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Reducing energy poverty in the Private Rented Sector: How to reach tenants – Croatia approach

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INTRODUCTION

Baseline of energy poverty in the private rented sector in Croatia

According to Eurostat 2019, 89.7 % of the Croatia population lived in a household owning their home while the remaining 10.3 % lived in rented housing.

Table 3: Croatia's tenure type

	Owner [%]	Tenant [%]
Croatia	89,7	10,3
EU 27	69,8	30,2

Also because of unresolved property-legal relations there is **so-called free – based tenancy**, which always includes two separate families/households in the same dwelling and extended families living in a joint household.

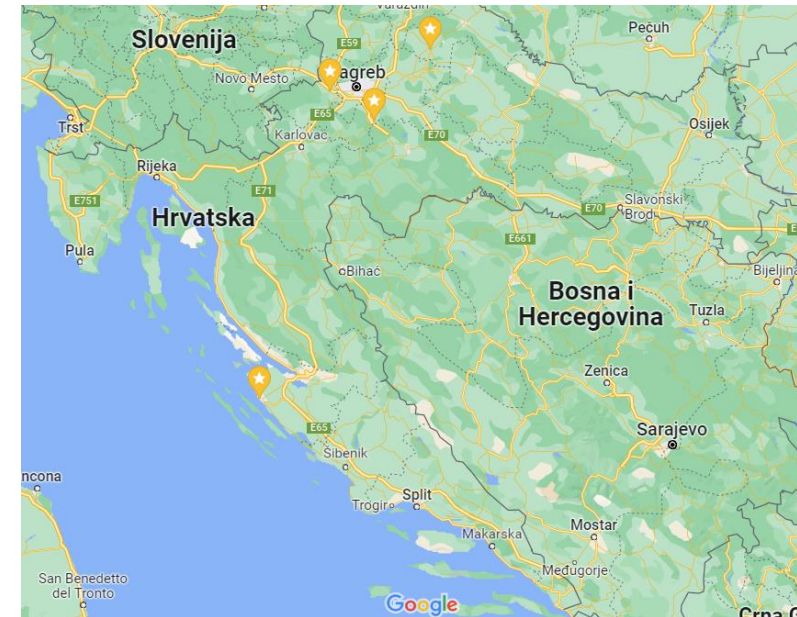
An unregulated market and unresolved property-legal relations contribute to the problem of lack of national data and the market operating in the shadow zone.

		EU 27 [%]	Croatia [%]
Average	arrears on utility bills	7	21
	inability to keep their house warm in social housing	7,8	7,4
Owners	arrears on utility bills	5,6	20
	inability to keep their house warm in social housing	6,4	6,7
Private rents	arrears on utility bills	9	15,2
	inability to keep their house warm in social housing	10	17,1
Social housing	arrears on utility bills	13	33,6
	inability to keep their house warm in social housing	13,2	13,4

Synergy with the POWERPOOR, EmpowerMed, EPAH and Bušeko projects?!

4 surveys - included in the survey and that is the question of property ownership, ie whether they live in their own property or in a rented one

1. As part of the **Bušeko? project** an energy survey was conducted in the area of **Buševac** (152 completed surveys) by DOOR and OSS Buševac and detailed data on the situation regarding energy poverty for the area of Buševac will be obtained.
2. As part of the **POWERPOOR project** an energy poverty survey (using POWERPOOR toolkit) was conducted in the area of **city of Križevci** (approximately 257 direct households will be visit)
3. As part of the **EmpowerMed project** an energy poverty survey was conducted in the area of **city of Zadar and Zadar County** (approximately 200 direct households) by DOOR in cooperation with Red Cross – Zadar and detailed data on the situation regarding energy poverty for the area of city of Zadar and Zadar County will be obtained.
4. As part of the **EPAH technical assistance for municipalities** an energy poverty survey was conducted in the area of **city of Zagreb** (approximately 388 direct households) by DOOR



