

# INTERREG VI A ITALY CROATIA 2021-2027

## **CB Consultation: analysis of results**

Version 1 – December 2021

## Glossary

- **TF = Task Force.** The main aim of the Task Force is to prepare the Interreg Programme (and related programming documents) of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CBC Programme 2021-2027, on the basis of the mandate given to this end by involved Member States, in compliance with draft Regulation COM (2018) 374, Section III and Annex “Template for INTERREG Programmes”;
- **Policy Objectives (POs):** in 2021-2027 EU cohesion policy has set a shorter, modern menu of 5 policy objectives supporting growth for the period 2021-2027:
  - 1. a more competitive and smarter Europe
  - 2. a greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy
  - 3. a more connected Europe by enhancing mobility
  - 4. a more social and inclusive Europe
  - 5. Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories
- **Specific Objectives (SOs):** general Policy Objectives (PO) of ERDF support twenty-one specific objectives listed in Article 3 of the Regulation on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund.

### 1. General description of the CB consultation process

Based on the assumption that the involvement of the relevant programme partners is crucial during the preparation of the 2021-2027 Programme, the TF approved the “*2021-2027 ETC CBC Programme Italy-Croatia – Plan for an effective involvement and consultation process of the economic and social partners within the programming phase*” (hereafter referred as “the Plan”). This document foresees the implementation of actions to ensure the involvement of Programme partnership, in accordance with the European Code of Conduct on Partnership and with art. 8 of the Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 – “CPR Regulation”.

Following the decision taken on 2021-2027 Policy Objectives and Specific Objectives, this second round of consultation is aimed at collecting the stakeholders’ opinion on the following main aspects of the programming process.

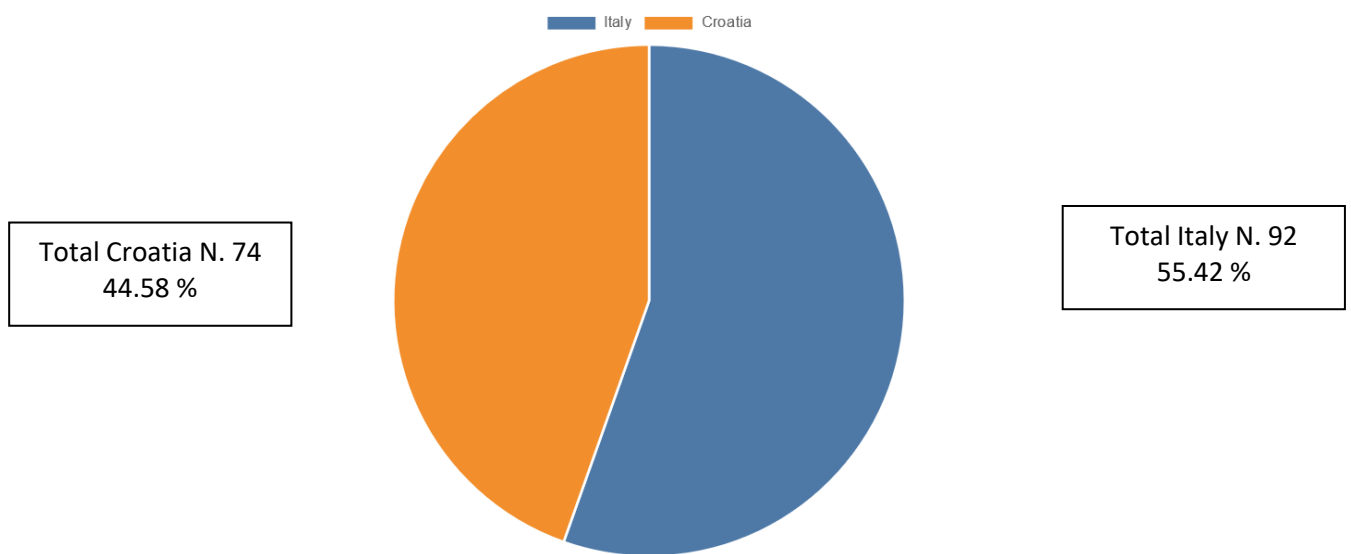
The **target groups** were identified as follows:

- **GENERAL PUBLIC:** addressed through the IT-HR Programme website, the National Delegations’ support and specific mailing lists identified for some relevant sectors not yet covered (i.e. NGOs, economic and social partners);
- **RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS:**
  - 2014-2020 Lead Partners of IT-HR & ADRION Programme financed/non-funded projects + EUSAIR representatives (mailing list agreed by the TF for the local consultation);
  - Territorial stakeholders: representatives from Italian regions and Croatian counties and representatives from national coordination authorities (contact persons addressed by the evaluator’s interviews).

This second round of consultation consisted in **two steps**: an online survey and a webinar.

The first step of the second round of consultations consisted in a **survey** addressed to the wider public - all Programme stakeholders. The survey, launched on 25th September and closed on 8th October 2021, collected all the inputs coming from both the previous local consultation and the TF's decisions. The invitation to participate in the survey was published in the Programme website (specific section dedicated to the 2021-2021) and widespread among all the Programme's official channels.

In total **166 stakeholders** participated in the online survey: 92 from Italy and 74 from Croatia.



The main aims of this survey were:

- to know and collect the stakeholders' opinion on the priority strategies and Policy and Specific objectives that have been identified by the TF. These inputs have been taken into account by the TF for the decision related to the 2021-2027 It-Hr Programme's budget allocation per Priority Axes, maximizing the preferences of Stakeholders collected during the CB consultation;
- to collect input to define the actions and related target groups that will be implemented through the 2021-2027 Programme.

The second step of the second round of consultations was conceived as a Cross-border consultation **webinar** organized online on **21th October 2021** and opened to all Programme stakeholders. The invitation to participate in the webinar was published in the Programme website (specific section dedicated to the 2021-2021) and widespread among all the Programme's official channels.

