



inprofood
Towards sustainable food research

Stakeholder views, case study: France



Features of the French EASWs (1)



- **Selection of participants :**

- Lists + random selection, contact by email then personal phone call
- Difficulty to convince some stakeholders categories
- Lot of late withdrawal (12 out of 25 registered persons!)

- **EASW1** in November 2011 (Paris): 19 participants

- representatives from **national entities** (national council for food & nutrition, ministry of health, national programme for food & health, national agency for research, etc.)

- **EASW2 + 3** merged in June 2012 (Montpellier): 13 participants

- representatives from **regional and local entities**

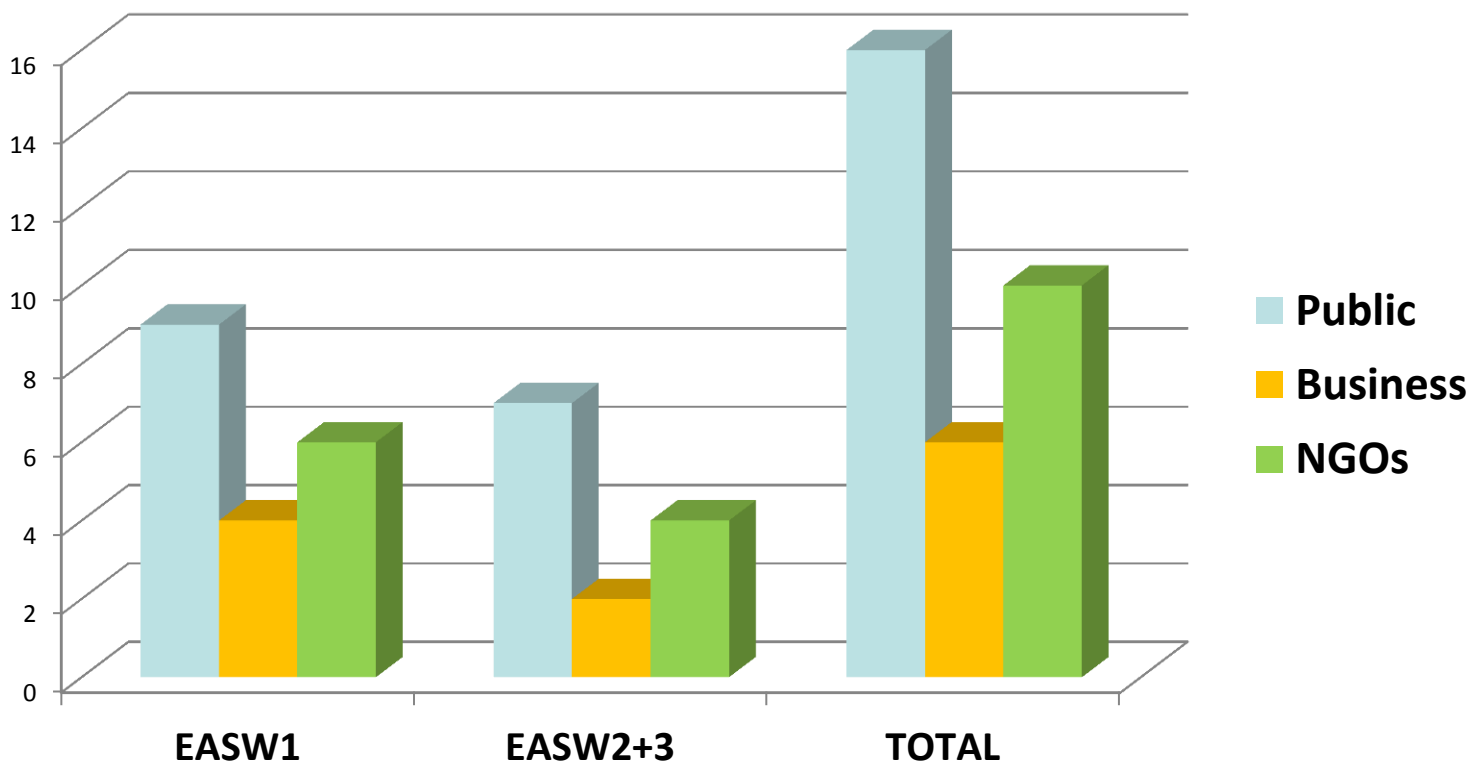
- Same framework for EASW1 and EASW2+3:

- Identifying **research topics** (stakeholder groups)
- Scenario “**Worst case**” (stakeholder groups)
- Scenario “**Best case**” (mixed groups)

- Same team (organizers and facilitator). Gene Rowe (evaluation) attended EASW1.

