CONCORD
EU Delegations Report 2017

Towards a more effective partnership with civil society

CONCORD
European NGO confederation for relief and development

EUD Report 2017

Towards a more effective partnership with civil society

Survey on EU Delegations' engagement with civil society

Data analysis

An online survey has circulated by email between July and September 2016, in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Portuguese), across a wide range of countries in all major regions. The questionnaire was developed through a systematic approach, including the definition of hypothesis to verify, the quantitative and qualitative variables, and how to turn these variables into a clear and limited number of questions. The assessment and conclusions of previous CONCORD reports were also taken into account in the elaboration of the questionnaire.

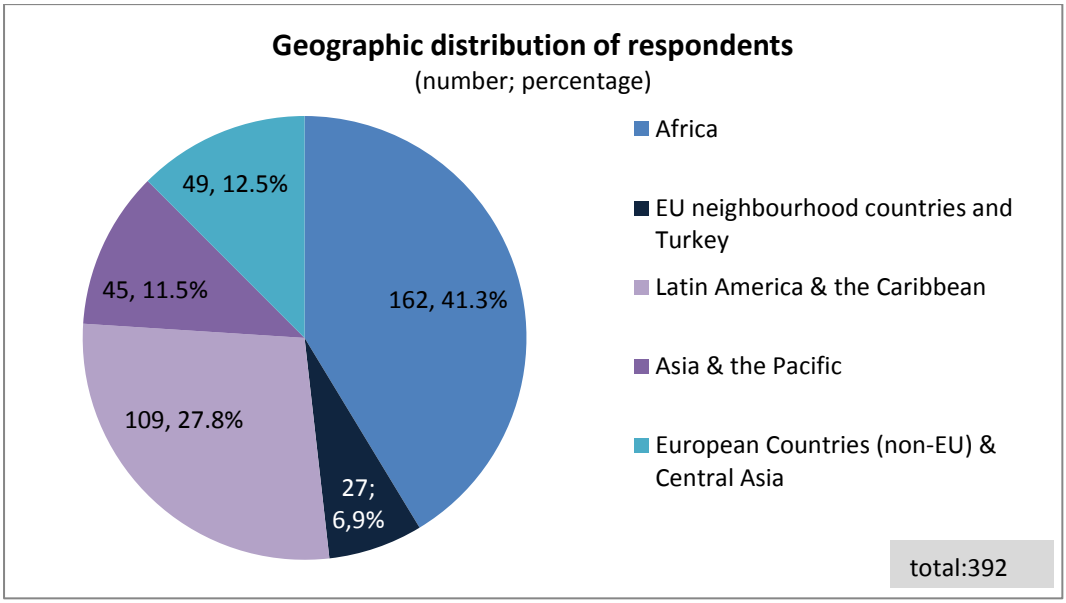
The questionnaire was organised in 3 parts (i) Overall perception of EU Engagement with Civil Society in-country; (ii) EU country roadmap for engagement with civil society; and (iii) EU funding to Civil Society Organisations. The questionnaire template included both closed (dichotomous, multiple choice, rating scale) and open-ended questions (giving the person the chance to respond in detail), and the data analysis was therefore quantitative and qualitative.

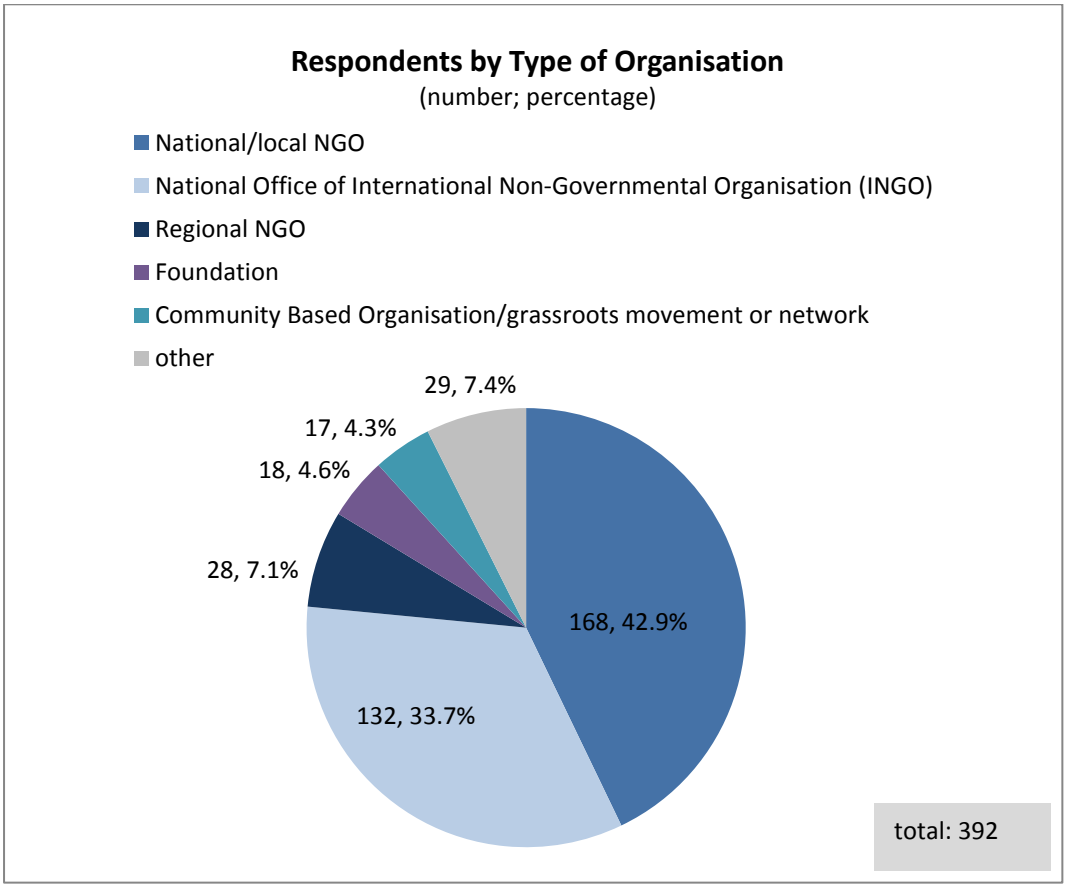
The following points summarise most of the data gathered, including the characterisation of the sample and the most relevant quantitative data aggregated in graphics and tables, as well as the comments of the respondents gathered by the open questions (which are organised in boxes and grouped in themes).

1. Sample Characterisation

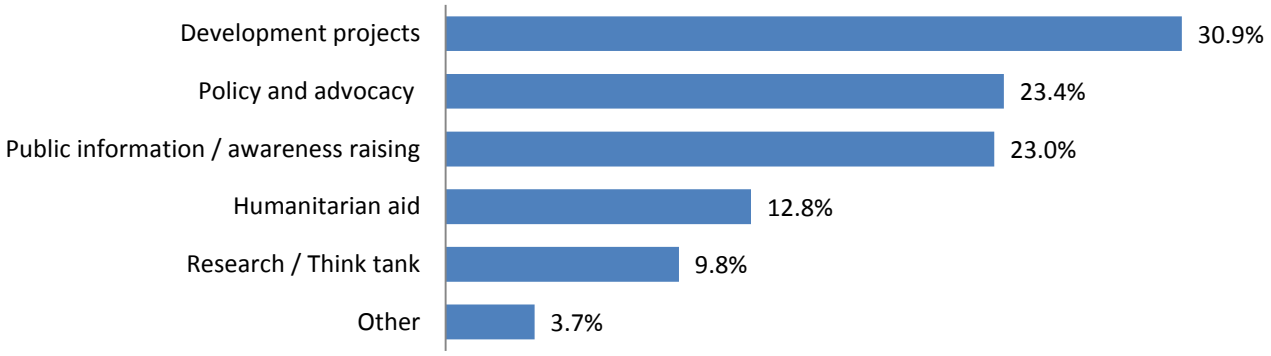
Highlights:

- A total number of 450 responses were received, from which **392 replies from 86 countries** were validated (this difference is mainly due to responses from European countries, which were eliminated from the quantitative analysis)
- Regional division, is accordingly with EU relations with third countries. Most replies came from **Africa** (162) and from **Latin America and The Caribbean** (109).
- The main type of organisation are **National/local NGOs** (43% of respondents) and **National offices of INGOs** (around 34%). The person responding to the questionnaire is usually the Director or a Project Coordinator/manager.
- Most of the respondents stated to be active on development projects, policy and advocacy, and public information / awareness raising. While the priority sectors of these organisations are much diversified, most organisations are dedicated to Children & Youth issues, to Human Rights, to Gender Equality, and to Education.
- Most respondents think they are **moderately informed about EU action and processes** in the country (53%), while a large majority consider to be **very knowledgeable about civil society** in the country (72%).

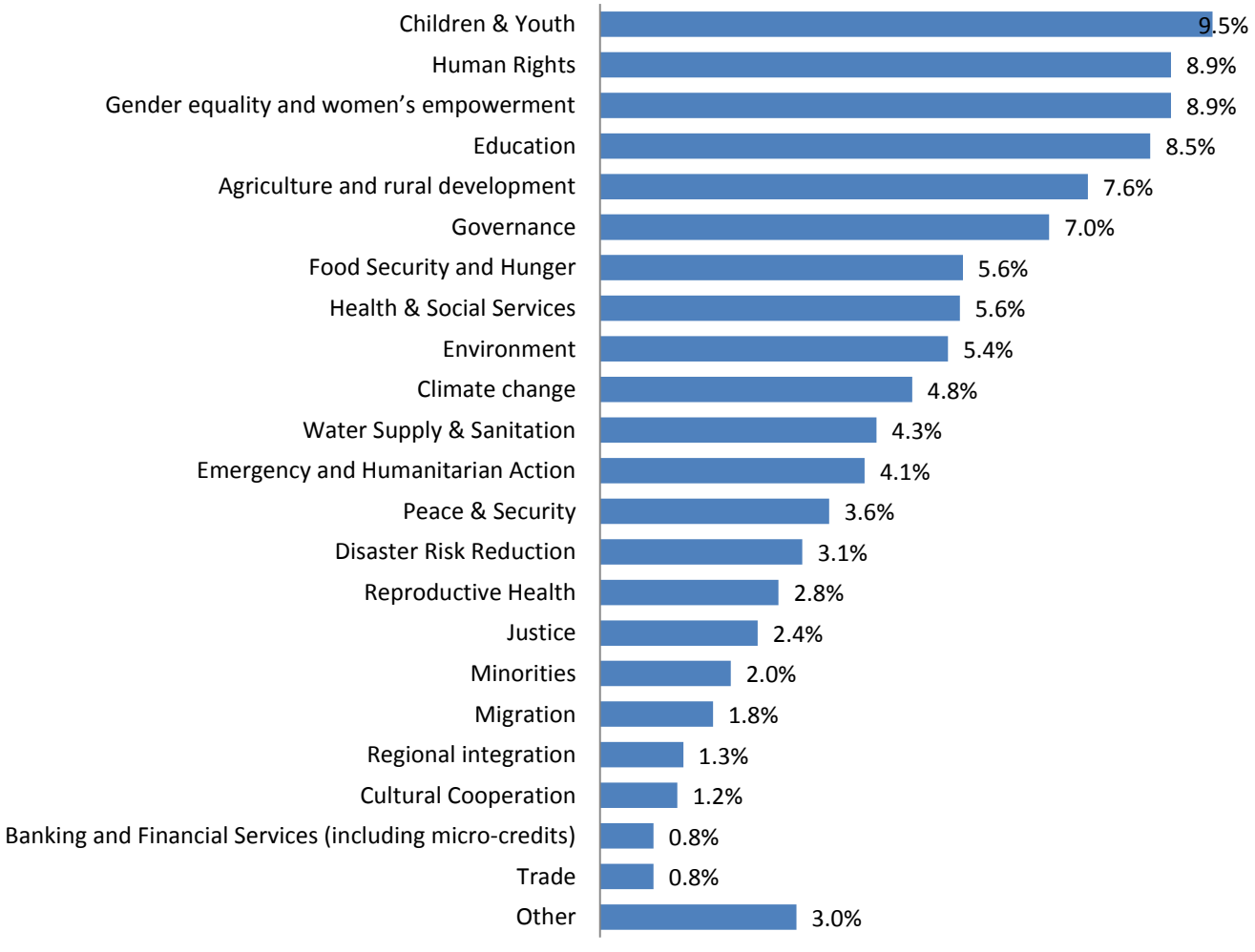

Geographic distribution of respondents
(number; percentage)
49, 12.5%
45, 11.5%
162, 41.3%
109, 27.8%
27; 6,9%
Africa
EU neighbourhood countries and Turkey
Latin America & the Caribbean
Asia & the Pacific
European Countries (non-EU) & Central Asia
total:392

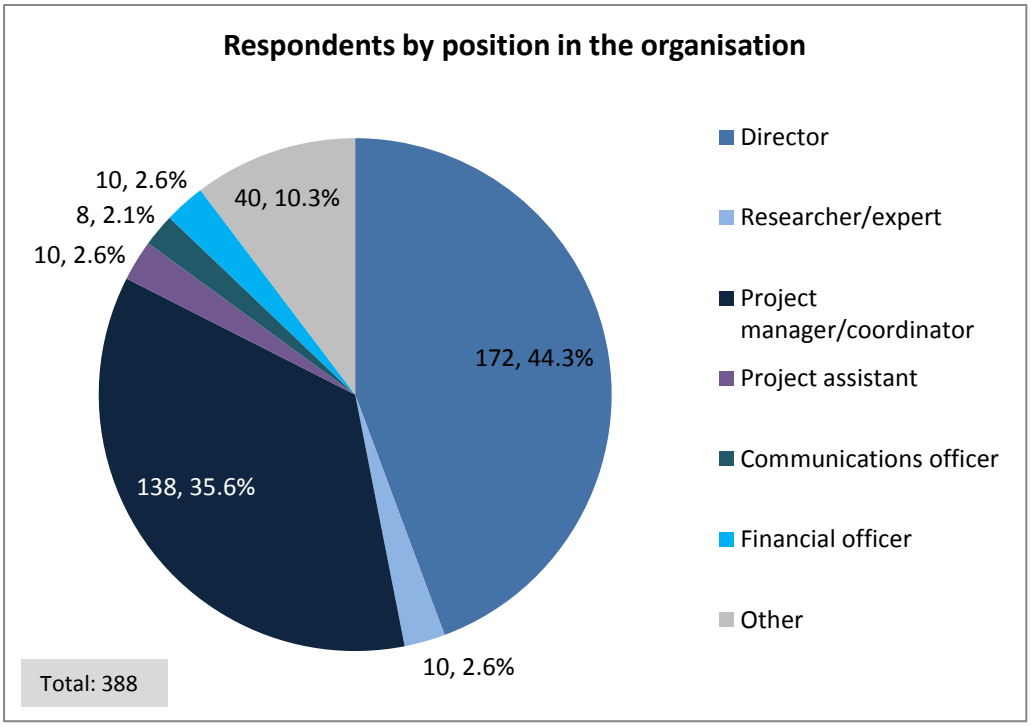

Respondents by Type of Organisation
(number; percentage)
National/local NGO
National Office of International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO)
Regional NGO
Foundation
Community Based Organisation/grassroots movement or network
other
29, 7.4%
17, 4.3%
18, 4.6%
28, 7.1%
168, 42.9%
132, 33.7%
total: 392

