

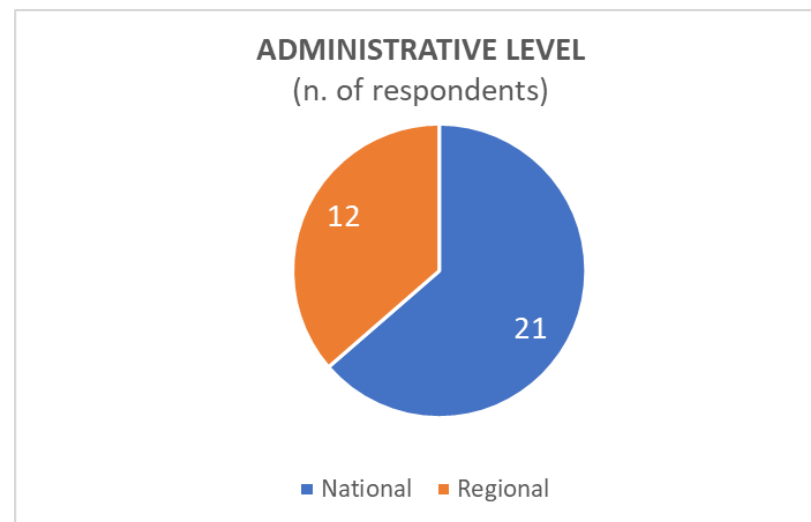
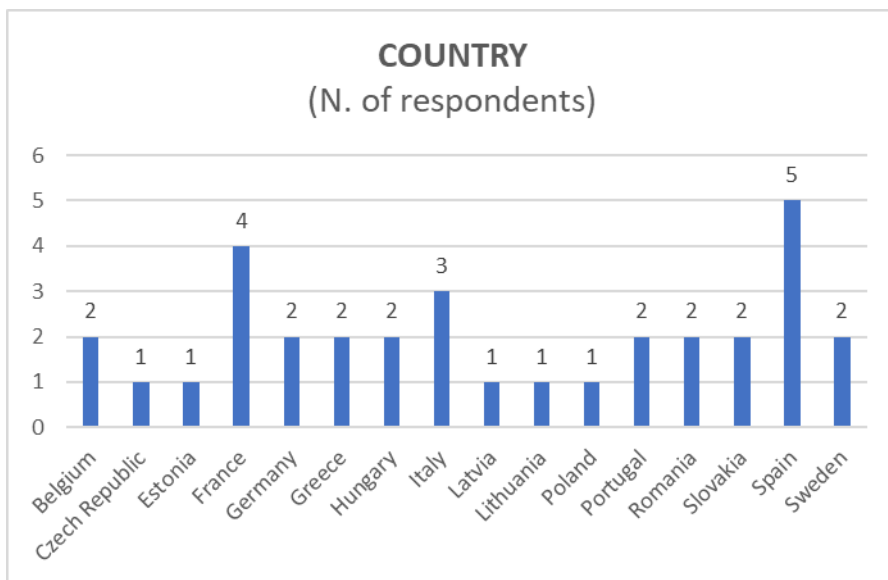
THE SURVEY OF THE PARTICIPANTS

