

2019 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 5) Evaluation




Economic Commission for Africa | Commission économique pour l'Afrique
1958 - 2018



Context



ARFSD 5 took place from 16 to 18 April, 2019 in Marrakech, Morocco.



The theme was “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality.”



Convened by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in collaboration with regional organizations and the United Nations System.



Aim to advance the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and the goals set out in Africa’s Agenda 2063 by providing a multi-stakeholder platform.



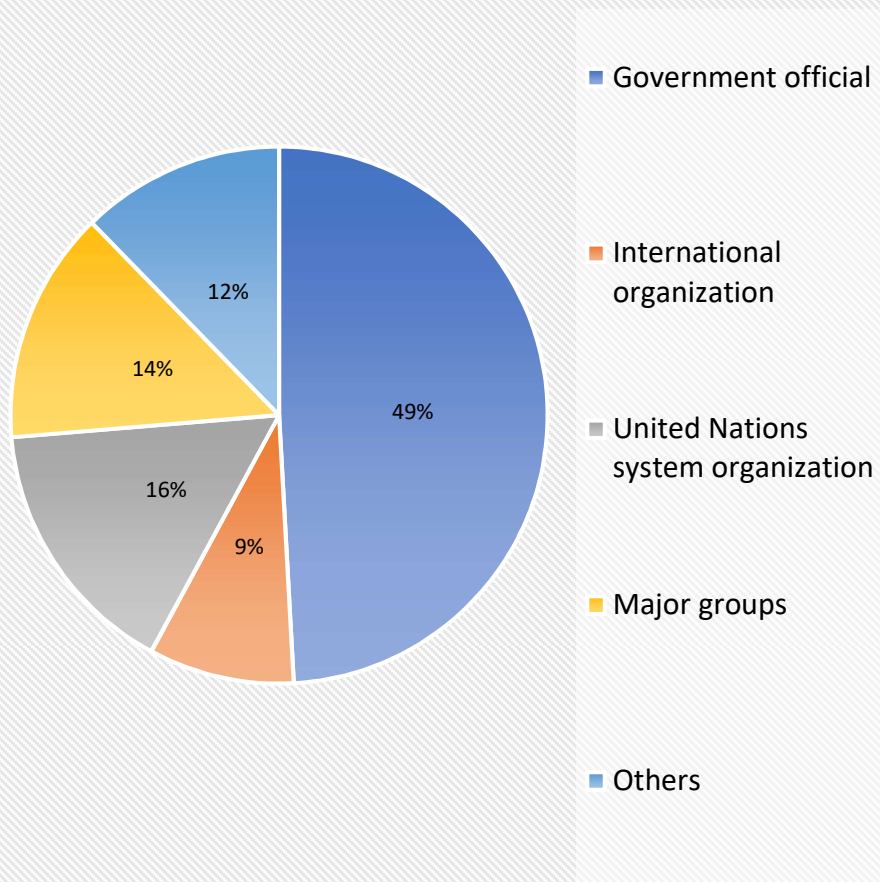
To help improve the effectiveness, efficiency and results, participants and staff were asked to provide feedback on the organization and conduct of the forum.



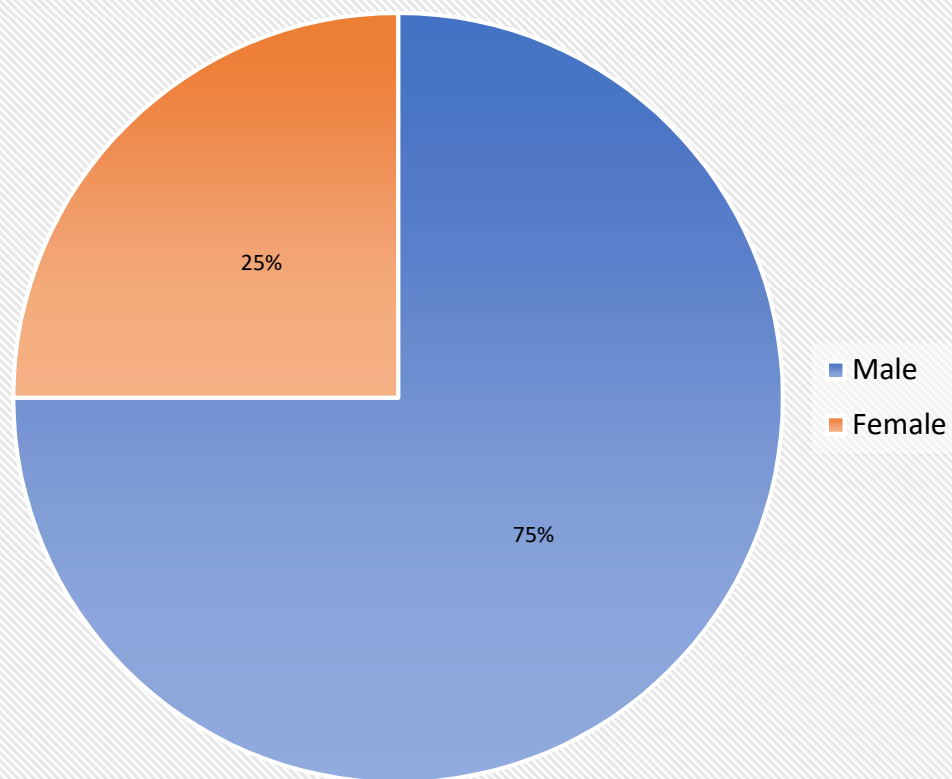
Sixty-six participants provided feedback.

