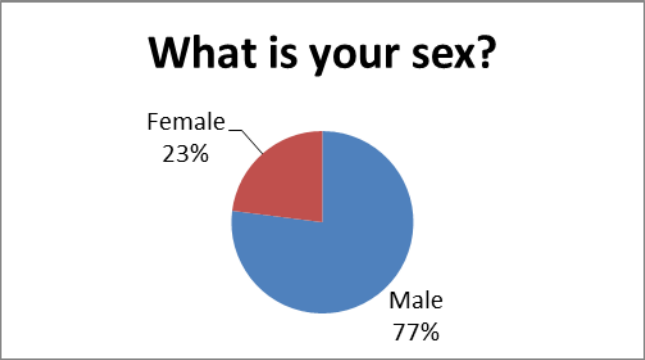
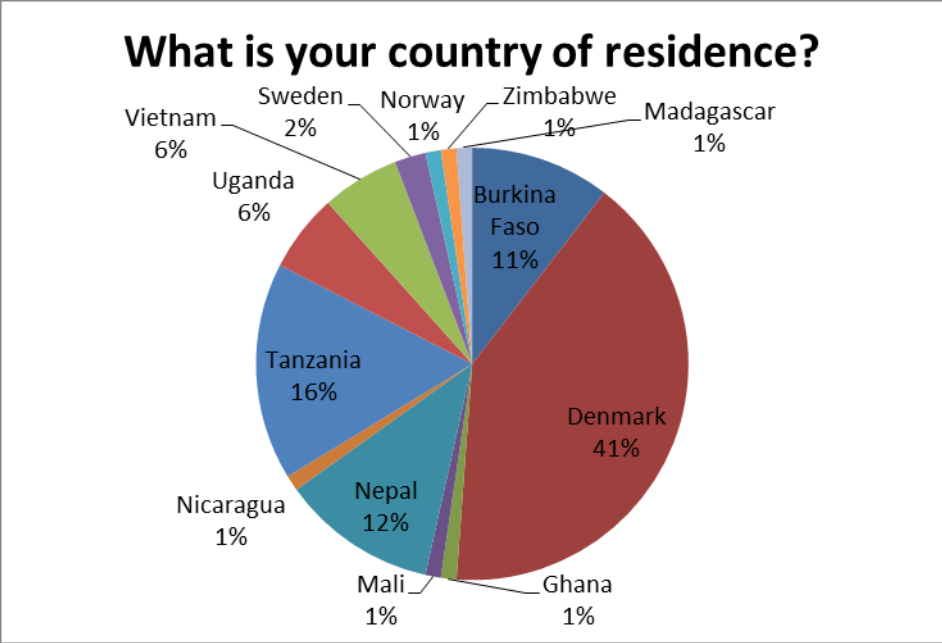


Evaluation of Danida supported Research on Agriculture and Natural Resource Management 2006-2011

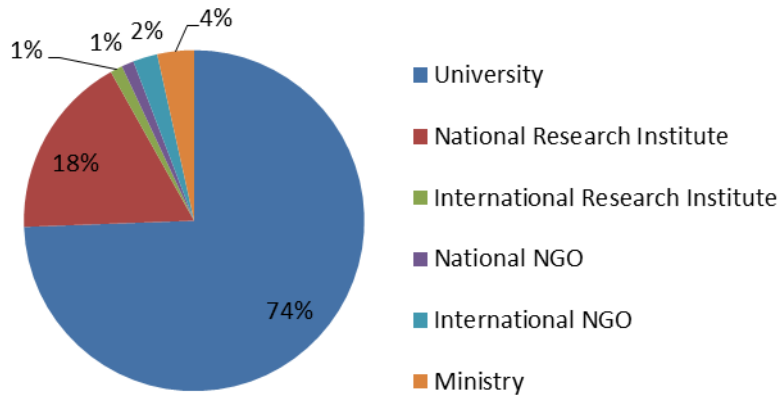
Annex D

Responses to Evaluation eSurvey

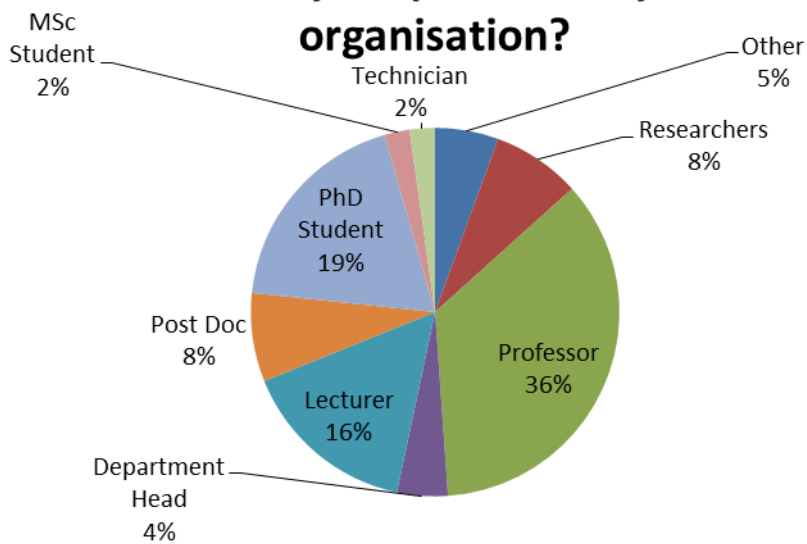
Basic results (n=86)