The purpose of the webinar was to describe the 2021-2027 programming and consultation process, providing an overview of the POs and SOs selected by the TF and presenting the Intervention Logic followed to identify the examples of actions. Another important objective was to analyze and discuss together with the stakeholders the answers collected through the on-line survey, with a particular focus on each thematic priority. The engagement of the participants was ensured by means of the live questions and answers and in the form of polls in order to collect suggestions for the fine-tuning of the 2021-2027 Programme, before its submission to the European Commission.

The webinar was attended by **220 participants**: 78 stakeholders from Croatia, 141 from Italy and one from Albania have been engaged in the online webinar.

Also in this case the video-registrations and presentations used during the webinars were made available for all the stakeholders publicly on the Programme website section dedicated to the Post 2020 and shared with all the participants, informing the partners on how and why their proposals have been taken into consideration.

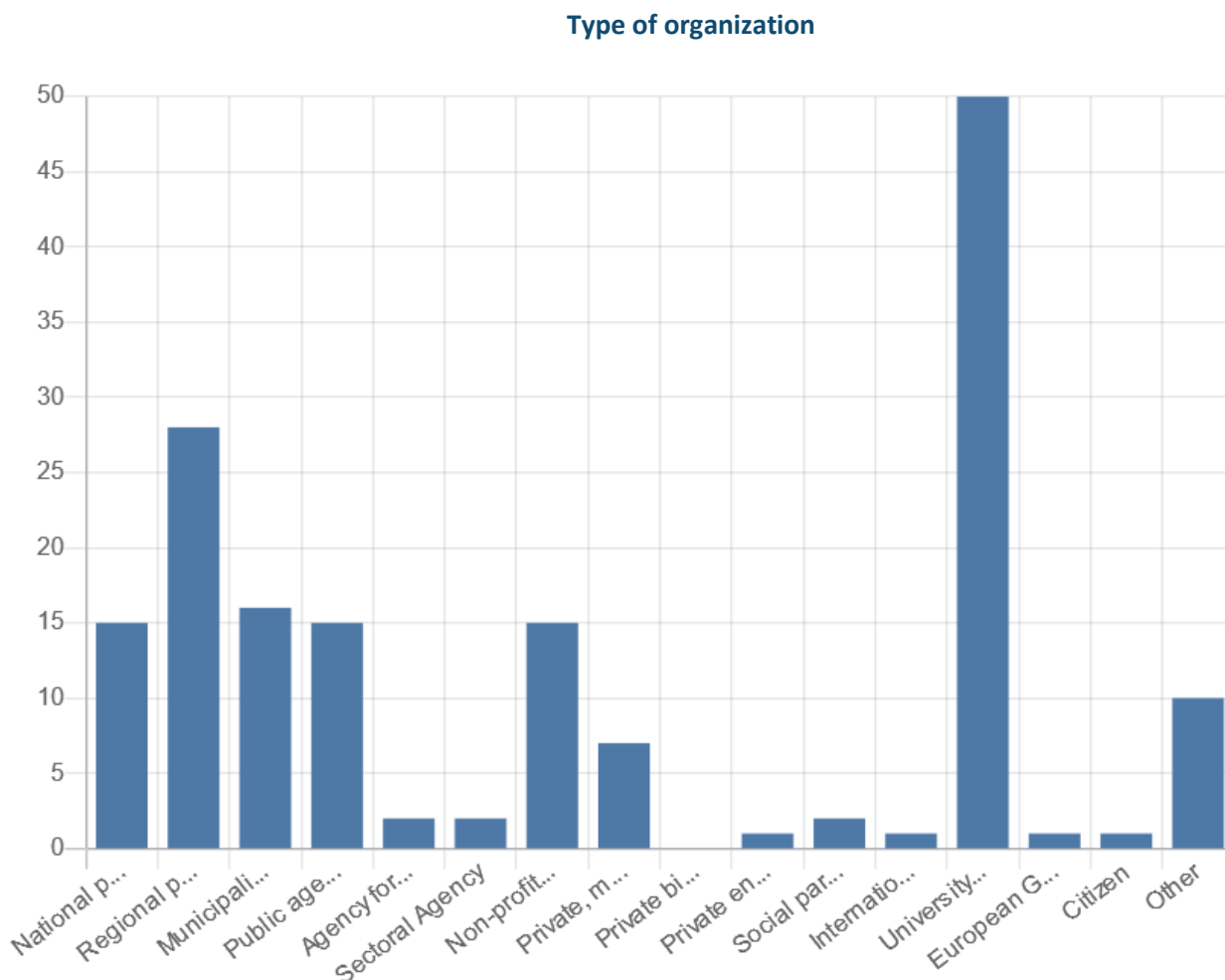
## 2. Qualitative presentation of the received answers & inputs

### 2.1. On line survey

#### PART 1 - IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANT AND TYPE OF ORGANISATION

##### Type of organization

- The majority of participants belonged to the **University / research center / higher education** (30.12%) and **Regional public body** categories (16.87%);
- We note a good representation of the **Non-profit organization** (NGO, association, foundation, committee, etc.) (**9.04%**) and of the **Private, micro, small and medium enterprise** (**4.22%**);
- The representation of the **Social partners** (union, chamber of commerce, etc.) was quite low (1.2 %).