Profile of respondents

Affiliation



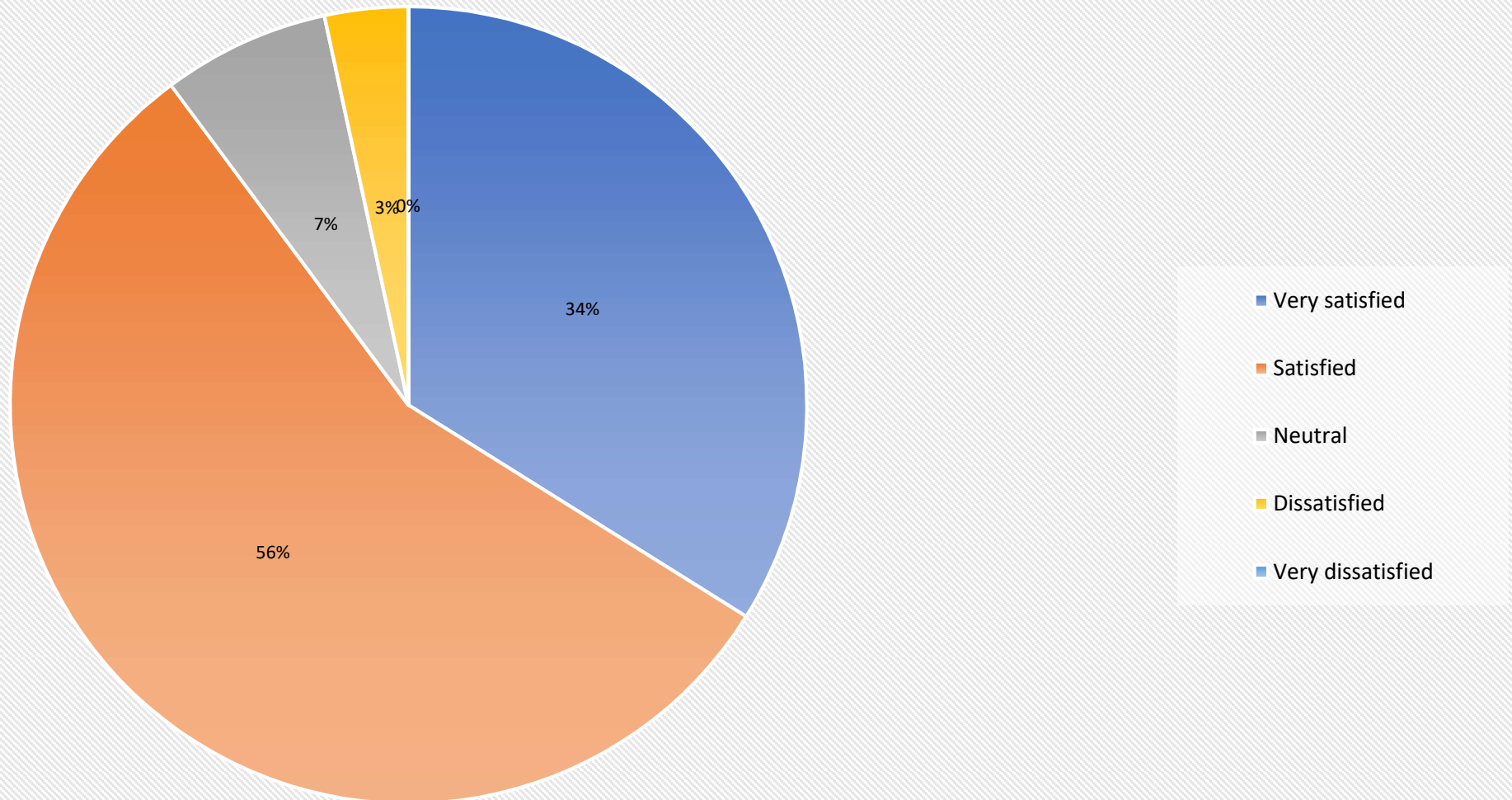
Gender



49% of respondents were government officials

Overall Satisfaction with the Forum

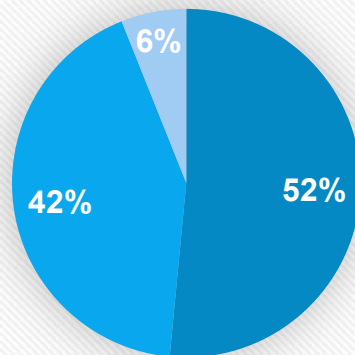
Rate your overall satisfaction with the regional forum



56% and 34% of respondents respectively were satisfied or very satisfied with the forum

