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The webinar concluded with a Q&A session with Mr. ŠEGON. The questions focused on issues related to Zagreb's financial strategy, the sources of financing, as well as on solutions identified and implemented in the field of energy efficiency.

What renewable energy sources does Zagreb use and since when?

R: Zagreb uses a fairly large proportion of energy produced by PV systems. At the same time, the city's heating system is centralized and has maximum efficiency. There is also geothermal potential, but it is used sporadically in sports facilities and swimming pools.

What are the main sources of funding used by Zagreb for renewable projects?

R: Zagreb has taken advantage of the funds provided by the European Investment Bank's ELENA programme and is now negotiating a new 5-year loan of over 400 mil. EUR. However, private investment and other public (structural, national) funding sources have also been used.

What is the city's heating/ cooling strategy?

R: Zagreb does not have a dedicated heating strategy, but it has a SECAP. 35-40% of homes are connected to the centralized system, the rest of households use individual solutions (natural gas and electricity). The city owns the natural gas distribution company.

What are the technical solutions mostly used for reducing energy consumption in public buildings, particularly in schools?

R: Two aspects should be considered in the energy efficiency of buildings. First, it is important to renovate buildings/ schools so that they become efficient, and second, it is very important to manage energy use properly. Indoor temperature control and optimization are also important, a change in user behaviour is required. Simply renovating the building does not ensure success.

What were the main obstacles you encountered and what were the factors that led to the success of Zagreb's approach to implementing climate-neutral strategies?

R: The main obstacles are lack of information, lack of capacity, lack of education, then of course, as in any project, the technical and financial aspects.



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