



Results of questionnaires to evaluate the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX

(Prepared by ECPGR Secretariat, April 2016)

Introduction

As part of the preparation of the background documents for the 14th (Mid-term) Steering Committee meeting (May 2016), the Secretariat was requested by the ExCo to invite the Working Group members to evaluate the new mode of operation of ECPGR during Phase IX and specifically the Grant Scheme approach.

An online questionnaire was sent to 738 Working Group members and replies to 30 questions were received in December 2015-January 2016 from 212 members (29% response rate).

Respondents were requested to rate their level of satisfaction about each aspect of the Mode of operation of ECPGR in Phase IX. Comments were allowed under each question and general comments on the overall Mode of Operation were also invited.

This document displays the results of the questionnaires in a raw data format, as a supporting document to the annotated analysis made by the Secretariat (see the *Mid-term report on ECPGR Phase IX*).



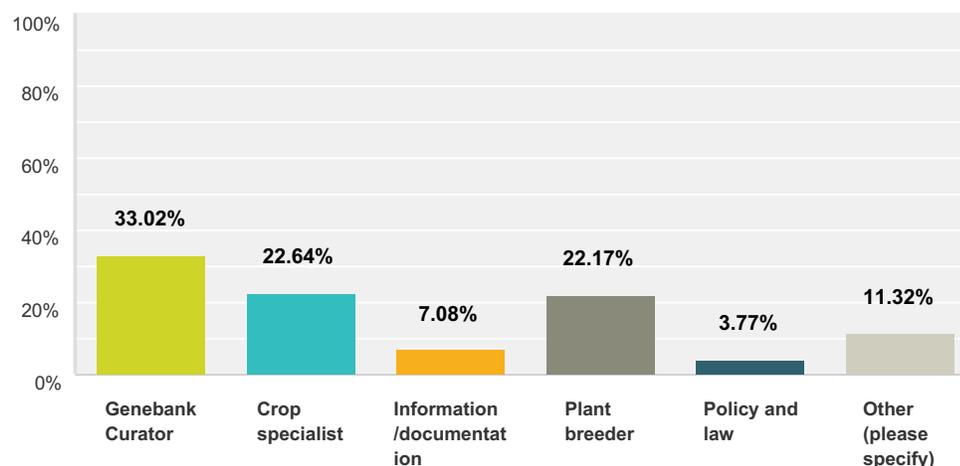
Q1 Your Working Group (select only one; if you belong to several WGs please choose the most relevant)

Answered: 212 Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
Documentation and Information	9.91%	21
Wheat	9.43%	20
Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	7.55%	16
Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Resources	7.55%	16
Barley	6.60%	14
On-farm Conservation and Management	6.13%	13
Vitis	5.66%	12
Forages	5.19%	11
Grain Legumes	5.19%	11
Prunus	5.19%	11
Potato	4.25%	9
Allium	3.77%	8
Brassica	3.77%	8
Malus/Pyrus	3.77%	8
Avena	3.30%	7
Solanaceae	3.30%	7
Leafy Vegetables	2.36%	5
Umbellifer crops	2.36%	5
Beta	1.89%	4
Cucurbits	1.89%	4
Fibre Crops	0.94%	2
Total		212

Q2 Your category of expertise (select only one; if you belong to more than one category of expertise please choose the most relevant)

Answered: 212 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Genebank Curator	33.02%	70
Crop specialist	22.64%	48
Information/documentation	7.08%	15
Plant breeder	22.17%	47
Policy and law	3.77%	8
Other (please specify)	11.32%	24
Total		212

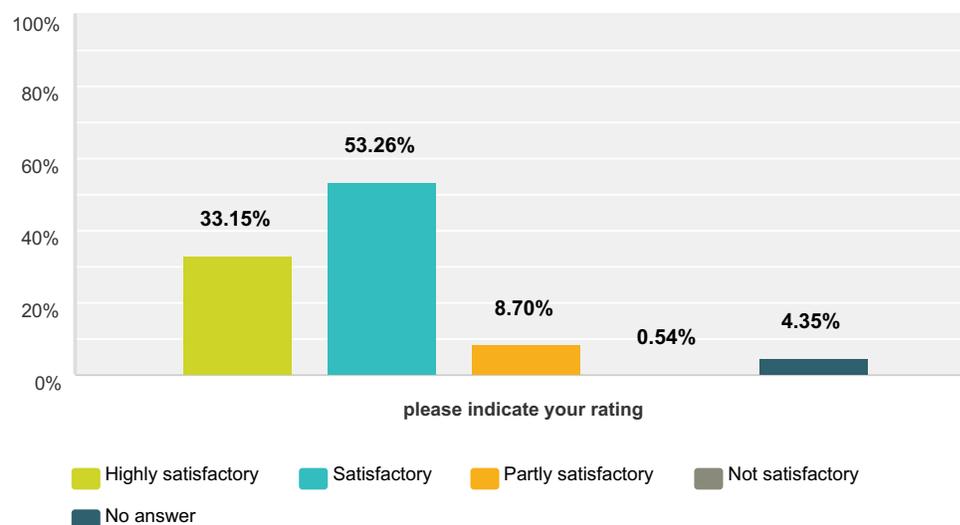
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Adminstration	2/10/2016 8:59 AM
2	Plant Systematics	1/30/2016 11:19 PM
3	Teaching and research on participatory plant breeding and genetic resources in-situ/on-farm conservation strategies	1/28/2016 5:44 PM
4	Genebank Manager	1/28/2016 10:56 AM
5	research	1/27/2016 8:45 PM
6	wheat geneticist	1/27/2016 1:29 PM
7	researcher	1/27/2016 11:32 AM
8	Colaborated with genebank curator	1/27/2016 11:26 AM
9	researcher in plant genetic resources in situ/on farm	1/18/2016 2:08 PM
10	Conservation planning, in situ and ex situ conservation	1/15/2016 6:14 PM
11	Food sector: Food additives (preservative and colouring species)	1/7/2016 10:20 AM
12	Researcher	1/6/2016 11:06 AM

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13	NFP NI	12/18/2015 5:32 PM
14	Researcher PhD in the area of PGR	12/18/2015 12:42 PM
15	Scientific worker	12/17/2015 12:20 PM
16	Italian National Focal Point for EURISCO database and Genebank curator for fruit tree germplasm collection	12/16/2015 12:52 PM
17	Plant breeding researcher	12/16/2015 8:26 AM
18	academic	12/15/2015 5:04 PM
19	Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Resources	12/15/2015 4:44 PM
20	researcher	12/15/2015 12:47 PM
21	research	12/15/2015 12:34 PM
22	Seed network	12/15/2015 11:56 AM
23	I-NGO	12/15/2015 11:56 AM
24	botany and pharmacognosy	12/15/2015 11:43 AM

Q3 WGs are composed of pools of experts proposed by the National Coordinators, on the basis of their expertise and/or interest

Answered: 184 Skipped: 28

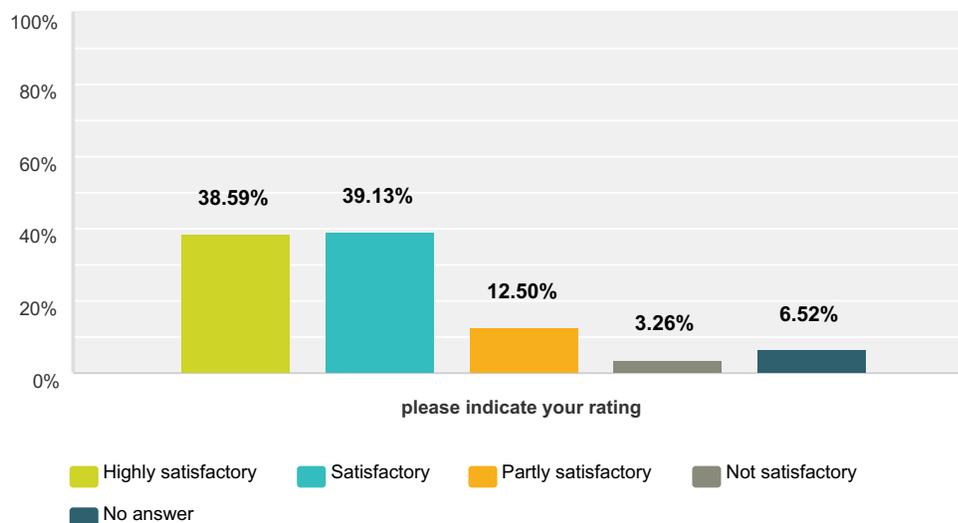


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	33.15% 61	53.26% 98	8.70% 16	0.54% 1	4.35% 8	184	2.24

#	Comments:	Date
1	I was chosen in 2004 according the principle refered in 1.	1/28/2016 5:56 PM
2	No experience as there hasnot been any contact via meetings or emails	1/28/2016 8:24 AM
3	few feed-back actions	1/27/2016 1:29 PM
4	The plants I work with are not mentioned	1/27/2016 12:27 PM
5	As I have recently started my position as WG member and also my employment at the institute I am representing I don't feel that I have the experience to have any opinion about this.	1/21/2016 11:12 AM
6	a national coordinator has the overview of experts in the field. WG representatives also inform the national coordinator about the WG work.	1/18/2016 2:28 PM
7	The expanded WGs appear to have much more research-based representation than was previously the case. This will affect the range of activities undertaken within the WG.	1/4/2016 2:10 PM
8	Choice and nomination of experts functions like in the early phase of the ECPGR. This allows aquisition of specific expertise when needed.	12/16/2015 8:35 AM
9	WG leaders, at the end of each phase, should be consulted about level of participation of these experts to the implementation of the WG's activities	12/15/2015 12:05 PM

Q4 The composition of the WGs is no longer based on one single representative per country

Answered: 184 Skipped: 28

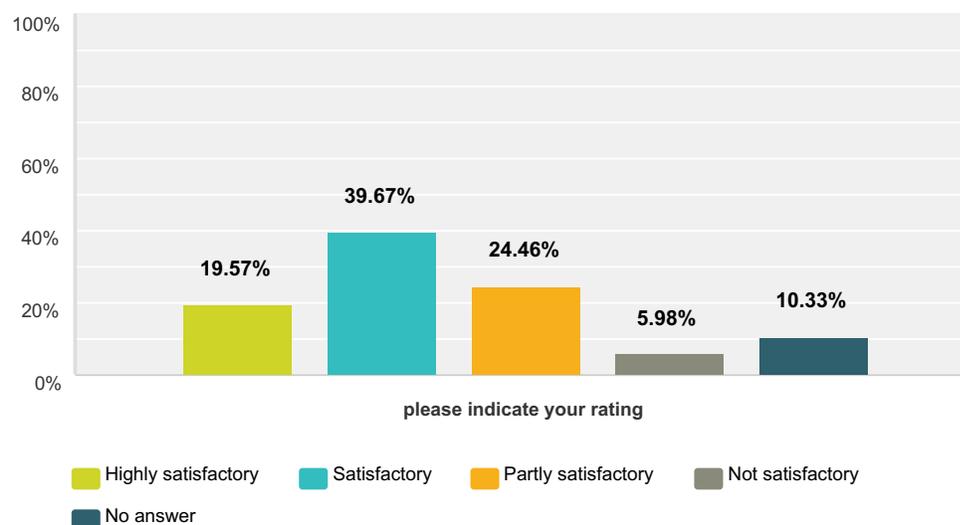


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	38.59% 71	39.13% 72	12.50% 23	3.26% 6	6.52% 12	184	2.21