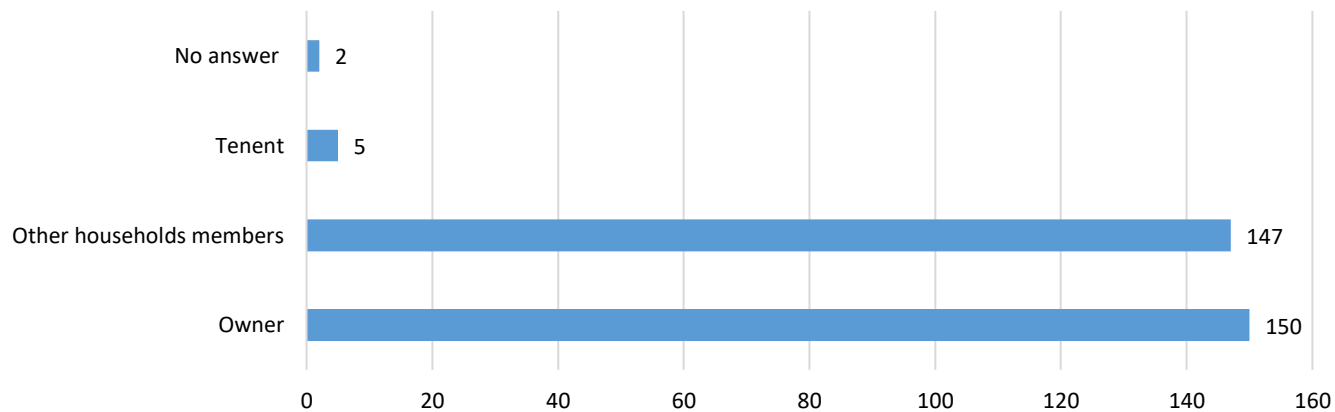
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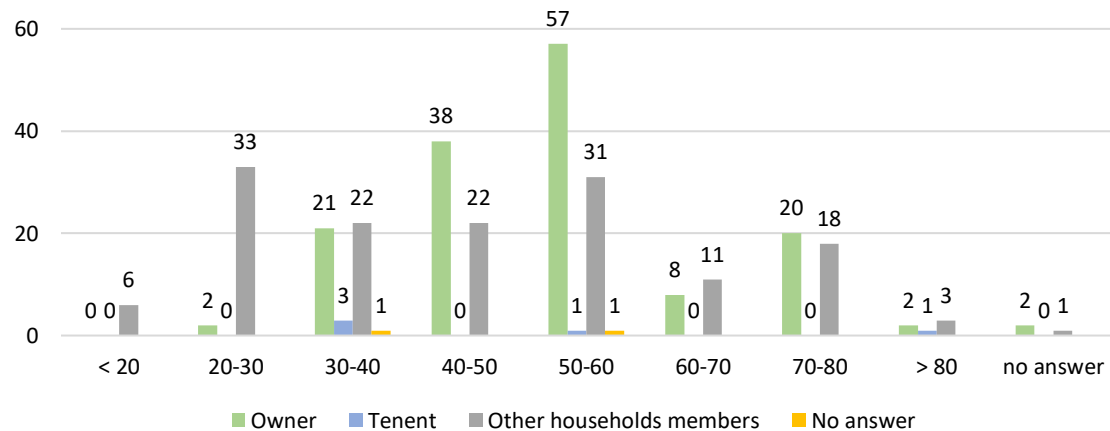
BUŠEKO?