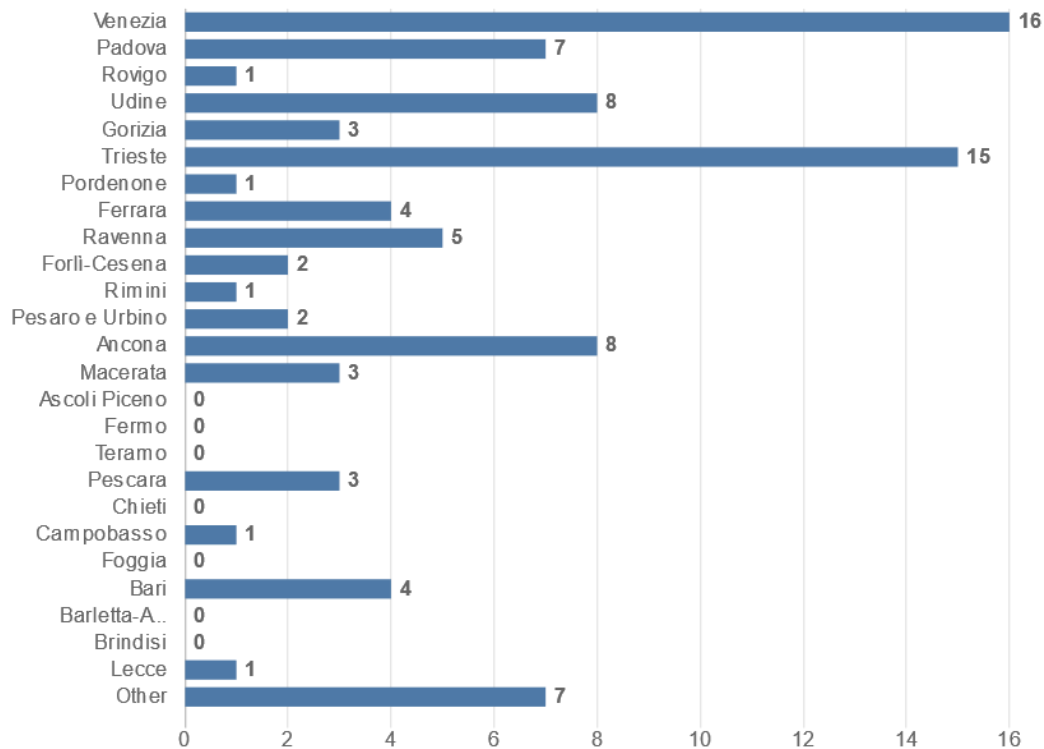


##### Country

The **representation** per country was very **homogeneous**: 55.42% for Italy and 44.58% for Croatia.

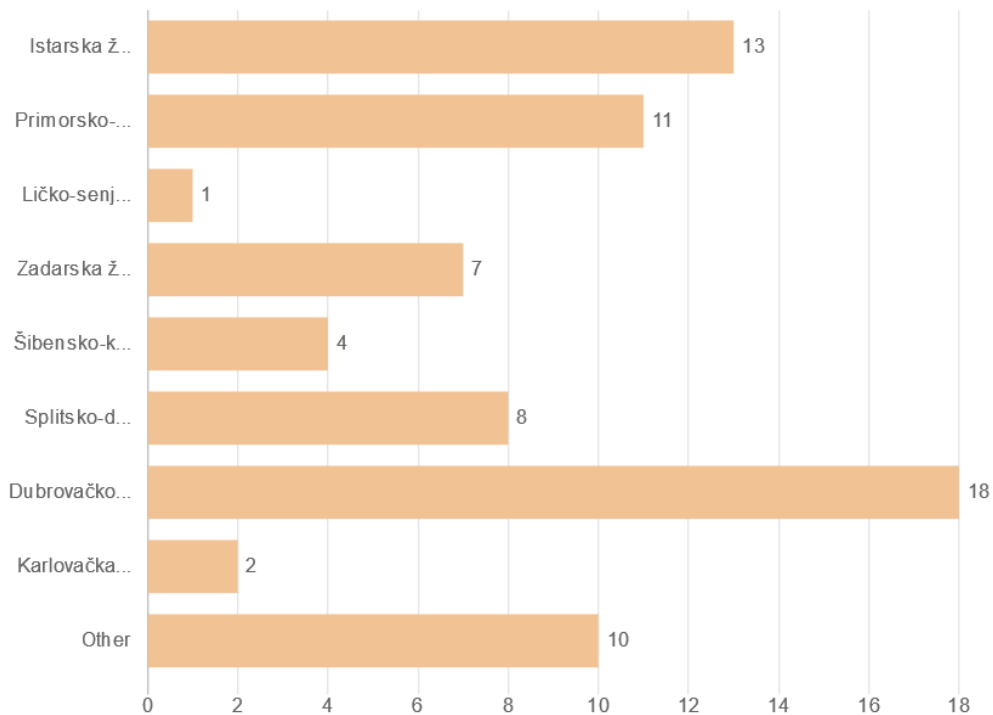
As the Italian Provinces are concerned, the majority of answers came from Venezia (9.64%), Trieste (9.04%), Udine and Ancona (4.82%).

### Italian provinces



As the Croatian Counties are concerned, the majority of answers came from the Dubrovačko-neretvanska županija (10.84%), the Istarska županija (7.83%) and the Primorsko-goranska županija (6.63%).