#	Comments:	Date
1	It is normal to have all the expertises even if some are concentrated in one or two county(ies).	1/29/2016 12:11 AM
2	If any interest exist in the country for the crop	1/28/2016 5:56 PM
3	it's a good principle: the presence of experts in the WG is not limited by national borders...	1/28/2016 3:57 PM
4	one representative per country is essential...and with one substitute could be better	1/28/2016 9:40 AM
5	No experience as there hasnot been any contact via meetings or emails	1/28/2016 8:24 AM
6	For some themes, important partners are missing	1/28/2016 8:19 AM
7	Sounds good, but haven't noticed it (or simply overlooked it).	1/27/2016 2:25 PM
8	When a country has several (large) collections held by different institutions, a representative per institution in the WG is useful.	1/27/2016 1:33 PM
9	more than one representative per country is very good	1/27/2016 1:29 PM
10	As I have recently started my position as WG member and also my employment at the institute I am representing I don't feel that I have the experience to have any opinion about this.	1/21/2016 11:12 AM
11	enables more expertise for WG	1/18/2016 2:28 PM
12	maybe in cases of huge collections.	1/11/2016 9:03 AM
13	The composition of a multidisciplinary team may lead to the development of a larger research work	1/7/2016 10:51 AM
14	This is an improvement beacuse there may have been more than one person with relevant (but complementary) experience per country. HOWEVER it seems some countries have nominated several people with similar interests and this causes problems in puttingt together a suitably balanced group of an Activity Grant proposal	1/4/2016 2:10 PM
15	No clear responsible person	1/4/2016 1:20 PM

Q5 A WG can expand indefinitely with suitable experts (no limit in the number of nominated experts)

Answered: 184 Skipped: 28



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	19.57% 36	39.67% 73	24.46% 45	5.98% 11	10.33% 19	184	1.81

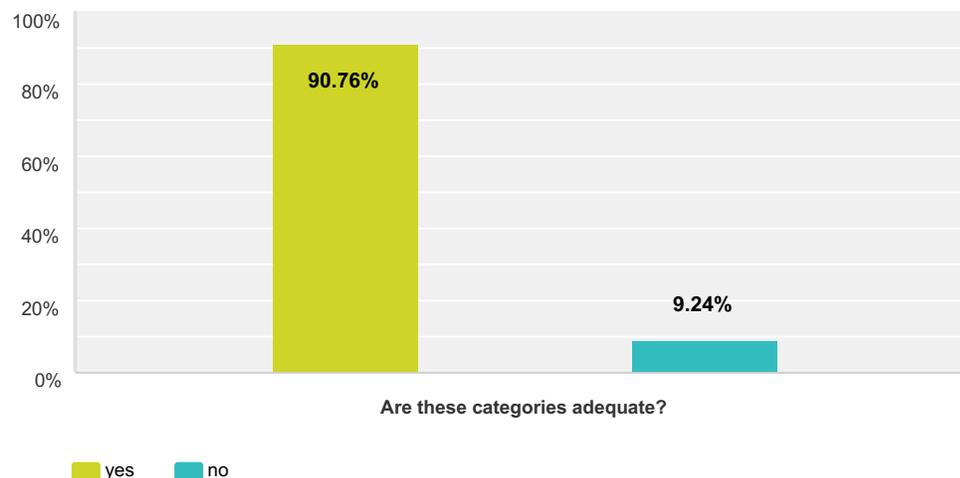
#	Comments:	Date
1	A high number of experts within a WG makes it difficult to manage and/or causes difficulties for some experts to express fully.	1/29/2016 12:11 AM
2	Choose and rank the best experts, based in publications, research projects and grey literature as measure of impact of the successful work done. That can be reproduced by others.	1/28/2016 5:56 PM
3	this could influence the quality and reliability of the overall level of expertise of the WG itself	1/28/2016 3:57 PM
4	too many people = less efficiency	1/28/2016 10:26 AM
5	No experience as there hasnot been any contact via meetings or emails	1/28/2016 8:24 AM
6	This all depends on how the work in the WG's will be carried out. If there are noe more physical meetings, the number of experts is less of a limitation.	1/27/2016 2:50 PM
7	In most cases I don't know them.	1/27/2016 2:25 PM
8	number of experts shoul have reasonable limits in WGs	1/27/2016 1:50 PM
9	the fonctionning of a WG is more effective when the WG is small and composed of people mastering English language	1/27/2016 1:33 PM
10	No country representative for a certain crop. Can be difficult to identify the right person to contact (for example when sending a questionnaire)	1/26/2016 12:00 PM
11	As I have recently started my position as WG member and also my employment at the institute I am representing I don't feel that I have the experience to have any opinion about this.	1/21/2016 11:12 AM
12	enables more expertise for WG	1/18/2016 2:28 PM
13	Maybe better to have few representatives in each country that coordinate activities at national level?	1/15/2016 7:15 PM
14	Potential communication problems when groups are too large	1/6/2016 5:10 PM

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15	The issue of how you actively maintain links and interactions with a large group of experts with no funding has not been addressed. This is a serious problem for the ongoing effectiveness of the WGs	1/4/2016 2:10 PM
16	Experts should be delegated carefully on the basis of their knowledge: self-appointed experts are not welcome	1/4/2016 1:38 PM
17	One responsible per country	1/4/2016 1:20 PM
18	In some case could be interest to elarge the number of expert	12/16/2015 12:55 PM
19	May be not manageable at the end, e.g. WG meetings no longer affordable	12/15/2015 1:27 PM

Q6 WG members are nominated by the National Coordinators according to the following categories of expertise: Genebank Curator, Crop specialist, Information/documentation, Plant breeder, Policy and law, Other (to be specified by the NC).

Answered: 184 Skipped: 28



	yes	no	Total	Weighted Average
Are these categories adequate?	90.76% 167	9.24% 17	184	0.91

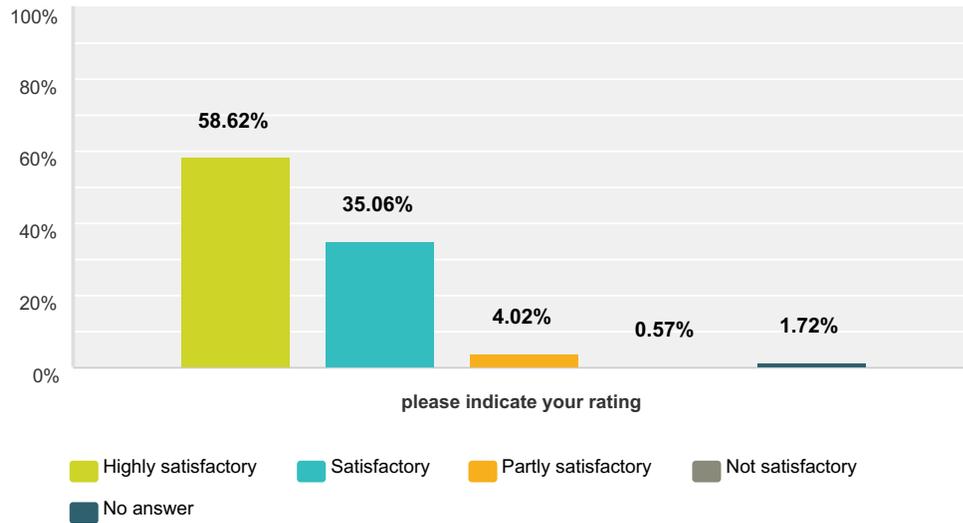
#	If not, please explain why / make suggestions	Date
1	It is very needed to follow the informal seed networks for on-farm conservation. Multiactor approach and multitask are very needed.	1/28/2016 5:56 PM
2	No experience as there hasnot been any contact via meetings or emails	1/28/2016 8:24 AM
3	The highly relevant are: Genebank Curator, Crop specialist, Information/documentation, Plant breeder, others are not needed.	1/27/2016 1:50 PM
4	Could be worth adding a category for molecular DNA/genomics experts	1/26/2016 12:00 PM
5	to promote the sustainable use also other expertise needed: social scientist, economists, user community	1/18/2016 2:28 PM
6	I suggest to add the following categories: crop or taxon specialist (as this is a wild species WG), in situ conservationist (as this is an in situ conservation WG) (maybe needs to be specific on which categories should include), conservation planner	1/15/2016 7:15 PM
7	A section with the plant uses that can gives a wide variety of uses for plants including their medicinal and edible qualities as well as other uses. This information stored in databases can be useful to help producers to choose relevant plants for industrial application.	1/7/2016 10:51 AM
8	However, some problems can occur in national level (election of national coordinators must be appointed with the highest care because his/her high responsibility!)	1/4/2016 1:38 PM
9	It is need to add the category that corresponds to the conservation of the gene pool in situ	12/24/2015 10:07 AM
10	What is the difference between a crop specialist and a plant breeder. A plant breeder is usually a crop specialist. The term plant breeding researcher would cover both categories. Or does crop specialist mean a specialized botanist?	12/16/2015 8:35 AM

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11	Not completely adequate for the Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Resources working group	12/15/2015 4:45 PM
12	reserve manager, crop wild relative specialist, researcher	12/15/2015 4:21 PM
13	I have noted that in the cross cutting working group not always experts are being called to serve on the WGs	12/15/2015 12:49 PM
14	Diseases expertise, eg. virus expertise, could be useful to address phytosanitary problems hampering exchange of GRs	12/15/2015 12:05 PM

Q7 Each WG is coordinated by a Chair.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