Features of the French EASWs (2)

- Categories of stakeholders:

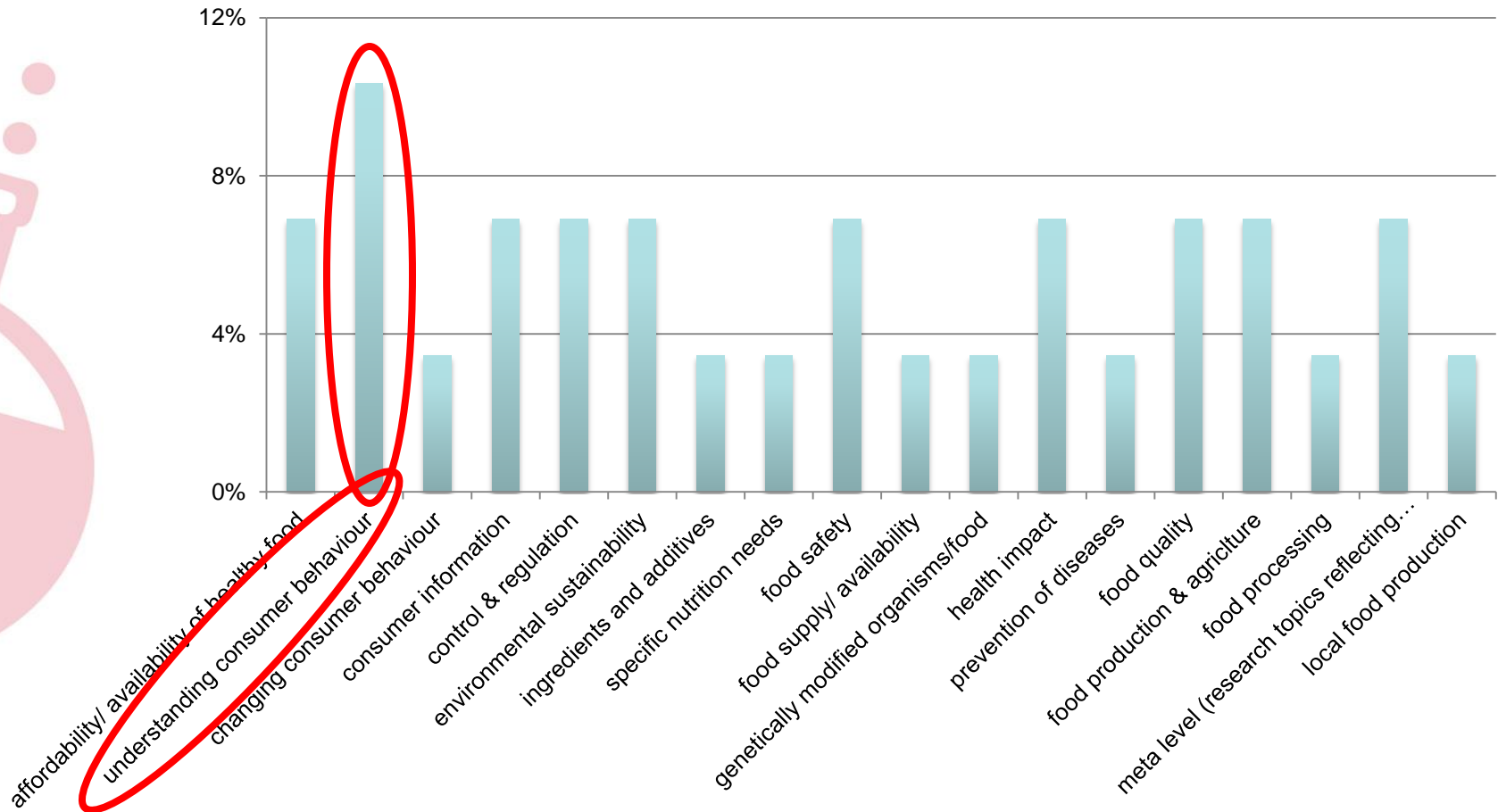


Priority research topics

	Public	Business	NGOs	Shared views
EASW1	<p>Health risks</p> <p>Prevention actions</p> <p>Food quality and well being</p> <p>Health benefits</p> <p>Consumer issues</p>	<p>Health objectives: price / pleasure / convenience/ safety (red line)</p>	<p>Transparency on products</p> <p>Nutritional quality</p> <p>Education on food diversity and balance</p>	
EASW2+3	<p>Industry supply vs healthy / local demand</p> <p>Regulations and consumers</p> <p>Cultural hurdles</p> <p>Sufficient vs healthy production</p> <p>Affordability, local and auto production</p> <p>Diversity of raw materials</p> <p>Sanitary / health benefits</p> <p>Health risks</p>	<p>Balance collective / individual benefits</p> <p>Support to on-field innovators</p>	<p>Access to healthy, quality, cheap food</p> <p>Behavior changes / education</p> <p>Quality issues</p> <p>Supply / demand balance</p> <p>Technical innovation vs societal approach</p> <p>Renewed links producers / consumers</p>	<p>Access / affordability to food</p> <p>Understand and modify behavior</p> <p>Food quality (sanitary, nutritional quality)</p>



Priority research topics





Scenario on research process: Worst case – stakeholder groups (1)

	PUB	NPOs	BUS
Topics	Isolated, non independent, lack of expertise, economic and/or political interest, Compartmentalised, no matching concrete issue	Isolated No consultation between the different stakeholders Top-down decision system	Lack of hindsight/perspective, no matching on-the-field issues
Financing sources	Lack of expertise, conflict of interest, no or too many criteria Private, lobbying	Non independent Limited means	<i>(ignorance on the topic?)</i>
Financing criteria	No perspectives/applications, too short deadlines, non sustainable call	conflict of interest, marketing criteria lobbying	<i>(ignorance on the topic?)</i>
