



OIE
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**Implementation of OIE standards by Member Countries:
state of play and specific capacity building needs**

- **Introduction**
- **Challenges to the implementation of OIE standards**
- **Solutions to facilitate the implementation of OIE standards**
- **Conclusions**



OIE STANDARDS

have the objective of improving animal health and welfare, and veterinary public health, worldwide.



FAILURE to implement the OIE standards means missed opportunities for safe trade and can lead to trade disputes.

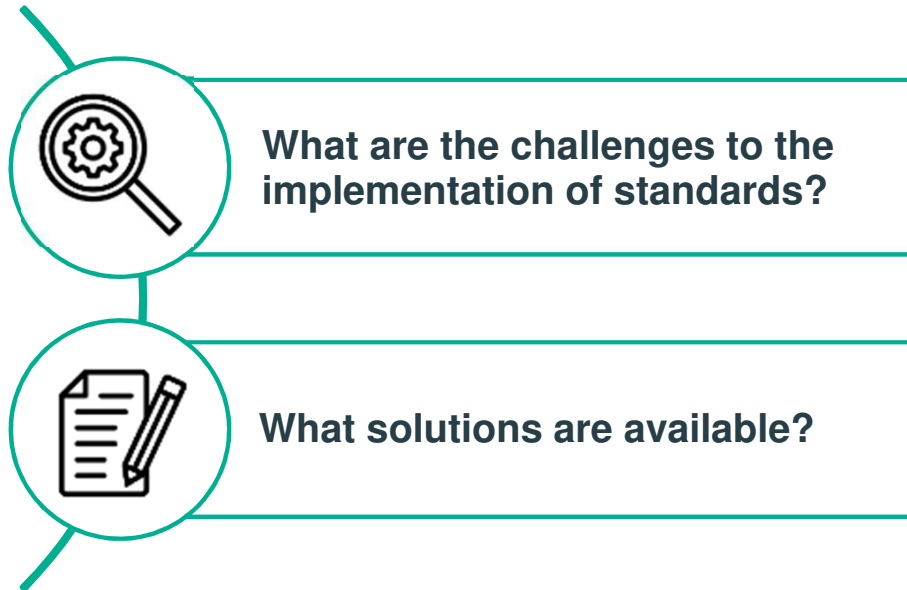
Science-based

Adopted by resolution of the World Assembly (181 Members)

WTO references with respect to animal diseases and zoonoses

Questionnaire – objectives and scope

- To collect information on the use of OIE standards, analyse challenges and recommend solutions - in the context of international trade.



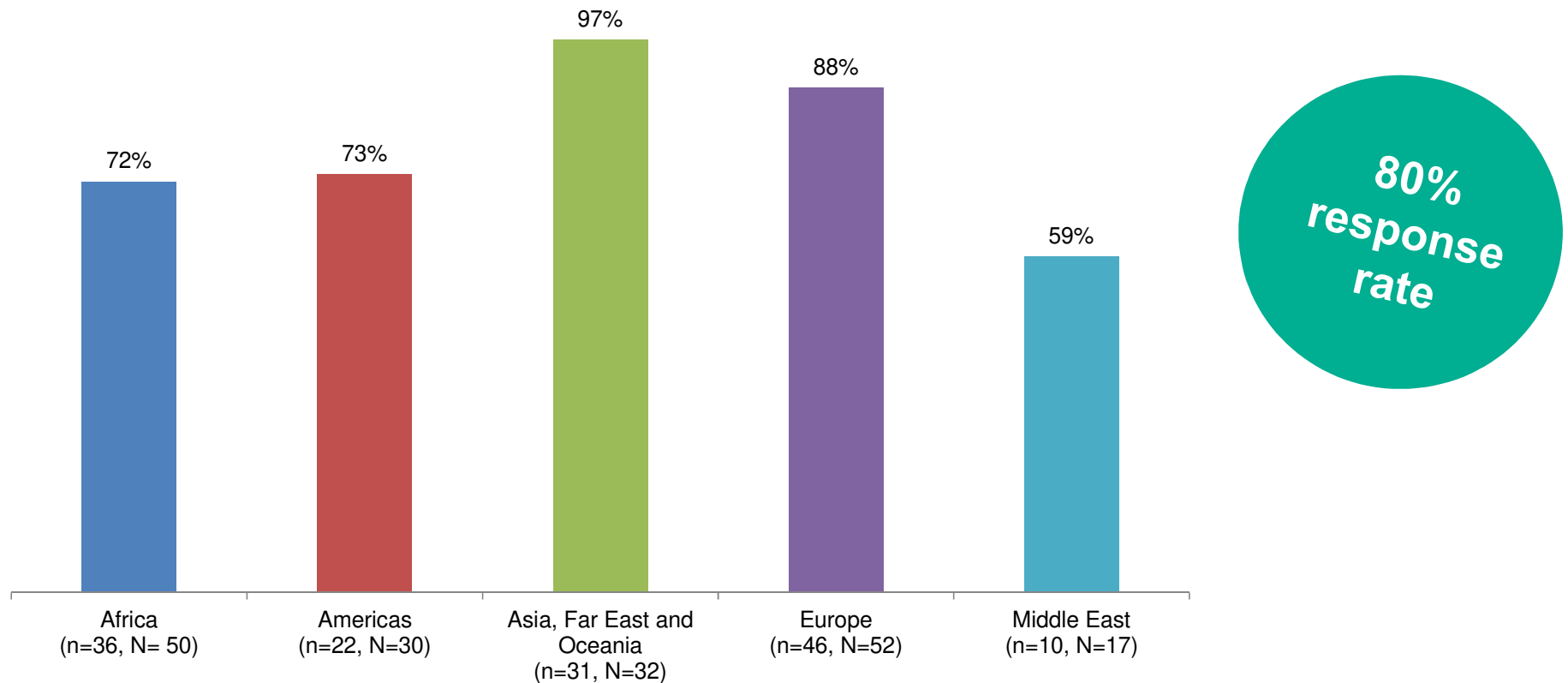
Section 1.
General information on
national veterinary and
aquatic animal health
systems

