



# EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

## First-time international project realisers support network

Tyniec Abbey | 21-22 September 2020

Presenter: Dr. Aron Weigl, Director EDUCULT Vienna





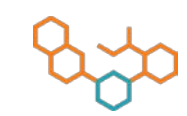
# Successes and Challenges

**Report I on  
International Project Management in the  
Civil Society Sector of Adult Education**



# Overview

- 1) Aims and objectives
- 2) Methodology
- 3) Cross-national results
- 4) Support offered by national agencies
- 5) Needs and challenges

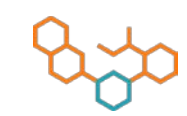


# Aims and objectives

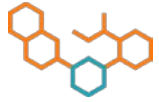


## 1) Aims and objectives

- Help developing the support for starting international cooperation
- Gather knowledge about successes and challenges
- Collect kinds of support and methods
- Describe expectations of project managers
- Define needs in the partner countries



# Methodology



## 2) Methodology

- Qualitative interviews (66 interviewees: project managers experienced/inexperienced, management body members experienced/inexperienced)
- Quantitative survey (200 respondents, 121 analysed)

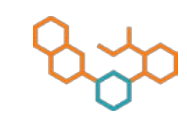


## 2) Methodology

Minimum condition for participation:

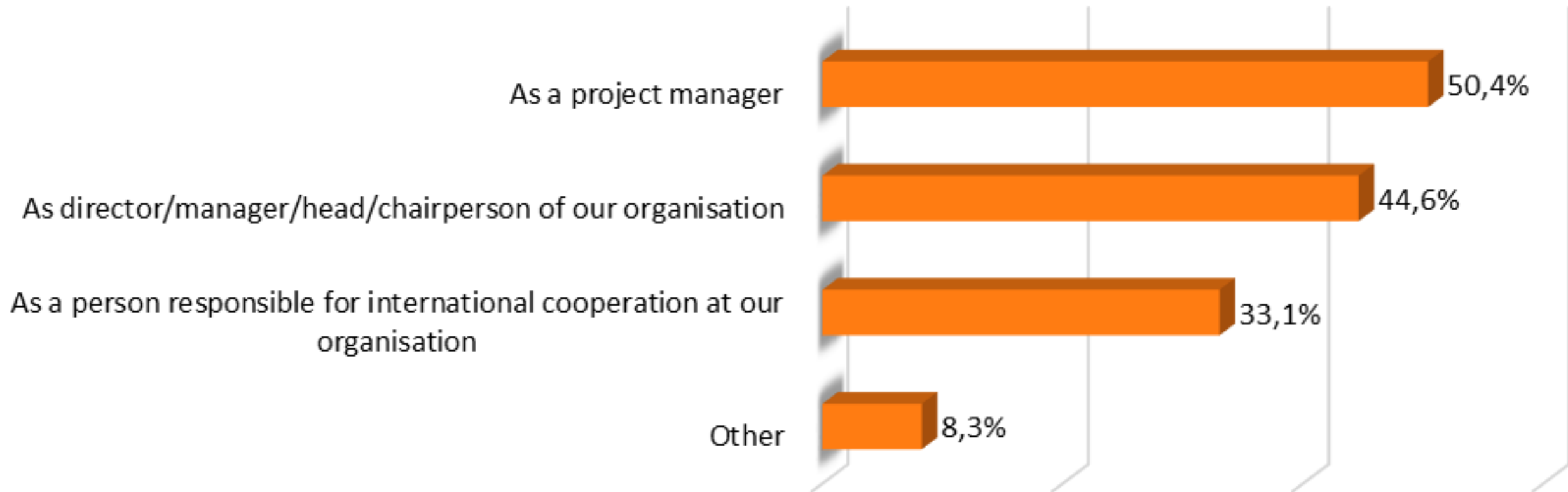
- Adult education
- Non-formal education
- Civil society





