

Energy Transformation in France: What do citizens expect from energy politics?

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HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG
FRANCE

Who we are

Heinrich Böll Foundation France

- One of the 33 offices of the hbs abroad
- hbs : a political foundation affiliated with the Green Party of Germany. We act as a catalyst for green visions and projects, a think tank for policy reform, and an international network.
- In Paris: working to reinforce French-german dialogue and cooperation on 4 issues :
 - Democracy: participation & inclusion
 - Energy transition
 - Social-ecological transformation
 - Foreign and security policy

French people and energy policy

France: *The light-green society* (Michael Bess)?

- French people are proud of technological modernity and its symbols: TGV, Concorde, nuclear program
- But they are « constantly afraid » to lose contact with nature and beautiful landscapes

French people and energy policy



Le rapport des Français à l'énergie

Comment est perçu l'engagement de la France dans la lutte contre le changement climatique ?
Quelle perception les Français ont-ils des enjeux et de la politique énergétique menée par leur pays ? Quels investissements prônent-ils pour l'avenir ?

Décembre 2017

French people and energy policy

Objectives & Methods

- An overview of the french opinion on energy policy
 - For our work
 - For our partners (NGOs, civil society)
 - For decision makers
- Not just as consumer, but as citizen
- A focus on electricity

French people and energy policy

Objectives & Methods

- 1004 participants
- Quota method: representative sample of the French population over 18 years
- Survey conducted online from November 28 to November 30 2017

The survey - Results

Energy policy should be...

