UNISDR-WMO
"Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey"

Interim Evaluation

Second Steering Committee Meeting
Skopje
31 May 2013
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Purpose of the presentation

- To **wrap-up** on the process and main **findings** of the interim evaluation

Contents of the presentation

1. **Framework** of the interim evaluation *(purpose/methodology)*
2. **Evaluation findings**
3. **Key** areas of attention and **recommendations**

1. Evaluation framework: Purpose

- **Overall objective**: **Independent assessment** of **project performance**

- **Purpose (three-fold)**:
  - Review project **progress**
  - Identify **problems/contraints** *(if any)*
  - Identify **areas of attention** and develop **recommendations** to improve implementation in the second year

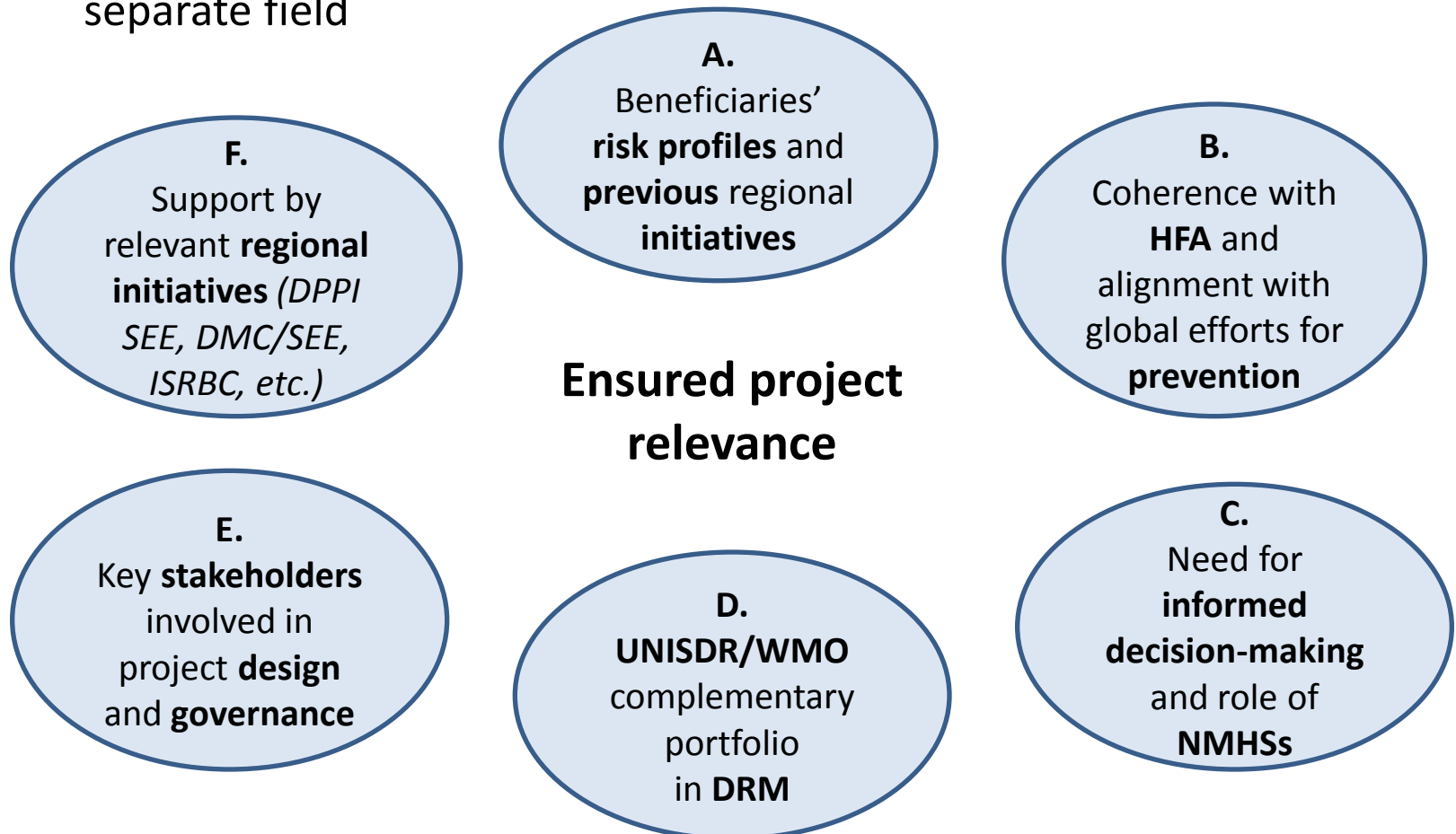- **Time-frame:** One month *(incl. feedbacks from SC)*

1. Evaluation framework: Methodology

- **Desk review**
  - Relevant resource material, EC ROM 2012

- **Structured questionnaires (DMAs and NMHSs):**
  - **Participatory approach/interaction** with stakeholders
  - **Beneficiaries' views** and perspectives per **evaluation criteria** (*relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability)*