## 2) Methodology: sample description

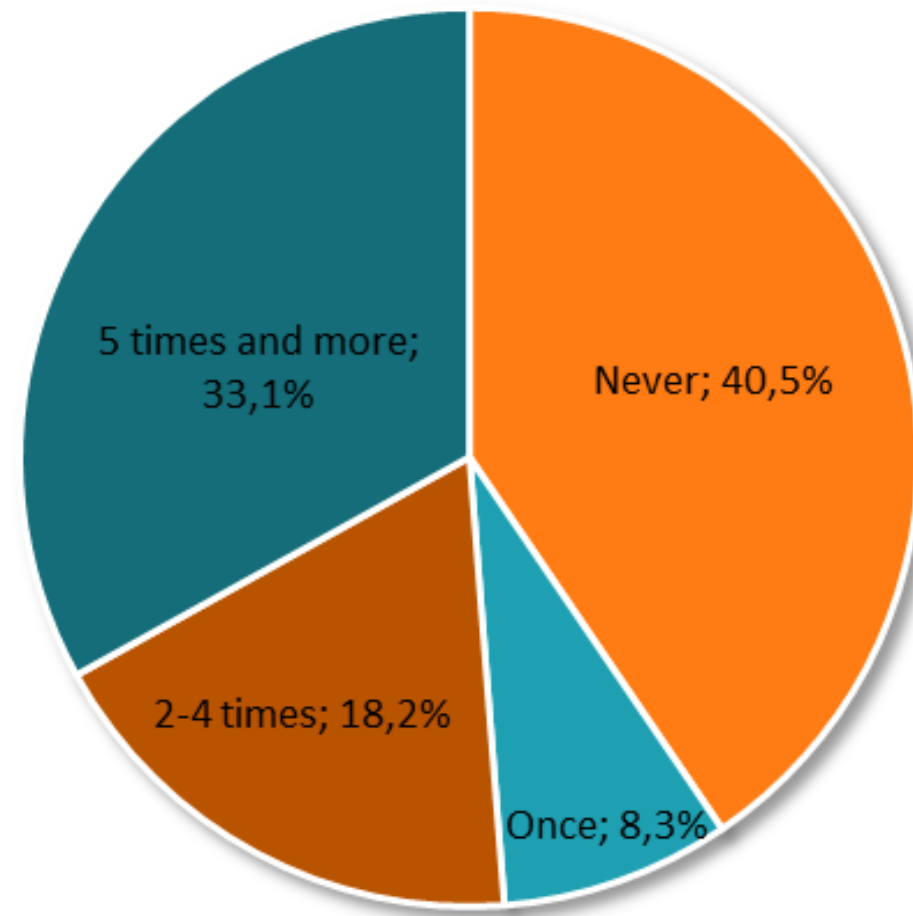
In which function do you work in this field? (n=121)





