

Possible avenues and key directions to continue cooperation on education reforms in Eastern Partnership

Stresa, 25 June 2026





Supporting Education Reforms and Skills in Eastern Partnership beyond 2026

- We need to look at and discuss SER 2024–2026 progress, lessons learned and gaps
- How do we move from diagnostic assessments and education strategies to implementable reforms?
- How do we make support to education and skills system reforms effective in the Eastern Partnership countries?



Some core challenges in EaP education systems

- Demographic shifts – declining population, urban – rural divide – teachers and trainers, provider networks
- High participation rates but widening inequities
- Persistent gap between evidence and implementation
- Systems need stronger capacity to prioritise, sequence and implement reforms
- Reforms must improve learning outcomes and governance performance, but it takes time and resources




What have we done to move forward

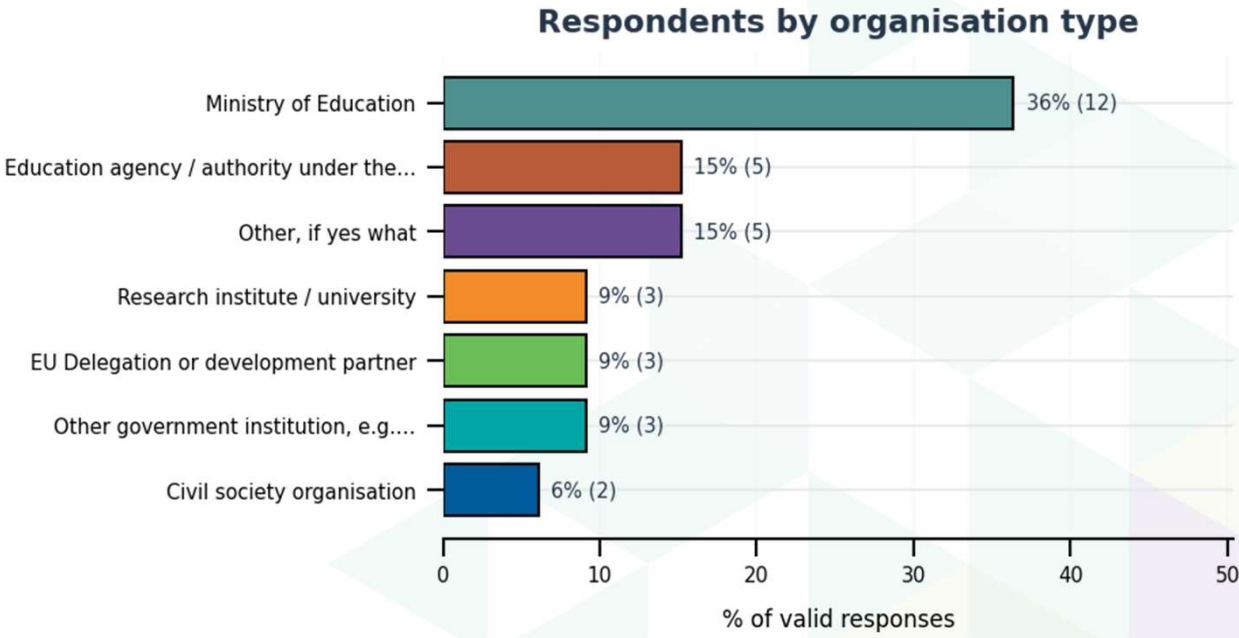
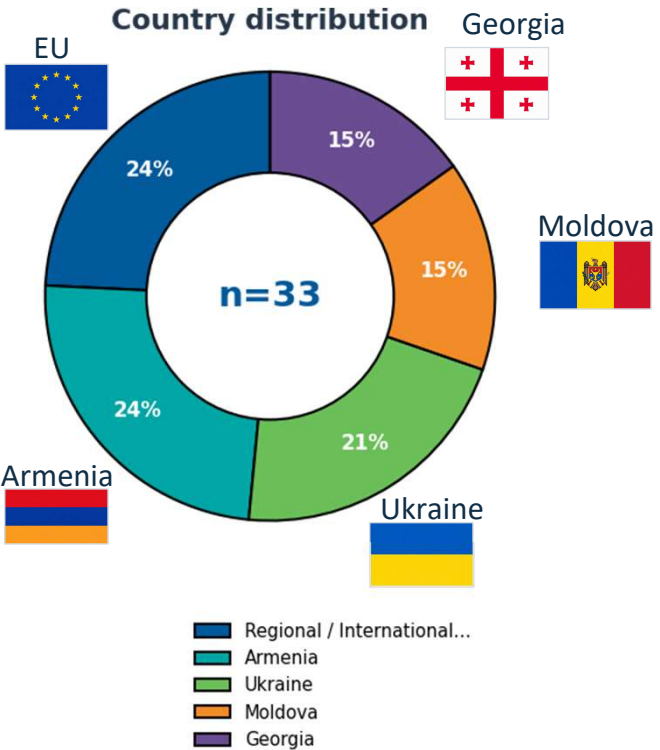
SER appraisal:

- Stakeholder survey
- Feedback on relevance, impact and implementation
- Synthesis to inform follow-up priorities