- **Qualitative interviews (key informants):**
  - Understanding of project **background** and **logic**, and current/future implementation

2. Evaluation findings: Relevance

- *"DRR is a means to adapt to climate change impacts"* – NOT a separate field

A.
Beneficiaries' **risk profiles** and **previous** regional **initiatives**

F.
Support by relevant **regional initiatives** *(DPPI SEE, DMC/SEE, ISRBC, etc.)*

B.
Coherence with **HFA** and alignment with global efforts for **prevention**

Ensured project relevance

E.
Key **stakeholders** involved in project **design** and **governance**

D.
UNISDR/WMO complementary portfolio in **DRM**

C.
Need for **informed decision-making** and role of **NMHSs**

Relevance 1): *Is the project purpose consistent with and supportive of national efforts and policies in broad DRR and CRM?*

N. responses observed

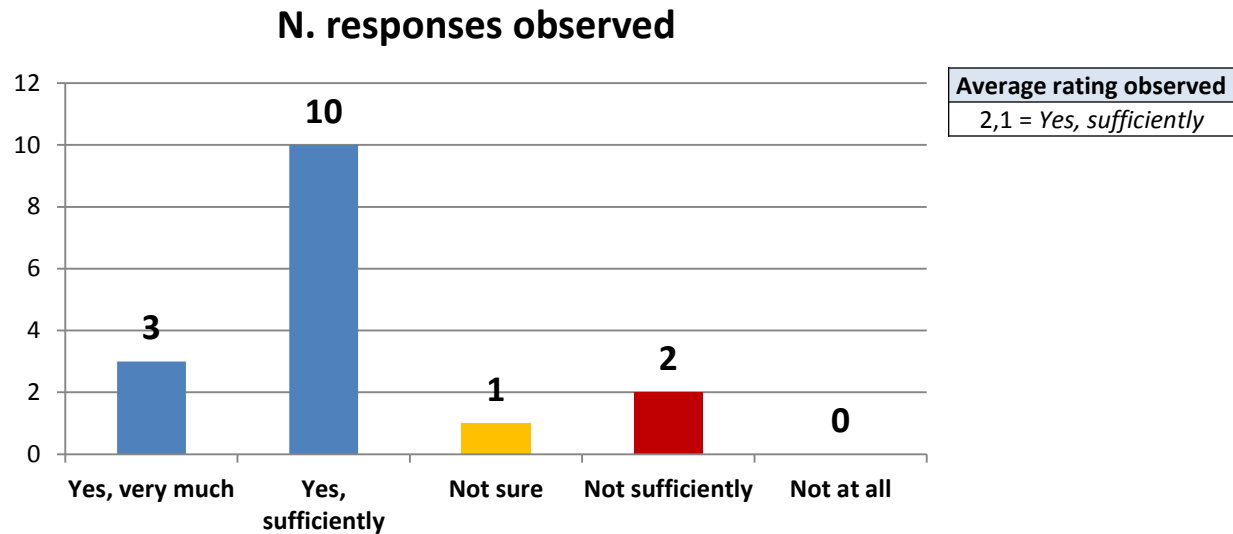|		Average rating observed
		1,8 = *Yes, sufficiently*
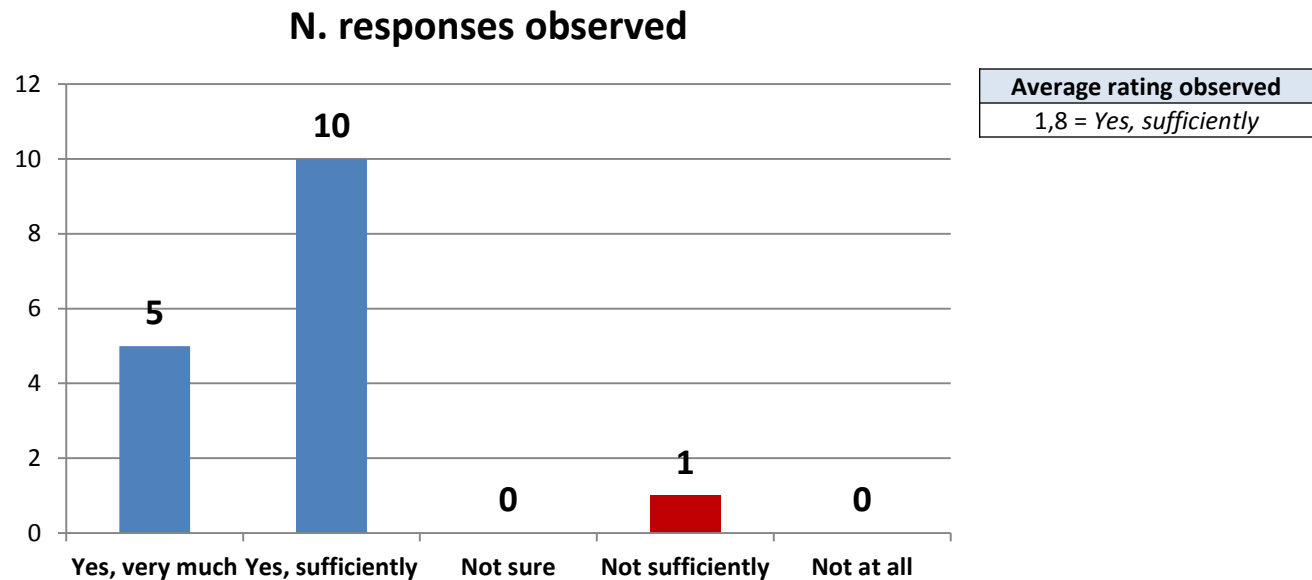
Relevance 2): *Does the project respond to clearly identified needs/priorities of national target groups? Is the project addressing issues which are specific to your national context?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,0 = *Yes, sufficiently*
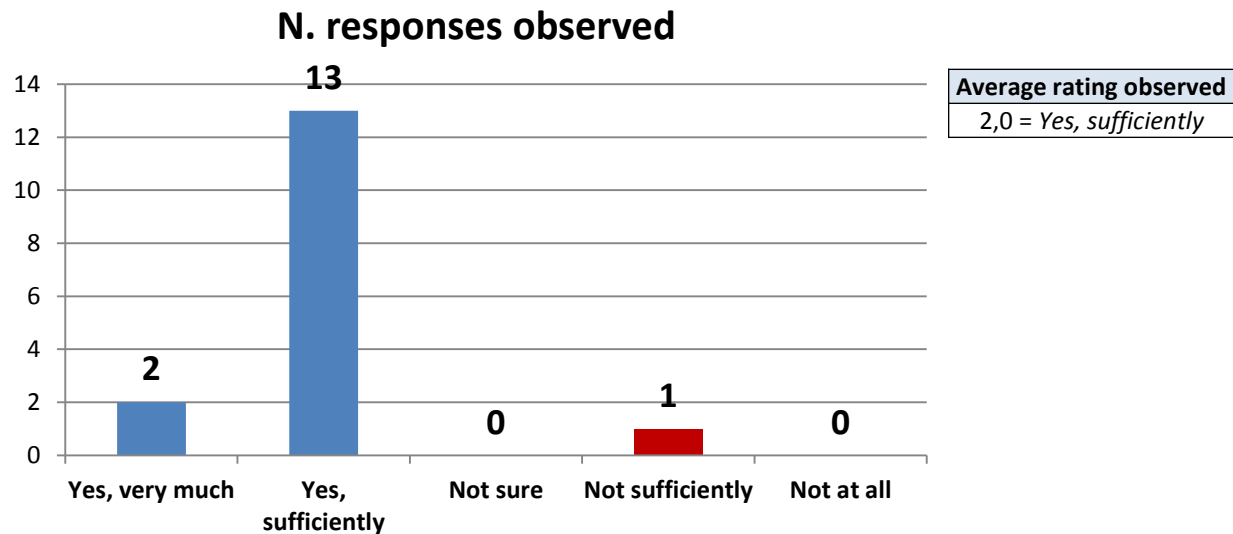
- **Pronounced positive feedback** proves ongoing efforts in Beneficiaries DRR/CCA *(incl. NPs for DRR)*, follow-up with WMO/UNDP RP on DRR
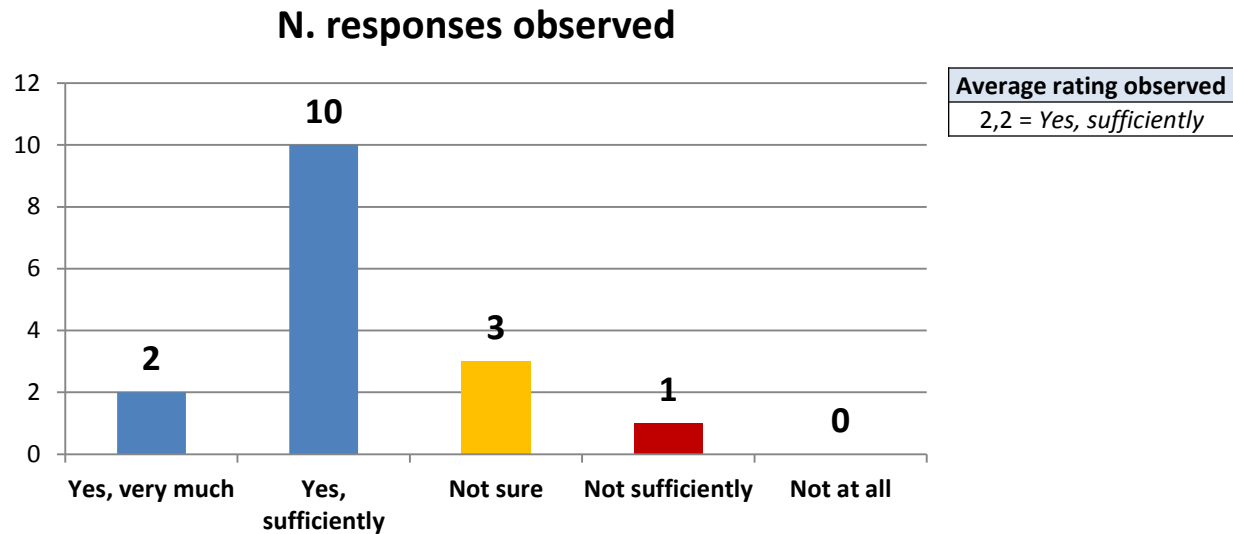- Different opinions are potential **theme for discussion**