## 2) Methodology: sample description

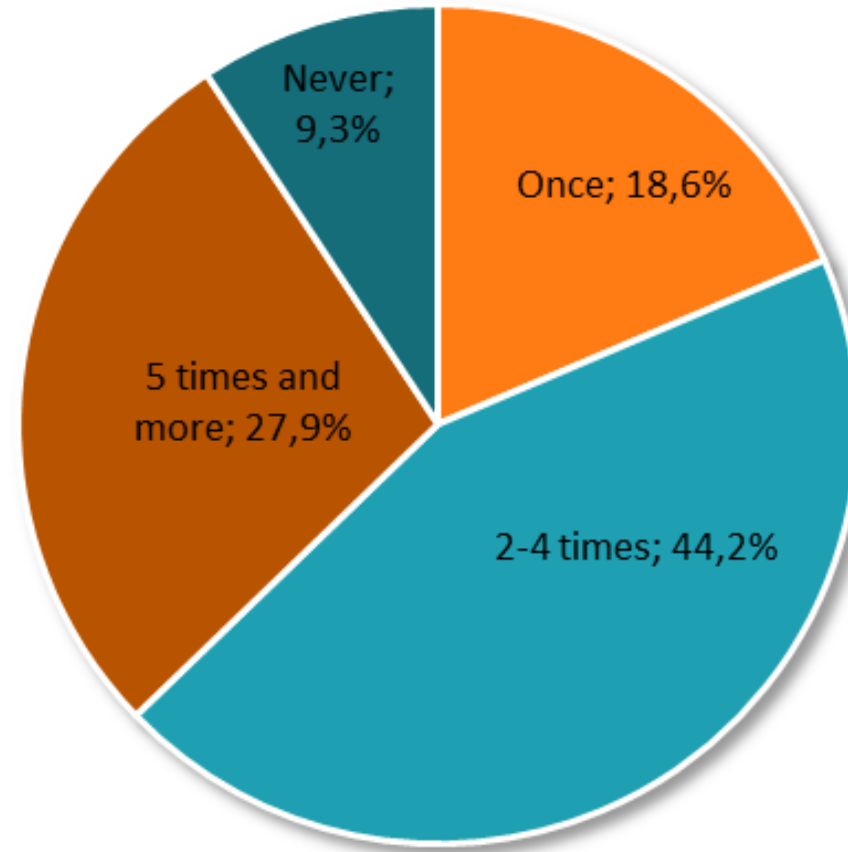
How many times have you realised an international project?  
(n=121)

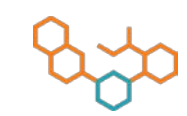




## 2) Methodology: sample description

How often have you already applied unsuccessfully for an international project? (n=86)