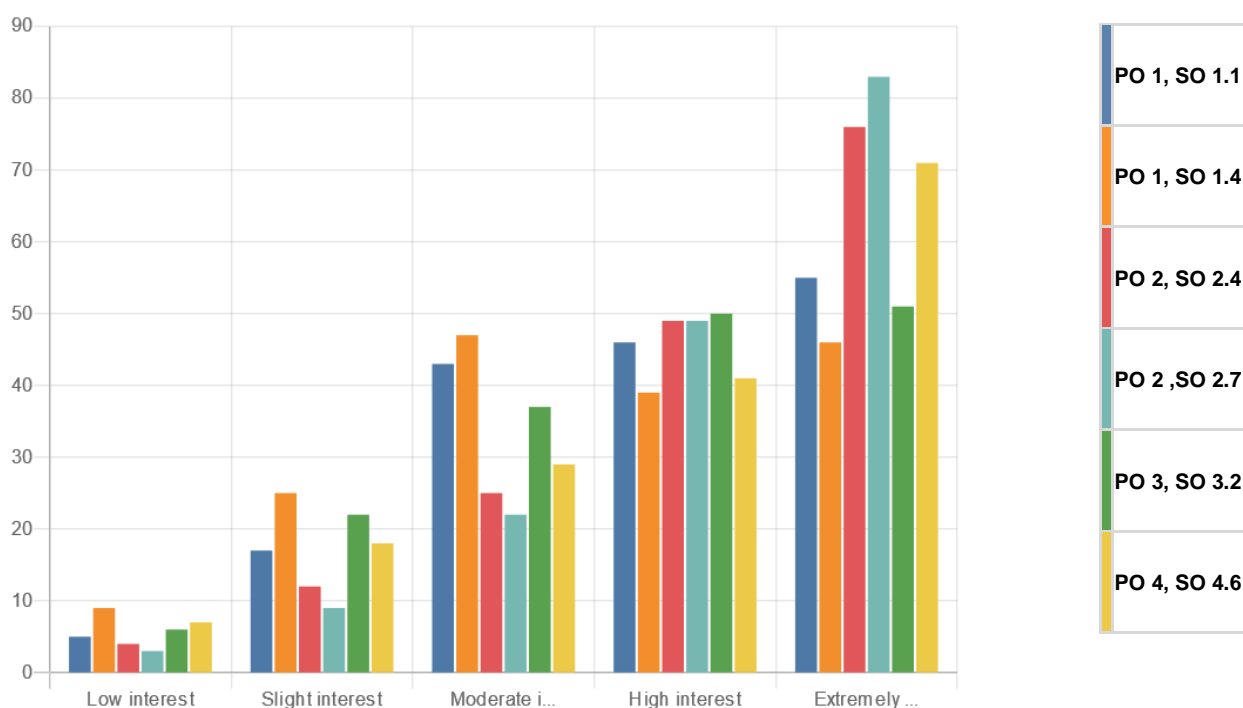
### Croatian counties



## **PART 2 - ASSESSMENT OF THE 2021-2027 POLICY AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES SELECTED BY THE TF**

Taking into account the measurement of preference for 2021-2027 Policy Objectives (POs) and Specific Objectives (SOs) selected by the TF, the resulting ranking is the following:

1. **SO 2.7** - Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution;
2. **SO 4.6** - Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation;
3. **SO 2.4** - Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches;
4. **SO 1.1.** - Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies;
5. **SO 3.2** - Developing and enhancing sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent and intermodal national, regional and local mobility, including improved access to TENT and cross-border mobility;
6. **SO 1.4** - Developing skills for smart specialization, industrial transition and entrepreneurship.



As known, these results have been taken into consideration by the MA/JS in order to identify the financial allocation among different POs (Scenario C “Merged (Potential/Stakeholder).

**Motivations for answers indicating “1 – LOW INTEREST”:**

In general, these motivations concerned the applicability of the proposed actions to the participants’ field of intervention.

Here below, we propose a collection of the main answers collected for each SO.

**SO 1.1.:**

- It is largely out of the scope of the public institution as defined in Law on nature protection;
- I think that research should have other funding channels and not cooperation programs. Small experimentation pilot projects could be allowed. Research projects are often dedicated and understood by only a small group of people, therefore the results are understandable and available to a few;
- not applicable to the field of association (i.e. dance).

**SO 1.4.:**

- Poor connection with the activities of the Department of Humanities and Cultural Heritage Studies;
- It is largely out of the scope of the public institution as defined in Law on nature protection;
- I think that research should have other funding channels and not cooperation programs. Small experimentation pilot projects could be allowed. Research projects are often dedicated and understood by only a small group of people, therefore the results are understandable and available to a few;
- Not applicable to the field of association (i.e. dance);
- Is not our core business.

**SO 2.4.:**

- Poor connection with the activities of the Department of Humanities and Cultural Heritage Studies;
- The climate problems are huge and urgent. The projects about climate should involve especially young people (student, teen agers) at school, at home. At the same time politicians need to be educated on these subjects and put together with the young people. We have no a planet B.

**SO 2.7.:**

- poor connection with the activities of the Department of Humanities and Cultural Heritage Studies

### SO 3.2.:

- not applicable to the field of association (i.e. dance)

### SO 4.6.:

- Unless there is a clear focus on culture, tourism is over exploited resource;
- Too much focus and financial resources up to now in those topics;
- Is not our core business.

## PART 3: INTERREG VI A ITALY-CROATIA 2021-2027 PROGRAMME'S EXAMPLE OF ACTIONS AND TARGET GROUPS

### **GENERAL CONCLUSIONS for all POs**

In general for all POs and related SOs the collected answers showed a **general agreement** towards the exemplary actions proposed and approved by the TF, both in terms of target groups and types of actions (e.g. no or low number of answers indicating "*not at all interested*").

With reference to free comments, there were many proposals to add some new target groups or fields of actions that have been taken into consideration in order to draft the polls to be subjected to the participants attending the webinar.

### **2.2. On line webinar & results of polls**

In order to collect the stakeholders' opinion on some answers and free comments collected during the survey launched before the event, and aiming at making the event more interactive, during the webinar the MA/JS launched some polls addressed to the participants.

In particular, the polls launched during the on-line event were a total of **21 questions** dealing with each Policy Objective.

In general the great majority of the stakeholders' suggestions concerned intervention fields/actions and/or target groups already covered by the IP draft and for which more details could be taken into account for drafting the 2021-2027 Calls for Proposals and/or during the Programme implementation.

In particular, the new proposals dealt with some new target groups proposed among different POs. In summary, these new proposals are the following:

- For PO 1:
  - a. to add "high schools students" as target group of SO 1.1. and, accordingly, modify the related action as follows: "*Facilitating cross-border mobility of researches/high school **students** through cooperation agreement among Italian and Croatian institutions for shared (research) scholarships*";
  - b. To add "vocational training organizations" as target group of SO 1.1. and SO 1.4.;

- For PO4, to add “vocational training organizations” as target group of SO 4.6..

