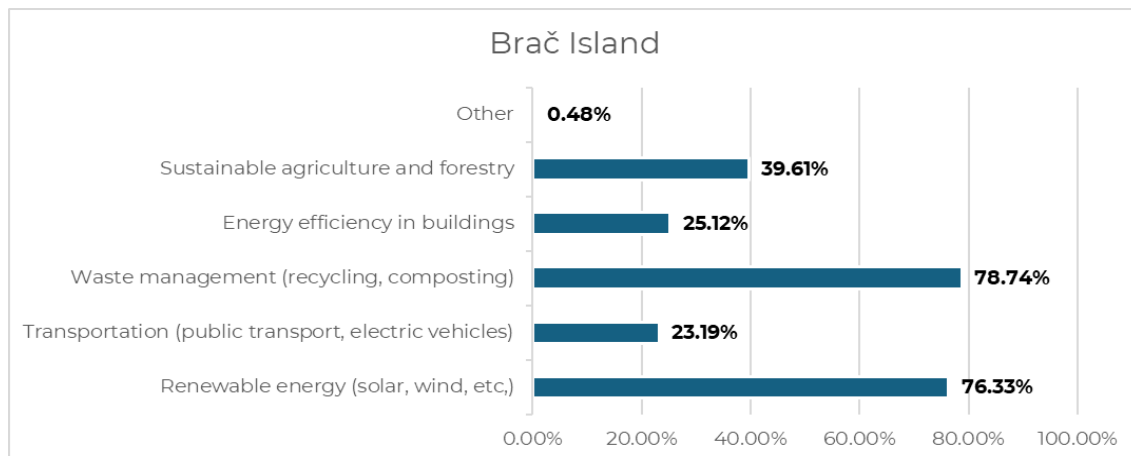


**Question 20: In order to reduce environmental impacts, on which topic should the island focus on? (Multiple choice question)**

On Brač Island, priority areas for reducing environmental impacts focus on waste management (78.74%) and renewable energy (76.33%), followed by sustainable agriculture and forestry (39.61%), energy efficiency in buildings (25.12%), and transportation (23.19%); the “other” category is marginal (0.48%). On Crete Island, the picture is relatively balanced, with waste management (57.78%), renewables (53.33%), and transportation (52.22%) leading, followed by sustainable agriculture and forestry (36.67%) and energy efficiency in buildings (33.33%); “other” stands at 2.22%. On Elba Island, priorities converge on waste management (70.83%) and transportation (62.50%), whereas renewables are less frequently indicated (16.67%); energy efficiency in buildings (12.50%) and sustainable agriculture (8.33%) follow, with no entries under “other.” As this is a multiple-response item, percentages may exceed 100%. It should also be noted that these results refer only to respondents who, in Question 11, selected options a, b, or c; this criterion was applied for Elba and Crete, whereas in the Brač survey all respondents answered this question, including those who had selected option d in Question 11.

Table and Figures 19. Distribution of respondents by priority topics for reducing environmental impacts on the island

	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Renewable energy (solar, wind, etc.)	76.33%	53.33%	16.67%
b. Transportation (public transport, electric vehicles)	23.19%	52.22%	62.50%
c. Waste management (recycling, composting)	78.74%	57.78%	70.83%
d. Energy efficiency in buildings	25.12%	33.33%	12.50%
e. Sustainable agriculture and forestry	39.61%	36.67%	8.33%
f. Other	0.48%	2.22%	-