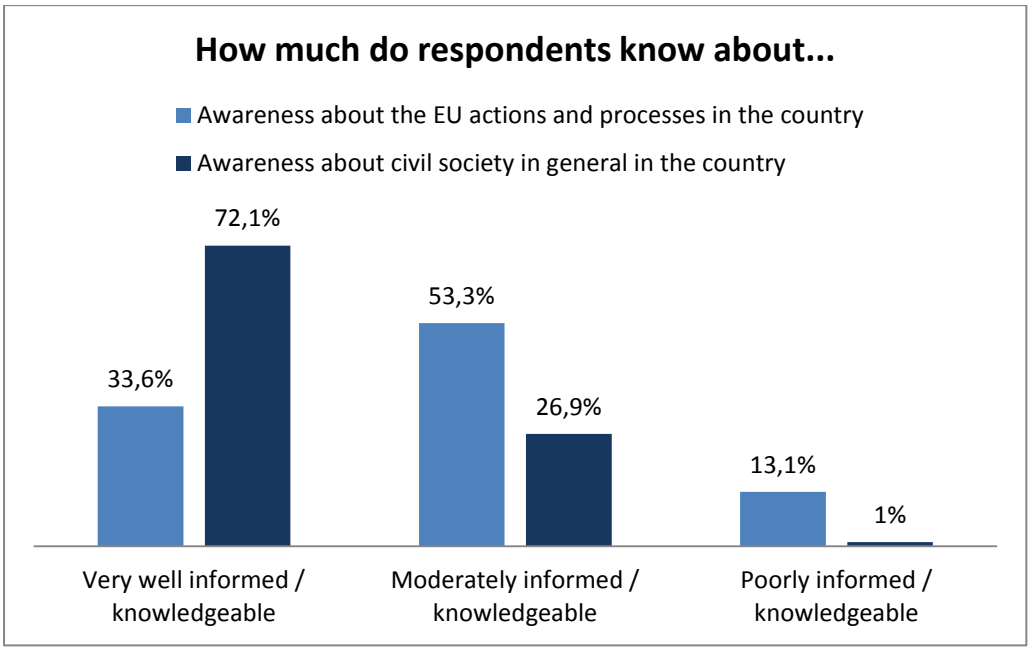
Respondents by Type of activities



Respondents by Priority Policy Sectors




Respondents by position in the organisation
Director
Researcher/expert
Project manager/coordinator
Project assistant
Communications officer
Financial officer
Other
172, 44.3%
10, 2.6%
138, 35.6%
10, 2.6%
8, 2.1%
10, 2.6%
40, 10.3%
Total: 388

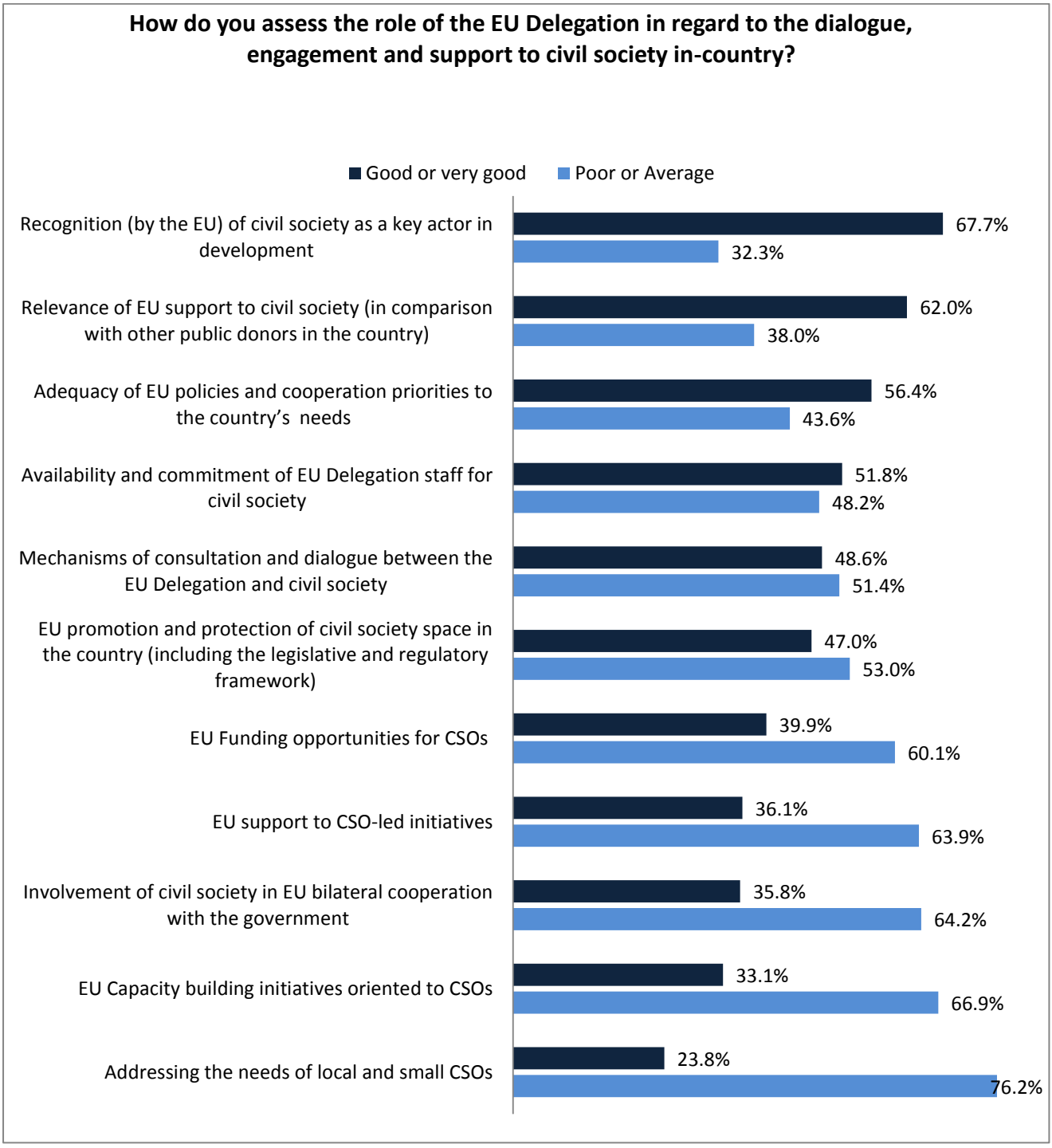

How much do respondents know about...
Awareness about the EU actions and processes in the country
Awareness about civil society in general in the country
33,6%
72,1%
53,3%
26,9%
13,1%
1%
Very well informed / knowledgeable
Moderately informed / knowledgeable
Poorly informed / knowledgeable

2. General assessment about EUDs' role in engaging with civil society in-country

Highlights:

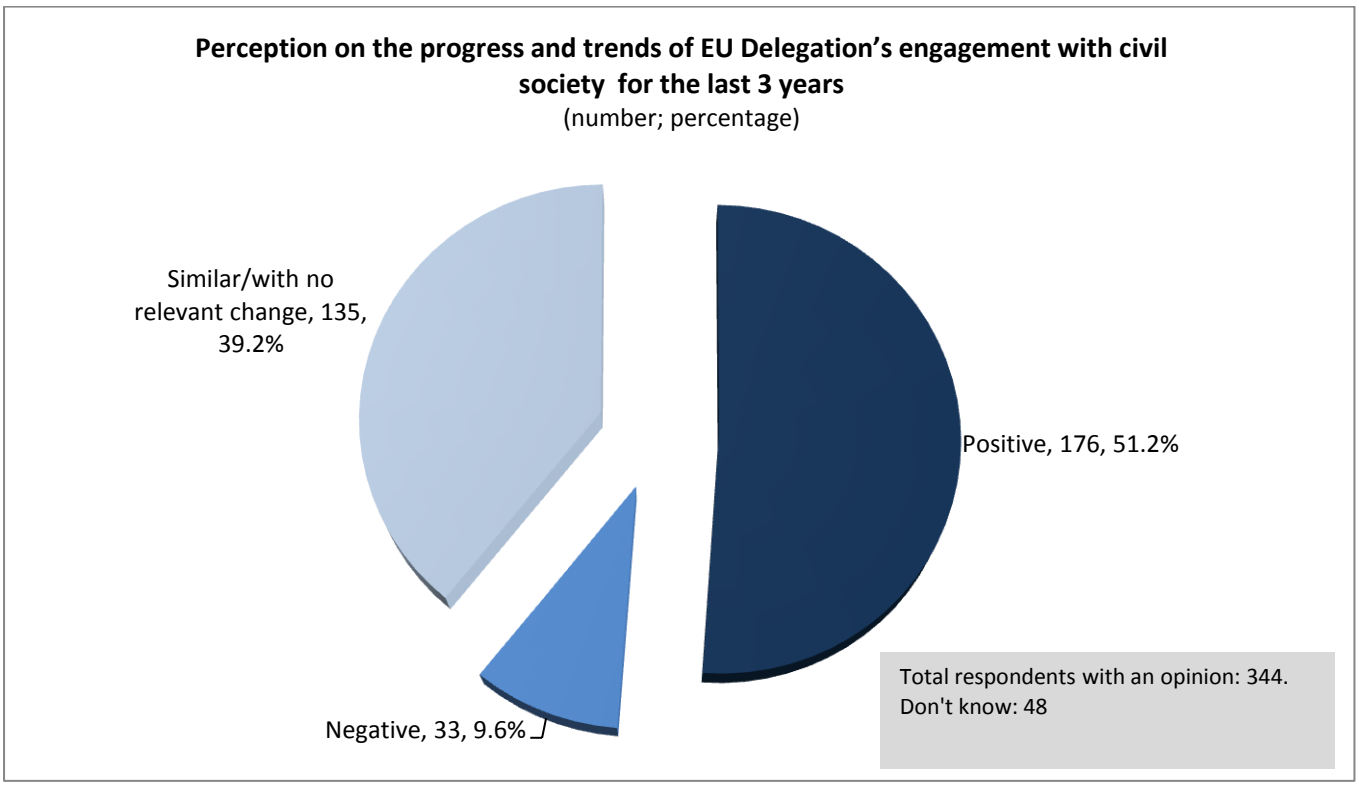
- The majority of respondents find **the recognition (by the EU) of civil society as a key actor in development** as good or very good (68%), as well as the general **relevance of EU support to civil society in comparison with other public donors** in the country (62%).
- The lowest scores (items classified as average or poor/inadequate) concern **addressing the needs of local and small CSOs** (76%), **the EU capacity building initiatives** (67%) **and EU support to CSO-led initiatives** (64%); and also the involvement of civil society in EU bilateral cooperation with the government (64%) - which is confirmed by the very low number of respondents that were consulted about programming of EU bilateral aid to the government in the country, assessed in other section.
- Approximately half of the respondents saw positive progresses in the last 3 years in EU Delegations' engagement with civil society (51%), and only less than 10% consider it to be negative; and this is consistent with the regional results, as well as with the breakdown of data by type of organisation. The most positive perceptions are in the Africa region, with 57% of positive replies, and the most negative in European Countries (non-EU) & Central Asia, where 17% state a negative progress and 52% find the situation to be similar/with no relevant change.

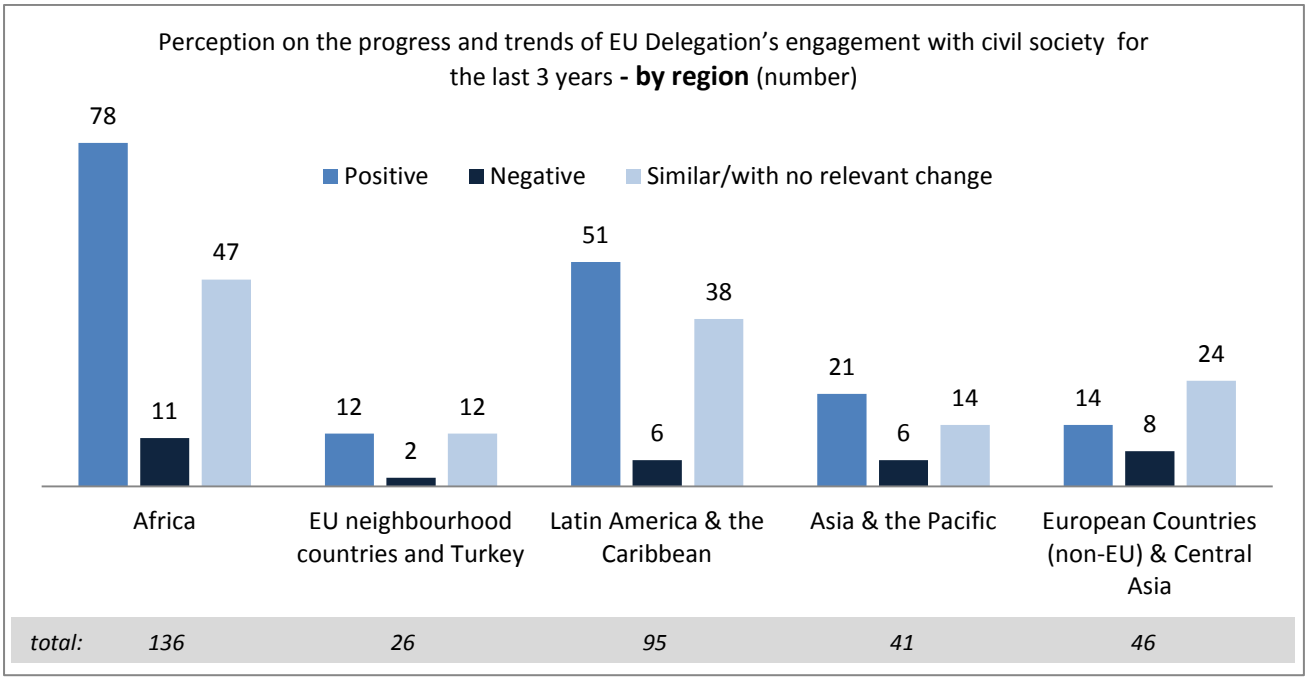
Question 1.1.

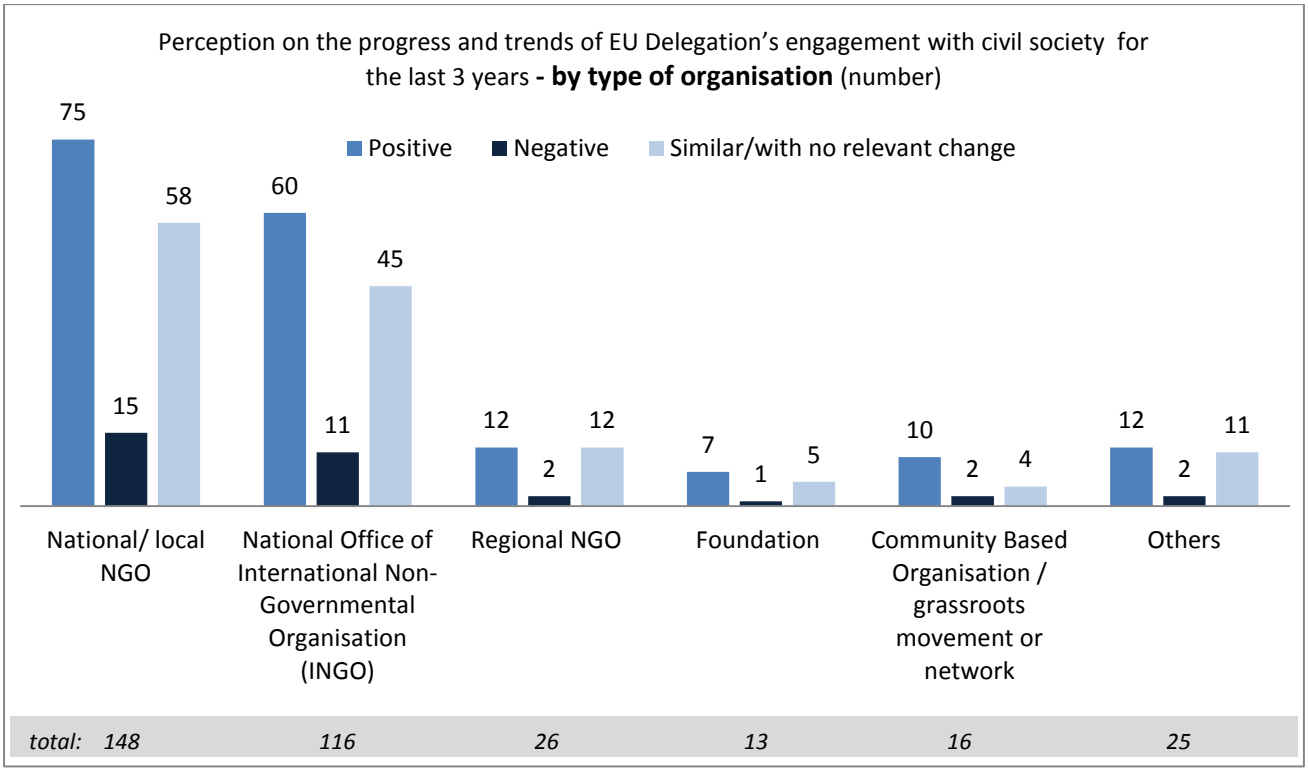

How do you assess the role of the EU Delegation in regard to the dialogue, engagement and support to civil society in-country?
Good or very good
Poor or Average
Recognition (by the EU) of civil society as a key actor in development
67.7%
32.3%
Relevance of EU support to civil society (in comparison with other public donors in the country)
62.0%
38.0%
Adequacy of EU policies and cooperation priorities to the country's needs
56.4%
43.6%
Availability and commitment of EU Delegation staff for civil society
51.8%
48.2%
Mechanisms of consultation and dialogue between the EU Delegation and civil society
48.6%
51.4%
EU promotion and protection of civil society space in the country (including the legislative and regulatory framework)
47.0%
53.0%
EU Funding opportunities for CSOs
39.9%
60.1%
EU support to CSO-led initiatives
36.1%
63.9%
Involvement of civil society in EU bilateral cooperation with the government
35.8%
64.2%
EU Capacity building initiatives oriented to CSOs
33.1%
66.9%
Addressing the needs of local and small CSOs
23.8%
76.2%

Question 1.2.