Relevance 3): *Has your institution been actively involved in project design? Is there a clear understanding of project purpose within your institution?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,1 = *Yes, sufficiently*

Chart values:
- Yes, very much: 3
- Yes, sufficiently: 10
- Not sure: 1
- Not sufficiently: 2
- Not at all: 0

- More than 80% feel active involvement, but 3 not sure/do not feel sufficiently involved *(requires **clarification**)*

Relevance 4): *Are project duration, work-plan and range of activities in which your institution is involved sufficiently realistic having regard to the available capacities for follow-up?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,2 = *Yes, sufficiently*

Bar chart values:
- Yes, very much: 2
- Yes, sufficiently: 10
- Not sure: 3
- Not sufficiently: 1
- Not at all: 0

- Diverse capacities (incl. **human resources/pool of experts**) may affect full access to project services
- Diverse involvement to date in concrete implementation *(n. of activities attended)* has impact on opinion **(more expected in coming months!)**

2. Evaluation findings: Efficiency

- Good operational management + availability of resources + Beneficiries' support = **project on track** towards planned outputs (!)

- **Not crucial delays** – rather postponements *(Tasks 2,3,4,7)* – due to re-assessing feasibility *(KMS and CDMS)*, and re-scheduling for enhanced effectiveness *(trainings)*

- **Broad** and regular **participation** in regional events/workshops with **positive feedback** from audience (despite diverse commitment observed among Beneficiaries)

- Beneficiaries are looking forward to **second year** for further involvement

- Good management and **governance** arrangements – **SC, Advisory Group, Focal Points, PCIT**

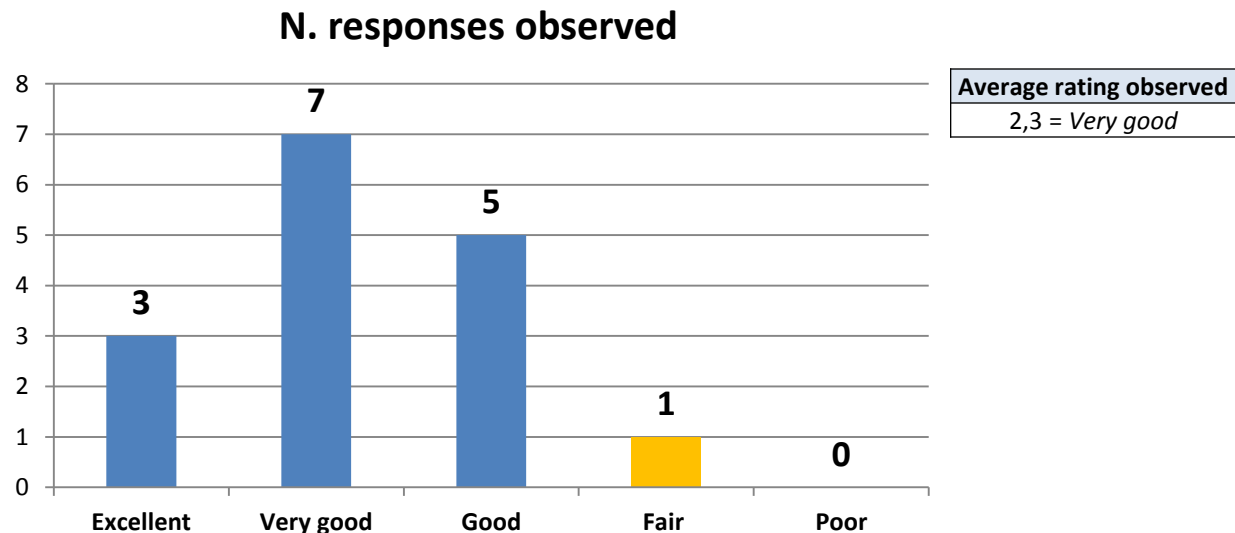- Project **communication** in line with good practice