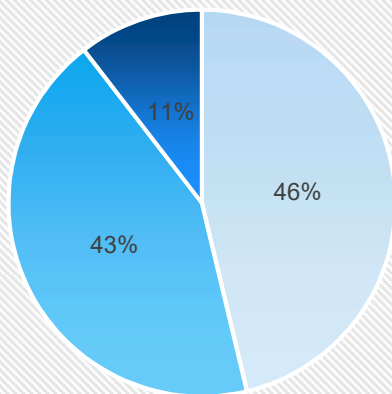
Forum Objectives

Meeting overall objective



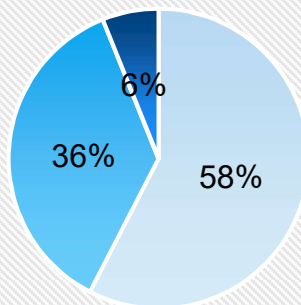
■ Fully ■ Partially ■ Inadequately

SO1– Carry out a regional follow-up



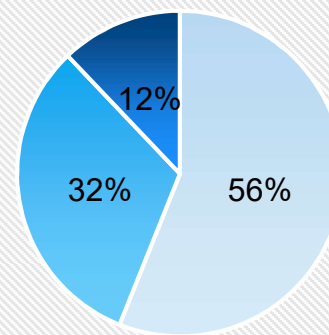
■ Fully
■ Partially
■ Inadequately

SO2– Provide a platform for the sharing of experiences



■ Fully
■ Partially
■ Inadequately

SO3 - Agree on the priorities and recommendations of Africa

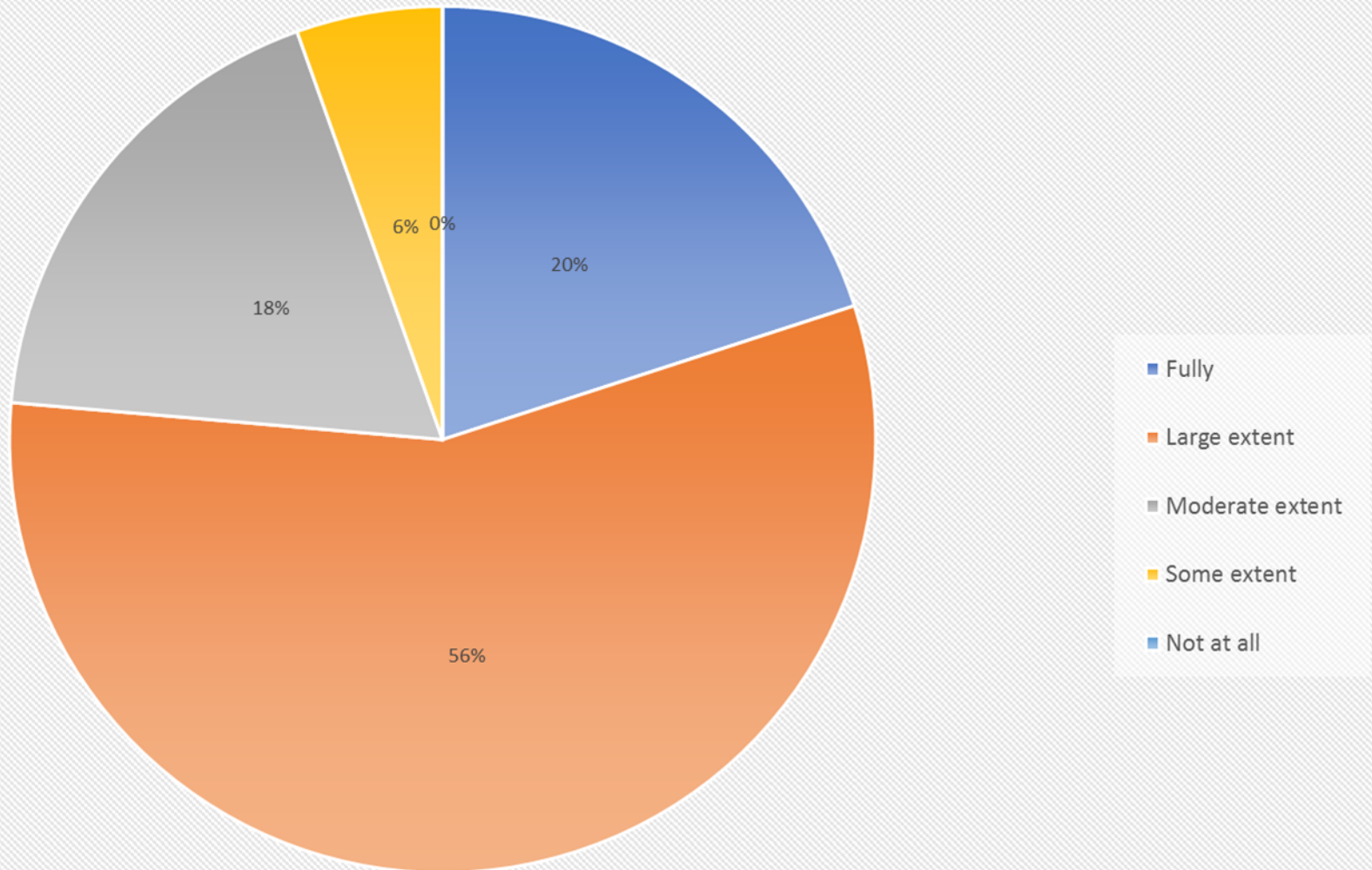


■ Fully
■ Partially
■ Inadequately

52% indicated that the overall objective of the Forum was fully achieved

Key Messages

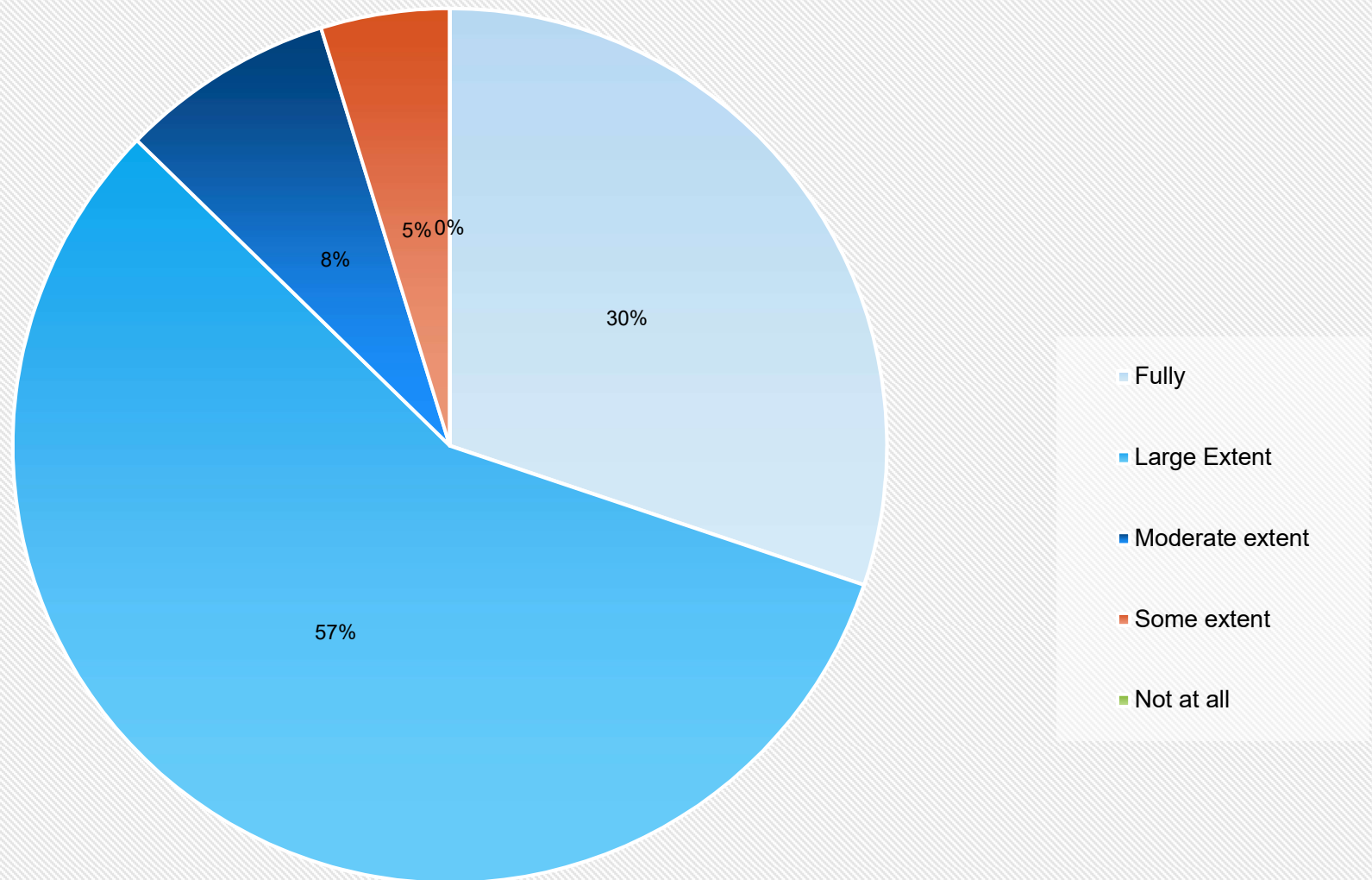
Extent to which the key messages and policy recommendations reflected the discussions



