



RENOVERTY

Development of rural energy efficiency roadmaps

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RENOVERTY Specific Objectives

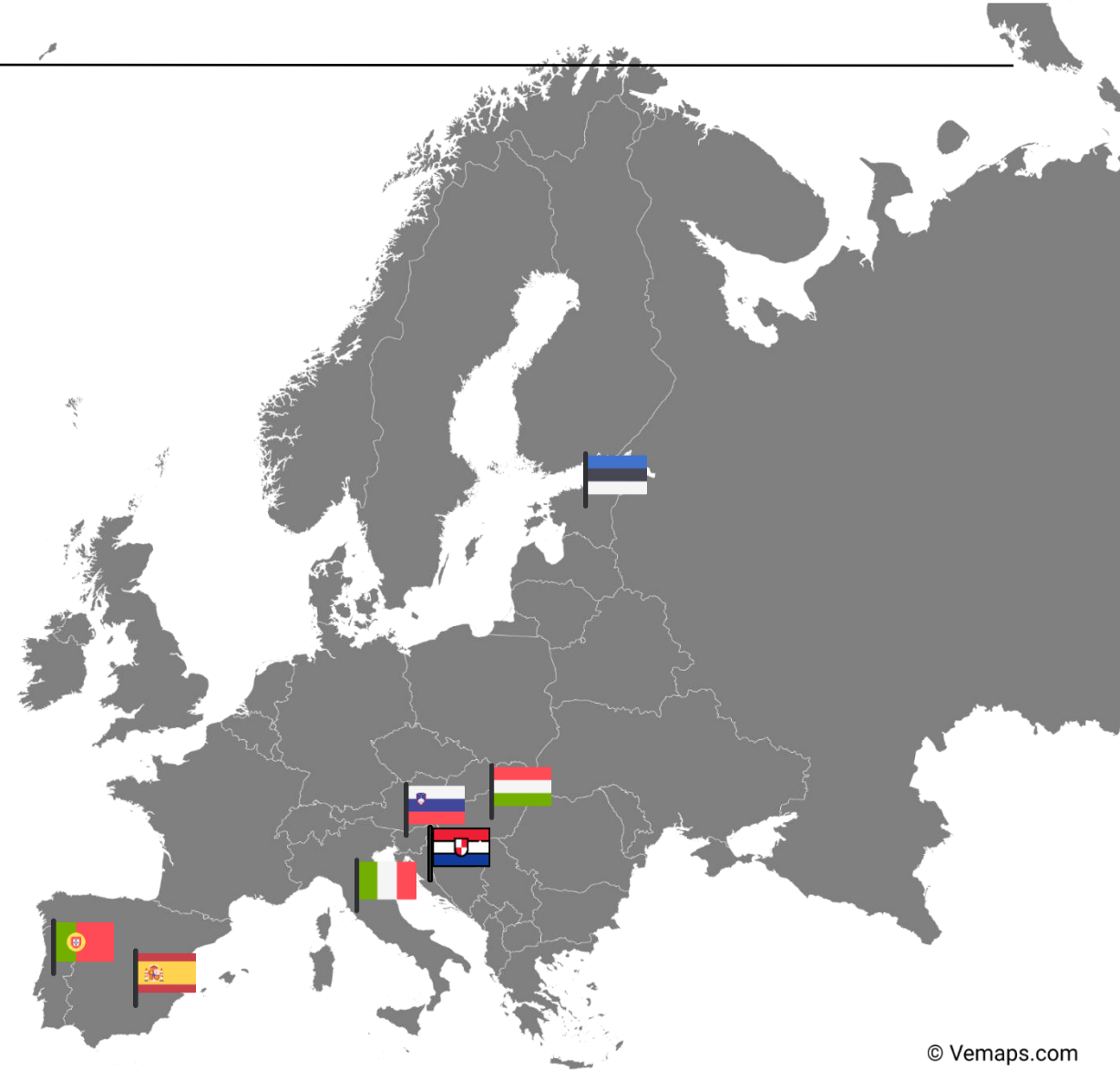
Promote renovations to increase the energy efficiency of **vulnerable rural areas across 7 regions** through:

- Supporting **12 Local Action Groups (LAGs)** for the creation and implementation of **Rural Energy Efficiency Roadmaps (REERs)**.
- **Empowering** all (non) public actors in rural areas to become involved in the process of renovating vulnerable districts/buildings.
- Delivering **a scalable operating model**, to support the replicability of REERs and guide more public actors to renovate rural vulnerable districts after the project ends.



