



# Presentation of Final Findings

## Evaluation NPT and NICHE

# General Remarks

- NPT and NICHE are perceived as very demand driven programmes
- The Dutch organisations are very well received in the partner countries
- Nuffic and the Dutch organisations are viewed to be open to constructive criticism

# Agenda

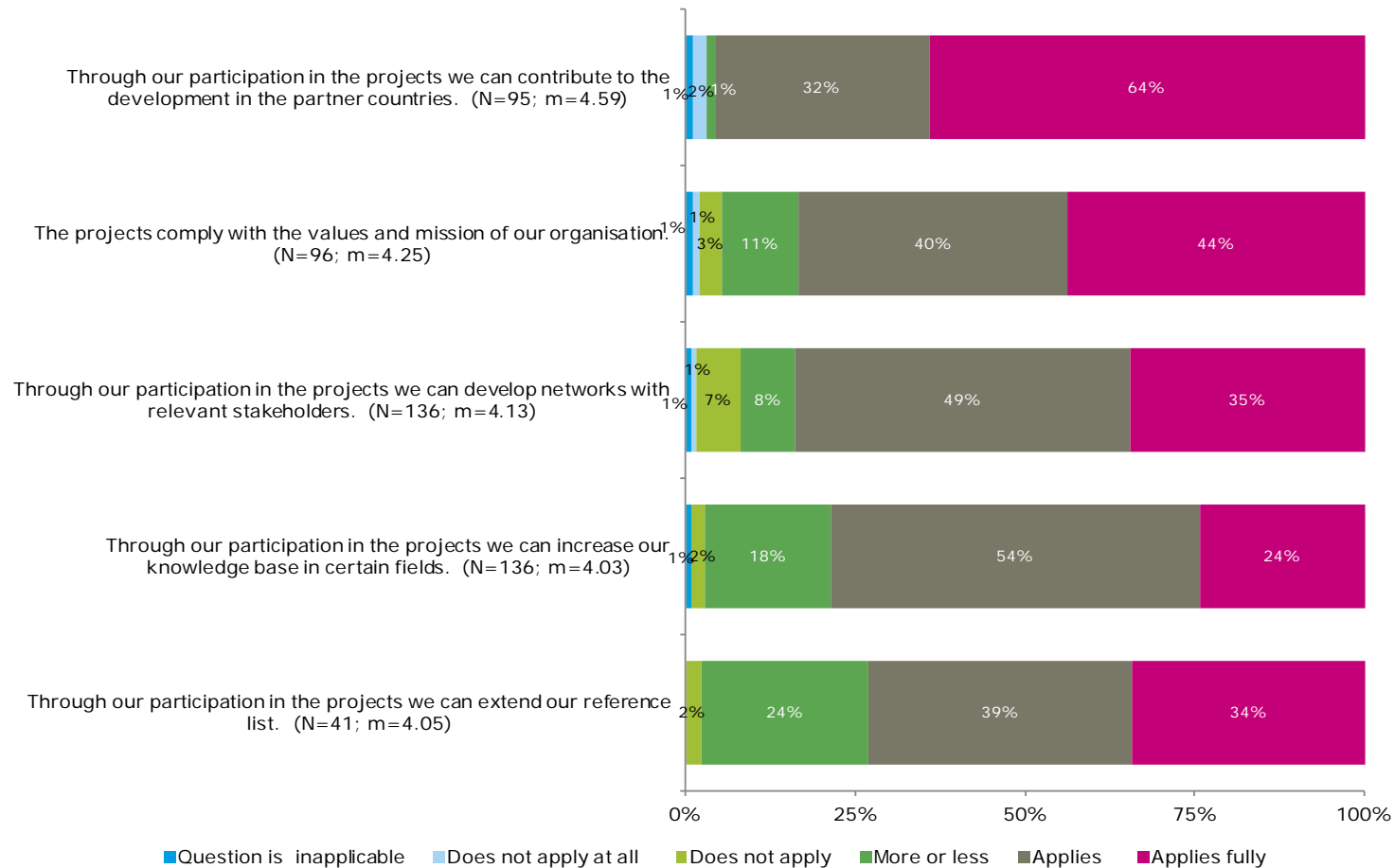
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|----|-----------------------------|
| 01 | Relevance of NPT and NICHE  |
| 02 | Effectiveness of NPT        |
| 03 | Efficiency of NPT and NICHE |
| 04 | Impact of NPT               |
| 05 | Sustainability of NPT       |