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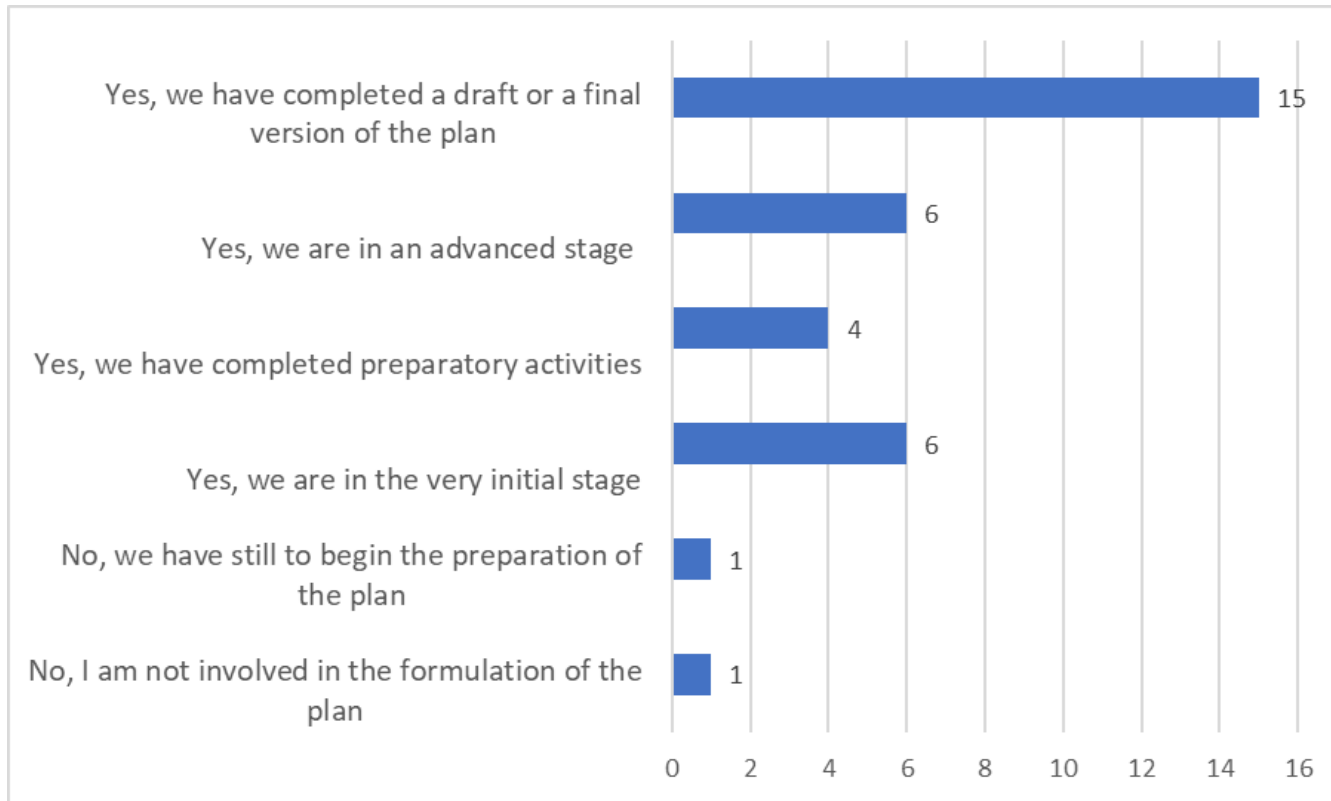
Summer school, July 2023
Madrid, Spain



Respondents



Are you currently working on the evaluation plan(s)?



Plans are in an advanced stage, a minority is beginning now

On what aspects did you encounter the most difficulties?



Difficulties mainly concerned evaluation quality and evaluation strategy, but all the items generated some issues

The main challenges faced in implementing and/or adapting the evaluation plan to new needs

(32 responses)

