

Funding for Freedom of Expression Organizations

Report of a Survey of IFEX Members

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Executive Summary

- ✓ The vast majority of IFEX members say it is more difficult now than a year ago to find project funding. Half say it is more difficult now than five years ago to find project funding.
- ✓ The dominant source for project funding is foundations outside the country of the member.
- ✓ A majority of IFEX members also say it is more difficult now versus a year ago to raise core funding. Half say it is more difficult now versus five years ago.
- ✓ The dominant source for core funding is foundations outside the country of the member.
- ✓ Members say that half of their budgets comes from projects, and about a quarter comes from core funding. They say this is pretty much unchanged from five years ago.
- ✓ Open Society Institute dominates the list of funders for IFEX members--five years ago and now--with the National Endowment for Democracy figuring prominently as well.
- ✓ Almost all IFEX members say they face challenges in finding funding. About half say funders are requiring them to do things that they did not require five years ago.

Members say that funding sources that had supported their work in the past were no longer supporting them.
- ✓ Five IFEX members have neither a full-time nor a part-time person for budget and finance. Twenty-two do not have anyone handling fund-raising full-time.

Methodological Note

The Cox International Center at the University of Georgia completed the fieldwork for and analysis of data from the survey that forms the core of this report. Cox Center researchers developed the questions to be asked in collaboration with IFEX leadership and produced this report to reflect the interests and concerns of IFEX members.

IFEX translated the survey into four languages, English, French, Spanish and Russian. The Cox Center uploaded the survey in those four languages to a computer server at the University of Georgia. IFEX central office in early March of 2009 sent an email message to its 80 members informing them that they would be contacted by the Cox Center and would be asked to complete the survey.

On March 20, the Cox Center sent email messages to the contact person listed in IFEX records for each of the 80 organizations. The message was in English, French, Spanish or Russian. The email included a letter of introduction, the URL for the survey hosted on the University of Georgia server, and the unique user ID and password for each IFEX member. The Center sent follow-up emails on March 24 and March 31. On April 9, IFEX and Cox Center leadership began individual efforts to reach members who had not yet responded to the survey by making additional email and telephone contacts. IFEX and the Cox Center continued these efforts until May 6.

As a result of these efforts, 62 IFEX members completed the survey. In two cases, the member indicated that the organization did not do fundraising and skipped most of the questions. In two cases, the IFEX member answered the questions over the telephone and a

Cox Center interviewer recorded the responses on the computer server. In a third case, a Cox Center interviewer finished a partially completed survey via the telephone.

The final completion rate was a very high 77.5 percent. The final sample error for the survey is 2.8 percent, meaning that most of the results for the full 80 IFEX members should be within plus or minus 2.8 percent of the reported values. This error term is computed at the standard 95 percent level of certainty and corrected for the sample fraction, or the ratio of the sample size (62) to the population (80).

All four of the IFEX members for whom Russian was the contact language completed the survey. Five of the seven members for whom French was the contact language completed the survey. Eight of the 10 members for whom Spanish was the contact language completed the survey. Forty-five of the 59 members for whom English was the contact language completed the survey. IFEX also classifies members based on region. A comparison of the ratio between completed and total members by classification shows no evidence of bias. Finally, a more traditional classification of members by region of location shows appropriate representation by region.

In sum, the evidence is that the responses from the sample of 62 IFEX members are likely to represent the responses of the whole IFEX membership with minimal error.

Difficulty in Finding Funding

The survey began by asking IFEX members about the level of difficulty they were experiencing in finding project funding. Members were asked to compare the difficulty now versus a year ago and to compare now versus five years ago. All but six of the respondents

were able to make the first comparison, and the vast majority, equivalent to 66.1 percent, said it is more difficult now than a year ago to find project funding. All but 10 of the members were able to make the second comparison. Half said it is more difficult now than five years ago to find project funding.