# The Partner Countries' and Southern Partners' Perspective

- NPT and NICHE projects generally meet the respective needs on the partner country level and on the level of the requesting organisations.
  - Higher Education Sector:
    - On the sector level as they contribute to higher learning reforms (even more under NICHE).
    - On the level of the requesting organisations a sector-wide approach as undertaken by NICHE can strengthen the relevance of the projects by avoiding “project islands”. This can create synergies between different projects.
  - Economic Sector:
    - On the sector level NPT and NICHE are in line with the development strategies of the partners.
    - However, universities are sometimes not the main leverage to solve the challenges within a certain sector. Here, a focus on the TVET sector, as under NICHE, is more relevant.

# The Perspective of the Dutch Organisations

The Top 5 Motivation of Dutch Organisations to participate:



# The International and Dutch Development Perspective

- The rationale and purpose of NPT and NICHE is still valid as
  - both programmes contribute to filling a funding gap in the international development agenda.
  - are in line with international development in the field of post-secondary education.
- The NPT programme is aligned to the development priorities and regional foci of the RNEs.
  - However, the alignment of NPT to the development priorities and regional foci of the RNEs remains at a level of exchange of information and mutual support.
  - Active coordination with other Dutch development programmes as well as bi- and multilateral donors to generate tangible synergies did not take place under NPT. However, improvements might be realised under NICHE by implementing the eight policy priorities.

