



# Prioritisation of Environmental Challenges

## Survey results



In association with: Stratos, ÖIR, NILU



- The survey has been open from December 14, 2023 until January 5, 2024
- It contains 16 questions, of which 3 were demographic questions, 11 had predefined answers with the possibility of multiple ticking, and 2 were open questions
- The survey was sent via social media, posted on the GCAP website and was sent by email to all the stakeholders in the project database
- 753 respondents answered the questions

# Summary of the results



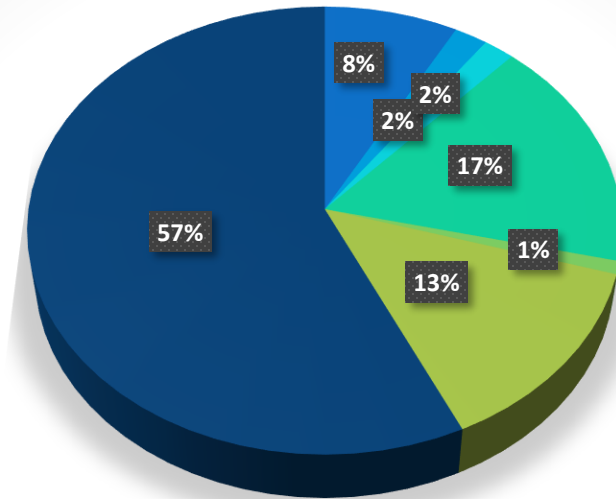
- The analysis of the results obtained from the dissemination of the questionnaire indicates an **increased interest among citizens** in environmental and urban resilience issues.
- **Traffic** in all its aspects proved to be one of the most pressing issues for the citizens of Bucharest.
- The diversity of the sectors of interest mentioned, reveals that **Bucharest is at an early stage in this transformation process**, but at the same time the potential for progress is very high.



# Demographics of the respondents

# Stakeholders' categories

1. Which category of stakeholders do you belong to?



- Academic or research, development, innovation organisation
- Local government institution
- Central government institution
- Business environment
- Company or municipal agency
- Civil society/NGOs
- Informal group of citizens