Section 2.
Use of OIE standards &
importation

Section 3.
Use of OIE standards &
export access

Section 4.
Challenges & capacity
building needs

- Of the total 181 Member countries, 145 sent detailed replies

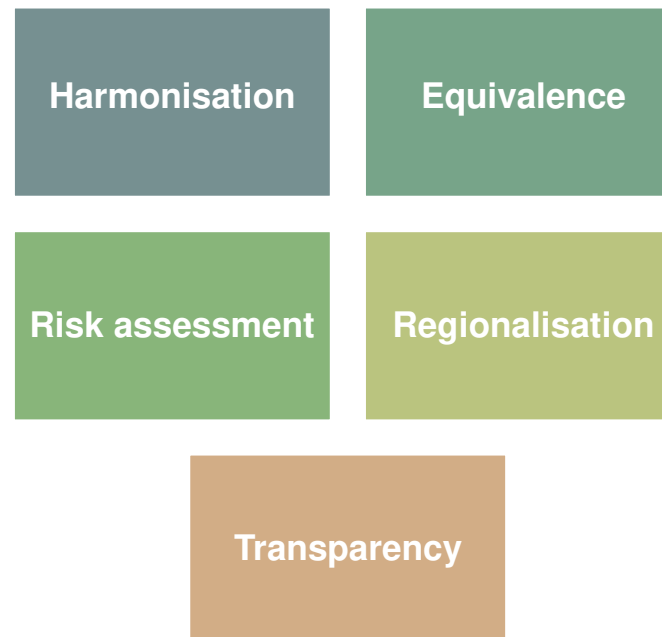




Challenges to the implementation of OIE standards

The OIE standards in the context of the SPS Agreement

- 89% of respondents are WTO members.
- The SPS Agreement calls for participation in the development and the use of international standards (harmonisation).
- Measures that are more restrictive than international standards should be supported by scientific evidence & risk analysis.

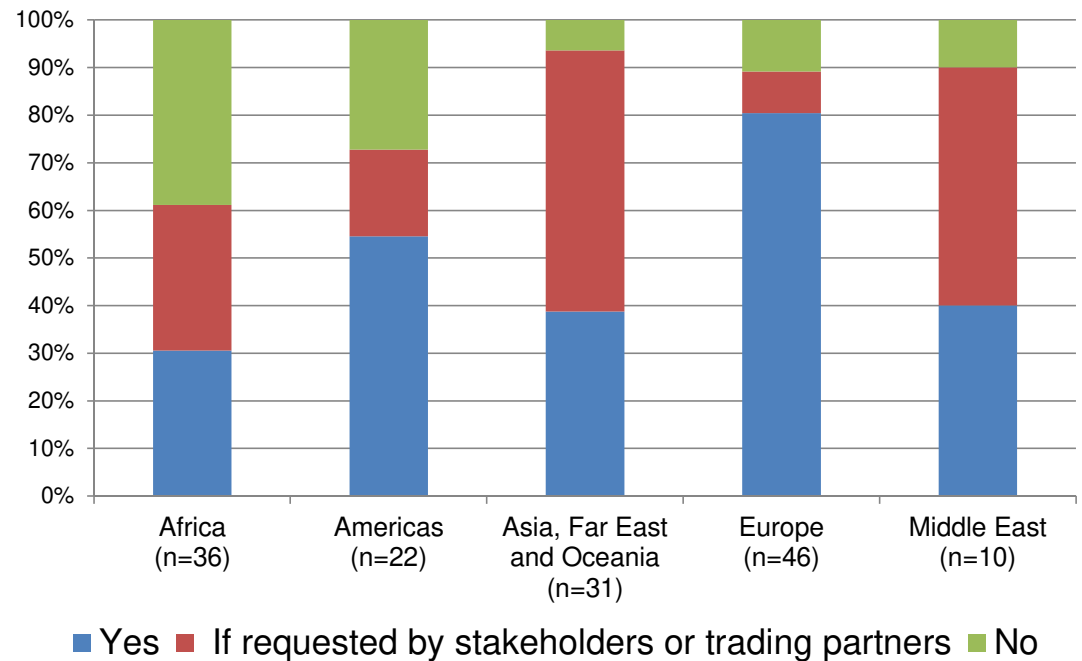


55% reported that they DO NOT systematically provide scientific justification to trading partners when imposing measures stricter than OIE standards.

- **International standards** are considered when developing sanitary requirements (99%)
 - **A legal requirement** (39%)
 - **By policy** (60%).

- Policies provide for **systematic review / evaluation** of sanitary measures (52%)

Does your country have a proactive policy to evaluate and revise sanitary measures periodically e.g. to take into account amendments to the OIE Codes?



Equivalence (1)

- Countries **generally have the authority to use equivalence** as the basis for setting sanitary measures for the importation of commodities (92%), **by law (52%) or policy (40%)**