56% of respondents indicated that key messages reflected outcomes of discussions to a large extent and 20% said they did reflect to a full extent

In session support and interventions by ECA and Partners

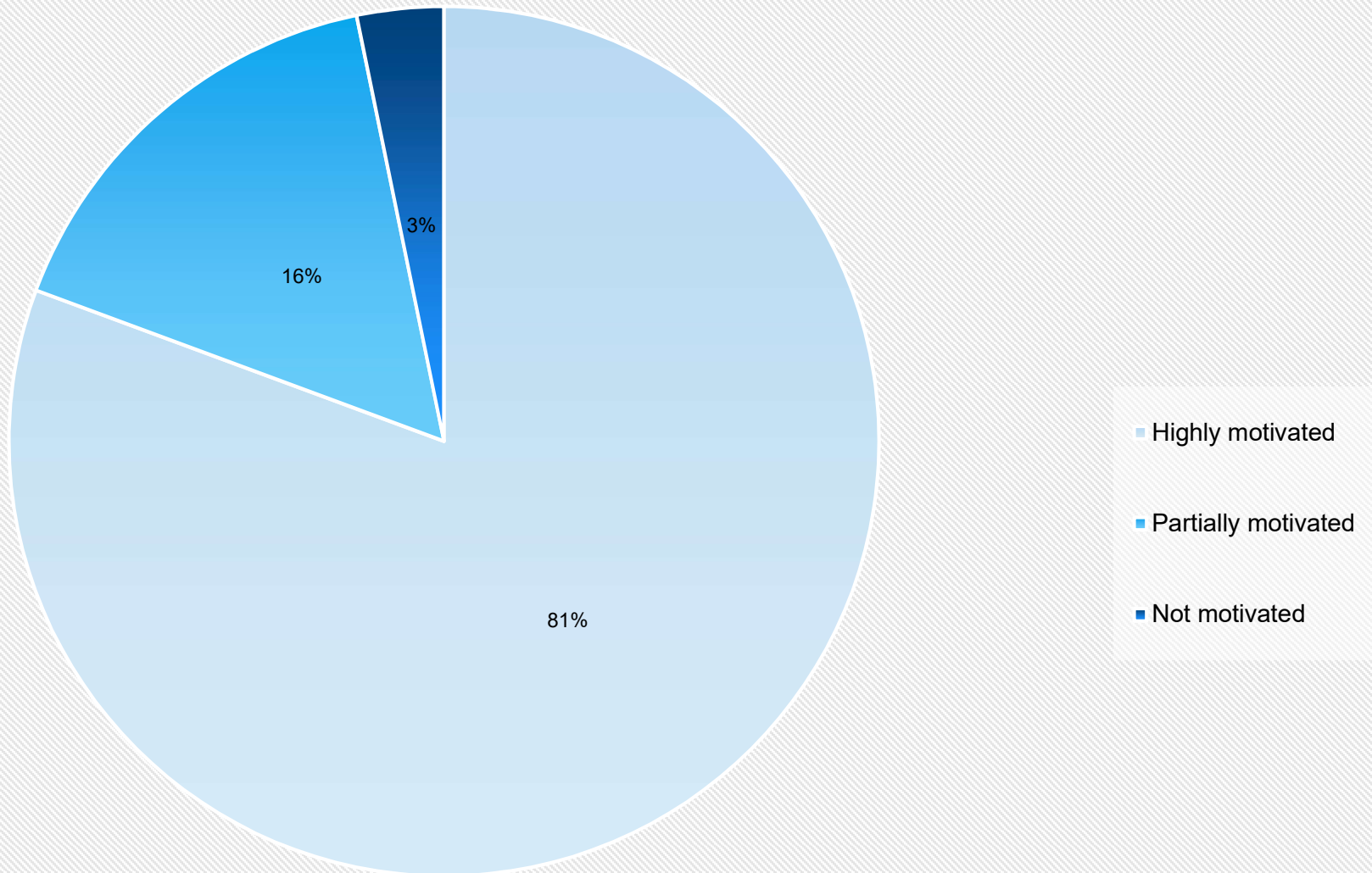
Extent to which in-session support and interventions contributed to effective conduct and outcomes



30% indicated that in session support fully contributed to the effective conduct of the Forum and 57% said it contributed to a large extent