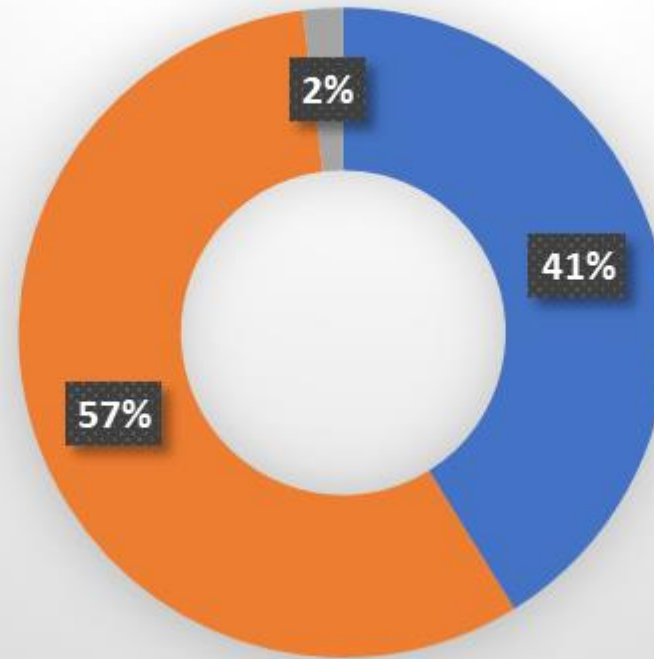
Respondents no=753





# Respondents by gender

2. Please specify your gender category:



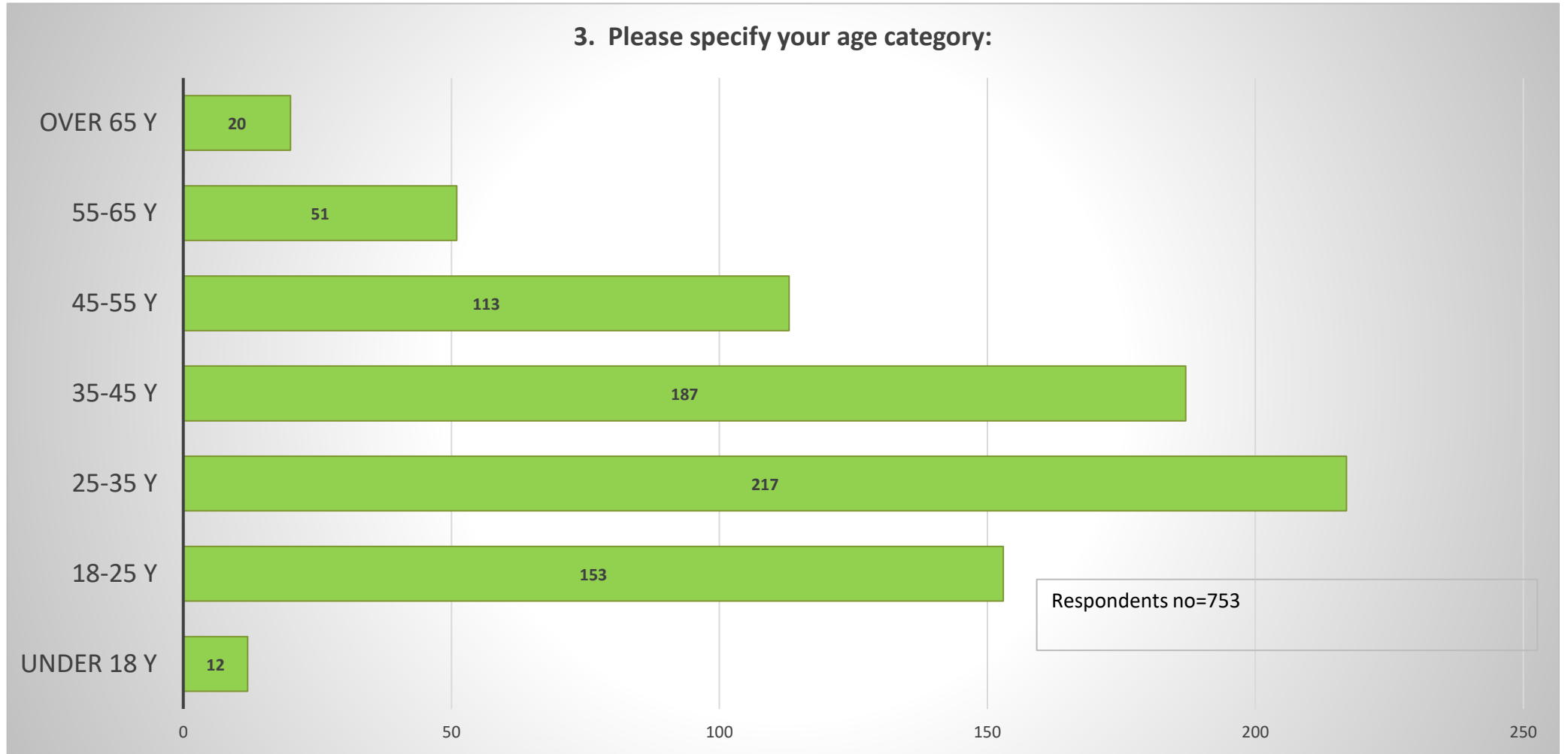
■ Female ■ Male ■ Other

Respondents no=753





### 3. Please specify your age category:



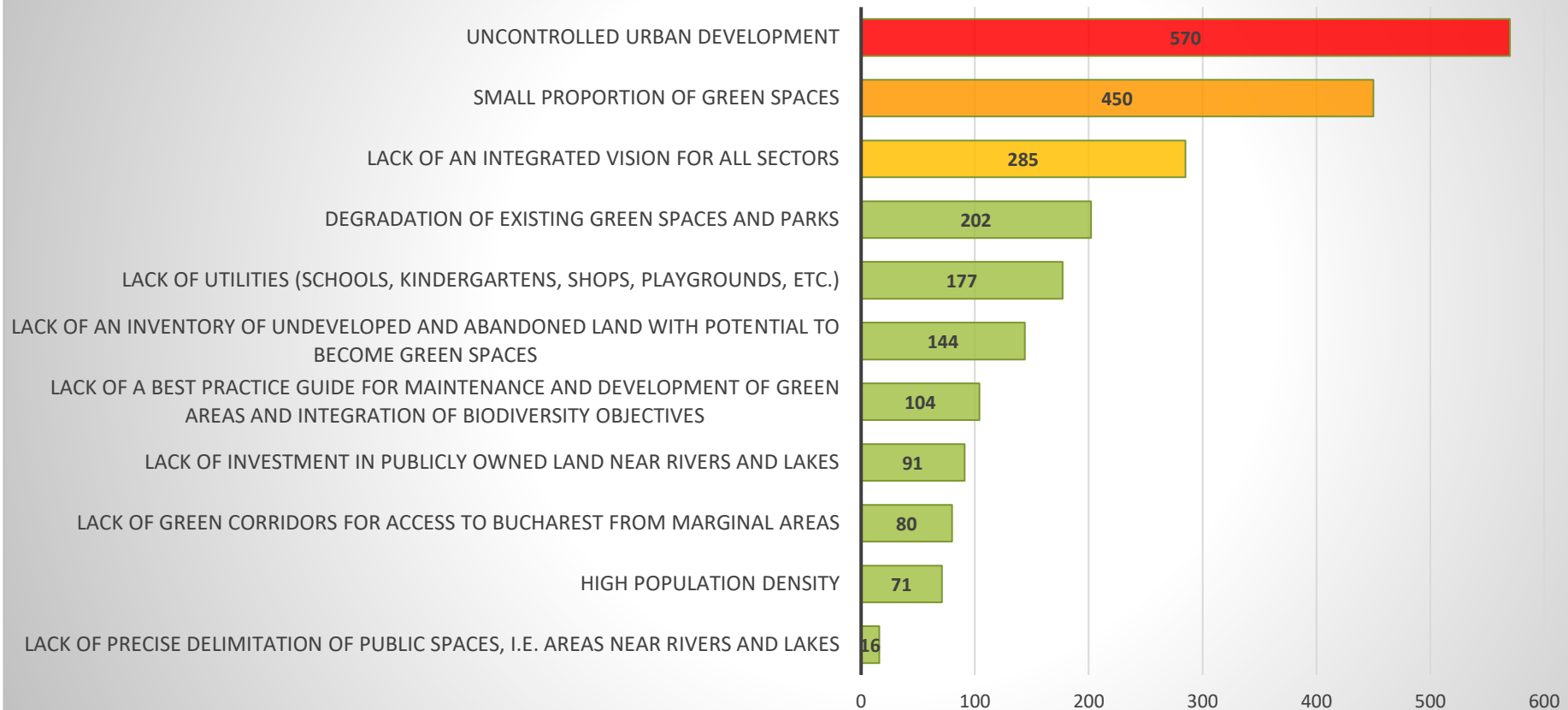