Exploitation	No, incomplete, simplified and/or biased publication, no agreement w/ consortium Large-scale com tools (internet)	Non transparent, by the mass-media No communication of the results, non-reproducible results	Lack of social stakeholders
Evaluation	no or too many criteria, non measurable criteria, conflict of interest	On a non representative panel No long-term evaluation	Lack of relevant and adequate evaluation
Project design	High administrative expectations with no means, « fashion », not involving on-the-field actors	Lobbying, « fashion » no diversity of actors	Lack of competence, renewal of programmes that have shown poor interest, multi-partner project w/ one coordinator (divergences)



Scenario on research process: Worst case – stakeholder groups (2)



No significant difference between EASW 1 and 2+3, some between stakeholder groups

Key issues:

- **isolated decision makers**
- lack of competence / key stakeholder at all levels (management, scientific expertise, knowledge of the field, long-term perspective...)
- **conflict of interest** / non independence / lobbying
- biased (in any way) **exploitation of results**
- lack of relevant (long term) **evaluation** of projects / programmes





Scenario on research process: Best case - mixed groups (1)




No significant difference between EASW 1 and 2+3


Key issues:

- **Discordance** between public health as a political issue and independent food research
- **Sustainability** : social, economic and environmental aspects
- Taking into account **consumers'** needs / demand / acceptability
- Selection of research projects: **evaluation by final beneficiaries?**
- Collaborative process including civil society and **societal expectations** from the very beginning
- Trans/multi-disciplinarity approaches, **systemic research programmes**
- **Transparency**, fairness, trust






