



Flash Eurobarometer 348

Energy for all: EU support for developing countries

Survey requested by Directorate-General Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid (DG Devco)
and coordinated by Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit).

Flash Eurobarometer 348 / April 2012 – TNS Political & Social

A. Methodology

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- Survey conducted by telephone (fixed-line and mobile phone)
- Fieldwork: 19 - 21 March 2012
- Population: representative sample of population aged 15+
- Coverage: 27 Member States of the EU
- Number of interviews: 13,528
- This survey was carried out for the European Commission (requested by Directorate-General Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid (DG DEVCO) and coordinated by Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit)).

B. Key findings

A MAJORITY OF RESPONDENTS SAY THAT WHEN PEOPLE DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE ENERGY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THIS CAUSES THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS FOR COOKING, PRESERVING FOOD (58%) AND HAVING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE (52%).

77% OF EUROPEANS THINK THAT THE MAIN FUTURE ENERGY SOURCE FOR PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD SHOULD BE RENEWABLE ENERGY. FEW PEOPLE ADVOCATE FOSSIL ENERGY (7%), NUCLEAR ENERGY (6%), OR BIOMASS (4%) .

90% OF RESPONDENTS BELIEVE THAT THE EU SHOULD SUPPORT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO ENERGY.

83% BELIEVE THAT THE EU ITSELF BENEFITS FROM SUPPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THIS WAY

82% OF EUROPEANS BELIEVE THAT THE PERCENTAGE OF EU DEVELOPMENT AID SPENT ON IMPROVING ENERGY ACCESS SHOULD BE HIGHER THAN ITS CURRENT LEVEL OF 2%.

B. Key findings

HAVING ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOILETS IS REGARDED AS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN OVERCOMING POVERTY IN DEVELOPPING COUNTRIES, FOLLOWED BY BEING ABLE TO LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

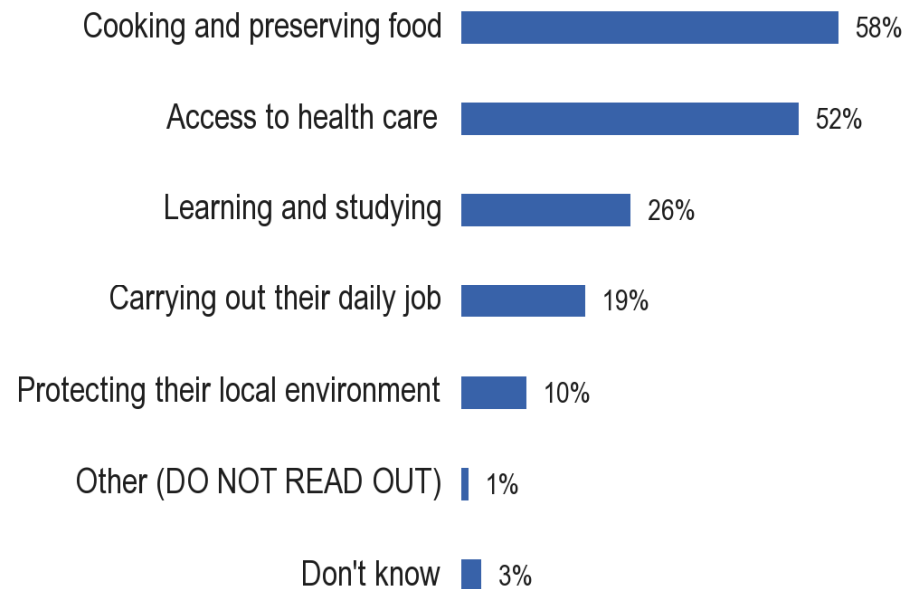
OUT OF THE FACTORS THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR DEVELOPMENT, ACCESS TO ENERGY RANKS THE LOWEST BUT STILL ACHIEVES VERY HIGH SUPPORT: 95% OF RESPONDENTS THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT, AND AMONG THEM 61% THINK IT IS VERY IMPORTANT.