The survey asked the respondents to look at a list of 11 different project funding types and indicate which had provided them funding for projects in the last five years. The dominant source was foundations outside the country of the member, with 59.7 percent listing this source. This was followed by governments in other countries, NGOs outside the country, and foundations in the country. Eight of the respondents checked Other from the list of sources and provided the names of those organizations. In three of those cases, the source was a multinational governmental organization or multiple multinational organizations, and in two of those cases the IFEX member had not checked that category. So that category appears to be a few percentage points lower than it should be.

The next questions focused on core funding, defined as “funding that keeps your organization running day-to-day.” Respondents were first asked to indicate if it is more difficult now versus a year ago to raise funding for the core activities of the organization. All but five of the IFEX members were able to answer this question, and the equivalent of 57.9 percent said it was more difficult now versus a year ago to raise core funding. The survey followed this question with one asking about the difficulty of finding core funding now versus five years ago, and 54 of the members were able to answer. Half said it was more difficult now versus five years ago.

The survey next asked respondents to indicate the types of core funding the organization had been able to obtain in the last five years. Foundations outside the country dominated this list, as had been the case with project funding. The next most common sources of funding were NGOs outside the country, governments of other countries, and foundations in the country. These were the same sources that topped the project funding list, but the percentages of organizations having success with core funding is lower than the percentages having success with project funding in all four cases. Nine members checked the Other category, and, again, some of these fit into the provided categories. The multinational organization category as a source of core funding is less prominent than for project funding, and only one IFEX member listed such a source but did not check the box. Had the member done so, the percentage would have been 6.5 percent versus the reported 4.8 percent.

Budgets Compared

The next questions asked IFEX members to examine their budget at present and indicate the percentages of the total budget coming from projects, from core funding, from an endowment, from sales, from membership, or from some other sources. Forty-two of the members were able to do this, and, on average, they said that 51.1 percent of their budgets come from projects. On average, another 22.7 percent comes from core funding.

These averages sum across the individual responses, of course, which indicate that 28.6 percent of the participating members said they got between 0 and 25 percent of their funding from projects, while 21.4 percent said they got between 26 and 50 percent of their funding from projects, 16.7 percent said they got between 51 and 75 percent of their funding from

projects, and 33.3 percent said they got between 75 and 100 percent of their funding from projects.

Core funding makes up between 0 and 25 percent of the budget for 61.9 percent of the members, and very few members report getting more than 25 percent of their budget from any other source.

The survey next asked respondents to report on the percent of their budgets coming from projects, core funding, an endowment, sales, membership or other sources five years ago. Only 34 of the organizations could answer, but the picture their answers provided was much the same as for the current budget. The average percentage coming from projects was 53.4 percent, while the average coming from core funding was 22.8 percent. Again, 20.6 percent of the respondents reported that between 0 and 25 percent of their funding came from projects five years ago, 32.4 percent reported that between 26 and 50 percent came from projects. The percentage reporting that between 51 and 75 percent came from projects was 14.7 percent, and the percentage reporting that between 76 and 100 percent of the money came from projects was 32.4 percent.

Funding Sources

These questions on budgets were followed by two questions asking IFEX members to identify their top three funding sources this year and five years ago. Fifty-one IFEX members were willing to respond to the question for the present year, though three said they had no funders so far this year. Forty-eight members listed funding sources five years ago, and none said they were unfunded. A total of 119 current funding sources were listed, most of them only

once. Seventeen funding sources had more than one mention, but only five had more than four. The Open Society Institute had 15 mentions, followed by the National Endowment for Democracy with 11. These two were followed by Memberships, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNESCO. IFEX members mentioned 136 funding sources for five years ago, with 63 of them being single mentions. The Open Society Institute was mentioned by 14 IFEX members as a source of funding five years ago, or one mention fewer than for current funding. Memberships, UNESCO and the National Endowment for Democracy were at the top of the list five years ago as well.

While the number of funding sources for the current year at 119 is lower than the 136 funding sources five years ago, two explanations for the difference, other than a decline in funding, present themselves. First, the survey was fielded early in the current calendar year, and more funding for the year may be obtained by members. As noted, three members said they had no funding so far, but they left open the possibility they would still obtain funding. Second, members probably were less precise in recalling funding five years ago than in recalling current funders, and that could result in an overcount.