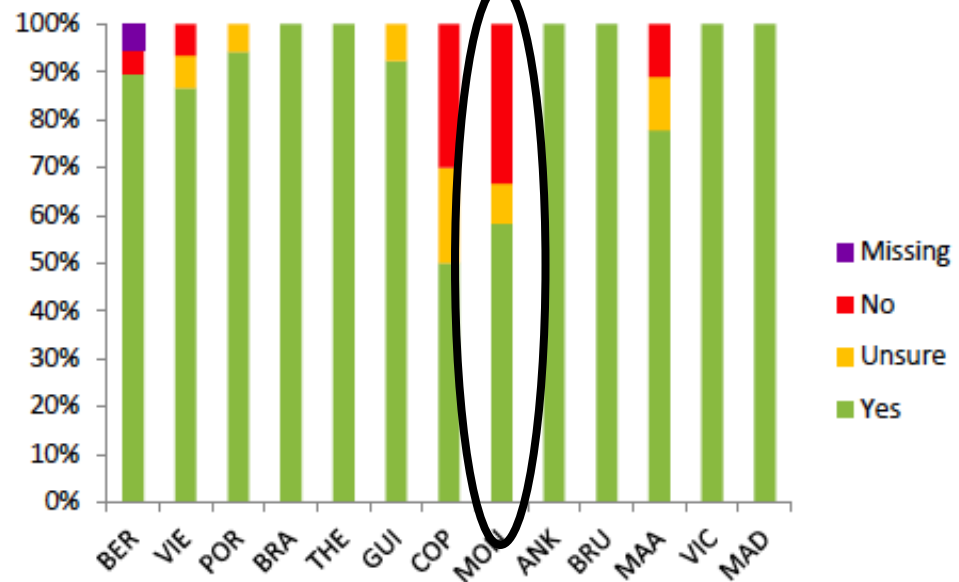
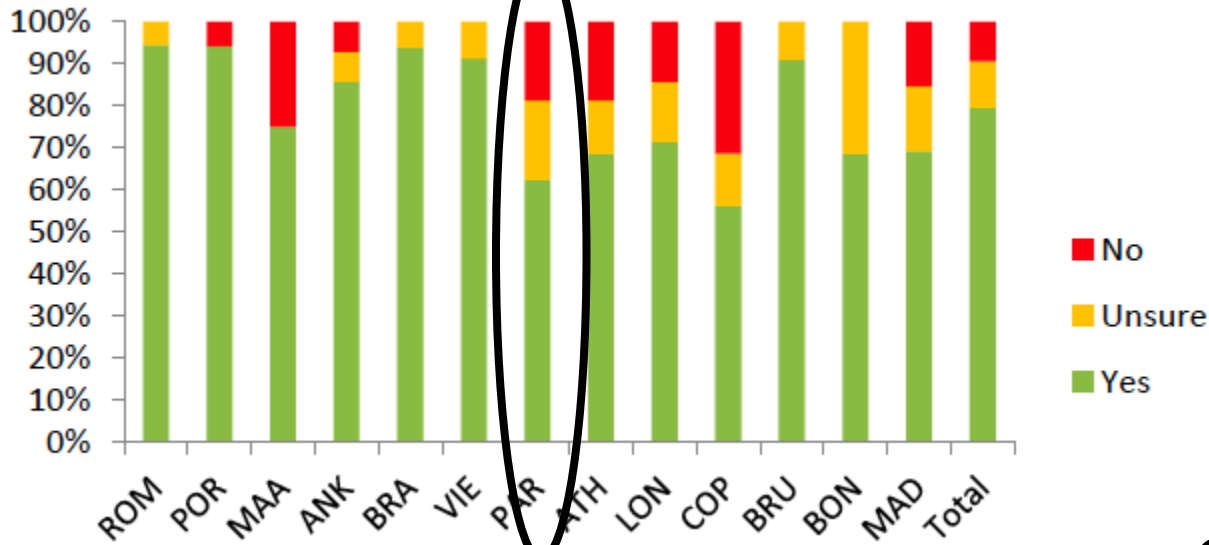
Scenario on research process: Best case - mixed groups (2)