1. What it means to people in developing countries not to have access to affordable energy

According to a majority of Europeans, not having access to affordable energy causes the biggest problems in cooking/preserving food and accessing healthcare for people in

Q2. Many people in developing countries have no access to affordable energy (e.g. no electricity in their homes). In which areas of their everyday lives do you think this causes the biggest problems?

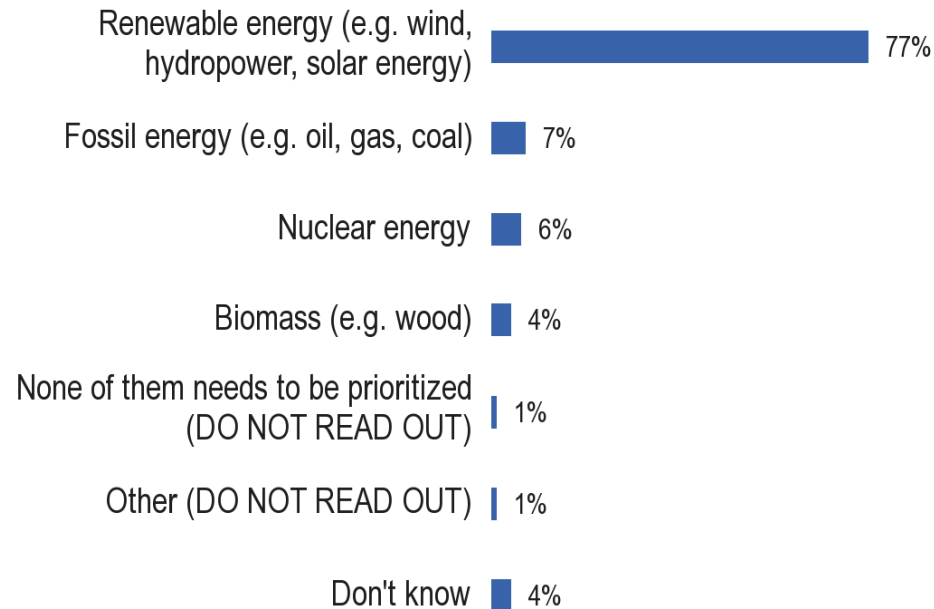




2. Improving access to energy in developing countries

2.1 *Over 3/4 of the respondents think that renewable energy should be the main source of energy to meet the developing world's future energy needs*

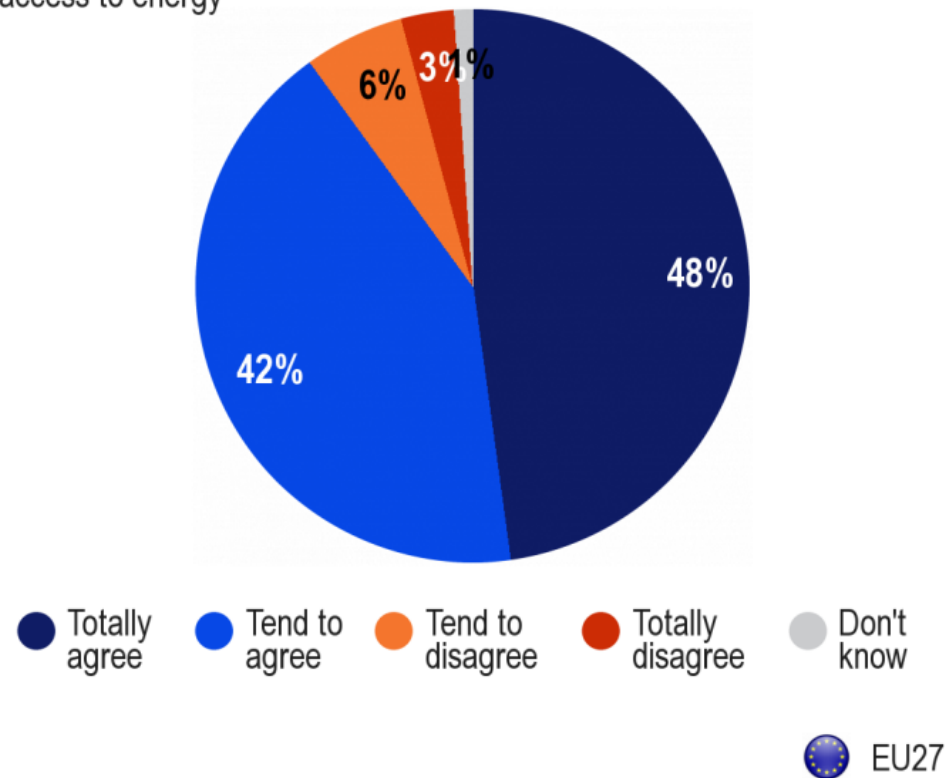
Q3. People in many countries in the developing world will need more energy in the future. In your view, what should be the main source of energy for this?



