ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION: "are we (still) ready?"

BAROMETER OF THE ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION - 2024 EDITION





WHY THE BAROMETER OF THE ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION?

The debate around ecology has entered a new phase which is struggling to be structured on common basis. If there is a consensus on the risks for the planet and for all humankind, the solutions to reduce our impact are still little debated and dividing.

IPCC reports, climate strategies, the Green New Deal, the COP: there are many proposals to fight climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. But as half the people on the planet are about to vote in 2024, voices are raising around the world calling for a sharp slowdown of the ecological transition and gathering under a new banner: the ecological pause. The large-scale adoption and deployment of ecological solutions raise a decisive question: are the needed changes to win the "battle of the century" socially, economically and culturally acceptable to human communities?

This question is at the heart of the Barometer of the ecological transformation carried out with a sample covering **more than half of the world's population** on the 5 continents.

This barometer aims to **make the public debate concrete** by working on **solutions**, and to understand **the obstacles and levers** of their **acceptability** to accelerate the transition.

3 thematic axes

Decarbonisation

Decontamination

Resources regeneration

A novel angle: acceptability of ecological solutions and desirability of the transition

What are the **psychological, economic and cultural obstacles** to adopt ecological solutions?

How do we arbitrate between the cost of action and the cost of inaction?

Why are we prepared to bear or accept the cost of ecological transformation? What are the objectives and benefits that make people want to make the ecological transition?





Methodology



Target countries

A survey carried out in 26 countries on 5 continents, involving over 29,500 individuals (between 1,000 and 2,000 per country).

The countries were chosen for their demographic weight, their weight in GHG emissions and to ensure a diversity of ecological political and cultural histories.

Overall, these countries represent nearly 60% of the world's population, 67% of global GHG emissions and 77% of global GDP.

See details on the next page.



Collection method and field dates

An online survey conducted from 17 October to 6 December 2023



Sample representativeness

For **each of the 26 countries**, a **representative** sample of **residents aged 18 and over** was selected. Representativeness was ensured using the quota method applied to the following variables: **gender, age, socio-professional category or income** (depending on the country), **urban area and region of residence.**

(i)

Results "World Opinion"

To constitute the **results of the "world opinion"**, an equivalence between countries was privileged (each country counts for 1, no weighting according to the number of inhabitants). This choice was made to ensure that the diversity of countries is represented and thus avoid "world opinion" being only the average of the results of the most populous countries (China and India in particular).



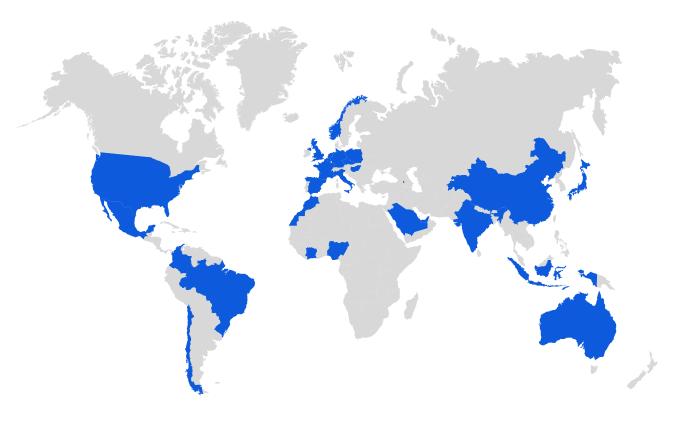
Frequency of the barometer

Every 18 months. This is the 2nd edition. The questions common to the 2 editions and showing significant changes (+ / - 2 % points) are indicated +2 -2





A global scope



				Number of people interviewed	Pop. of the country on global pop.	Share of the country in global GHG emissions	Share of world GDP
			TOTAL	29 500	59,2%	67,0%	77,0%
AFR	CA						
1		CIV	Ivory Coast	1 000	0,4%	0,1%	0,1%
2	*	MAR	Morocco	1 500	0,5%	0,2%	0,1%
3	0	NGA	Nigeria	1 000	2,8%	0,8%	0,4%
AME	RICA						
4	•	BRA	Brazil	1 000	2,7%	2,4%	2,0%
5	4	CHL	Chile	1 000	0,2%	0,3%	0,3%
6	<u></u>	COL	Colombia	1 000	0,6%	0,4%	0,3%
7	_	USA	United States	2 000	4,2%	11,2%	25,8%
8	(•)	MEX	Mexico	1 000	1,6%	1,5%	1,7%
	TERN A		21.1	1.000			
9	***	CHN	China	1 000	17,6%	29,2%	16,9%
10		IND	India	1 000	17,8%	7,3%	3,6%
11	-3-	IDN	Indonesia	1 000	3,4%	2,3%	1,4%
12	(<u>•</u>)	JPN	Japan	1 000	1,5%	2,2%	4,0%
EUR	OPE	DELL	Commonw C	1 000	1.00/	1 50/	4.004
13	-	DEU	Germany ®	1 000	1,0%	1,5%	4,2%
14	<u> </u>	BEL	Belgium ®	1 000	0,1%	0,2%	0,6%
15		ESP	Spain ® France ®	1 000 1 000	0,6%	0,6%	1,5%
16 17		FRA		1 000	0,8%	0,8%	2,9%
18	#	NOR HUN	Norway (©) Hungary (0)	1 000	0,1% 0,1%	0,1% 0,1%	0,5%
19	0	ITA	Italy ®	1 000	0,1%	0,1%	0,2% 2,1%
20	×	NDL	Netherlands @	1 000	0,7 %	0,7 %	1,0%
21	Z	POL	Poland Output Description:	1 000	0,2%	0,3%	0,8%
22		CZE	Czech Republic	1 000	0,3%	0,7%	0,3%
23		GBR	United Kingdom	2 000	0,1%	0,2%	3,2%
	DLE EA		Omica Kingaom	2 000	0,070	0,070	0,270
24	(E)	SAU	Saudi Arabia	1 500	0,5%	1,5%	1,0%
25	Č	UAE	United Arab Emirates	1 500	0,1%	0,5%	0,5%
OCE				. 333	0,170	0,070	0,070
26	•	AUS	Australia	1 000	0,3%	1,1%	1,6%





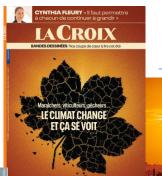
Ecology,
do we stop or
do we go further?