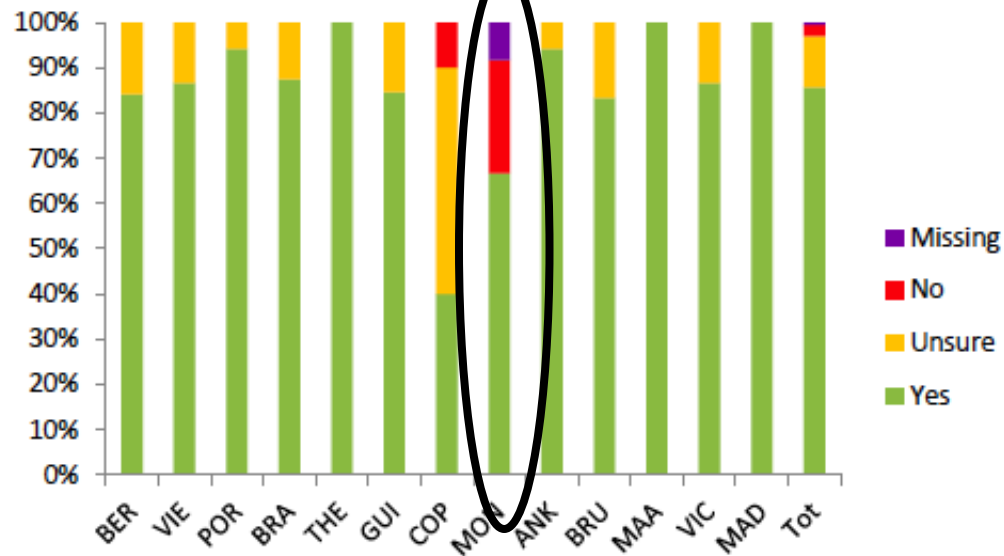
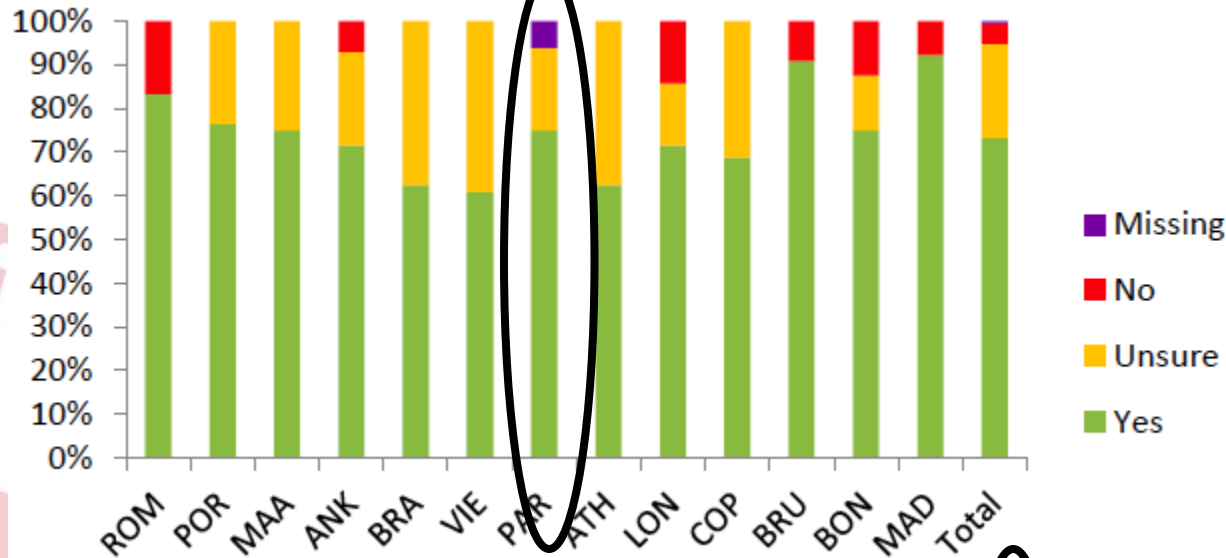
Practical issues

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- Consultation process : **relevant stakeholders? Representativity?** Who should set up the consultation panel?
 - Need for **more simple** administrative **processes**, competent project managers (administrative and management skills)
 - Better larger budgets for **fewer integrated projects** than poorer budgets for numerous small projects, keeping resources for **emerging / innovative** projects
 - Long-term follow-up, **capitalisation**, continuous improvement
 - « National directory of local initiatives »
 - Ethical charter to be signed by every partner in a collaborative project