2.2 90% of Europeans believe that the EU should help developing countries in getting access to energy

Q4.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

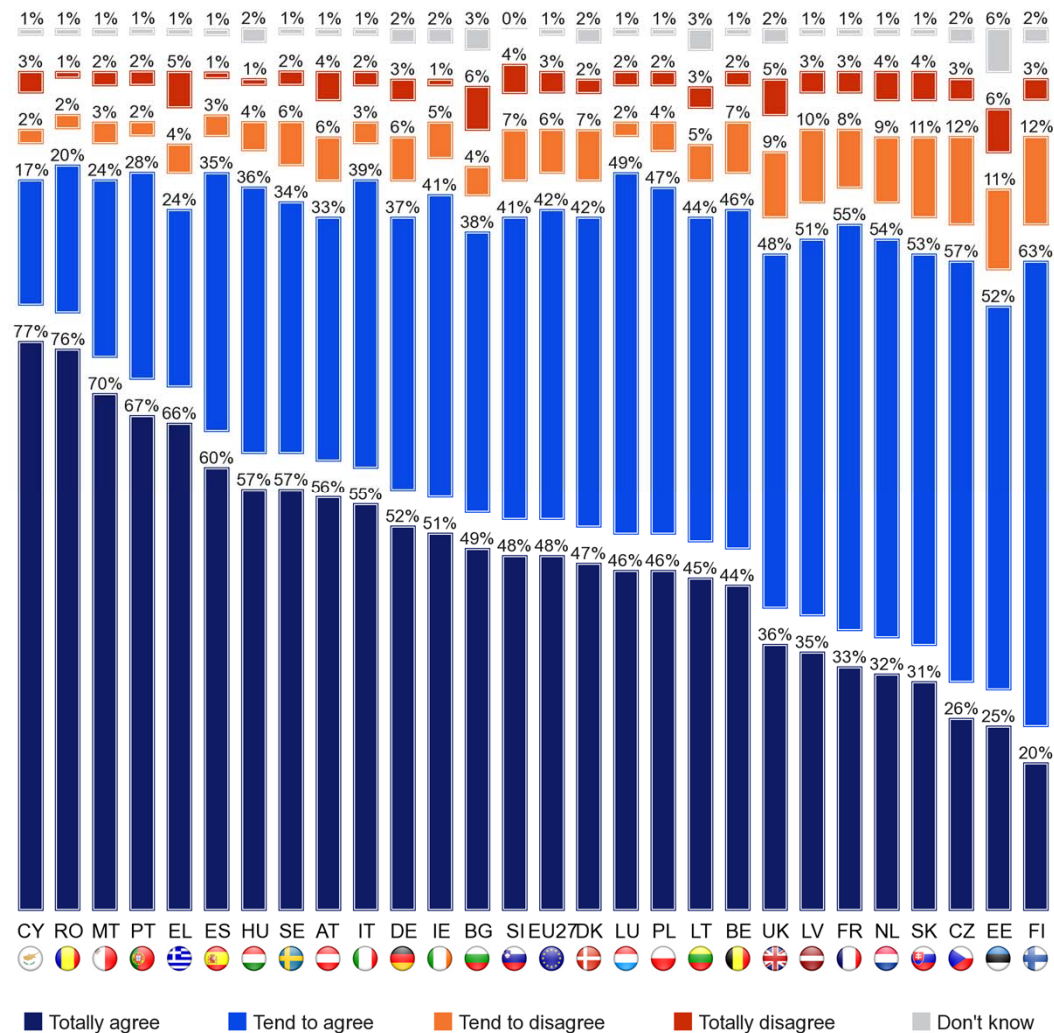
The European Union should assist developing countries in getting access to energy