52%



Formal policies or procedures for determining equivalence

55%

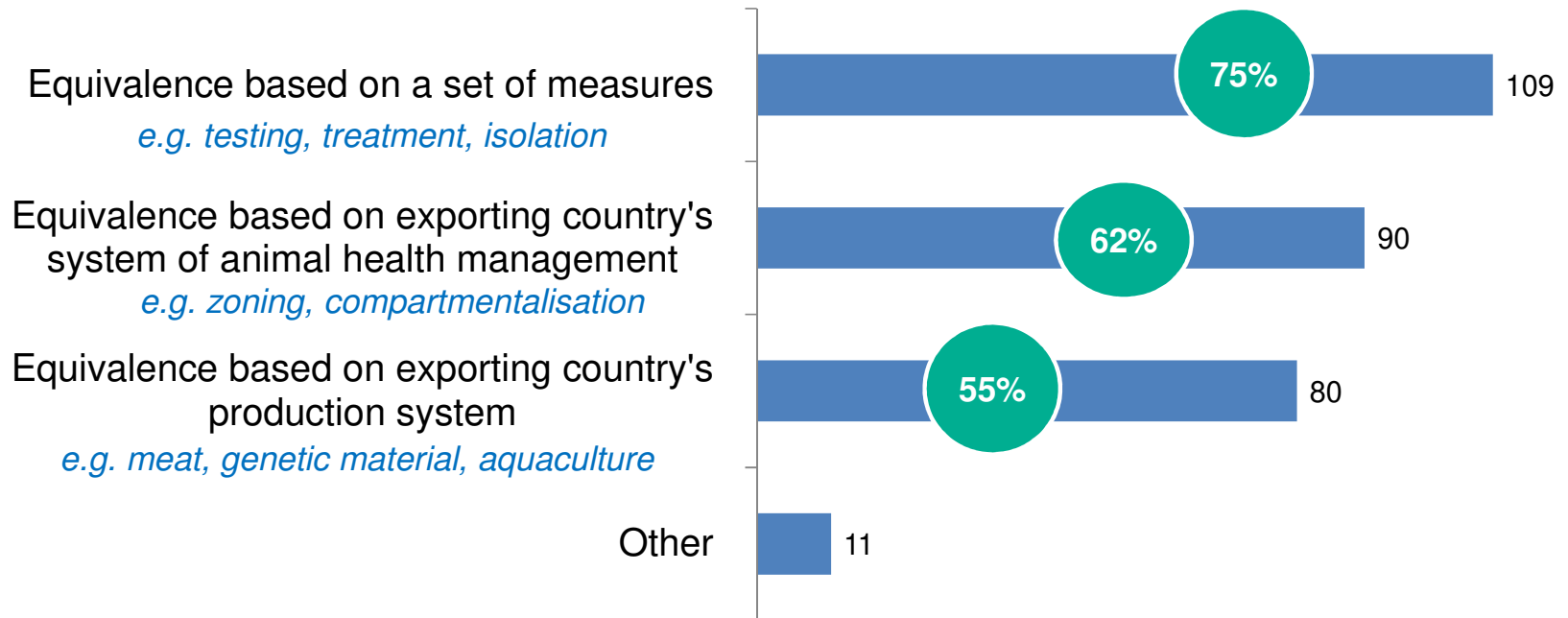


Processes for determining equivalence conform with OIE recommendations

- **Reported challenges**
 - Exporting country lacks transparency or fails to provide information (60%)
 - Inadequate capacity of human resources (49%)
 - Lack of OIE guidance (30%)

Equivalence (2)

- Equivalence is a complex concept that is interpreted in various ways.



Risk assessment (1)

93%



Risk assessment is the basis for sanitary measures

86%



Standardised procedures are used

Sources of information used SYSTEMATICALLY by importing countries when setting sanitary measures for importation

<p>WAHIS (90%)</p>	<p>OIE official disease status (90%)</p>	<p>Terrestrial Animal Health Code (86%) & Manual (77%)</p>	<p>Aquatic Animal Health Code (63%) & Manual (59%)</p>
<p>Self-declared disease status (41%)</p>	<p>OIE Handbook on Risk Analysis Vol. 1 (41%) Vol. 2 (36%)</p>	<p>Visit to exporting country (41%)</p>	<p>Questionnaire answered by exporting country (30%)</p>
	<p>OIE PVS report published (21%) or direct request (17%)</p>	<p>Risk analysis of another country (14%)</p>	

Risk assessment (2) – OIE recognition of disease status

Exporting country perspective

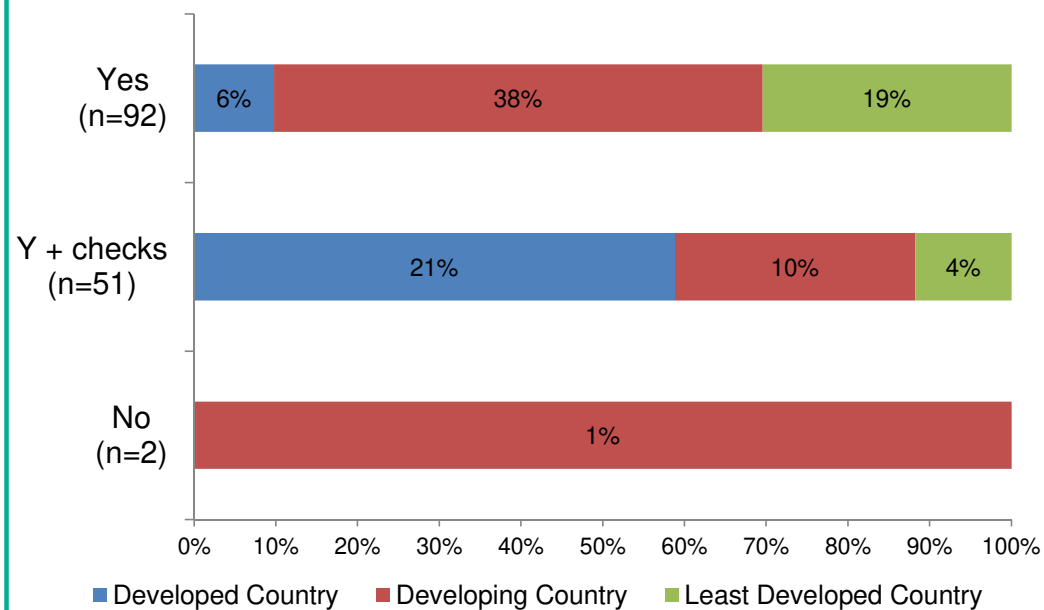
92% → Very important to export market access

.. but ..

53% → Importing countries regularly request dossiers and/or make on-site visits to verify status