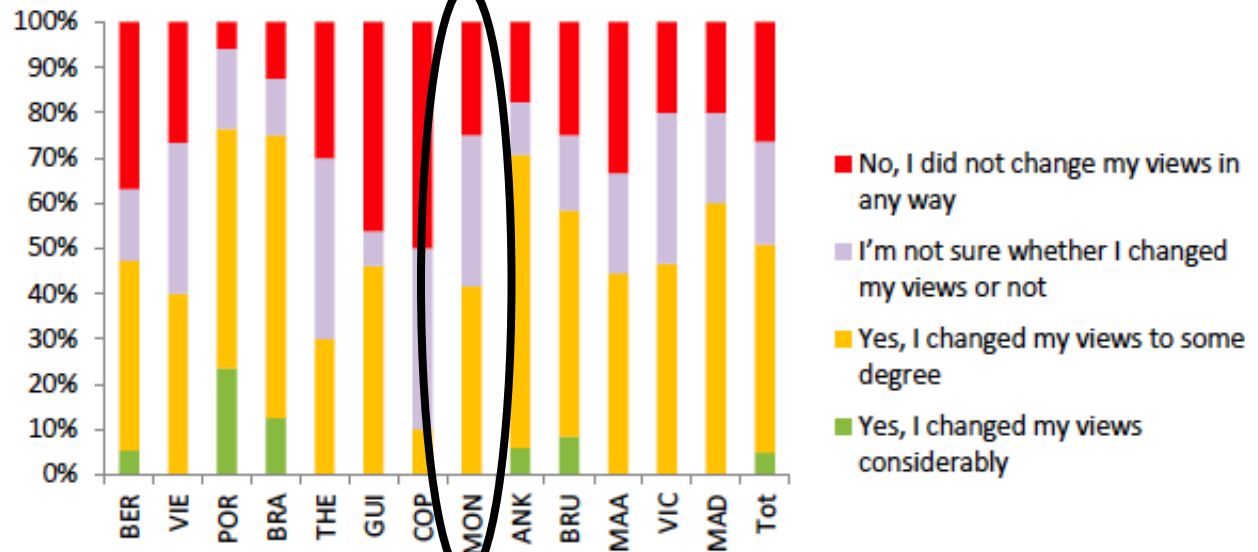
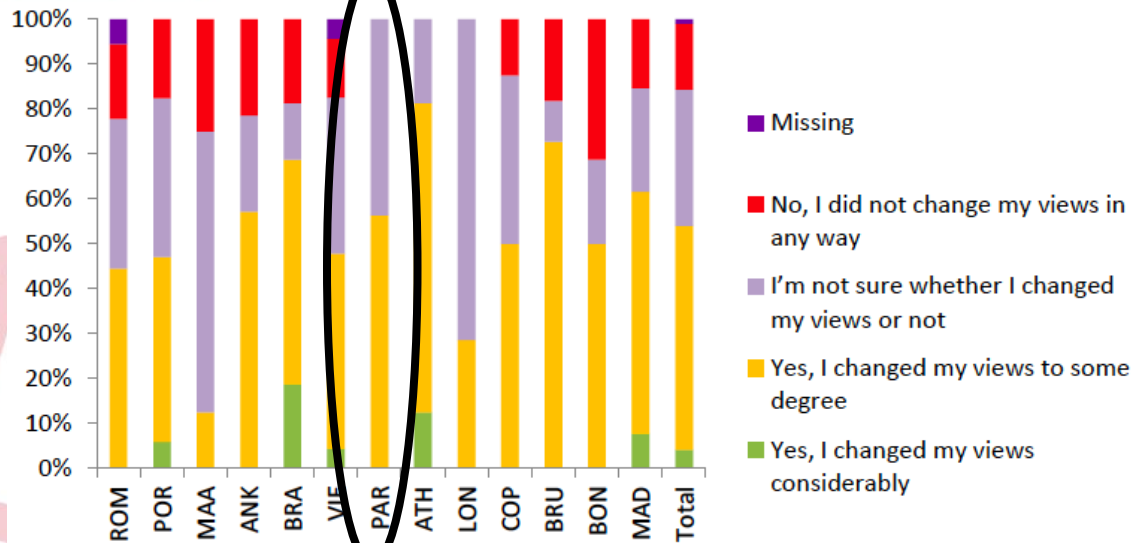
Evaluation: clearness of objectives



Evaluation: appropriate audience?