Geographical Coverage

1. Sveta Nedelja + Žumberak (*Croatia*)
2. Tartu (*Estonia*)
3. Bükk-Mak & Somló-Marcalmente-Bakonyalja Leader (*Hungary*)
4. Zasavje (*Slovenia*)
5. Parma (*Italy*)
6. Coimbra (*Portugal*)
7. Osona (*Spain*)



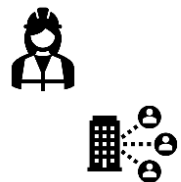
Characteristics of Rural Areas



Specific **demographic structures** (more **elderly** people, young people aged 10 to 19, **fewer** people of **working age**)



Educational capabilities (**limited access** to education, specifically **tertiary** education)



Lower **labour capabilities** (fewer job **prospects**, narrower **variety** of activities, **unemployment** rate)



Lack of **infrastructure** and **services** (**transportation** limitation, access to **grids** and resources)

Desk-Research + Expert Survey



Results: Barriers and Gaps



Financial barriers

- Lack of capital / High upfront cost
- Higher energy burdens / Low income
- Access loans / Debt aversion



Geographic barriers

- Geographic isolation
- Shortage of local energy efficiency workers



Awareness / Access barriers

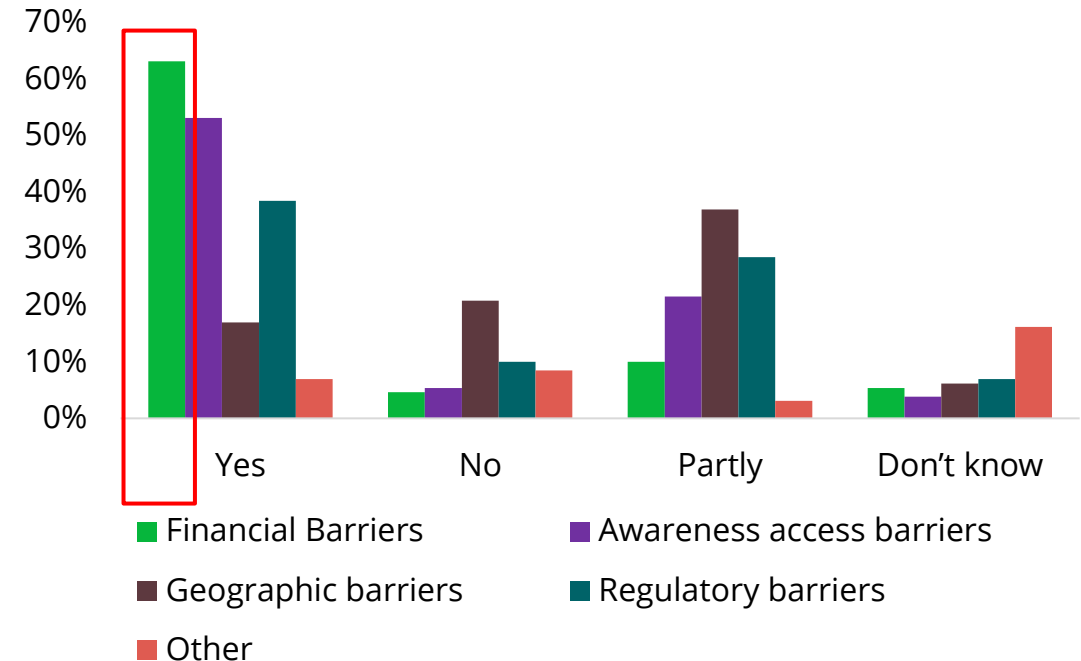
- Lack of technical information / Skepticism
- Lack of time / Priorities
- Lack of access to marketing channels (knowledge of subsidies schemes)



Regulation barriers

- Unsupportive & fragmented policy frameworks that don't reflect rural needs
- Weak regional involvement in national energy planning

Existence of barriers to energy efficiency improvements in rural areas



Literature reports evidence of increased **exposure to energy poverty** in rural areas while the current policy landscape **does not** necessarily **address** the **particularities** of rural areas.

Rural Renovation Roadmap



is a tailor-made, data-driven renovation guide for households in rural areas. It combines technical audits with social support to help families and local authorities plan and finance energy-saving home upgrades.