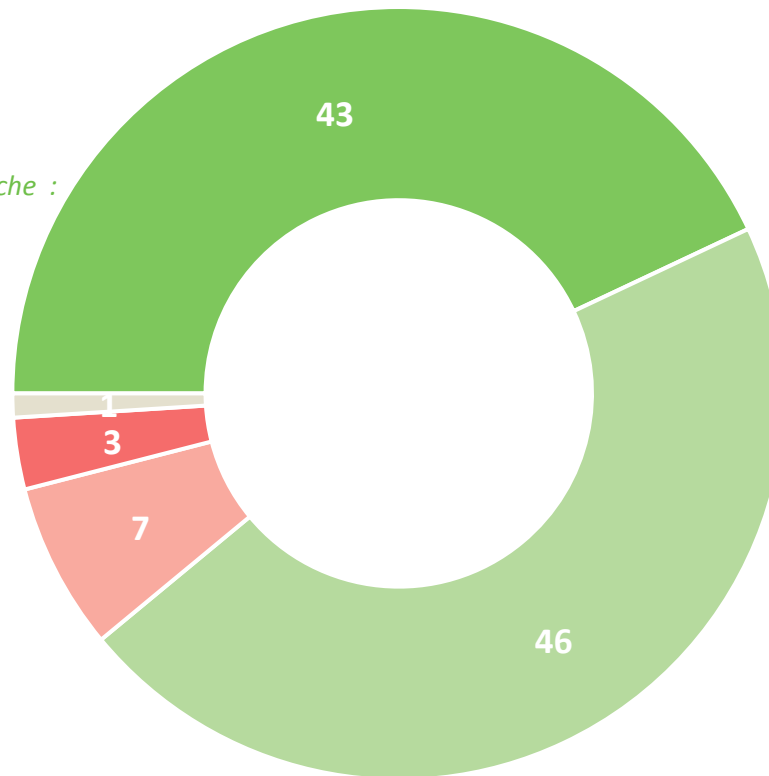
An important issue : 89%

65 ans et plus : 93%

Cadres et professions libérales : 95%

Sympathisants de Gauche : 96%

Sympathisants La République En Marche : 96%



Not an important issue: 10%

25-34 ans : 18%

Catégories populaires : 16%

Sympathisants FN : 26%

■ Très important

■ Plutôt important

■ Plutôt pas important

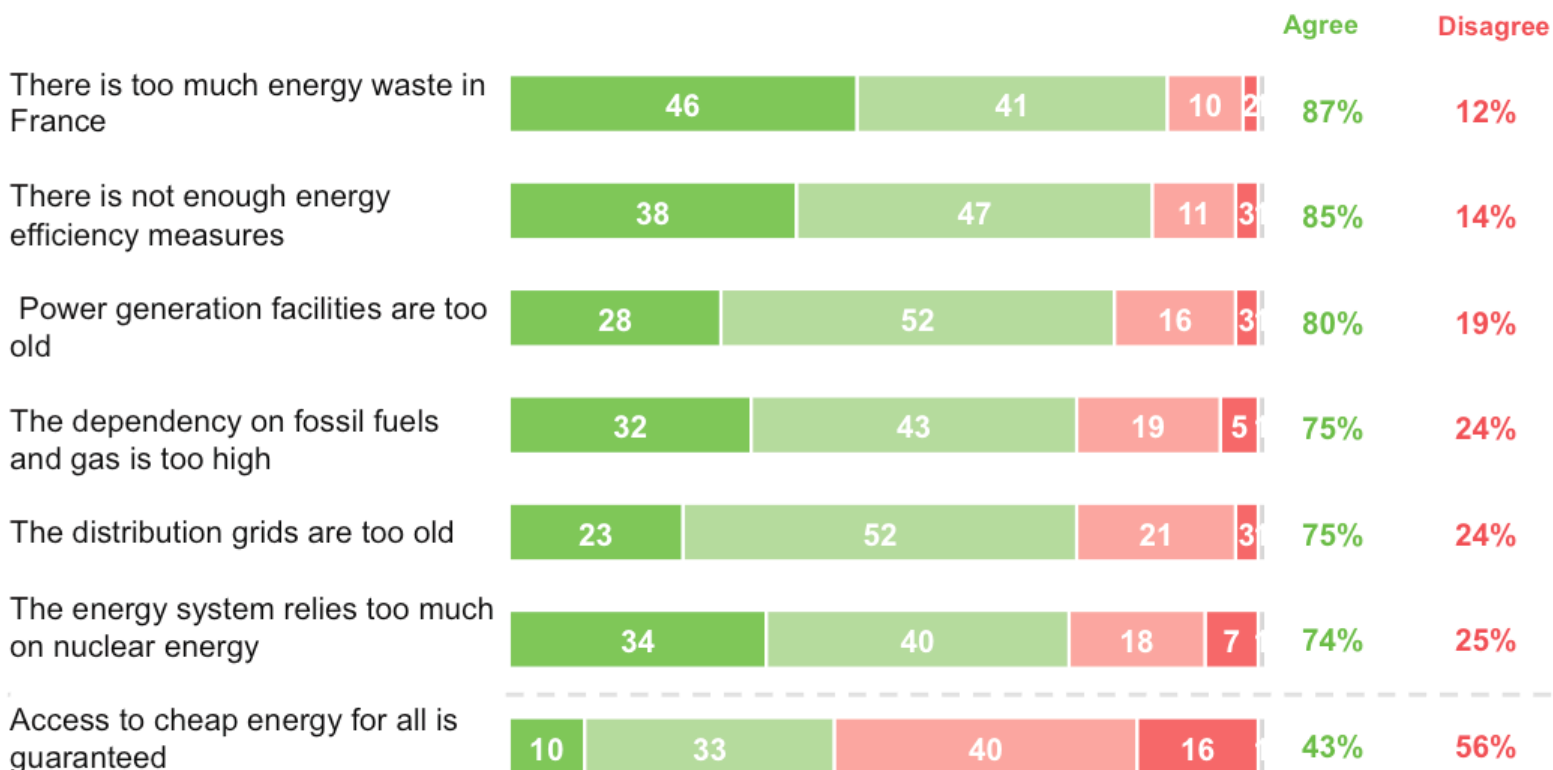
■ Pas du tout important

■ Ne se prononce pas

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The survey - Results

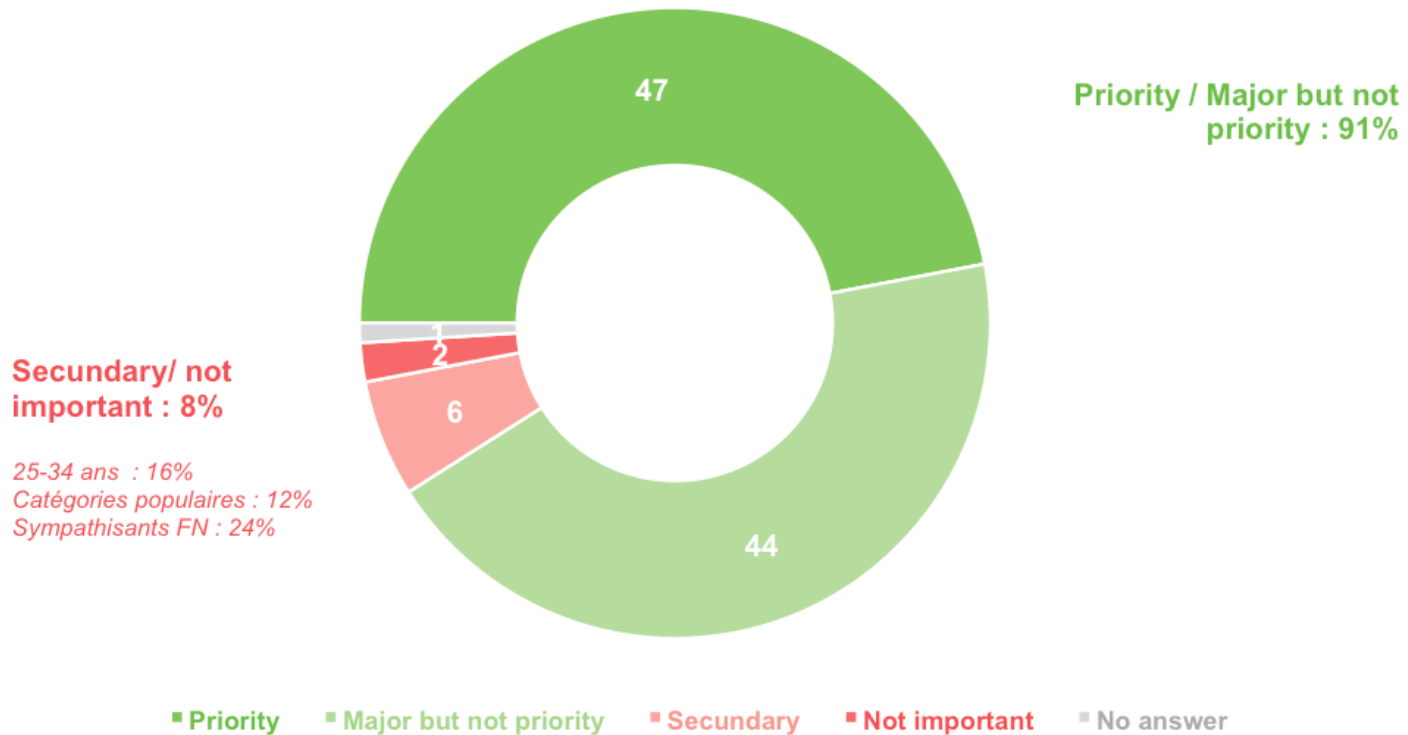
... they perceive several problems: energy waste, declining infrastructures, dependency on fossil and nuclear energy, energy price