The planet is burning, humankind is suffering: the collapse has begun

Since November 2023, dozens of municipalities in the regions of Nord and Pas de Calais (France) have been hit by successive floods, leading to power cuts, evacuations and restrictions on the use of water. Soil was waterlogged and overflowing rivers flooded crops. The subsiding of floodwater is making it much harder for farmers to get back to normal, and to rotate their crops. With global warming, the increase in rainfall is set to become stronger, increasing the risk of a recurring situation.



world to shut down due to high temperatures, sometimes exceeding 50 degrees. The authorities instituted two public holidays and closed public infrastructures, banks and some businesses. The number of consultations at medical centres has tripled due to the heatwave.

In August 2023, Iran became the first country in the



According to the European Copernicus programme, **2023 was the hottest year on record.** The average annual temperature reached 14.98°C, with peaks of 53°C in Death Valley and 38°C recorded in the middle of winter in Argentina.

At this rate, the climate in a city like Paris could be similar to Seville or Canberra by **2050**, with long heatwaves and temperature peaks over 50°C.



Our planet has just endured a season of simmering — the hottest summer on record.

Climate breakdown has begun.

António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations

In France, Rumilly (Haute-Savoie) is one of 17,000 European sites contaminated by eternal pollutants. The town's water supply had to be cut off, and large quantities of PFOA were found in the blood of some residents. In December 2023, the International Agency for Research on Cancer classified PFOA as "carcinogenic to humans".

Fine particle pollution, emitted by motor vehicles, industry and fires, represents "the greatest external threat to public health" according to the Energy Policy Institute of the University of Chicago (EPIC).

In New Delhi (India), one of the world's most polluted cities, the average person loses 12 years of life expectancy due to air pollution.



The Guardian Weekly

Rec

Guardian Weekly

Rel Niño and global heating creating a perfect

Are El Niño and global heating creating a perfect

Are a perfect

In August 2023, **Maui** (Hawaii) burns down. The town of Lahaina was nearly razed to the ground. 100 people died and around thirty disappeared. It **was one of the deadliest fires in the United States**, and the rebuilding costs exceeded 5.5 billion dollars, according to the authorities

According to scientist Raul R. Cordero,

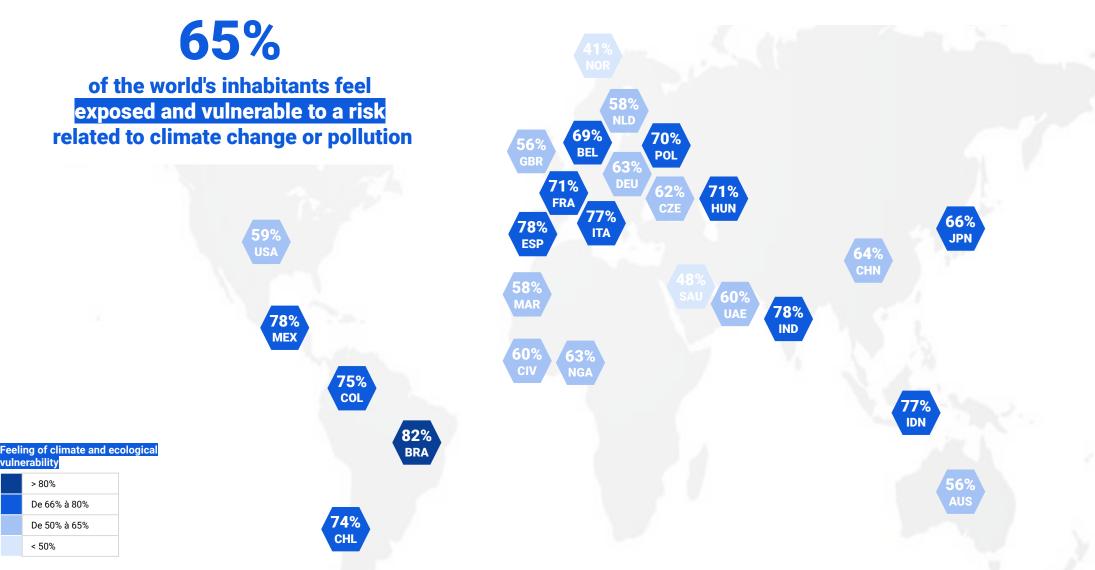
"a change of a few degrees in the tropical Pacific can make the difference between a relatively calm forest fire season and a widespread disaster".

Since the beginning of February, **Chile has been experiencing** "the greatest climatic tragedy for more than ten years", according to President Gabriel Boric. The country is facing violent fires fuelled by extreme temperatures and violent winds during an intense drought. The climate situation has been intensified by the natural phenomenon El Niño (which causes a rise of sea and atmospheric temperatures). More than 43,000 hectares of forest went up in smoke, thousands of homes were destroyed and 122 people died.