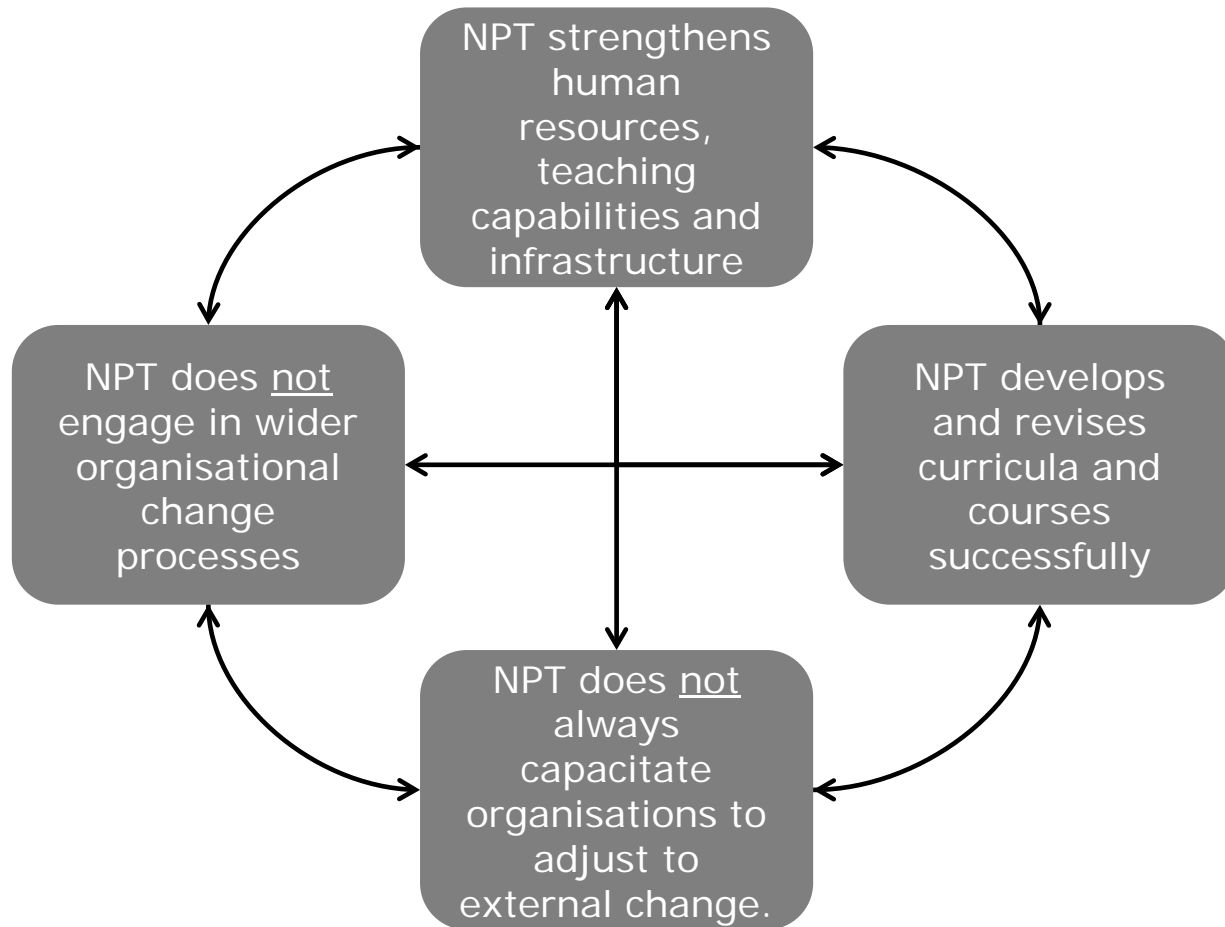
# Questions & Answers

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# Effects on Southern Partner Organisations



- Often second order learning is not reached
- Top & middle management is often not involved
- Training mechanisms are often not institutionalised
- External networks are often not established

# Effects on the Policy Level (in projects where this was addressed)

- NPT was successful in
  - the establishment of new management structures.
  - to influence or change national policy guidelines, standards and legislation.
- Success factors were
  - the creation of ownership at ministry level (e.g. by delivering policy solutions).
  - the implementation of a multi-level approach.
  - the transfer of advocacy and lobbying skills to the southern partners.

# Questions & Answers

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# Programme Design and Implementation

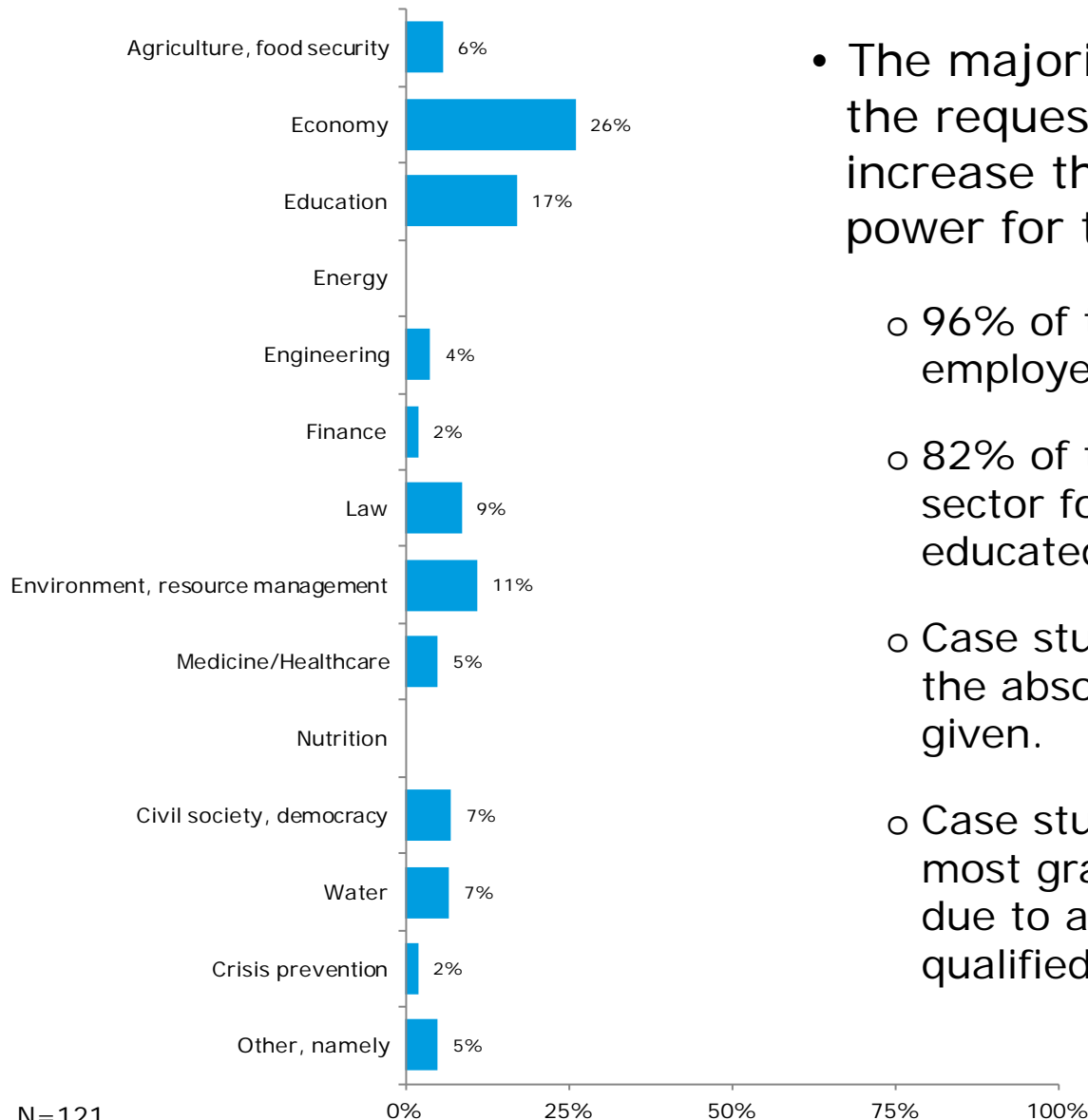
- Regional stakeholders (e.g. other universities in the region) added value to an efficient project implementation and goal achievement
- The roles distribution in the programme and project cycle are not clear and cause inefficiencies
  - E.g. the southern partner do not feel accountable for their tasks in the programme (e.g. capacity self-assessment).
- The demand-driven design in both programmes
  - allows requesting organisations to articulate their demand independently .
  - causes inefficiencies regarding the time-involvement of the Dutch organisations.
- The tendering procedure has had a modest effect on the efficiency of the programmes.
  - Mechanisms have to be identified to increase competition.
- NPT is most efficient in low-income countries as the starting situation is lower than in other countries.