2.3 EU should help developing countries in getting access to energy: more than 3/4 of respondents totally agree in Cyprus (77%) and Romania (76%)

Q4.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

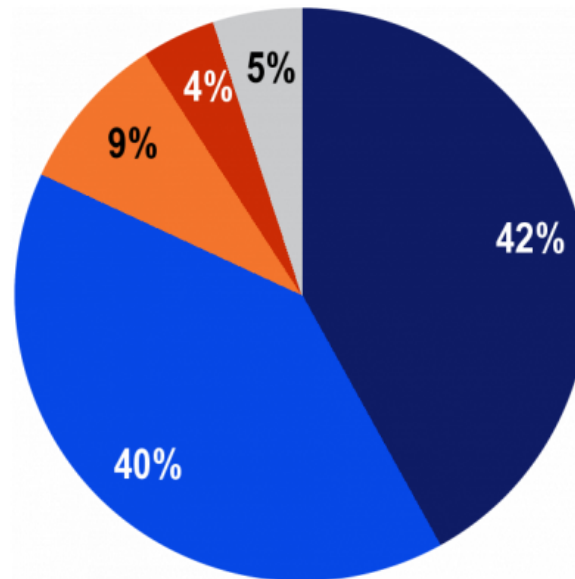
The European Union should assist developing countries in getting access to energy



2.4 82% of Europeans think that the EU should increase the share of development aid that is spent on helping countries gain access to energy

Q4.2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

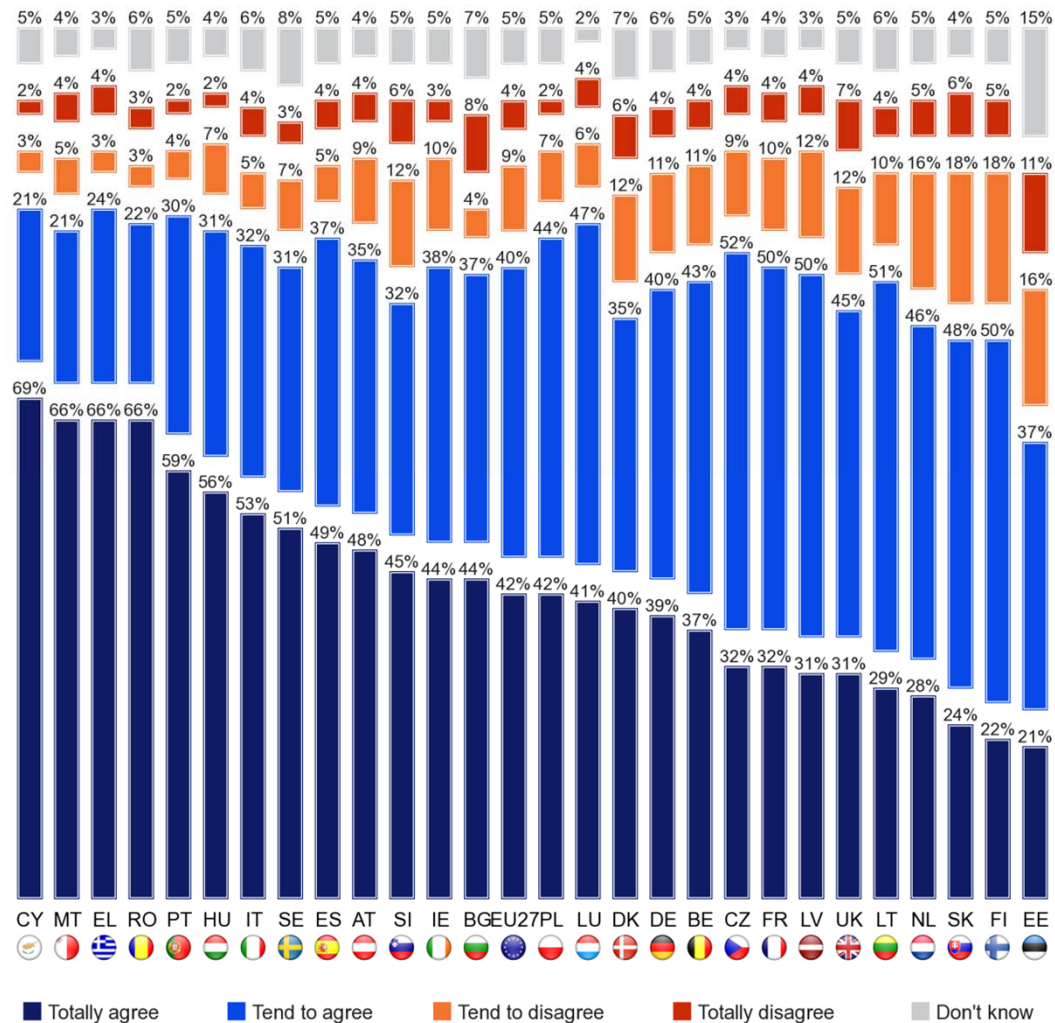
2% of the European Union's development aid are spent in helping countries gain access to energy. This share should be higher.