Ecological and climate insecurity is spreading around the world

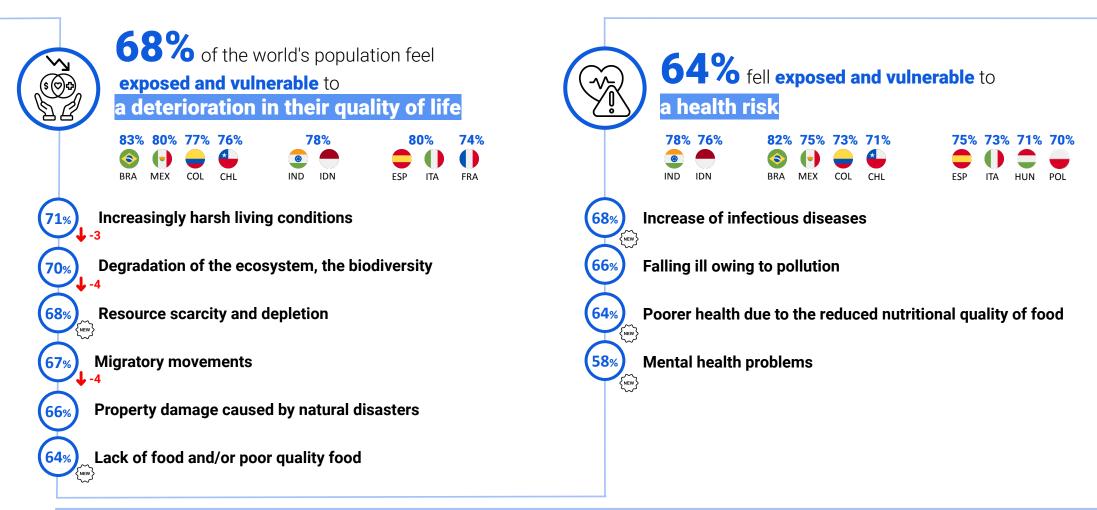


Question: When you think about the risks related to climate disruption and pollution (water, air, soil), do you... personally feel exposed and vulnerable to them? Feel that your country is exposed and vulnerable to them?





Human health and quality of life, the first victims on the ecological front



Regardless of vulnerability (health and quality of life)

+5 to +10 points (vs. men) in 10 countries/26

















+5 to +10 points (vs. average) in part of Europe and United States

Question: When you think about the risks related to climate disruption and pollution (water, air, soil), do you... personally feel exposed and vulnerable to them? Feel that your country is exposed and vulnerable to them?





The massive and stable certainty of an ongoing climate change

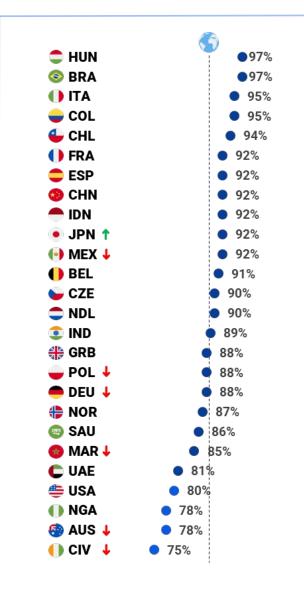


89%

of the world's inhabitants share the certainty that a **CLIMATE DISRUPTION** is **CURRENTLY HAPPENING**

11%

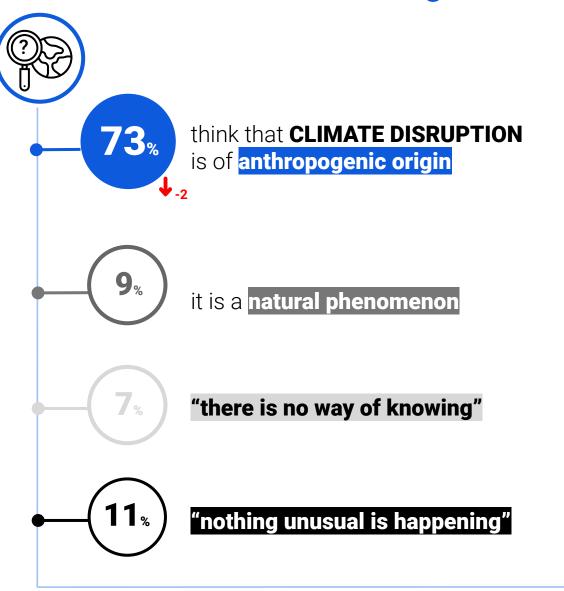
feel that nothing unusual is happening

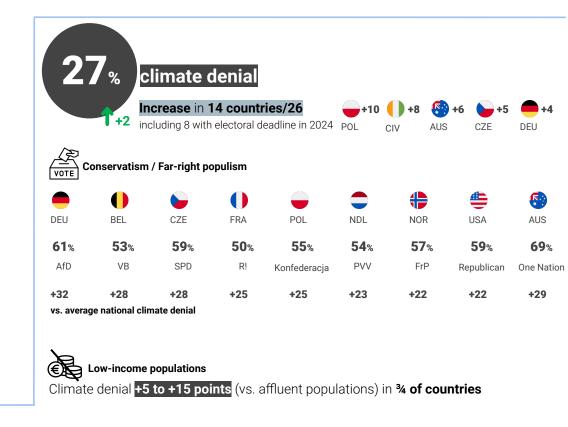


Question: Would you personally say that climate disruption is currently happening on our planet?



