

POLISH REPRESENTATIVES TO EFSA's SCIENTIFIC NETWORKS RESULTS of SURVEY

Polish EFSA Focal Point

Warsaw, October 2015

Special acknowledge for Greek EFSA Focal Point



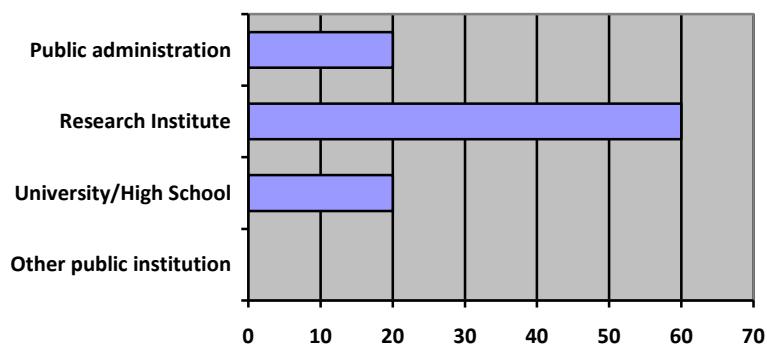
BACKGROUND

The survey was carried out by the Polish EFSA Focal Point (FP) among the Polish Representatives to EFSA's Scientific Networks in October 2015. The questionnaire was sent to all 16 experts (both regular and alternate member to 14 scientific networks). Only 10 filled in questionnaires were sent back to the Polish FP, including one incomplete. The aim of the survey was evaluation of the cooperation between experts and EFSA, Polish FP, Advisory Forum member and national authorities. The questionnaire was prepared according to the Greek survey performed in 2014 (*the permission was obtained at the 23rd FP meeting*). The results were calculated as percentages corresponding to the total 10 responses received (only one answer for one question). or as percentage of the number of responses (several answers for one question).

A: General information

A.1. What type of organisation do you work in?

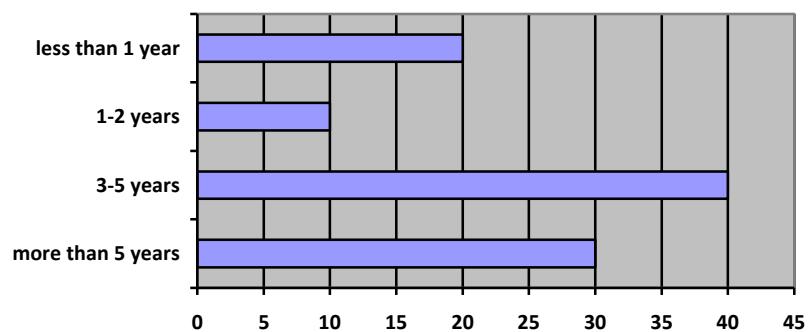
<input type="checkbox"/> Public administration	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Research Institute	60%
<input type="checkbox"/> University/ High School	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Public Institution	0%





A.2. How long are you a national representative to the EFSA's scientific network (in total including changes in the network)?

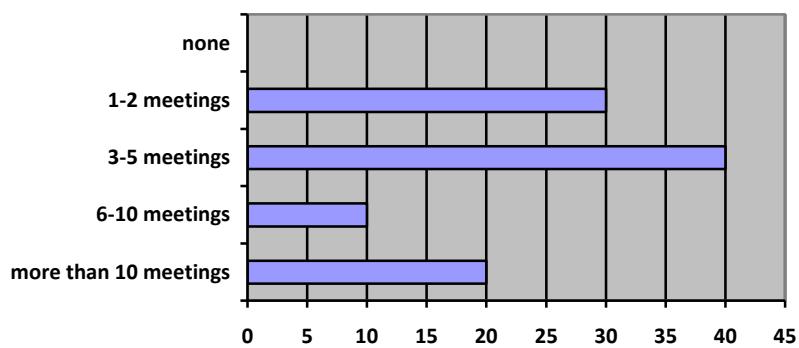
- less than 1 year 20%
- 1-2 years 10%
- 3-5 years 40%
- more than 5 years 30%



B. Workload

B.1. How many network meetings have you attended in total as regular or alternate national representative?

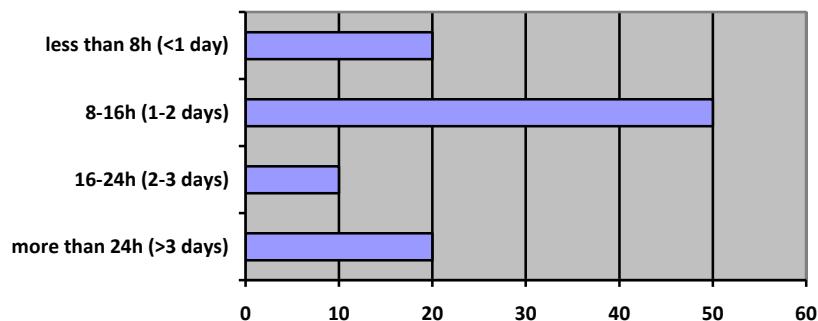
- none 0%
- 1-2 meetings 30%
- 3-5 meetings 40%
- 6-10 meetings 10%
- more than 10 meetings 20%





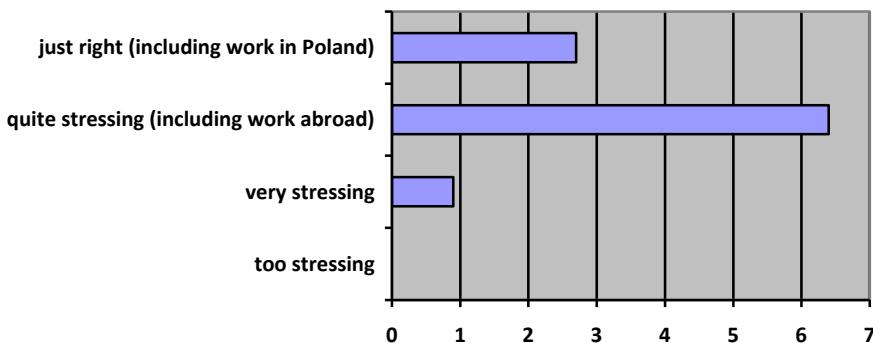
B.2. How many work-hours (on average) do you need to prepare for a single network meeting? (1 person-day = 8 hours)