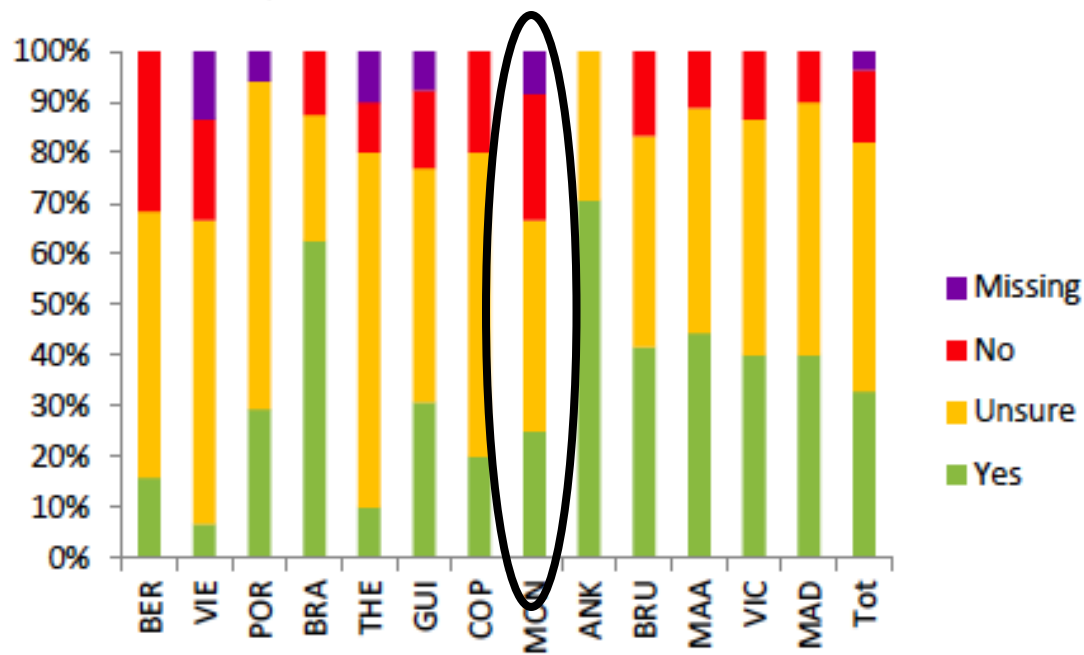
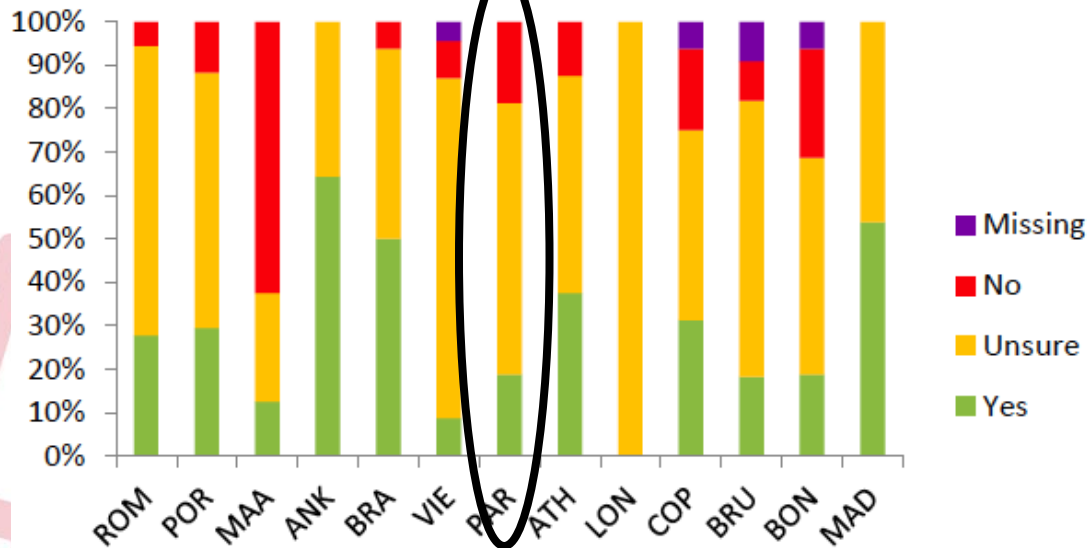


Evaluation: did your views change?





Evaluation: influence on EU research policy?





Thank you for your attention



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