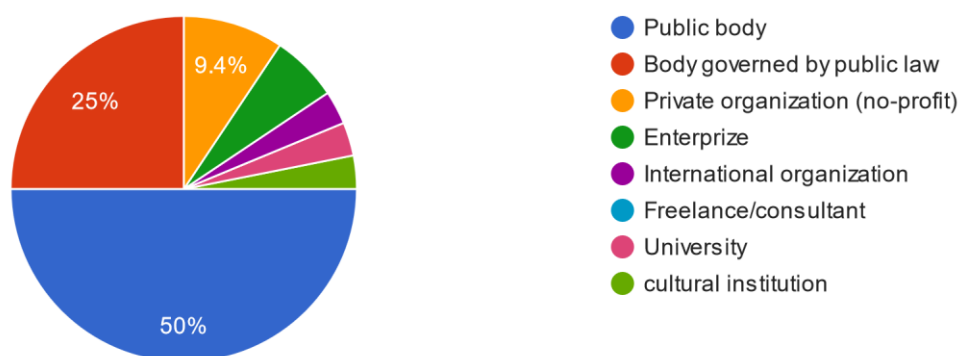
### 3. Results of the post event satisfaction survey

**32 participants** at the webinar answered the post event satisfaction survey launched by the JS.

Please find below the representation of their composition and role on the 21-27 Programme:

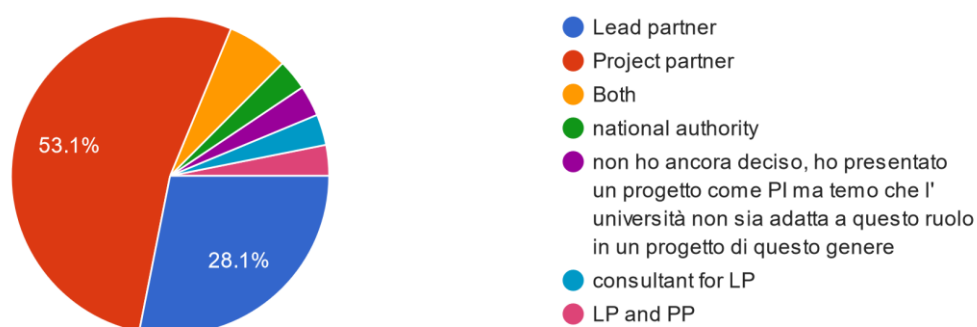
Information about you: organisation you represent

32 responses



Your organization is planning to participate in the next Programming period in the role of:

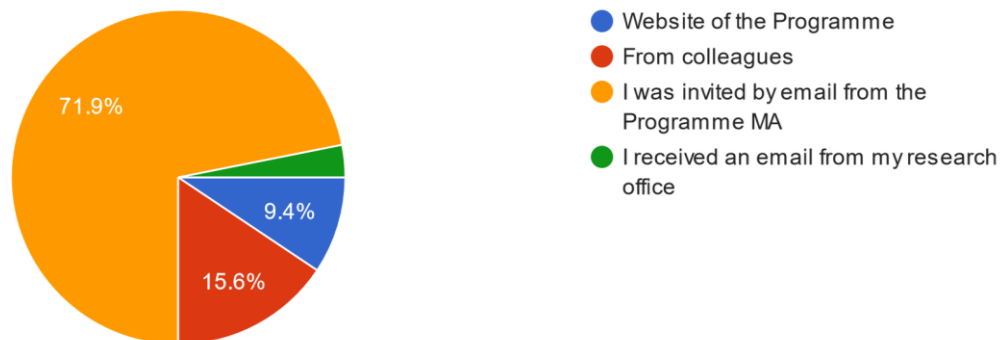
32 responses



The questions and answers of the satisfaction survey are set out below:

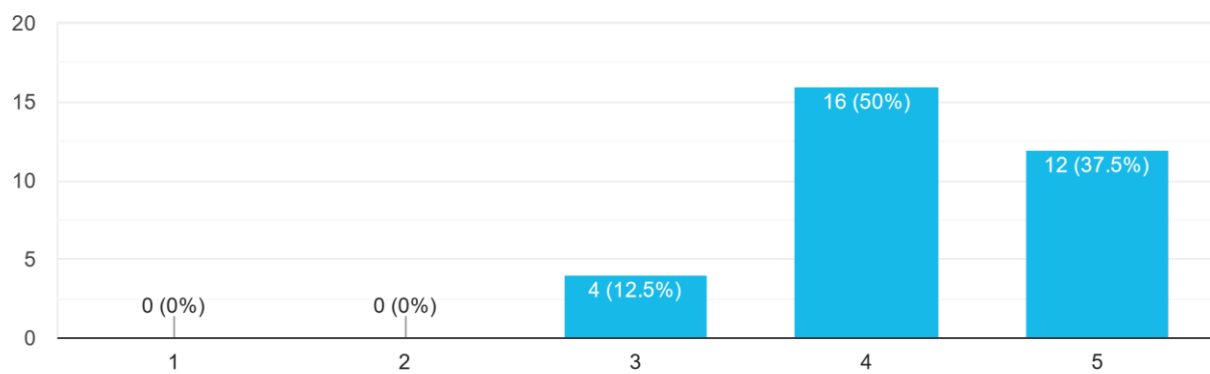
### How did you hear about the Infoday of the Programme?