Challenges in Finding Funding Explained

The next questions on the survey asked the IFEX respondents to elaborate on the challenges they face in finding funding for their work. Almost all of the respondents (52 of the 59 responding to the question) said they faced such challenges. A few of the members offered more than one response, and most focused on competition for limited amounts of money, a lack of interest on the part of some donors in Freedom of Express issues, and discrepancies

between the interests of donors and the members. One said it is hard to “identify institutions willing to fund freedom of expression projects, a topic that donors have been losing interest in.” But respondents also focused on the economic crisis as a challenge and on their own resources. One explained the challenges this way: “Being able to find time and resources to address the problem adequately. We have a small staff and no dedicated fundraiser.”

The responses to these and other open-ended questions are shown in the charts in two ways. First, the responses are coded into large, general categories. Next, the responses are presented in more detail. The second, detailed coding was undertaken in collaboration with IFEX staff. The responses were provided to the IFEX staff without information that identified the respondent.

About half the respondents (51.7 percent, or 30 of the 58 answering the question) said funders are requiring them to do things that they did not require five years ago. Most of the coded comments focused on project development, but administrative and accounting requirements also were prominent. “Much more details (planning, budgeting, accounting, reporting) are required when applying for project funds from foundations and government agencies,” one respondent said. “Project funds are almost never granted for more than one year.” Funders are more likely to require “concrete products and measurable indicators of success,” another said. “Even though these requirements are more onerous,” the member acknowledged, “we and other organisations support this process and general direction in the long run.”

IFEX members said that funding sources that had supported their work in the past were

no longer supporting them. Of the 58 respondents to the question, 41 (70.7 percent) said this was their experience. Nineteen of the coded comments offered to explain this change focused on shifts in funder interests, though seven said the decision was project based. One respondent said that there was on the part of funders a “desire to end long standing relationships (in one case 30 years) to 'seek new pastures.'” “ The respondent said the funder also had a “concern about long-term viability of (our) business model,” and this reflected a “change of institutional policy.” Another member explained the loss of donor support this way: “Main reason from one donor is that they did not like the orientations and priorities of the organisation.”

Half of the IFEX respondents (29 of the 58) said it was equally difficult to obtain funding from old as from new donors. Those who said it was more difficult to maintain funding from existing sources were asked to elaborate, and they cited competition, a change of focus, financial issues, time resources and government as explanations. “Our center is not welcomed by the government,” one said. “We face difficulties and we have to work on our own. We can only rely on ourselves.”

Just under half (48.3 percent, or 28 of the 58 respondents) said there are particular areas of freedom of expression work that are becoming more difficult to fund than in the past. Included were government projects and public interest projects. Also mentioned were reporting projects and advocacy work. One member said the organization was having difficulty finding funding for “Programme areas and actions in the public eye that are aimed at changing legislation and influencing decision makers.” Another said “Advocacy and lobbying for the

reform of laws dealing with freedom of expression” was difficult to fund and also said there was little support for “Emergency assistance funds for journalists at risk.” Lack of donor interests and changes in funding priorities were offered as the explanations for these changes. “There are hardly any donors who want to support this work or who consider it a priority,” one respondent said.

Eighteen of the 58 respondents (31.0 percent) said some areas of freedom of expression work are becoming easier to fund. The most commonly offered were training and educational projects and legal projects. One said the organization was finding it easier to fund “domestic projects in free speech for youth,” while another mentioned “capacity building training.” Another said funding was available for “legal aid for bloggers and journalists.”

Forecasting Future Funding

The survey next asked IFEX members about their expectations regarding future funding. Twenty-four (42.1 percent) of the 57 who answered the question said they were not able to project regarding funding for projects in the future. Fifteen (26.3 percent) expect increased funding in five years. Respondents were more pessimistic about funding for core operation of the organization. Eighteen of the 56 respondents (32.1 percent) said there will be less funding for core operations in five years, and the same number said the funding will be the same. Only nine (16.1 percent) thought funding will increase in five years.