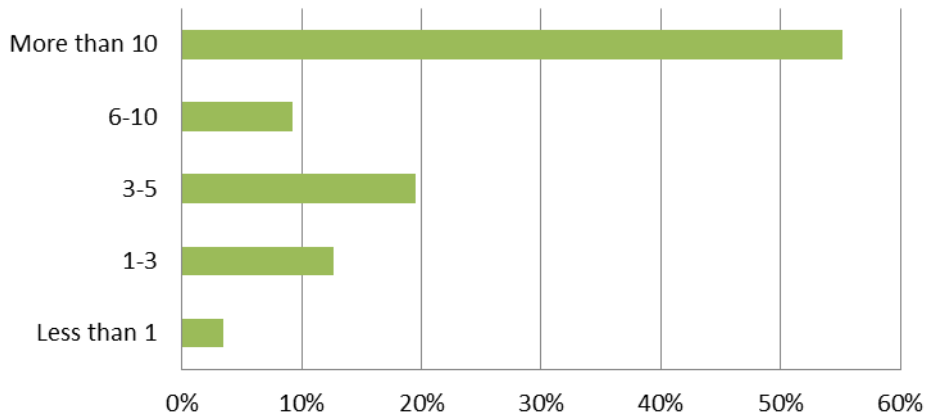
Which term best describes your organisation?



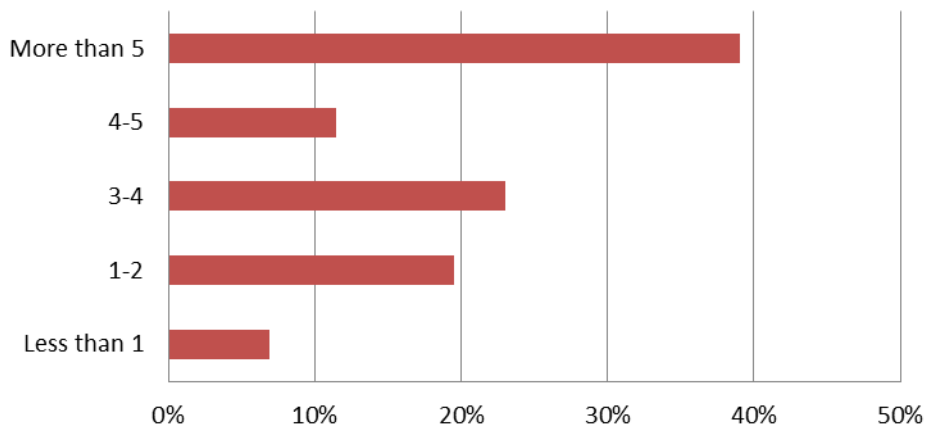
What is your position in your organisation?

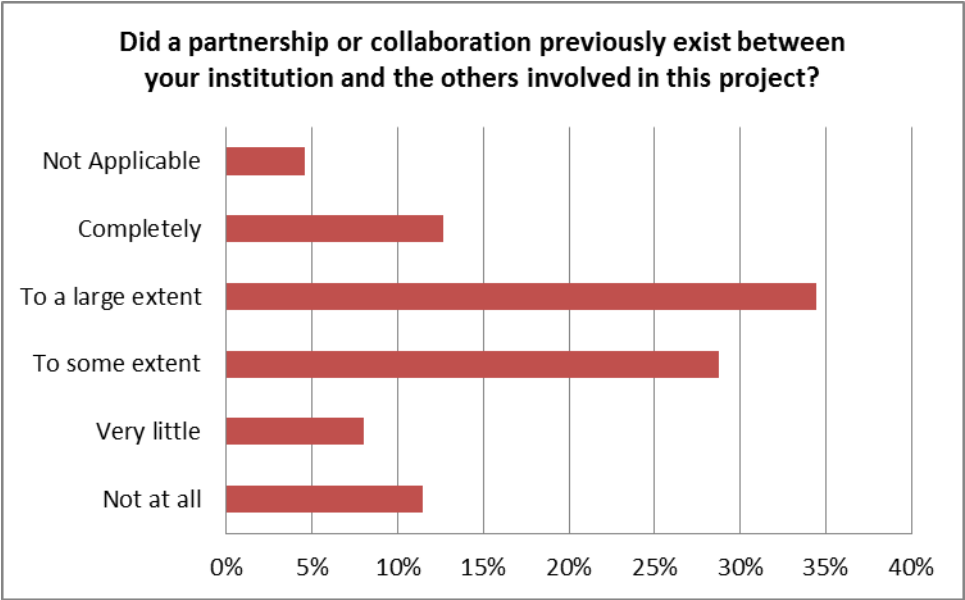
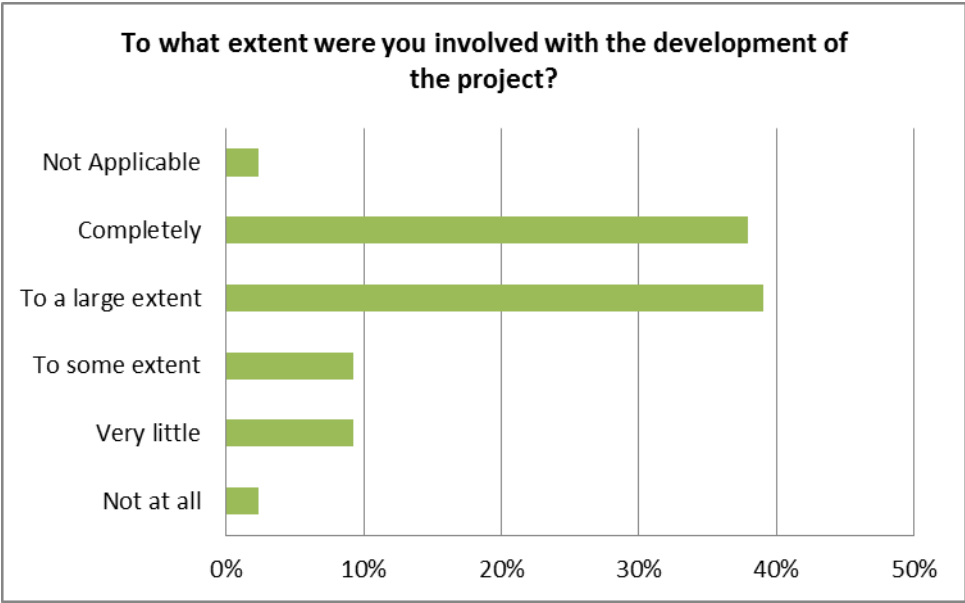