But climate denial is on the rise among conservatives and populists of the whole world



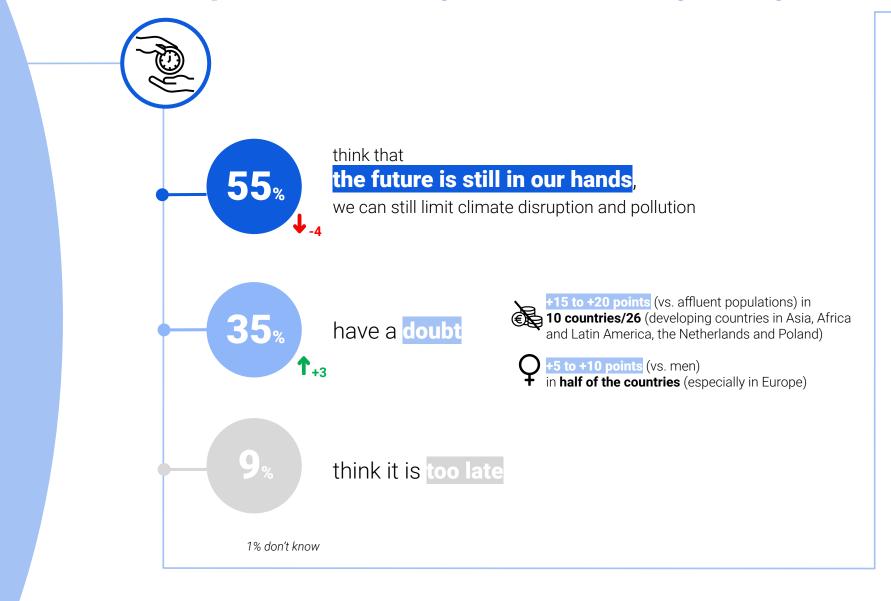


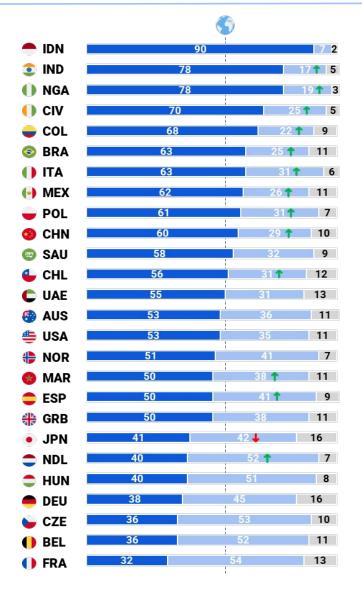
Question: Do you think that human activity is responsible for climate disruption or not?





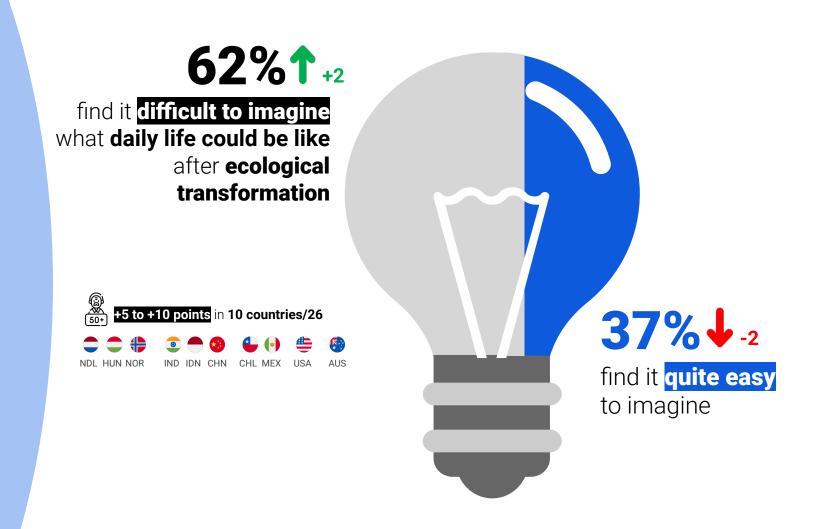
And the temptation of ecological fatalism is growing

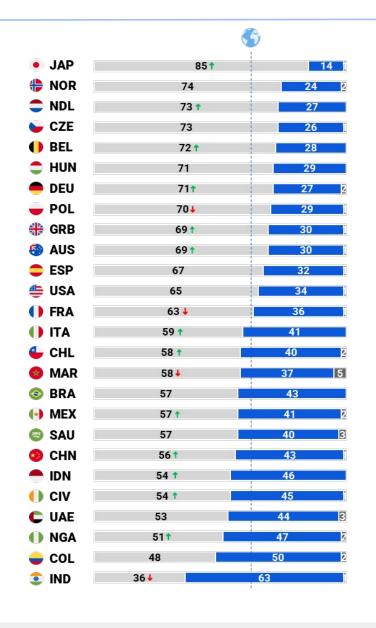




Question: And do you think we still have the future in our hands, that we can still limit climate disruption and pollution, or is it too late?

An ecological transition with no horizon





Question: When you hear that we need to change a number of things in society and in our lifestyles to limit climate disruption and reduce pollution, do you find it easy or difficult to imagine what daily life could be like if we achieved the ecological transformation?





The ecological pause, a dead end?

Environmental regulations are dividing and polarising public opinion. All over the world, voices opposing social policy and ecological action are rising to encourage "pragmatism", to put the consequences of the climate crisis into perspective and to call for an "ecological pause".

But global warming is accelerating. Without a major reduction of emissions, the 1.5 degree threshold could be exceeded in 2030, with all the connected human and economic costs. Yet the sums needed "to adapt to global warming are ten to eighteen times greater than current international public financial flows", i.e. 203 to 365 billion euros each year (UNEP).

Ecology is a new political crest line, as half the world's voting age population is called to the polls (4.1 billion people) in nearly 70 countries: Russia, Belarus, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan (presidential and legislative elections), Iran, Pakistan, India, the world's most populous country (legislative elections), the American superpower (presidential elections), the largest trading bloc (European elections), Indonesia (legislative elections), Mexico, the largest Spanish-speaking country (presidential elections).

> In January 2024, the Norwegian parliament authorised mining prospecting on 280,000 km2 of its seabed with the aim of finding reserves of increasingly coveted minerals (cobalt, zinc, copper).





In September 2023, Rishi Sunak,

the British Prime Minister,



In November 2023, Justin Trudeau's government in Canada announced a carbon tax exemption for Canadians







In March 2023, the Farmer-Citizen Movement (BBB) became the leading political force in the Dutch Senate. notably by representing the rural and agricultural world's opposition to the "nitrogen plan" (50% reduction in emissions by 2030).