Staffing

The survey instrument included three detailed questions on staffing. The first simply asked how many people work in the organization as full-time staff, part-time staff, full-time volunteers and part-time volunteers. All but four of the 62 respondents answered the question, 12 of which had no full-time staff member (20.7 percent). Few of the organizations (7) had more than 10 full-time staff. The largest organization has 80 full-time staff, more than twice the size of the next largest, which has 35 full-time staff.

Twenty-one of the organizations (36.2 percent) have no-part time staff, and only four have more than five part-time staff. The vast majority of the organizations (81.0 percent, or 47) have no full-time volunteers, and half (50.0 percent, or 29) have no part-time volunteers. Only 10 have more than five part-time volunteers.

Budgeting and Fundraising

The survey instrument contained six different questions on budgeting and fundraising, beginning with one that asked the number of people in the organization responsible for budgets and finance. Fifteen of the organizations reported that they had no one who has full-time responsibility for budget and finance in their organization. Eight respondents indicated they had at least one full-time person handling budget and finance but did not specify the number. The 15 organizations without a full-time staff responsible for budget and finance represent 30.6 percent of those who gave the detailed answer on number of persons but 25.9 of the 58 respondents answering the first question. The majority of organizations (61.4 percent) have no part-time person handling budget and finance. Five organizations (of the 58

responding to the question) have neither a full-time nor a part-time person handling budget and finance, and 10 have only a part-time person.

Twenty-two of the organizations indicated they do not have anyone handling fundraising full-time. That is 37.9 percent of the 58 organizations reporting at least some data on staffing for fundraising, but 42.3 percent of those reporting detailed data. Three-quarters of the organizations (78.2 percent) have no part-time person handling fundraising. Fifteen of the 58 organizations responding to the question have no full-time or part-time person handling fundraising.

Respondents to the survey were next given the chance to indicate who is consulted in their organization in planning the annual budget by checking from three listed job titles. The vast majority of the respondents indicated that the executive director, financial manager and program director were involved in the annual budget. Fifty-nine of the respondents answered this question, and 79.7 percent said the executive director was consulted, 71.2 percent said the financial manager was consulted, and 67.8 percent said the program director was consulted. About half of the respondents indicated that someone else was consulted, and most commonly mentioned were members of a board, such as a board of directors, followed by others with managerial titles and financial advisors other than the financial manager.

IFEX members were next asked to describe the budgeting approach used in their organization in their own words. The comments indicate that the primary focus of the process is on core expenses, followed by project expenses. One member put it this way: "Identify core institutional needs and their costs; Work out project and activity goals and their costs; Present

project and activity figures to potential funders.”

The survey next asked IFEX members to indicate if anyone in the organization had access to financial planning training. Only 20 of the 57 organizations that responded (35.1 percent) indicated that someone in the organization had this training. The organizations that have this training indicated that most helpful had been budget training, followed by fundraising and management.

Three-quarters of the organizations (75.4 percent) indicated that their organization has an annual financial audit. Fifty-seven of the organizations answered the question. Those with a financial audit were asked if they were helpful, and the vast majority (72.1 percent) said they were.

Background on Organization

Two questions at the end of the survey asked about age of the organization and about its focus. Fifty-eight of the respondents answered both questions. The majority of the organizations were founded since 1991, with 42.1 percent founded from 1991 to 2000 and 17.5 percent founded from 2001 on. The oldest organization was founded in 1911, and 22.8 percent were founded before 1970.

Nearly four in 10 (46.6 percent) of the organizations have a national focus, and 32.8 percent have an international focus. For 19.0 percent, the focus is regional.

Closing Survey Comments

At the end of the survey, IFEX members were given a chance to add comments or reflections on funding trends and working with donors. Twenty-three did. The comments were wide ranging. “Donors must stop paying too much attention to the popular and renowned organizations and identify emerging ones and work with them,” one said. “It’s just getting tougher and tougher, especially for core needs,” another said. “Who will pay the salaries, rent and supplies?”