Technical Process



First Contact & Audit



Setting Renovation Expectations



Planning the Renovation



Overcoming Barriers



Mapping the Market for companies



Strategic Aspects



Housing characteristics from audits



Broader renovation objectives



Complex barriers: legal, financial, social, administrative



Stakeholder mapping + ensuring scalability & replicability across policy levels

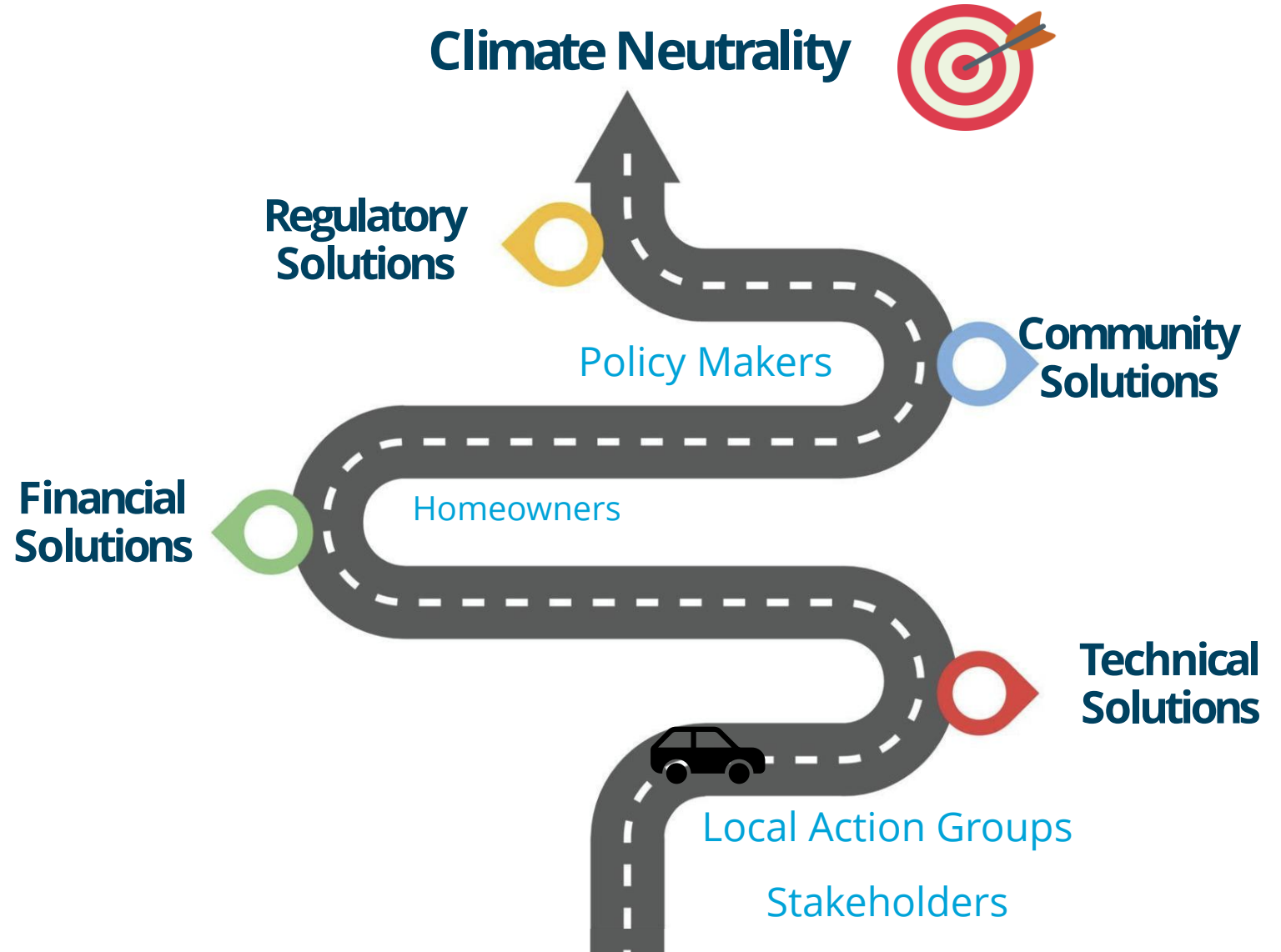
Rural Renovation Roadmap



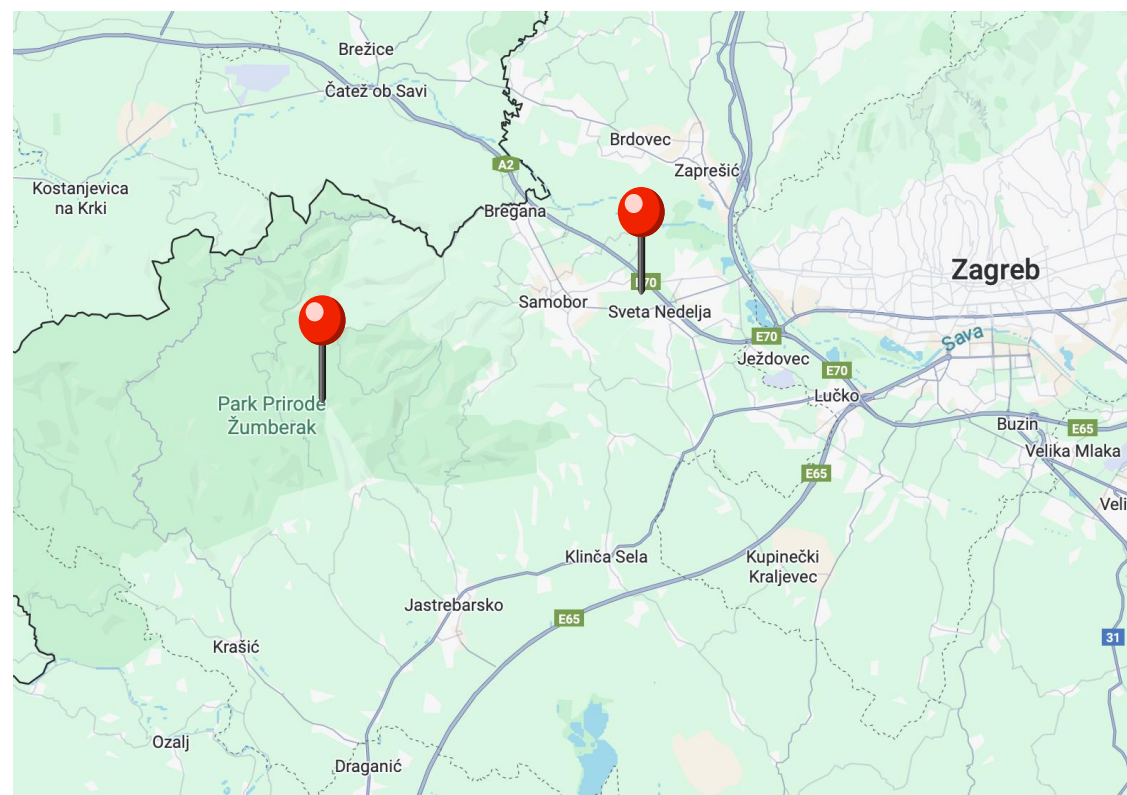
A combination of:

Technical data about renovation, such as measures to be implemented, costs, timelines, etc.

Non-technical aspects of renovation focused on social and cultural factors, such as cooperation between the community, process of implementing decisions, stakeholders mapping (local installers) etc.