In general terms, how do you evaluate the progress and trends of EU Delegation's engagement with civil society in relation to the space, the enabling environment and the role of civil society in the country, for the last 3 years?




Perception on the progress and trends of EU Delegation's engagement with civil society for the last 3 years - by region (number)
Positive
Negative
Similar/with no relevant change
78
11
47
12
2
12
51
6
38
21
6
14
14
8
24
Africa
EU neighbourhood countries and Turkey
Latin America & the Caribbean
Asia & the Pacific
European Countries (non-EU) & Central Asia
total: 136 26 95 41 46


Perception on the progress and trends of EU Delegation's engagement with civil society for the last 3 years - by type of organisation (number)
Positive
Negative
Similar/with no relevant change
75
15
58
60
11
45
12
2
12
7
1
5
10
2
4
12
2
11
National/ local NGO
National Office of International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO)
Regional NGO
Foundation
Community Based Organisation / grassroots movement or network
Others
total: 148 116 26 13 16 25

Comments and remarks from respondents on this section:

In a number of countries, the perception is that the EUDs could do more in protecting and promoting space for civil society.

"En general, las ONGs que trabajan en Bolivia perciben que en los últimos años se han reducido sus espacios de participación, que existe un ámbito desfavorable para accionar y que su papel como actores del desarrollo no es valorado ni fortalecido por instancias de gobierno especialmente nacional. En ese escenario desfavorable, la UE no está realizando suficientes esfuerzos para transformar ese escenario". - *National NGO, Bolivia*

"No se percibe visibilidad de la UE a nivel de la sociedad civil. Se percibe como un actor que mira (sin emitir juicios) sobre las políticas del Gobierno, pero no se involucra directamente con la sociedad civil". - *National Office of INGO, Bolivia*

"The EU delegation has not issued a single statement capturing concerns about shrinking CSOs space in Pakistan. We don't see any visible efforts by EU delegation on shrinking CSO space in terms of challenging them or using leverage of all the instruments EU has at its disposal. There are limited efforts by EUD to engage with networks or organisations that are actively advocating against shrinking space. Also, many resolutions were passed by EU parliament last and this year pertaining to Pakistan, however there is no mention of concerns on shrinking CSO space". - *Regional NGO, Pakistan*

"The EU is supportive to CSO but could do better in helping to improve government's accountability in a regular and continuous way (not only during key milestones such as elections or constitution)". - *Regional NGO, Fiji*

La délégation n'a pas réagi de manière adéquate aux restrictions croissantes apportées par le gouvernement du Laos à l'activité des OSC, et en particulier des OSC nationales appelées ici NPA (Non Profit Association) car le gouvernement ne veut même pas entendre parler de CSO, encore moins de NGO. Sur le plan politique, malgré l'absence totale de réponses sur la disparition de Sombath en 2014, l'UE a décidé d'augmenter substantiellement son aide ("*The 2007-2013 Country Strategy for Lao PDR was worth more than EUR 69 million. The current bilateral programme for Laos for 2014-2020 has increased funding to EUR 207 million*"). Le message aux autorités est clair : peu importe leurs violations des droits de l'homme, et le fait qu'ils s'engagent dans une politique de plus en plus hostile à la société civile, l'appui de l'UE continuera à croître. On n'en voit d'ailleurs pas la logique ni de raison claire: le pays est en développement économique rapide, ce qui profite surtout à la classe moyenne bureaucrate et aux vendeurs de voitures de luxe, s'il y a encore de la pauvreté dans les campagnes c'est faute d'une politique de redistribution et d'appui aux ruraux adéquate. On ne peut même pas dire que les enjeux commerciaux pour l'UE justifient cette augmentation de l'APD européenne car le Laos est un pays somme toute fort petit et au potentiel "commercial" limité. - *National Office of INGO, Laos*

"On sensitive issues the EUD does not confront the government. This is inconsistent with the messages coming from Brussels". – *National Office of INGO, Honduras*

"The EUD keeps a very cautious and weak position, uses a very diplomatic language and doesn't want to pressure the government to avoid being accused of political interference" – *National NGO, Honduras*

"Simple actions in favour of human rights defenders (like visiting them in prison or assisting at their trial) were abandoned. The reason for that is that the EUD wants to maintain good relations with the government and is implementing what they call 'silent diplomacy'. The problem with silent diplomacy is that it is not transparent and you never know what EUD is doing and whether it has an impact. In fact for the moment the situation of Human Rights defenders is deteriorating in Cambodia and the level of fear is growing. It is now more than ever that EUD and MS support would be needed". - *National NGO, Cambodia*

When EUDs take an active stance on supporting and defending civil society and human rights, it is found to be very relevant.

"Within the crisis of Burundi, EU stood up and supported CSOs to advocate for fair governance, and also kept helping even those CSOs banned by the government. It showed support to them without considering how the government treat them". - *National Office of INGO, Burundi*

"In south Sudan, EU has been engaging civil society to advocate for the rights of the community, the example being gender mainstreaming workshops in Juba". - *National NGO, South Sudan*

"The EU invests in institutional strengthening, though the promotion of dialogue between institutions and between the government and the third sector. The EU visible appreciation for civil society role and activities is very important to the CSOs-Government relationship". - *National NGO, Brazil*

"EU has supported to start joint initiatives of civil society and government which has created enabling environment for CSOs and joint working culture". - *National office of INGO, Nepal*

"Since 2013 we've had a full EU-funded national project on enabling environment-related advocacy and research project that yielded interesting results. We have now been approached by the EU - along with other two CSO networks - in order to develop a new project, based on building a 'network of networks' from Chilean civil society. The project seeks to further the enabling environment advocacy track, as well as promoting civil society involvement and participation on SDG implementation, institutional consolidation of umbrella organizations and their members and promoting community outreach through workshops and courses". - *National Platform of NGOs, Chile*

"EU delegation plays very important roles in providing financial assistant to Cambodia Civil Society to be able to advocate for policy development, policy implementation and policy changes, to protect and to defend the interest of Cambodian people. With funding assistance from EU, civil society may participate in legislation development process; for example, join consultation process of draft law on juvenile justice" – *National NGO, Cambodia*

"Han aprobado muchos proyectos para que la población guatemalteca se empodere de sus derechos y que sea sujeto activo para su desarrollo personal, por la inclusión de la perspectiva y enfoque de equidad de género en los proyectos, enfoque de derechos humanos y pueblos indígenas". - *National NGO, Guatemala*

"EU has supported to start joint initiatives of civil society and government which has created enabling environment for CSOs and joint working culture". - *National office of INGO, Nepal*

*"*EU's approach to inclusive response to gender discrimination is exemplary as it has recognised, gender discrimination and harmful traditions as issues that affect women of all ages and hence allocating resources to support older women's rights and their protection from violence". - *National Office of INGO, Tanzania*

Respondents express the opinion that EU priorities in-country are not related with civil society: Priority is given to engagement with the other actors (the government) and with other sectors and instruments (e.g. EPAs, Trust Fund)

"La machine de l'UE est tellement lourd que la plus part de ses interventions sont directement avec le gouvernement qui le plus souvent ne consulte pas la base pour avoir les besoins réel. souvent les interventions ne répondent pas aux besoins réels du terrain." - *National NGO, Cote D'Ivoire*

*"*More often than not calls for proposals from the EU are government oriented leaving the CSOs that would help in deducing accountability of the government out of the picture. For instance in the EUTF in Kenya the Government of Kenya is the core convenor and only one CSO is involved which means that CSOs voice is chocked simply because they do not have the benefit of capacity building". - *Regional NGO, Kenya*

*"*Too much portion of the funds goes directly to the questionable government." - *National office of INGO, Nepal*

*"*Mayor involucramiento con el gobierno en detrimento de oportunidades para la sociedad civil, como financiamiento para ONGs" - *National office of INGO, Bolivia*

*"*EU delegation engagement with CSO in Nigeria is low or weak for the last 3 years. The EU prioritizes working more directly with Government in Nigeria". - *National office of INGO, Nigeria*

*"*La délégation UE comme la majorité des bailleurs de fonds institutionnels au Rwanda, a tendance a s'aligner sur les directives du gouvernement, et elle privilégie une intervention à travers l'appui budgétaire à prés de 85% des fonds alloués. Il ne reste que très peu de fonds "indépendants" pour la société civile. il existe un mécanisme de financement pour les organisations locales a travers le RGB par lequel l'UE fait passer certains fonds mais cela contribue a maintenir un statu quo. La société civile rwandaise quant à elle n'est pas suffisamment active par manque de moyens, ressources, capacités d'une part pour les organisations locales, tandis que les organisations internationales tendent a s'exiler de plus en plus suite a la raréfaction des financements. Ces deux facteurs font que cela n'incite pas a faire bouger les choses surtout eut égard a la situation prévalent.*"* - *National Office of INGO, Rwanda*

"Au Burkina l'essentiel de l'aide de l'Union Européenne, ces dernières années, semble être destinée à l'Etat et aux financement de projets étatique. Cela est incohérente avec le rôle croissant attendu des OSC en matière de participation citoyenne (éveil des consciences, participation à l'ancrage de la démocratie et des droits humains)". - *National Office of INGO, Burkina Faso*

*"*Sur le plan programmatique, la part des fonds de l'UE consacrée à l'appui à la SC et aux droits de l'homme est trop faible, comparée aux sommes importantes investies dans des programmes d'appui au gouvernement dans las domaines santé et nutrition, alors même qu'on sait que tous les projets passant par le gouvernement sont des puits sans fond à l'efficacité très réduite, à l'image du dernier programme NUDP qui a été une catastrophe, à tel point que les évaluations en sont restées confidentielles". - *National Office of INGO, Laos*

"Nous avons tenté d'obtenir ne serait ce que des informations pour savoir quels sont les objectifs et moyens de l'UE au Laos, sans résultat. Par contre, les membres de la délégation nous ont clairement expliqué que le budget de l'UE au Laos était clairement destiné aux agences gouvernementales, en dépit de la corruption et des résultats lamentables de ces dernières". - *Foundation, Laos*

"The DUE is occupied and worried more about the Economic Partnership Agreements - EPAs than anything else". - *National NGO, Cameroon*

"EU funding is directed to Government for DRM & DRR programs, with very little direct support to CSOs or NGOs." - *National NGO, Cook Islands*

"La Delegación de la UE en cuanto al diálogo, el compromiso y el apoyo a la sociedad civil en el ámbito nacional ha sido abierta; en los últimos años ha favorecido la relación con el sector privado organizado, debilitando a las OSC históricas. En los últimos 3 años ha mermado los fondos de cooperación para sociedad civil y aumentado a través de entidades gubernamentales que, como es públicamente sabido, están muy vinculadas con temas de corrupción y falta de transparencia." - *National NGO, Guatemala*

"With the Federal Government of Nigeria yet to sign the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EU, and has not come out with clear project areas for funding to the Board of the EU Trust Fund, the engagement of the EU with the Civil Society remains shallow and unclear and their delegations with Nigeria is heavily influence by the dealings and working relations with the government." - *National Office of INGO, Nigeria*

"I see the EU as being somehow stagnant in its role in Lebanon. Focusing more on political processes that being visible vis a vis the civil society." - *Regional NGO, Lebanon*

"The EUD finds itself at the crossroads between the imminent end of the EPAs, the EU budget cuts and the growing need of NGOs for financing." - *Regional NGO, DRC*

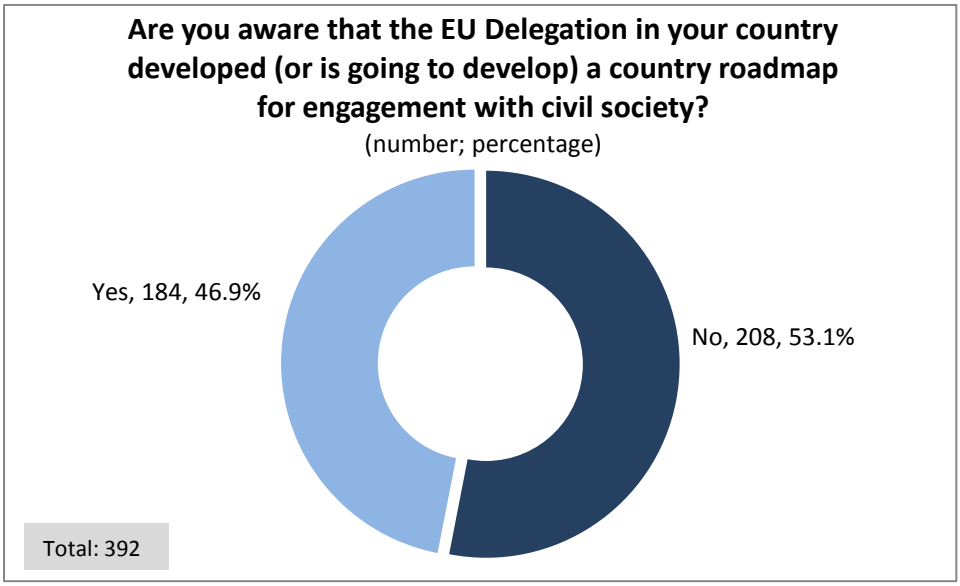
"The parameters of how EU engages civil society is unclear, especially with the shift to the EU Trust Fund. It is unclear how the different delegations will engage civil society especially in the cross border and regional space. There is no clear strategy on how civil society will work with EU and its partners in implementing the EUTF." - *National Office of INGO, Kenya*

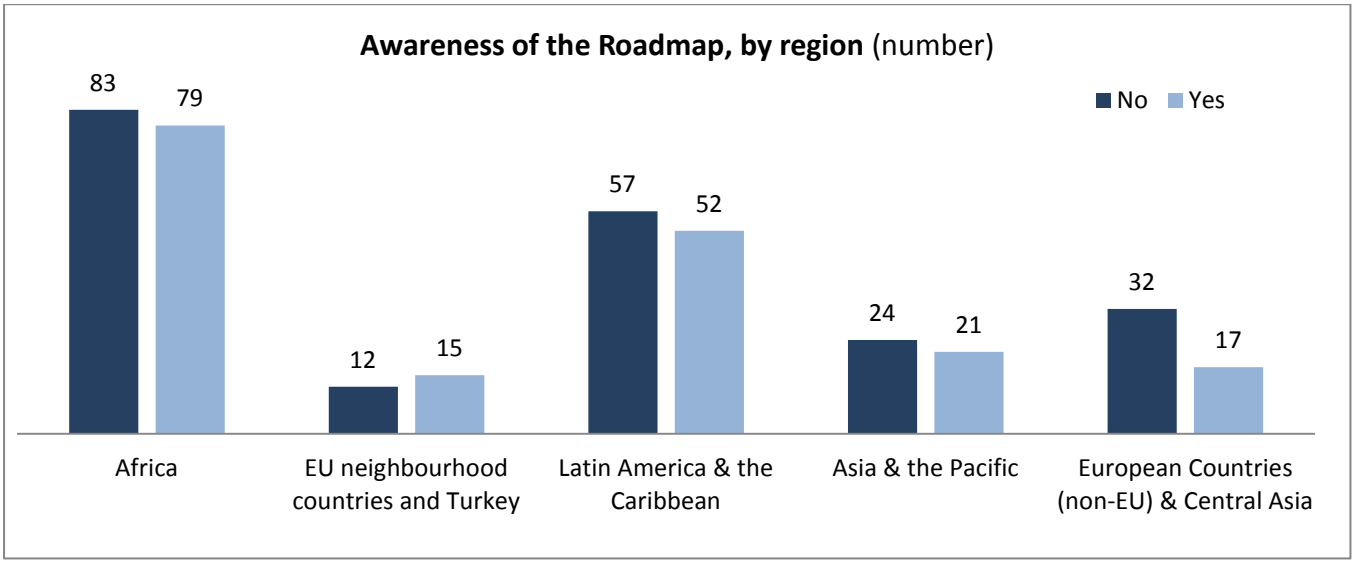
3. The EU Roadmaps for engagement with Civil Society