How many years have you been with your current organisation?

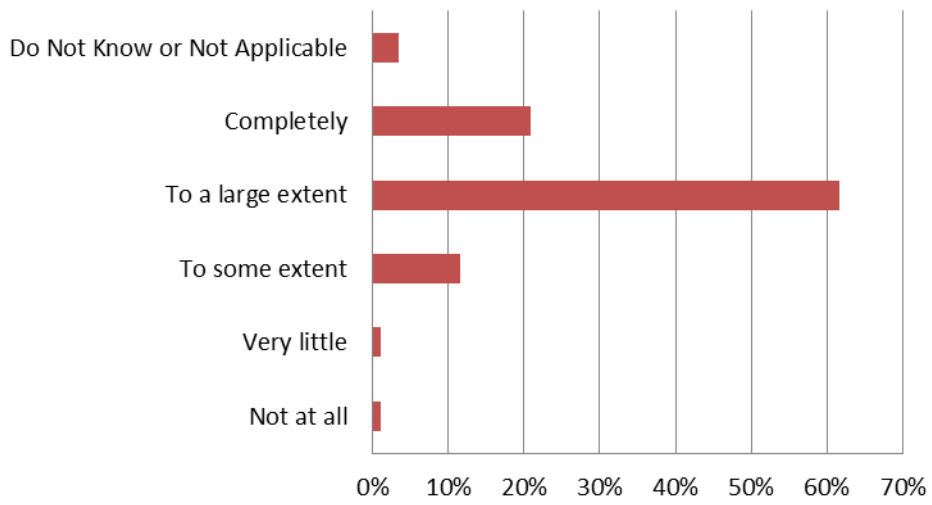


For how many years have you been, or were you, involved in Danida support to research in agriculture and natural resource management activities?

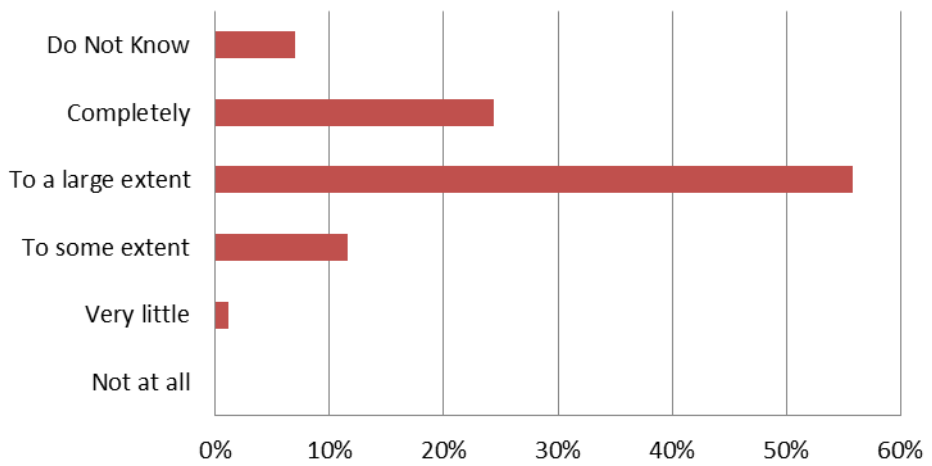




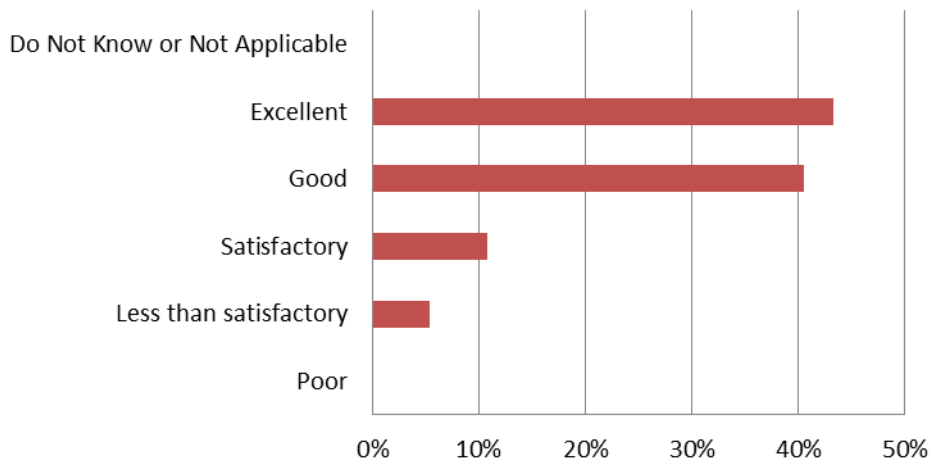
Have you been able to complete activities as planned?