The survey - Results

A large majority of interviewees consider energy transition as a major issue

Should energy transition be a *priority issue/major but not priority issue/secondary issue/not an important issue* ?

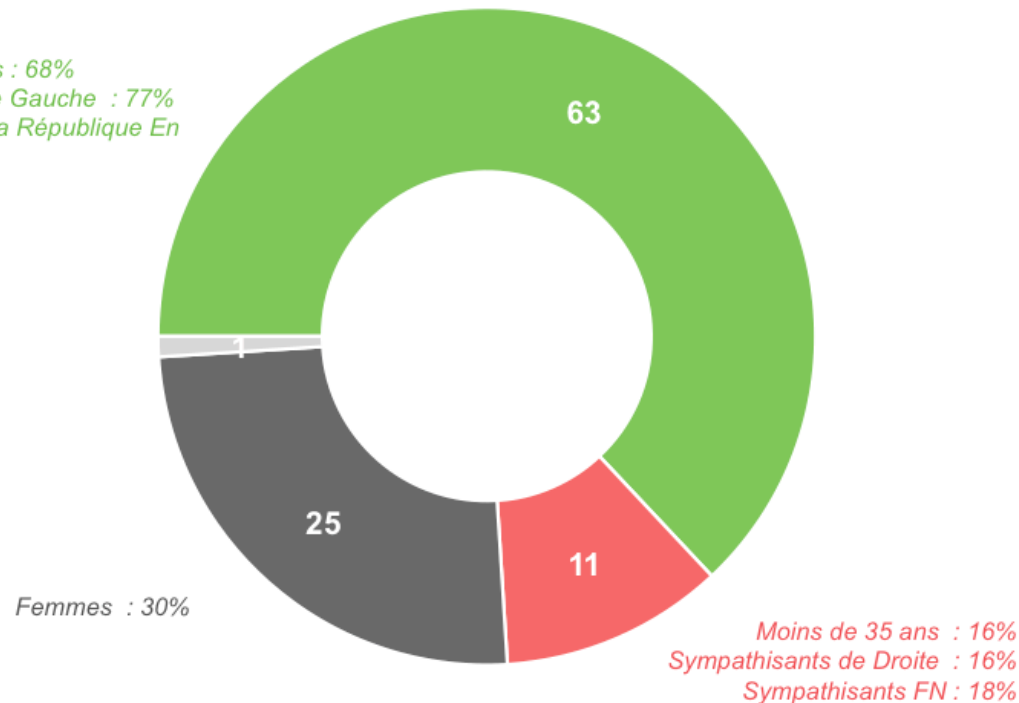


The survey - Results

Energy transition is seen as an opportunity rather than as a risk

Does energy transition represent an opportunity or a risk for France?