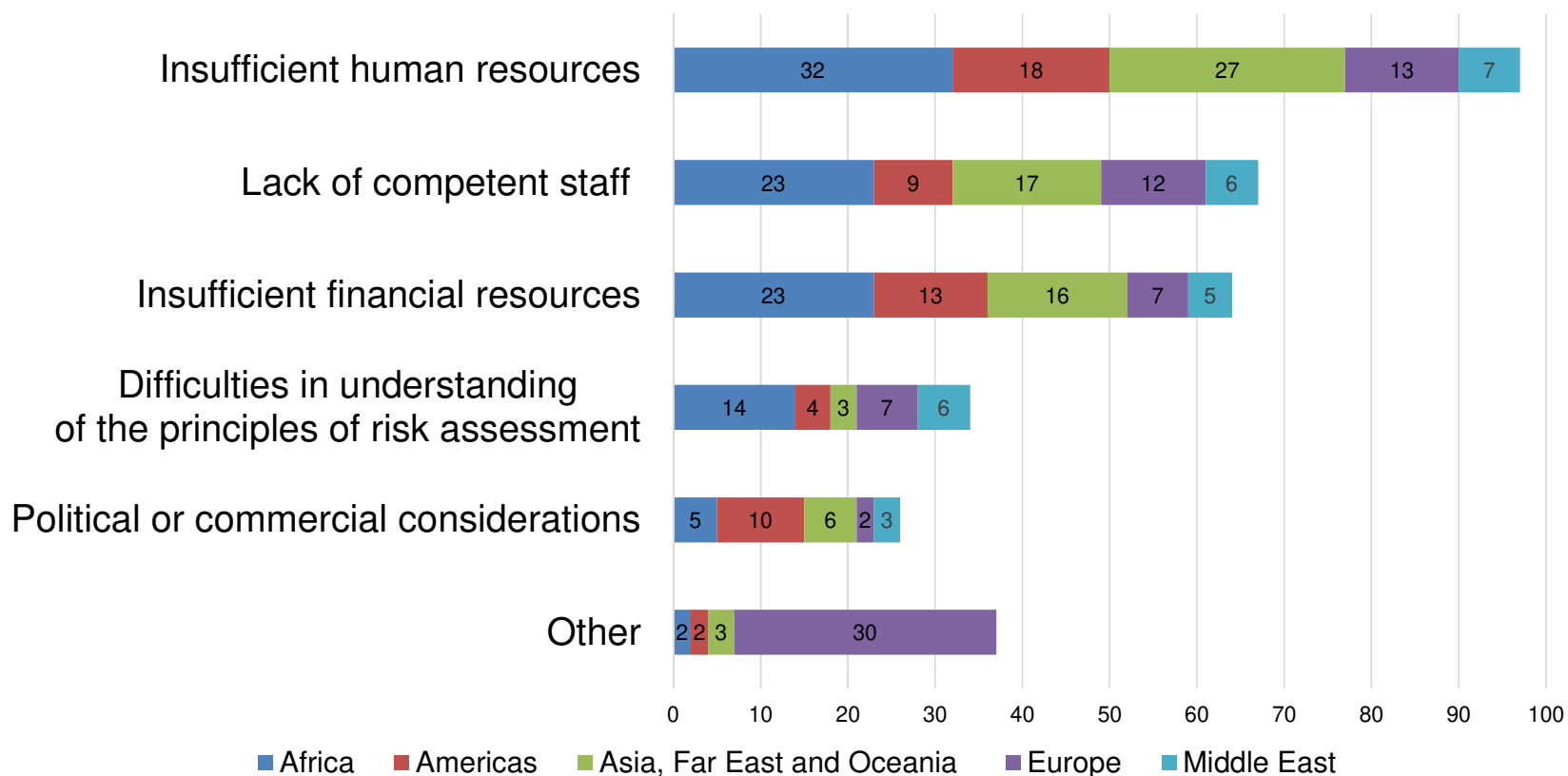
Importing country perspective

Does your country consider whether the OIE has granted official disease freedom for the exporting country/zone?



Risk assessment (3) – Reported challenges

- 60 countries (41%) reported lack of expertise in risk analysis as a challenge.
- 108 (74%) identified it as a 'high priority' topic and 92% as 'high or medium priority' for training.



OIE concepts - safe trade and safe commodities

- Concepts linked to risk assessment
- Recommendations are comprehensive for aquatic animal products, some scope for work on terrestrial animal products.
- There is scope for more Member countries to apply these concepts

63%



Fully consider OIE recommendations on **safe trade**

55%



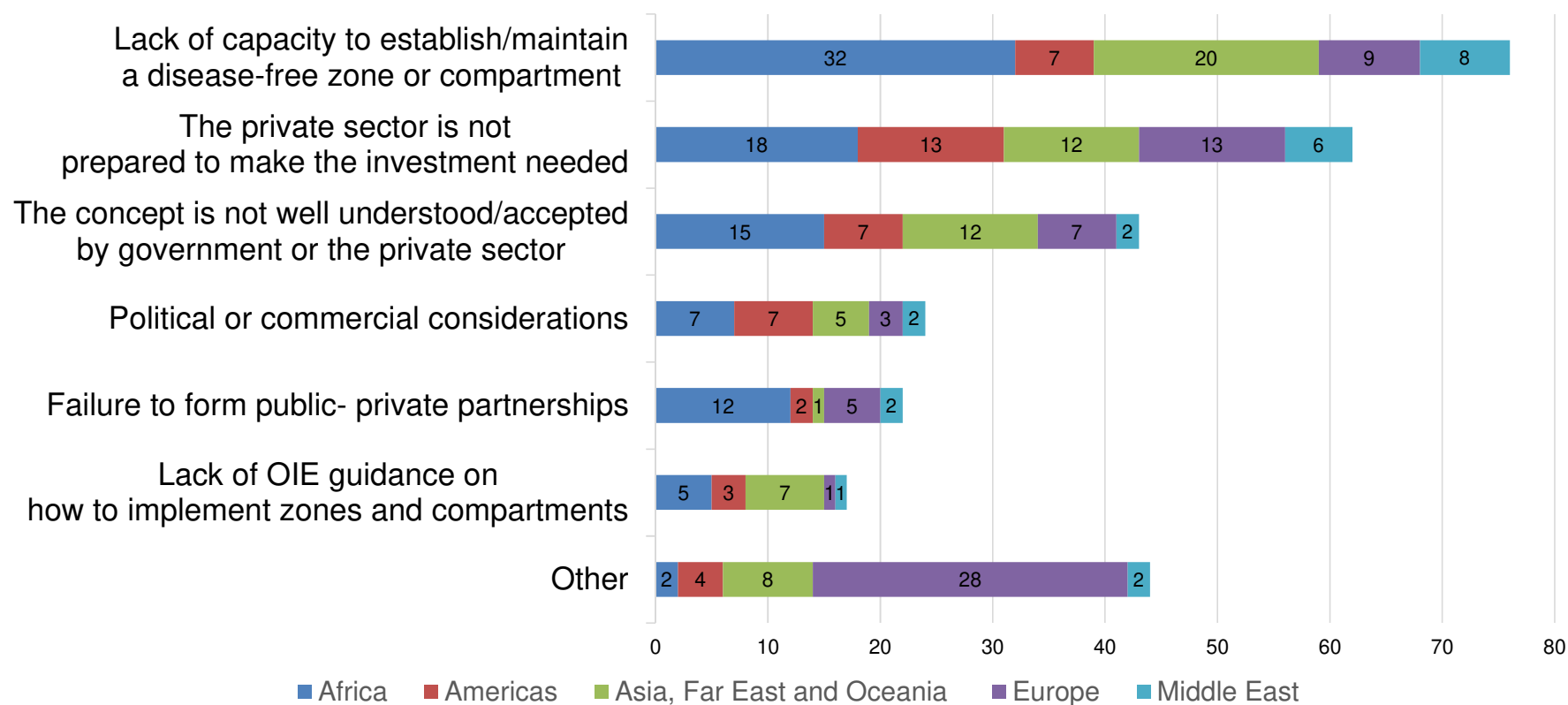
Fully consider the definition of **safe commodities** in the *Codes*