Motivation to participate in Voluntary National Reviews

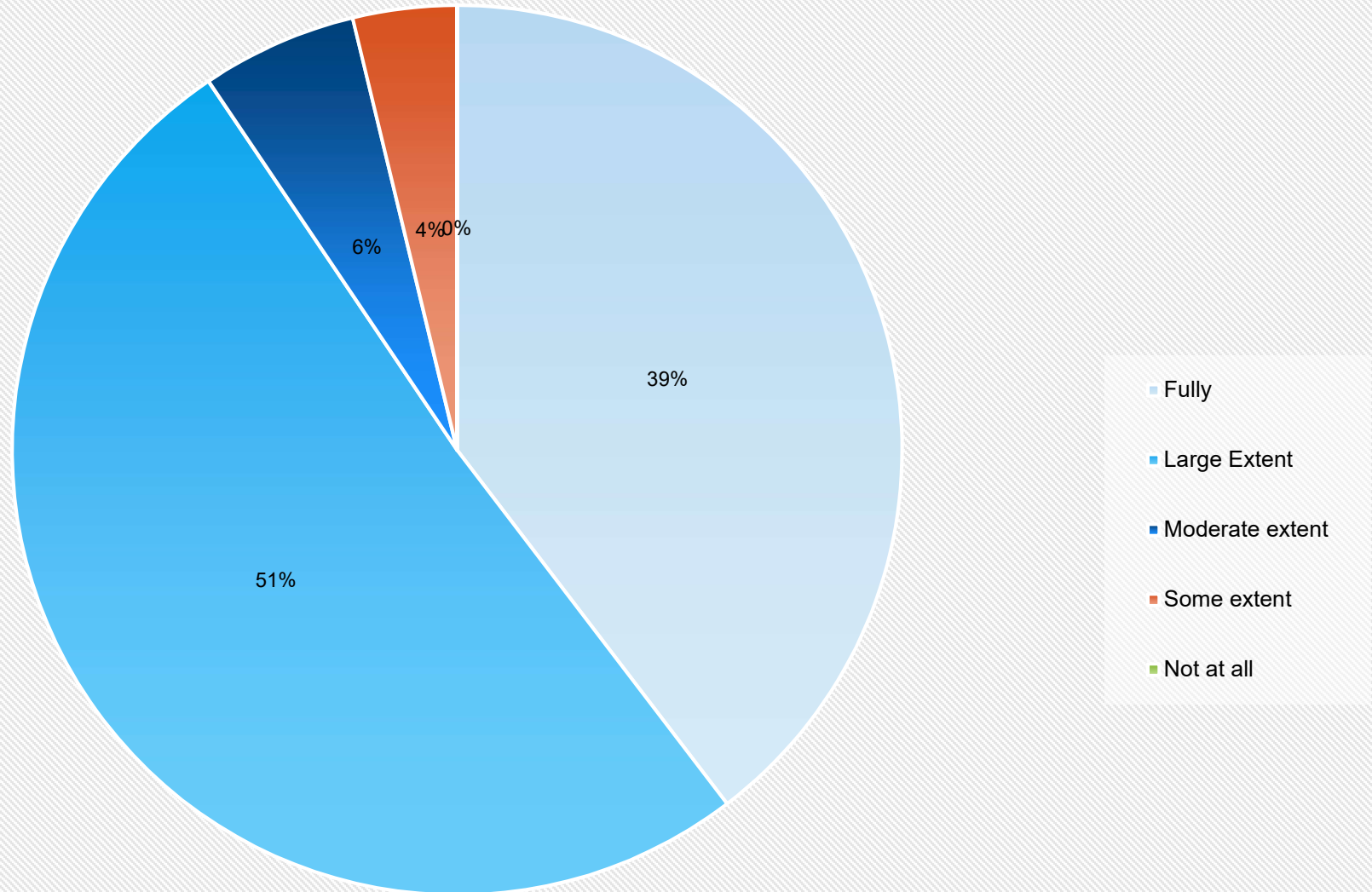
After attending the Forum, how motivated are you to participate in VNRs?



81% said after attending the Forum, they are highly motivated to participate in VNR processes

Side events

Did side events give you fresh viewpoints and insights?

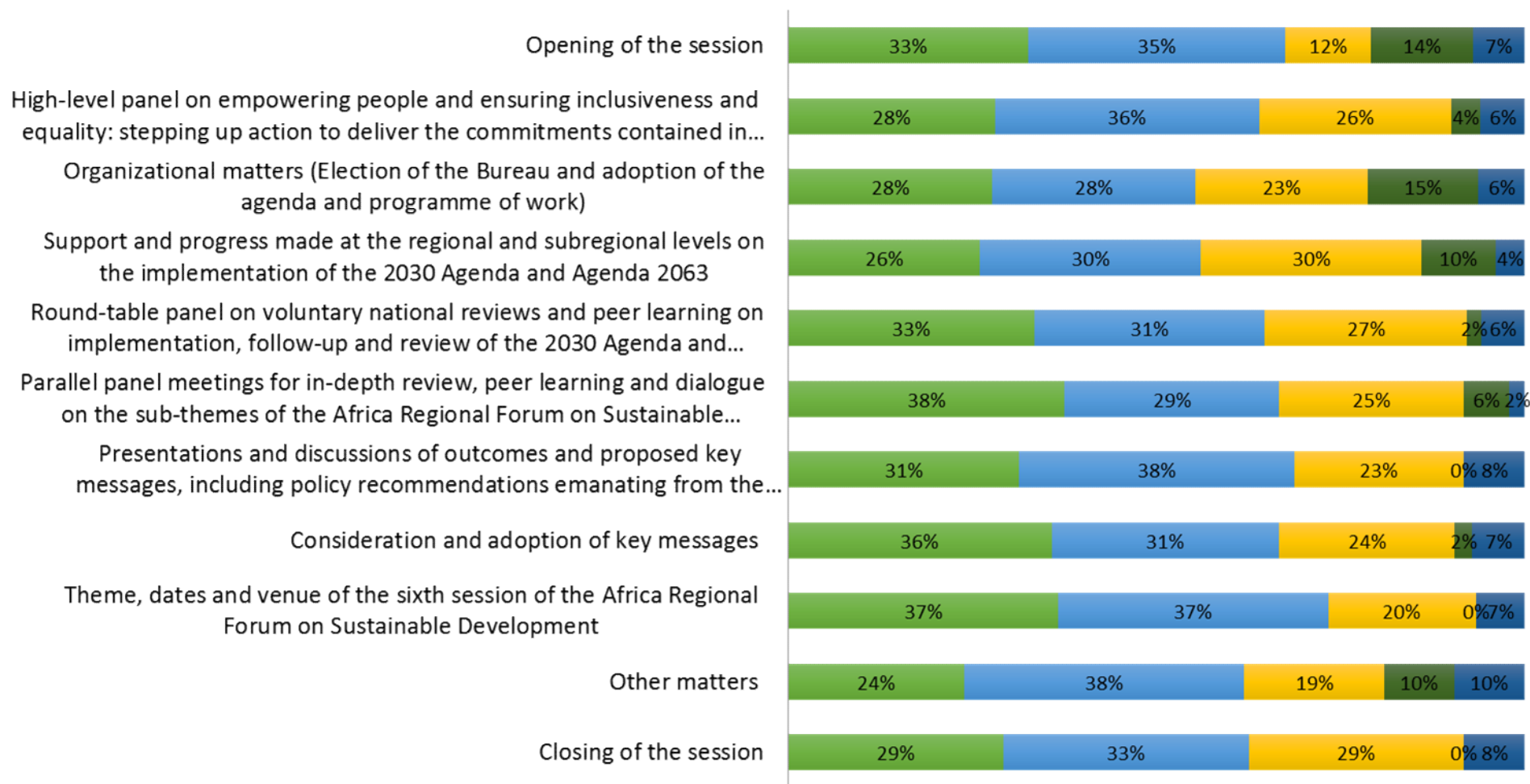


39 % and 51 % of respondents noted that side events gave them fresh viewpoints fully and to a large extent respectively