Efficiency 1): *Is there a logical sequence in the delivery of planned outputs having regard to the work-plan of activities in which your institution is involved?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,3 = Yes, sufficiently
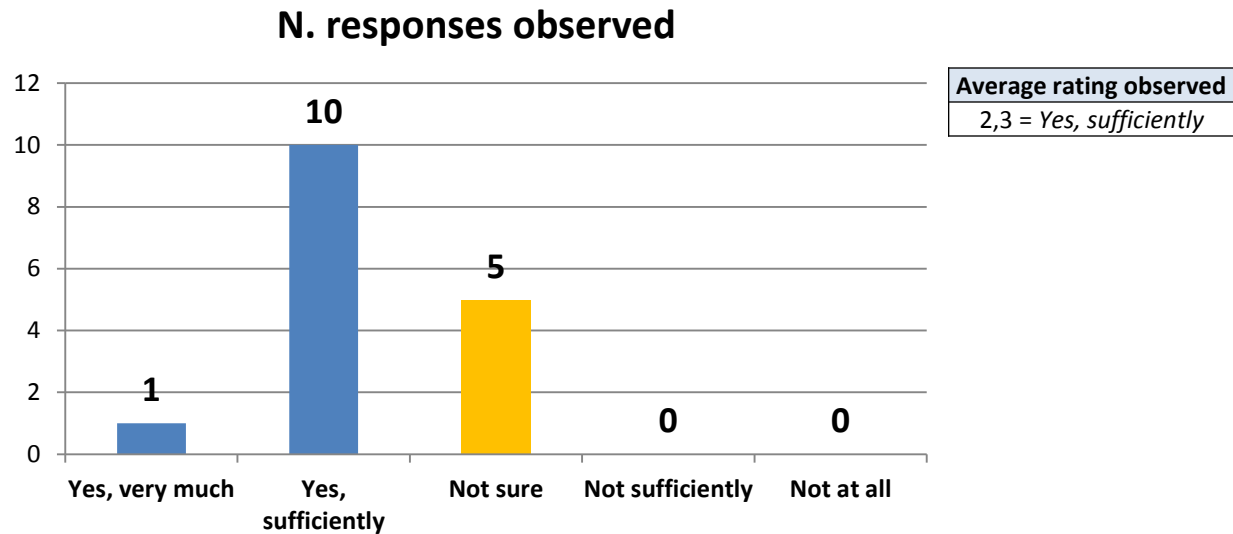
- Some feel the project in **initial implementation** phase and may not be comfortable with assessing efficiency
- Question unclear to some

Efficiency 2): *How good is the coordination of the project with other relevant ongoing initiatives and existing networks in the region?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,3 = Very good

Chart values: Excellent 3, Very good 7, Good 5, Fair 1, Poor 0

- Establishment of **ideal environment** for **regional cooperation** by also complementing other initiatives (**though it does not always apply to national level**)

2. Evaluation findings: Effectiveness

- **Project activities/services** appreciated overall

- **Implementation arrangements** clearly understood by stakeholders

- **Inter-institutional coordination** at national level might be an issue in some Beneficiaries *(in relation to some project tasks)*

- **Limited human/financial resources** are a challenge *(constraint)*

- Beneficiaries see clearly the **added value** of **operational cooperation**, incl. at **EU level**, and the **hands-on approach** (some require more practice)

- Results likely to be achieved and support **enhanced DRR/CRM measures** in **regional cooperation framework**

Effectiveness 1): *What is the quality of the project activities and services so far?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
2,3 = *Very good*
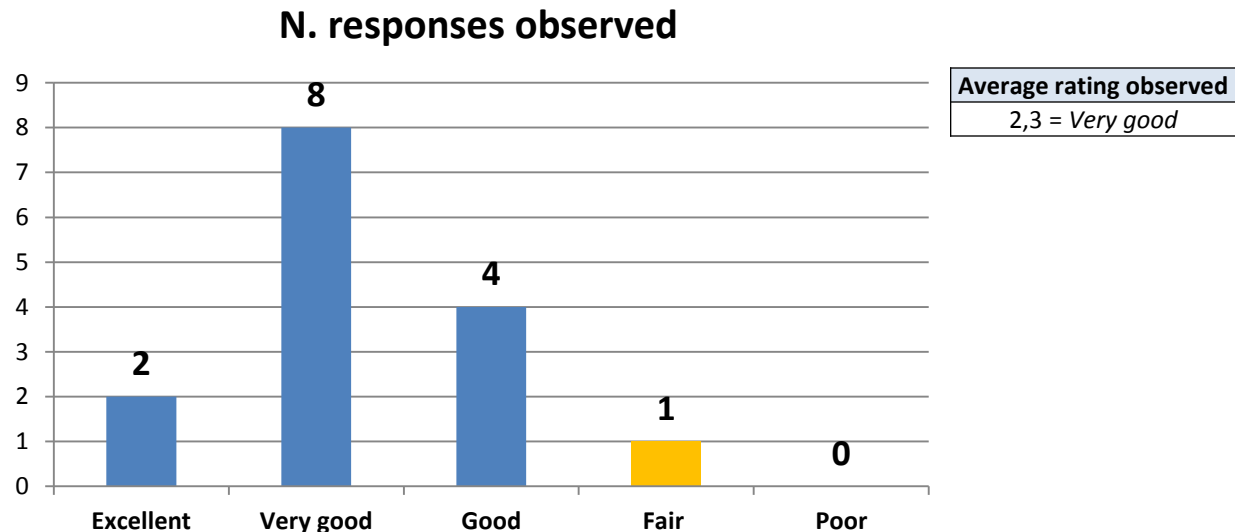
- Reflects also affirmed positive assessment of conducted **trainings/events**
- Despite not all stakeholders have "used" project services to date