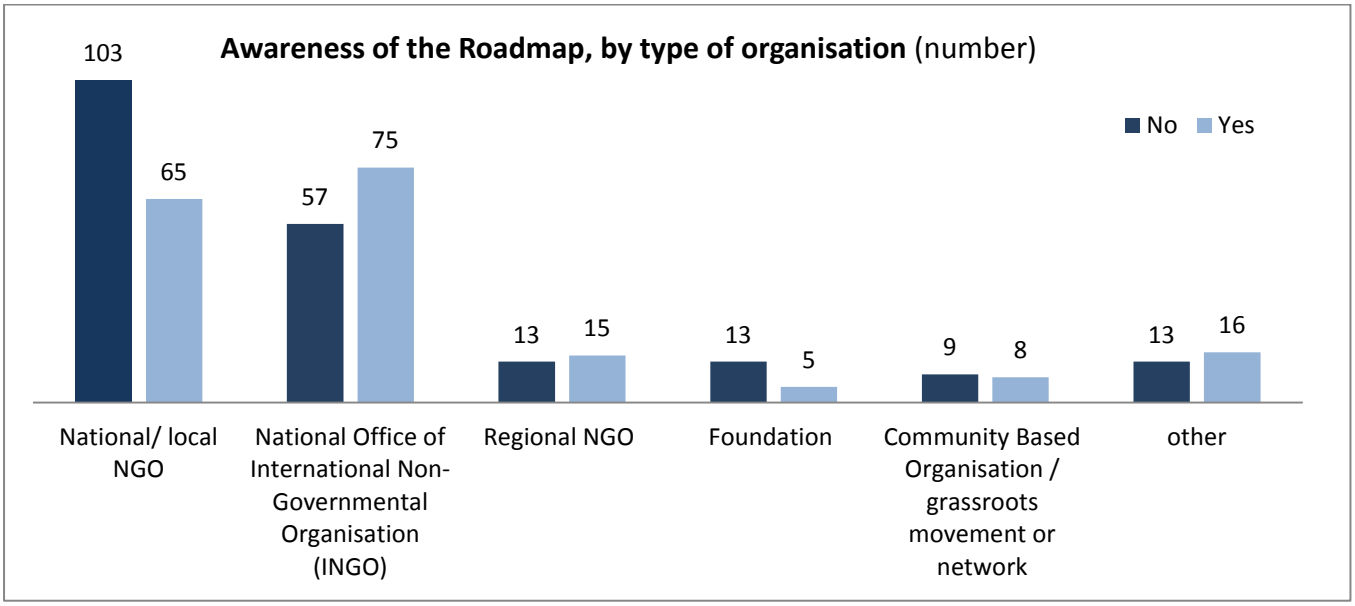
Highlights:

- Just over half of the respondents (around 53%) are **not aware** that the EU Delegation developed or is going to develop a country roadmap for engagement with civil society in-country, and this percentage is higher in National/local NGOs (above 61%), while **the majority of National Office of International NGOs are aware of the roadmap** (57%).
- From the organisations that are aware, 63% **were involved**, a wide majority only in the consultation phase.
- When asked about their opinion on the roadmap process, the majority have classified as Poor or Average all items, particularly the items that are linked to **implementation or impact** of the roadmaps (64% considered the roadmap contribution to increase civil society role as policy influencers as poor or average, while 61% recognise that the coordination amongst civil society for the implementation phase of the roadmap is not the most adequate)
- Also, most organisations find there are flaws in providing timely information on the next steps and implementation (more than 64% classified this item as Poor or Average*),* which matches the replies about their involvement on its monitoring and implementation (**around 75% are not involved in the implementation or don't know**).
- For the ones that are involved (45 organisations), most participated either in meetings between the EU and civil society actors focused on other issues where the roadmap was mentioned (49% of respondents mentioned this engagement mechanism), or in informal and ad-hoc meetings promoted by the EU on the implementation of the roadmap (42%).
- The majority of respondents (53%) don't know if the roadmap contributed to any change in the relations between the EU Delegation and civil society in the country.

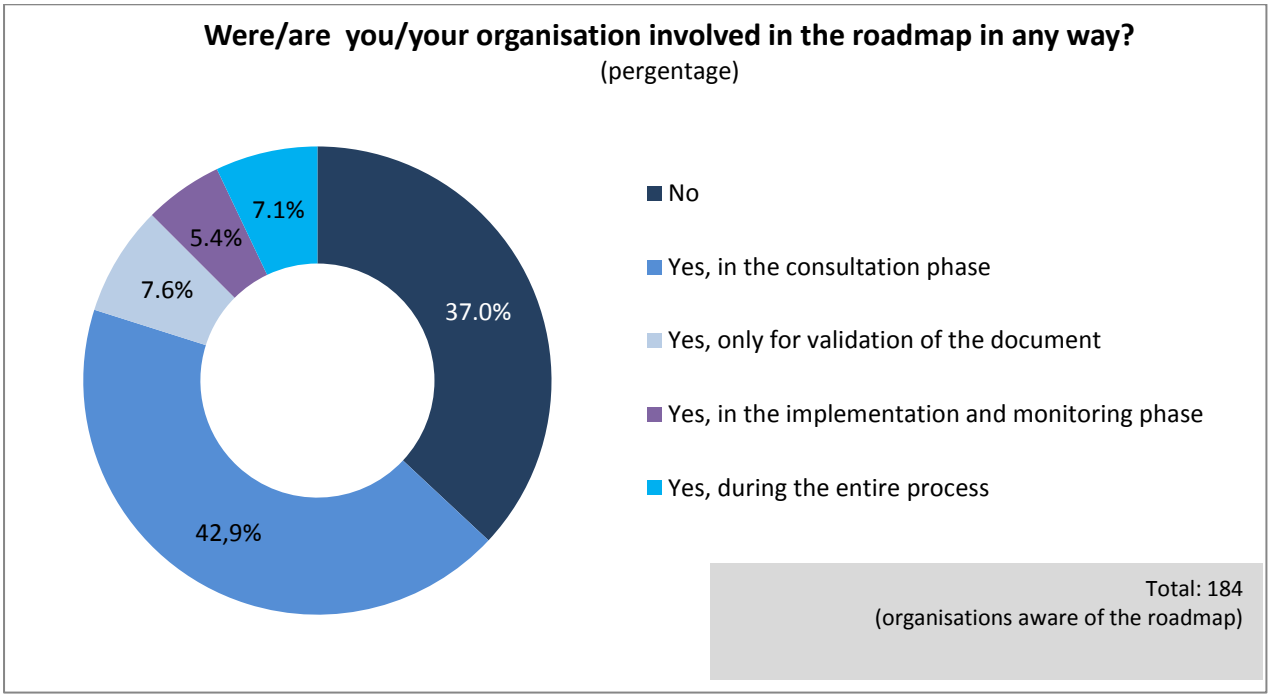
Question 2.1.

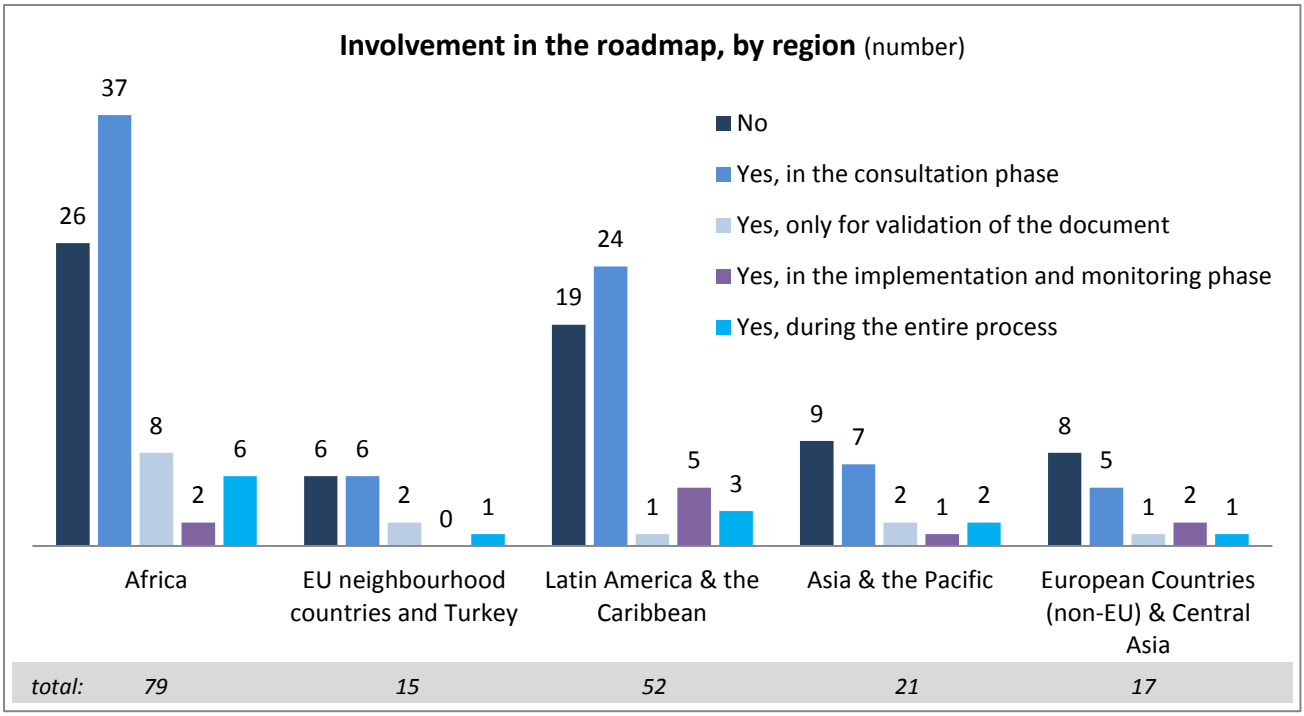

Are you aware that the EU Delegation in your country developed (or is going to develop) a country roadmap for engagement with civil society?
(number; percentage)
Yes, 184, 46.9%
No, 208, 53.1%
Total: 392

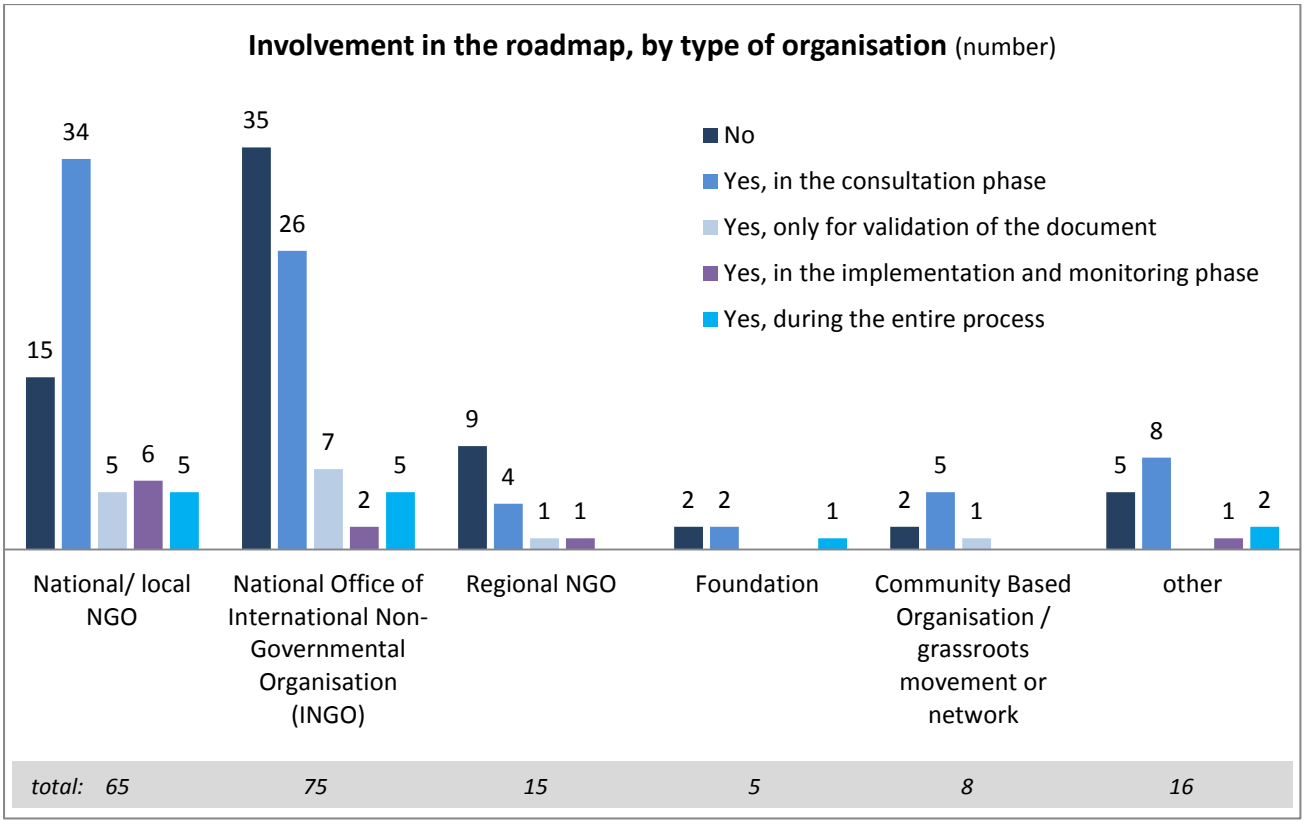

Awareness of the Roadmap, by region (number)
No
Yes
83
79
12
15
57
52
24
21
32
17
Africa
EU neighbourhood countries and Turkey
Latin America & the Caribbean
Asia & the Pacific
European Countries (non-EU) & Central Asia


Awareness of the Roadmap, by type of organisation (number)
No
Yes
103
65
57
75
13
15
13
5
9
8
13
16
National/ local NGO
National Office of International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO)
Regional NGO
Foundation
Community Based Organisation / grassroots movement or network
other

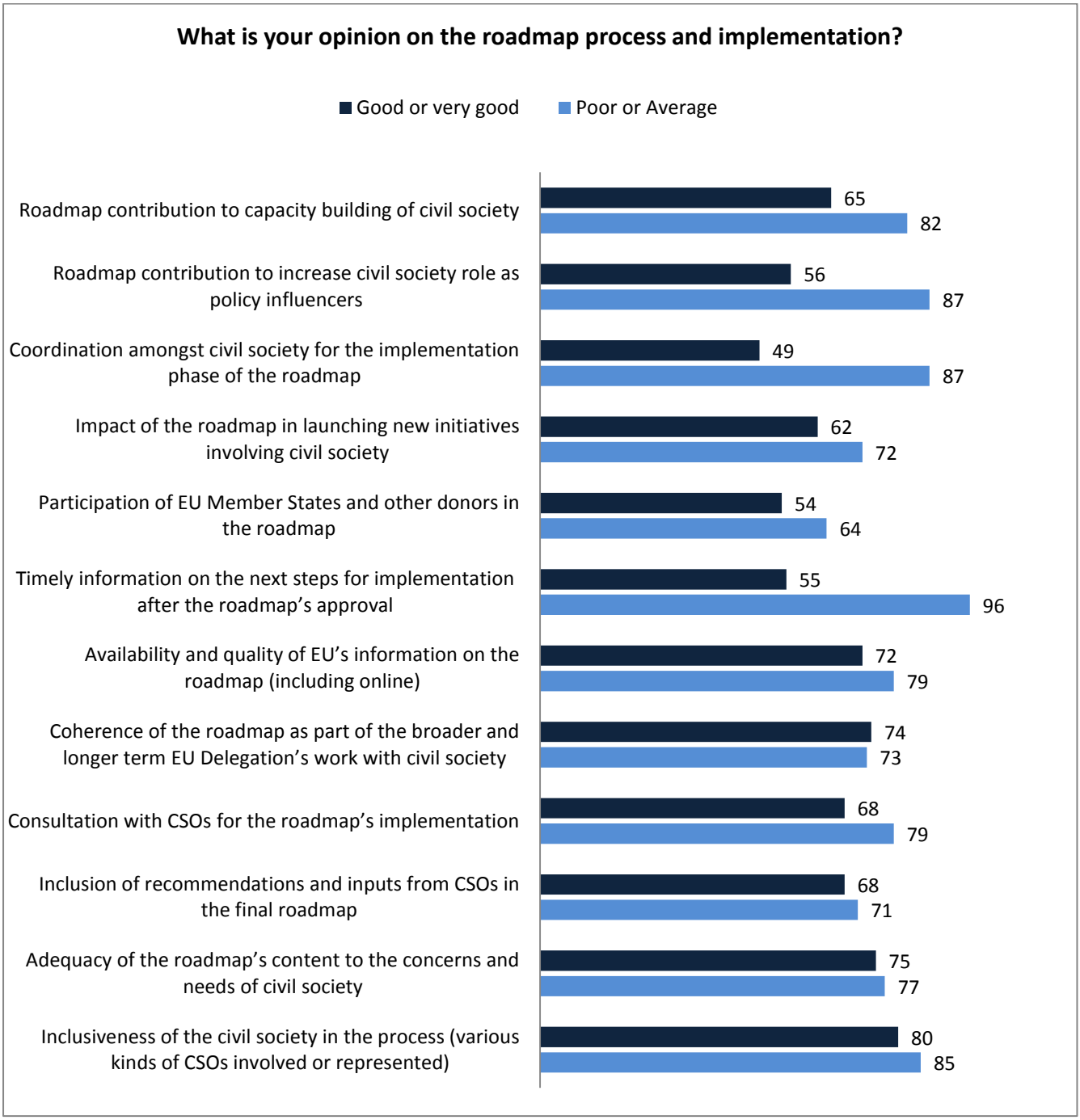
Question 2.2.