- less than 8 hours (<1 day) 20%
- 8-16 hours (1-2 days) 50%
- 16-24 hours (2-3 days) 10%
- more than 24 hours (> 3 days) 20%



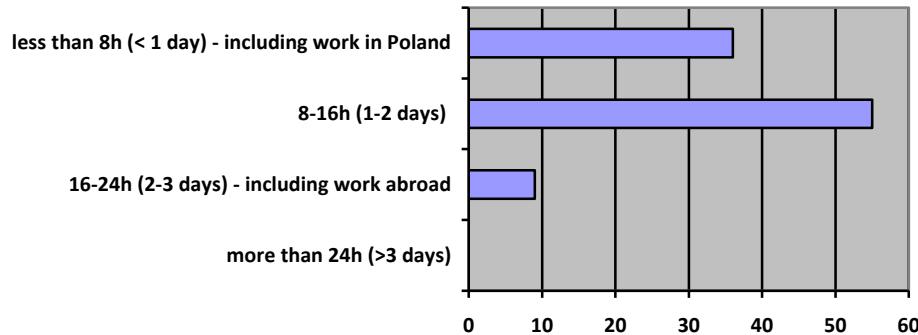
B.3. Do you consider the average time required for the preparation of a network meeting as:

- just right 27%
- quite stressing 64%
- very stressing 9%
- too stressing 0%



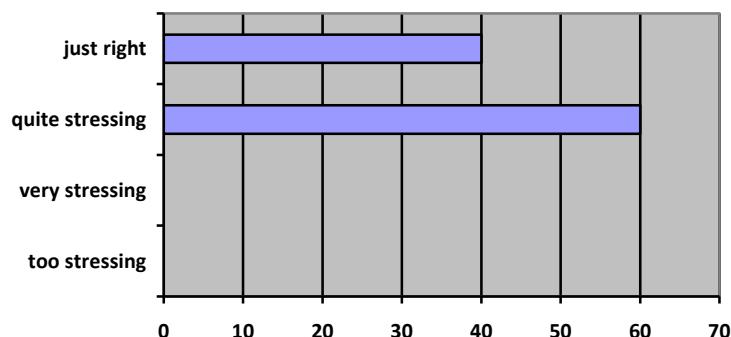
B.4. How many work-hours (on average) do you need for the work after a single network meeting – reading and comments to documents, answers to questions, reporting etc. (1 person-day = 8 hours)

- less than 8 hours (<1 day) 36%
- 8-16 hours (1-2 days) 55%
- 16-24 hours (2-3 days) 9%
- more than 24 hours (> 3 days) 0%



B.5. Do you consider the average time required for work after the network meeting as:

- just right 40%
- quite stressing 60%
- very stressing 0%
- too stressing 0%



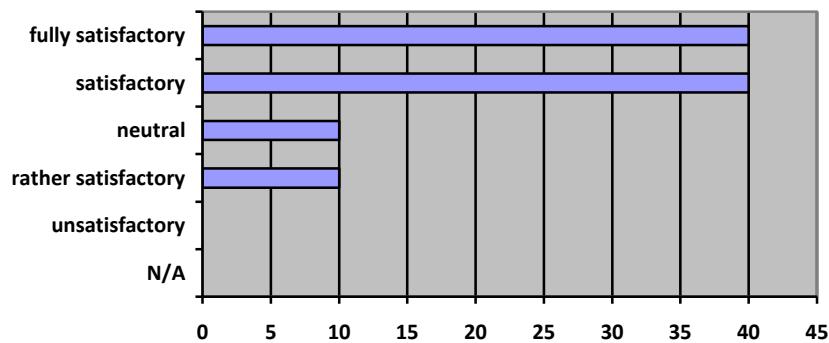
C. EFSA's organisational matters

C.1. How do you rate the preparatory steps ahead of a network meeting (early distribution of the agenda, support documents, etc.)?

- fully satisfactory 40%
- satisfactory 40%
- neutral 10%
- rather satisfactory 10%
- unsatisfactory 0%
- N/A 0%



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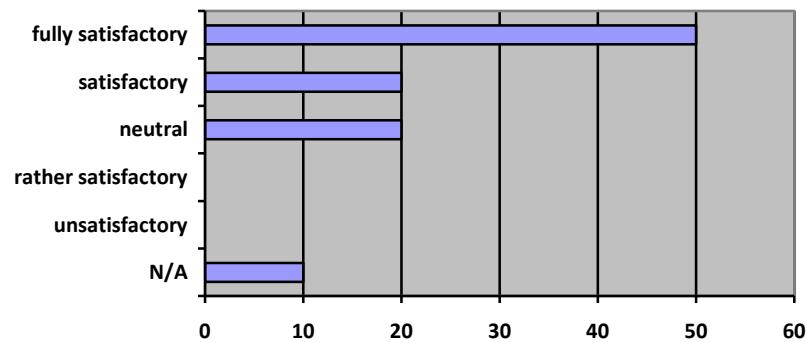


C.2. Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the better preparation of a network meeting by EFSA?

- No, they are very well prepared.
- Reimbursement is too low in comparison to the workload of expert.

C.3. How do you rate a course of the network meeting with regards to the agenda item?

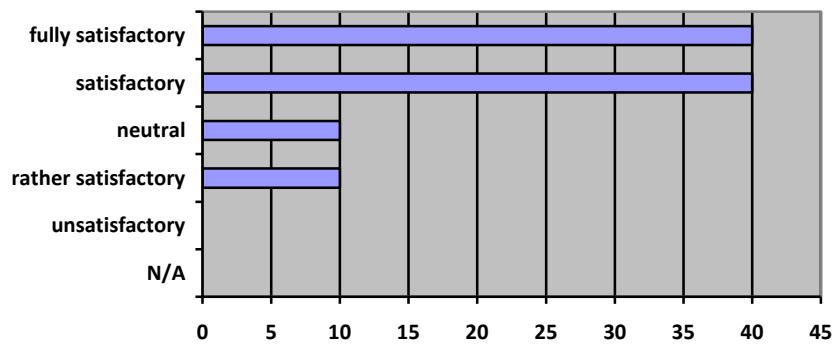
<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	10%





C.4. How do you rate a course of the network meeting with regards to presentation of the individual views and the generation of conclusions?