Buševac - results

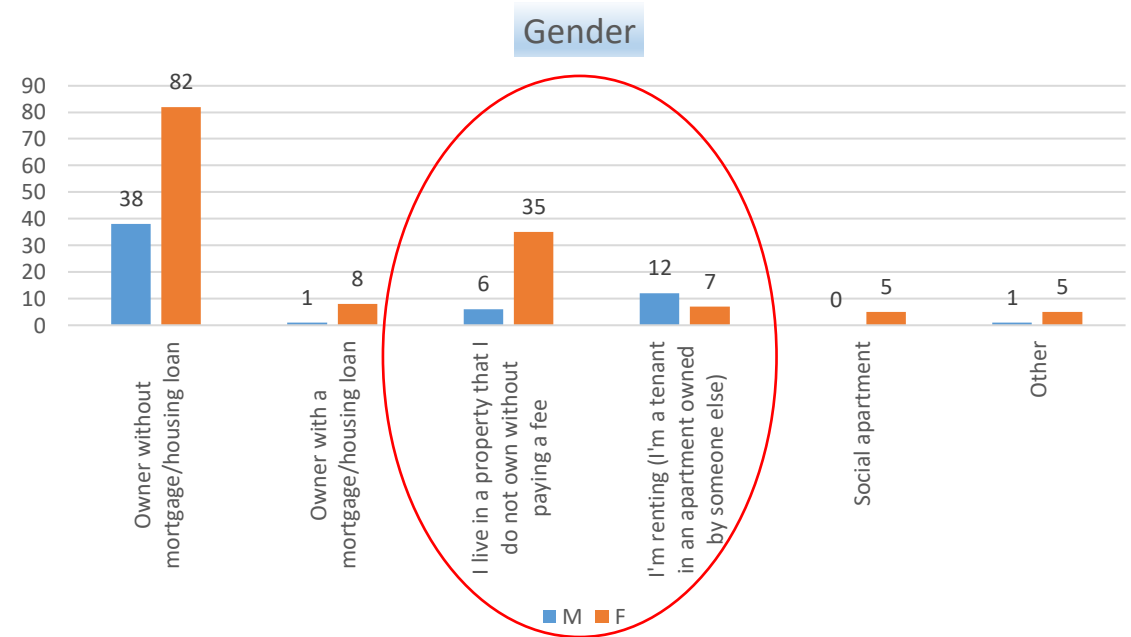
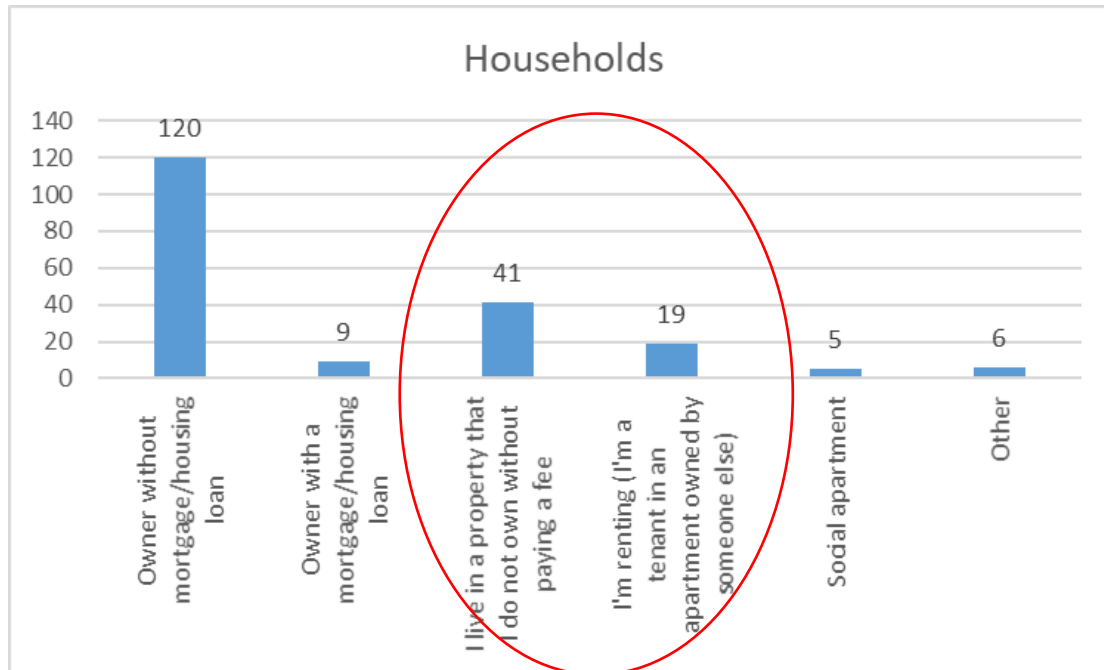
Households



Age



- During February and March 2021, a survey questionnaire was conducted on a sample of 304 citizens in 157 households in
- The survey, (approximately 30 minutes), was conducted live by OSS Buševac volunteers. iplaity of Buševac
- free – based tenancy