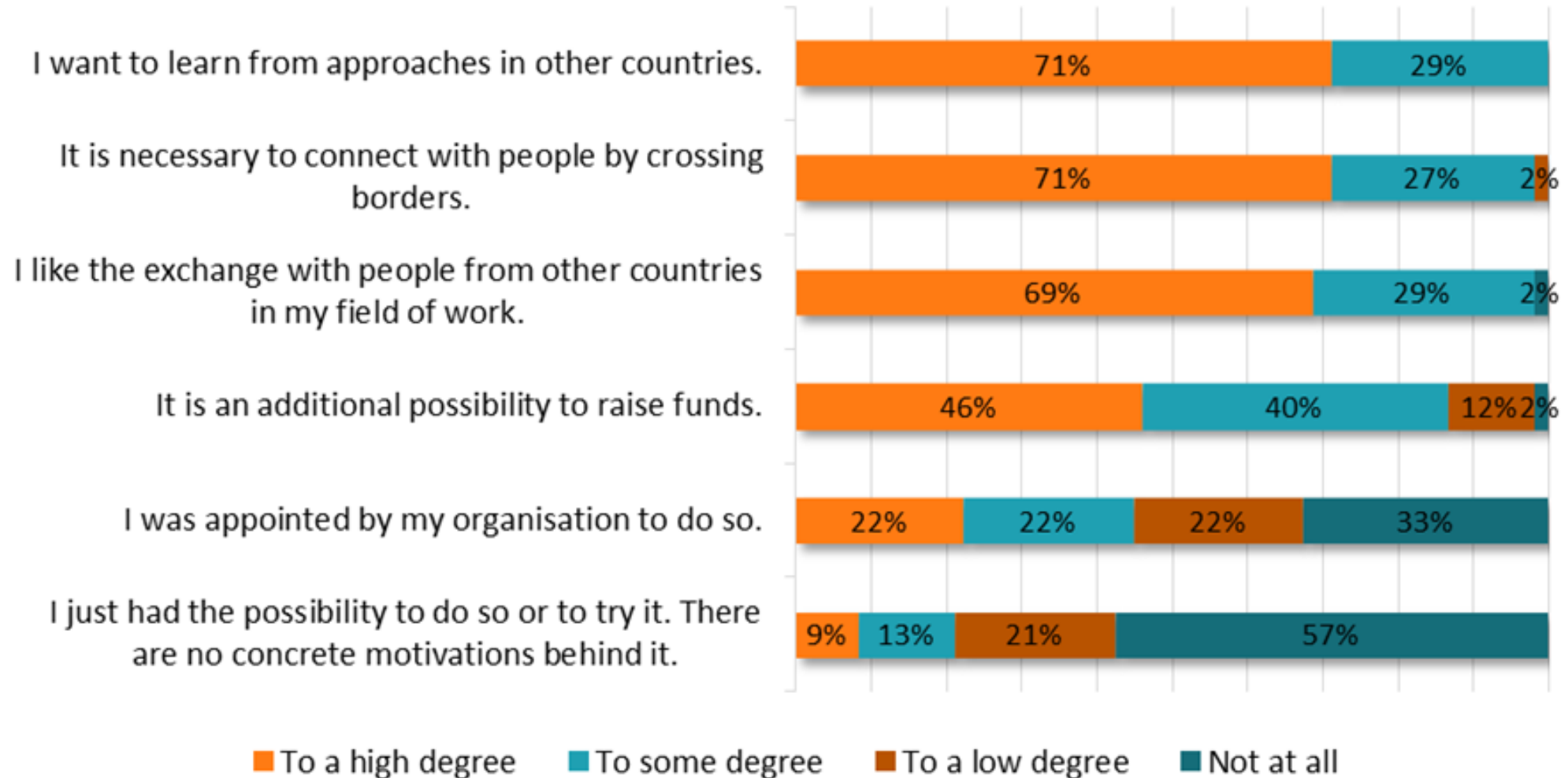


# Cross-national results



### 3) Cross-national results: project