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Effectiveness 2): *Are project implementation arrangements in which your institution is involved clearly defined and understood? Are all necessary measures in place to enable your institution's optimal participation in project activities?*
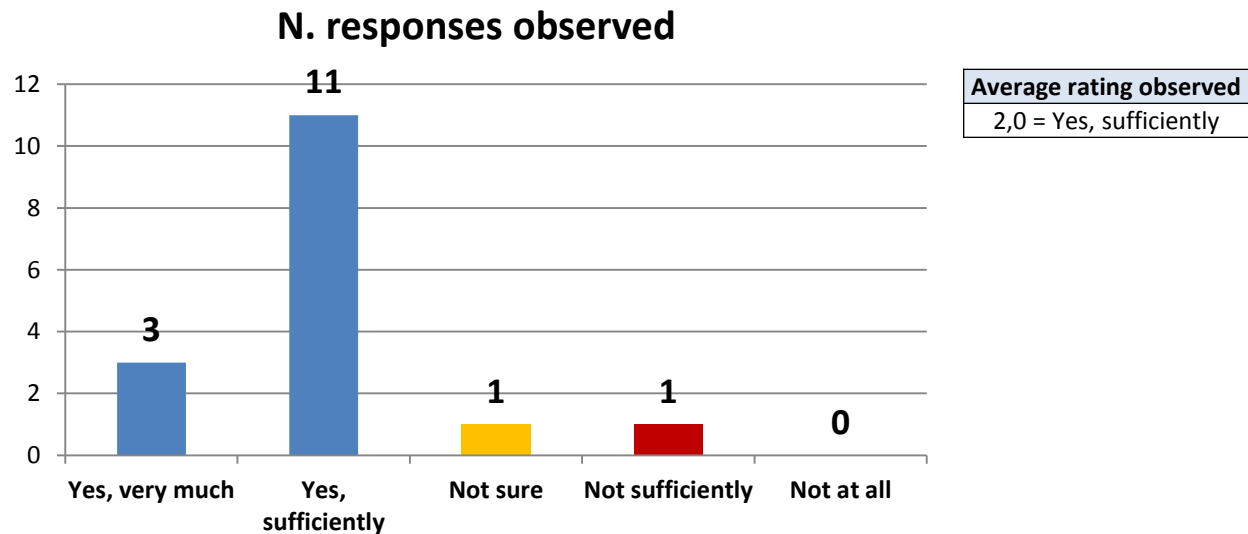
- Reflects good **communication** and **coordination** between project and Beneficiaries
- **Closer coordination among different groups** is essential *(specific to some project tasks)*

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Effectiveness 3): *Is your institution facing any clearly identified challenges or constraints which are affecting full access to project services?*

N. responses observed
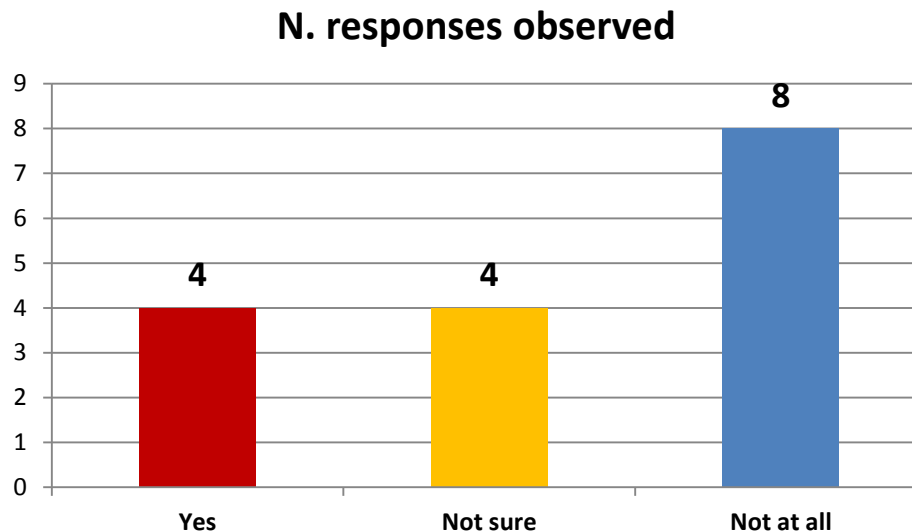
- Clearly identified challenges: **deficiencies** in **qualified staff** and necessary **IT equipment**