92%



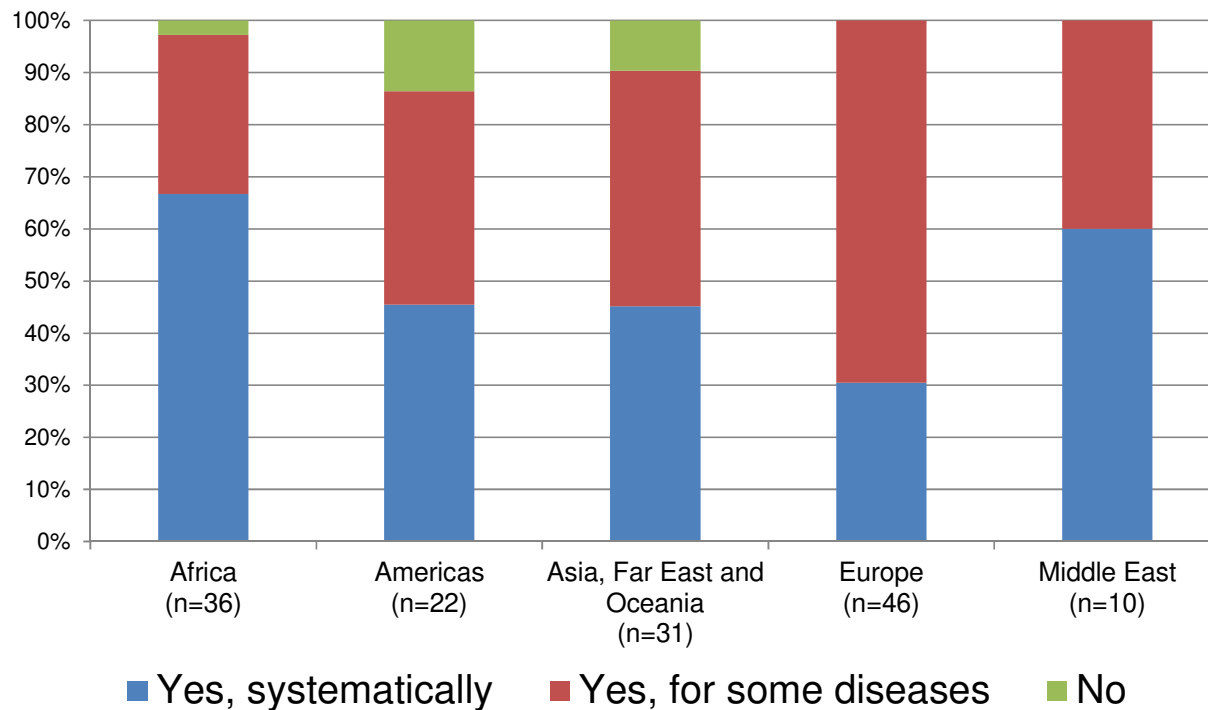
Training on “safe trade” is high or medium priority, especially for the OIE regions of Europe and the Middle East

Challenges to use of these concepts as a tool to facilitate trade



Zoning and compartmentalisation – importing country perspective

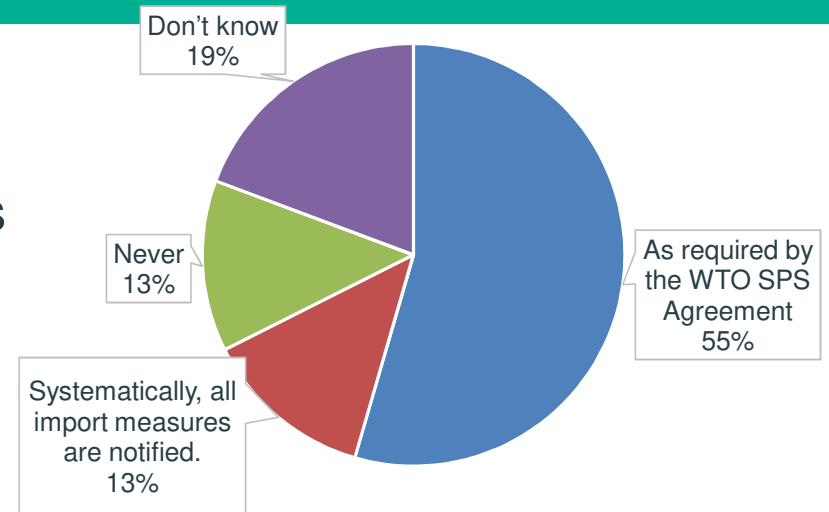
If an exporting country applies OIE recommendations on zoning for diseases, does your country authorize imports from these free zones?



Transparency (1) – Notification to the WTO

68%

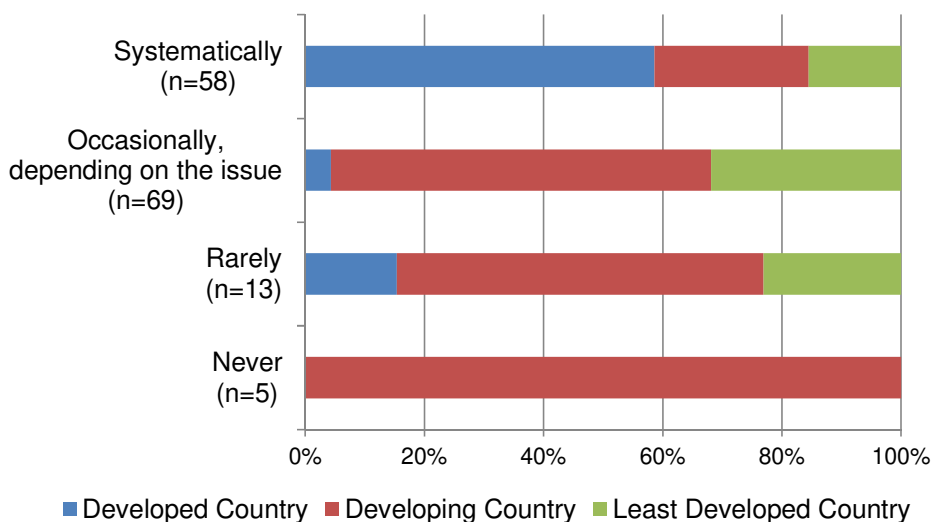
Notification of sanitary measures is commonly practiced



- Member countries are aware of the OIE's role & importance in the WTO context.
- **Training on 'OIE standards and the SPS Agreement' was reported as one of the top 4 priorities of all regions**
 - The top priority of developed countries
 - The second highest of developing and least developed countries.
- **Joint training activities** (OIE + international, regional or WTO/STDF) were regarded as somewhat less useful than activities delivered solely by the OIE but still considered **'very useful' or 'useful' by 91% of countries.**