Were/are you/your organisation involved in the roadmap in any way?
(pergentage)
37.0%
42,9%
7.6%
5.4%
7.1%
No
Yes, in the consultation phase
Yes, only for validation of the document
Yes, in the implementation and monitoring phase
Yes, during the entire process
Total: 184
(organisations aware of the roadmap)

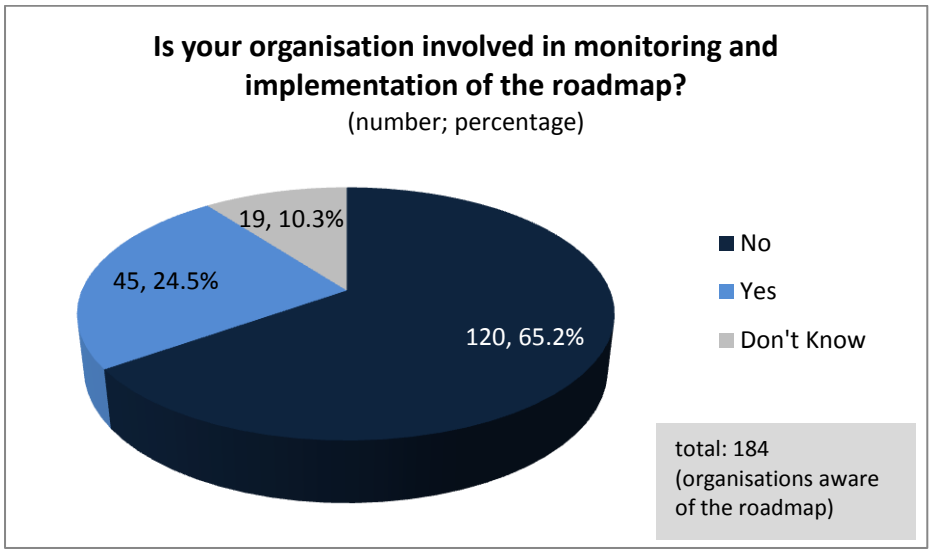

Involvement in the roadmap, by region (number)
No
Yes, in the consultation phase
Yes, only for validation of the document
Yes, in the implementation and monitoring phase
Yes, during the entire process
26 37 8 2 6
6 6 2 0 1
19 24 1 5 3
9 7 2 1 2
8 5 1 2 1
Africa
EU neighbourhood countries and Turkey
Latin America & the Caribbean
Asia & the Pacific
European Countries (non-EU) & Central Asia
total: 79 15 52 21 17


Involvement in the roadmap, by type of organisation (number)
No
Yes, in the consultation phase
Yes, only for validation of the document
Yes, in the implementation and monitoring phase
Yes, during the entire process
15 34 5 6 5
35 26 7 2 5
9 4 1 1
2 2 1
2 5 1
5 8 1 2
National/ local NGO
National Office of International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO)
Regional NGO
Foundation
Community Based Organisation / grassroots movement or network
other
total: 65 75 15 5 8 16

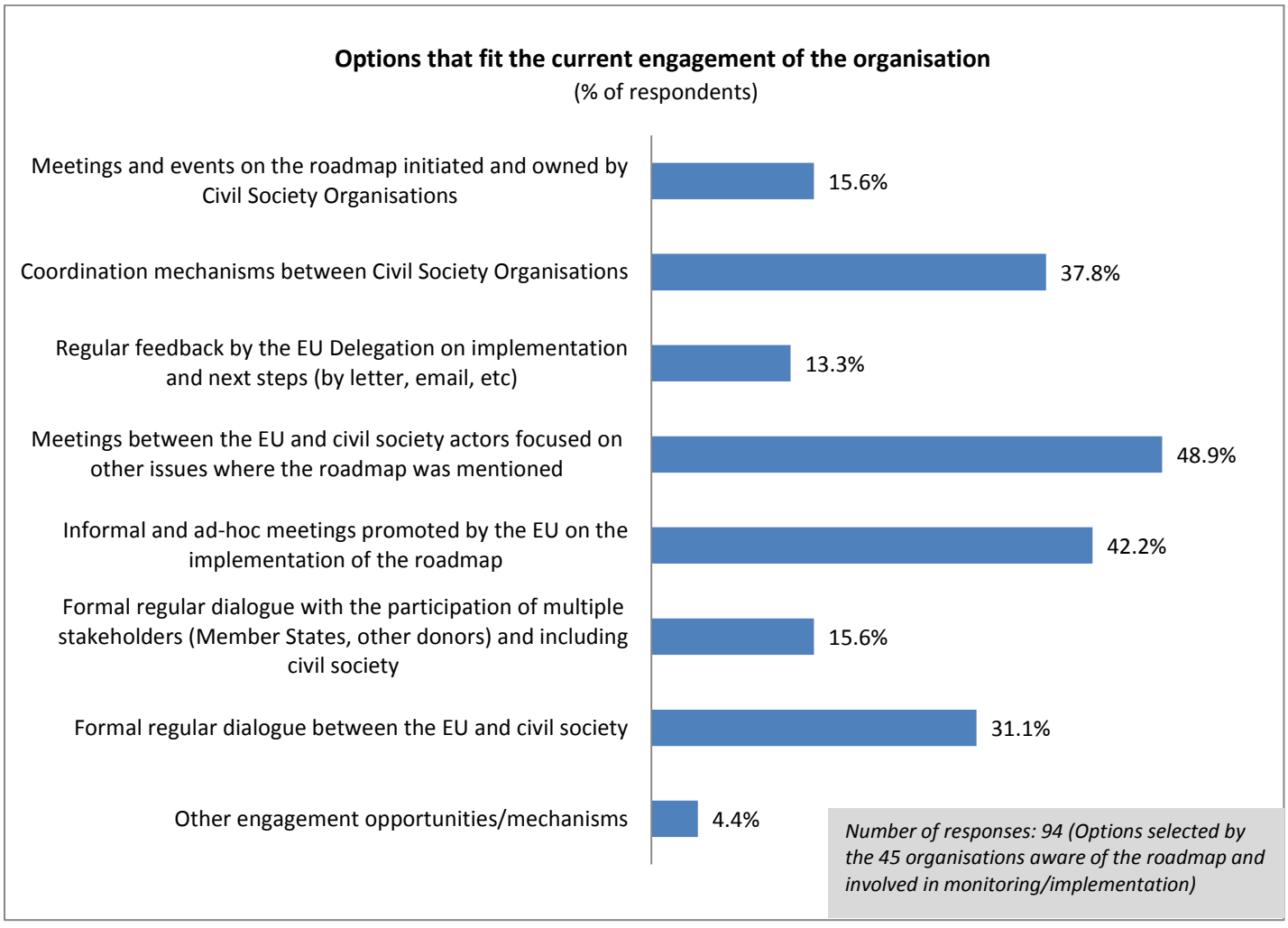
Question 2.3.


What is your opinion on the roadmap process and implementation?
Good or very good
Poor or Average
Roadmap contribution to capacity building of civil society
65
82
Roadmap contribution to increase civil society role as policy influencers
56
87
Coordination amongst civil society for the implementation phase of the roadmap
49
87
Impact of the roadmap in launching new initiatives involving civil society
62
72
Participation of EU Member States and other donors in the roadmap
54
64
Timely information on the next steps for implementation after the roadmap's approval
55
96
Availability and quality of EU's information on the roadmap (including online)
72
79
Coherence of the roadmap as part of the broader and longer term EU Delegation's work with civil society
74
73
Consultation with CSOs for the roadmap's implementation
68
79
Inclusion of recommendations and inputs from CSOs in the final roadmap
68
71
Adequacy of the roadmap's content to the concerns and needs of civil society
75
77
Inclusiveness of the civil society in the process (various kinds of CSOs involved or represented)
80
85

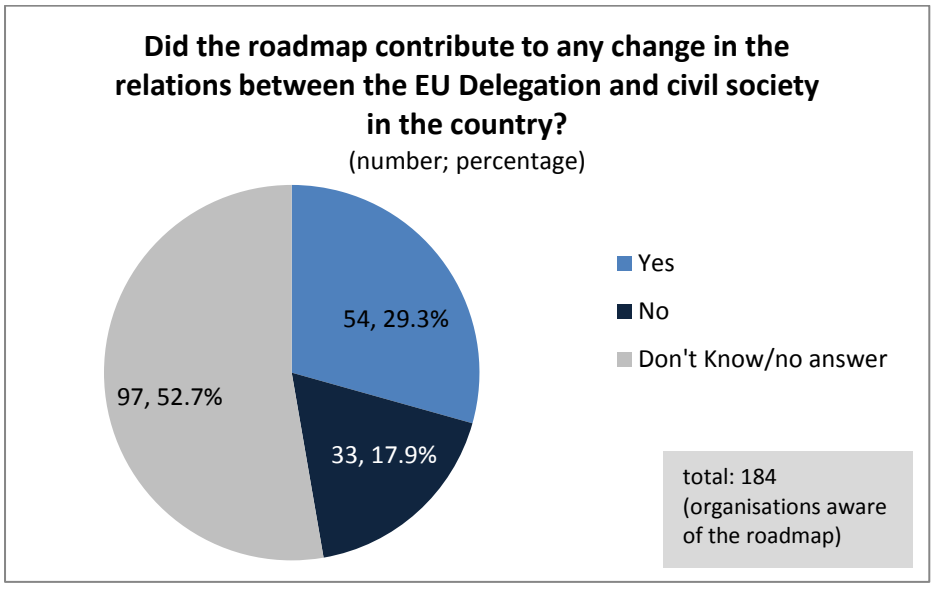
Question 2.4.



If yes, please select the options that fit the current engagement:



Question 2.5.



Comments and remarks from respondents:

***A number of respondents underline some positive aspects of the roadmaps**:*

"Plusieurs OSC se sont senties pour pour la première fois contributives a l'élaboration d'un cadre de collaboration avec l'UE." - National NGO, Cameroon

"The creation of working groups for specific issues (e.g. relation CSOs-universities) has created a dynamic of dialogue, with the EU and CSOs being motivated to meet more regularly". – *National NGO, Ecuador*

"C'est cette feuille de route qui permis de faire l'exercice assez ouvert de la cartographie. Et les pistes d'action annoncées si elles sont effectivement mise en œuvre vont certainement améliore les relations UE-OSC mais aussi permettre de renforcer le rôle et la place de la société civile dans le dialogue des politiques de développement". – *NGO Platform, Burkina Faso*

"C'est une approche nouvelle qui a contribué à décomplexer les OSC, l'Etat et même l'UE quant aux activités de la Société civile. Cela a permis à l'UE et à l'Etat d'avoir une cartographie réelle des OSC".– *National NGO, Niger*

"La feuille de route a motivé un changement positif: la principale démarche c'est l'ouverture sur les petites associations régionales et l'organisation des consultation décentralisée de Rabat" – *Membership Organisation, Morocco*

"La hoja de ruta contribuyó a más visibilidad de la Delegación, contacto con diferentes organizaciones, espacios/eventos con participación de sociedad civil, promoción de contacto de sociedad civil con embajadores de estados miembros". – *National Office of INGO, Peru*

"The roadmap brings relevant changes because it brings CS and EU closer and improves the dialogue. Big efforts were implemented to involve and reinforce local CSOs through the mapping exercise. There is a renewed interest and more instruments to support local CSOs". – *National Office of INGO, Mozambique*

There is a perception of insufficient feedback of the EUD and lack of information on the implementation and follow-up; and the roadmap will be useless if some other issues are not dealt with:

La hoja de ruta es excelente, la CCONG - Confederación Colombiana de ONGs le ha dado seguimiento motu propio pero como tal no se han dado ni recursos materiales ni escenarios políticos para seguimiento de la implementación salvo esporádicas participaciones de la Delegación en uno que otro evento. Como tal la hoja de ruta cae en el vacío, no hay una fuerza en la implementación y queda como documento de referencia para archivo no es un documento vivo, con vitalidad y con recurso humano disponible para desarrollarlo. Construirla fue muy positivo pero quedo para mencionarla en convocatorias, o en ponencias pero no tiene un mecanismo de desarrollo con recursos humanos y materiales para ello. - *National NGO, Colombia*

Du fait de notre non-implication dans la consultation, nous n'avons pas été informé de la suite du processus (suivi et mise en œuvre). - *National Office of INGO, regional (Great Lakes)*

Since very little information is available on the implementation of the roadmap (if it actually is implemented), it is impossible to evaluate its impact. It is difficult to say if the cautiously positive evolution results from the roadmap or from new EU personnel that is clearly more willing (and/or allowed) to cooperate with CSOs than their predecessors. In any case, the engagements by the EU taken in the roadmap don't seem to be fulfilled, as demonstrated by the unwillingness to involve CSOs in the political dialogue between EU and government. On the same level we suggested a more significant role for the CSOs in the political decision making process (regarding EDF implementation), which - in a context of a severe political (electoral) crisis - seems responding EU-engagements in the roadmap. Despite improvements of the attitude of the EU-delegation personnel, that seems to remain “a bridge too far”. - *Advocacy Platform, Haiti*

My organization was initially invited for the first level consultation where we were informed there would be a development of this road map. After that meeting, we did not hear anything else from the EU. It is possible others were subsequently invited and we were not. We would like to know why. - *National Office of INGO, Nigeria*

Une cartographie de la société civile a été réalisée pour servir de point de départ à l'élaboration de la feuille de route. Cette étude a été présentée en 2015 mais depuis je n'ai aucune autre information a propos. - *National Office of INGO, Rwanda*