# Questions & Answers

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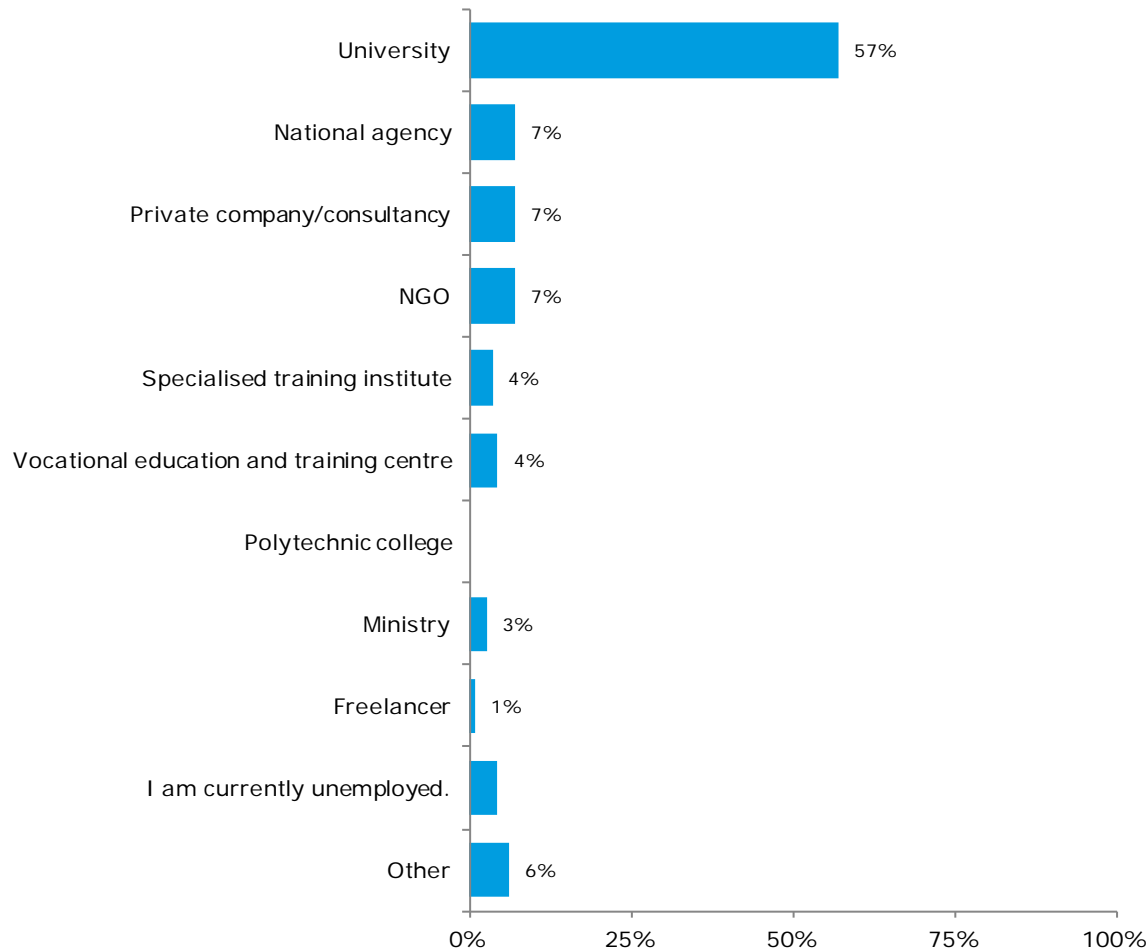
# Employment According to Sector