Usefulness of Sessions

Please rate the sessions by usefulness

■ Excellent ■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Average ■ Unsatisfactory

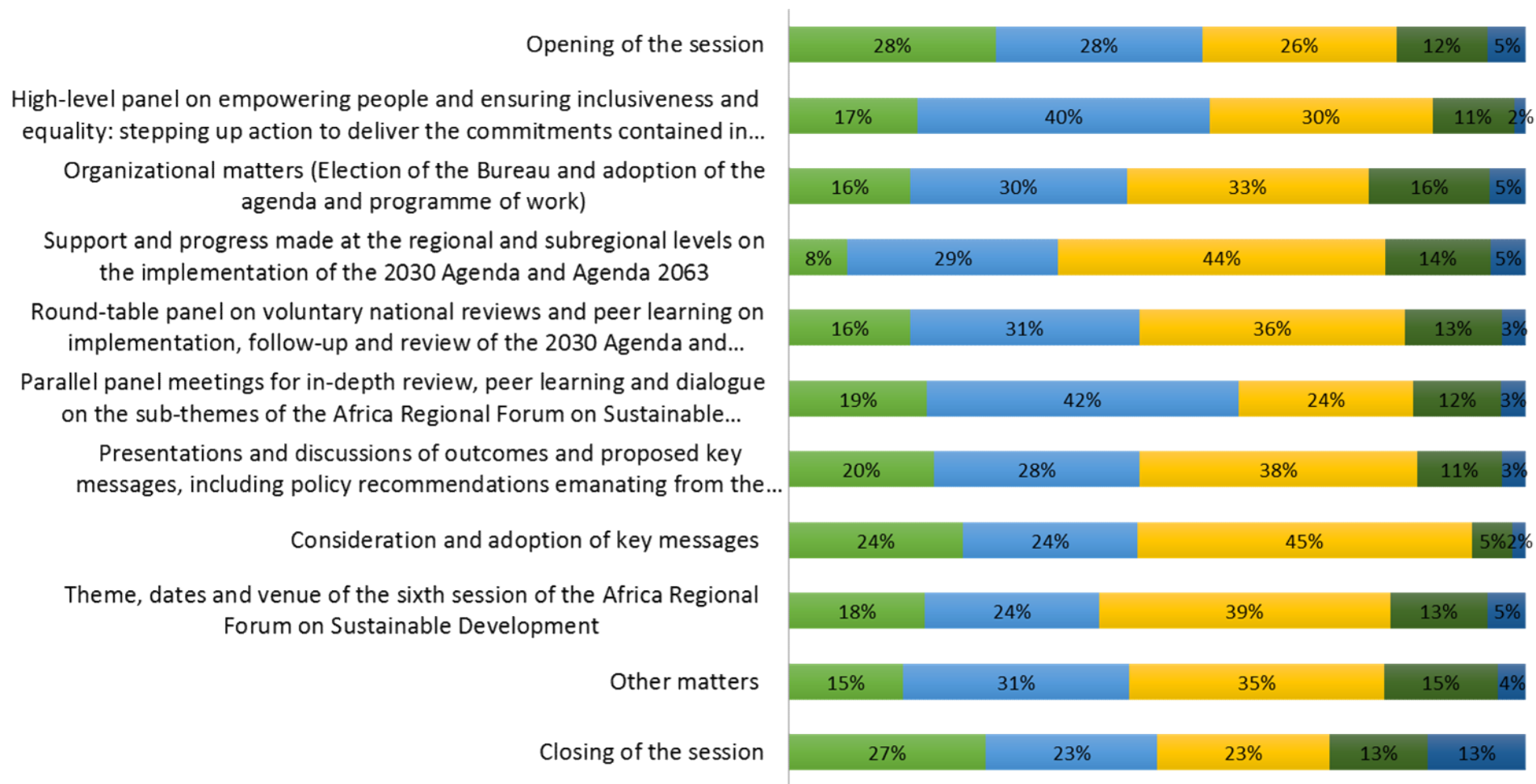


91% indicated that the round table panel on VNRs and peer learning on implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 was good to excellent in terms of its usefulness

Quality of Sessions

Please rate the sessions by quality (substance)

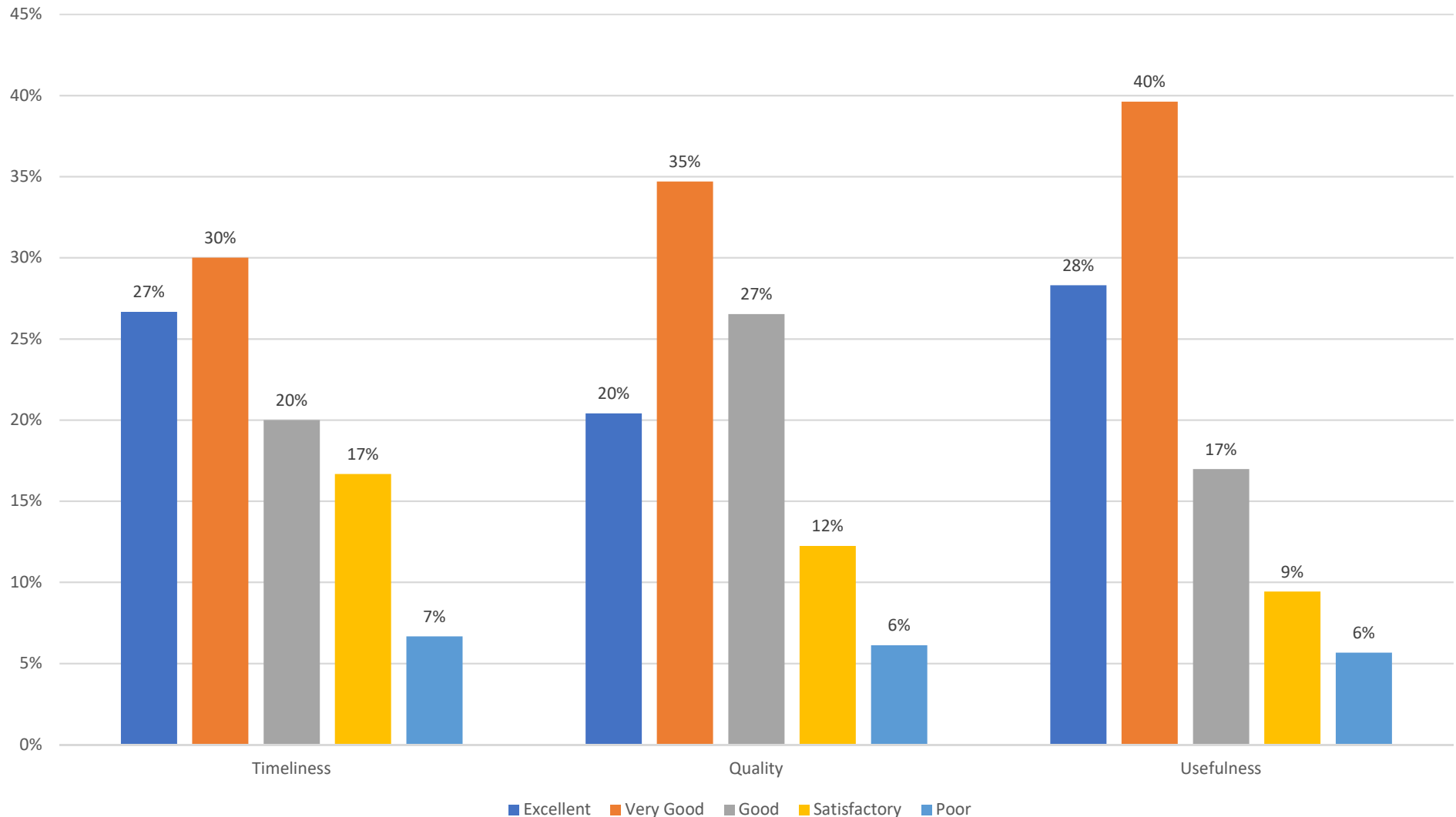
■ Excellent ■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Average ■ Unsatisfactory