<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	0%

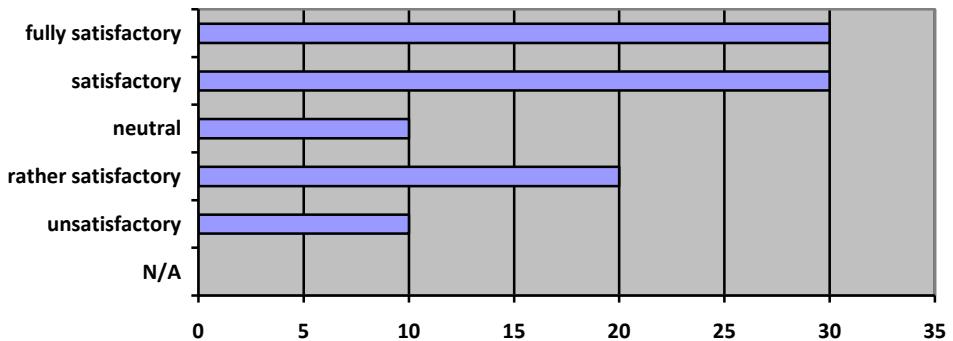


C.5. Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the better hosting of a meeting by EFSA?

- Yes, to make a shuttle to Parma more realistic.
- No, they are very well prepared.

C.6. How do you rate the network meeting follow-up steps (distribution of presentations, production and approval of minutes etc.)?

<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	0%

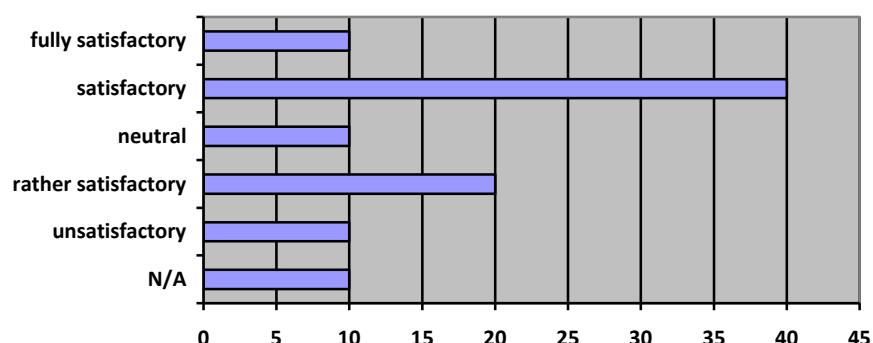


C.7. Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the better follow-up of a meeting by EFSA?

- Minutes are sending several months after meeting.

C.8. How do you rate the IT infrastructure and tools provided by EFSA to facilitate the network operation (e.g. *Document Management System*)?

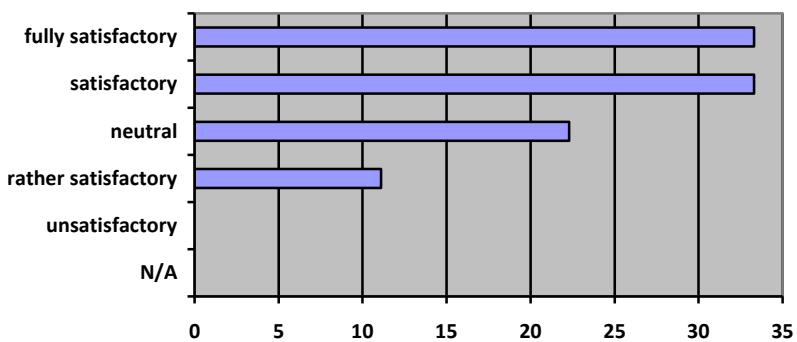
<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	10%





C.9. Overall, how do you rate communication and collaboration with EFSA as facilitators of the network?

<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	33,3%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	33,3%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	22,3%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	11,1%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	0%



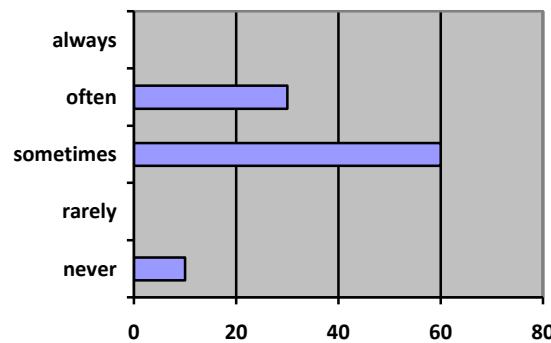
C.10. Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the better communication/ collaboration with EFSA (e.g. new tools, different frequency of meetings etc.)?

- Additional meetings for a limited number of experts as needed.
- Meetings are held too rarely, sometimes there is no time to discuss all matters related to the items