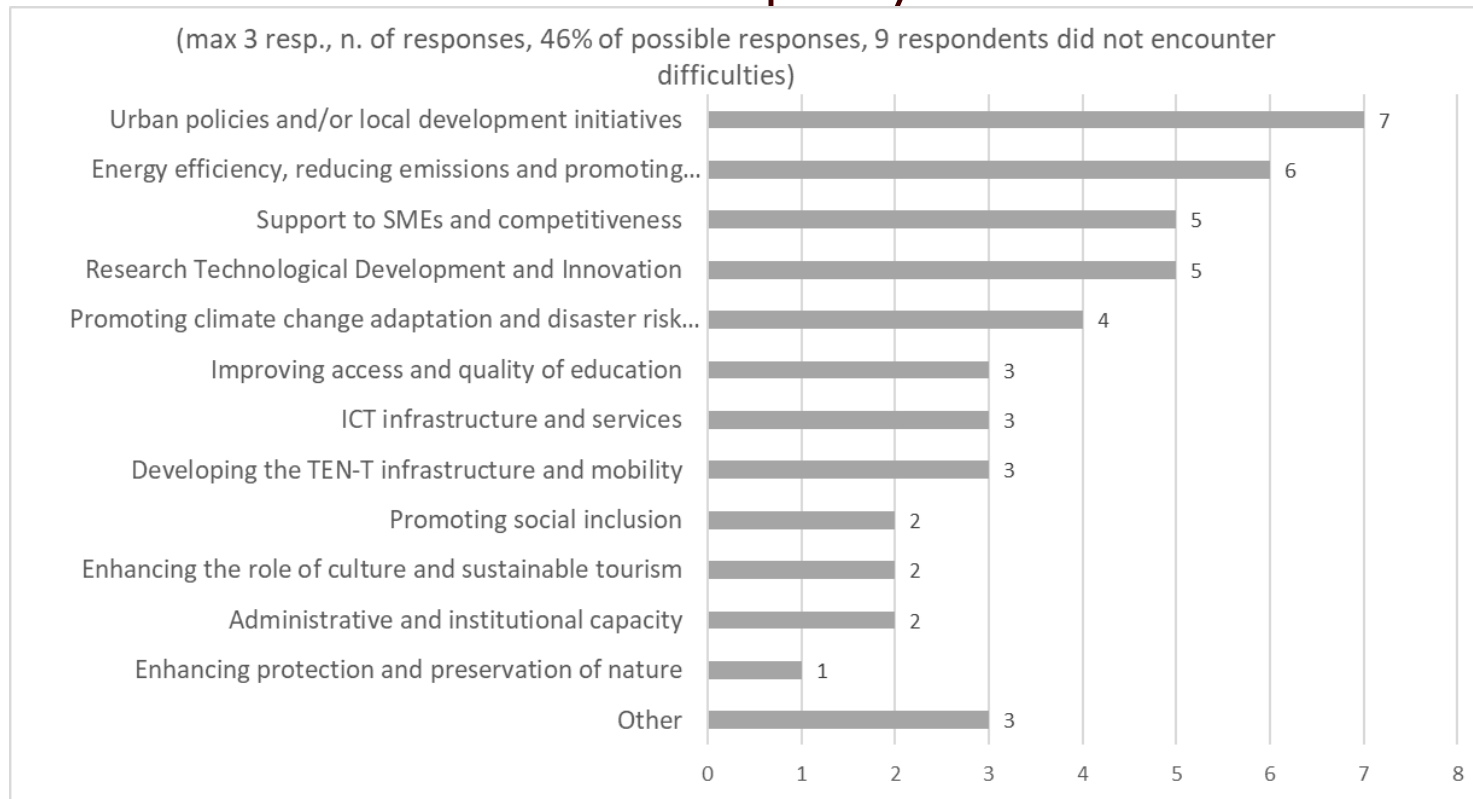
- The timing of the evaluations
- Involvement of the stakeholders / lack of interest in evaluation
- Evaluation quality

"Identifying the methodology and ensuring evaluation quality is difficult. For the later procedures are in place, but often experts would like to take the easier way"

"Quality of evaluation is difficult to ensure as well as use of the results; communication with involved parties is a struggle"

"The new framework is less constrained but requires more argument on what will and will not be covered. The nature of the evaluations to be carried out is difficult to choose because of the allocated budget"