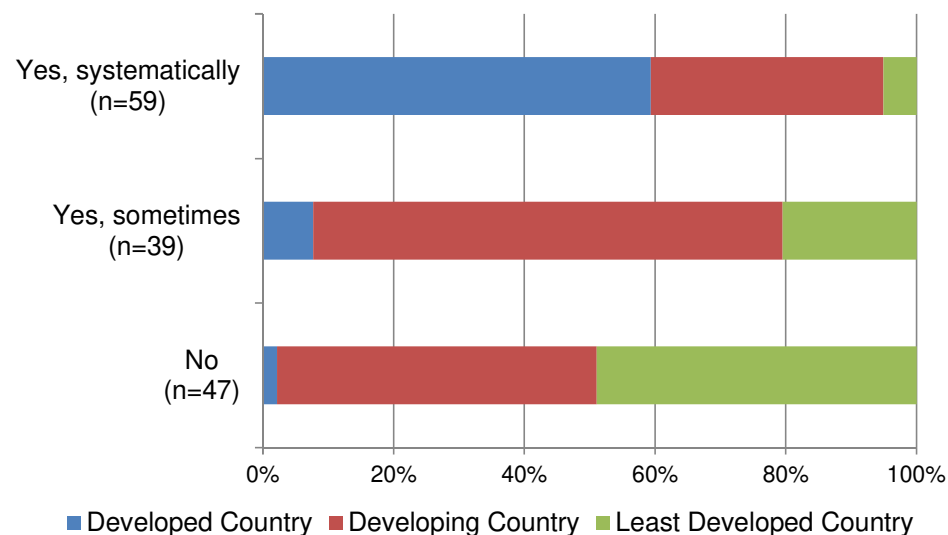
Consultation on draft measures

To what extent are private sector stakeholders (e.g. producers, processors, consumers) consulted when establishing sanitary measures?



Transparency of measures in force

After entry into force, are sanitary requirements for importation and veterinary health certificates available to the public on an official web-site?



Transparency (3) – challenges

Exporting country perspective

30%



Importing countries do not use OIE standards

53%



Importing countries regularly check OIE official status by requesting dossiers and carrying out on-site visits

48%



Importing countries regularly check self-declared status by requesting additional information and carrying out on-site visits

Importing country perspective

74%



Exporting countries are not transparent or do not provide sufficient information in recognizing disease-free zones/compartments

22%



Exporting countries do not use OIE standards

Market access

48%



Private sector lacks capacity to comply with importing country requirements

Zoning/compartmentalisation

43%



Lack of required investment by the private sector

15%



Failure to establish public-private partnership



Solutions to facilitate the implementation of OIE standards

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For consideration by the OIE (1)

- **Need for continual strengthening of capacities to apply the key SPS principles**

Expand communication
with Delegates &
import/export staff
Targeted communications
with decision-makers

Make **standard setting**
process as open and
inclusive as possible;
Maintain scientific
excellence.

Develop / update
guidance on equivalence,
safe commodities and
safe trade

Use modern techniques
and tools for **information**
sharing
Promote **transparency**

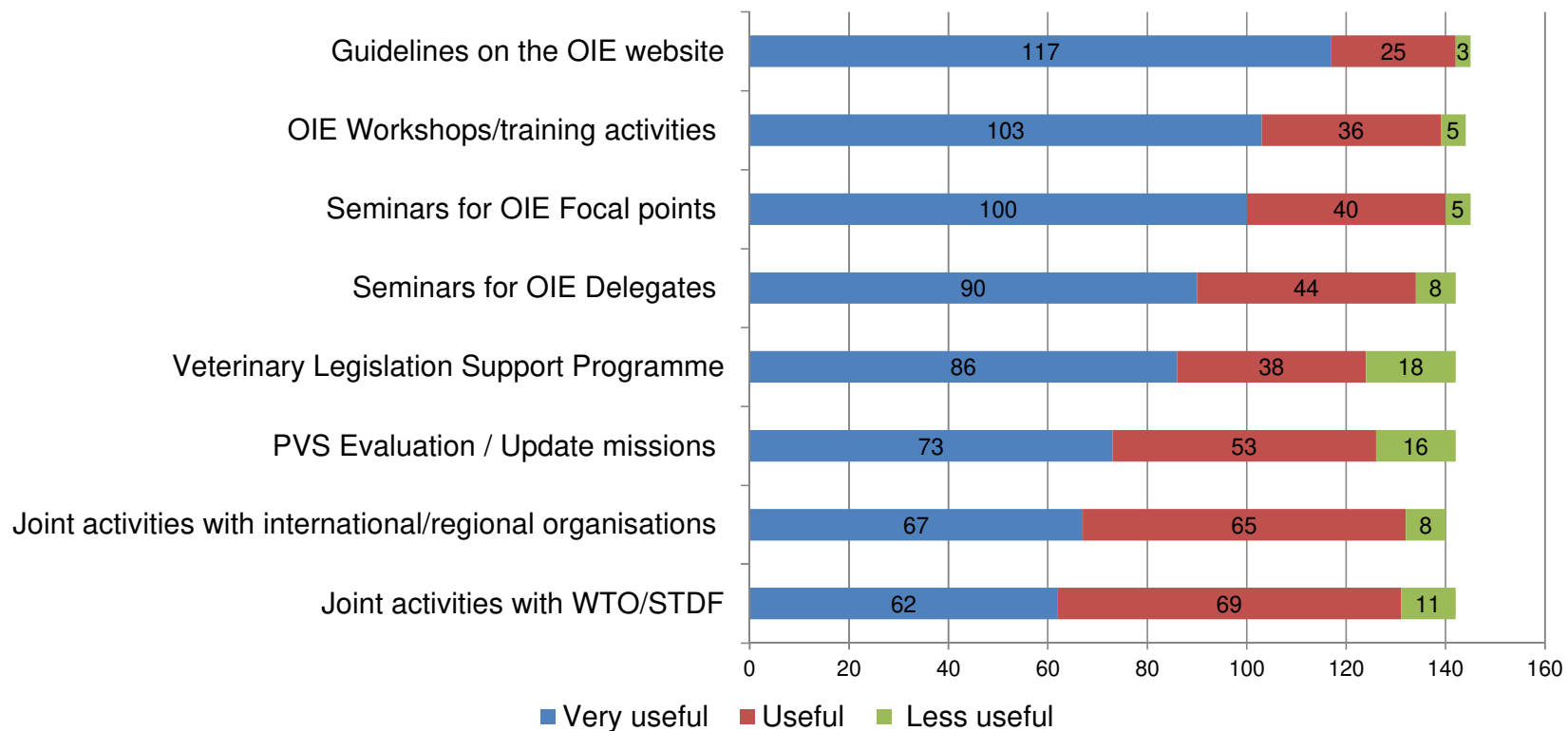
Review and update
procedures for granting an
official health status