D. Workflow and cooperation at the national level

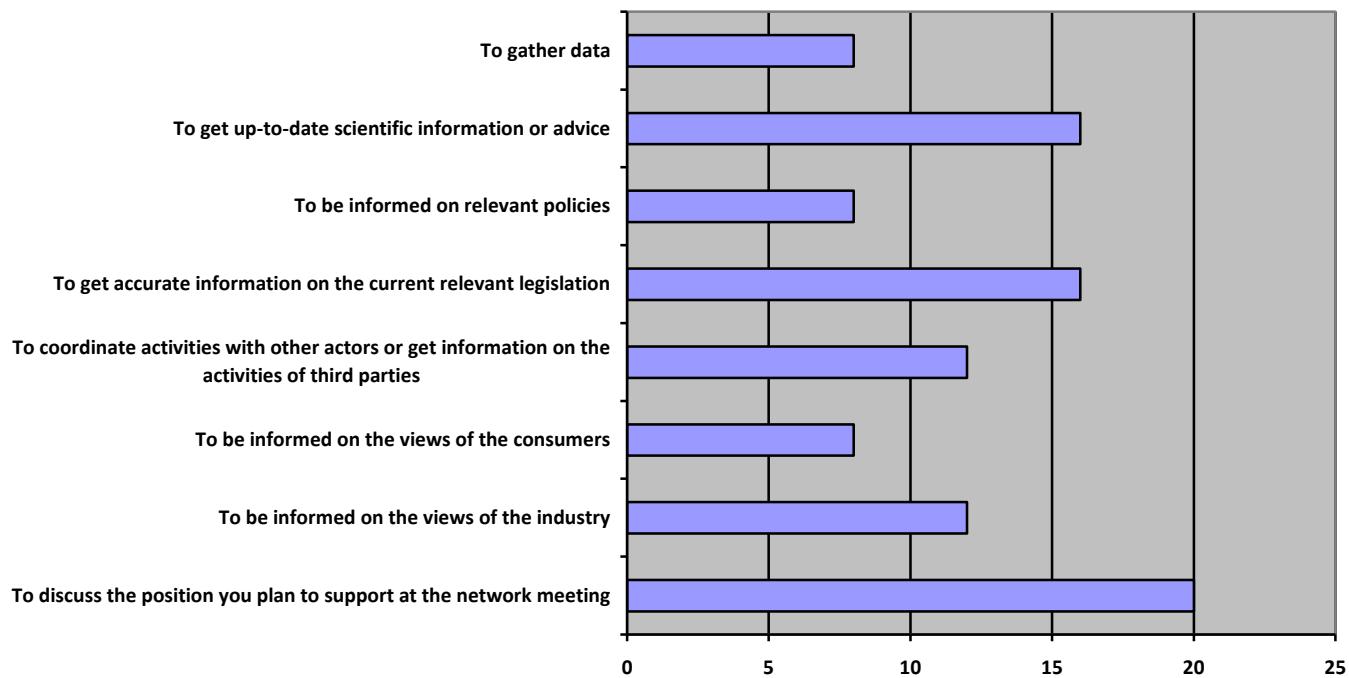
D.1. In your work as a representative do you need to cooperate with other colleagues, organisations or institutes?

<input type="checkbox"/> always	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> often	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> sometimes	60%
<input type="checkbox"/> rarely	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> never	10%



D.2. What are the main reasons that you seek for cooperation with others?

<input type="checkbox"/> To gather data	8%
<input type="checkbox"/> To get up-to-date scientific information or advice	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> To be informed on relevant policies	8%
<input type="checkbox"/> To get accurate information on the current relevant legislation	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> To coordinate activities with other actors or get information on the activities of third parties	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> To be informed on the views of the consumers	8%
<input type="checkbox"/> To be informed on the views of the industry	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> To discuss the position you plan to support at the network meeting	20%



D.3. Please mention any additional reasons that you seek for cooperation with others?

- Issues discussed at the meetings cover a wide area of subjects. The GMO Panel employs approx. 20 experts from various fields . Only 2 experts from the country deals with this issue.

D.4. How often do you cooperate with the following actors before or after meeting?

	always	often	sometimes	rarely	never	N/A
Your alternate/regular national representative	33%				64%	
Polish EFSA Focal Point			56%	22%	22%	
EFSA's national Advisory Forum Member		12,5%	12,5%,		50%	25%
Your institution/ experts in your institution		11%	67%		22%	
Other scientific institutions/ Other experts		11%	56%	11%	22%	
Professional			11%	33%	56%	