# Challenges per sector



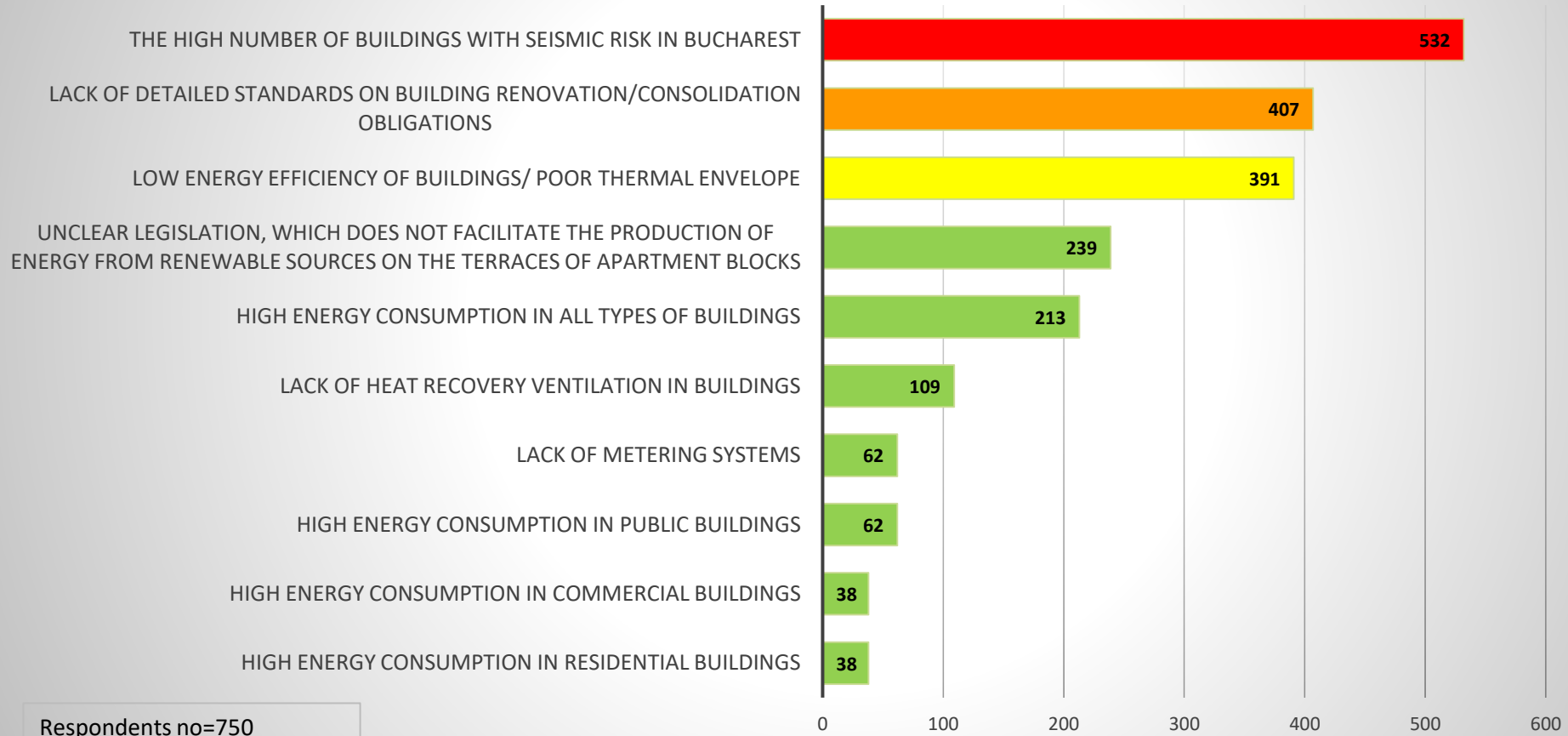


## 4. What are the priority environmental challenges in terms of land use, biodiversity and green spaces in Bucharest?





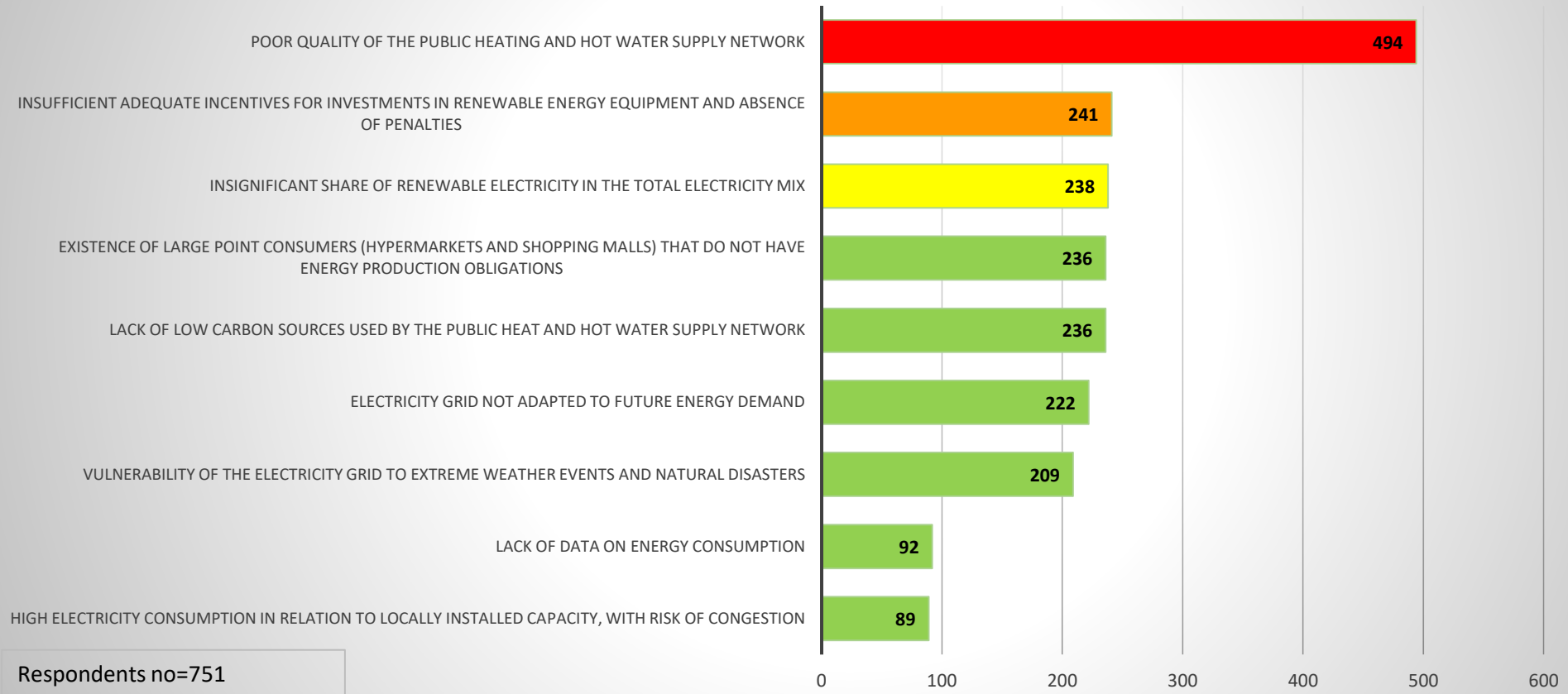
## 5. What are the environmental priority challenges in terms of the buildings in Bucharest?