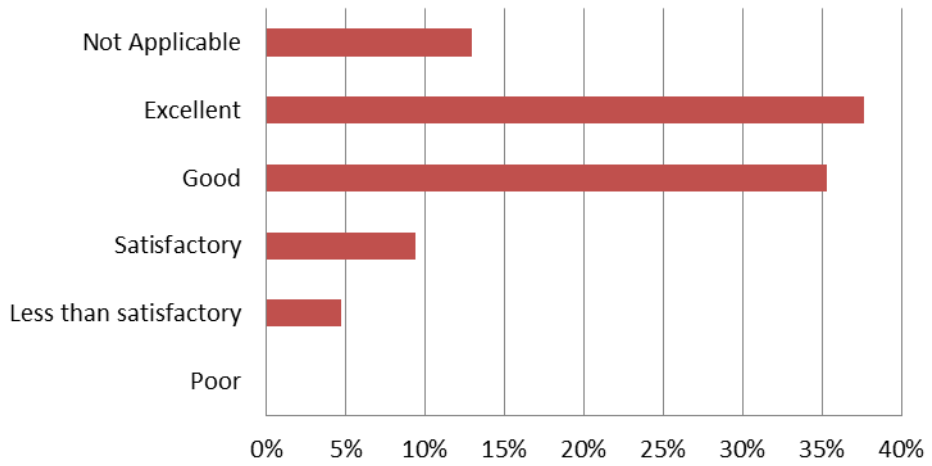
Has the Danida project you were involved with delivered the intended outputs?



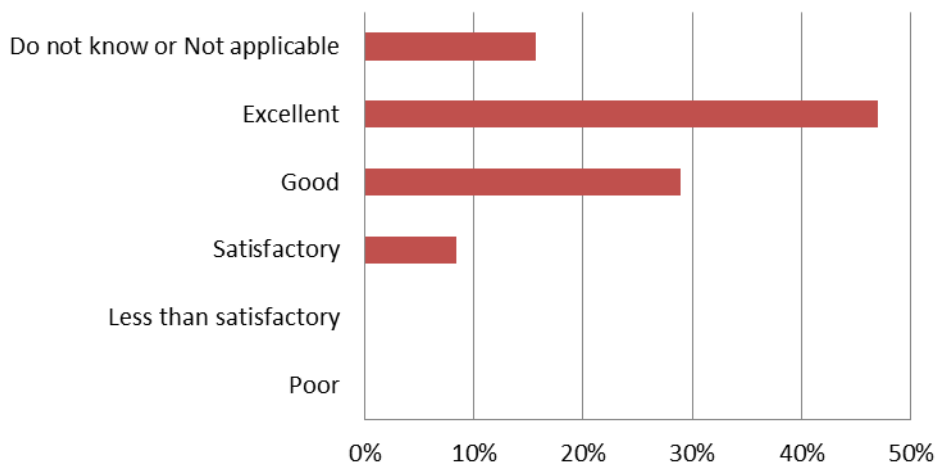
How would you rate the overall quality of the project research outputs that have been delivered?



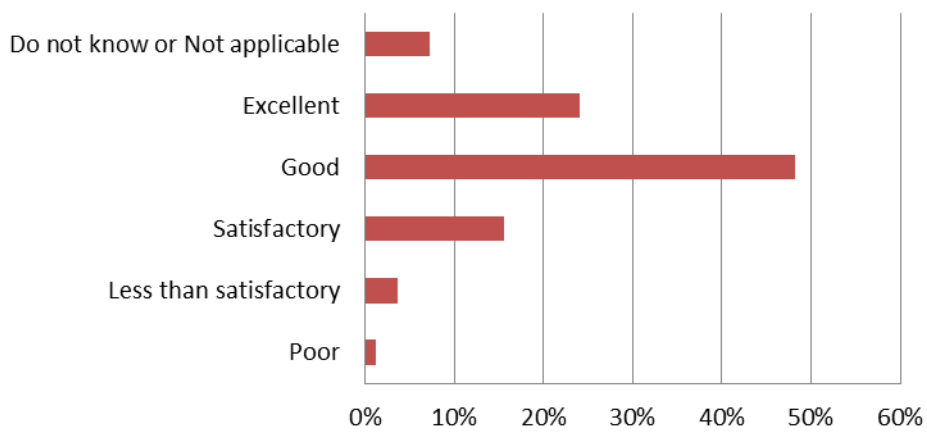
How would you rate the overall quality of the project capacity strengthening outputs that have been delivered?