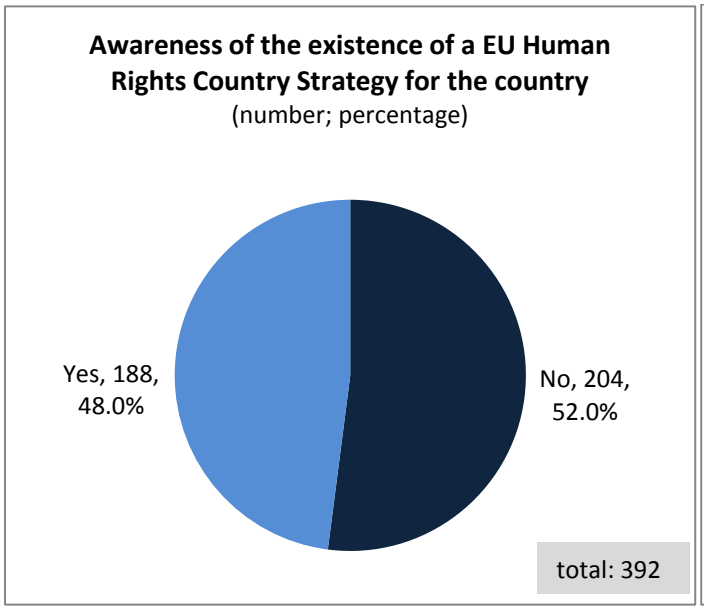
Though we heard about the Roadmap process when it was initiated, regular feedback is sometimes difficult to obtain is you are not under EU funding. The issue of feedback is critical, particularly to those CSOs who are not within EU funding but are still key development actors within the country. - *National office of INGO, Zimbabwe*

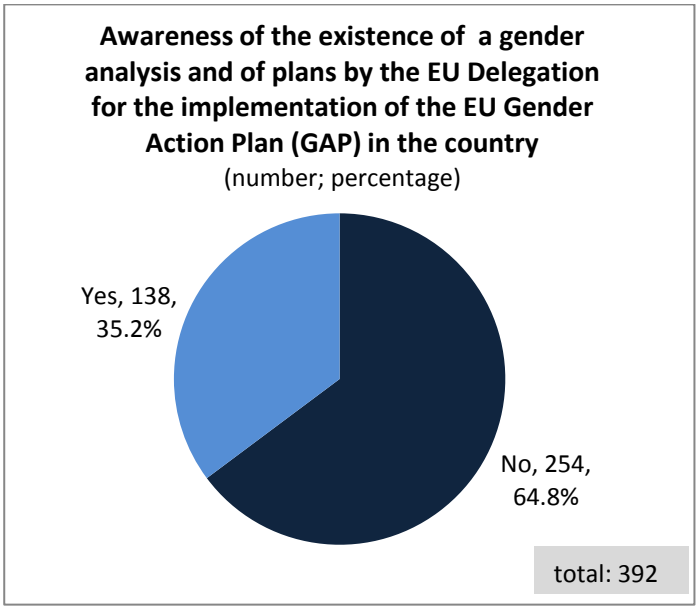
We participated through online inputs, taken by some of our European partners. There is absolutely no information available as to which CSO's the EU delegation consults or what the outcomes are of such consultations. Often there is no response to requests for meetings with EU delegation. The EU CSO country roadmap will fail if the first priority is not addressed on urgent basis in Pakistan pertaining to an enabling environment for CSOs, because now it’s a question of survival of CSOs in Pakistan. More information is needed to know what outcomes have been achieved in relation to the roadmap. - *Regional NGO, Pakistan*

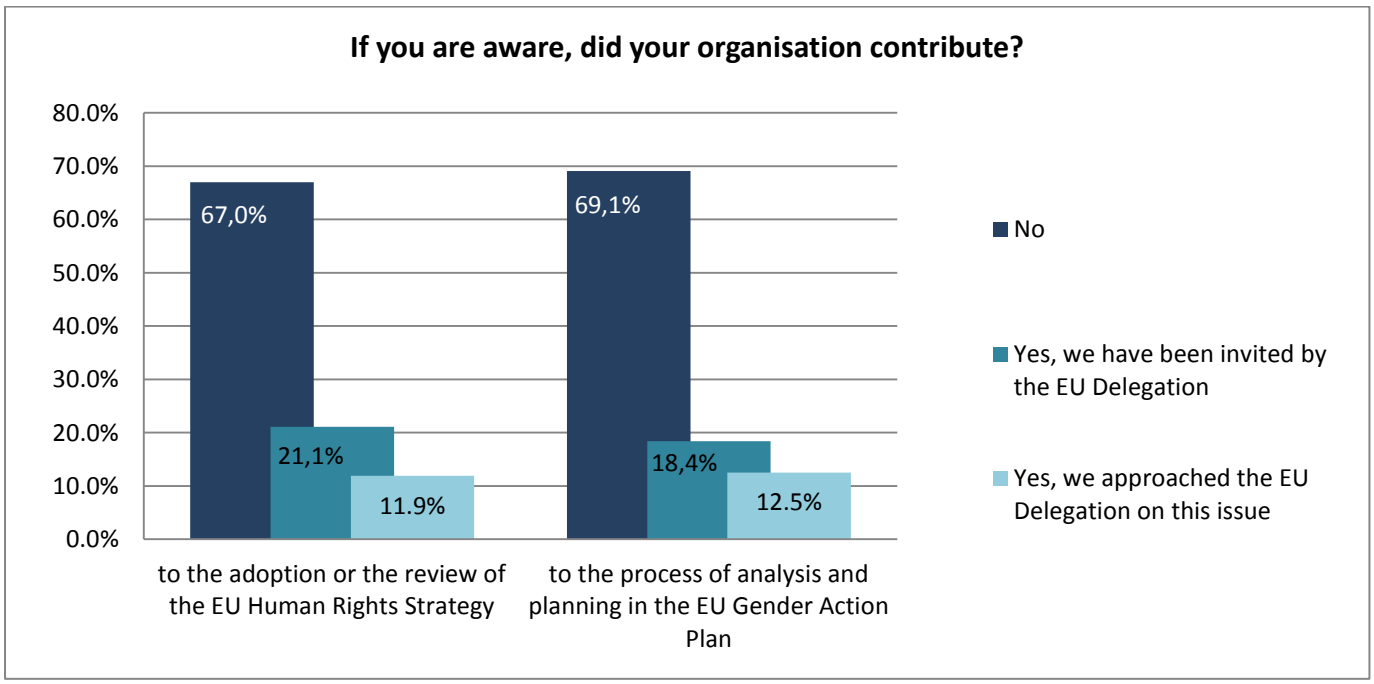
The Roadmap process was a noble exercise , on paper the general concerns were addressed however this was not so in practice. It is my feeling that the roadmap was futile as the main concerns noted that CSOs were still remain not addressed by the EU such as decentralizing funding/technical support. In terms of project evaluation: what percentage of support to Zimbabwe reaches the intended beneficiaries? - *National NGO, Zimbabwe*

Definitely the Roadmap will help to enhance relation between EU and CSOs… But EU delegation is working in same way, even after it has developed the CSO Roadmap. - *National NGO Platform, Nepal*

Question 2.6 & 2.7.







Comments and remarks from respondents on dialogue and consultation:

Regarding EU-CS dialogue and consultation in general, respondents highlight issues of continuity, inclusiveness, information, feedback and follow-up.

EU MIP 2014-2020 for Bangladesh was developed as well in consultation with representatives of civil society. But no adequate information yet to civil society how they will be regularly included by the EUD in the evaluation and review process of its implementation. A systematic approach how to inform and include civil society members seems absent. A civil society mapping was conducted by external consultants, but concrete initiatives developed from it are not known to civil society, besides very general information and conclusions shared by EUD. A more transparent and visible strategy would be desirable. - *National Office of INGO, Bangladesh*

Il y a eu quelques progrès depuis 2-3 ans. La Délégation invite les OSC et dialogue avec ells. Mais le problème est que cela n'apporte pas de changement dans les pratiques. - *National Office of INGO, Mali*

In general we feel the EU has improved its engagement with CSOs. However at country level there is no information available as to the nature and extent of engagement with CSOs. It would be good to know at least which organisations represent CSOs in EU consultations. EU delegation needs to work on a communication strategy. - *Regional NGO, Pakistan*

EU consultation meetings with civil society are self-funded making it difficult for small NGOs in rural areas to attend. - *National NGO, Ghana*

All initiatives and activities take place in Skopje. Smaller NGO organizations rarely invited and when invited not grant funds for travel expenses. - *Regional NGO, Macedonia*

La UE realiza reuniones y consultas de diversa índole, más por cumplir con su propia hoja de ruta que por incluir las percepciones y propuestas de las OSC. Se gasta mucho dinero en tanto evento que la UE realiza, de acuerdo con todos los temas que trabaja en cada país, así como en la impresión de diferentes materiales y documentos, más para promocionar su imagen que para contribuir con el país a cambiar la realidad nacional. - *National NGO, Guatemala*

CSOs are often left out of critical discussions especially in as far as health, human rights and gender equity and women empowerment are concerned. - *Regional NGO, Kenya*

EU has earmarked organizations which they invite to their meetings. Sometimes they are not fair in promoting equality across all the civil society organisations. - *National NGO, Kenya*

Manque d'information mais aussi l'UE privilégie que certaines organisations. - *National NGO, Mali*

El problema con la UE es que todo lo trabaja a nivel macro y en los países las cosas son a nivel micro y no se establecen mecanismos viables para cerrar esa brecha. Por otro lado, las reuniones y consultas que la UE realiza en Guatemala son muy elitistas, ya tienen identificado al mismo grupo de personas/organizaciones para todo y no necesariamente reflejan el sentir del país. - *National NGO, Guatema*la

La UE no fomenta el diálogo con las diferentes redes de OSC que existen en El Salvador tanto a nivel local (Movimiento de ONG para el Desarrollo-MODES, Concertación Feminista Prudencia Ayala, Alianza Ambiental de El Salvador, Foro del Agua, Mesa por la Soberanía Alimentaria, etc.) como de OSC internacionales (Foro de Organizaciones de la Cooperación Internacional Solidaria-FOCIS). Tan solo convoca a las OSC cuando abre una convocatoria de subvenciones para informarles sobre dicha convocatoria, pero no hay un espacio regular de reuniones con estos espacios para revisar el avance en la consecución de los objetivos e indicadores de la Hoja de Ruta, por ejemplo. La UE solo mantiene reuniones, de una forma más o menos regulares, con las OSC a las que está financiando proyectos, pero no con los espacios de concertación de las OSC en el país. La Hoja de Ruta no se ha evaluado ni se la ha dado seguimiento con las OSC, al menos no con los espacios de representación de las OSC de El Salvador e internacionales. Quizás de haya hecho en "petit comité" con las OSC a las que la UE ha financiado durante estos años de vigencia de la actual Hoja de Ruta (2014-2017). A su vez, el proceso de "participación" de las OSC para la construcción de la Hoja de Ruta fue una mera consulta on-line, donde no hubo antes ni después una retroalimentación ni un proceso de devolución de los aportes que se hubieran recibido, ni de priorización de esos aportes. No se ha creado ningún espacio de interlocución regular y permanente entre las OSC y la UE. Existía un espacio denominado Cuadrílogo, el cual era convocado y liderado por la UE, pero desde el año 2012 no se ha vuelto a convocar. - *National Office of INGO, El Salvador*

EU Delegation does not have a good knowledge of context, but to much focus on bureaucracy and reporting missing the important part of what is the reality on the ground (there is too few attention to the practical and too much to the theory); there are not existing mechanisms of involvement of CSOs about what It is the strategy/future plan of EU delegations in the Country such as consultation. No participation and consultation in programming, to much bureaucracy in terms of definition of strategy and involvement of CSO. - *National Office of INGO, South Sudan*

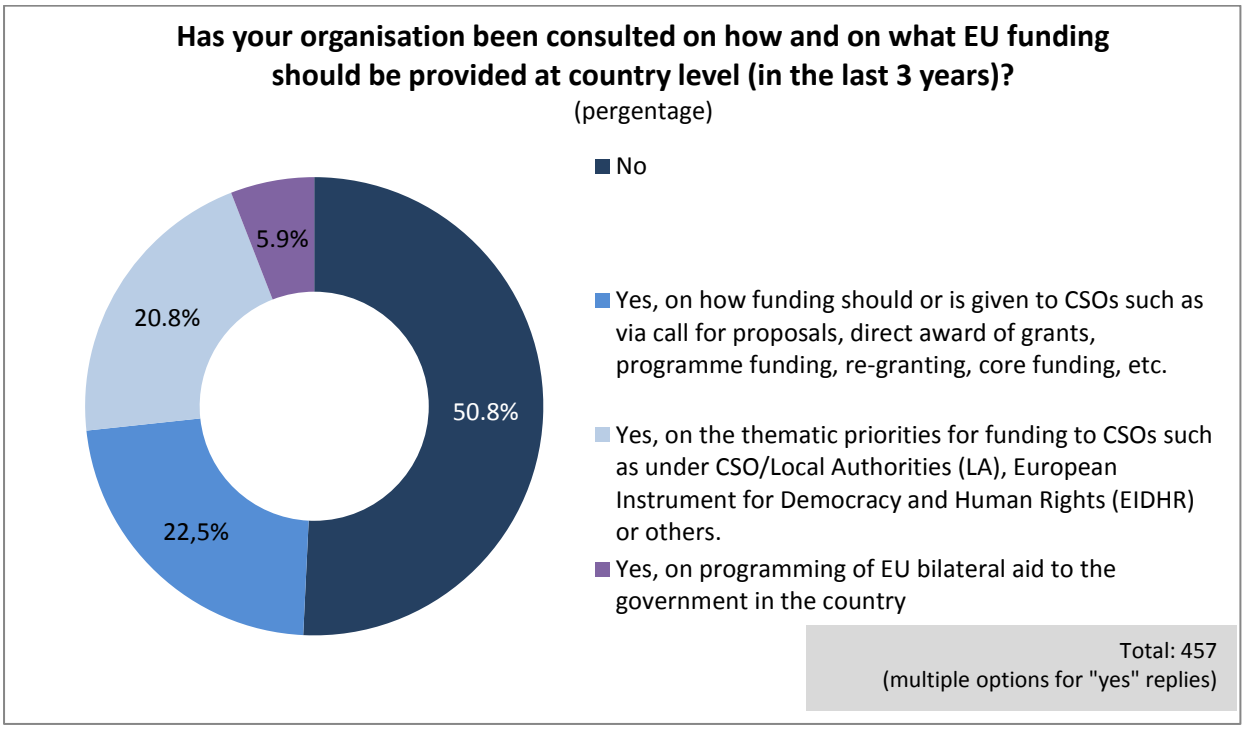
There are important indications that new personnel at the EU delegation is aware that the quality of both CSO consultations and local CSO support needs to be improved. However, this awareness still needs to be translated into concrete actions and results. Indeed, there is an important heritage of (years of) poorly organised consultations that resembled more a compulsory check-box activity where CSO-opinions and input where often neglected. As a general point, minutes of consultation meetings are never (or very rarely) made available for participants after the meetings. Late invitations (in some cases 24hours) for consultation meetings with documents containing more than 20 pages. Invitations to a "meeting", that – once arrived – appears to be a "consultation". Often invitations are only received through third parties (our partner organisations), not sent to us systematically, and this despite several complaints about this. Several Haitian organisations have made the same complaint, those organisations are well known to the EU-delegation, and email addresses have been given several times, but no improvement was made. - *Advocacy Platform, Haiti*

4. EU Funding to civil society

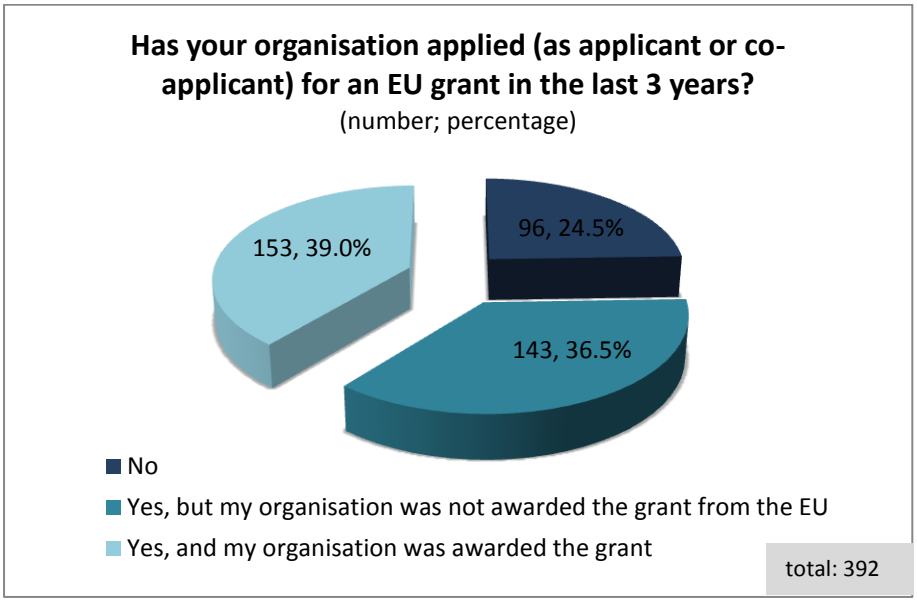
Highlights:

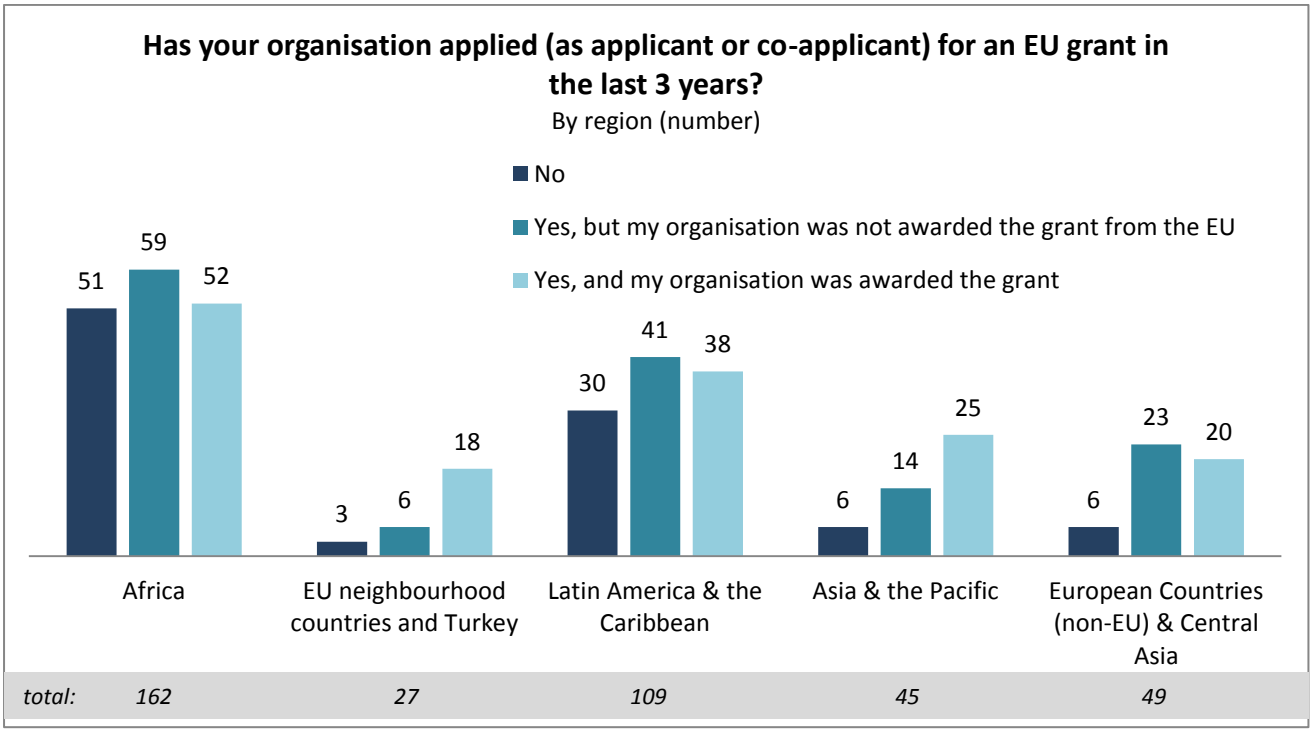
- Around half of the respondents **were consulted** on how EU funding should be provided (49%), mainly on how funding should or is given to CSOs and on the thematic priorities.
- More than 75% have **applied to an EU grant** in the last 3 years, and around half of those were awarded the grant (this share is higher among International NGOs). The percentage of organisations that didn't applied to an EU grant is highest among community based organisations/grassroots networks (82%). Most organisations that didn't applied point out heavy and time-demanding procedures, very complex and strict requirements, difficulty in meeting the criteria, and lack of knowledge on EU funding opportunities.
- Most respondents **evaluate positively** the relevance of EU Delegation calls for proposals to civil society priorities and needs (62% considered it to be "good" or "very good"), but many consider that there is much to be done in terms of **feedback on proposals** and explanation for rejected proposals, as well as on the **effective incorporation of CSOs feedback** in EU funding opportunities and on the **capacity-building activities** to CSOs on EU rules (around 60% of respondents classify these 3 items as "poor" or "average"). 69% of respondents find that the consultation of civil society on EU bilateral aid to the country is not enough.
- Assessing the developments of the last 3 to 4 years regarding EU funding, a high percentage of respondents don't know what to answer in several items, but one clear result is that most consider that the **complexity of rules and procedures have significantly increased**.
- The main factors contributing to limit the access to EU funding by small and grassroots organisations are related to the administrative burden, inadequate and unrealistic demands, restrictive access – EU preference for big projects and consortiums - and lack of capacity from these organisations (both institutional and financial). Many of these organisations also express their lack of knowledge on EU funding opportunities for civil society and show an interest in engaging more with the EU while pointing the need to be timely and better informed about EU processes, calls, etc., through several local communication channels.

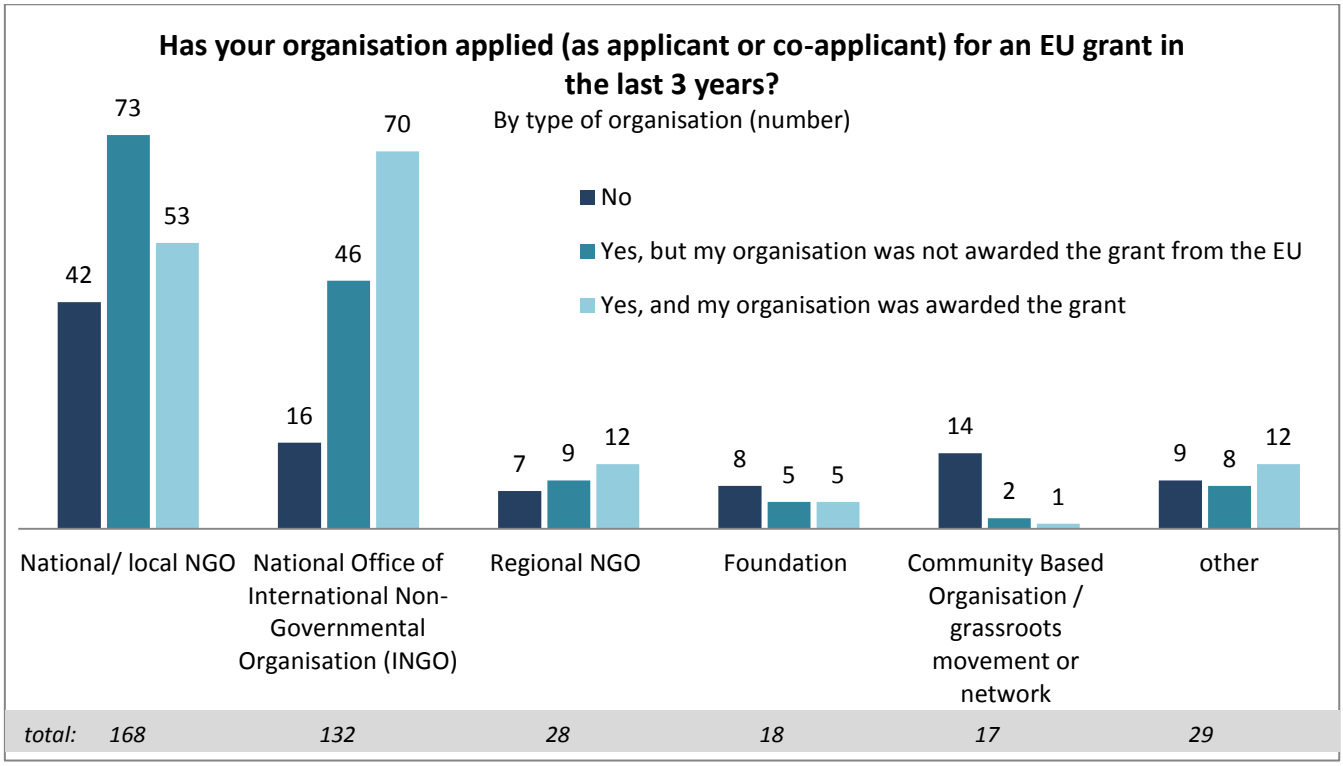
Question 3.1.



Question 3.2.





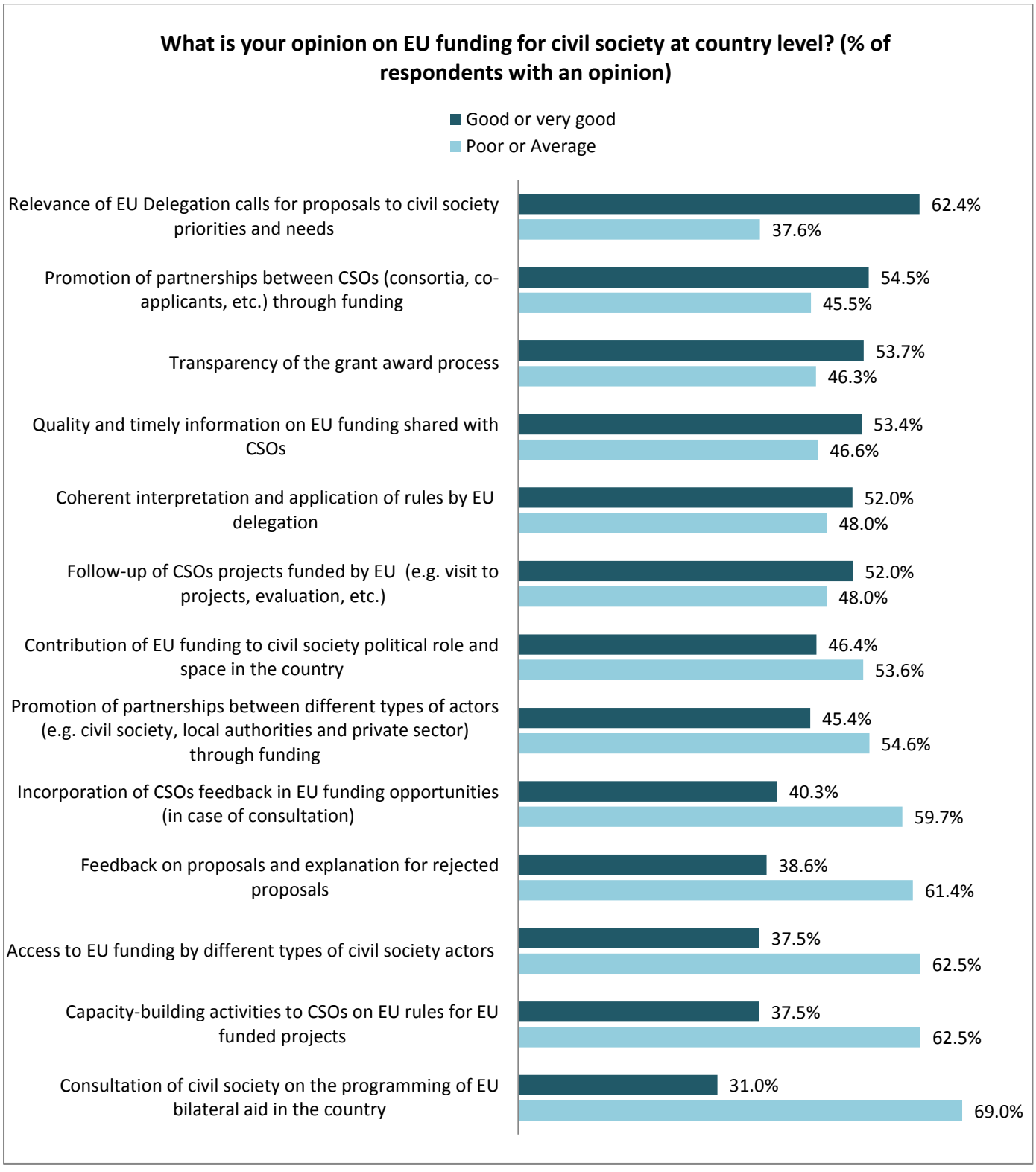


If not, why has your organisation not applied to EU funding?

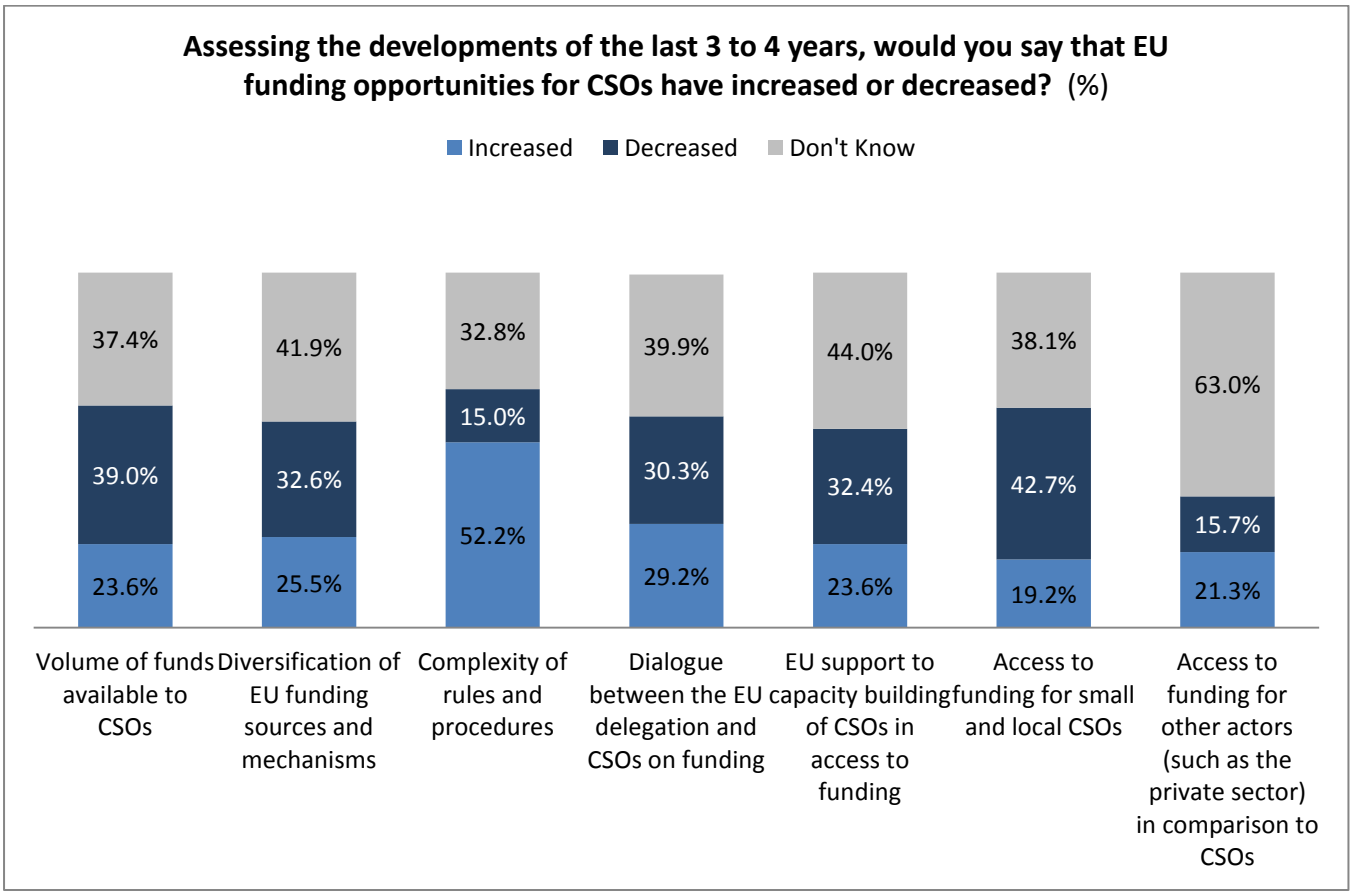
Main reasons (qualitative comments):

- Heavy and bureaucratic system: complexity of procedures and burdensome requirements to do an application versus the restricted possibility of getting a grant
- Lack of information and awareness on the existing calls and requirements
- The defined priorities for the call do not correspond to the organisation intervention sectors or priority actions
- Difficulty for local organisations in finding the remaining percentage of co-financing

Question 3.3.