“We don’t have vast experience in funding that we would be able to share with others,” another said. “Members of our organization are journalists and some academics.”

Differences Among IFEX Members

The first question on the survey asked respondents to compare the difficulty of finding project funding now versus a year ago. Two-third of the members said it is more difficult now versus a year ago to obtain these funds. Responses to subsequent questions in the survey echoed that sentiment, making the response to the first question particularly important in understanding the findings of the survey.

To understand any differences that might exist in responses to this question, IFEX members were classified according to the part of the world in which they are based, the self-reported focus of the program, the year of founding of the organization, and the number of full-time employees. Responses to the first question were then compared.

Only two of the six IFEX members from the Middle East indicated they were finding it more difficult to obtain project funds, and only four of the nine African members reported it

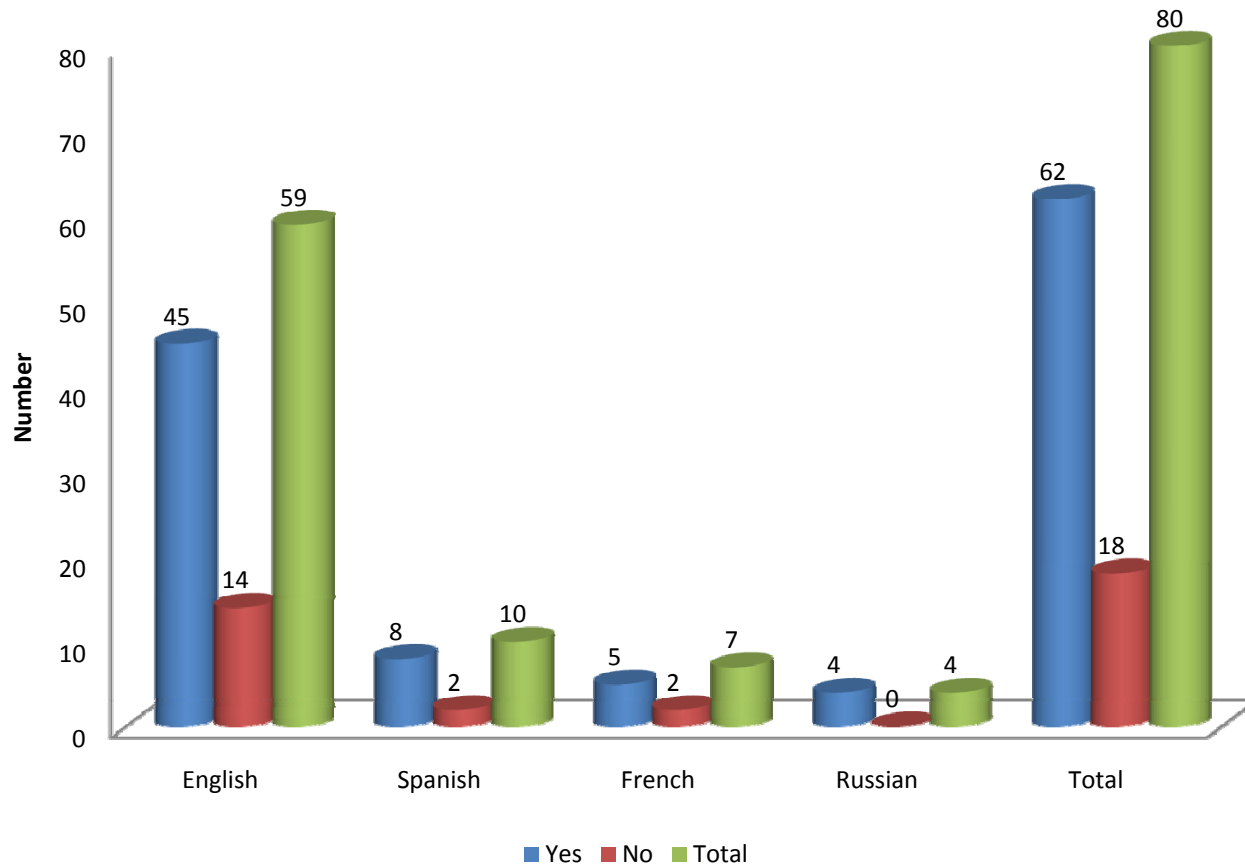
was more difficult. Ten of the 17 European members reported that finding project funding was more difficult, while seven of the nine North American organizations and seven of the eight Asian organizations reported this experience. All six of the South American organizations gave this report.