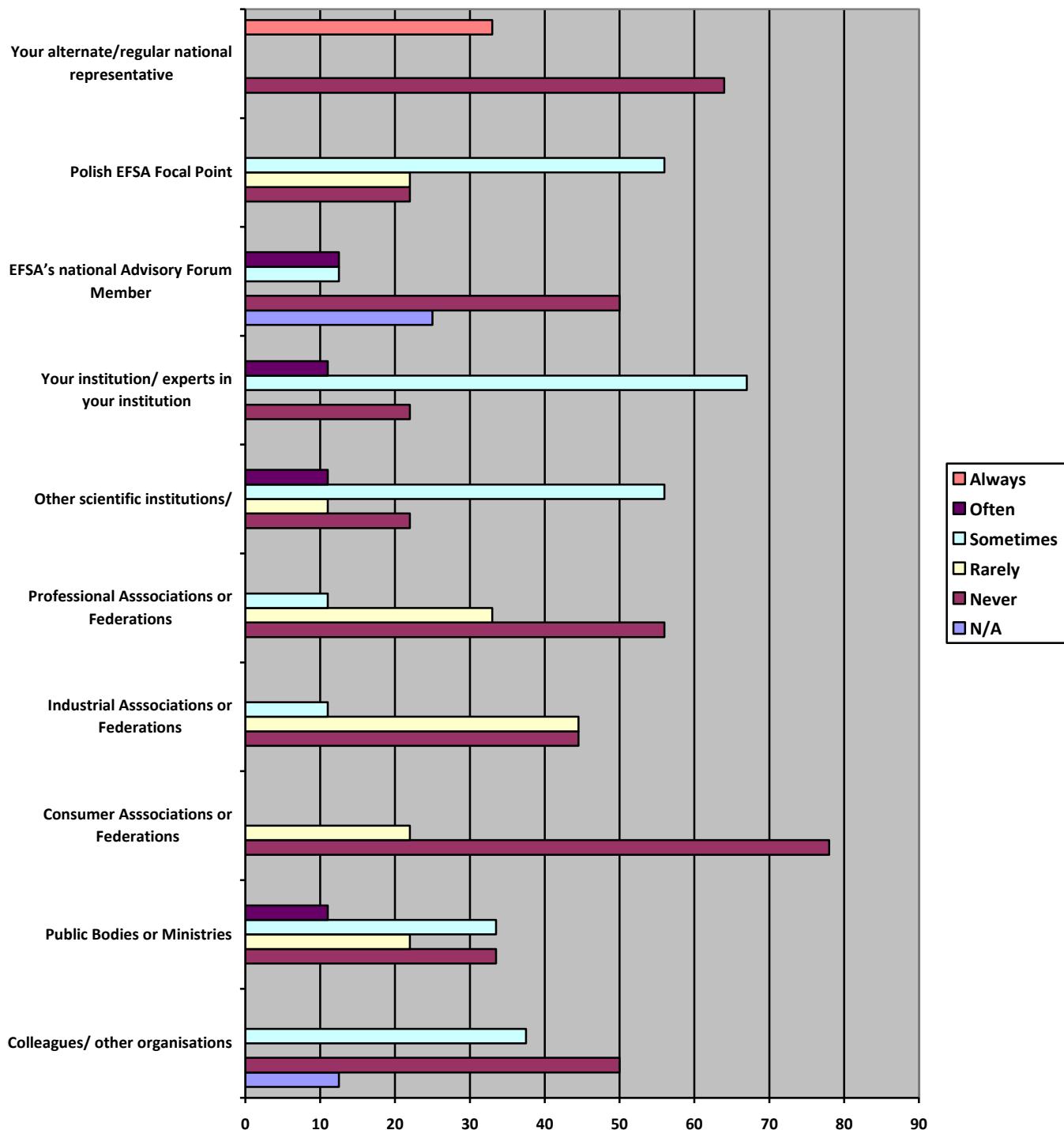


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Associations or Federations						
Industrial Associations or Federations			11%	44,50%	44,5%	
Consumer Associations or Federations				22%	78%	
Public Bodies or Ministries		11%	33,5%	22%	33,5%	
Colleagues/ other organisations			37,5%		50%	12,5%

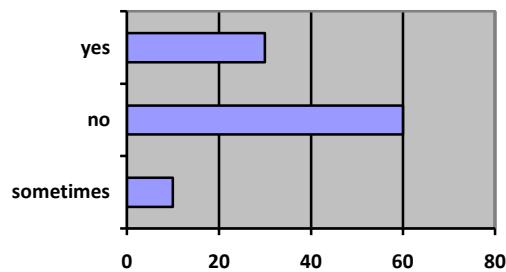


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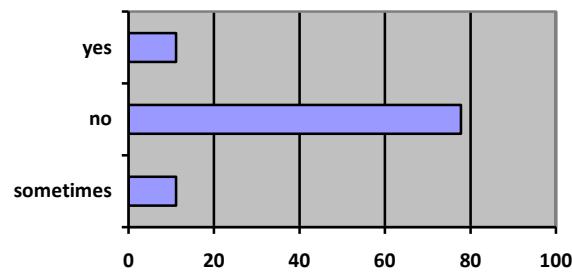
D.5. Do you prepare after meeting a corresponding report/ memo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	60%
<input type="checkbox"/> Sometime – please explain	10% (if <i>Minutes</i> are not available)



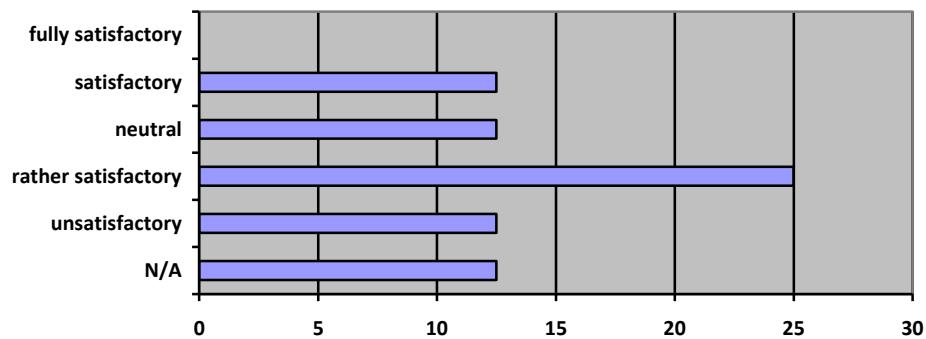
D.6. Do you circulate your report/memo to others?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	11,1%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	77,8%
<input type="checkbox"/> Sometime – please explain	11,1%



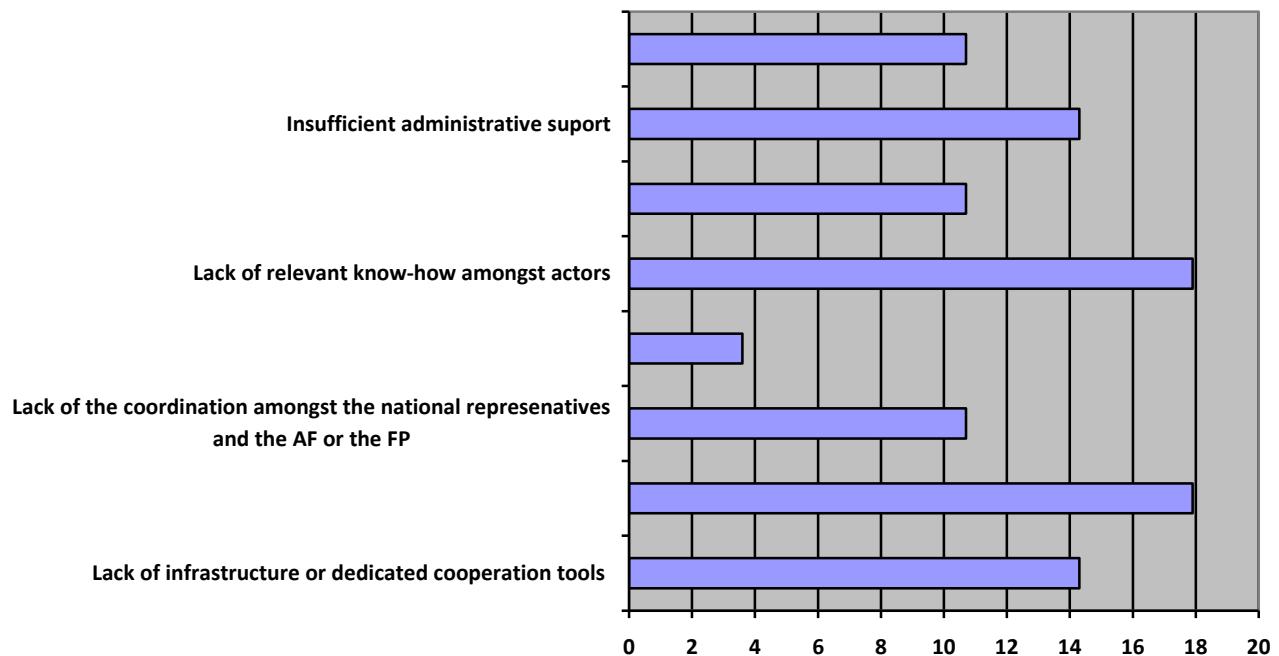
D.7. How do you rate the level of cooperation at the national level with regards to its effectiveness in supporting your role?