Hommes : 66%
Catégories aisées : 68%
Sympathisants de Gauche : 77%
Sympathisants La République En Marche : 78%



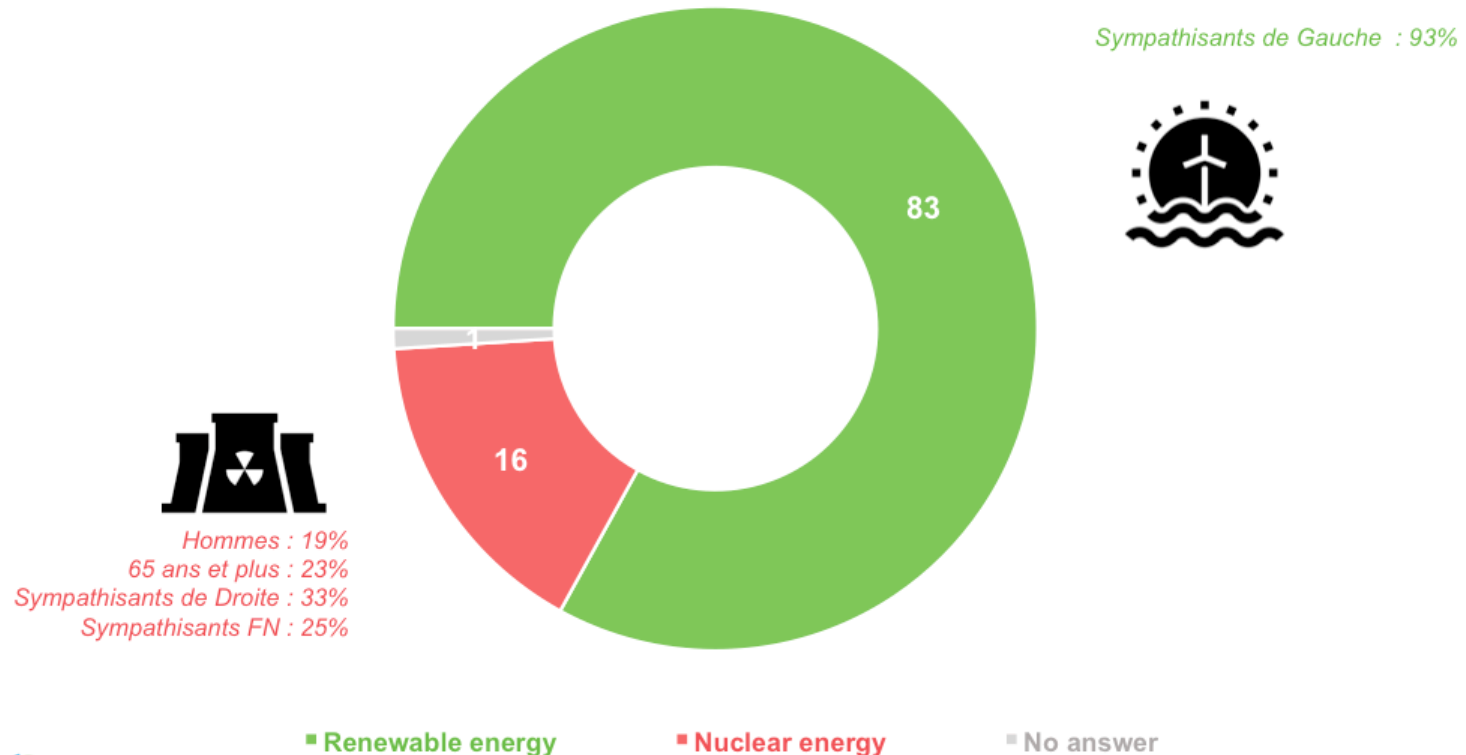
■ An opportunity
■ Neither an opportunity nor a risk

■ A risk
■ Ne se prononce pas

The survey - Results

An overwhelming majority think France should invest in renewable energy sources rather than in nuclear energy