- The majority of NPT projects enable the requesting organisations to increase the availability of human power for the specific sector.
  - 96% of the NPT alumni are employed
  - 82% of the NPT alumni work in the sector for which they have been educated for
  - Case studies showed however that the absorption rate is not always given.
  - Case studies also confirmed that most graduates gain employment due to a shortage of adequate qualified staff in the sector.



# Employment According to Organisation



- More than half of the NPT alumni work in universities
- 55% of all NPT alumni hold a leadership position
- 79% have initiated change processes at their organisation

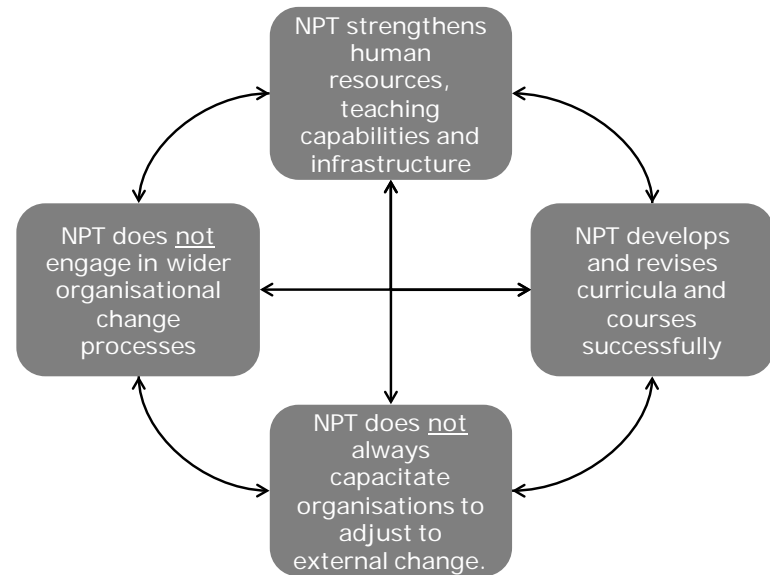
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# Sustainability in Organisations

- The sustainability of the NPT programme is not always guaranteed because
  - in some cases there is a mismatch between the projects and external circumstances.
  - there is a lack of involvement of the higher management.
  - there is a lack of ownership.
  - a lack of attention towards reaching a critical mass in terms of training and a loss of trained personnel.



- The investments into infrastructure are highly sustainable as they are used and maintained.
- The general duration of the NPT projects is an impediment to reach sustainability.

# Questions & Answers

# Areas of Recommendations

1. Continue the NICHE approach and further strengthen the connection to the Labour Market
2. Approach capacity development at requesting organisations in a holistic manner
3. Define roles and responsibilities more clearly and improve organisational and mutual learning mechanisms
4. Ensure future interest of Dutch organisations in the programme and foster competition through improved incentive structures
5. Coordinate more effectively with other programmes

# Thank you for your attention!