Eighteen of the 25 IFEX members with a national focus reported finding project funding is more difficult, and seven of the 10 regional organizations gave this report. Only 11 of the 18 international organizations reported that project funding is more difficult to find now versus a year ago.

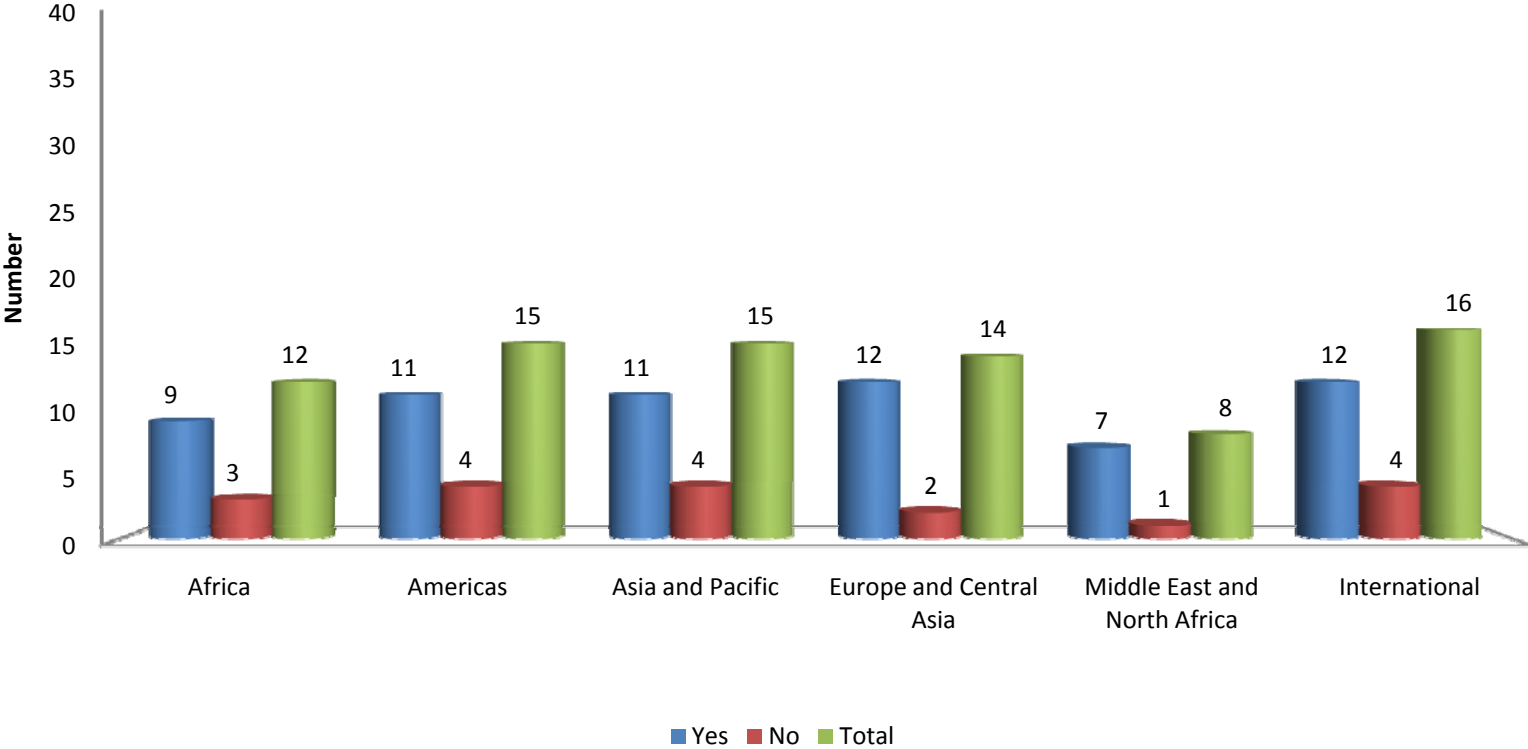
Five of the nine organizations founded since 2000 reported it is more difficult now versus a year ago to find project funding, and five of the nine organizations founded from 1971 to 1990 reported this experience. A nearly identical ratio—eight of 13—of the organizations founded prior to 1971 reported having more difficulty obtaining project funding. The organizations funded from 1991 through 2000 reported the most difficulty, with 18 of 22 saying it is more difficult now to find project funding than a year ago.