2. Evaluation findings: Impact prospects

- Too early to assess impact, but positive signs:

  - Support to **regional cooperation**, incl. with **EU MSs**

  - **Shared vision** of importance to work on disaster **prevention**

  - Likely **institutional changes** in some Beneficiaries

  - Widened **mandate** of **DM Authorities**

- **Prospective impact** expected to relate with:

  - Institutional **approaches** in **DRR/CCA** aligned to **EU practices**

  - Improved **cross-border measures** *(harmonized hazard analysis and mapping, hazardous hydro-met events forecasting, EWSs)*

  - Strengthened **informed decision-making/operations** in **DRR**

  - Increased **disaster risk insurance penetration**

  - Improved **community-based DRR** measures

Impact 1): *"The likely future impact of the project includes reinforced coordination among different relevant sectors and improved measures to reduce risks and build disaster resilience in the BCs"*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
1,7 = Agree
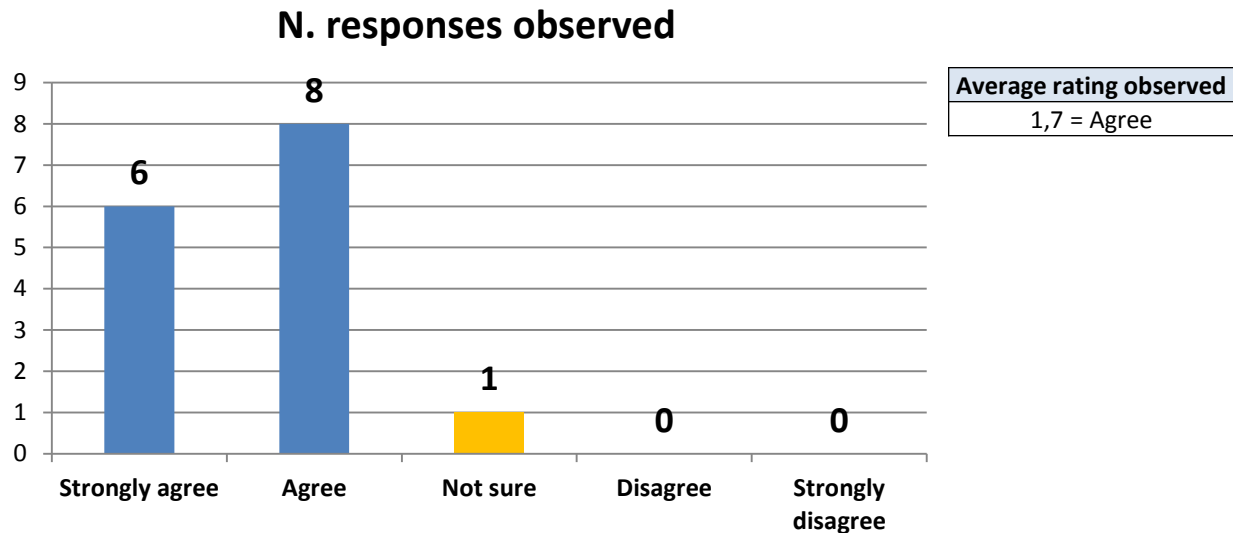
2. Evaluation findings: Sustainability

- Intervention based on **existing institutional structures/resources**

- Project results ultimately leading to **enhanced capacities** in DMAs and NMHSs (sustainable as long as project is relevant to national contexts and supportive of national efforts)

- Strong **ownership** of target groups developed (even though with diverse capacities to deploy resources)

- **Sustainability** is **key driver** in project development by **PCIT** *(e.g. CDMS upgrading/procurement)*

- Facilitated **networking** with **long-lasting** potential also at EU level

- Some issues exist with **visibility** of the **work** done at **NMHSs** in some Beneficiaries (including at the level of International Organizations in DRR)