Promote **public-private**
partnerships



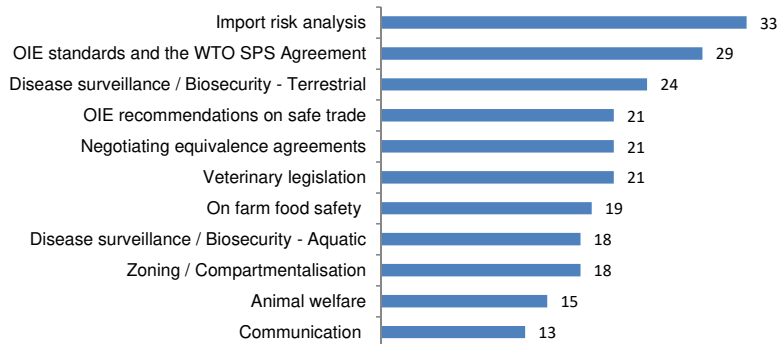
For consideration by the OIE (2)

Usefulness of OIE activities to understanding of the standards

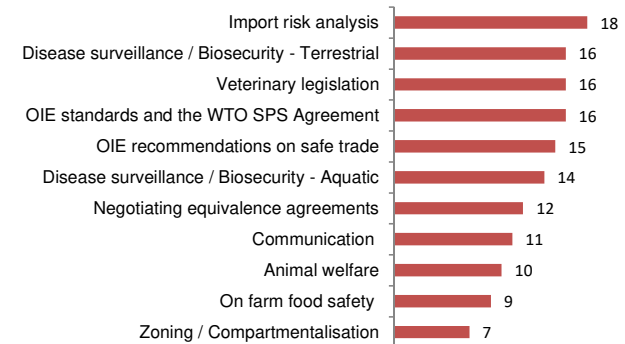


For consideration by the OIE (3) – regional priorities for training topics

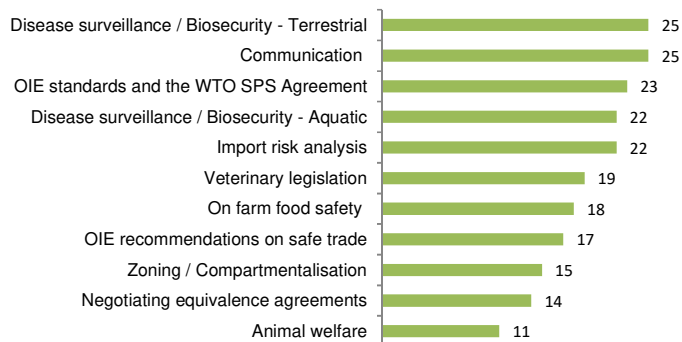
Africa (n=36)



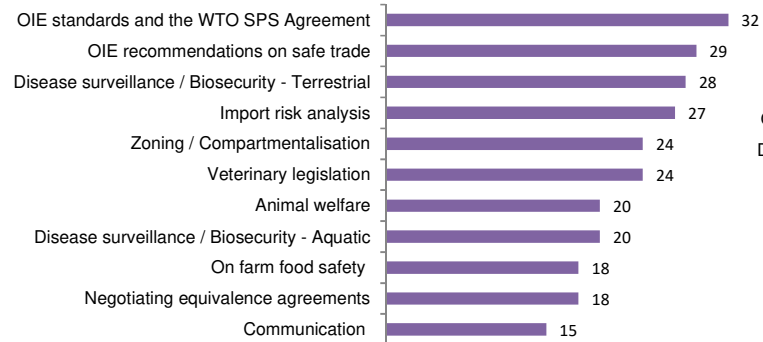
Americas (n=22)



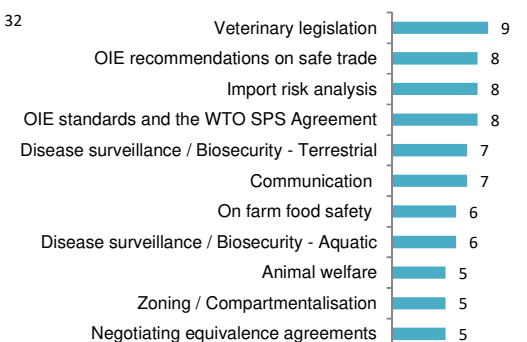
Asia, Far East and Oceania (n=31)



Europe (n=46)



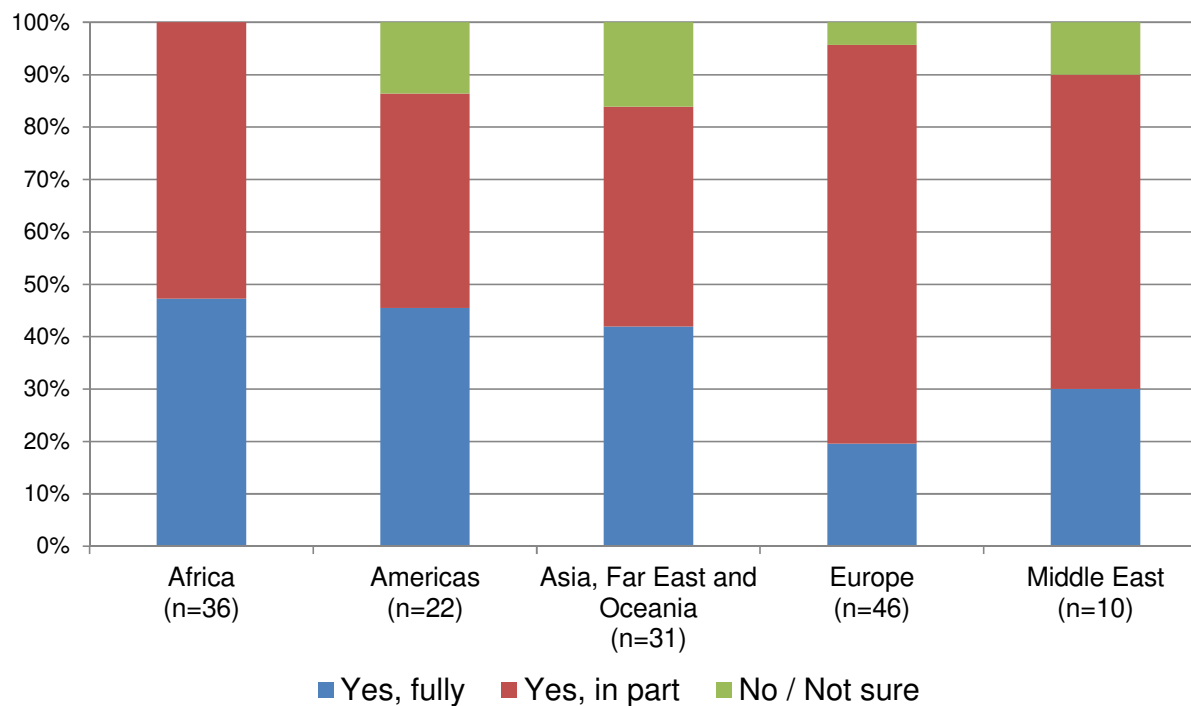
Middle East (n=10)