- 220 households
- The survey, (approximately 30 minutes), was conducted in person by Red Cross - Zadar

This synergy with the Red Cross is set as an example of good practice in *D5.2 Energy Poverty Guidebook for Energy Planning*



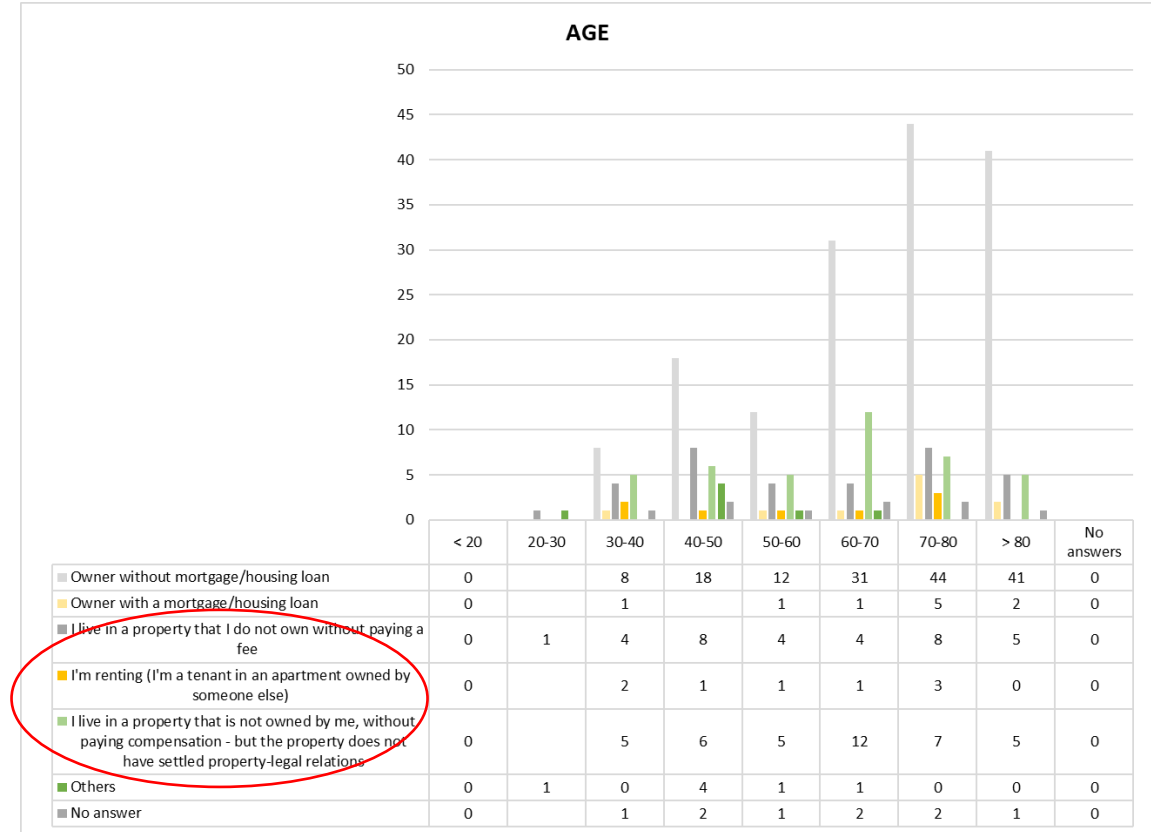
Synergies with stakeholders to identify energy poor households in Križevci



Croatia
City of Križevci

The Red cross of Križevci already works with households that are in a difficult social situation through various projects, i.e., "Active Aging for the period 2021/2022". They have pre-mapped the vulnerable households so they will conduct a survey of 220 households in the area of the city of Križevci using the POWERPOOR toolkit which will provide information on energy performance of building. This is expected to provide valuable complementary data to map the areas with high risk of energy poverty for the city of Križevci.