Stakeholder consultations

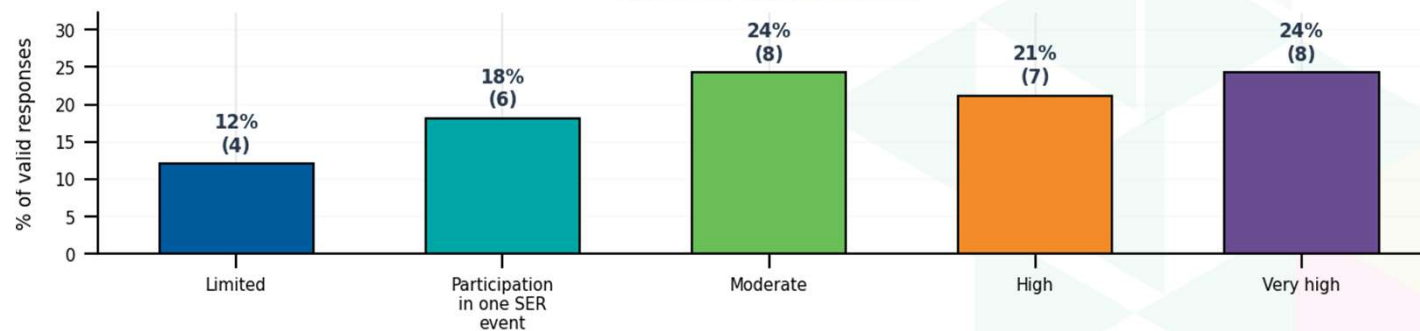
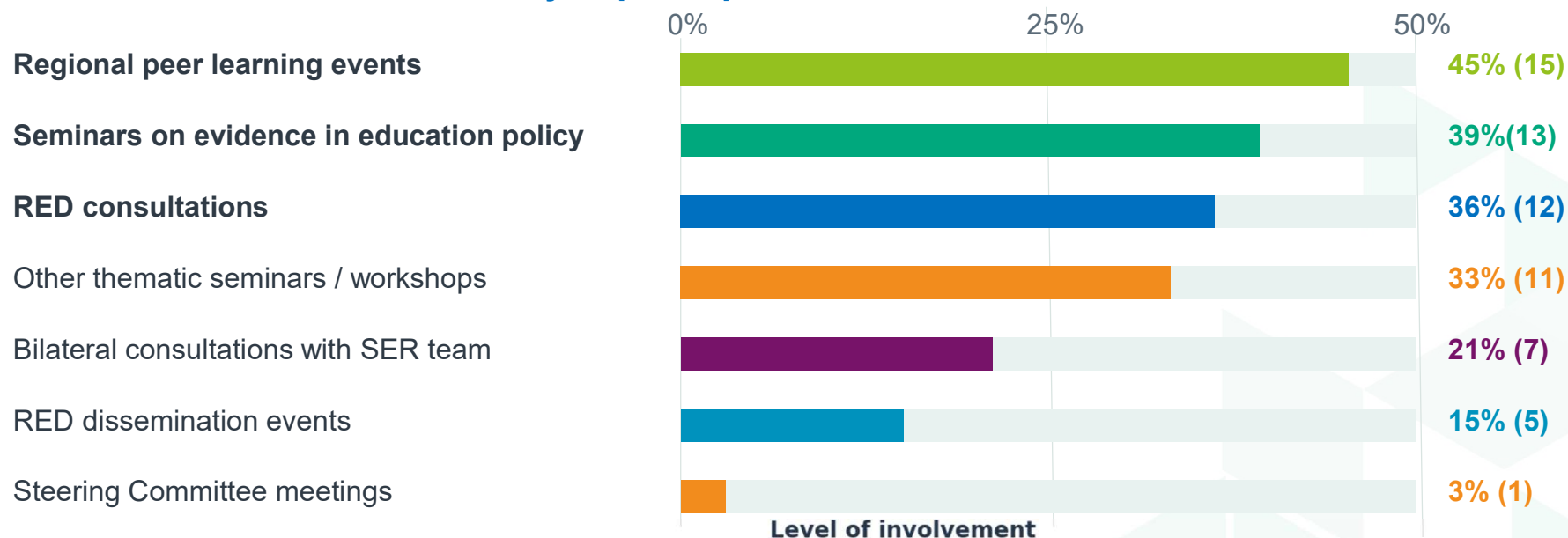
- Bilateral discussions with EaP ministries of education
 - Engagement with EU Delegations and national SER coordinators
- 

Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results



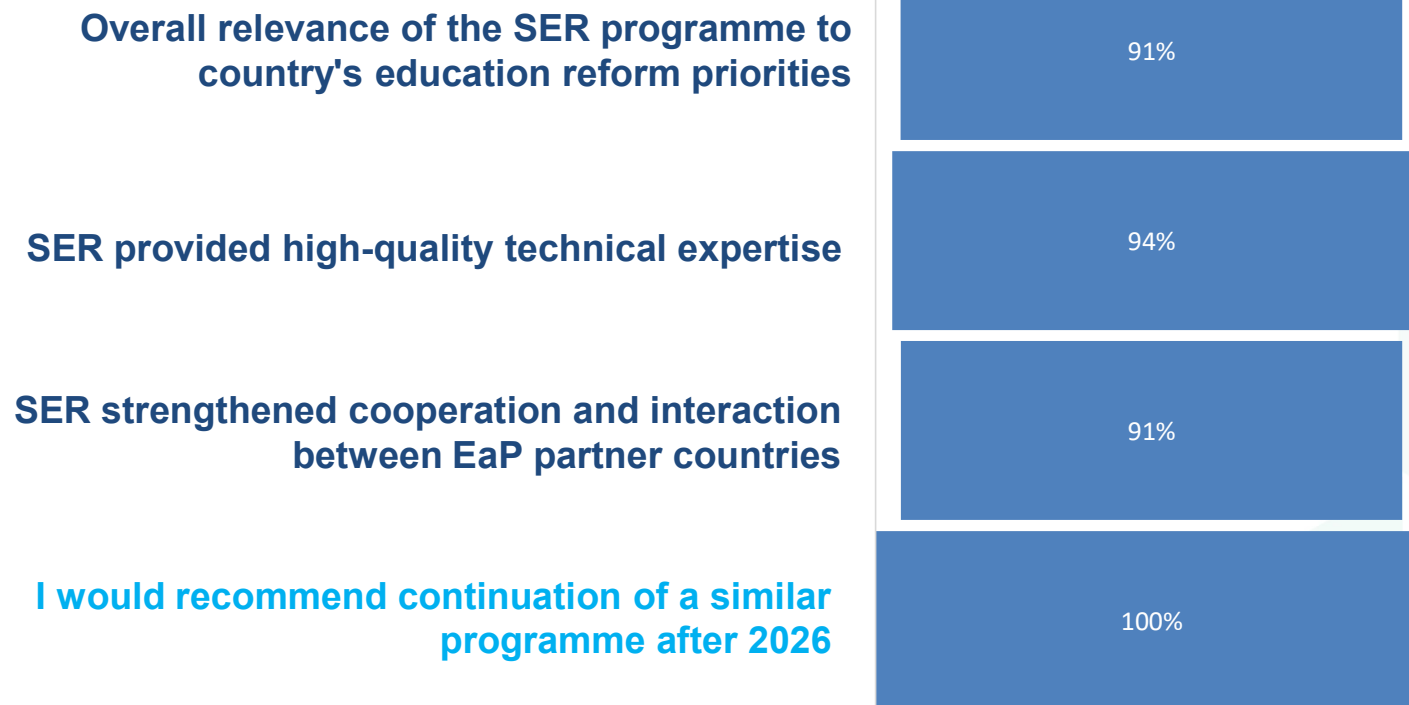
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Q4. Which SER activities have you participated in?



Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Overall Assessment of SER

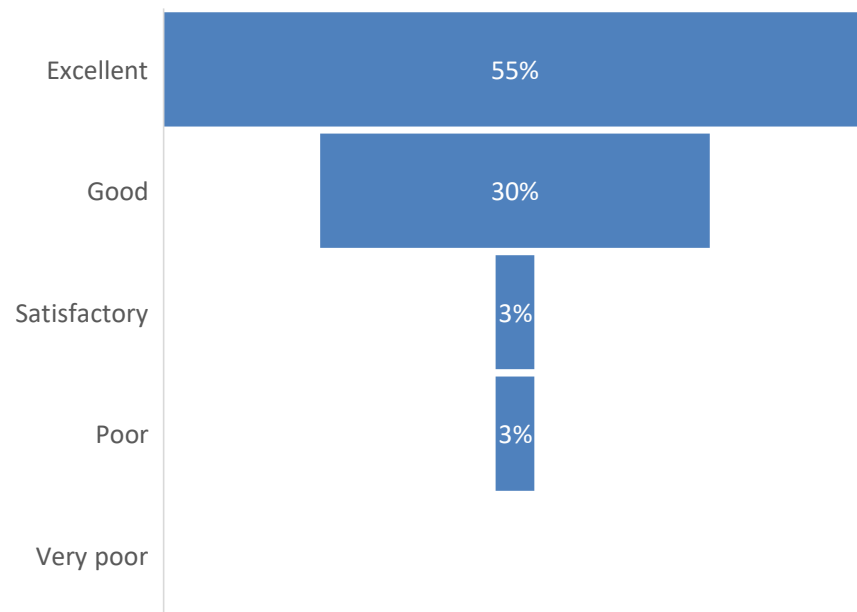


% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

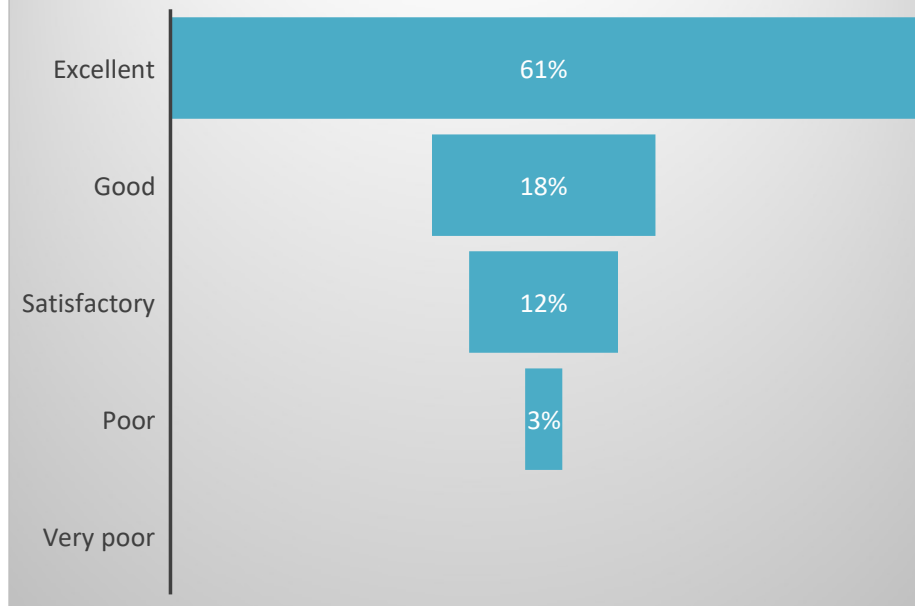


Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

SER addressed the most important education policy challenges facing my country

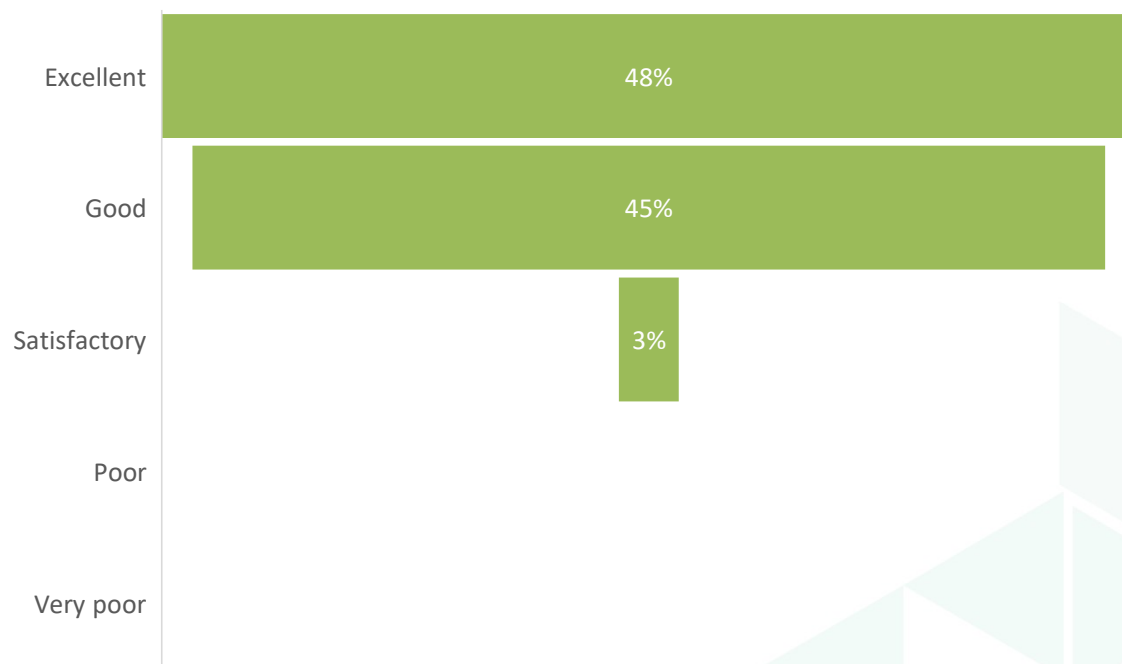


SER activities were responsive to evolving national needs and priorities.



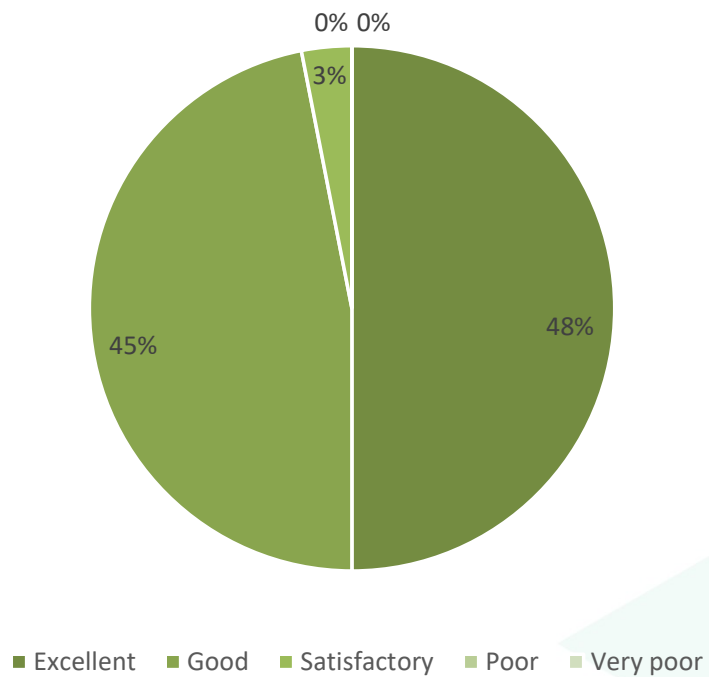
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

SER represented good value for resources invested.



Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

SER represented good value for resources invested.





Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Country-Specific Support

The country-specific support provided under SER was relevant to our needs.

64%

The support was sufficiently tailored to the national context.

58%

SER helped strengthen evidence-informed policymaking.

58%

SER contributed to better policy design and reform planning.

67%

% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

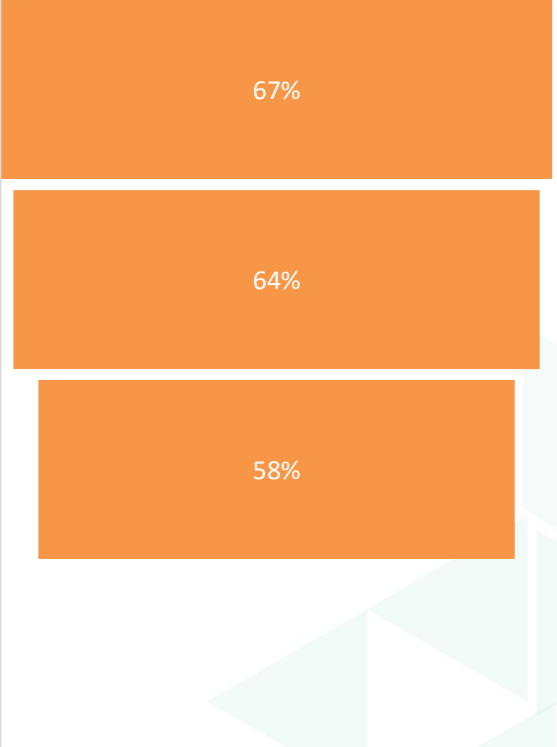




Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Country-Specific Support II

- SER helped identify key education system challenges
- SER has potential to influence future education reforms in my country
- The balance between analysis and practical follow-up support was appropriate



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)





Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

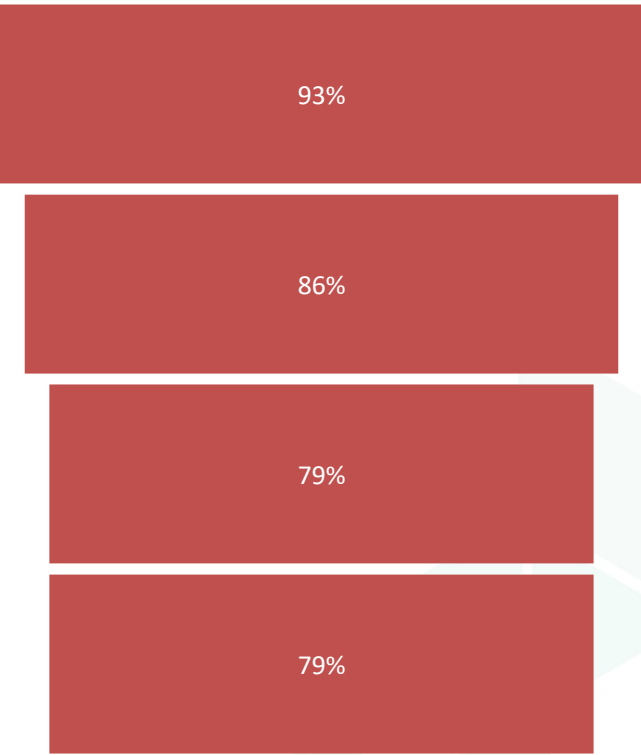
Rapid Education Diagnosis

The RED methodology provided a useful diagnosis of education system challenges

The RED findings reflected the realities of the education system

The RED recommendations were practical and actionable

The RED process engaged the right stakeholders



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

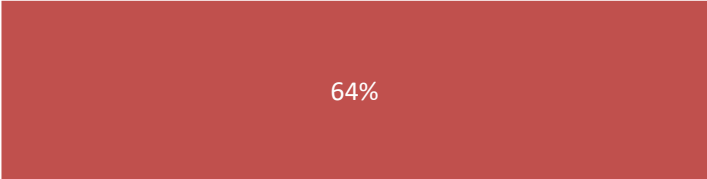




Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Rapid Education Diagnosis II

The RED findings are likely to inform future reforms



The link between RED findings and follow-up support activities was sufficiently strong



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

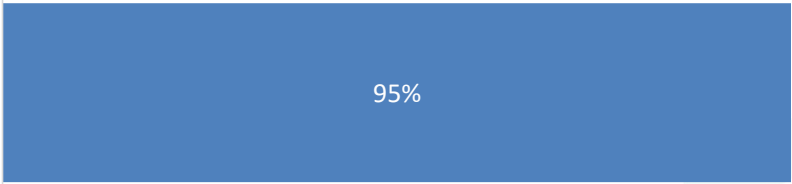




Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Capacity Development Activities

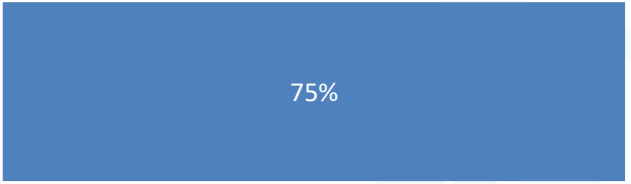
The capacity development activities addressed priority institutional needs



The activities strengthened the skills and capacities of participants.



The content was directly applicable to my work.



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

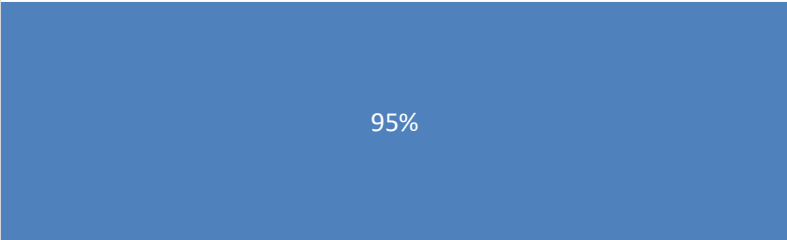




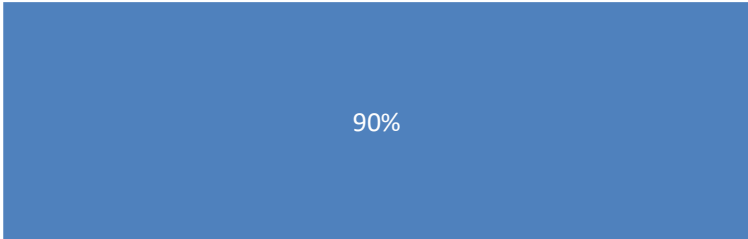
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Capacity Development Activities II

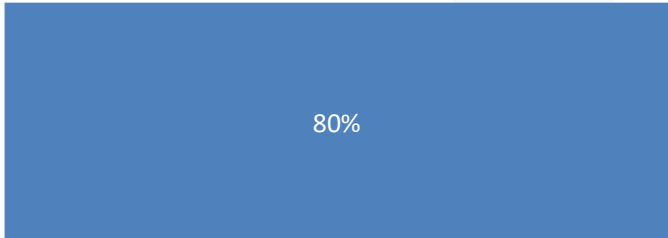
The balance between theory and practical application was appropriate



SER contributed to strengthening implementation capacities.



SER contributed to strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacities.