Respondents no=750

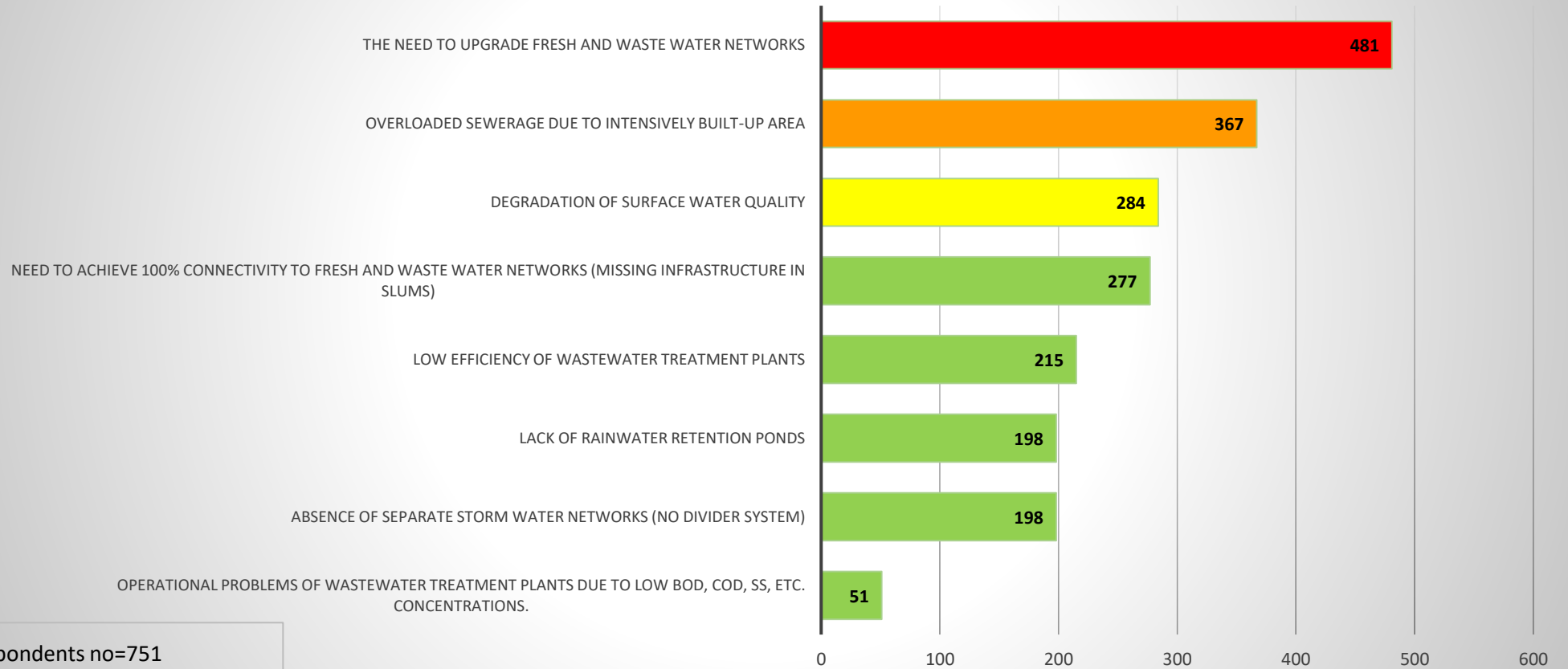


## 6. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding energy generation and consumption in Bucharest?



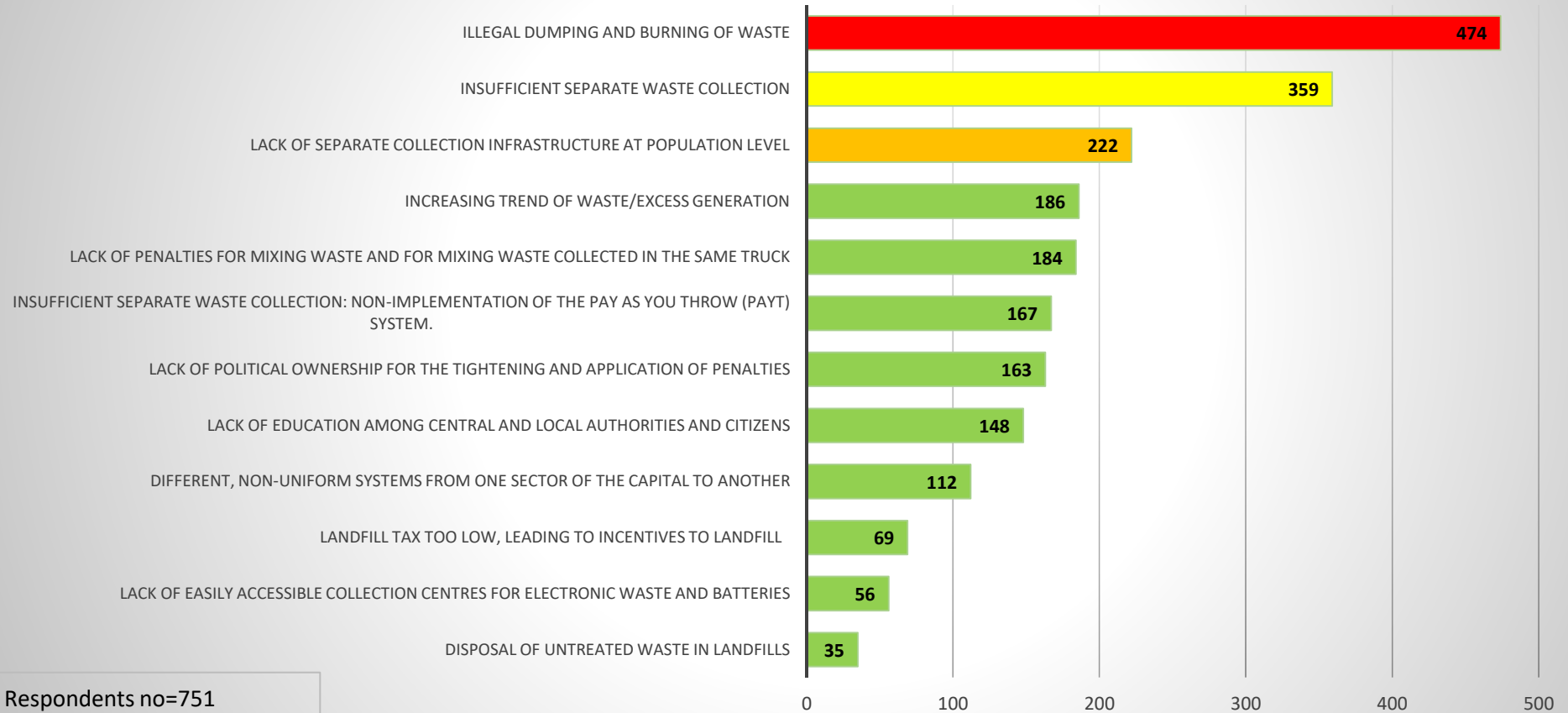


## 7. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding water and wastewater in Bucharest?

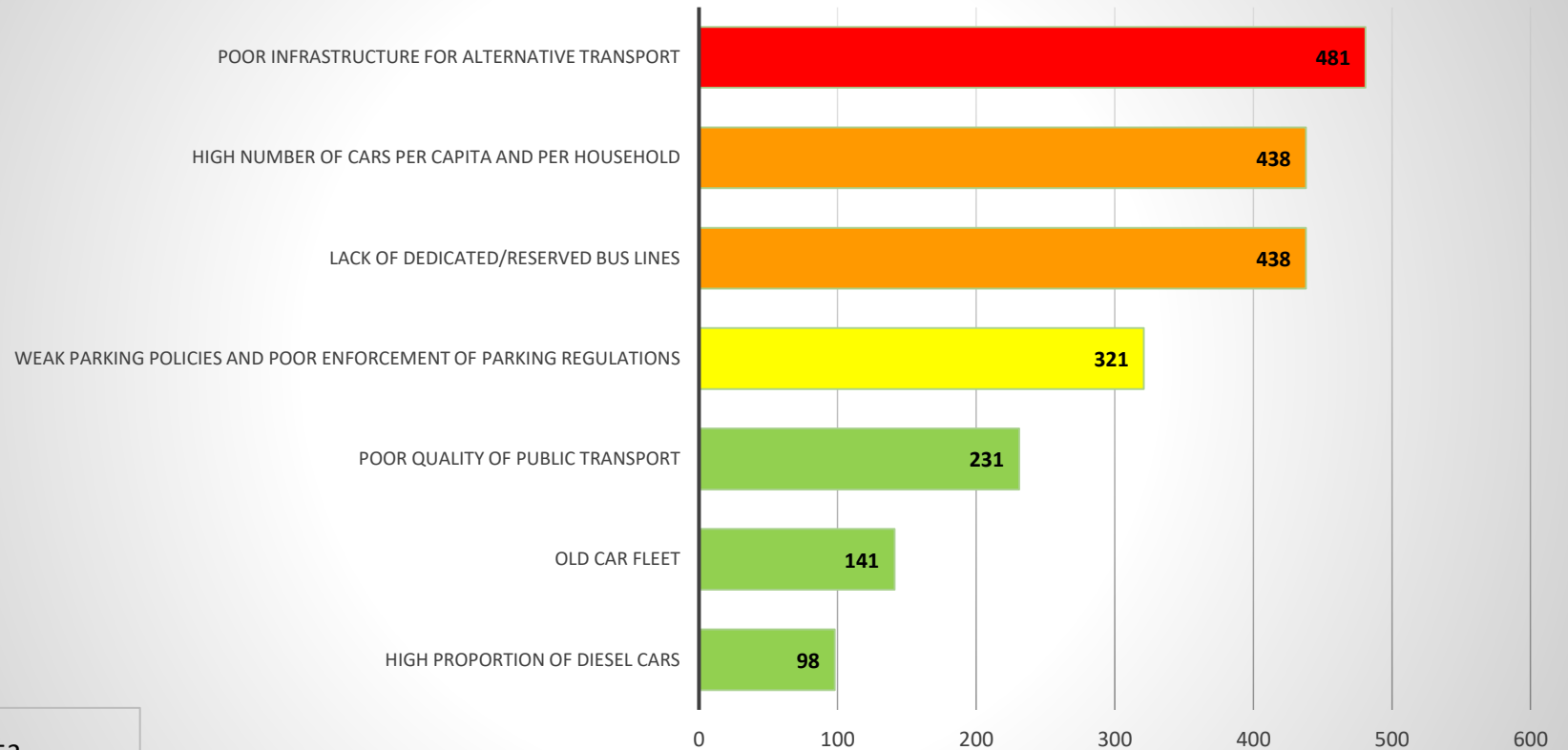


Respondents no=751