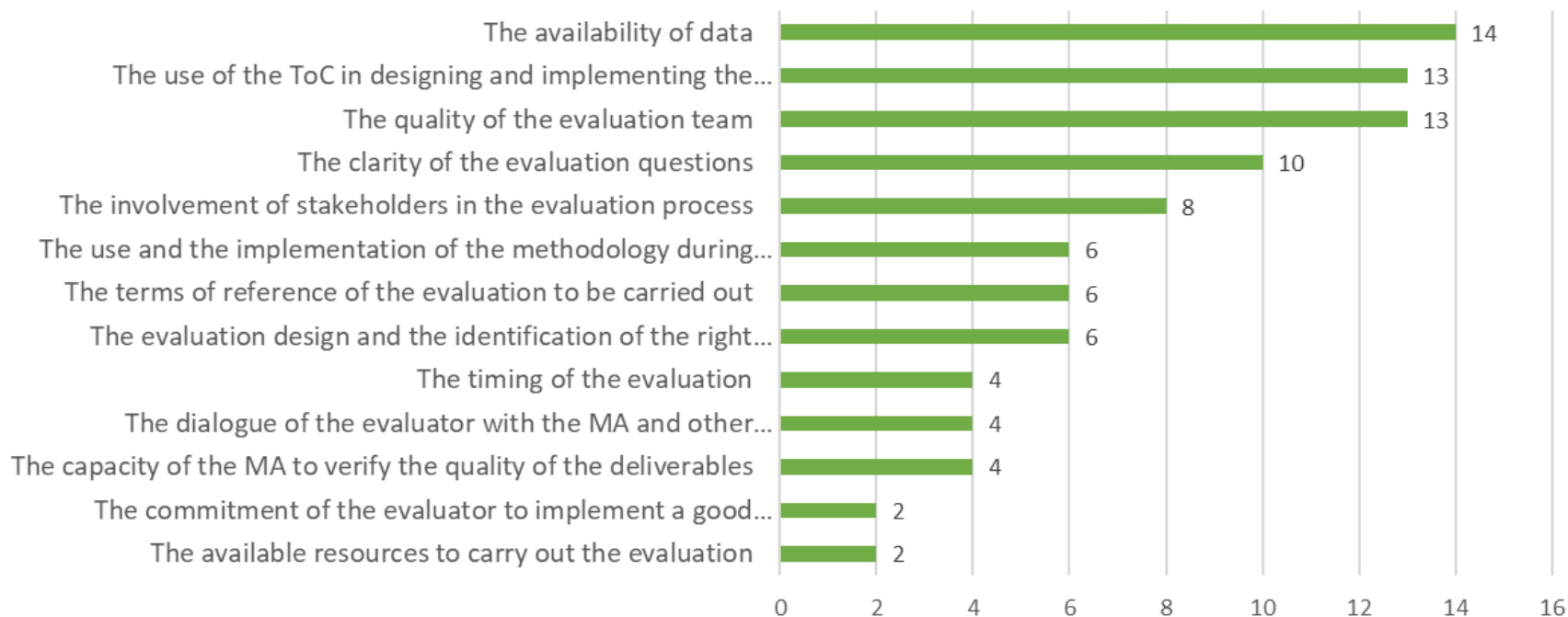
Did you encounter particular difficulties in defining the evaluations for some of these policy areas?



Urban and local development is complex and difficult to evaluate. Evaluating energy efficiency, SMEs and RTDI is also challenging.