managers

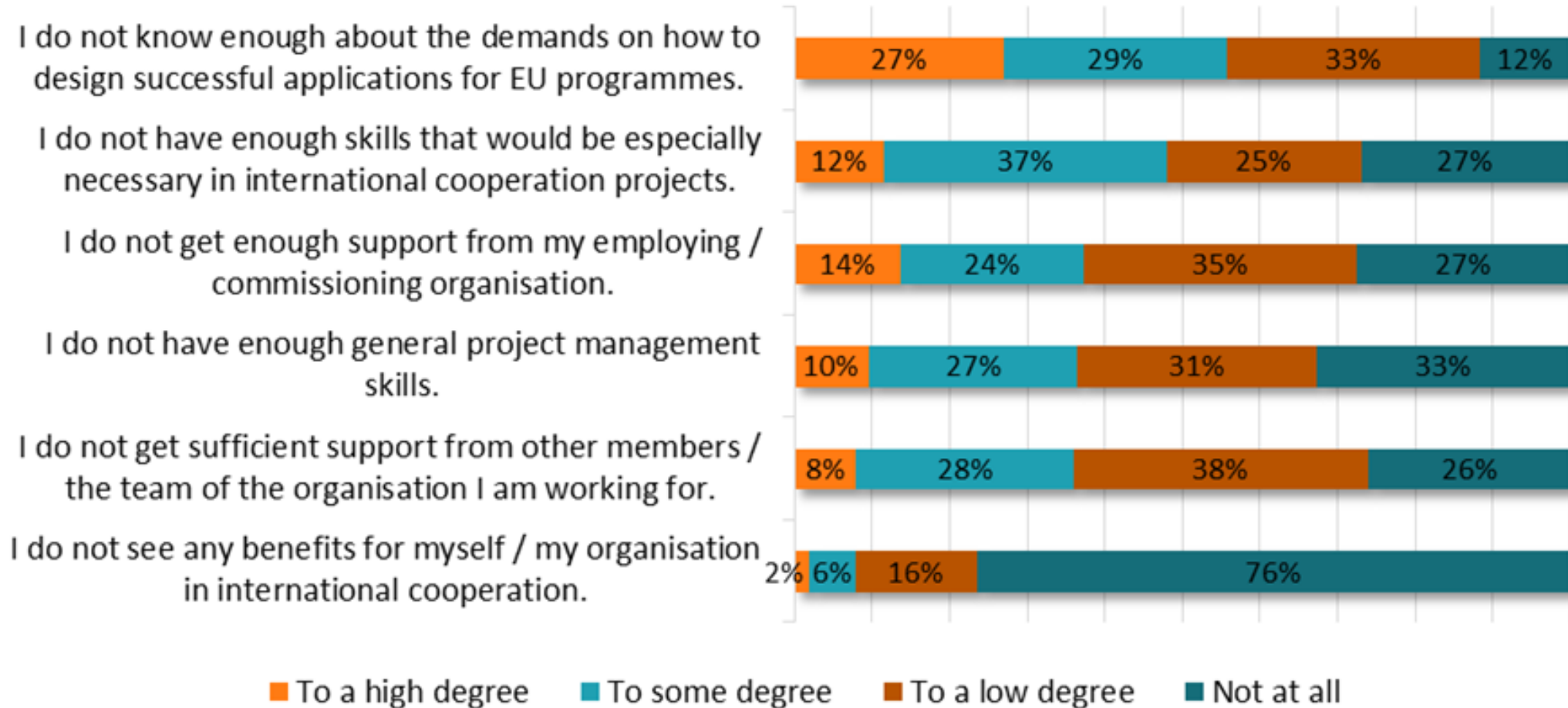
What is your motivation to implement international projects? (n=52)