## 8. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding waste in Bucharest?



## 9. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding transport in Bucharest?

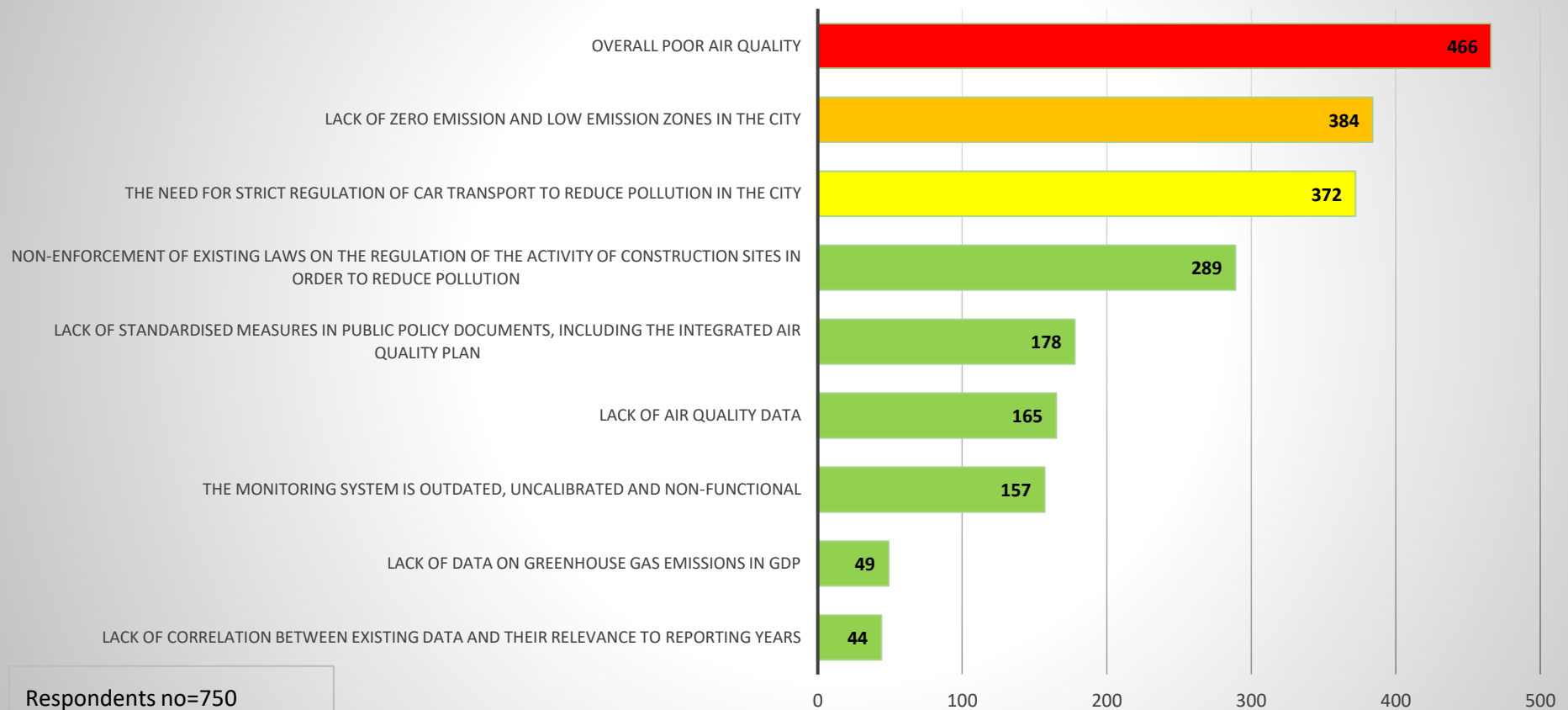


Respondents no=752



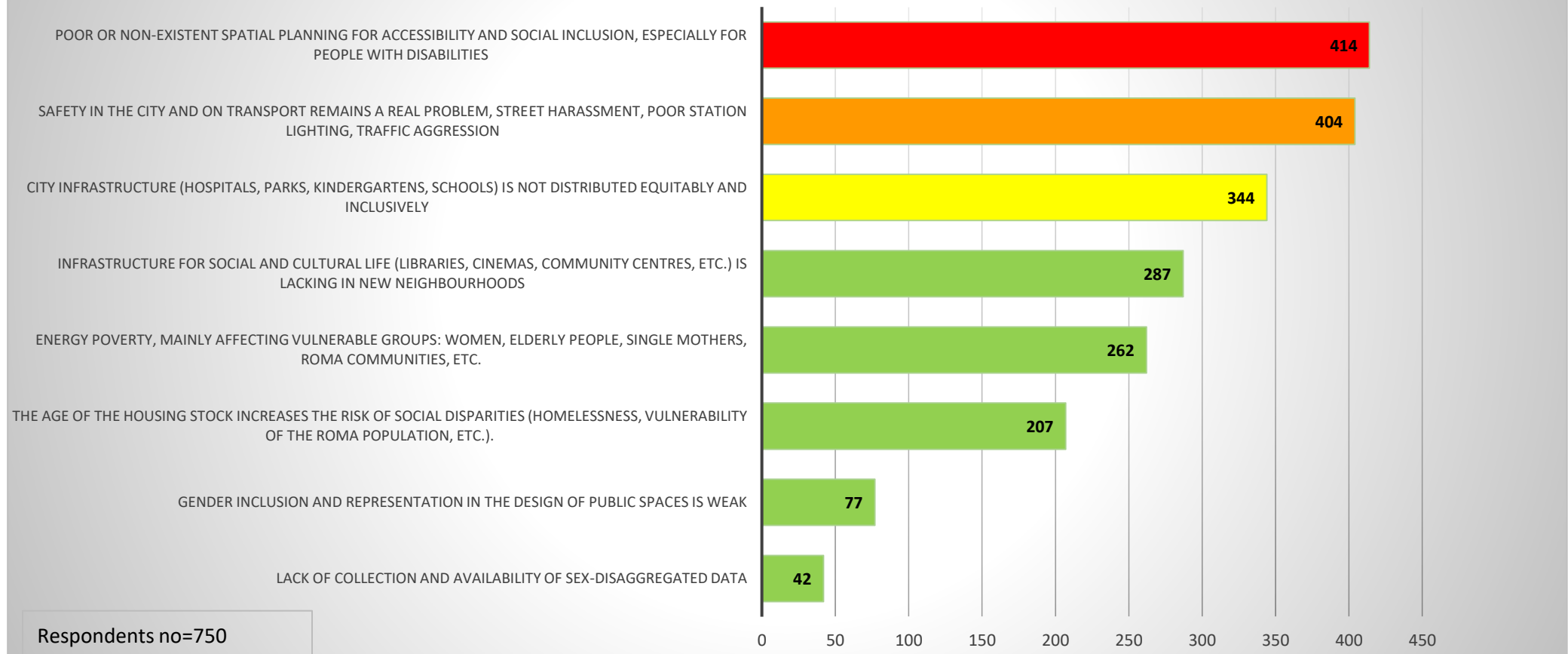


## 10. What are the priority environmental challenges in terms of air quality in Bucharest?





## 11. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding social and gender inclusion in Bucharest?