2.5 EU should increase the share of development aid that is spent on helping countries gain access to energy: agreement is stronger in Cyprus (69% totally agree), Malta, Greece and Romania (66%)

Q4.2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

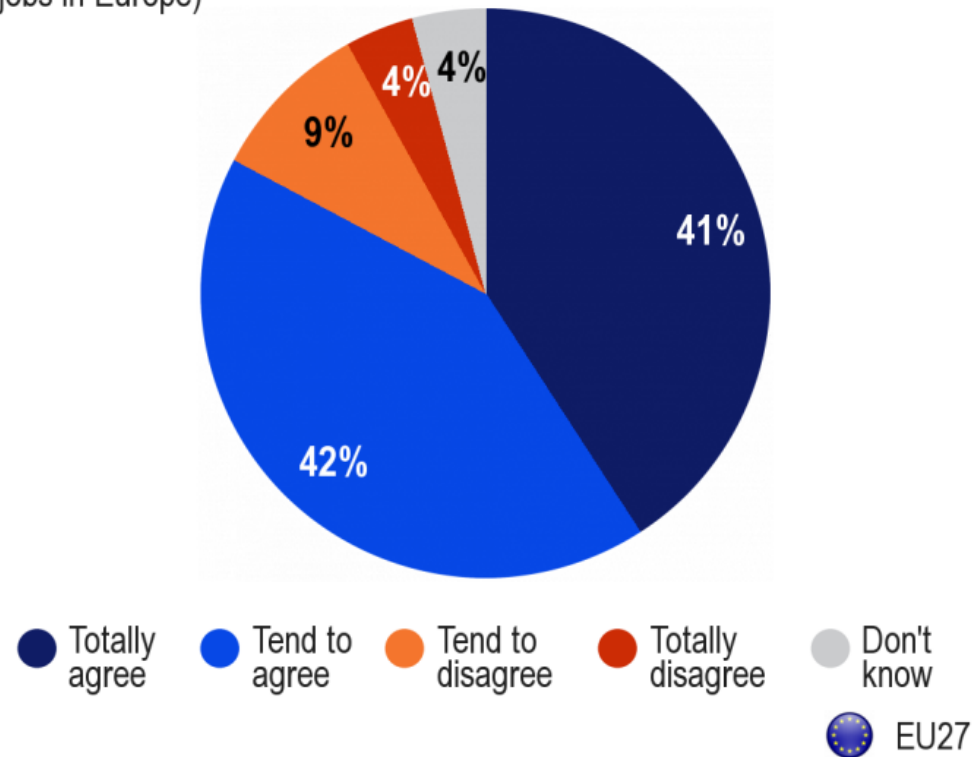
2% of the European Union's development aid are spent in helping countries gain access to energy. This share should be higher.