What is your opinion on EU funding for civil society at country level? (% of respondents with an opinion)
Good or very good
Poor or Average
Relevance of EU Delegation calls for proposals to civil society priorities and needs
62.4%
37.6%
Promotion of partnerships between CSOs (consortia, co-applicants, etc.) through funding
54.5%
45.5%
Transparency of the grant award process
53.7%
46.3%
Quality and timely information on EU funding shared with CSOs
53.4%
46.6%
Coherent interpretation and application of rules by EU delegation
52.0%
48.0%
Follow-up of CSOs projects funded by EU (e.g. visit to projects, evaluation, etc.)
52.0%
48.0%
Contribution of EU funding to civil society political role and space in the country
46.4%
53.6%
Promotion of partnerships between different types of actors (e.g. civil society, local authorities and private sector) through funding
45.4%
54.6%
Incorporation of CSOs feedback in EU funding opportunities (in case of consultation)
40.3%
59.7%
Feedback on proposals and explanation for rejected proposals
38.6%
61.4%
Access to EU funding by different types of civil society actors
37.5%
62.5%
Capacity-building activities to CSOs on EU rules for EU funded projects
37.5%
62.5%
Consultation of civil society on the programming of EU bilateral aid in the country
31.0%
69.0%

Question 3.4.



Comments and remarks from respondents on funding:

The continuation of EU support to civil society's projects is found to be relevant and there are some positive examples mentioned:

With the start of the EU-funded 'CSO Strong' programme, EU's intention to support the development and sustainability of CSOs in Armenia became more relevant. A couple of recent EU funding calls will also focus on strengthening CSO capacity and sustainability, which is a positive trend, and it makes EU's cooperation priorities more adequate to Armenia's needs. - National NGO, Armenia

Mesmo em meio a crises financeiras que o continente europeu passou nos últimos anos, a Delegação da UE no Brasil não cessou seus financiamentos a projetos com a sociedade civil. A UE apoia projetos com temáticas importantes para o desenvolvimento da sociedade e dos direitos humanos, por exemplo. Nos últimos anos, aumentou a frequência de encontros de formação com as instituições beneficiárias. É possível verificar através da temática dos projetos selecionados nas linhas de financiamento, condizentes com as principais problemáticas no país, que há um conhecimento sobre a realidade do Brasil. - National Office of INGO, Brazil

Il y a eu une augmentation de l'enveloppe destiner a soutenir les OSC via le PASC (Programme d'Appui a la Société Civile). Il existe aujourd'hui a la délégation, une équipe d'expert chargée d'accompagner les OSC bénéficiaires. - National NGO, Cameroon

l'UE fait des efforts pour assurer la visibilité du cadre de concertation de la société civile mis en place par les OSC elles-mêmes. Les appuis importants sont accordés pour doter ce cadre de concertation d'un siège propre et dans le cadre de 11è FED, la subvention de la société civile est passé de 4 Millions d'euros à 12 Millions d'euros. Je crois que c'est important.- Regional NGO, DRC

Le projet action pilote pour l'amélioration de la gouvernance locale et de la participation citoyenne dans le développement local dans trois communes (Boukombé, Klouékanmè et Zagnanado) est un exemple réussi grâce aux financements à hauteur de 75% de l'EU. - National NGO, Benin

Positivo el apoyo que dan para incidencia a nivel regional, es decir de varios países para trabajar en la misma temática. DNI-Bolivia participó en un proyecto regional junto a los DNIs de América Latina. - National NGO, Bolivia

Call for proposal for CSOs on local economic development initiatives in the Districts. - National NGO, Ghana

Bureaucratic approach and complex and burdensome EU procedures are a huge concern for many respondents, including the difficulty of smaller and local CSOs in meeting the EU funding requirements*:*

"Los trámites con la UE son muy engorrosos y tardados, son demasiados los formatos y requisitos, lo cual en lugar de fortalecer administrativamente a las OSC, las desgasta". – *National NGO, Guatemala*.

"The rules and procedures are stringent. I understand a consortium have higher chances of getting EU grants but EU should also note that managing such funds among the members is challenging. Rule and regulations should be fairly relaxed if they wish to support more the work of CSOs". – *National NGO, Uganda*

"Most CSOs cannot meet the requirements for EU funding due to their rules and procedures". – *National NGO, Gambia*

"Procedures for accessing EU calls remain cumbersome which advantage to Northern NGOs". – *National NGO, Ghana*

"The rules and procedures are stringent. Informally, I understand a consortium have higher chances of getting EU grants but EU should also note that managing such funds among the members is challenging. Rule and regulations should be fairly relaxed if they wish to support more CSO work. After role government doesn't have the capacity to do what CSOs do in terms of reaching the Communities". - *National NGO, Uganda*

"A local NGO in Togo rarely has the capacity to meet the monitoring and administrative requirements of an EU project". – *National Office of INGO, Togo*

"La fiche de projet est très difficile à remplir. Il faut un spécialiste et les petite ONG n'ont pas les moyens de l'engager". - National NGO, Niger

"En la mayoría de los casos es que la Organización debe pagar a un técnico en proyectos para la formulación del proyecto a presentar a la UE y la Organización no cuenta con el fondo disponible para el pago al profesional." . – *National NGO, Paraguay*

"There are too many demands, which restrict the access for small organisations. While I value the promotion of consortiums at regional level, there should also be an opportunity to apply through local consortiums". – *National NGO, Bolivia*

"El tecnicismo de los formatos de presentación, que las organizaciones locales, sobre todo las que están presentes en el interior del país, no pueden satisfacer". – *National NGO, Argentina*

"La complexité des procédures et l'orientations de la gestion des subventions plus aux ONGI qu'aux Acteurs nationaux. Si les procédures ne changent pas (Complexité des documents d'appels; temps) il va eu avoir peu d'impacts pour l'appui de l'UE aux OSC" - Community-Based Organisation, Mali

"The complexity of procedures and guidelines for grant management are more directed to INGOs than to national actors. If the procedures do not change – complexity of documents, time – there will be a weak impact on EU support for CSOs". – *Community-Based Organisation, Mali*

"El monto del aporte que se le solicita a la contra-parte es muy alto, y no siempre se tiene la capacidad financiera. Se debería flexibilizar las condiciones o términos de la cooperación, es un proceso lento y largo para conseguir un proyecto". – *Foundation, Nicaragua*

"Although community-based organisations present more results, as a CBO we are not able to meet some of requirements to get funding from EU". – *Community-Based Organisation, Zimbabwe*

"In call for proposals the administrative burden and requirements are very restrictive to the young Tunisian CSOs and particularly to the ones based in the regions. CSOs are obliged to ally themselves with European NGOs, which is sometimes unnatural" – *NGO, Tunisia*

*"*Huge challenges of meeting requirements as grassroots organisation. As Community based organisation we are not able to meet some of requirements to get finding from EU, but more results done by grassroots organisation.- CBO, Zimbabwe

"Bureaucratisation excessive des procédures UE, intérêt exclusif à la visibilité des projets, soutien limité des OSC dans les démarches auprès des pouvoirs publics locaux. Les financements européens sont très complexes à obtenir notamment pour un bon nombre de petites structures. Le mode de gestion des projets et significatif de la logique administrative qui prévaut à Bruxelles qui ne respect pas la diversité des modes d'organisations des ONG y compris dans les modes d'évaluations obéissants à des logiques purement financières". *– INGO based in France*

"Budget minimal du projet bien trop élevé; excessive demande de collaboration-partenariat entre institutions demandeuses; exigences en terme de *reporting* narratif et financier trop lourdes; concept note avec espace pour réponses très limité et beaucoup d'éléments à fournir: impossible de répondre à toutes les demandes en expliquant le projet de manière claire. Suggestions: faire des appels à projet avec des budgets minimaux par projet plus faibles, préciser davantage les thématiques soutenues (pas brasser trop large), accepter plus de projets (un appel à projet acceptant 1.000 dossiers pour en sélectionner 5 au final n'est pas bien pensé et provoque beaucoup de travail inutile)." *– INGO based in Belgium*

"A estrutura de serviço da Delegação é mesmo de fiscalização e intermediária de fundos. Bastante burocrática. Falta de presença de consultores apropriados para avaliação dos aspetos de desenvolvimento, sociais e políticos. Muita preocupação de analise financeira e nada de valorização social e dos programas de desenvolvimento*".* - *National NGO, Mozambique*

"It is a bureaucratic approach, aimed at managing not promoting change". - *National Office of INGO, Myanmar*

Some respondents point out that there is a focus on big projects and organisations, which raises issues of access and inclusiveness (smaller CSOs, beyond the capital) in EU funding opportunities, as well as a lack of understanding of EU funding options in some countries:

Las convocatorias dan prioridad a proyectos grandes, no se consideran iniciativas pequeñas o locales. - *National NGO, Bolivia*

Financement orienté vers les consortium, avec des montants élevés; appels inappropriés pour la majorité des acteurs de la société civile. Des appels privilégies les grosses structures comme les ONG internationales et n'associent pas les acteurs locaux du développement ou de la société civile. - National Office of INGO, Burkina Faso

EU in general is oriented to huge NGOs usually working as LTD, and not reflecting the real society needs, when middle and small NGOs have no even formal access due to smaller financing before and no capacity to overcome the competition with those "leaders" - *Regional NGO, Moldova*

Surtout l'accessibilité de la délégation UE au Sénégal pour les acteurs situés dans les régions intérieures, pour les petites OSC situées dans les communes rurales qui font un travail important pour les populations et des OCB (organisation communautaire de base) qui font un travail extraordinaire par exemple dans la stabilisation sociale. Souvent elles font tout le travail pour les grandes OSC situés dans les centres urbains et qui bénéficient souvent des financements UE. Il faudrait faire en sorte que ces acteurs puissent également accéder plus facilement aux financements UE. - *Research Institute, Senegal*

It would appear EU is only for big organisations with capacity and big names. Sometimes the requirements only favours well established in Harare and not us in other cities. There is no deliberate effort by EU delegation to build the capacity of small organization in other region to meet their criteria demands in order to qualify for EU funding. - *National NGO, Zimbabwe*

In spite of the consultations made with CSOs in the southern parts of Zimbabwe ,it appears support is only given to limited CSOs based in Harare. For instance in the funding cycle for 2015 to 2018 ,all the EU Grantees are headquartered in the capital city. - *National NGO, Zimbabwe*

My organisation has been in existence since 2010 and we had not considered ourselves to be legible for EU funding given the strict requirement; and we do feel like now we are ready to apply, but discouraged by the requirement to partner with a big local CSO. CSOs were encouraged to approach the EU as a consortium however the ideal of consortiums does not address the needs of small upcoming CSOs. - *National NGO, Zimbabwe*

Lignes directrices inadaptées aux capacités des OSC nationales. pas d'appui aux renforcements des capacités aux OSC. Appels orientés vers les ONG internationales qui ont les capacités financières de soumission. Cofinancement difficilement mobilisable par les OSC nationales - *National Office of INGO, Haiti*

La disponibilidad de fondos propios de las OSC para el aporte local es muy débil. Al finalizar los proyectos, las OSC tienen que cubrir una buena parte de los fondos hasta que la UE dé por aceptado el Informe Final, con lo cual la liquidez de las OSC tambalea, porque la mayoría en Guatemala depende en un 90% del financiamiento externo. Por otro lado, a las convocatorias no invitan a muchas OSC sino a las mismas de siempre. Las evaluaciones y auditorías externas las realizan empresas con débil conocimiento de la realidad comunitaria y se aferran a procedimientos y formatos sin ver más allá de los procedimientos administrativos y contables, dejando a un lado el impacto social y político que se logra; esto además, cierra las puertas a nuevas subvenciones. - *National NGO, Guatemala*

Peu de dialogue, et la plupart des financements sont réservés à de grosses ONG internationales. Les petits projets à petit budget n'intéressent pas l'UE. Peu importe finalement que le projet soit porteur de sens, l'essentiel c'est d'avoir un nom. Il semble que les gens de l'UE n'aient pas envie de s'engager dans des projets si cela leur semble trop chronophage. - *Foundation, Laos*

There were no opportunities to apply. The EU grants opportunities in Nepal are extremely limited in number. There is something on human rights regularly and then a NSA call every 2 years which has almost the same thematic/target: rural development through value chain. EU has recently funded UNICEF with 20M€ to support the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan and there was no consultation of civil society at all for this. It was the main opportunity for us to work with EU and it was missed. - *National Office of INGO, Nepal*

Tout porte à croire que le soutien à la société civile va aller aux grosses organisations car l'UE ne veut pas avoir à faire un travail énorme de suivi mais voudrait seulement quelques organisations. Pendant ce temps les organisations qui veulent suivre et contrôler l'efficacité des politiques publiques n'ont aucun soutien de l'UE et attends pourtant des résultats. Quel paradoxe. – *NGO Platform, Burkina Faso.*

Nous avons demandé une intervention par le bureau de UE pour avoir une formation comment il faut procéder pour faire une demande. En plus, la Santé n'est pas dans les axes d'intervention du programme UE au Togo. Il serais bien si la Délégation invite des ONG internationaux pour un séminaire de fonctionnement du système et prévoir une accompagnement pour les propositions. Une ONG local, au Togo, a rarement des capacités pour arriver aux exigence de suivi et administratif d'un projet UE. Donc la coopération entre des ONG locaux et des Organisations internationaux doit être renforcer. - *National Office of INGO, Togo*

A more strategic use of funding and an increased focus on capacity-building is needed*.*

Il faut donc créer des espace entre les DUE et les OSC dans les pays et soutenir le renforcement des capacités des OSC. Donner des appui directs pour soutenir les réseaux ou collectif d'OSC pour créer plus de force au sein de la société civile. Ouvrir des appels spécifiques pour le suivi- contrôle des politiques publiques financées par l'appui budgétaire de l'UE et des autres partenaires. - *National Office of INGO, Haiti*

Il ya eu le PASOC et le PASC; malgré l'existence de ces Programmes, les OSC ont toujours besoin des renforcement des capacités dans tous les domaines. Parfois, les projets financés par ces programmes sont basés plus dans la région du Centre, les autres régions sont délaissées et n'ont pas parfois la même information à temps. - *Professional Association, Cameroon*

A criação do programa PAANE para ONG nacionais incluindo capacitações das mesmas é um sinal positivo para o crescimento da sociedade civil em Moçambique*.* - *National NGO, Mozambique*

Complex rules; lack of recognition of need to cover management costs, and core funding; being very tightly tied to exact project goals, and not being willing to engage with the fact that organisational and institutional strength and presence and capacity is essential to fulfilling the goals - *National NGO, Bangladesh*

EU implemented a project do strengthen civil society's capacities to monitor criminal justice con gender perspective, but it was a project realized almost entirely by well paid consultants and the local organization were barely involved. There is no continuance of the project. - *National NGO, Guatemala*

Não tem havido uma reflexão pertinente sobre a estratégia de apoios e de reforço de capacidade das OSC nacionais. - *National NGO, Guinea-Bissau*

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BPID Bulgarian Platform for International Development

Platforma za međunarodnu građansku solidarnost Hrvatske – Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity CROSOL

CYINDEP Cyprus Island wide NGO Development Platform

FORS České fórum pro rozvojovou spolupráci Czech Forum for Development Co-operation

GLOBAL FOCUS Danish CSOs for Development Cooperation

KEHYS ry

Coordination SUD Solidarité Urgence Développement

VENRO Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs

Hellenic Platform for Development

HAND

Dochas The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations

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LAPAS WWW.LAPAS.LV

LITDEA Lithuanian National Non-Governmental Development Cooperation Organisations' Platform

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CONCORD is the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development. Its 28 national associations, 20 international networks and 3 associate members represent over 2,600 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe. CONCORD is the EU institutions' main partner in dialogue on development policy. As a confederation, CONCORD work towards a world where people enjoy their right to live free of poverty and exploitation and their right to enjoy wellbeing and equality. More at: www.concordeurope.org