## 12. What are the priority environmental challenges regarding the digitization of public services in Bucharest?

POOR OR NON-EXISTENT IMPLEMENTATION OF SMART TECHNOLOGIES IN CITY INFRASTRUCTURE



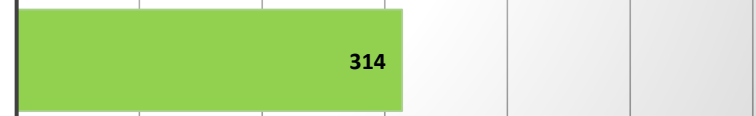
APPLICATIONS FOR ACTIVE CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT ARE MISSING OR POORLY IMPLEMENTED



DATA ON AIR POLLUTION AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT ARE RATHER ABSENT

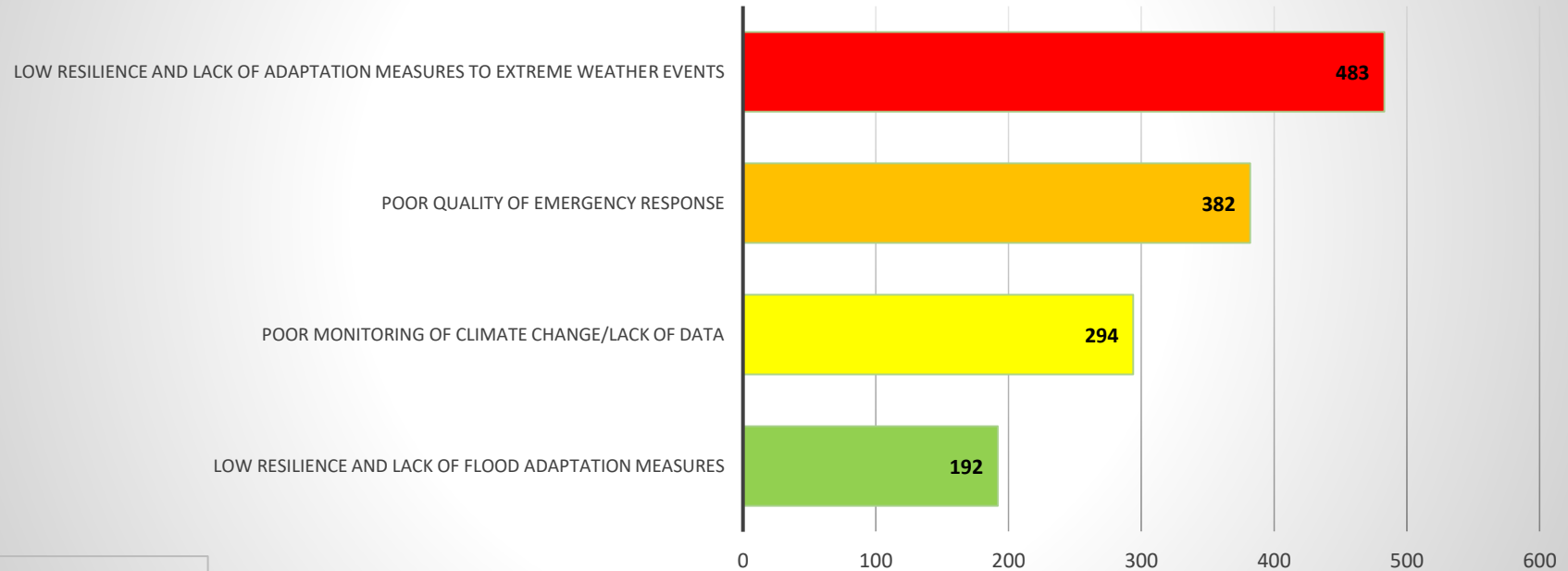


HIGH COSTS OF DIGITISATION FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS (E.G. SMART SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION)



Respondents no=750

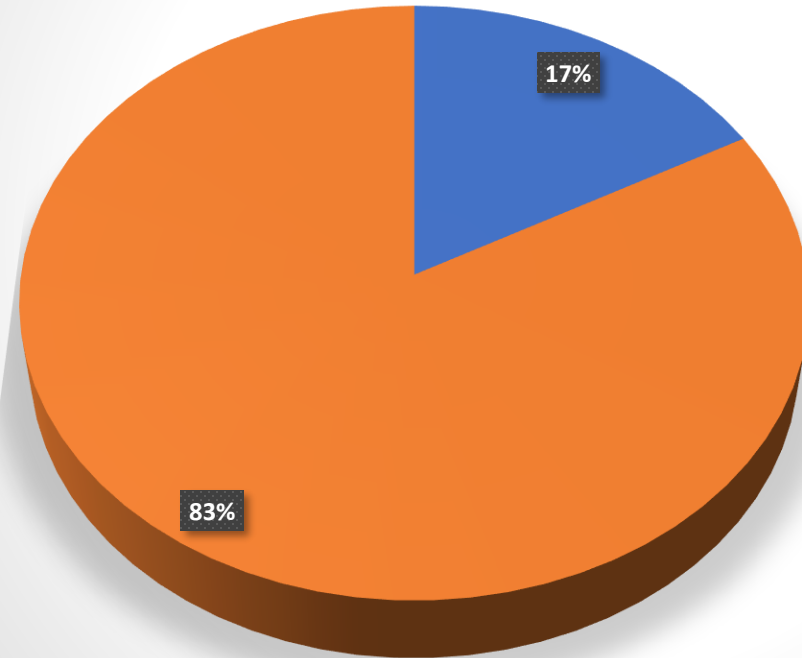
### 13. What are the priority challenges in terms of adaptation to climate change in Bucharest?