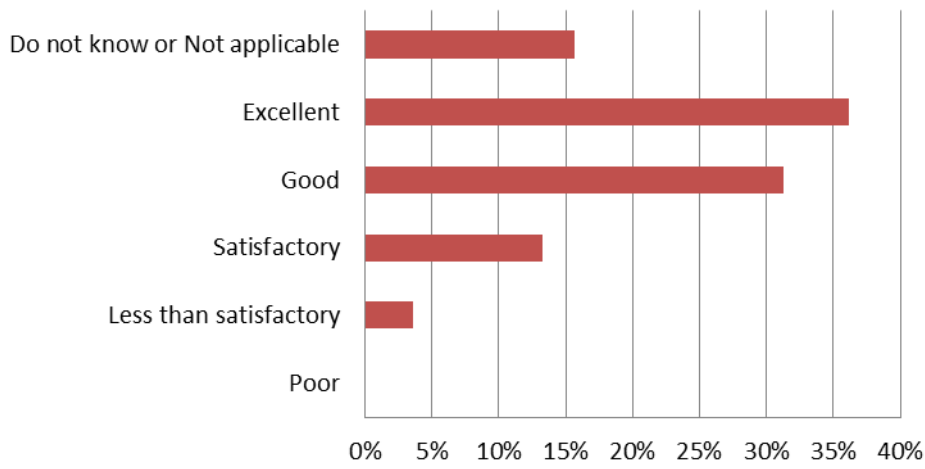
How would you rate the *overall* level of collaboration with the Danish institute[s] you cooperated with on your project?



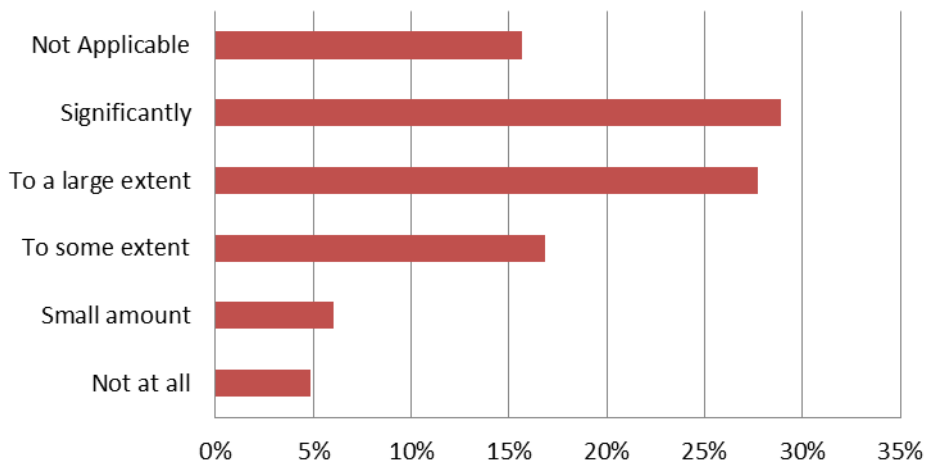
How would you rate the *overall* level of collaboration with the non-Danish institute[s] you cooperated with on your project?



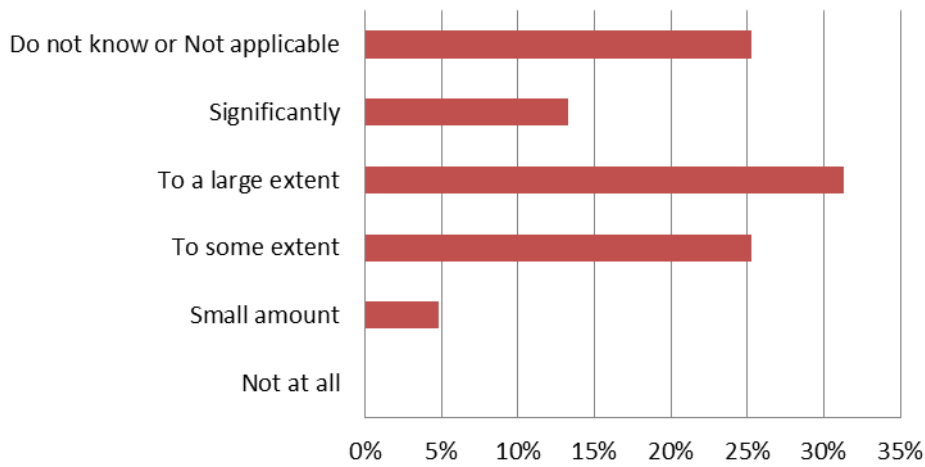
How do you rate the quality of Danish Fellowship Centre [DFC] support on administrative and logistical matters?



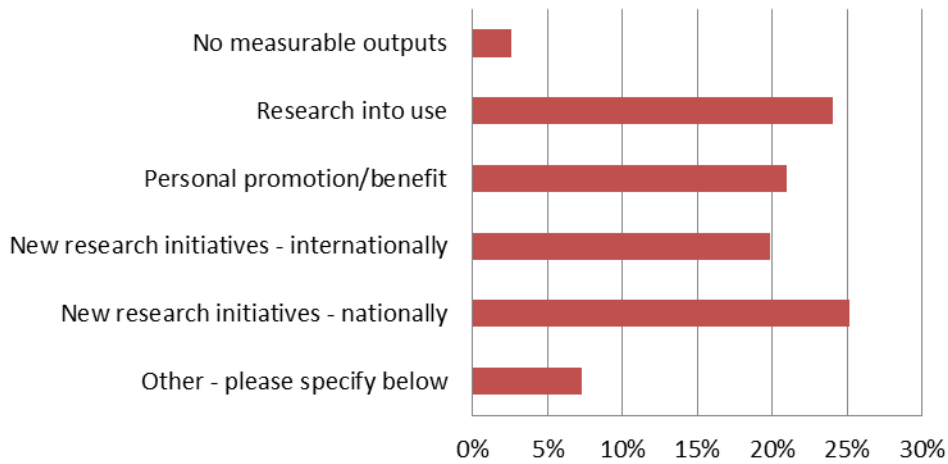
Has involvement with Danida support at an individual level improved the way you work?