The above action can be combined with the activities of another sister project, the ENPOR H2020 project. The ENPROR experience about energy poverty in the private rented sector is expected to be combined with the findings of the Red Cross and POWERPOOR joint action, to provide insights about energy poverty in rented sector. This combined action can prove important for designing future Public calls for energy renovations on buildings, such as the Energy renovation programme for multi-apartment buildings and the Energy renovation programme for single family houses, taking into account the needs of landlords and tenants and to include them in the wider political context.



- 275 households
- free – based tenancy – 34
- Tenants - 8



This synergy with the EPAH technical assistance for municipalities set as an example of good practice in *D5.2 Energy Poverty Guidebook for Energy Planning*



Joining forces – the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub, the POWERPOOR project, and the City of Zagreb

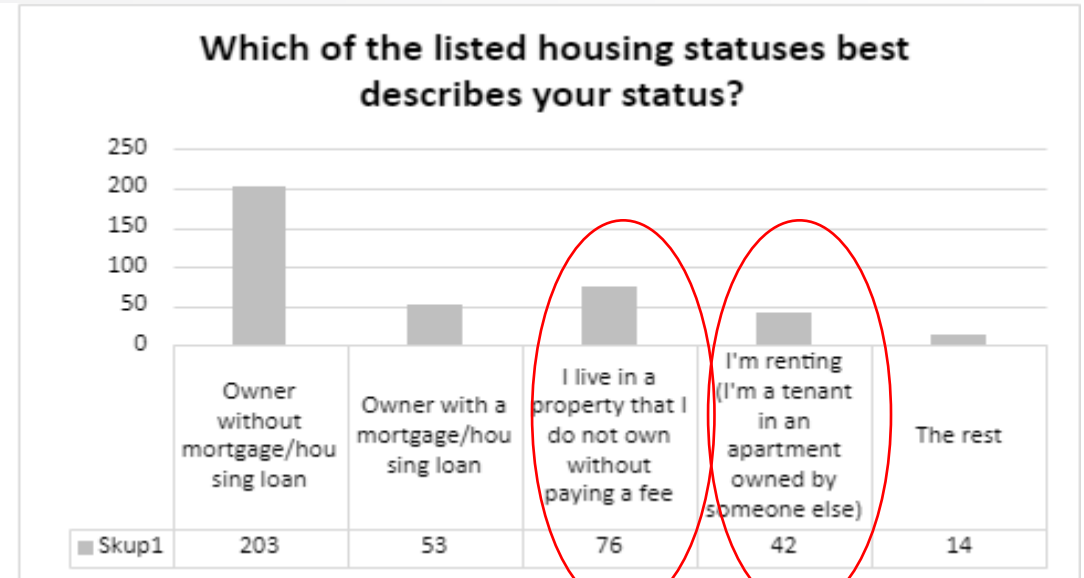


Croatia
City of Zagreb

The City of Zagreb has officially decided since 2016 to take action to reduce the risk-of-energy-poverty rate to 9.8% via the programme “Energy poverty Mitigation Program for city of Zagreb”, which is foreseen to be prepared by the end of November of 2022 and initiated in 2023. The Programme will directly contribute to the decrease of energy poor households in Zagreb, an increase of energy savings and energy efficiency, and a decrease in carbon emissions which will contribute to the fulfilment of the national climate goals.

The POWERPOOR Centre for alleviating energy poverty in Croatia, run by DOOR, will educate at least 20 energy supporters and mentors who will contribute to collecting the required data to map the current energy poverty status. A sample of 500 households will be supported by energy supporters and mentors and face-to-face interviews will be conducted within the administrative area of the City of Zagreb. POWERPOOR activities will assist the city of Zagreb to benefit by the “EPAH technical assistance” programme that can provide support in preparation of the analysis and data collection for the programme.

Though this collaboration, City of Zagreb expects are expected to have a multi-faceted understanding of the energy poverty impacts on local level, which will allow the municipality to design effective energy poverty alleviation policies.



- 388 households

lessons learned

- due to the high demand for workers in Croatia, it was difficult to motivate volunteers, especially students, to set aside some of their time and volunteer when they could work during that time and earn the much-needed money
- cooperation with the Red Cross and similar organizations proved to be the most successful approach for household visits
- the length of the questionnaire is important
- financial data are always problematic
- GDPR? - an issue