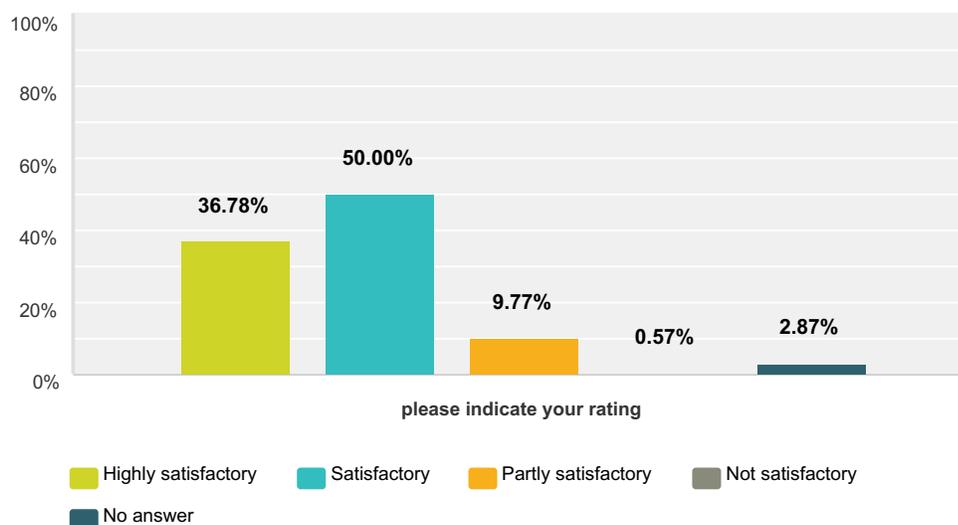


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	58.62% 102	35.06% 61	4.02% 7	0.57% 1	1.72% 3	174	2.54

#	Comments:	Date
1	This Chair is the leader of the works and it could change regularly if the new one does not require lots of time to be at the approximative same level than the previous one.	1/29/2016 12:19 AM
2	every kind of group needs a coordinator...	1/28/2016 4:08 PM
3	The Chair's responsibility to SC should be increased	1/28/2016 9:14 AM
4	A committee of three members from different geographical regions will be more efficient to get the group more active	1/27/2016 9:04 PM
5	there is a need of a leader for a WG, otherwise no steps forward can be achieved. (However, being a leader means time investment which is very difficult to manage with the main job)	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
6	the nominated chair for coordinating is necessary	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
7	I'm the chair	1/7/2016 1:46 PM
8	I do not see how WGs could function without a coordinating person	1/6/2016 5:56 PM
9	There is far too much expected of the Chair in the new system. Other supportive positions are most certainly required and to encourage WG members into these roles they should have an official title to facilitate career development. I'm not sure why the vice-chairs were removed at the same time the workload for the chairs increased.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
10	the effectiveness of the WG depends to a high degree on the Chair	12/21/2015 9:01 AM

Q8 WGs carry out activities mandated by the Steering Committee (SC) or proposed by the WG and approved by the SC (or ExCO).

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

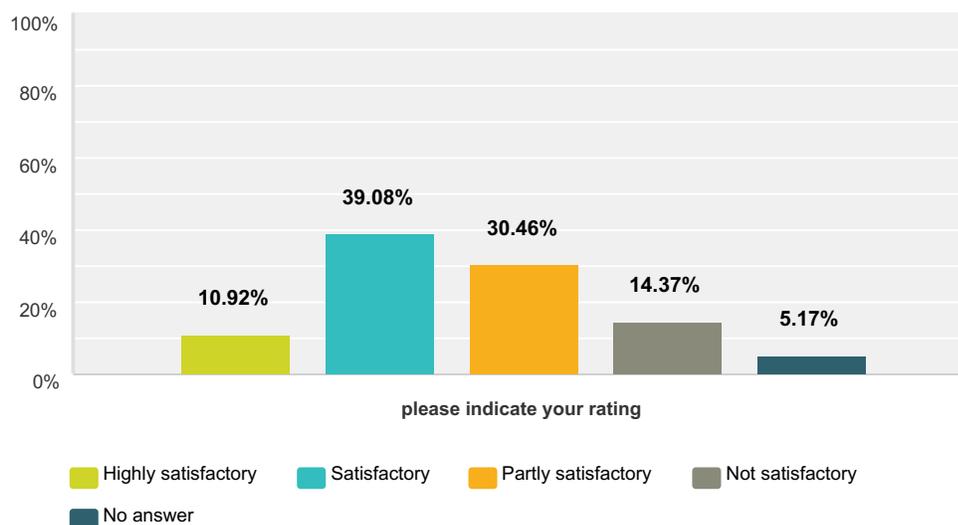


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	36.78% 64	50.00% 87	9.77% 17	0.57% 1	2.87% 5	174	2.27

#	Comments:	Date
1	I think there should be more interaction. The WGs to be heard in the SC	1/27/2016 9:04 PM
2	Assuming the time for decision-making by SC or ExCO is relatively short, it is satisfactory.	1/27/2016 3:01 PM
3	This is OK given the Steering committee decisions are the result of a real common agreement of its members (and not the result of the willingness of dominant members)	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
4	common and shared understanding of activities is important	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
5	Due to the new composition of the WGs, interest and expertise has shifted and could be no longer strongly aligned with SC priorities.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
6	Few countries are involved	1/4/2016 1:31 PM
7	slow progress in WG activities	12/21/2015 9:01 AM

Q9 Activities are carried out with a budget that, unless justified, should not exceed € 15 000 per activity and that can be used for various activities including meetings.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	10.92% 19	39.08% 68	30.46% 53	14.37% 25	5.17% 9	174	1.49

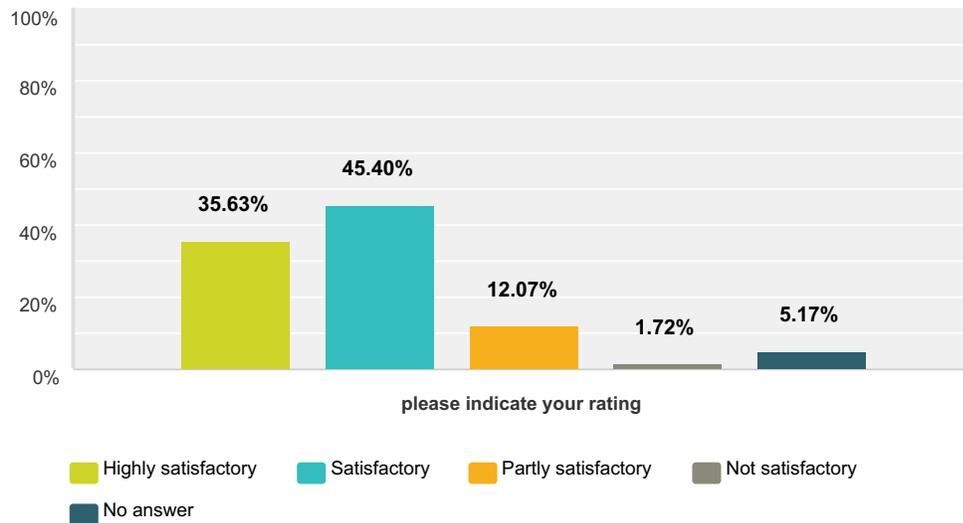
#	Comments:	Date
1	Preferably some of this meetings should be connected with specialized conferences	1/28/2016 6:31 PM
2	the budget is very small: one one hand, this give more opportunities to participate, by other hand, it limits the kind of activities which can be carried out	1/28/2016 4:08 PM
3	Positive but very limited budget. Not incitative (better to spend energy on other calls.)	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
4	depending of the activities budget could be higher than 15 000 euros	1/28/2016 8:46 AM
5	This low budget limit is a severe obstacle to activity in the WGs. Almost no joint activities within the WGs will be sugegsted with this limitation in financing. And, as there are also no more physical WG meetings, the WGs are at the moment almost pointless.	1/27/2016 3:01 PM
6	May be fine for one project proposal and far too less for another.	1/27/2016 2:47 PM
7	It is sufficient usually only for meetings. I assume the chair has a high load of work that is not evaluated (I think)	1/27/2016 2:08 PM
8	This limited budget (given the number of members of the WG and the number of species the WG works with) means limited technical actions. But that is better that no budget at all for achieving technical objectives.	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
9	Care must be taken to the balanced attendance from different countries.	1/27/2016 1:16 PM
10	The funding is too low. Only very small projects or meetings can be performed and larger efforts are needed to assure high quality, efficient conservation of European PGR and to facilitate its use.	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
11	It should be more relaxed depending of the activity	1/22/2016 8:40 AM
12	financial resources are rather low	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
13	some WG can have more impact than others and should get larger budget	1/7/2016 1:46 PM

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14	€ 15000 is a limited quantity of money that does not allow to undertake activities that suppose important achievements in a Working Group	1/7/2016 11:21 AM
15	This budget is insufficient for a great number of members and/or activities to perform in a WG.	1/7/2016 11:07 AM
16	In case of a large number of participants (12), such budget can only be used for a meeting	1/6/2016 2:03 PM
17	The amount could be more flexible according to the importance and relevance of activities	1/6/2016 11:43 AM
18	This is not enough money to cover the cost of such activities assuming several partners are involved. Meetings are a very useful activity to strengthen WG cooperation, however the new structure dictates that only a small proportion of WG members will ever meet.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
19	the limit of 15.000€ seems to low	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
20	... provided that the ECPGR will develop into a funding agency with a much larger budget.	12/16/2015 8:47 AM
21	I do not think that this amount is enough for any effective action in most of (high salary) European countries. In my opinion it would be more effective to invest this money into meetings targeted to forming consortia, which acquire relevant funding elsewhere (e.g. EU frameworks)	12/15/2015 3:07 PM
22	This amount allows meetings, which is good, but little is left for other activities. Only small steps can be reasonably fulfilled each time.	12/15/2015 12:18 PM

Q10 Activities can also be carried out jointly by more than one WG

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

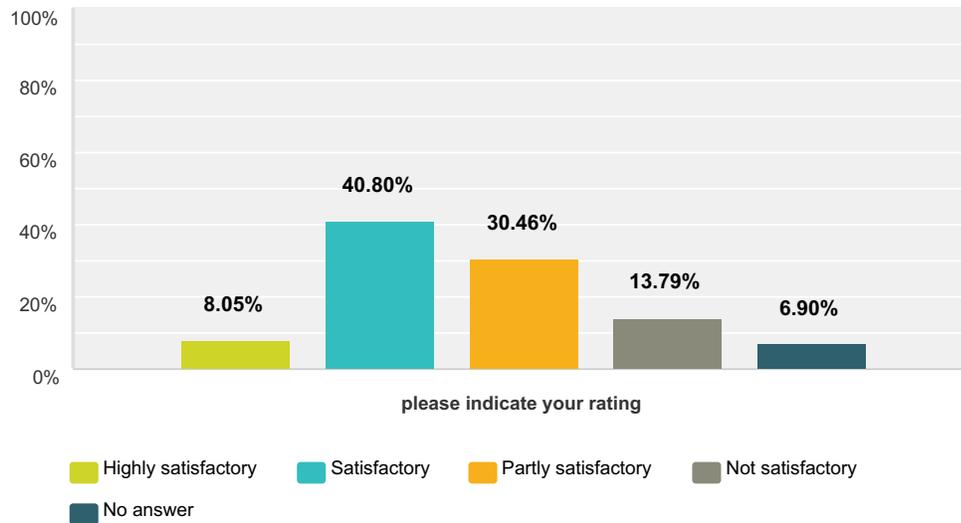


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	35.63% 62	45.40% 79	12.07% 21	1.72% 3	5.17% 9	174	2.21