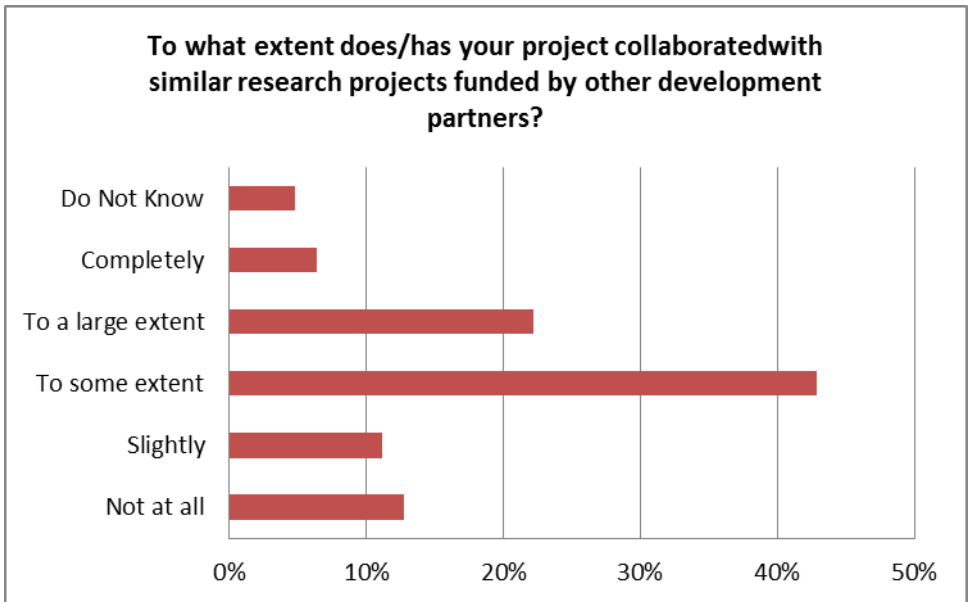
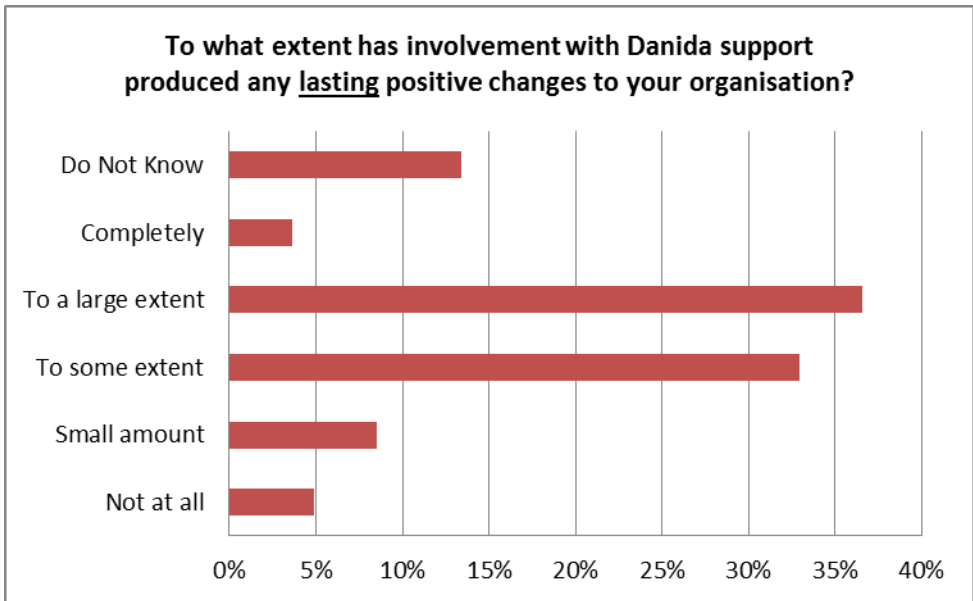


Has involvement with Danida support at an organisational level improved its performance?



Have project outputs led to: [Please select all that apply] (191 responses)





Responses to open Question 23 on the eSurvey:

1. Several points made:

- Education of PhD's from the 'South' takes longer than the three years of funding, which one of the projects I was involved in, was cut back to. We requested four years, and this would have been ideal. It is difficult (almost impossible) to ensure the quality and finalisation of the PhD students (enrolled at KU) within a three-year period, as the 'start level' may not be quite as for European students. Only by being very careful with the budget, we managed to reallocate resources to stretch it to five additional months to ensure their exams). And because we had to be so careful about spending the budget, we actually ended up having a budget left over, which we had to send back to Danida, when we actually could have finalised even more of the planned research papers, if the DFC system had been a bit more flexible. A better and more 'open door' to DFC would be ideal to ensure the best outcome for all partners.
- Ensure better collaboration with embassies. For instance, it would be ideal if embassies could be involved in start-up phases, and especially to assist to streamline budgeting/accounting

issues. In my opinion all researchers and staff involved in projects in the 'South' should have a one day introductory course in 'transparent project management with focus on good accounting practices and requirements', and ideally this could be done with involvement of the embassies in the South. The embassies have a good feeling for country specific 'problems' and have a stronger donor 'mandate' to insist on good accounting principles than researchers from a university. If an obligatory short course was offered at the beginning of projects, the 'project management time' dealing with budget and accounting issues along the way, informing, checking and ensuring the necessary documentation would probably be more efficient, or at least be made easier, so that more time could be spend on research and other technical capacity building aspects. At the same time this would strengthen the contact to and knowledge about the embassies.