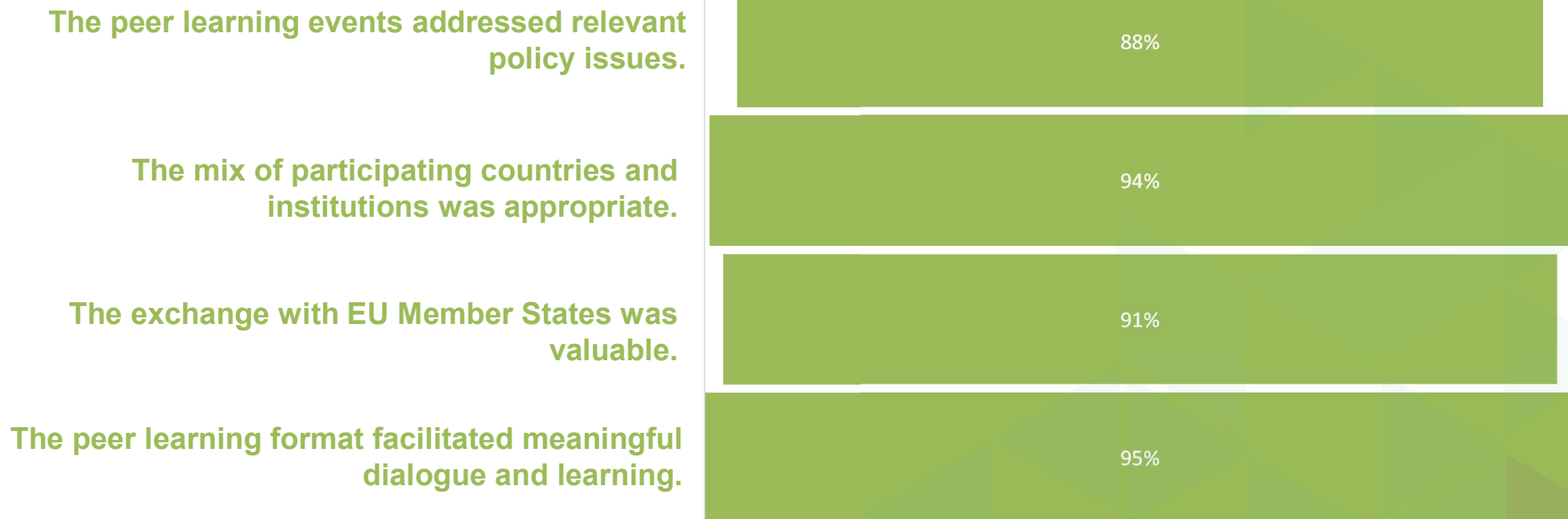
% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)





Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Regional Peer Learning and Training



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)



Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Regional Peer Learning and Training II

The event outputs (presentations, reports, profiles, materials) were useful.

97%

I have applied lessons learned from peer learning activities in my work.

79%

Regional cooperation among EaP countries should remain a strong component of future support.

88%

% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)





Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Event Organisation and Logistics

The organisation of events was effective.

97%

Communication before events was timely and clear.

94%

Travel and logistical arrangements were satisfactory.

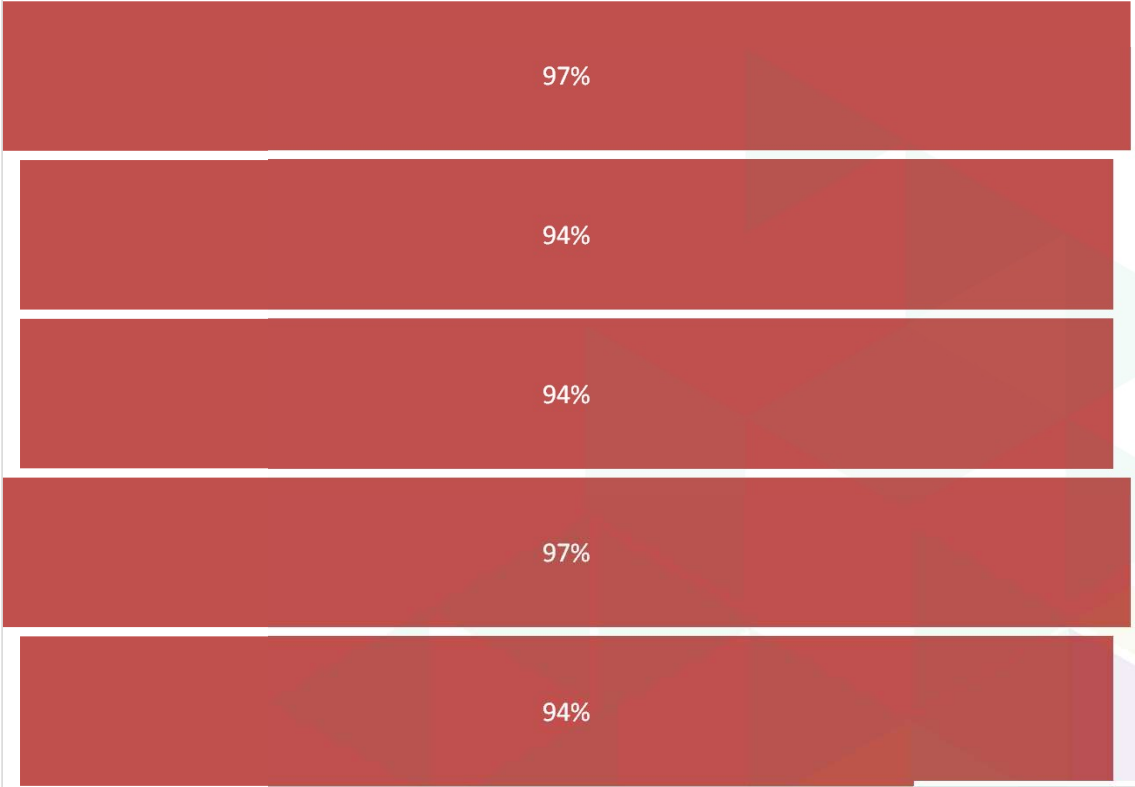
94%

The duration and format of activities were appropriate.

97%

Online resources and materials were easily accessible

94%



% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)

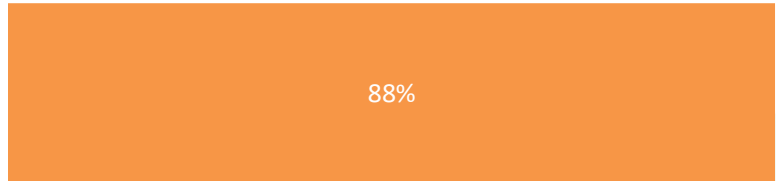




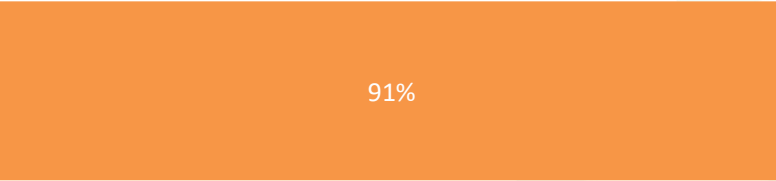
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Communication and Visibility

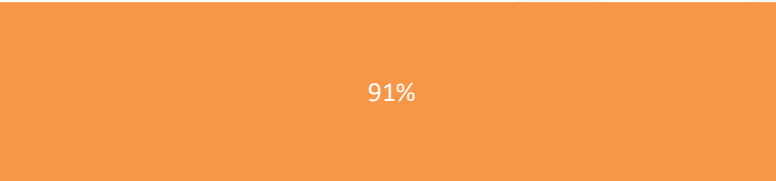
I was adequately informed about SER activities and opportunities.