#	Comments:	Date
1	If overlaps exist! Yes	1/28/2016 6:31 PM
2	I didn't know this.	1/27/2016 2:47 PM
3	Good idea, of course	1/27/2016 2:08 PM
4	OK if that is workable in terms of number of persons interacting, and effective in terms of obtaining the intended result..	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
5	Need for interaction between WGs	1/27/2016 12:36 PM
6	no experience on this, but seems reasonable	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
7	This is a good idea as many issues are common across WGs	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
8	complementarity needs to be clear if such joint activity is proposed	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
9	If more expertise are necessary	12/16/2015 1:06 PM
10	clear definition of responsibilities is necessary	12/15/2015 12:52 PM

Q11 Unless justified otherwise, it is recommended to limit participation to 12 members per activity.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	8.05% 14	40.80% 71	30.46% 53	13.79% 24	6.90% 12	174	1.46

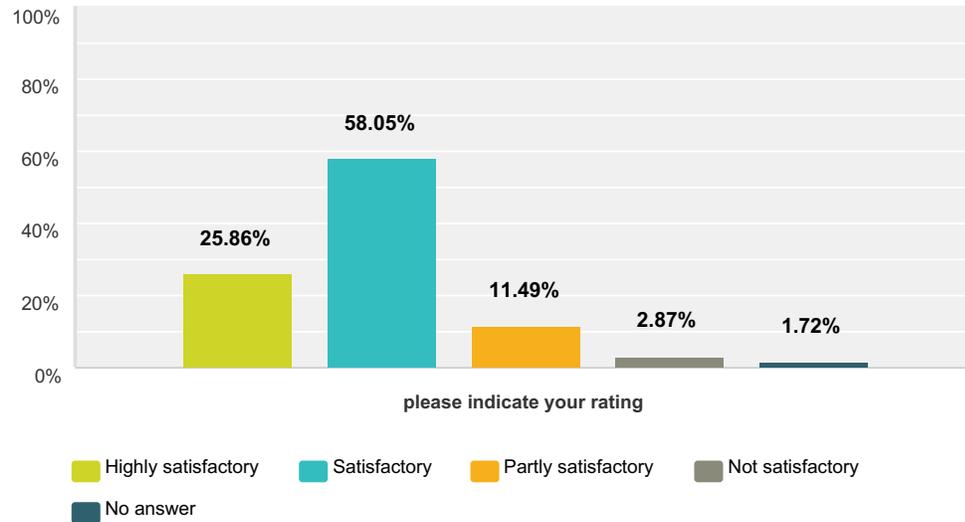
#	Comments:	Date
1	If such limit participation is fixed, the items discussed per activity have not to require an higher number of participants.	1/29/2016 12:19 AM
2	Depending on the crops this could not be representative of the countries expression. UE no longer has 12 countries.	1/28/2016 6:31 PM
3	with 12 participants, the budget per participant is the smallest acceptable	1/28/2016 4:08 PM
4	It really depends on the activity and situation, it is difficult to put a figure. If it is a WG activity, it needs to be shared and approved by the WG members, and therefore involve many members. It should be part of the evaluation concerning the feasibility and efficiency of the activity.	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
5	Members left out to be able to participate with their own funds if it is a project or through skype if it is a meeting	1/27/2016 9:04 PM
6	This will need to be evaluated in each particular case.	1/27/2016 3:01 PM
7	Sometimes only a very limited number of members are skilled enough to join a specific activity and the ECPGR secretariat may request/demand to add additional partners. So question five should not consider the upper limit of participants, but the bottom limit.	1/27/2016 2:47 PM
8	It may vary from group to group, should not be so strict. It can be useful to select among models: 12 fully supported or more partly supported	1/27/2016 2:08 PM
9	yes, a small group is more effective than a large one for achieving an objective.	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
10	There is the possibility of self-funded participation, so it is possible to extend the number of participants in an activity.	1/27/2016 10:17 AM
11	This limits the networking	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
12	It should be more relaxed depending of the scope of the activity	1/22/2016 8:40 AM
13	leads to narrow expertise	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
14	huh? get as many people as it takes, provided the budget allows	1/7/2016 1:46 PM

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15	I see no reason for a limit. The nature of the activity and involved costs will determine the appropriate number of participants.	1/6/2016 5:56 PM
16	This may be a problem when trying to encourage the expanded WGs to work together	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
17	Too few countries get involved. Not good for the support of ECPGR	1/4/2016 1:31 PM
18	membership seems too high to be effective with such low budget; perhaps 8 would be more adequate?	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
19	A small group work well but in some case more expertise could be necessary.	12/16/2015 1:06 PM
20	For meetings this might be a bit restrictive. For actions anyway there is not sufficient budget.	12/15/2015 3:07 PM
21	Some actions might require larger (geographically speaking) participation. However, the limited budget is incompatible with more members at a time. Self-funding participation is an opportunity, but it is fair to assign budget (although limited) to all participants	12/15/2015 12:18 PM

Q12 Participants in an activity are selected on the basis of an “expression of interest”, where the potential participants indicate their commitment.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

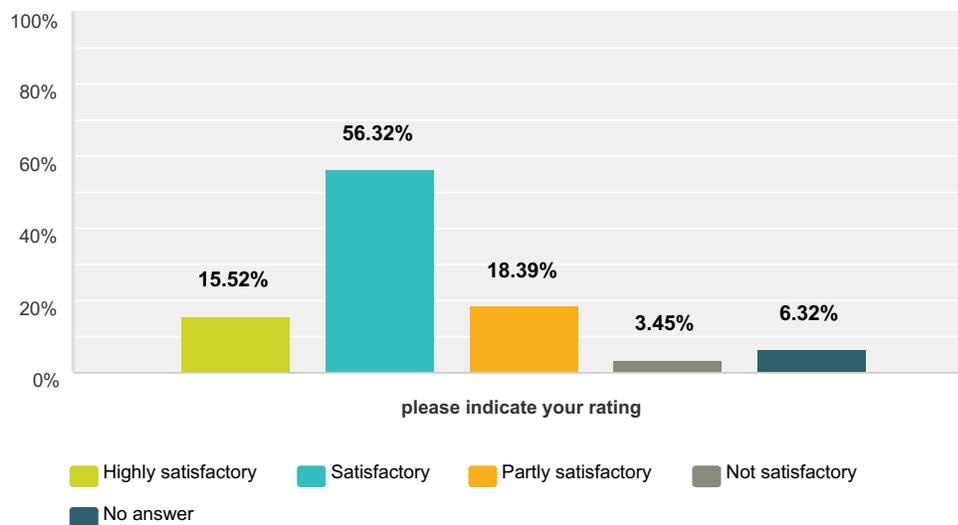


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	25.86% 45	58.05% 101	11.49% 20	2.87% 5	1.72% 3	174	2.09

#	Comments:	Date
1	Yes, but each partner's output should be evaluated	1/28/2016 9:14 AM
2	What happened if more participants express interest?	1/27/2016 9:04 PM
3	Indeed, the more interested in an activity a person, the most efficient.	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
4	Adds administration	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
5	Yes, but sometimes the information of a forthcoming activity or reports of activities do not reach all WG members	1/4/2016 1:44 PM
6	very good principle	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
7	this needs to be more transparent	12/15/2015 12:52 PM

Q13 Selection of the participants for an activity is made by the WG Chair from the established WG pools, after consultation with the Secretariat and in collaboration with the NCs who are consulted for endorsement. In case of objections by a NC, the ExCo will take final decisions.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	15.52% 27	56.32% 98	18.39% 32	3.45% 6	6.32% 11	174	1.90

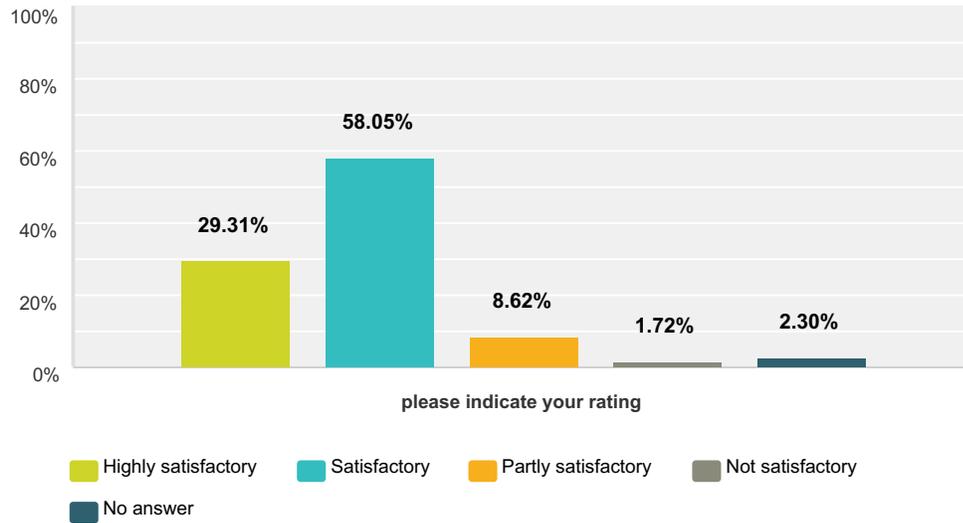
#	Comments:	Date
1	It is not precised if all NC of the WG are consulted (should be the case) or only the ones corresponding to the participants (does not give the chance for an "unselected" participant to oppose). In general, the NC consultation is a another administrative layer and burden that should be avoided. Corresponding NC should be informed by the secretariat after the activity evaluation and approval. We need to avoid a selection process : an activity is proposed by the WG and any member should be able to participate, if based on real commitment. The WG Chair does not decide alone but can make propositions to be approved by the WG. The EXCo does not have to decide in the place of the WG, but can use this as criteria for activity evaluation (then WG are incitated to reach an agreement). Moreover, a proposed activity is not necessarily coordinated by the WG Chair but by a member, who then is involved in the participants decision.	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
2	NC has collaboration with the participants from the same country. Why will NC object?	1/27/2016 9:04 PM
3	I think the less hierarchy involved, the better. So far WGs develop activities recommended by the Steering committee, they do not need the approval of that committee about the people involved. But having the ECPGR secretariat approval is necessary (for "political reasons").	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
4	A bit heavy on the bureaucracy	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
5	bureaucratic	1/7/2016 1:46 PM
6	Too bureaucratic; let the chair decide	1/6/2016 5:56 PM
7	I'm not sure how consultation with the secretariat works in this cases? Is the before or after submission of the grant proposal?	1/4/2016 2:28 PM