- The big difference in overhead percentages in North and South are causing some problems in relation to ensure 'equal' partnerships.
 - Put agriculture and natural resource management back on the Danida agenda. It has kind of vanished, although agriculture plays a key role in many developing countries for food security and income generation.
 - As a researcher, I had difficulty understanding Questions 17, 18, 20, and 21 in the present survey.
2. Thanks to support from Danida, we could justify that local monitors can collect same quality data as executive. There we could encourage the use of participatory ecological monitoring across the country. We are now employing more than 400 local monitors to collect biodiversity and pressures data weekly. Data is passed to Government and Park Managers for better management of natural resources.
 3. Regarding Q20, any lasting, positive changes to organisation cannot be differentiated from other, much larger FFU projects in the organisation. FFU funding is (very often) limited to so-called Danida countries. In some cases it may be beneficial to relax this requirement, e.g. in Central America, where many institutions working with development and NRM are active in all or several countries in the region, and development and NRM problems are very often crossing national boundaries.
 4. Probably research results should be followed immediately by specific interventions in which Danida may also take part. It is the common concern of many respondents especially smallholder farmers in these researches that they are tired of researches, reflecting the fact that they do not see practical outcome from the studies they are involved.
 5. Several questions were not very relevant for a PhD project receiving funding from FFU but not in any other way being a Danida related project.
 6. The long-term commitment implied by the ENRECA programme was very useful.
 7. There should be an opportunity for developing countries to contribute in suggesting research themes.
 8. Danida should continue research in agriculture and natural resources.
 9. Funds to student doing PhD studies should not be channelled through institute accounts rather than going through the bureaucracies of Central Government. Most of the work is failed by the permanent secretaries who don't sign off the money and the accountabilities are failed, work stalls for so long.
 10. I participated in Danida support to research only in person (as a scientist) and not as an institute.

11. Danida support has been valuable to promote research at my organisation and nationally. This type of support would be useful in future also, especially in capacity building (student research) and in sustainable natural resource management/conservation.
12. To consider a follow-up phase as in the past. Most forestry/natural resource management research projects are of long term duration. A four-year period may not produce intended outcomes.
13. Disbursement of funds should be in the budgeted currency to avoid loss of funds during transaction. Original receipts can only be submitted to one institution, in this case the host country institution which oversees fund expenditure. The requirement of separate account as a condition for receiving Danida funds should be reviewed in that running separate account for every project is not practical because an institution may have over 100 projects.
14. National Trust for Nature Conservation is leading organisation in Nepal. Wildlife conservation and community participation in nature conservation and education is main aim of the organisation. Central Zoo in Nepal is model for conservation education, Annapurna Conservation Area Project is global model for community participation for nature conservation and Wildlife (Tiger, Rhino, Elephants, etc.) research and monitoring in lowland parks of Nepal are globally recognised project in Nepal. But we do not have relation with Danida. Attention has to pay towards mentioned sector would be greatly benefited both donor and receiver too.
15. I was only sideways involved in the project so I cannot comment on Danida or the outcomes.
16. There is a need for extending the research time especially with projects that are affected by time in order to realise significant outputs. Similarly, some new interesting observations emerge or are observed as the project continue, necessitating the need for extending the research for some time.
17. I am grateful for the support and more collaboration should be maintained.
18. Where outputs have not been achieved on time due to unforeseen difficulties, additional support should be provided especially in areas of capacity building. This is mainly due to procurement challenges especially for laboratory kits and reagents which are not locally available especially in Africa. The project I am involved in will be ending soon and yet I will have not completed my PhD research. If I do not get additional support I will have to seek for help from other donors and yet Danida has done so much that it only needs to inject in a little support, then all the outputs for the project will be complete.
19. Danida support is lasting, sustainable and objective oriented.
20. It would be beneficial if the research could lead to development projects in order to prove the outcome of the research, i.e. connection between the research projects and the development aim programmes could be improved.
21. Danida should continue similar development collaboration through provision of funds which enhance capacity in the research unit.
22. Danida should have more open calls.
23. More concern on measurable scientific outputs (peer-review international publication) – Flexible in project management with respect to target country's policy/priorities – DFC should have regular meeting with project leaders online or in person (e.g. half or yearly)
24. FFU demands that the main part of Danida funding for joint research capacity projects should be allocated to Southern partners, which is good idea. However, this requires large effort in management and survey from Danish/responsible management partner, which cannot be covered within the limited overhead allowed. More information and collection of experiences across Danish departments-universities on this would be helpful. However, the latest development where Danida from 2013 changes the requirements for supervision and control and introduces requirements for annual external audits from each South partner also for existing projects – but

with insufficient supplementary funding – is unacceptable. The guidelines for budgeting and overhead does not allow for such a reserve in current projects and Danida's new demand for annual audits would then only be possible by re-allocation of funding for e.g. PhD students to auditing. An unacceptable and most arrogant way of changing existing rules with no willingness from Danida's side to listen to the projects problems caused by this.