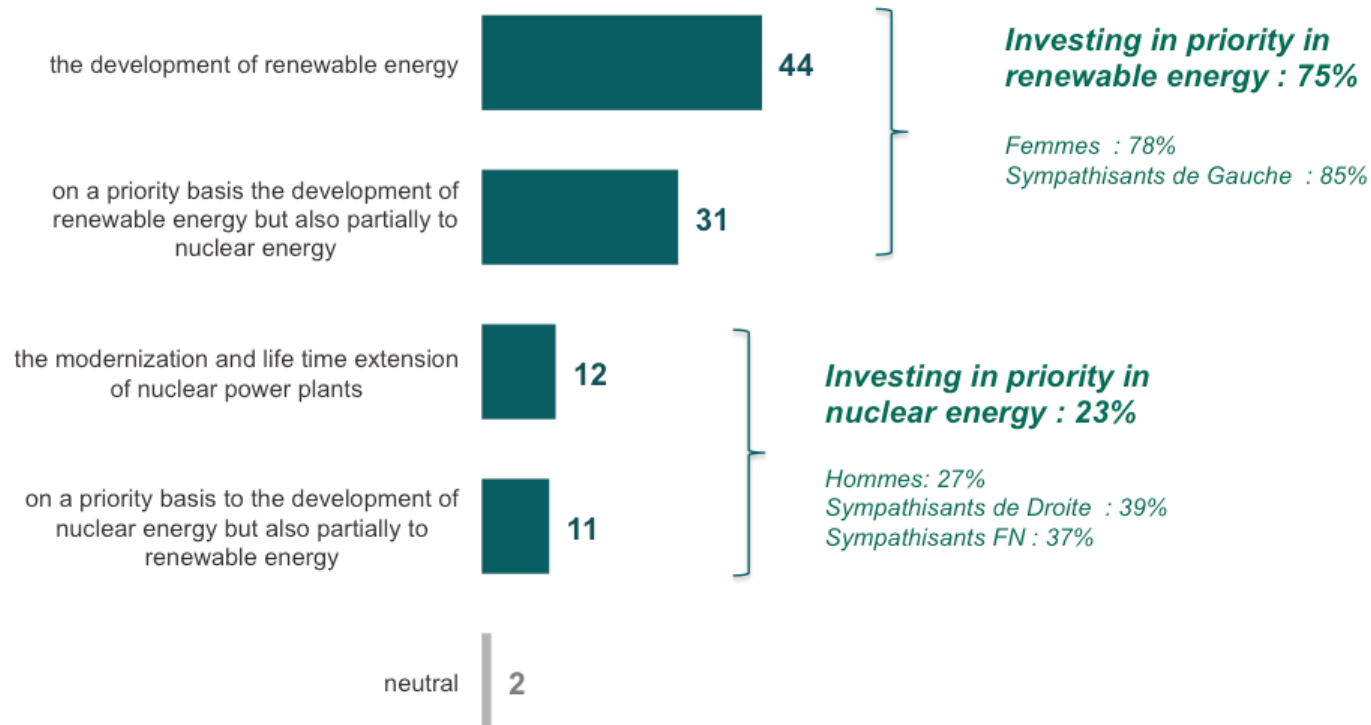
In the coming years, France should invest rather in...



The survey - Results

There is a massive support among French people for investing in priority in renewable energy even if a majority of them thinks investments in nuclear energy should be maintained

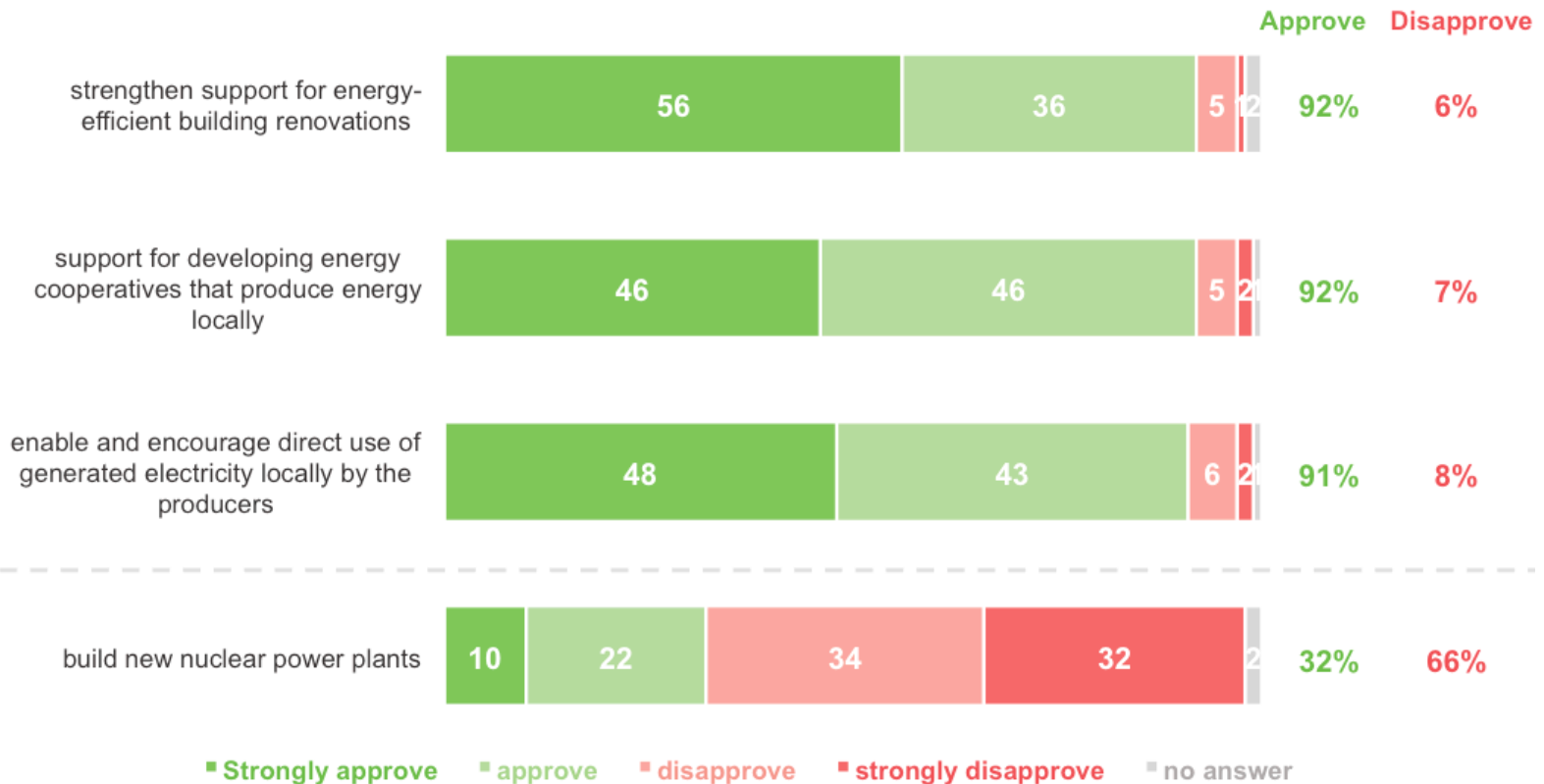
According to you, in the coming years, investments in the electricity sector should be channelled to:



The survey - Results

French people are very in favour of « decentralisation measures »

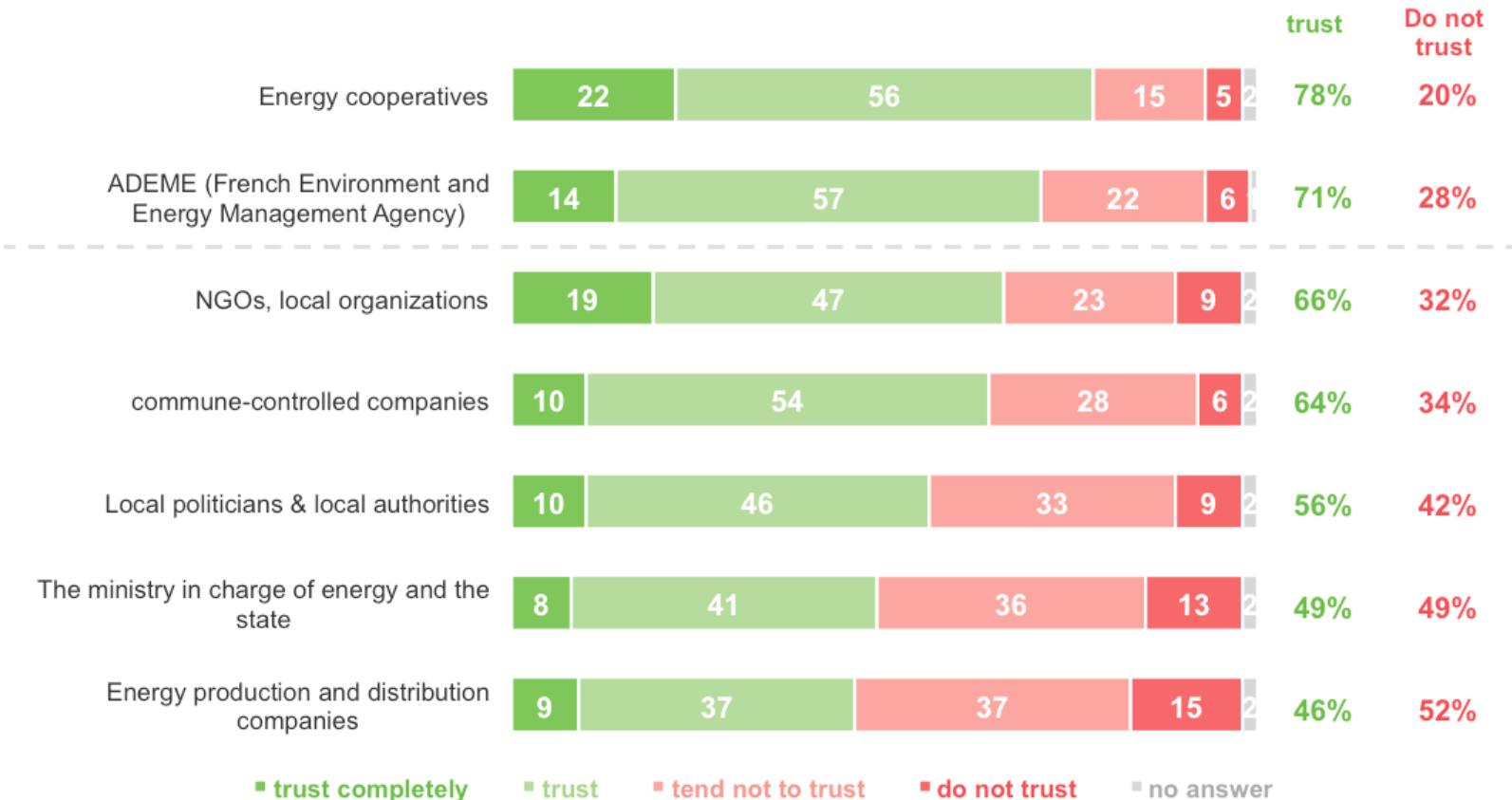
Do you strongly approve, approve, disapprove, strongly disapprove, the following measures?