Pilot case Study in Croatia: **Sveta Nedelja + Žumberak**



Pilot Croatia – context & locations

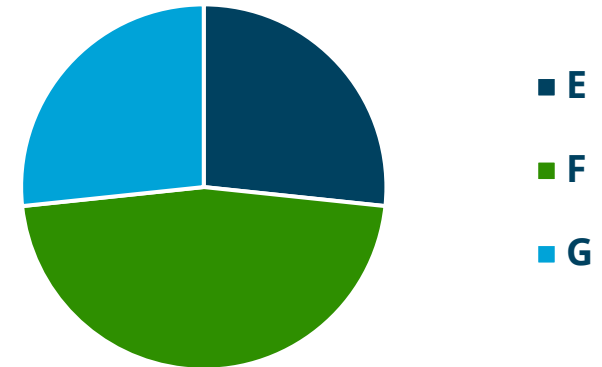


- Locations: **Sveta Nedelja** (peri-urban) and **Žumberak** (rural); located in central Croatia
- Typical housing: uninsulated family houses made out of brick (avg. construction year: 1966)
- Heating: Reliance on **wood & gas** for heating -> poor thermal comfort
- Many **houses illegally built** → **not eligible for subsidies**

👉 High potential for deep renovation, strong community interest



Distribution of energy classes of 15 certified houses



Pilot Croatia – Key barriers

Barriers Identified

Legal status: Many buildings lack registration → ineligible for national subsidies