Size of the organization makes a difference, though not an overly large one. Of the 19 organizations with no or one full-time employee, 14 reported that finding funding for projects now is harder than a year ago. Among the 18 with two to four full-time employees, 12 reported that difficulty in finding project funding has increased. For those 18 members with five or more full-time employees, only 11 reported that finding project funding has become increasingly difficult.

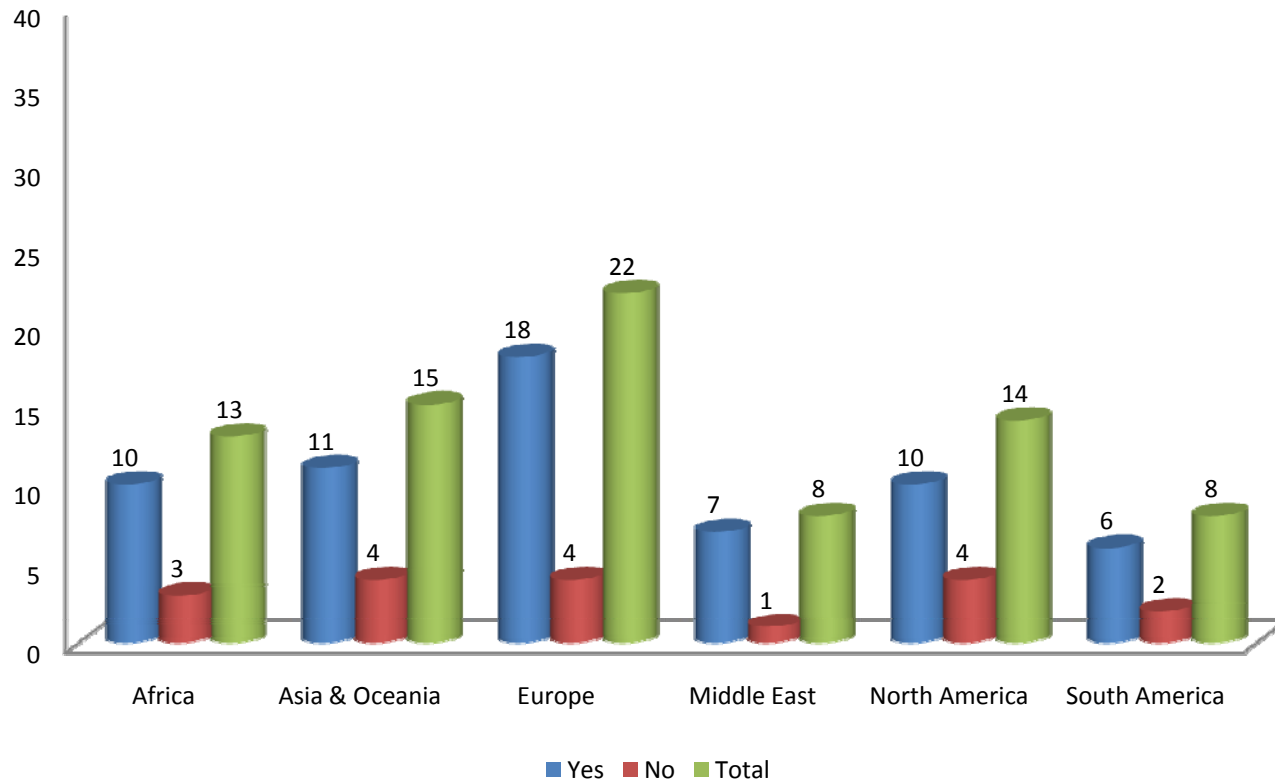
Completed Survey by Language of Solicitation