25. Danida to reconsider Phase 2 for projects that require longer time to produce outcomes.
26. Institutional capacity building requires long-term presence of projects.
27. Grateful for the support.
28. Try to collect good your partner good management your fund.
29. Perhaps you could support some more "risky" research... I mean research where you are very unsure of the outputs because I think it is here you have a better chance of learning something new. Research where the research question is like: What is going to happen if I do like this... where the research question is open-ended and not trying to look for a certain answer. Do you understand what I mean? Most research is asking: Will this specific thing happen if I do like this. And then it seems like if that specific thing does not happen, then the output is negative... I think it is difficult to get funding for this type of research but I also think this is where you can get some very interesting results.
30. Need for selecting projects with high impact outputs with direct relevance to address farming constraints
31. The successes of this project was mainly attributable to the exploitation of an existing sizeable network which needed only limited time allocated for team- and network supporting activities. Hence the network provided a very effectively and scientifically research base.
32. Danida's ceiling for administrative cost of 7% is below levels set by many universities in the South – on average being above 10% of the total budget. The discrepancy causes misunderstanding between project implementers and the central administration of respective institutions.
33. Too frequent and unpredictable changes in main directions. Admin not sufficient, during our project period, several major admin reorganisations happened that made it difficult to keep contact with Danida. In the end, Danida "plays" to the Danish Parliament and not to the partners to be "developed", no matter how this is framed.
34. I think increased collaboration with the private sector in research programmes can increase the speed and scale of absorption of key research findings into improved practices in developing countries. If there is interest in private sector involvement in Danida-funded research, it is important that the private sector gets their administrative costs fully covered. In our experience, for multi-institutional, multi-country projects in developing countries 7% for administration is not sufficient.
35. I have found it practical and orientated towards implementing research outcomes at the field level to promote development.
36. This multiple choice evaluation will be of little value in evaluation of Danida support to research, I think. You are not posing the right questions. The less support to larger strategic research projects and the scandalous amounts of money spend on BSU committees, workshops, platforms, delegations, information meetings, etc. Danida and Universities knows the problems with BSU and no-one speaks out as Danida has decided that BSU has to be a success. In all respect, this survey is not honest in wanting to know the truth.
37. As the research team must have researchers from all the collaborating partners, it is difficult to find and involve relevant person and also meet and work together.

38. Since the institutional governance aspect is very weak in our administration, it is better to find the appropriate professionals at individual level for having research and development in agriculture and NRM field.
39. General rules for emoluments in South partner countries will be appreciated.
40. The capacity building aspect should be emphasized throughout project implementation.
41. Several points:
 - It has helped to develop national human resources in the concern field.
 - Large numbers of journal articles have been published and project reports have been submitted.
 - However, inexperience project/team leaders recruited by the Danida side has remarkable setback on the project performance.
 - Sometime Danish side puts too much of pressure to the project directors or coordinators to select the person they liked not the institute or the project nominated.
42. some of these questions do not fit so well to the Danish partner side – hence the response may seem a bit out of scope
43. Would be a good idea to think of longer duration projects. The current setting is too short to come up with really meaningful impacts.
44. A project funded by Danida in collaboration with Danish Partner should be extended from five to seven years (two phases at least) because the first three years will be only the pilot phase and capacity building is main task, and extended phase (Phase 2), studies/researches will be conducted and disseminated then to users or publish scientific works.
45. Continue to support the capacity building in developing countries in areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources Management. Set out more budget for students and researchers to interact with their counterparts in Denmark so as they can take advantage of the wealth of academic resources available in Danish Universities.
46. I admire the idealistic intent of placing >50% resources in the developing country but 02 on the Danish scale for 1) insisting that students are enrolled locally 2) expecting the Danish universities to work for free since the qualified people who have time (i.e. not professors) cannot get full salary for the duration of such a project given the levels of overhead required. These factors discourage competent scientists from investing time and effort into developmental research projects. Also the topics prioritised will not help feed the world!
47. Observations: Danida, before the project LaSyRe has financed a big development program (PSB-Danida) at Sahel. The activities of natural resource management (reforestation, defence implementation, recovery of degraded lands, dune fixation, etc) have been conducted across the whole region. Suggestions: the results acquired from the project LaSyRe, necessitate complete financing in order to study the particular cases of the intensive system of agricultural production characteristic of the dune zones.
48. It is necessary for development around the action research protocol involving deciders (?), researchers, elected locals and the concerned populations.
49. I find that the defining fact of the priority countries reduce the interest of Senegal to apply to the demands of Danida because Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Ghana make the most of the financing. To research the major character of a country has no more importance than the scientific capacity of the citizens of another country. I suggest for problematic communities, that countries like Senegal are considered in the same way as their counterparts from Sahel.
50. The support given by Danida to research in the agriculture sector of natural resource management is positive for more than one reason: it benefits notably those researching, rural agricultural

populations, and the young (students). I strongly suggest that the research projects are of a minimum four to five years, renewable if possible, to allow for better planning and good execution of the activities. My wish is that the support from Danida lasts longer and strengthens for a better life for our producers and an influence from the agricultural research through the North-South collaboration.

51. For collaborative research that involves a number of partners from the North and the South, it is important to evaluate and recognise the results of each entity, when the engagement of the participants isn't to the same degree.
52. To bring more support in the reinforcement of capacities through specific training and the exchange of experiences.