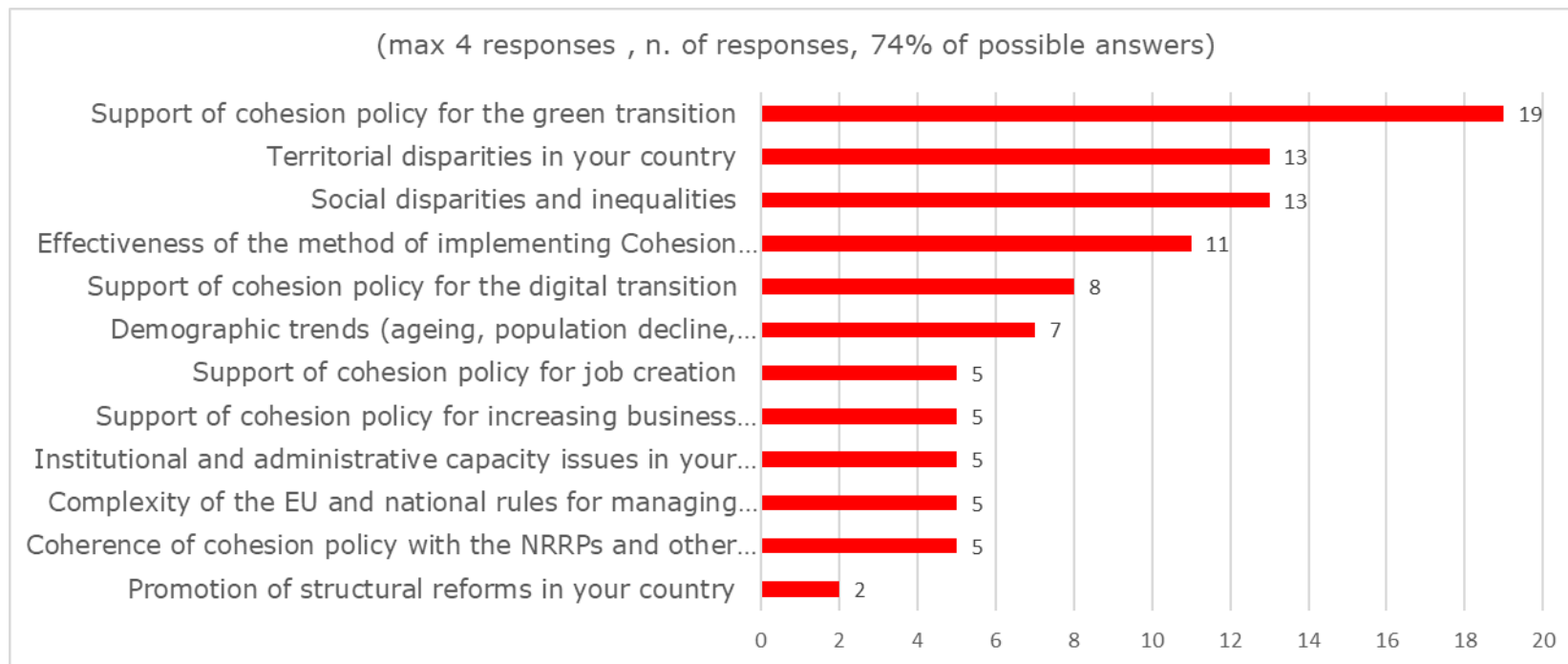
The main factors that determine the quality of evaluations

(Max 3 responses, n. of responses, 93% of possible responses)



Data availability, use of the ToC, evaluation team and clarity of the evaluation questions are the factors more frequently affecting the quality of the evaluations

Strategic issues that the evaluation of cohesion policy should analyse in the 2021-2027 period



Support to green transition, territorial and social disparities, the method of implementing cohesion policy are the strategic issues that evaluation should analyse in the next years

Final considerations

- The plans are not completed, but are **very advanced**. The next challenge is their implementation.
- Some difficulties encountered in planning (evaluation quality, timing of the evaluations, involvement of the stakeholders) are also **important issues** in implementing the evaluations. They seem to be “structural” issues.
- Designing and implementing the evaluations in **some policy areas** (urban or local development, RTDI, SMEs) is more difficult. This seems positively correlated to the complexity of the causal patterns of the policy areas.
- The **evaluation quality** depends on the quality of the entire process and its responsibility is shared between commissioners and evaluators.
- The evaluation should assess **strategic issues** that will be decisive in the next years: green transition, territorial and social disparities, functioning of cohesion policy. These **overarching objectives** should not be neglected in the strategy of the plans.