Survey: Evaluation of the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX (2014-2018)

8	good procedure	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
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Q14 Proposals for activities will be evaluated and approved by ExCo. Proposals should indicate objectives, outputs, budget and active partners with their roles.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

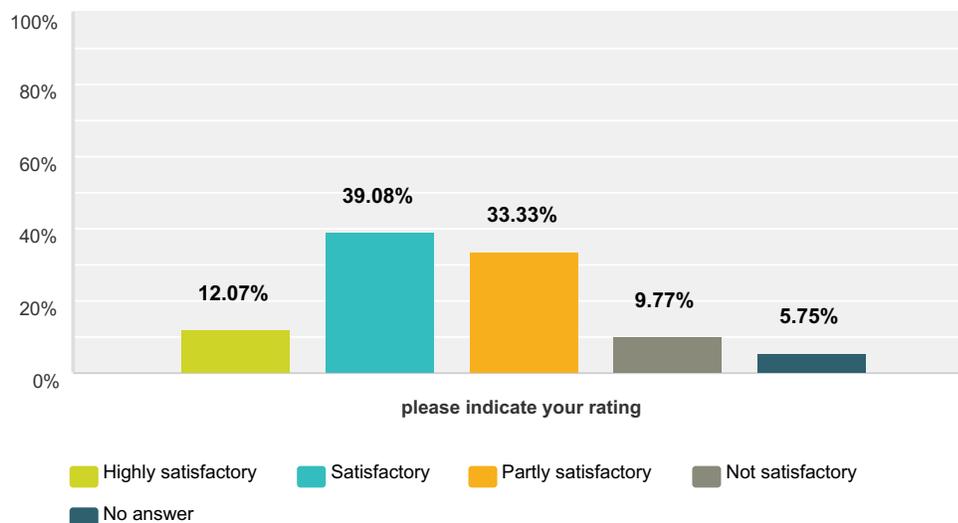


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	29.31% 51	58.05% 101	8.62% 15	1.72% 3	2.30% 4	174	2.18

#	Comments:	Date
1	The ExCo can use experts for the evaluation. A feed back needs to be provided, whether positive or negative evaluation.	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
2	ExCo should indicate what sort of activities it is willing to fund more clearly to the expanded WGs who may have less experience of ECPGR activities.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
3	ExCo did this very well so far	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
4	In view of the small budget for each action currently the best choice. In future, anonymous project proposal evaluation should become standard.	12/16/2015 8:47 AM

Q15 Normally each WG cannot carry out more than one activity per year, i.e. not spend more than € 15 000 per year.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	12.07% 21	39.08% 68	33.33% 58	9.77% 17	5.75% 10	174	1.57

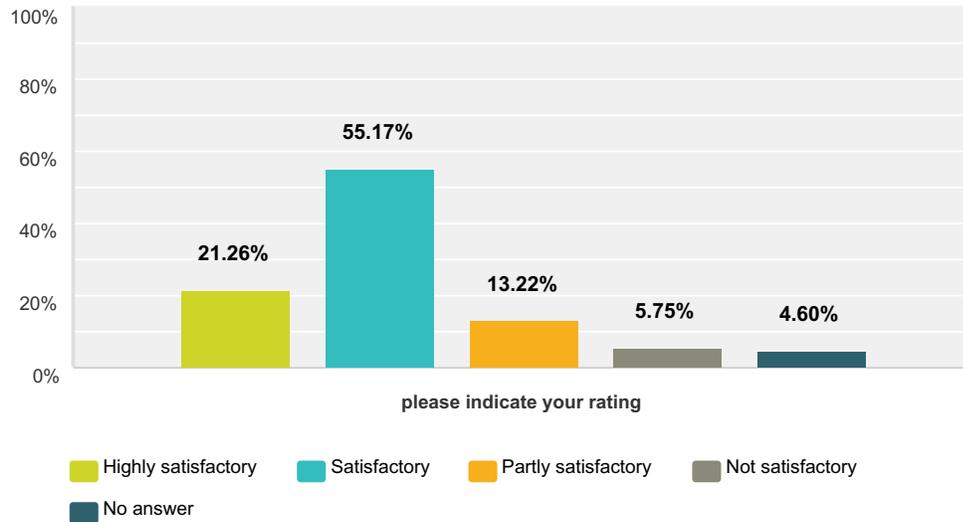
#	Comments:	Date
1	More than one activity could be engaged depending on the workload and the environment (official rules, ...).	1/29/2016 12:19 AM
2	It helps the funding of several WG, but still limited budget. If an activity is over 2 years, only 7500€ per year. One per year, encourages small projects, or to apply with the same project for a second year. Overall the impact of the activities might be limited.	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
3	I thing the limit is too strictly.	1/28/2016 10:02 AM
4	If properly justified, it could be also more	1/28/2016 10:00 AM
5	could be more for dynamic and efficient WG	1/28/2016 9:45 AM
6	see point 3	1/28/2016 8:46 AM
7	some WGs may be more active and should have a chance	1/27/2016 2:08 PM
8	This depends on the activity level of a WG. In case of a WG particularly dynamic, i do not see why it should be restricted to only one activity. On average the proposition is okay, given there is flexibility.	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
9	Unless shred activities with other WGs	1/27/2016 12:36 PM
10	One activity is fine, but a higher budget is needed for larger projects.	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
11	one activity per year ok, but the financial resource is too low	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
12	some activities can have more impact than others and should get larger budget	1/7/2016 1:46 PM
13	In general the WGs have many members and more activities could be carried out involving different or partially the same members participating in other activities. As the total budget per activity is very limited, the possibility of carry out more than one project would allow to undertake more ambitious objectives	1/7/2016 11:21 AM
14	It should be possible to allocate higher budgets to highly relevant activities; Active WGs with good initiatives should be able to carry out multiple activities per year.	1/6/2016 5:56 PM

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15	Satisfactory in the sense that funds are limited and it is wise to ensure as many WGs as possible can carry out activities.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
16	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
17	Sometime participants could be interest in more than one activity per year and the budgent is not always adequate.	12/16/2015 1:06 PM
18	taking into account the limited budget for each action.	12/16/2015 8:47 AM
19	satisfactory for the first part of the sentence: 1 project per year.	12/15/2015 12:18 PM

Q16 Eligible expenditures to carry out Activities include staff costs, equipment, supplies, travel and meeting costs. Overheads are not eligible.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

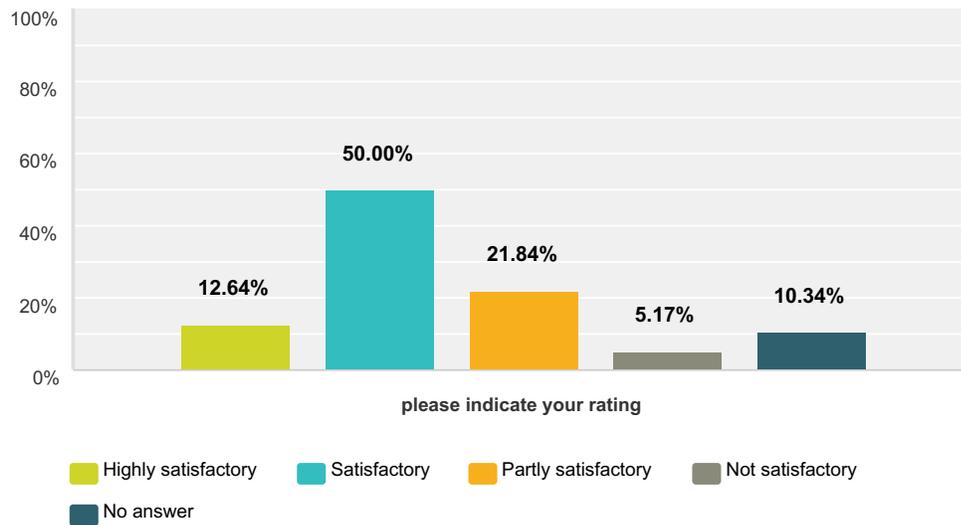


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	21.26% 37	55.17% 96	13.22% 23	5.75% 10	4.60% 8	174	1.96

#	Comments:	Date
1	overheads mean administrative treatment. The less administration and the more technics, the better.	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
2	The organisation of Activities relies on the support of administrative staff	1/27/2016 12:36 PM
3	This is not realistica as most organizations charge overheads	1/15/2016 7:23 PM
4	This does underestimate the cost of the activity and may make participation difficult for less well financed institutions	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
5	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
6	What means "overheads" in this case?	12/16/2015 1:06 PM
7	To me all this looks a bit funny given the budget limits of an action	12/15/2015 3:07 PM

Q17 The budget needs to be broken down in “meetings” and “other actions”. Whereas within the entire Phase IX the overall budget proportion of “meetings” vs. “other actions” is fixed to a ratio of 75:25, within each single Activity the proportion between funds dedicated to “meetings” and to “other actions” is at the discretion of the proponents.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	12.64% 22	50.00% 87	21.84% 38	5.17% 9	10.34% 18	174	1.78

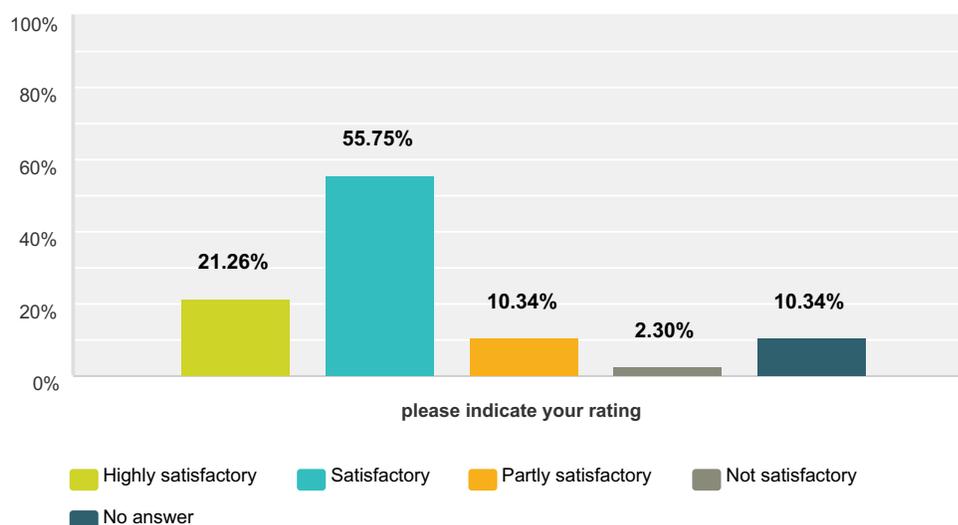
#	Comments:	Date
1	this implies that, within the IX phase, the activities funded at beginning will influence the possibility to define the proportion between the two items for the following ones	1/28/2016 4:08 PM
2	50:50	1/28/2016 9:45 AM
3	It was high time to pay more attention to other activities	1/28/2016 9:14 AM
4	How can the overall budget meet the 75:25 requirement if the Activities don't meet this requirement?	1/27/2016 12:36 PM
5	More flexibility vs the ratio would be preferable	1/27/2016 12:11 PM
6	There may be problems with this fixed ratio in the end of a Phase, in case most of the activities in the first half of the phase strongly deviate from this ratio into the same direction.	1/27/2016 10:17 AM
7	It would be beneficial to be spend a higher proportion on "other" than 25%. This would make it possible to perform "actual work" that would not be possible by self-funding.	1/26/2016 12:15 PM
8	do what is most important and what will have the highest impact - irrespective of the nature of the activities	1/7/2016 1:46 PM
9	Formulation confusing.	1/6/2016 5:56 PM
10	"other actions" can be expensive activities! Especially characterisation of material for AEGIS. I'm not sure this ratio should be fixed overall.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM

Survey: Evaluation of the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX (2014-2018)

11	the inter-linkage of such principles seems to be too complicated	12/21/2015 9:01 AM
12	as ECPGR is still a platform that facilitates cooperation. It is not yet a funding agency.	12/16/2015 8:47 AM
13	could the sation be 50:50 in order to facilitate "other actions" such as small-scaled projects (let`s say `virus elimination course` or similar)	12/16/2015 7:13 AM
14	I do not understand why the overall budget proportion should be fixed to a ration 75:25. I do not agree to this.	12/15/2015 4:48 PM
15	Given the financial situation of ECPGR, which has not been established as a funding institution with respective budget, I would consider a focus on meetings and capacity building (topic oriented work shops) more efficient.	12/15/2015 3:07 PM

Q18 Travel funds for meetings will be available, subject to the country quota rules agreed by the SC for Phase IX. The remaining balance of the country quota(s) for each country will be available online from the ECPGR website.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

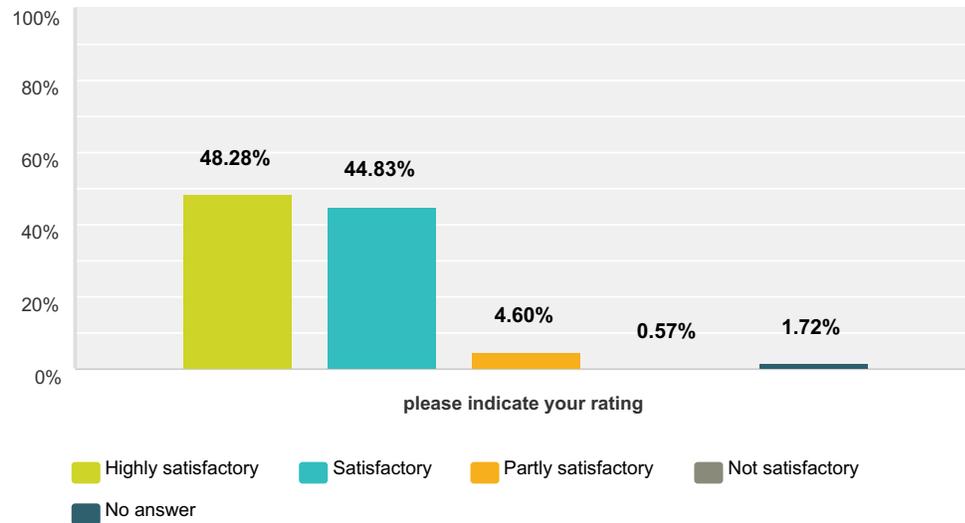


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	21.26% 37	55.75% 97	10.34% 18	2.30% 4	10.34% 18	174	2.07

#	Comments:	Date
1	In an activity proposal, the budget for meetings (including travel) should be at the discretion of the proponent (cf 11) and not dependant on quota rules. It can not be both. If ECPGR is moving to project based funding, it can not keep quota rules on the other hand.	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
2	yes, why not ?	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
3	Excellent!	1/18/2016 2:51 PM
4	travelling should be justified by the outputs of the meeting (incl. networking and capacity building!) not on quota	1/7/2016 1:46 PM
5	WHat happens if the travel quotas are not used due to a lack of funded activities?	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
6	the inter-linkage of such principles with the country quota seems to be too complicated	12/21/2015 9:01 AM

Q19 Outputs of activities are circulated to the entire relevant WG(s) for information and comments.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

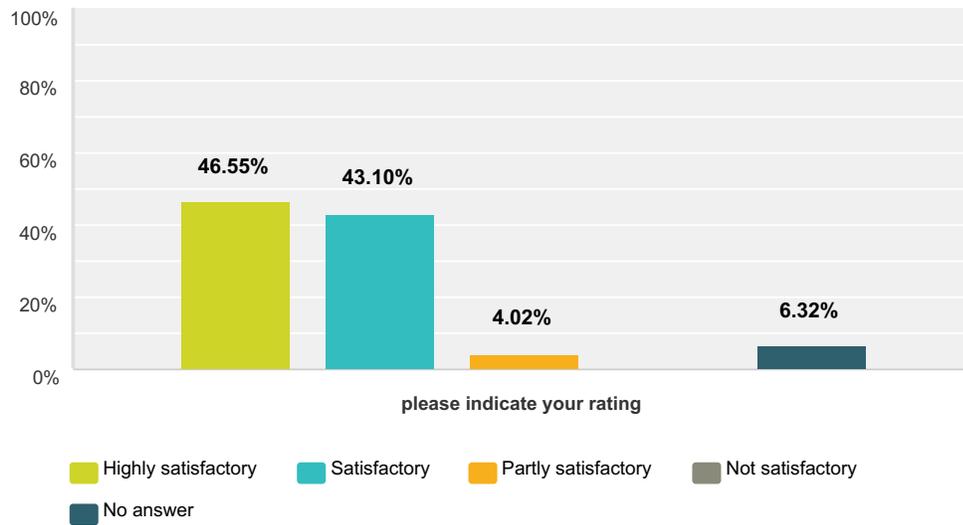


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	48.28% 84	44.83% 78	4.60% 8	0.57% 1	1.72% 3	174	2.43

#	Comments:	Date
1	It seems obvious!	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
2	This must occur in order to maintain the links with the non-participating WG members.	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
3	seems adequate; but does it happen in all WGs?	12/21/2015 9:01 AM

Q20 A listserver is established for the WG Chairs to communicate across WGs.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 38

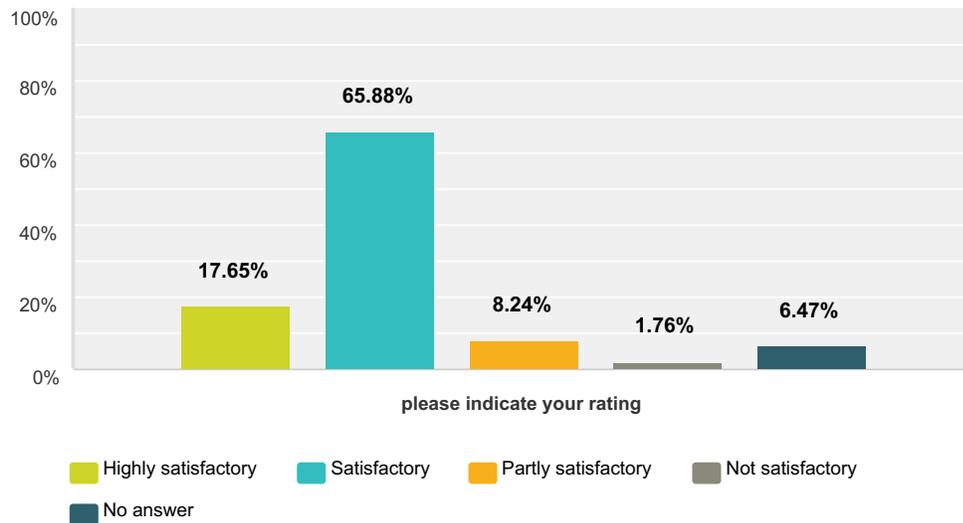


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	46.55%	43.10%	4.02%	0.00%	6.32%	174	2.45
	81	75	7	0	11		

#	Comments:	Date
1	Not clear what it is about	1/28/2016 2:52 PM
2	yes, this can improve interaction for common goals accross WGs (e.g. criteria for identifying duplicates in DBs)	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
3	Very useful	1/4/2016 2:28 PM
4	may not be necessary	12/21/2015 9:01 AM

Q21 Timing - deadlines for submission of proposals

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

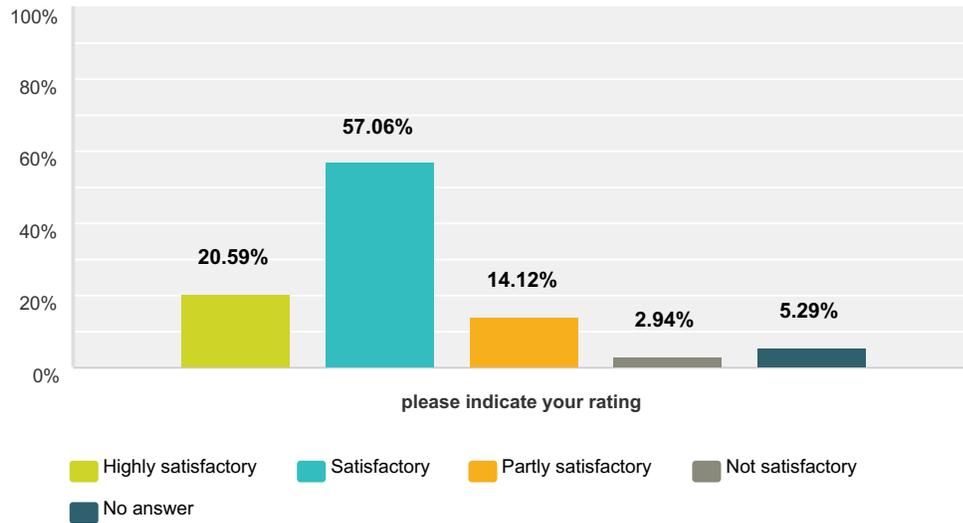


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	17.65%	65.88%	8.24%	1.76%	6.47%	170	2.06
	30	112	14	3	11		