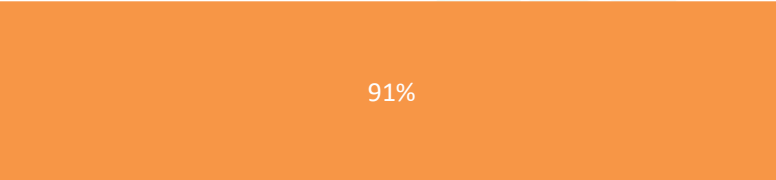
The communication products (reports, publications, website, Open Space resources) were useful.



SER findings and recommendations were communicated effectively.



The programme's objectives and expected results were clear.

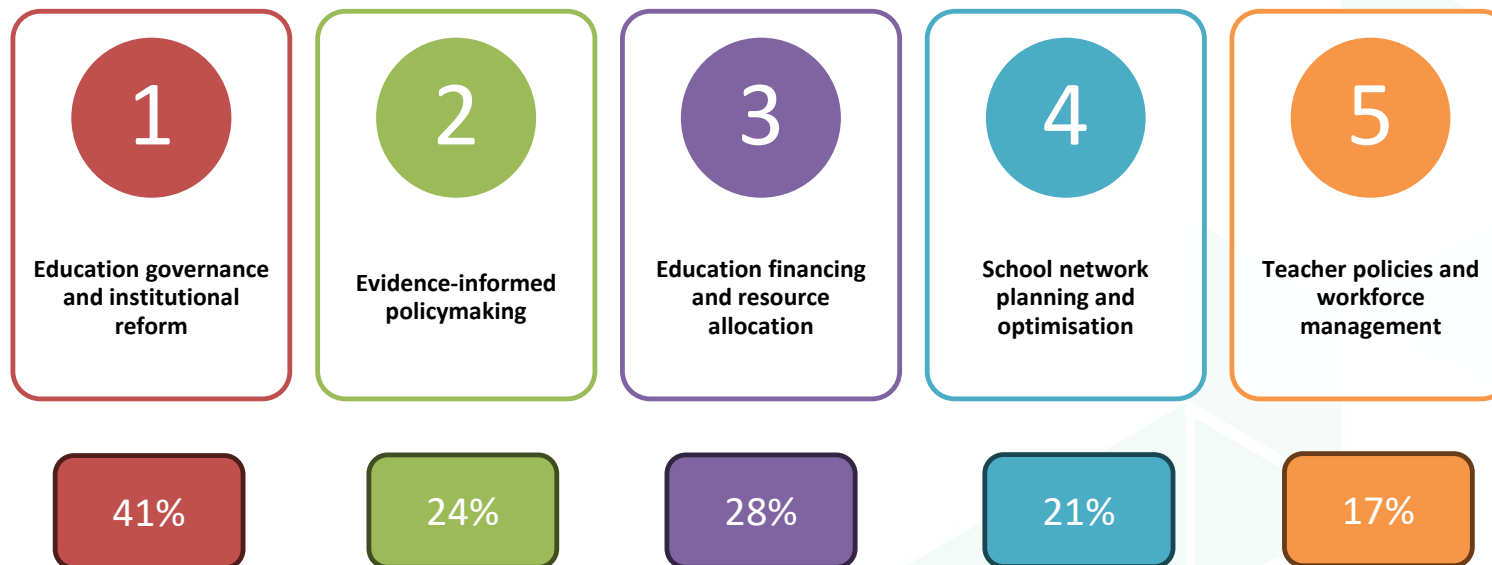


% of respondents who rated between excellent and good (4 or 5 stars)



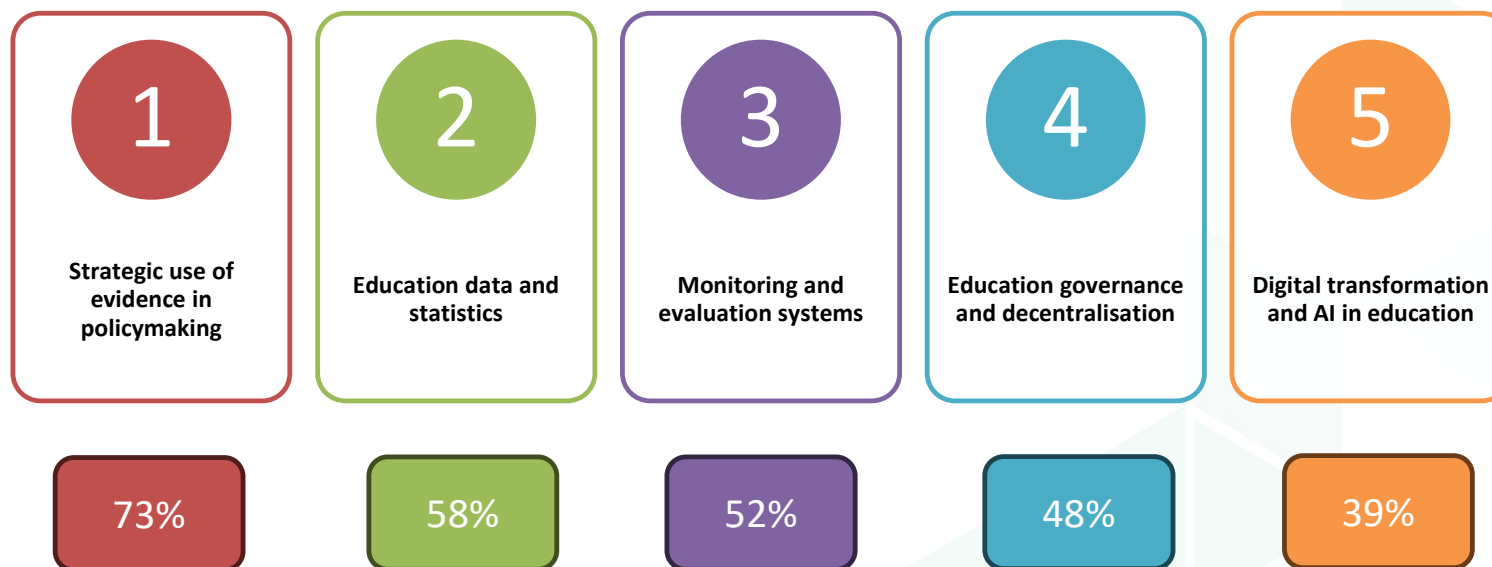
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Ranking of the Future Priorities for future