2.6 83% of the Europeans think that helping developing countries to access energy also has benefits for the EU

Q4.3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

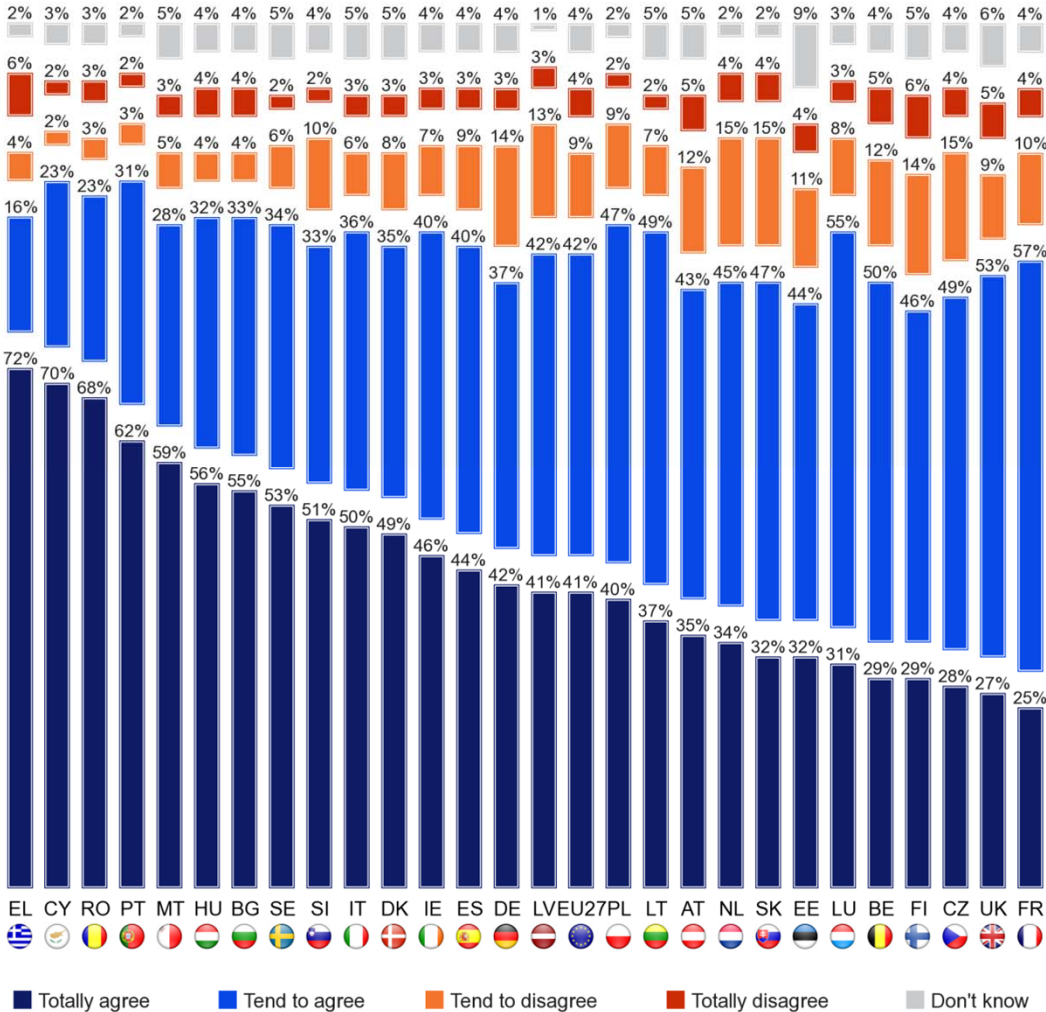
The European Union itself also benefits when it helps developing countries to access energy (e.g. through increased trade or creation of jobs in Europe)