#	Comments:	Date
1	and of March	1/30/2016 6:36 PM
2	Always to short	1/28/2016 2:56 PM
3	this is necessary for a convenient management of the proposals by the secretariat.	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
4	No proposal submitted	1/27/2016 12:46 PM
5	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:06 AM
6	Not always informations arrive in time to prepare a good proposal.	12/16/2015 2:53 PM

Q22 Clarity of Call

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

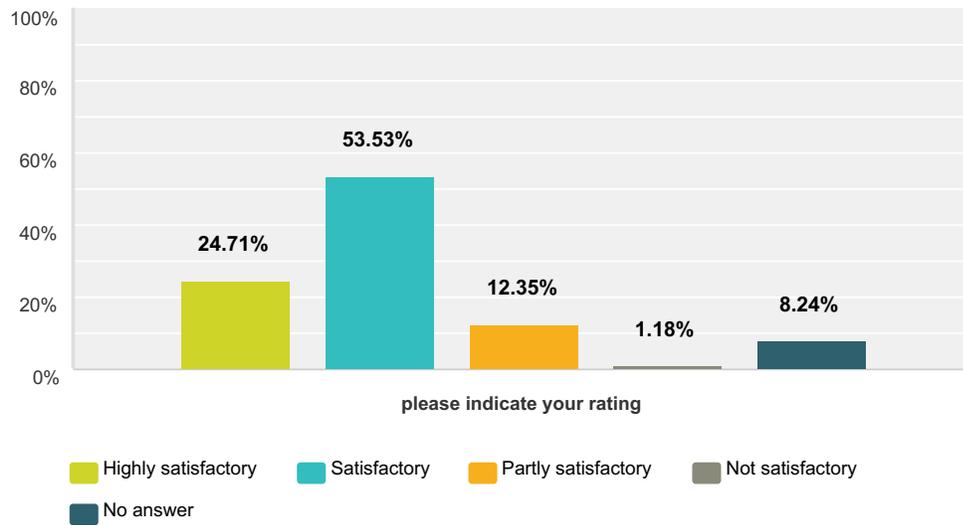


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	20.59% 35	57.06% 97	14.12% 24	2.94% 5	5.29% 9	170	2.01

#	Comments:	Date
1	unclear question. Of course the purpose of a call must be clearly defined !	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
2	In my opinion the call for proposals are not sufficiently clarified. They should be much more explained in order to avoid the rejection of the presented proposals as much as possible	1/7/2016 11:36 AM
3	Clearly work is needed to be more preceise in termsof the types of activities ocnsidered suitable, particularly where WGs are now made up of a variety of of experts with differing priorities.	1/4/2016 2:36 PM
4	the calls sometimes do not reach all WG members	1/4/2016 1:46 PM
5	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:06 AM

Q23 User-friendliness of the webpage providing instructions

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

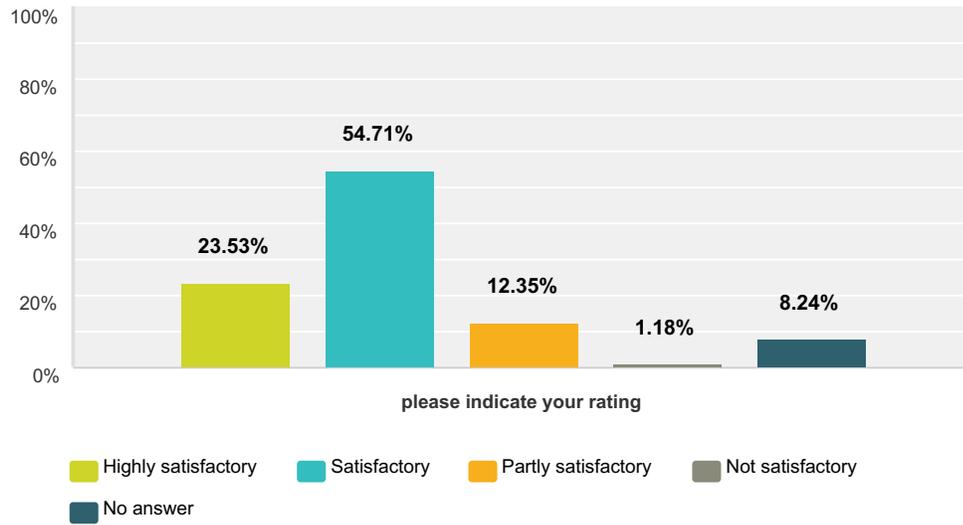


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	24.71% 42	53.53% 91	12.35% 21	1.18% 2	8.24% 14	170	2.11

#	Comments:	Date
1	so far I found the ECPGR web site well done and user's friendly.	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
2	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:06 AM

Q24 User-friendliness of the forms

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

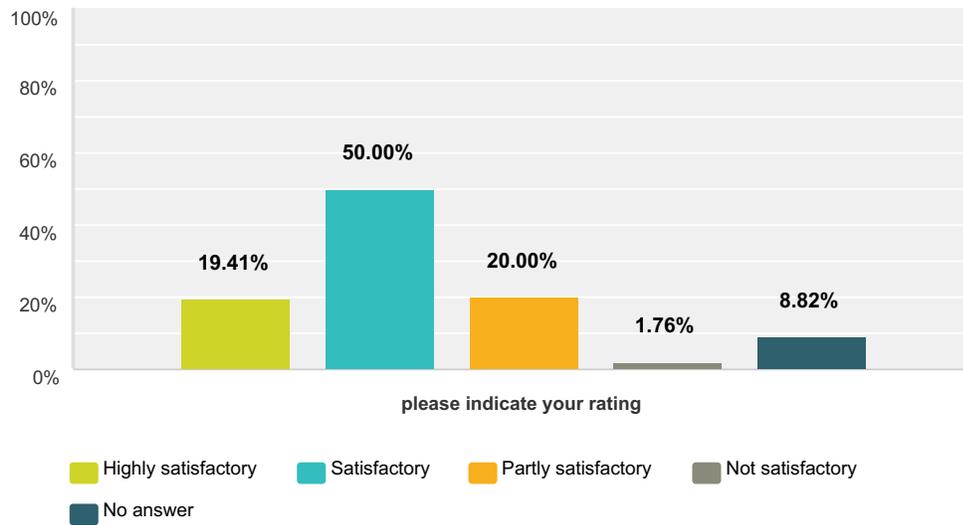


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	23.53% 40	54.71% 93	12.35% 21	1.18% 2	8.24% 14	170	2.10

#	Comments:	Date
1	so far I found the ECPGR forms well done and user's friendly.	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
2	may have to be reconsidered after clarification of principles such as country quota, meeting, other costs	12/21/2015 9:06 AM
3	There is one disturbing error message related to the letter fond used	12/16/2015 8:50 AM

Q25 Adequacy of the approach for involving WG members

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

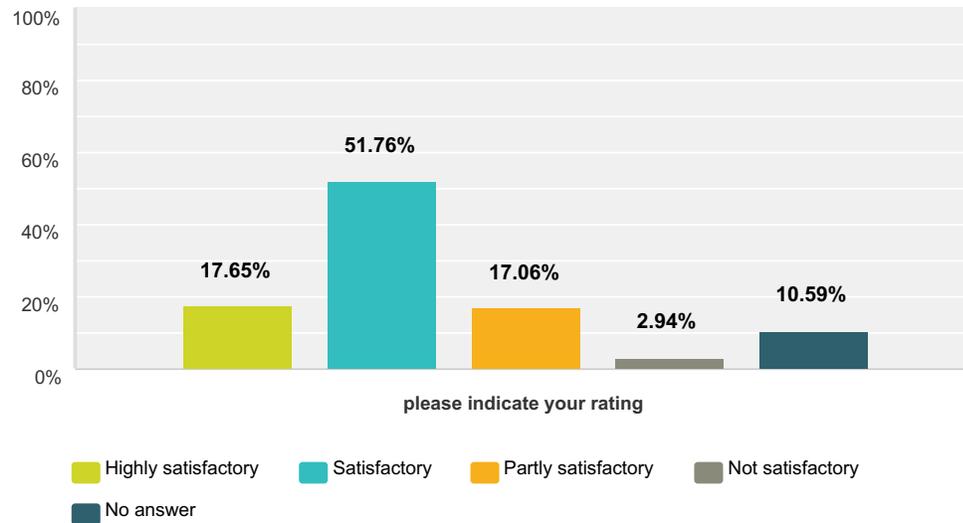


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	19.41%	50.00%	20.00%	1.76%	8.82%	170	1.95
	33	85	34	3	15		

#	Comments:	Date
1	it depends on the Chair ability...	1/28/2016 4:10 PM
2	Interaction in both directions depends too much on the individual WG member's initiative	1/28/2016 9:17 AM
3	as far as I experienced, that is the WG coordinator who "approaches" the WG members and that is the best way.	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
4	If this the only way to involve members in activities and the proposal of a WG is not funded, the WG can not advance in their objectives and the WG members can not do anything	1/7/2016 11:36 AM
5	Miss meetings with the whole WG (one rep from each country)	1/4/2016 1:34 PM
6	principles of expression of interest seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:06 AM
7	There should be some kind of mechanism that allow whole WG meetings (at least 1 member/country principal)	12/16/2015 3:07 PM

Q26 Adequacy of the Grant Scheme approach for the implementation of WG objectives

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42

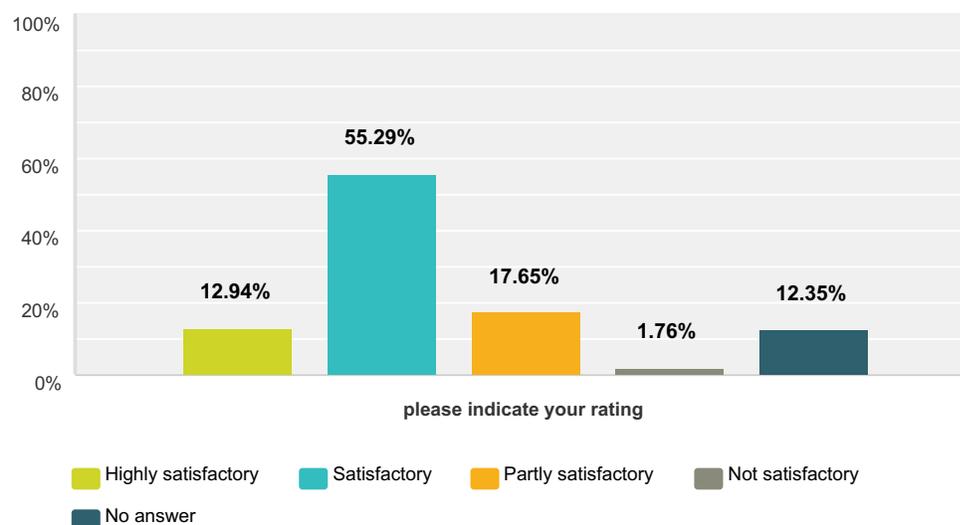


	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	17.65% 30	51.76% 88	17.06% 29	2.94% 5	10.59% 18	170	1.94