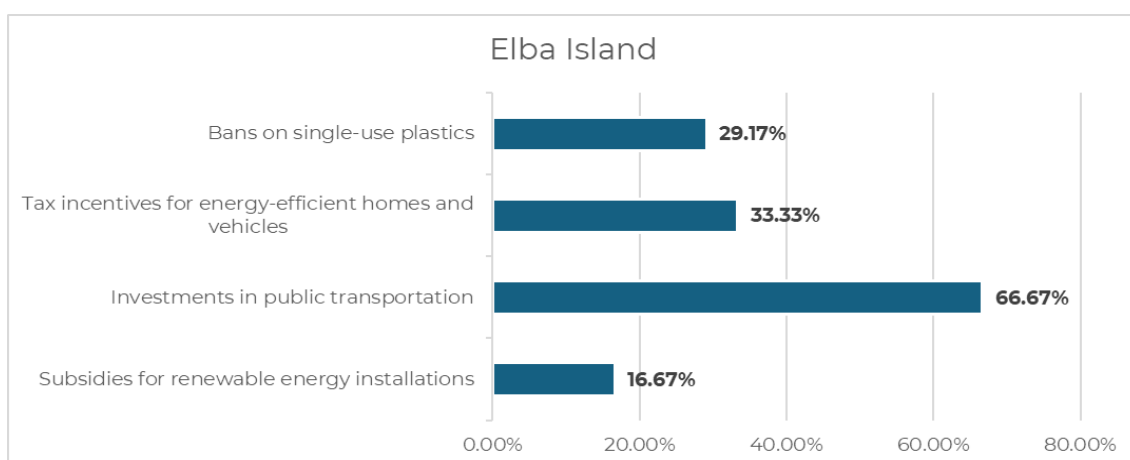
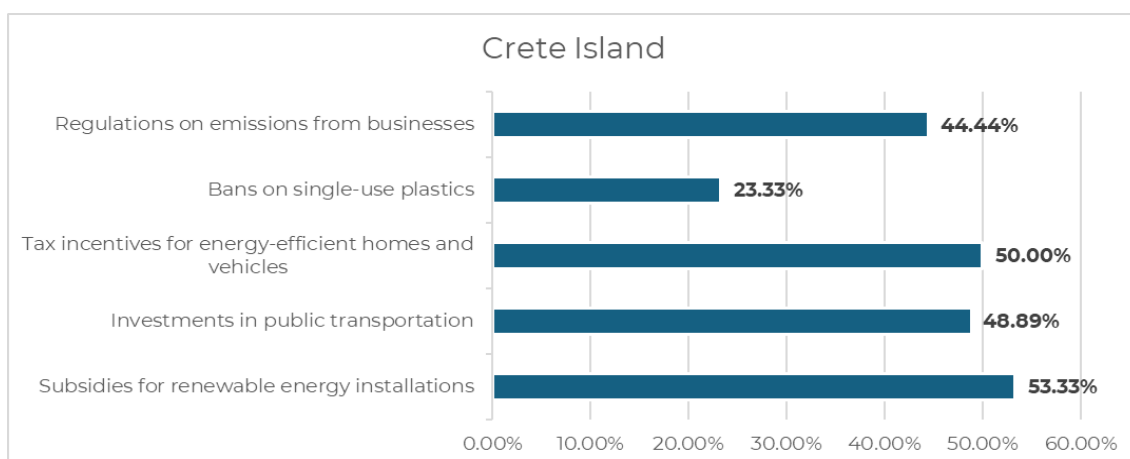
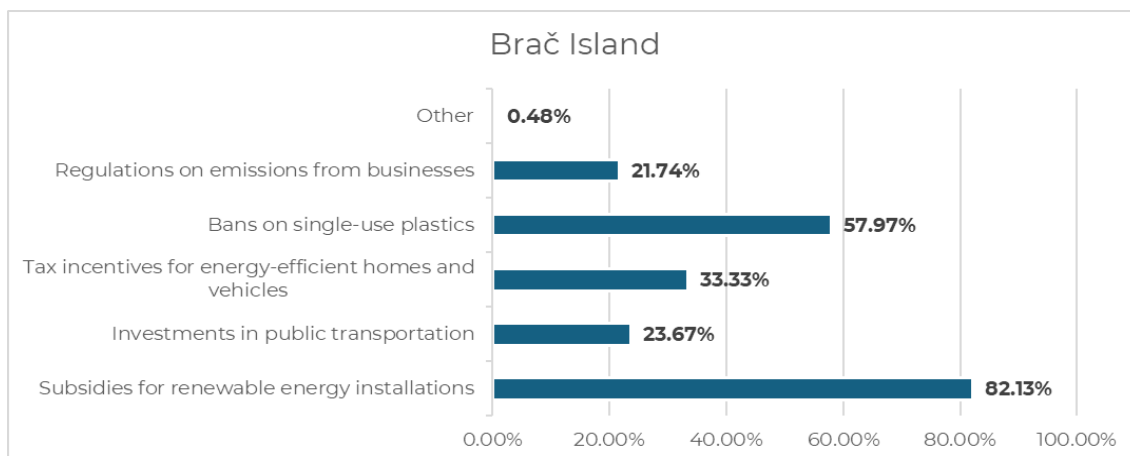


Question 21: Which of the following policies would you support to help reducing environmental impacts of the island? (Multiple choice question)

On Brač Island, support clusters around subsidies for renewable-energy installations (82.13%) and bans on single-use plastics (57.97%), with lower endorsements for tax incentives for energy-efficient homes and vehicles (33.33%), investments in public transportation (23.67%), and regulations on business emissions (21.74%); the “other” category is residual (0.48%). On Crete Island, the profile is more evenly distributed across fiscal and infrastructural options, with broadly similar shares for subsidies for renewables (53.33%), tax incentives (50.00%), investments in public transport (48.89%), and emissions regulations (44.44%), and more limited backing for bans on single-use plastics (23.33%); “other” is not reported. On Elba Island, a clear priority emerges for investments in public transportation (66.67%), accompanied by lower levels for tax incentives (33.33%), bans on single-use plastics (29.17%), and subsidies for renewables (16.67%), while emissions regulations and the “other” category are not reported. As this is a multiple-response item, percentages may exceed 100%. It should also be noted that these results refer only to respondents who, in Question 11, selected options a, b, or c; this criterion was applied for Elba and Crete, whereas in the Brač survey all respondents answered this question, including those who had selected option d in Question 11.

Table and Figures 20. Distribution of respondents by policies supported to reduce the island's environmental impacts

	Brač Island	Crete Island	Elba Island
a. Subsidies for renewable energy installations	82.13%	53.33%	16.67%
b. Investments in public transportation	23.67%	48.89%	66.67%
c. Tax incentives for energy-efficient homes and vehicles	33.33%	50.00%	33.33%
d. Bans on single-use plastics	57.97%	23.33%	29.17%
e. Regulations on emissions from businesses	21.74%	44.44%	-
f. Other	0.48%	-	-





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