High upfront costs: Even cost-effective measures require support

Lack of skilled workforce in rural areas (especially Žumberak)

Administrative complexity and poor access to guidance

Limited trust in renovation programs and actors

Pilot Croatia - REERs as solution

- Development of local & national **REER** based on EPC results
 - 3 **co-creation workshops** with **70+ participants**
 - Support from LAG Sava & LAG Vallis Colapis
 - **Outcomes:**
 - ✓ Individual renovation scenarios
 - ✓ Demonstrated **impact of co-financing**
 - ✓ Highlighted need for **tailored subsidy schemes**
 - ✓ Delivered practical, household-level REERs that municipalities and LAGs can support
- **replicable model for prioritising measures**



Rural Energy Efficiency Roadmap (REER) for the energy renovation of family houses of households experiencing energy poverty in the area of Sveta Nedjelja and Žumberak, Croatia: A renovation guideline for households

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Pilot Croatia - Actions

✓ **4 measures under implementation:** technical, legal, financial, community

✓ Continuous cooperation with **Local Action Groups (LAGs)**



Good practice – LAG Sava

- Established an **energy community** gathering 11 municipalities
- Goal: **one solar PV per municipality** (LAG-financed)
- Surplus energy → tackling **energy poverty**



Replication already started

- 2 additional LAGs joined the **mentorship programme** offered within the RENOVERTY

Thank you!

For more info, follow our hashtag
visit our website or contact us:



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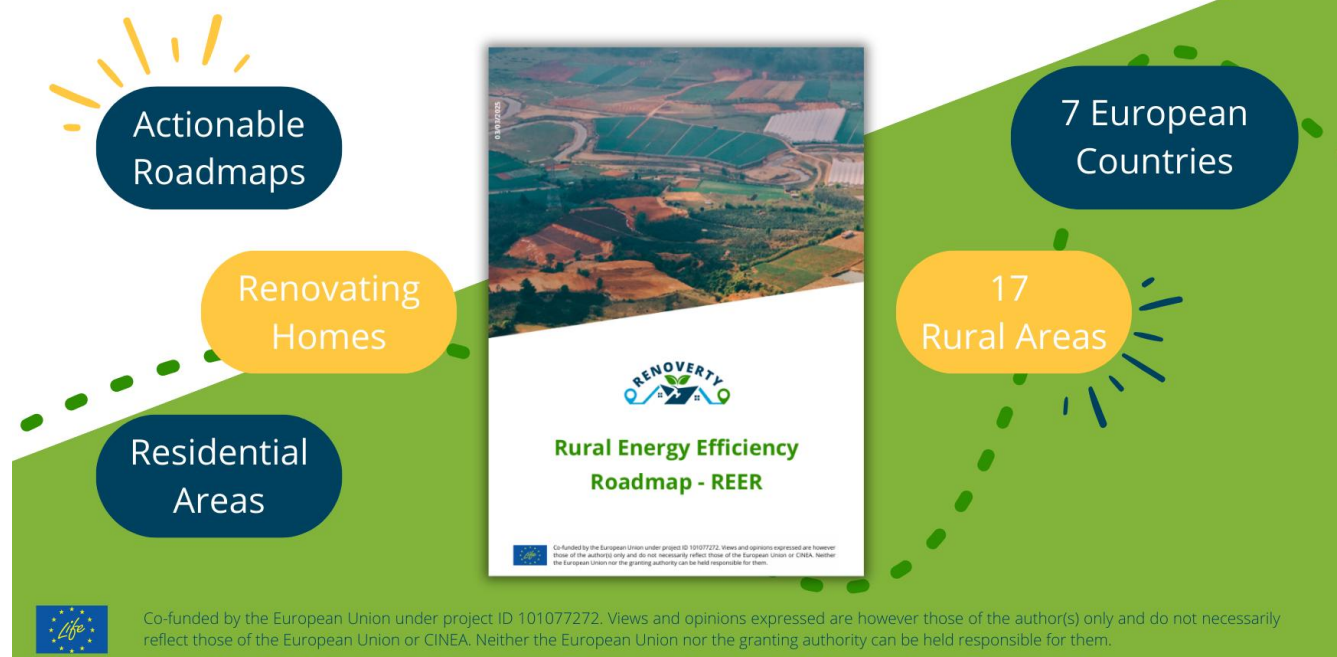
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Rural Energy Efficiency Roadmaps (REERs)



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