#	Comments:	Date
1	of course the grant scheme must be adequate for the objectives intended !	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
2	Members of WGs expressed the opinion that they are missing the possibility of whole-group meetings. If only selected WG members can participate in an Activity, the remaining members may become less active and loose the feeling of being part of a Group.	1/27/2016 10:19 AM
3	The same as the answer given to question n° 5. The WGs can not implement their objectives if the proposals are rejected	1/7/2016 11:36 AM
4	How can the WGs have achievable objectives with no guarantee of funding?	1/4/2016 2:36 PM
5	seems adequate	12/21/2015 9:06 AM
6	in forages substantial work in approaches to in situ conservation are necessary but available funds are not adequate for soemthing where there is hardly any basis	12/15/2015 12:53 PM
7	Budget per grant too small	12/15/2015 12:20 PM

Q27 Overall evaluation of the Grant Scheme mechanism and suggestions for improvement

Answered: 170 Skipped: 42



	Highly satisfactory	Satisfactory	Partly satisfactory	Not satisfactory	No answer	Total	Weighted Average
please indicate your rating	12.94% 22	55.29% 94	17.65% 30	1.76% 3	12.35% 21	170	1.91

#	Comments:	Date
1	The role of national coordinators is not clear in relation to expres of interest by members of WG. Maybe this is related to national coordination v.v. Grant SCheme mechanism...	1/29/2016 2:44 PM
2	I am not aware of this, I suppose this is done at the level of the SC. No opinion.	1/27/2016 1:58 PM
3	let WG members submit proposal with approval of Chair	1/7/2016 1:50 PM
4	Much more information should be given to the WGs in order to increase the possibilities of being approved their proposals. A system in wich a proposal could be pre-evaluated and a second oprotunity caould be given to the WGs would be very valuable. If a proposal is definetively rejected the WG has their hands tied and no progress can be achieved	1/7/2016 11:36 AM
5	The current mode is too restrictive and should be more open and allow flexibility to maximise the use of the limited available funding.	1/6/2016 11:13 AM
6	Comments as per earlier questions. A clearer indication of what work is considered suitable is needed.	1/4/2016 2:36 PM
7	are country quota, meeting / other costs 72:25 not too complicated?	12/21/2015 9:06 AM
8	For long term planning of the WG a separte funding should be available	12/16/2015 3:07 PM

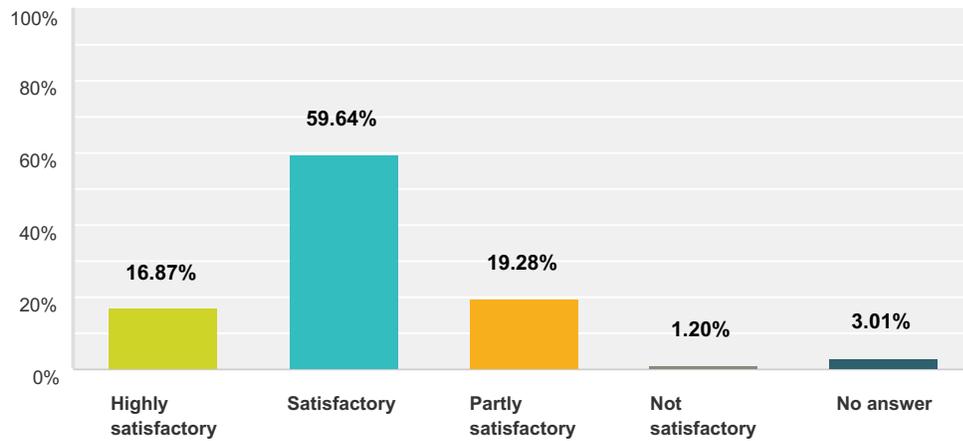
Q28 For Activity Coordinators: encountered constraints and suggested measures (please use box for comments)

Answered: 9 Skipped: 203

#	Responses	Date
1	It's need to participate more WG members in the different activities.	1/31/2016 3:55 AM
2	The country quota system limits the flexibility of the budget and changes in participants during the project. Too little funds available to carry out activities ("other category") Very service minded secretariat.	1/26/2016 12:19 PM
3	no suggestions	1/11/2016 9:13 AM
4	My specific problem was the rejection of the two proposals presented in the two calls. The result must be avoided by the Grant Scheme system because stops the possibilities of advance of a WG in the achievements of its objectives. The feeling is of impotence: if the WG does not get funds it can not advance and the attitude of making progress decreases. This must be avoided in the ECPGR, where most part of the WGs members are members for their interest in the objectives of this European project.	1/7/2016 11:36 AM
5	constraint:lack of active participation from some participants and/or too long time of reaction to email suggested measures: to be more strict during the selection process !?	1/6/2016 2:09 PM
6	A mechanism for dealing with the desire of several WG members from a single country to be involved would be helpful, especially if this is not considered desirable by ExCo. It is difficult to handle this diplomatically within the WGs.	1/4/2016 2:36 PM
7	No comments yet	12/24/2015 10:29 AM
8	!	12/15/2015 1:59 PM
9	in forages substantial work in approaches to in situ conservation are necessary but available funds are not adequate for soemthing where there is hardly any basis	12/15/2015 12:53 PM

Q29 Overall, I would rate the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX

Answered: 166 Skipped: 46



Answer Choices	Responses	
Highly satisfactory	16.87%	28
Satisfactory	59.64%	99
Partly satisfactory	19.28%	32
Not satisfactory	1.20%	2
No answer	3.01%	5
Total		166

#	Comments:	Date
	There are no responses.	

Q30 Add here any general comment you wish to convey on the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX

Answered: 20 Skipped: 192

#	Responses	Date
1	ECPGR has been built on the basis of consensus. For a higher level of efficiency, a more directive decision rules should have been engaged for the interest of the PR.	1/29/2016 12:21 AM
2	it could be useful to have some calls with a low budget available (like now), and some others with a higher budget, in order to permit other kind of activities	1/28/2016 4:12 PM
3	Very good collaboration. Thank you for all informations.	1/28/2016 10:06 AM
4	As a WG member I should point out that the success of activities outside funded projects so far depended exceptionally on the spare time everybody could afford with other work going on. This was a serious hindrance to success. I hope for a better future.	1/28/2016 9:22 AM
5	Efficiency of the WGs is limited by two major factors: (1) the countries representatives, who too often do not manage sufficiently English, or who do not have the adequate expertise, (2) the functioning mode of the WG members (i.e. inputs in kind) is, practically speaking, inadequate, because for all members, WG activities are supplementary work whereas they already have a full job at home. Hence that is only if a budget is allocated for achieving an ECPGR objective that this objective will be achieved at all, or achieved within a reasonable span of time.	1/27/2016 2:04 PM
6	Lack of knowledge of ECPGR Phase IX	1/27/2016 1:15 PM
7	Persons who not participated on any ECPGR meeting till now, are not sure if they have any possibilities to be included in WG. Sometimes looks everything (by many emails) very confused especially for persons which English is not their mother language.	1/21/2016 1:36 PM
8	no suggestions	1/11/2016 9:13 AM
9	The low activity budgets do not allow true impact - focus should be on expanding the budget via funding organisations such as the EU - this could be based on overall strategies or on proposals for activities (e.g. a capacity building program, budget 3 mio€/5yr, or a quality assurance program, budget 150 k€/yr). We need indicators to show functionality of genebanks and ways to objectively measure these. ECPGR should focus on getting functional genebanks more efficient (AEGIS) and non-functional functioning. The current approach resembles the emperor without clothes.	1/7/2016 2:01 PM
10	My comments have been made in some previous answers	1/7/2016 11:38 AM
11	ECPGR needs to reflect on the workload of the WG chairs - there are not many experienced people willing to volunteer for this role and the expectation of what they can achieve is now very out of line with funding and time available.	1/4/2016 2:38 PM
12	The setup and implementation of Phase IX is a major improvement compared to previous phases. I am looking forward to a concluding evaluation at the end of the phase.	1/4/2016 1:49 PM
13	I believe the success of ECPGR will depend on its ability to involve all countries within a WG in its activities. The country representatives that one hear little from, may benefit the most (and the activities in that country) from participating in WG Meetings.	1/4/2016 1:41 PM

Survey: Evaluation of the Mode of Operation of ECPGR in Phase IX (2014-2018)

14	<p>What bothers me concerning ECPGR? It is the current way how we as ECPGR members interact with each other. Currently it is almost zero for a large group of ECPGR genebankers in my opinion. This is caused by the fact that there are no meetings organized anymore by ECPGR which can be attended. The only way one can do this is to write a project proposal and this does not work according to me. The idea of changing the ECPGR policy a few years ago was that meetings supported some kind of a travelling circus and that nothing was actually done. At that time I did not agree with this policy change and I still don't. Why? This is because of the fact that in my opinion this policy change overlooks one important aspect namely that EU genebankers form a community. This means that we need to meet each other personally once in a while to exchange our thoughts about several issues in formal and informal ways. This is not a travelling circus but an essential part of the way how a community works. Currently I see the effects of the ECPGR policy change quite clearly as a lot of genebankers have no idea what is going on at other European genebanks, so we have become isolated genebankers and that is very bad for development of the genebank sector. What I propose is that ECPGR changes its policy towards a policy in which the value of the genebank community as such is appreciated. This could be done via organizing for example once in the two years a consolidated crop meeting per specific crop area (for example a vegetable meeting in which all vegetable working groups participate; like the last one in Catania). During this 3 day meeting, 1-1.5 days can be dedicated to general issues and 1-1.5 days can be used for separate working group meetings. In this way formal and informal contacts can be established and maintained and the idea that we form a group of people with a common interest in conservation and use of PGR stays alive. Furthermore I think it would be wise to evaluate AEGIS and AQUAS on the short term as many genebankers doubt their effectiveness.</p>	1/4/2016 10:13 AM
15	I wish you continued success in the difficult work of the Steering Committee of ECPGR in Phase IX	12/24/2015 10:34 AM
16	target oriented activities in the WGs should be seen as a strong improvement compared to the past; however the principles applied to the operations of activities are still too complicated and should be reconsidered	12/21/2015 9:08 AM
17	More coordination is necessary to improve the Mode of operation, for example trough a best involvement of WG members.	12/16/2015 2:57 PM
18	Congratulation!	12/16/2015 8:51 AM
19	Difficult to attend meetings and activities because it comes in conflict with busy field work periods for plant breeders.	12/15/2015 8:40 PM
20	continuitet is very important. Sometimes, some members are not in continuitet and havent inaf experiens.	12/15/2015 1:08 PM