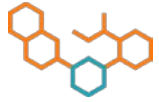




### 3) Cross-national results: project managers

Which kind of challenges appear for you when applying for or implementing an international project? (n=52)





### 3) Cross-national results: project managers

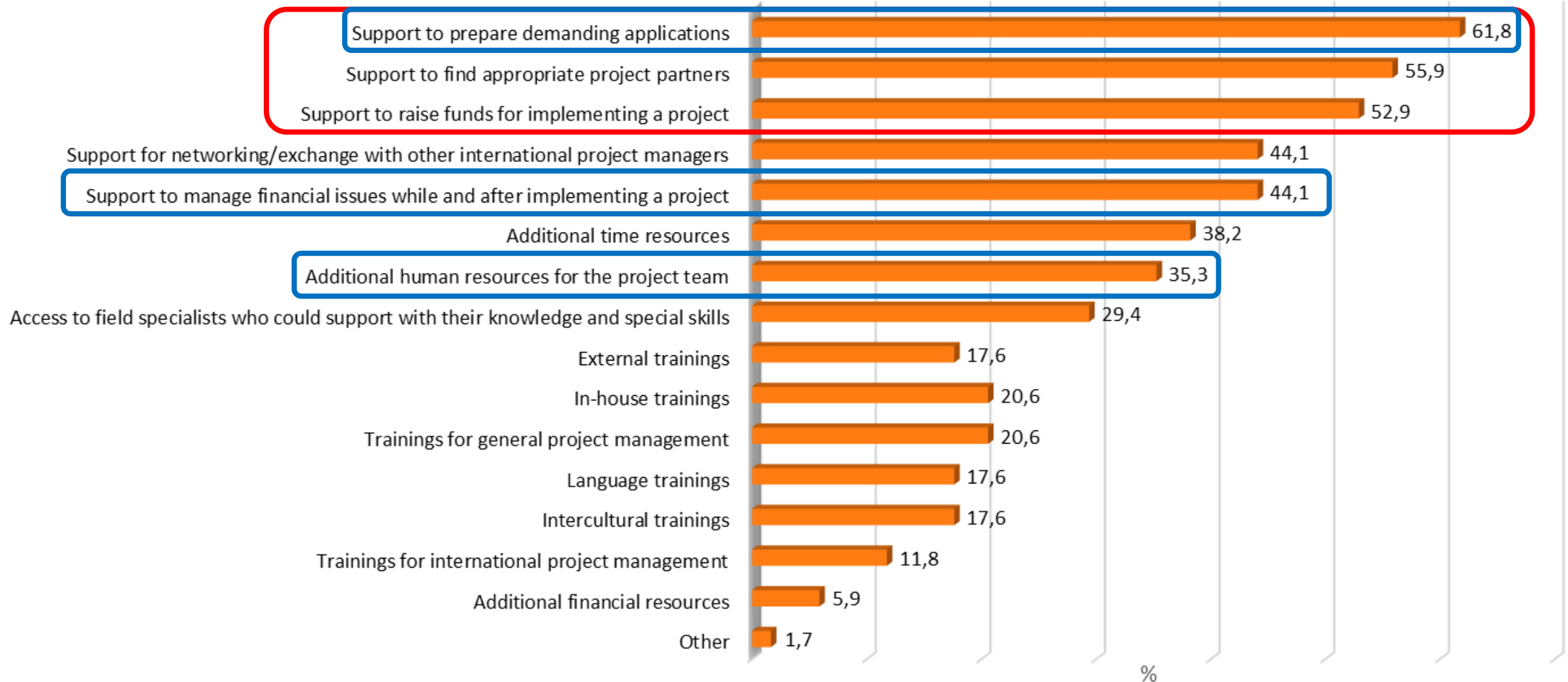
What kind of support would you expect from your employing / commissioning organisation to be able to successfully apply for and realise international projects? (n=52)