The survey - Results

French people trust energy cooperatives and local actors to deal with energy policy

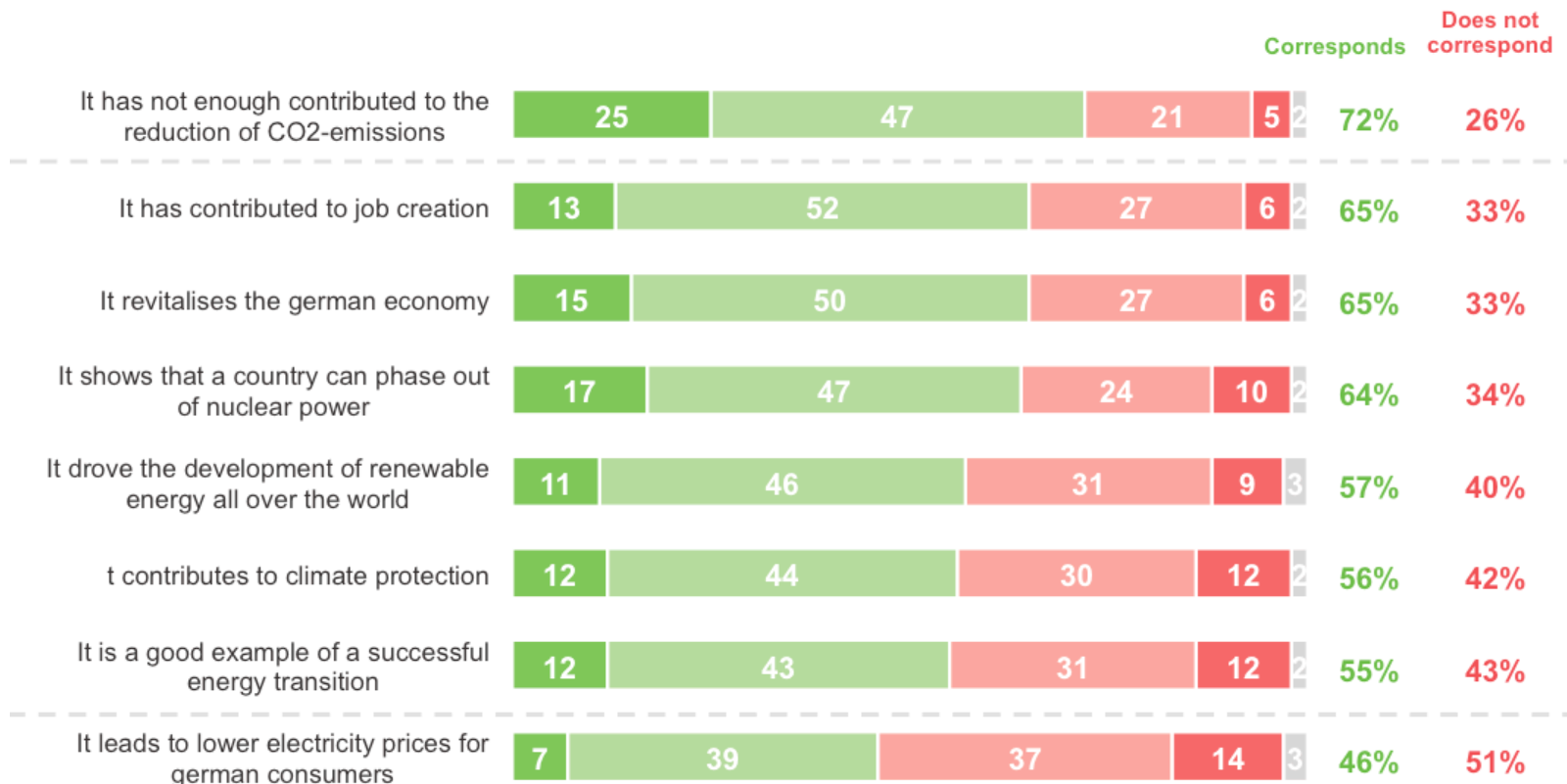
With regard to energy policy, do you tend to trust or not trust following actors?