In May 2023, French President Emmanuel Macron called for "a European regulatory pause" in terms of environmental constraints. so that the weight of standards does not slow down European

economies.



During COP 28. India. which said it was in favour of tripling renewable energies by 2030, refused to join the 116 nations in ratifying an agreement because of restrictions on coal, calling for a "phasing out of coal-fired power generation".



GuardianWeekly

024 The biggest election year in history

While Anthony Albanese's Australian Labor government was talking about ambitious climate targets, the country continues to give major support to the coal and fossil fuel industries. According to the Australian Conservation Foundation, no fewer than "16 fossil fuel projects have been approved or received some form of support" since the government took office in 2022.

In November 2023, Javier Milei was elected President of the Republic of Argentina, stating that "global warming is a lie"

who heat with heating oil, for the next 3 years (carbon pricing had been introduced in 2018).









Inaction is still considered more costly than ecological action



66%

of the world's inhabitants are **certain** that

the costs of the consequences of climate disruption

are going to be greater than the investments needed for ecological transformation



+5 to +11 points (vs. average) in 8 countries/26



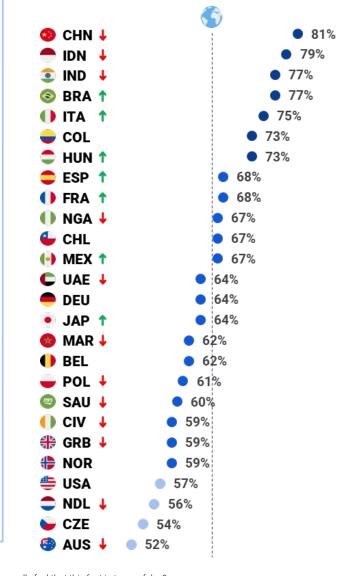
















The seriousness of the health threat has become a certainty



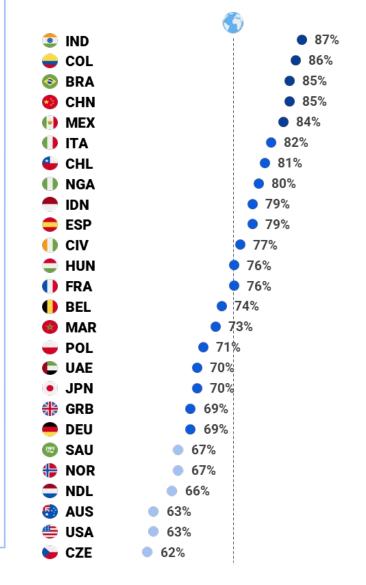
75%

of the world's inhabitants **certain** that

« climate change is the greatest health threat

facing humanity »

World Health Organization, 2021



Question: In a report published in 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) said that climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity. Do you think this information is true or false?







And mass poverty is a credible threat



74%

of the world's inhabitants **certain** that

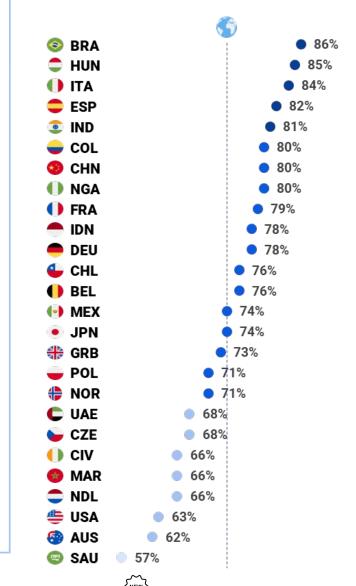
« climate change is an

acute threat to the poorest people

across the world, with the potential to

push more than 130 million people into poverty by 2030 »

World bank, 2023



Question: The World Bank says that "climate change is an acute threat to the poorest people across the world, with the power to push more than 130 million people back into poverty by 2030". Do you think this information is true or false?

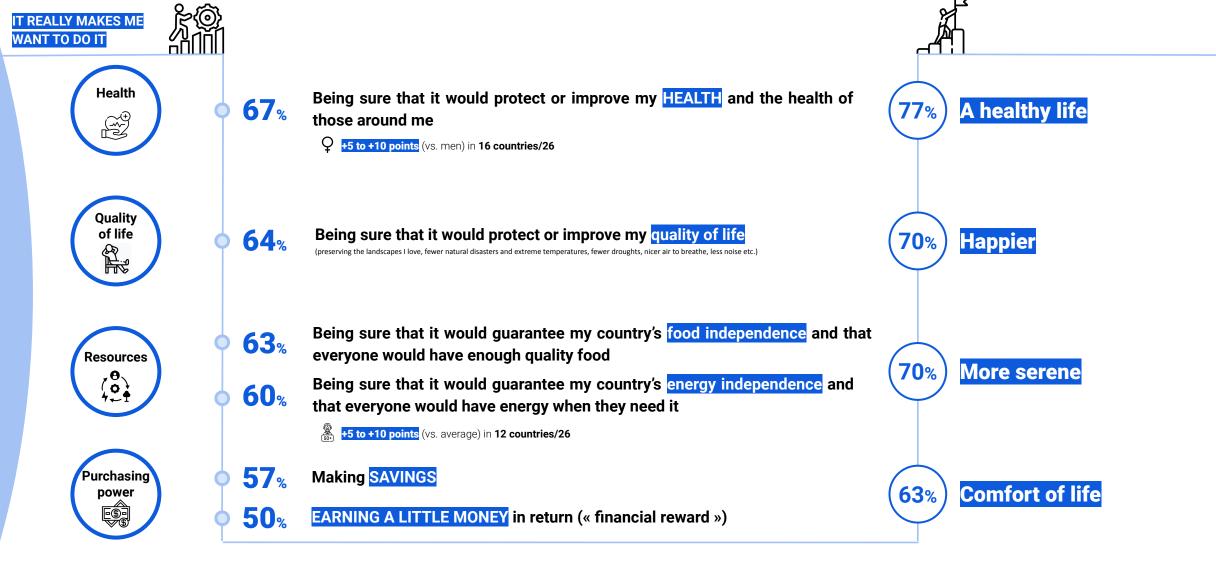




So what do we do?