<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	12,5%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	12,5%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	25%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	37,5%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	12,5%



D.8. Please indicate the difficulties in cooperation at the national level:

- Lack of visibility of the role of the national expert 10,7%
- Insufficient administrative support 14,3%
- Increase workload – lack of sufficient time 10,7%
- Lack of relevant know-how amongst actors 17,9%
- Difficulties in accessing the needed information (e.g. because it is considered confidential) 3,6%
- Lack of the coordination amongst the national representatives and the Advisory Forum or the Focal Point 10,7%
- Unclear cooperation objectives 17,9%
- Lack of infrastructure or dedicated cooperation tools (e.g. meeting space, on-line collaboration platform) 14,3%



D.9. Please indicate other difficulties you have faced as national expert.

- Sometimes there are problems with other scientific researchers which don't know risk assessment procedures
- Difficulties in the assessment of scientific data. GMOs cover a very wide area.
- The role of experts is not defined at the national level.

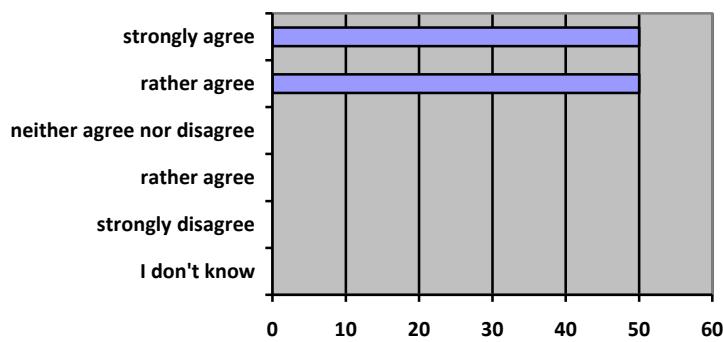
D.10. Do you have any comments or suggestion regarding the improvement of the cooperation at the national level?

- Maybe articles in newspaper or TV programmes on commissions or networks could improve the cooperation.
- Public administration should cooperate and assist the experts in their work.



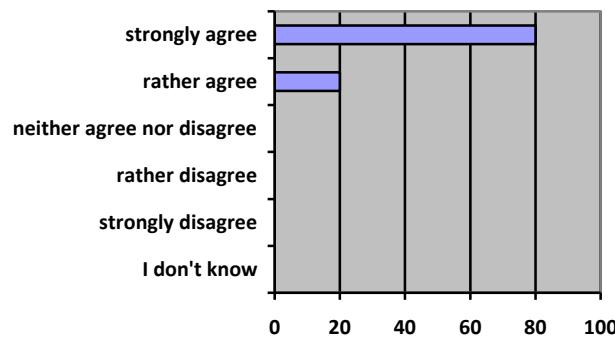
D.11. Do you think that the regular communication with the Advisory Forum Member or the Focal Point would contribute to the better cooperation at the national level?

<input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather agree	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> neither agree nor disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	0%



D.12. Do you think that a regular (e.g. early) meeting among all national representatives with the Focal Point member and Advisory Forum member would contribute to better cooperation at the national level?

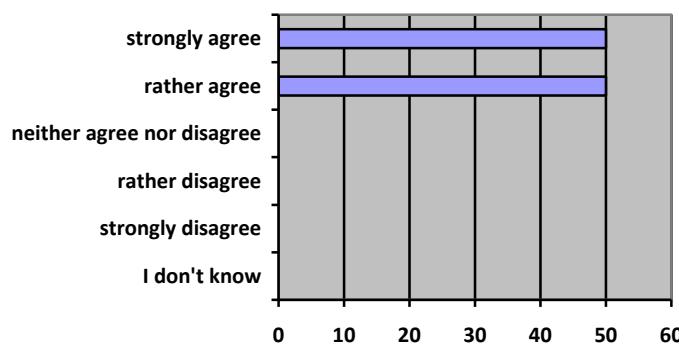
<input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree	80%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather agree	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> neither agree nor disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	0%





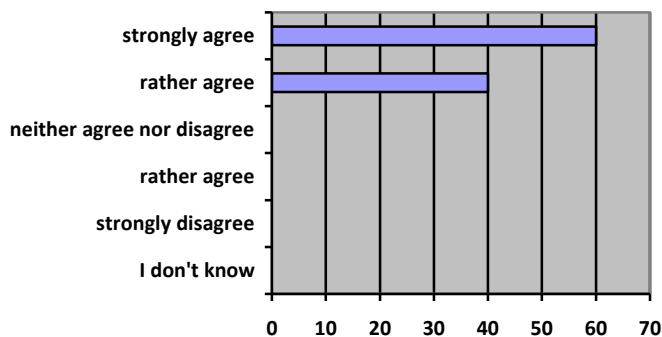
D.13. Do you think that the wider promotion of the work and the role of national representatives (e.g. via open 1-day events, seminar etc.) would contribute to better cooperation at the national level?

<input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather agree	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> neither agree nor disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	0%



D.14. Do you think that the existence/creation of national voluntary-based networks of experts, thematically focused, would contribute to better cooperation at the national level?

<input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree	60%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather agree	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> neither agree nor disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	0%

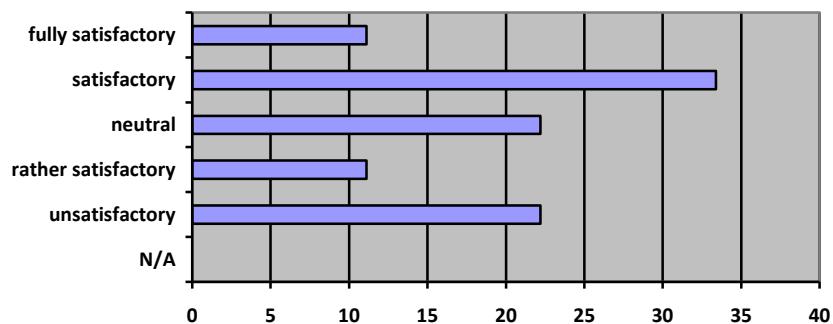




E. Cooperation at the European level

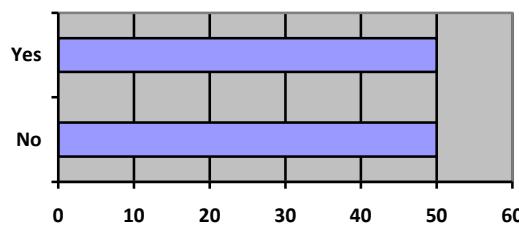
E.1. How would you rate the interaction with the other representatives (from the other countries) in the Network with regards to its effectiveness?