The survey - Results

French people have a rather positive view on the German Energiewende even if they consider efforts could be made

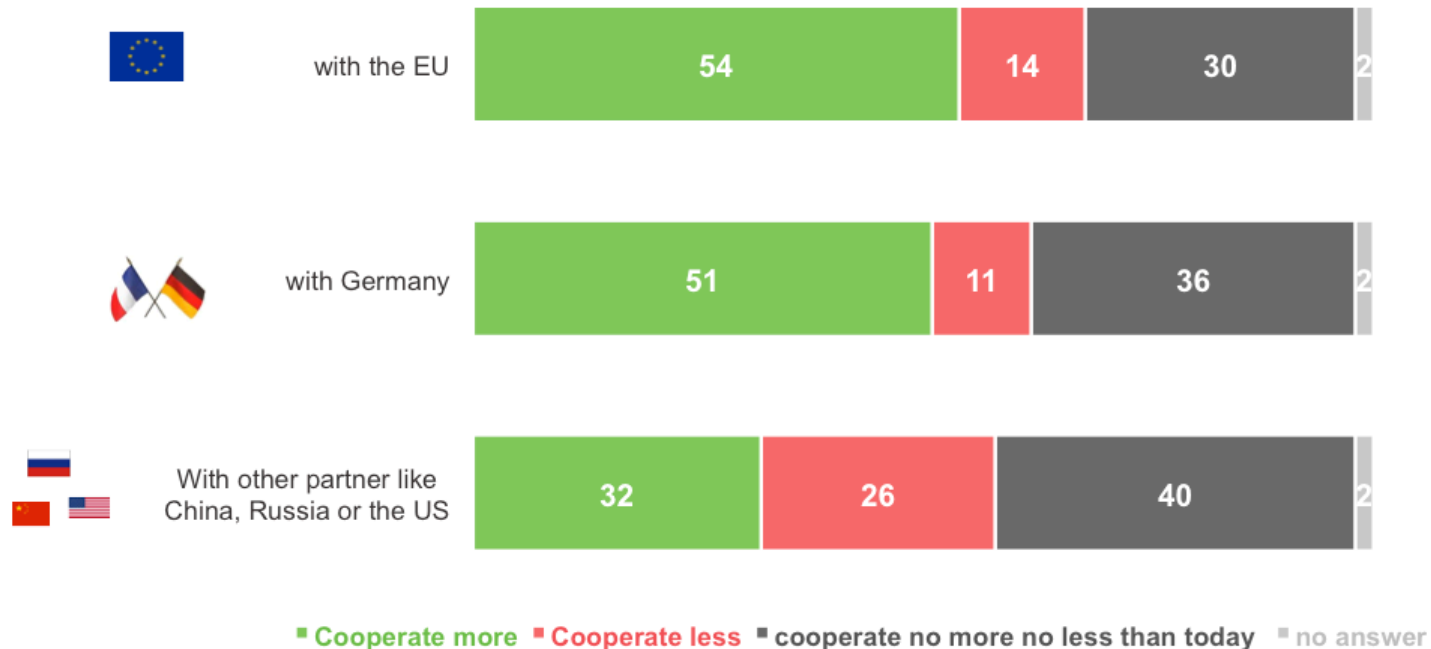
Does each sentence below correspond to your own picture of the Energy transition in Germany?



The survey - Results

French people call for more cooperation with Europe and Germany

With regard to energy policy, France should...



The survey – Key conclusions

- Support for nuclear energy lower than expected
- Support for the development of renewable energy sources high
- From central to local: a general trend which applies also to energy policy
- The question of price remains a key driver for the french consumer

France - Energy debate

French energy transition bill adopted

23 July 2015

France's National Assembly yesterday gave country's energy transition bill. Under the law, reliance on nuclear energy will be reduced to 50% of electricity generation by 2025.



Energy minister Royal speaks to the National Assembly transition bill (Image: French energy ministry)

2015

France

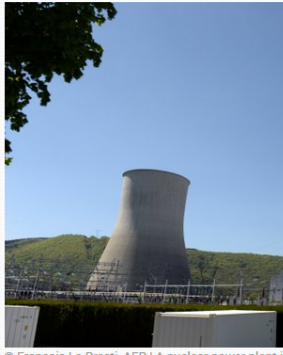
environment | France | nuclear power

France could close 'up to 17' nuclear reactors by 2025

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© François Lo Presti, AFP | A nuclear power plant in

Latest update : 2017-07-12

Nicolas Hulot, France's environment minister, said that France could close

July 2017

France backtracks on nuclear phase-out pledge

EURACTIV.com with Reuters



Environment Minister Nicolas Hulot said the nuclear phase-out target was now not realistic. [Reuters]

November 2017

Le grand flou du gouvernement sur la baisse du nucléaire

Le débat public national organisé sur la programmation pluriannuelle de l'énergie élude la question centrale de l'atome.

LE MONDE ECONOMIE | 15.03.2018 à 12h01 |

Par Pierre Le Hir et Nabil Wakim

Réagir Ajuster

Partager (32)

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March 2018

Thank you!

For more information:

www.fr.boell.org