Protecting health and quality of life to make ecology desirable



Question: The ecological transformation may lead us to change some of our behaviours, sometimes change the way we live or cost us a little more. What would encourage you to make these changes? What would make them easier for you or would justify the extra costs?



Question: If you imagine the world we would live in if we achieve the ecological transformation, in your opinion...?



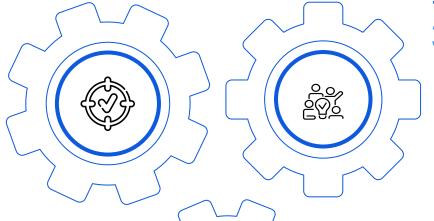


Concrete results and an explained and unifying collective action as levers for change

Seeing results quickly, positive effects

61% It really makes me want to do it

32% It may help, but it's not what's going to make me change



Feeling like **everyone is** doing their bit, that there is a collective movement



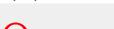
forefront of the ecological transition, being proud of my country and setting an example to

The fact that my country is at the

other countries around the world

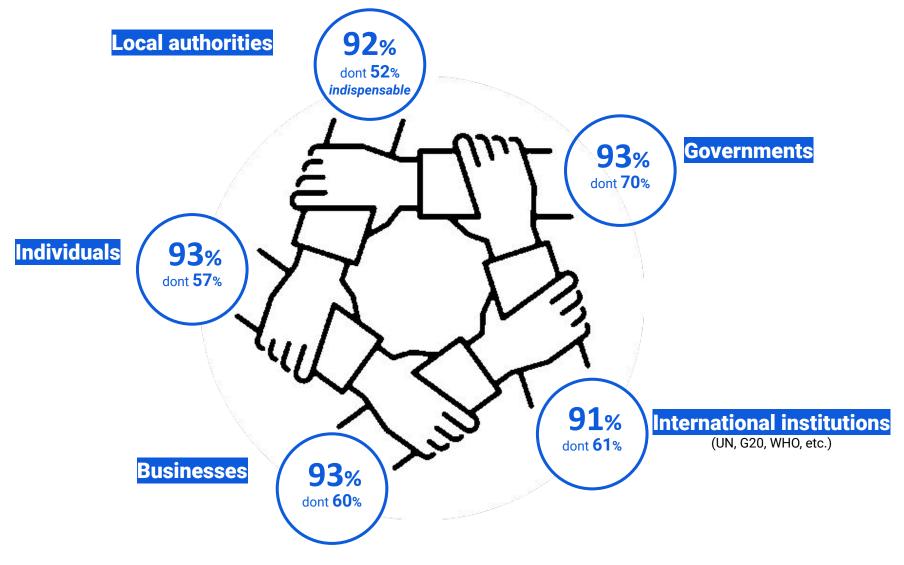
Understanding why I should 42% give up certain things

Question: The ecological transformation may lead us to change some of our behaviours, sometimes change the way we live or cost us a little more. What would encourage you to make these changes? What would make them easier for you or would justify the extra costs?





A joint commitment of all stakeholders for ecological transformation's solutions



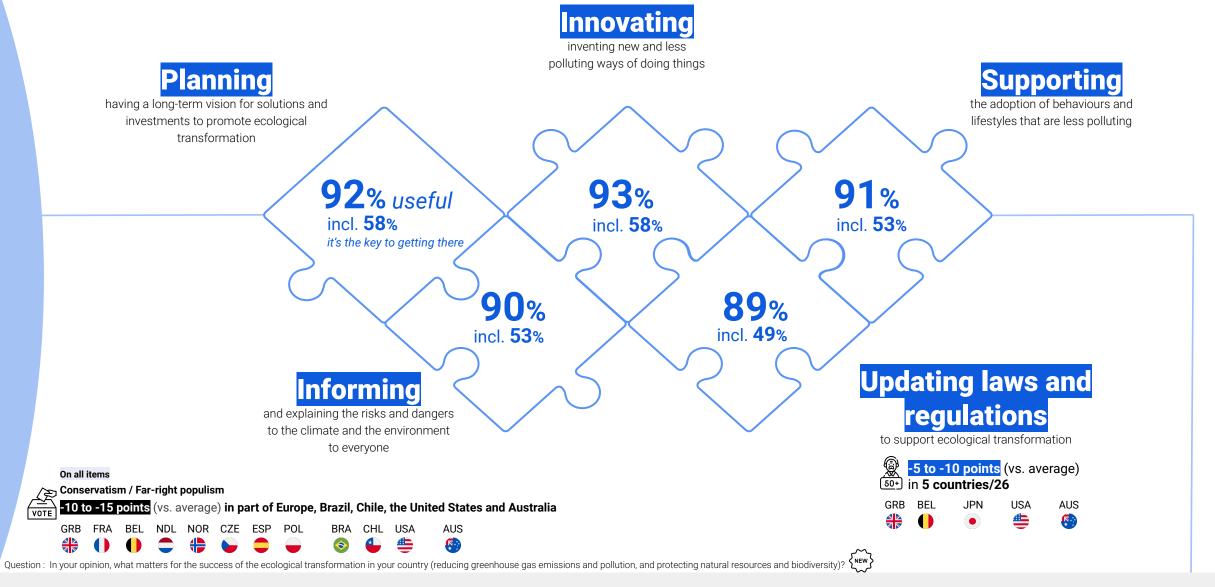
Question: To what extent do we need each of the following stakeholders to find and implement specific and effective solutions for ecological transformation?