32 responses



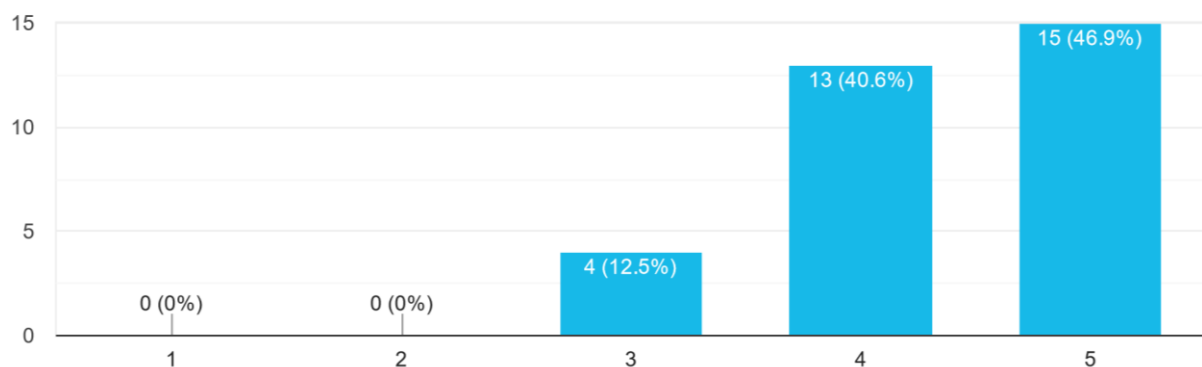
### The Programme objectives and expectations were clearly explained?

32 responses



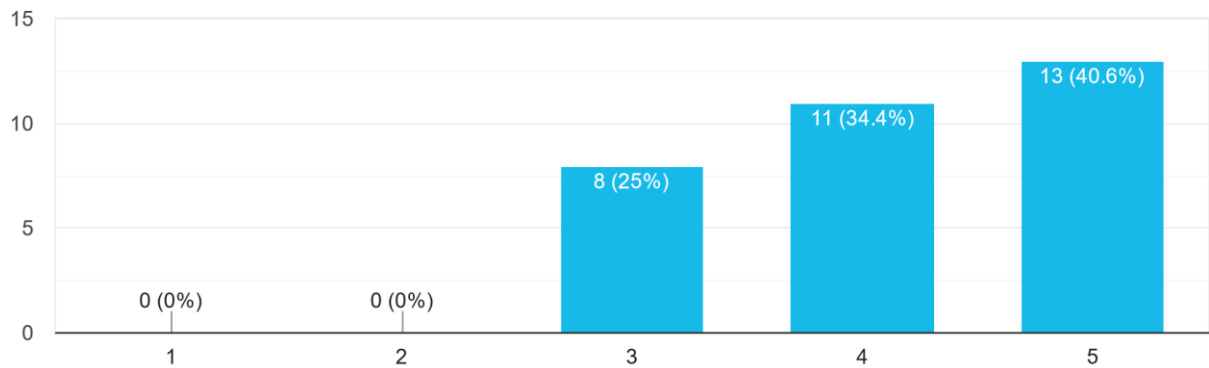
### The presentation of the 2021-2027 programming & consultation process was clear?

32 responses



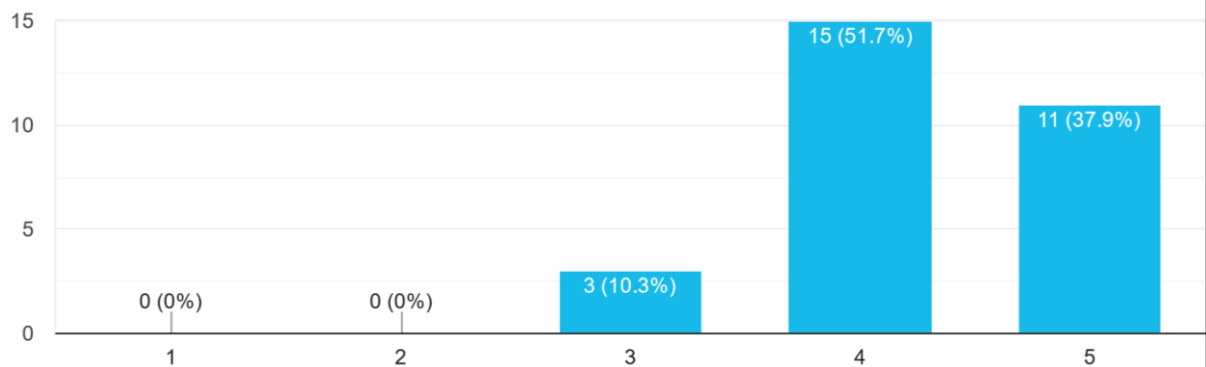
The general overview of the 2021-2027 Programme strategy was clear?

32 responses



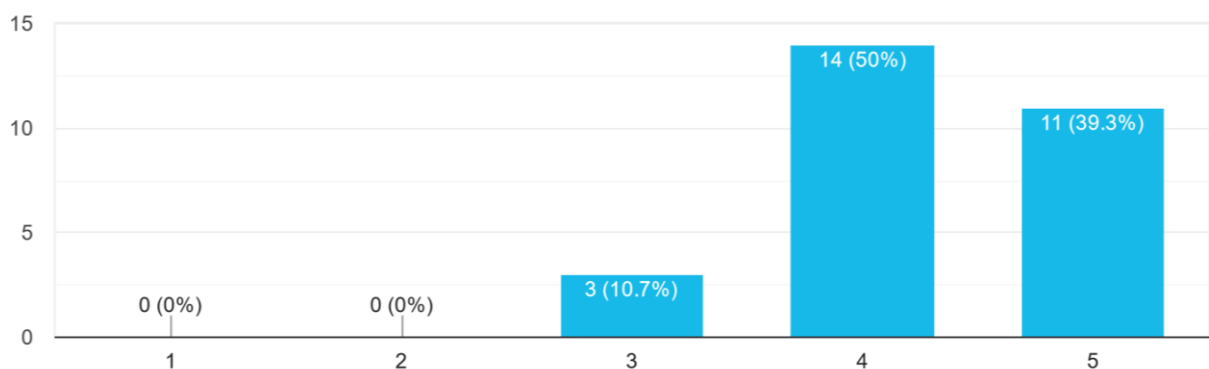
The presentation related to the PO 3 – A more connected Europe for the future of Programme 21-27 was easy to understand?