2.7 Helping developing countries to access energy also has benefits for the EU: Finland is the country where citizens disagree the most (20%)

Q4.3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

The European Union itself also benefits when it helps developing countries to access energy (e.g. through increased trade or creation of jobs in Europe)

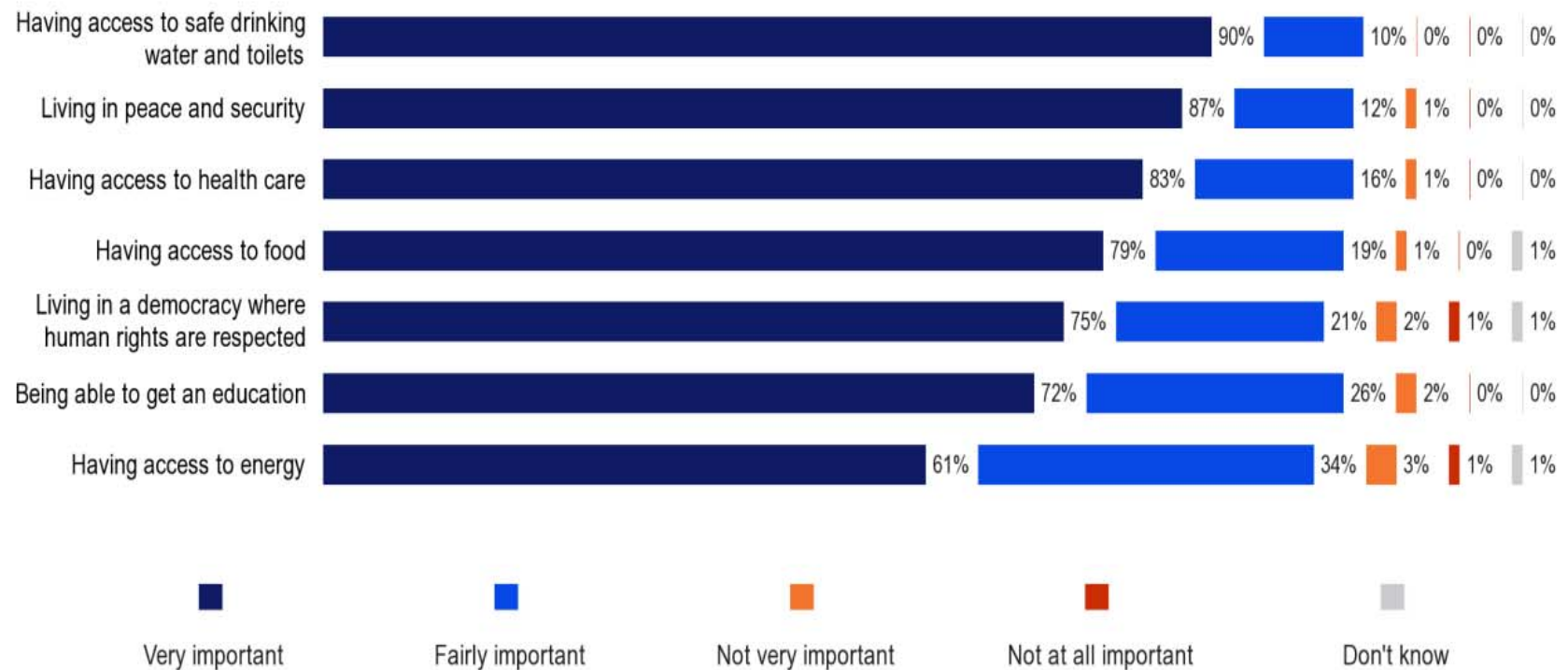




3. Factors of overcoming poverty in developing countries

Fewer respondents (61%) regard access to energy as being very important for overcoming poverty, when compared to other developmental factors, such as access to safe drinking water

Q1. In your view, what is the level of importance of each of the following aspects for overcoming poverty in developing countries?



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