<input type="checkbox"/> fully satisfactory	11,1%
<input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory	33,4%
<input type="checkbox"/> neutral	22,2%
<input type="checkbox"/> rather satisfactory	11,1%
<input type="checkbox"/> unsatisfactory	22,2%
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	0%



E.2. Do you collaborate with the representatives to the network from other countries beyond the formal meetings?

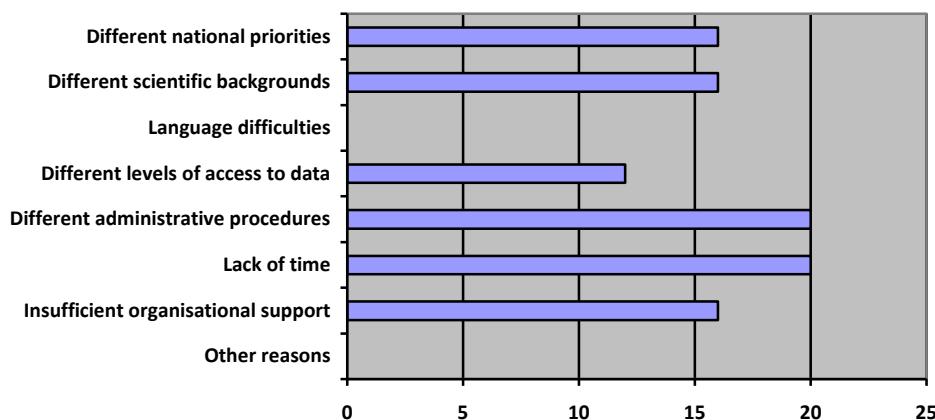
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	50%
<input type="checkbox"/> No	50%





E.3. Please indicate the difficulties you have faced in collaboration with the network experts from other countries:

<input type="checkbox"/> Different national priorities	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Different scientific backgrounds	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Language difficulties	0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Different levels of access to data	12%
<input type="checkbox"/> Different administrative procedures	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of time	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient organisational support	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Other reasons	0%



E.4. Please indicate other difficulties you have faced in collaboration with the network experts from other countries

- Rather positive experiences

F. Impact of EFSA's Scientific Networks

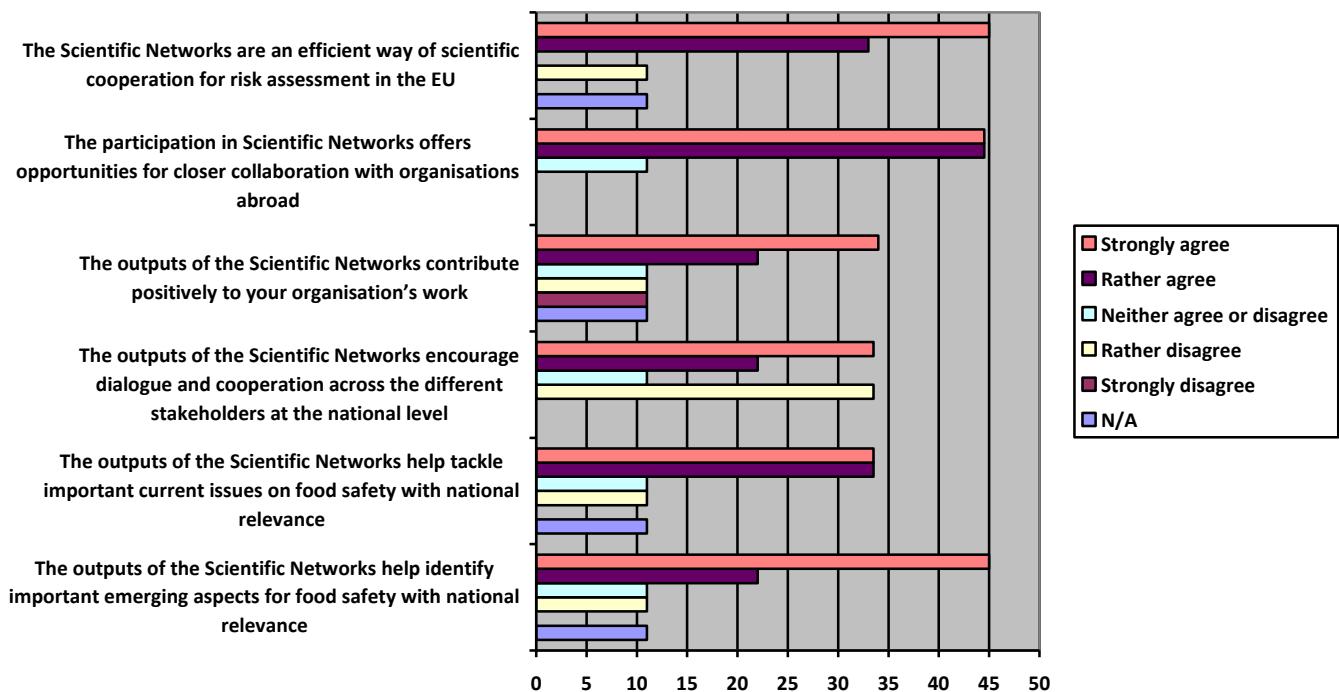
F.1. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Rather agree	Neither agree or disagree	Rather disagree	Strongly disagree	N/A
The Scientific Networks are an efficient way of scientific cooperation for risk assessment in the EU	45%	33%		11%		11%
The participation in Scientific	44,5%	44,5%	11%			