29 responses



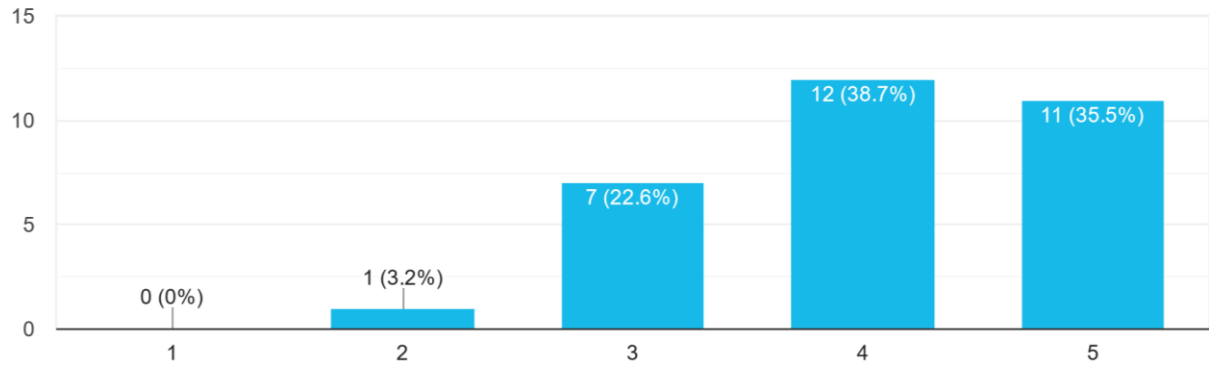
The presentation related to the PO 4 – A more social and inclusive Europe for the future of Programme 21-27 was easy to understand?

28 responses



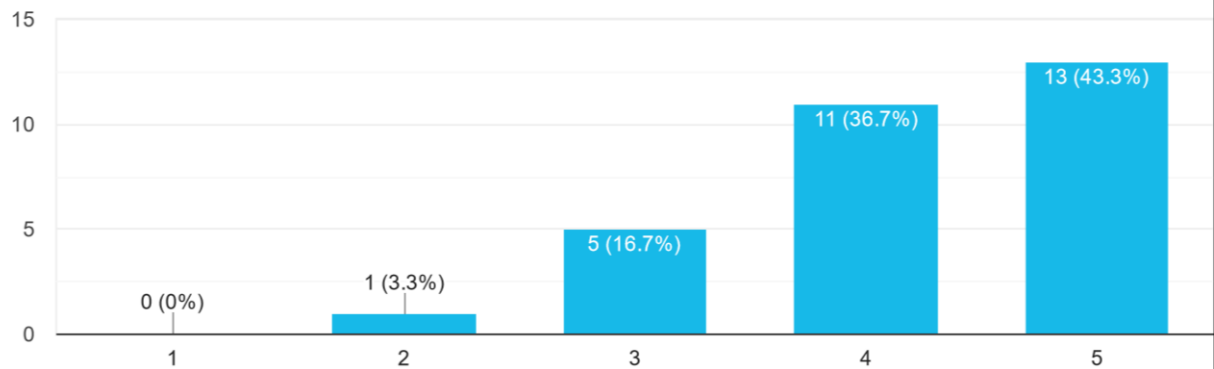
The presentation related to the PO 2 – A Greener Europe for the future of Programme 21-27 was easy to understand?

31 responses



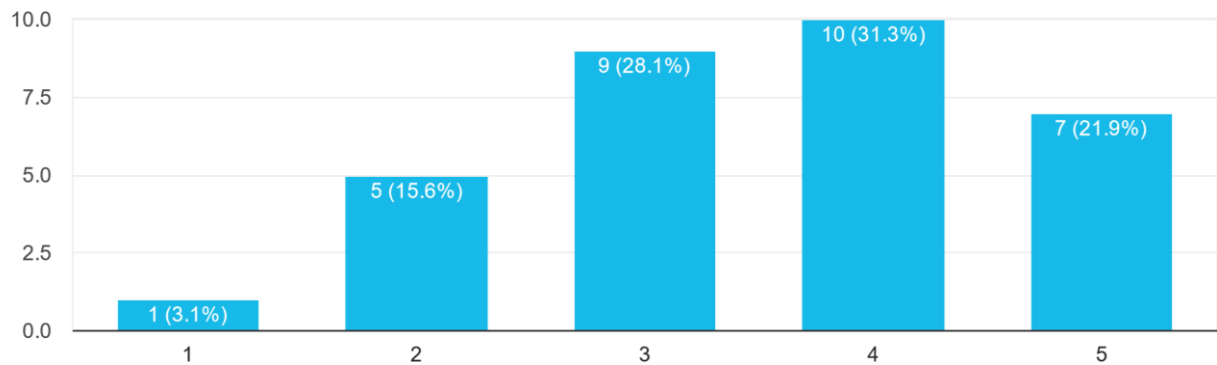
The presentation related to the PO 1 – A Smarter Europe for the future of Programme 21-27 was easy to understand?