Sustainability 1): *Are relations between your institution and the project good enough to set the ground for future collaboration with International Organizations in the fields of DRR/CCA?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
1,7 = Yes, sufficiently
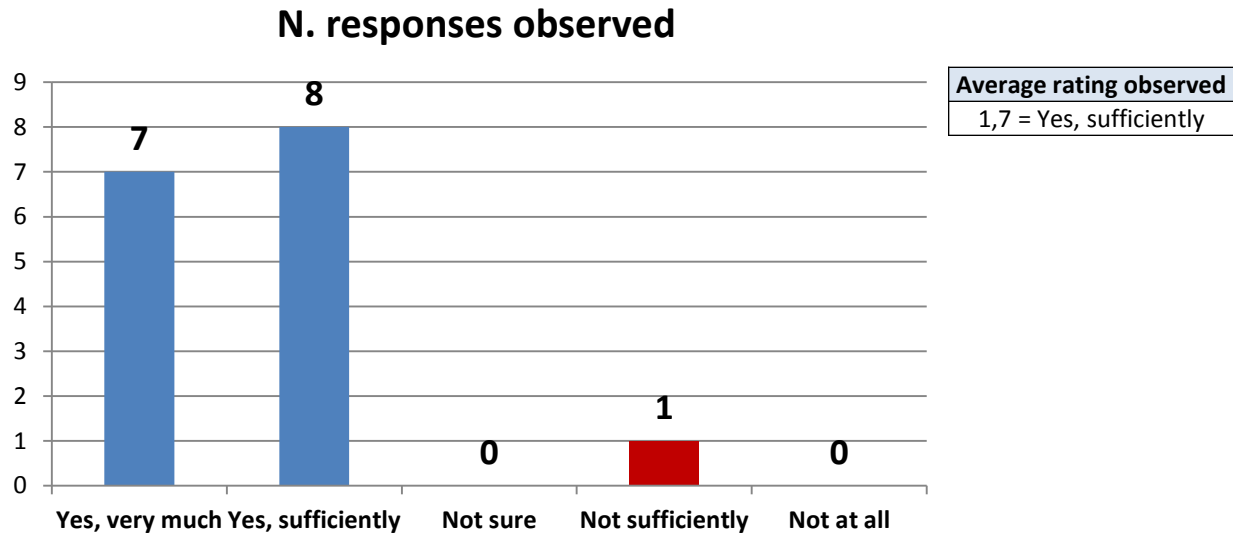
- Opportunity for **closer relations**, for appropriate visibility of DRR-related work done at NMHSs (also towards relevant International Organizations)

Sustainability 2): *Is it realistic to expect that project outputs will continue to be used in your institution once the project support will be over and that adequate resources will be committed by your institution to ensure follow-up with the project stream of benefits after project completion?*

N. responses observed

Average rating observed
1,9 = Yes, sufficiently
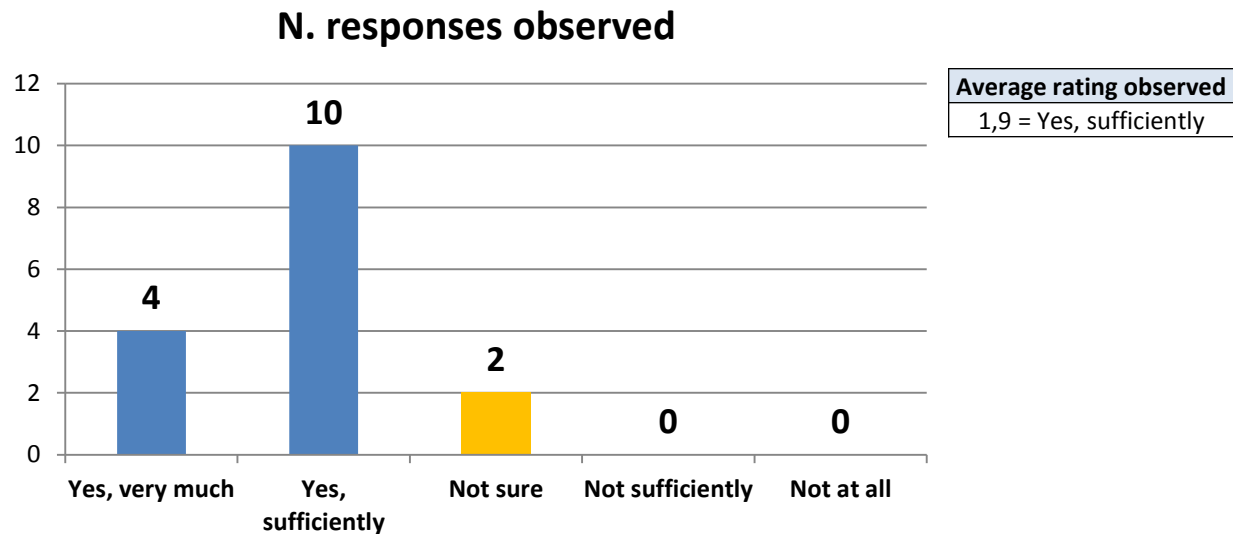
- Likely very much is depending on mobilization of **resources to support DRR** in the Beneficiaries, incl. through **external funding**

3. Key areas of attention/recommendations

A.   Enhance emphasis on close **dialogue/teamwork** among **traditional DM/DRR actors**, **NMHSs** and **other groups** *(for improved change in approach from DM to broader DRR/CCA)*

B.   Secure **optimal participation** in up-coming project activities by **all Beneficiaries**

C.   Secure timely **KMS implementation** to ensure appropriate project support – in cooperation with DPPI SEE – with operating and promoting the system among stakeholders ***(ownership, sustainability)***

D.   Extend in depth **hands-on approach** in training events (when appropriate/needed)

E.   Review project **LogFrame** (links between activities and results; indicators)

Thank you for your attention and for your cooperation in the conduction of this interim evaluation!

Antonio Barbera