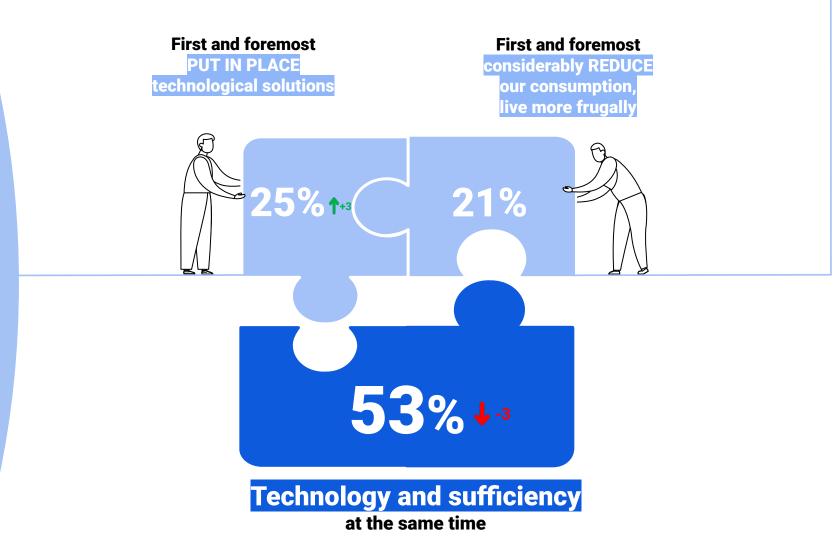


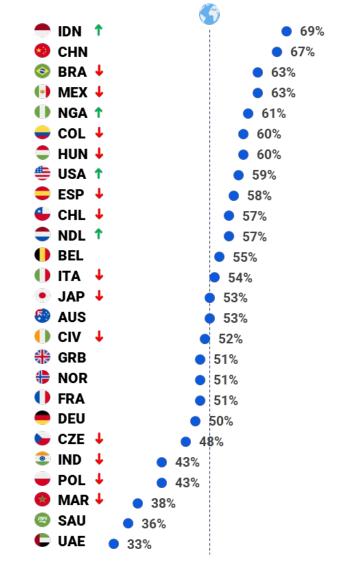
Programming, inventing, supporting, informing and updating laws are major matters to succeed





Combining technology and sufficiency as a solution to limit climate disruption





Question: Generally speaking, when you think about the changes to be implemented to limit climate disruption and pollution, do you think that first and foremost we need to ...?





Such as making health and ecological risks the keys to local decision-making for water, waste and energy



97% incl. 79% essential







Taking ecological risks into account

96% incl. 67% essential

Conservatism / Far-right populism
vore -5 to -25 points (vo. 5) -5 to -25 points (vs. average % essential) in 12 countries/26 (part of Europe, Brazil, the United States and Australia)



+4 to +16 points (vs. average) in 11 countries/26



+5 to +12 points (vs. men) in 10 countries/26



Final price for the consumer

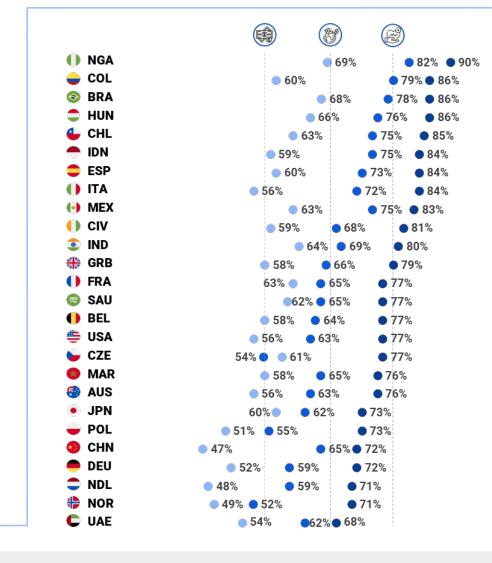
96% incl. 58% essential





Question: When making decisions about managing water, waste or energy where you live, should your local leaders/elected officials take into account:





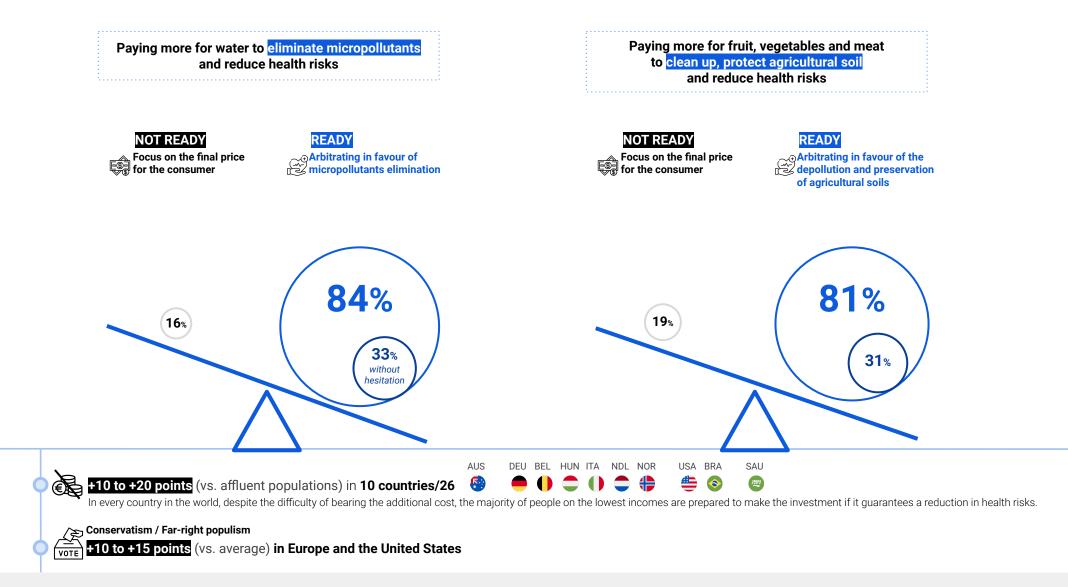


Decarbonising, depolluting and regenerating our resources





Micro-pollutants and soil pollution: health risks are unacceptable and justify additional costs, beyond socio-economic divide