30 responses



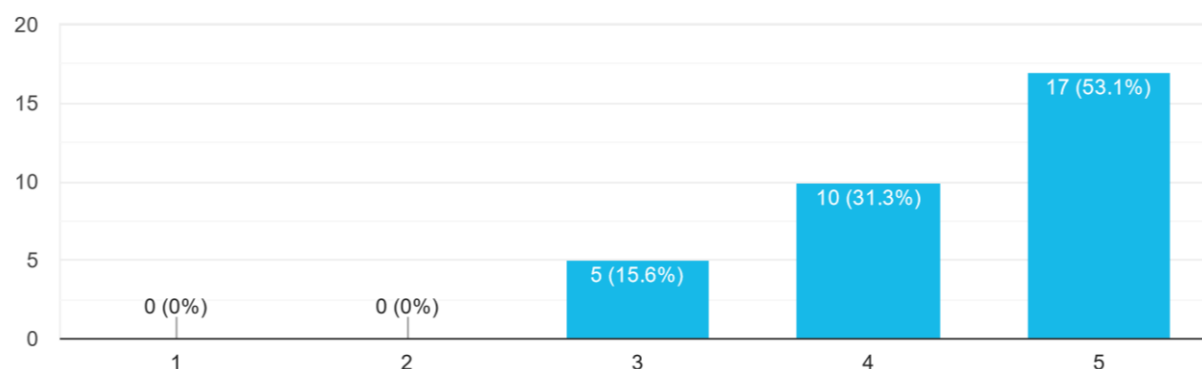
The duration of the webinar was proper?

32 responses



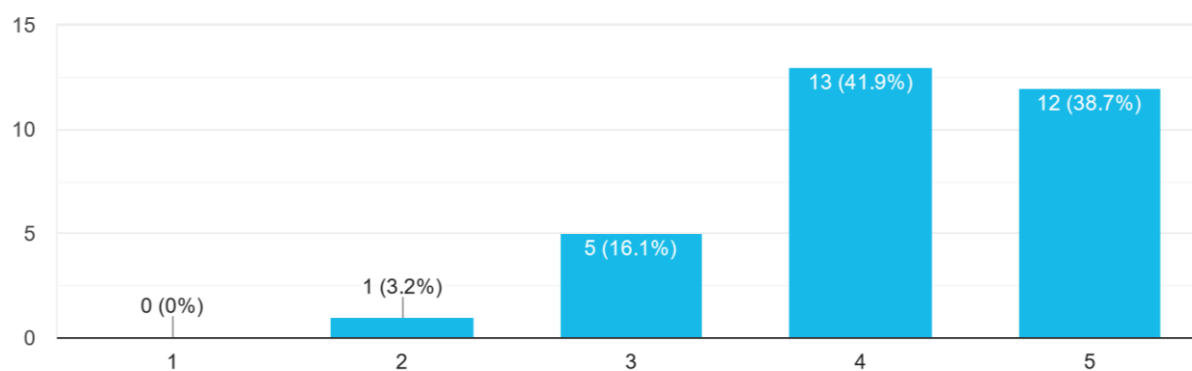
Time allocated for discussion / questions and answers was proper and sufficient

32 responses



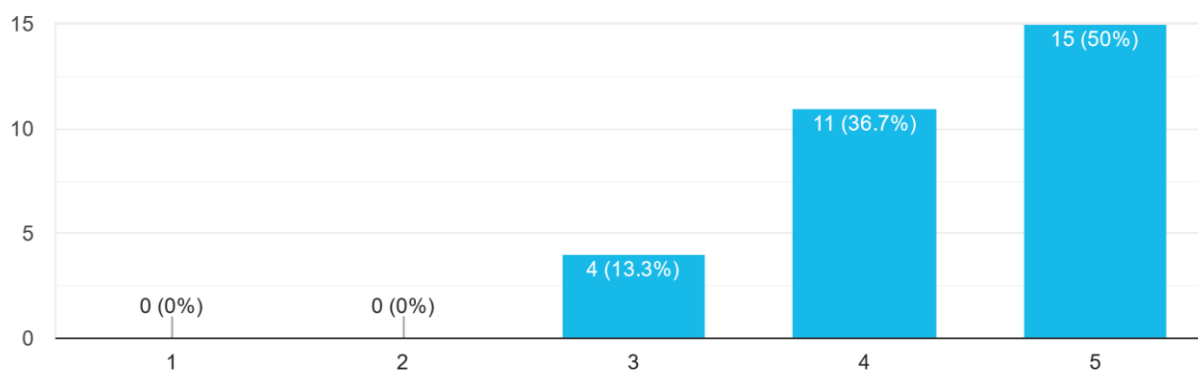
The answers given by the Programme MA/JS were exhaustive and detailed?

31 responses



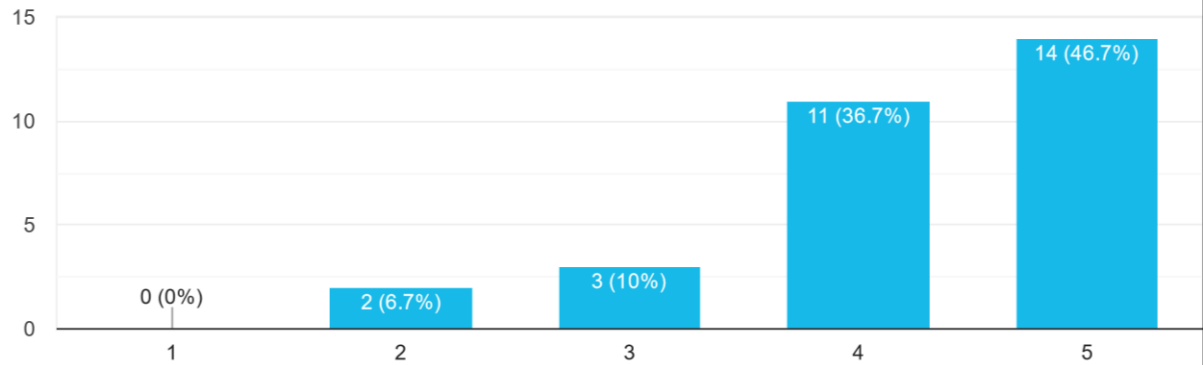
Time allocated for polls was proper and sufficient?

30 responses



How would you evaluate the moderator's skills to re-connect on thematic sessions and facilitate participants during the webinar?

30 responses



How would you evaluate the platform accessibility?

30 responses