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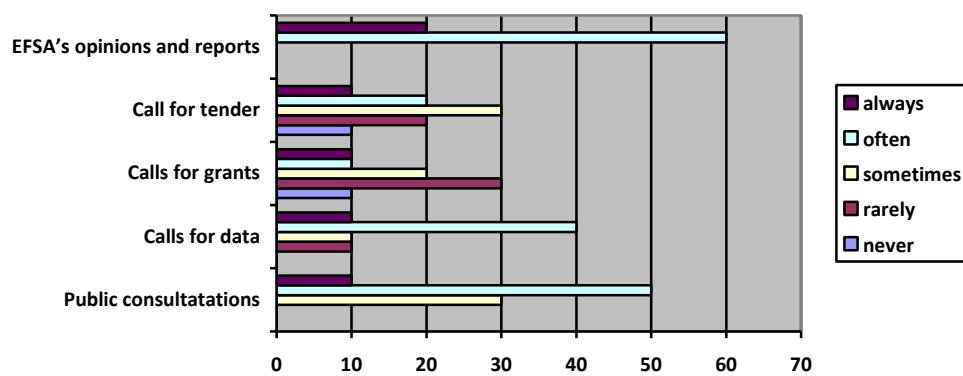
Networks offers opportunities for closer collaboration with organisations abroad						
The outputs of the Scientific Networks contribute positively to your organisation's work	34%	22%	11%	11%	11%	11%
The outputs of the Scientific Networks encourage dialogue and cooperation across the different stakeholders at the national level	33,5%	22%	11%	33,5%		
The outputs of the Scientific Networks help tackle important current issues on food safety with national relevance	33,5%	33,5%	11%	11%		11%
The outputs of the Scientific Networks help identify important emerging aspects for food safety with national relevance	45%	22%	11%	11%		11%



G. Other information

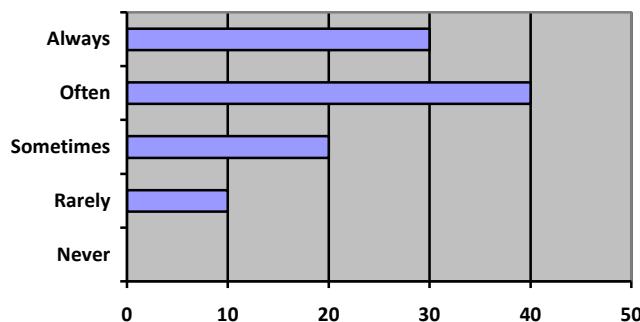
G.1. Do you regulatory monitor the following EFSA outputs:

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
EFSA's opinions and reports	20%	60%			
Call for tender (procurement)	10%	20%	30%	20%	10%
Calls for grants (relevant to the organisations of Article 36)	10%	10%	20%	30%	10%
Calls for data	10%	40%	10%	10%	
Public consultations	10%	50%	30%		



G.2. Do you promote EFSA outputs to other people, who would be interested in such outputs?

<input type="checkbox"/> Always	30%
<input type="checkbox"/> Often	40%
<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Rarely	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> Never	0%

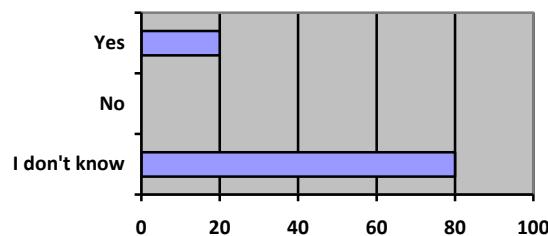




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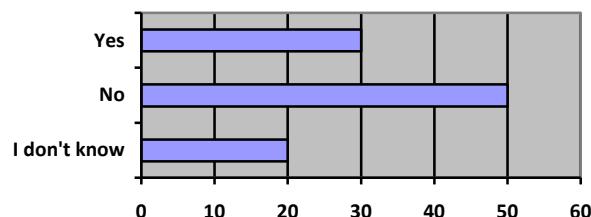
G.3. Is your organisation on the List of the Article 36 organisation (Reg. (EC) 178/2002)?

- Yes 20%
- No 0%
- I don't know 80%



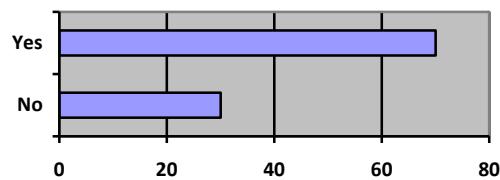
G.4. Has your organisation participated in a call for tender or call for grants of EFSA?

- Yes 30%
- No 50%
- I don't know 20%



G.5. Are you aware of the expert database of EFSA (EDB)?

- Yes 70%
- No 30%

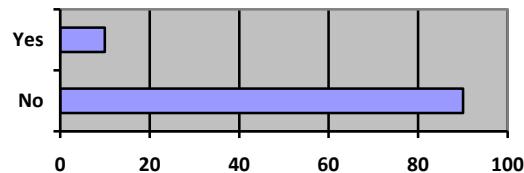


G.6. Have you registered as an expert in the database of EFSA (EDB)?

- Yes 10%
- No 90%

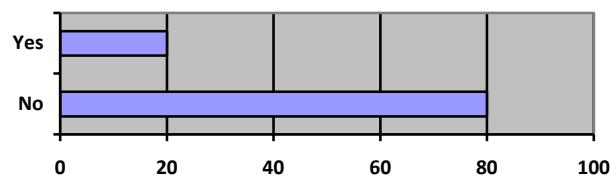


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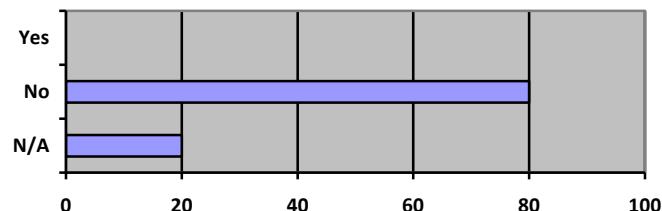
G.7. Have you ever been invited by EFSA to participate as an expert in any working group?

- Yes 20%
- No 80%



G.8. Have you used the expert database of EFSA to identify needed expertise?

- Yes 0%
- No 80%
- N/A 20%



G.9. Do you have additional comments regarding your function as a national representative?

- The knowledge on the GMO risk assessment is very low in society. The dogmatic approach to GMOs is not based on a serious discussion on the GMOs and biotechnology.
- Poland should be represented in EFSA very well. Therefore national procedures and the national cooperation between experts and administrative bodies should be improved.

THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING THE QUESTIONNAIRE!