REUSE and recycled: resource conservation, avoided pollution and economic co-benefits lever the social acceptability of changing behavior

Buy food packaged in recycled materials (recycled paper or plastic) to reduce plastic pollution and oil extraction

Eat food from agriculture that uses recycled water to reduce the risk of water shortages for consumption, agriculture and the country's economy

Drinking water from recycled wastewater to reduce the risk of water shortages for consumption, agriculture and the country's economy

NOT READY

Prefer packaging without recycled materials

READY

Arbitrating in favour of packaging in recycled materials

NOT READY

Reluctant to eat food grown with water from REUSE

READY

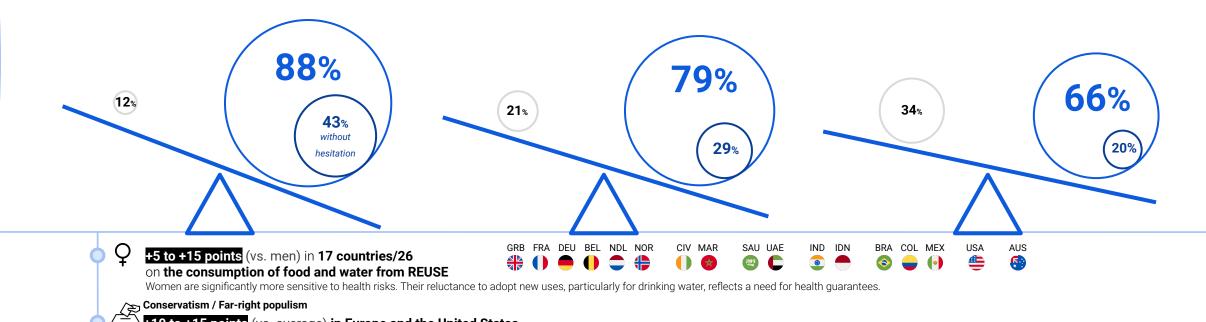
Arbitrating in favour of agriculture that uses recycled water (REUSE)

NOT READY

Reluctant to drink water from REUSE



Arbitrating in favour of drinking water from REUSE



+10 to +15 points (vs. average) in Europe and the United States

Climate denial hampers the social acceptability of adapting uses. Climate relativism and denial of the anthropogenic cause of the ecological crisis are major obstacles to changing behaviour and perceptions.





Reuse, electrical/electronic devices and plastics recycling: economic, geopolitical and ecological gains can justify the cost of action

Pay a little more for water now so that it can be recycled and reduce the risks of running out for consumption, agriculture and the country's economy

NOT READY

Focus on the final price for the consumer

READY



Pay a little more for electrical and electronic devices to ensure that the battery and the device itself are recycled, and to limit the pollution caused by the extraction of rare metals and reduce our dependence on countries that produce these metals

NOT READY

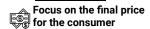
Focus on the final price

READY

Arbitrating in favour of recycling electrical/ electronic devices and batteries

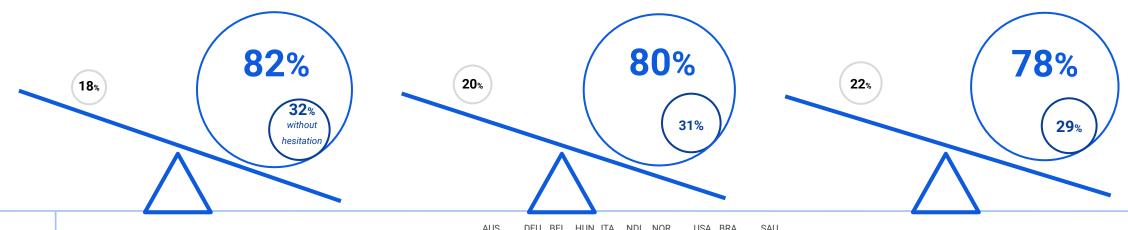
Pay a little more for everyday products that contain or are packaged with plastic to ensure they are recycled, reduce plastic pollution and limit oil extraction

NOT READY



READY







+10 to +20 points (vs. affluent populations) in 10 countries/26







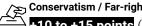








In every country in the world, despite the difficulty of bearing the additional cost, the majority of people on the lowest incomes are prepared to accept the additional expense if it guarantees a reduction in pollution, dependence on imports of strategic minerals and the risk of water shortages



Conservatism / Far-right populism

VOTE +10 to +15 points (vs. average) in Europe and the United States





Local and low-carbon energy: security of local supply, reduction of national energy dependency and decrease of greenhouse gas emissions make the extra cost acceptable

Pay a little more for energy that is produced locally from non-recyclable waste and biomass... To reduce our dependence on fossil fuel-producing To secure the region's energy supply To reduce CO2 emissions countries NOT READY NOT READY NOT READY READY READY READY Focus on the final price for the consumer Arbitrating in favour of Focus on the final price Arbitrating in favour of Focus on the final price Arbitrating in favour of locally produced energy locally produced energy for the consumer locally produced energy from non-recyclable waste from non-recyclable waste from non-recyclable waste 80% 33% without +10 to +20 points (vs. affluent populations) in 10 countries/26 In every country in the world, despite the difficulty of bearing the additional cost, the majority of people on the lowest incomes are prepared to accept the additional expense if it quarantees a reduction in energy dependency and GHG emissions Conservatism / Far-right populism

VOTE +10 to +15 points (vs. average) in Europe and the United States



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