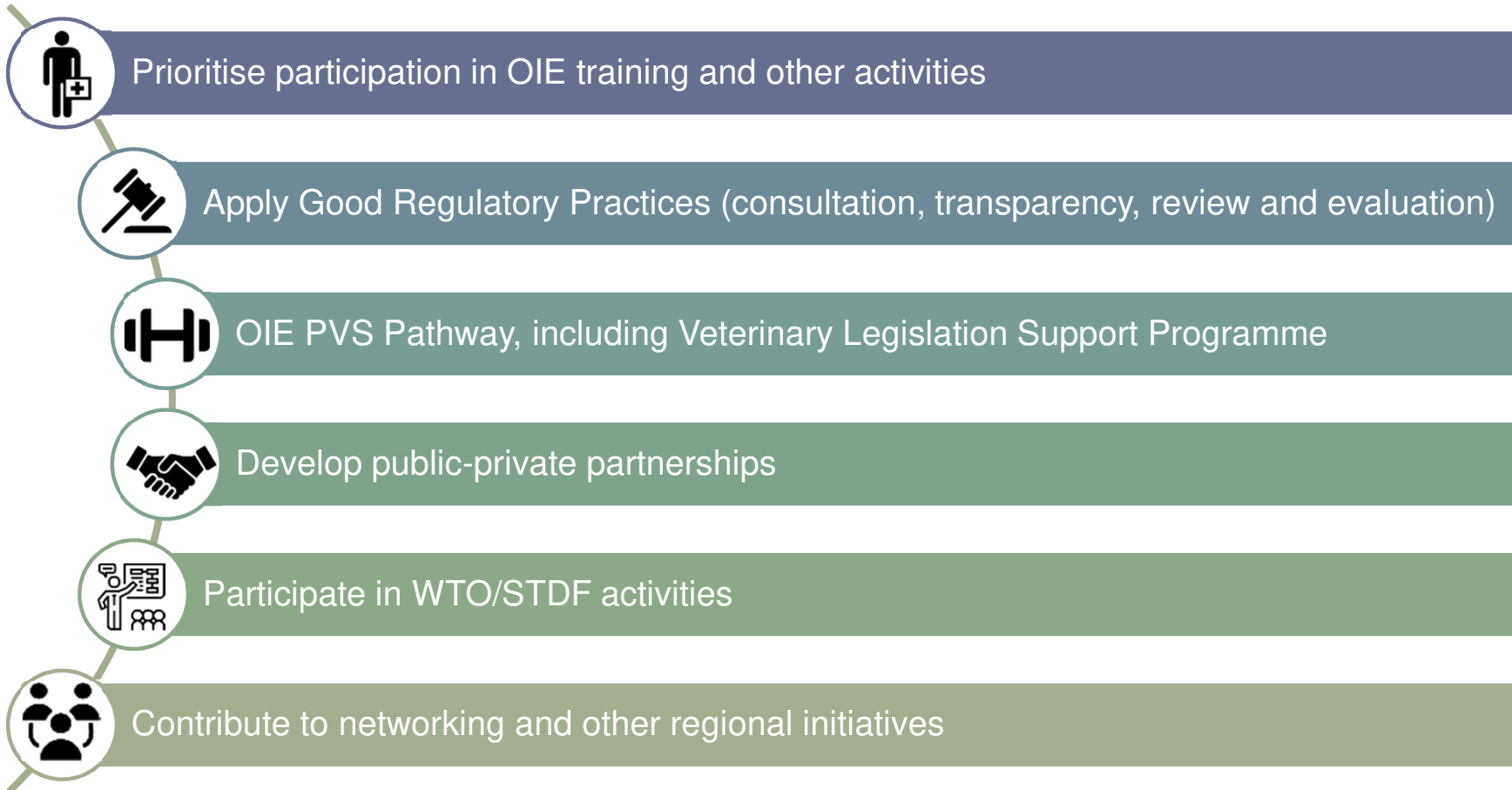
For consideration by Member Countries (1)

- Participation in the OIE standard setting process

Does the OIE address the priorities of Member Countries when setting standards?



For consideration by Member Countries (2)



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The future

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Monitoring

- Collection of information on the implementation of OIE standards by Member Countries



Analysis

- Greater understanding of challenges to the implementation of standards
- Evaluate the effectiveness and the practicability of OIE standards



Strategy

- Enhancement of the standard setting process.
- Identification of tools to help Member countries overcome the challenges
- Help to ensure that OIE and donors' investments in capacity building meet their goals.



Conclusions

Conclusions (1)

- The Questionnaire demonstrated that the relevance of OIE standards is well recognised and Member countries have made much progress in implementing the standards.
- Since the WTO was established, key SPS concepts have been embedded in national policies and national legal frameworks are increasingly making provision for relevant concepts. But there is still more work to be done.
- Governments should continue to be vigilant in relation to diseases and other health risks and apply sound approaches to risk management.
- There is an ongoing need for investment in the national veterinary and aquatic animal health services and the OIE will continue to show leadership and advocate for this.

Conclusions (2)

- The OIE provides standards and recommendations based on evidence and science, reflecting and supporting good regulatory practice.
- Member countries must prioritise their engagement with the OIE.
- Regional collaboration (with involvement of OIE regional offices) is beneficial to harmonisation of policies with international standards.
- Member countries should consider participation in the OIE PVS Pathway.
- The OIE Observatory is a very welcome initiative and all Member countries are strongly encouraged to participate.

Thank you!

Merci!

Gracias!

- For the kind support of the OIE Standards Department.
- To the OIE Director General, the OIE Council and all Member countries.