83% indicated that the round table panel on VNRs and peer learning on implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 was good to excellent in terms of its quality

Timeliness, Quality and Usefulness of Documents

How would you rate the timeliness, quality and usefulness of the documents provided?

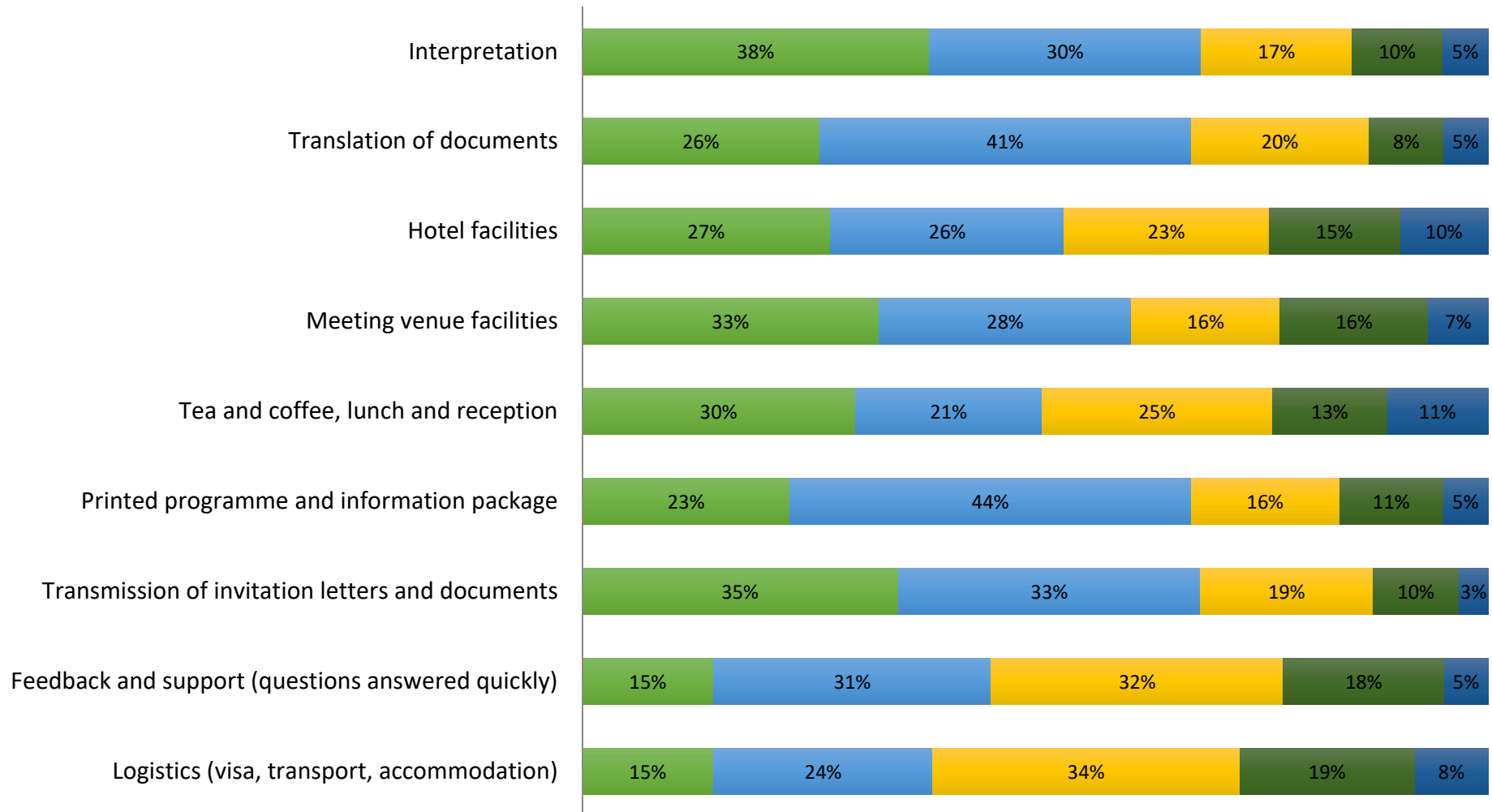


The majority of respondents rated the timeliness, quality and usefulness of documents provided as being very good.

Meeting Arrangements

How would you rate the meeting arrangements?