Respondents no=750



14. What kind of vision for Bucharest as a green city do you think is the most appropriate?



- Several visions, for each sector or thematic area above
- A single vision to encompass all areas of green development in the city

Respondents no=748



## 15. Green City vision for Bucharest (No of respondents=655)

•SUMMARY: The analysis of the Bucharest stakeholder questionnaire reflects community aspirations for sustainable urban development.

- The ideal city, according to the feedback collected, would be characterized by **traffic efficiency**, with connected bike lanes and smart traffic lights to smooth traffic flow. Pedestrian-friendly infrastructure and the development of public transport are priorities, together with the implementation of the **"15-minute city" concept**.
- Turning **brownfield sites into green spaces** is essential, including building rooftops, brownfield sites and spaces along waterways. Encouraging urban gardens and improving the maintenance of existing green spaces is considered necessary.
- On energy, a sustainable city invests in and **encourages renewables**, with taxes and restrictions on polluters.
- **Efficient waste management**, selective collection and promotion of the circular economy are priorities for waste reduction and reuse.





- Extensive **education and awareness campaigns** are seen as essential to encourage change and adaptation to a more **sustainable lifestyle**.
- The **integrated vision** for the development of the next 10-15 years requires **collaboration** between authorities, community and other stakeholders, focusing on concrete actions and **long-term strategies**.
- Respondents mention that suggestions for adopting **good practices** from European cities such as **Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Madrid, Paris, Bern and Barcelona** can provide inspiration and tested solutions. Turning the ambitions expressed in this survey into reality requires deep collaboration between authorities, community, private sector and non-governmental organizations to create a **green and environmentally friendly** Bucharest.





## 16. Key strategic Green City objectives of Bucharest, for the next 10-15 years per sectors of interest? (No of respondents=666)



- After analyzing the mentioned objectives considering the answers provided, 7 strategic objectives were extracted representative for the transformation of Bucharest into a "Green City" in the next 10-15 years.



- These 7 objectives cover key aspects of making Bucharest a green and sustainable city, addressing issues such as green mobility, energy efficiency, resource management and urban infrastructure.





## 1. Transport and Sustainable Mobility:

- Expansion of public transport infrastructure, including dedicated bus and tram lanes.
- Increase the use of public transport by cracking down on cars, such as paid parking everywhere and limiting access to the center for old cars.
- Develop bicycle lanes and pedestrian facilities, encourage the use of bicycles and other alternative means of transport.



## 2. Pollution Abatement and Air Quality Improvement:

- Extensive development of the public transport network, including metro, buses and trams.
- Promote the use of electric vehicles through adequate charging infrastructure and tax incentives.
- Deployment of renewable energy sources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



## 3. Increasing Green Spaces in the Inner City:

- Increase the number of green spaces, parks and tree planting in urban areas.
- Integrating natural elements into urban design, including green roofs and walls.
- Develop existing parks and green areas and implement an effective stormwater management system.





#### 4. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources:

- Adopt high energy efficiency standards for new buildings and renovations.
- Implementation of renewable energy sources in buildings and infrastructure.
- Develop community energy saving awareness programs.



#### 5. Waste Management:

- Extend selective waste collection systems throughout the city.
- Stimulating recycling and promoting the circular economy.
- Reducing waste through awareness and education programs.



#### 6. Reconsolidation and Upgrading of Buildings at Seismic Risk:

- Develop a comprehensive strategy for the seismic assessment of existing buildings.
- Prioritizing the reconsolidation of buildings identified with high seismic risk.
- Providing financial support and tax incentives for the renovation and upgrading of buildings in line with seismicity standards.





## 7. Administrative Efficiency for Strategic Unit:

- - Increasing the interconnectedness of all local administration departments involved in city management to ensure a unified city-wide strategy.
- - Developing an integrated and digitized urban management system for administrative efficiency.
- - Create and implement a unified and sustainable urban development strategy.

**These 7 objectives cover key aspects of making Bucharest a green and sustainable city, addressing issues such as green mobility, energy efficiency, resource management and urban infrastructure.**





# Summary priority challenges



Sector	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
<b>Land use and biodiversity</b>	Uncontrolled urban development	Small proportion of green spaces	Lack of an integrated vision for all municipality sectors
<b>Buildings</b>	High number of buildings with seismic risk	Lack of detailed standards for building renovation/consolidation obligations	Low energy efficiency of buildings/poor thermal envelope
<b>Energy</b>	Poor quality of the public heating and hot water supply network	Insufficient adequate incentives for investments in renewable energy equipment and absence of penalties	Insignificant share of renewable electricity in the total electricity mix
<b>Water and wastewater</b>	The need to upgrade fresh and wastewater networks	Overloaded sewerage due to intensively built-up area	Degradation of surface water quality
<b>Waste</b>	Illegal dumping and burning of waste	Insufficient separate waste collection	Lack of separate collection infrastructure at population level
<b>Transport</b>	Poor infrastructure for alternative transport	High number of cars per capita and per household Lack of dedicated/reserved bus lanes	Weak parking policies and poor enforcement of parking regulations





Sector	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
<b>Air quality</b>	Overall poor air quality	Lack of zero-emissions and low emissions-zones in the city	The need for strict regulation of car transport to reduce pollution in the city
<b>Social and gender inclusion</b>	Poor or non-existent spatial planning for accessibility and social inclusion, especially for people with disabilities	Safety in the city and on transport remains a real problem, street harassment, poor station lighting, traffic aggression	City infrastructure (hospitals, parks, kindergartens, schools) is not distributed equitably and inclusively
<b>Digitization</b>	Poor or non-existent implementation of smart technologies in city infrastructure	Applications for active citizen engagement are missing or poorly implemented	Data on air pollution and urban environment are rather absent
<b>Climate change</b>	Low resilience and lack of adaptation measures to extreme weather events	Poor quality of emergency response	Poor monitoring of climate change/lack of data