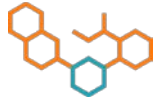


### 3) Cross-national results: management body members

What kind of support did / do you offer? (n=34)

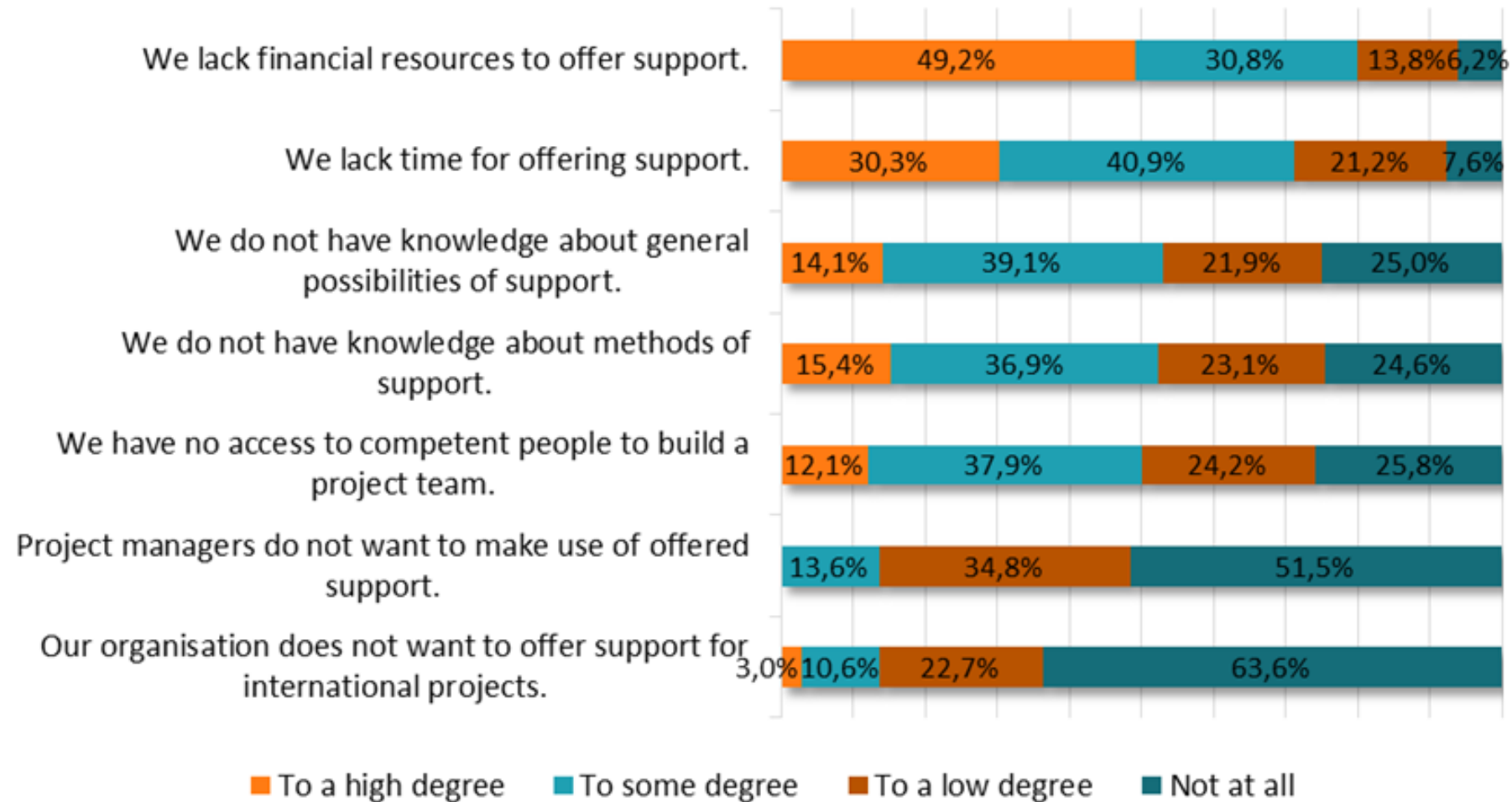


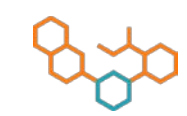




### 3) Cross-national results: management body members

Which kind of challenges appear for your organisation when trying to support your managers of international projects? (n=66)





# Support offered by national agencies



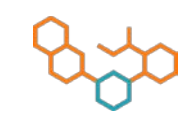
## 4) Support offered by national agencies

- Questionnaire for national agencies (KA1 and KA2)
- Portal and website analysis
- Support for applicants and beneficiaries



## 4) Support offered by national agencies

- Support varies widely, depends on resources of national agencies
- Usual offers: programme guides, necessary documents and information sessions
- Special offers: project setup assistance, writing sessions, funding for partner consultations, pre-/post-application checks, contact to evaluators, advice to managers also in the process
- Many struggle to give personal in-depth support



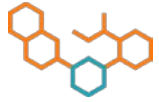
# Needs and challenges



## 5) Needs and challenges: indicators of success

### “Necessities”

- Experience with international cooperation
- Good embedding in European/international networks
- Deep knowledge of EU programmes, their requirements and objectives
- Well-balanced partnership and similar project objectives pursued by the partners
- Sufficient English language skills



## 5) Needs and challenges: indicators of success

### „Sufficiencies“

- Support from national agency
  - Support from own organisation
- 
- Differences between the countries (but no lack of will)
  - Trainings for international project management (rare, but hoped for)

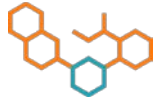


## 5) Needs and challenges

### Challenges

- Applications
  - Lack of time and personnel (due to budgetary limitations)
  - Lack of knowledge about support possibilities
- Project process
  - Lack of competence for coordinating an international project
  - Disregarded strengths and weaknesses of partners

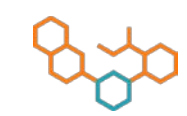




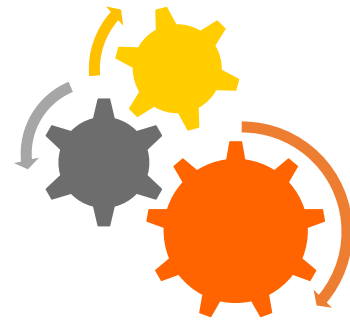
## 5) Needs and challenges

### Needs

- Specific training for support in the understanding of calls for funds including the linguistic aspect (especially technical English), and application writing skills
- Financial and human resources in the civil society organisations
- Access to a consolidated international partnership network
- Increasing knowledge concerning the marketing of the project activities
- Support at recruiting new, competent staff and volunteers
- Increasing inter-sectoral cooperation to enhance the impact of the sector



Any questions  
or comments?





# Thank you for your attention!

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