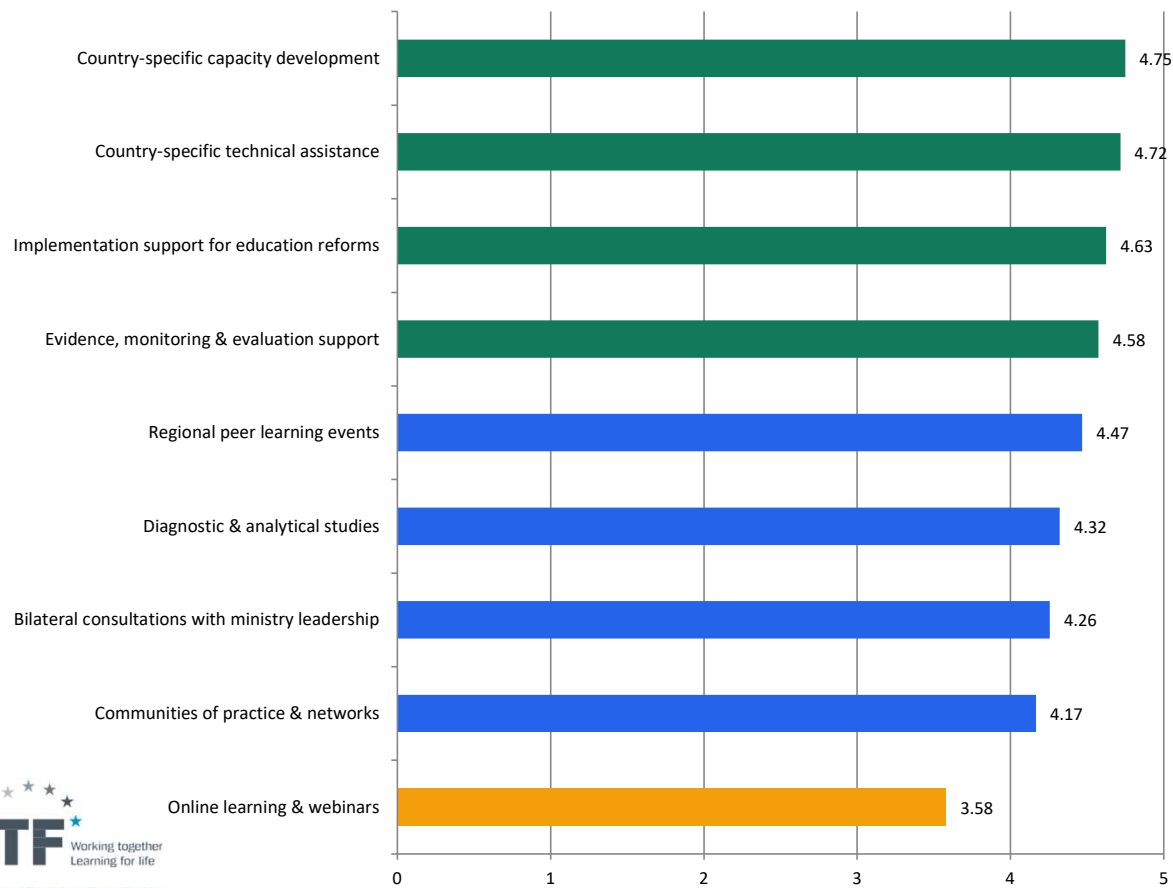
Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Ranking of the topics important for the peer-learning themes



Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Future Modus Operandi



TOP 5 PRIORITIES

Country-specific
capacity development

Country-specific
technical assistance

Implementation support
for education reforms

Evidence use, monitoring
and evaluation

Regional peer
learning events

Stakeholders' Consultation: Survey results

Future support should focus more on

Policy design and development

Analysis and diagnostics

Capacity development

Reform implementation

Monitoring and evaluation

Equal balance across all areas



Proposed Solution: An evidence-to-implementation platform (?)

- RED-based prioritisation and comparative analysis
- Peer learning and triangulation with EU Member States' education authorities and policy makers
- Guidance for EU financial and technical support in bilateral programming
- Structured EU–partner country policy dialogue and strengthening of inter-agency cooperation and dialogue in the countries

Thank you





Questions for group discussion

1. What are the 3 key priority areas which are important for education reform in your country in the years to come
 2. What are the 3 main themes you would like to suggest for the future cross-country peer learning events
 3. Your suggestions on how interaction and networking between the EaP countries could be further strengthened in the future
- 