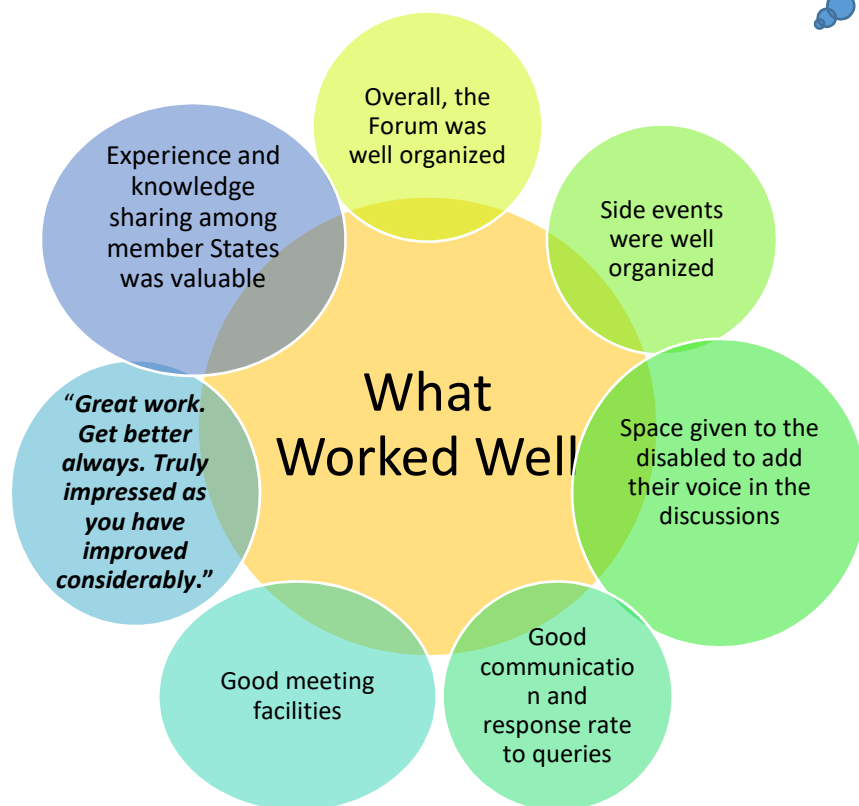
Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor



Among the meeting arrangements, translation of documents was the most positively rated and logistics and hotel facilities were the most poorly rated

Comments from Participants

Qualitative Highlights from participants



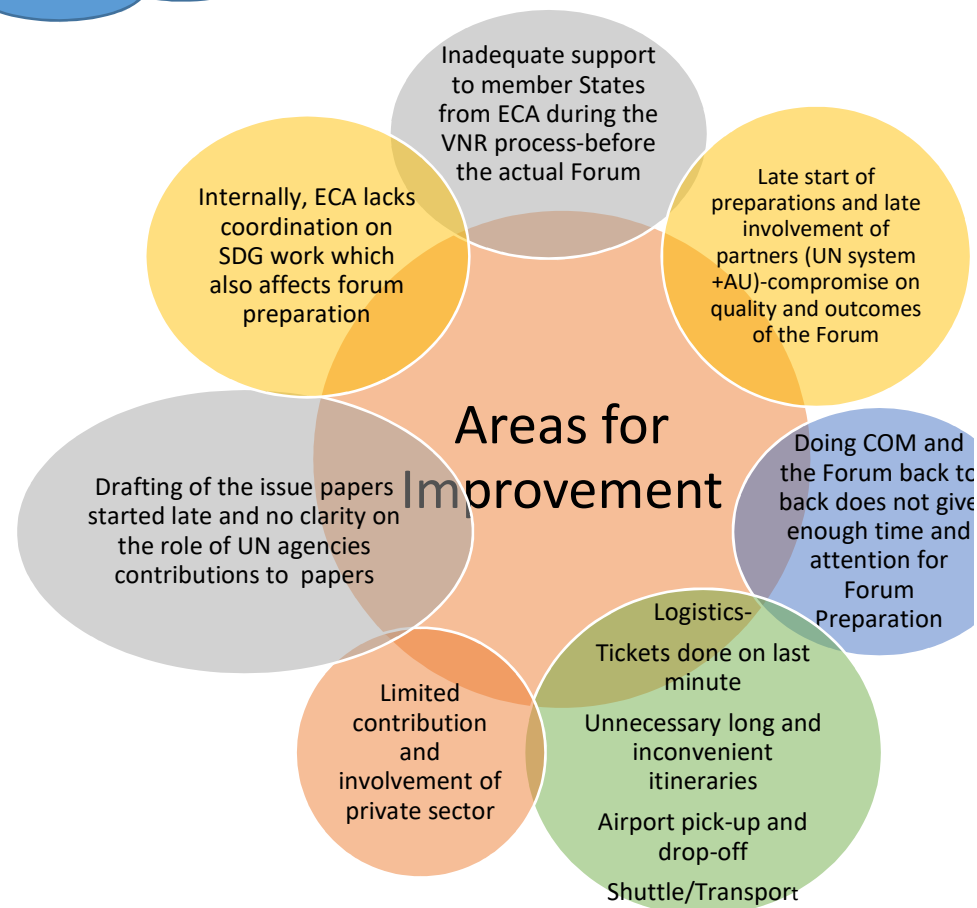
Feedback from ECA staff

Feedback from Staff

What Worked Well



Areas for Improvement



- ❑ Need to allocate more time to sessions that provide guidance on aligning and integrating 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 during the Forum.
- ❑ ECA should be training member States on SDG reporting and integration of the two agendas. The trainings should be organized every year by IDEP.
- ❑ Need for better time management especially of plenary sessions- *“The closing session started with a 3-hour delay, with no explanation /reason provided to the participants.”*
- ❑ Need to be more vigilant in following up on invitations sent to stakeholders.
- ❑ Start preparations for the Forum early enough preferably immediately after the previous one. This also entail ensuring that the timing of the Forum should not be too close to other major events such as COM.

- ❑ Internally for ECA, there is need for a clear strategy, approach and coordination for SDGs.
- ❑ Have broader engagements and consultations in house about the Forum even if only selected SDGs are under review and concern one or two Divisions- the Forum is more than just reviewing those specific SDGs.
- ❑ There should be clarity on the actual role of ECA-is it to draft progress on selected SDGs or facilitate the forum with other UN entities?
- ❑ The need to clarify the role of specialized agencies in developing background papers for the Forum.
- ❑ Consider sharing majority of documents in electronic format to ensure the forum is environment friendly.



THANK YOU!

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