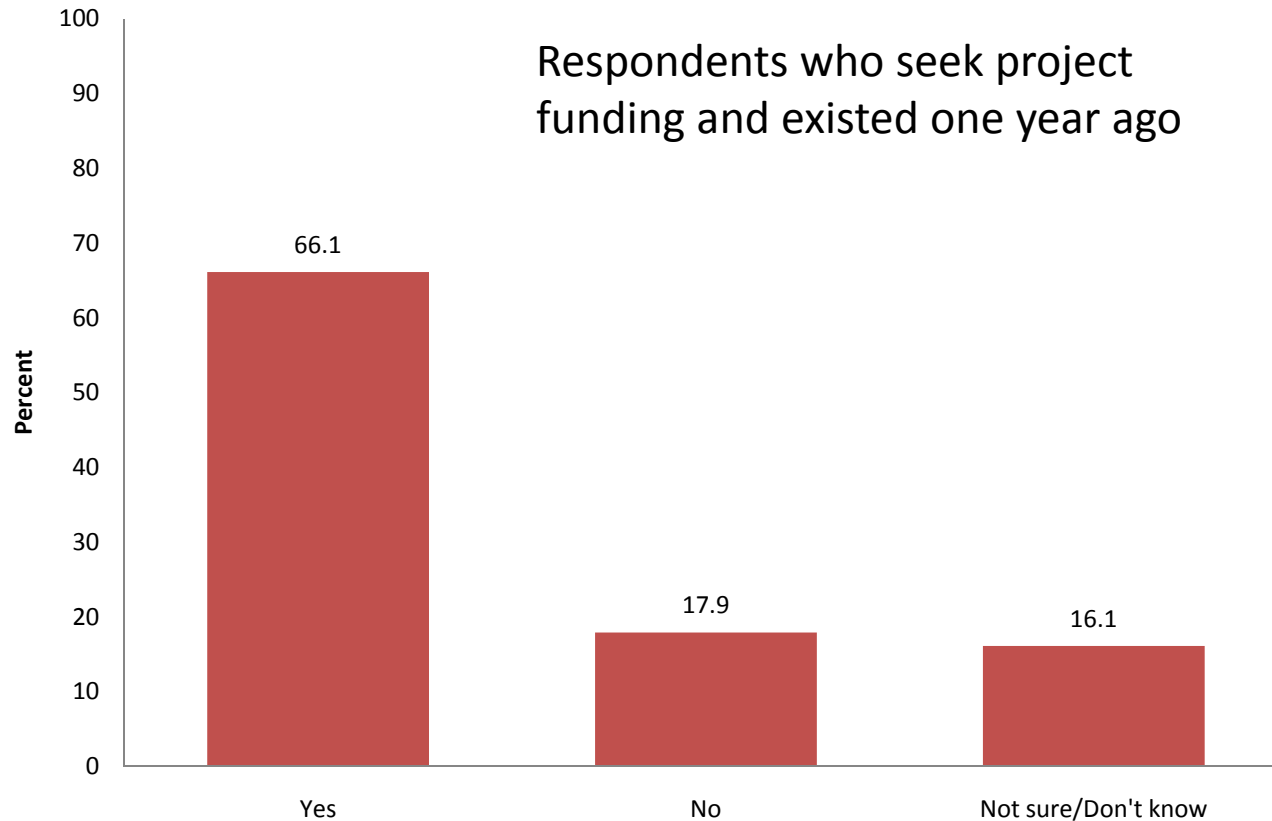
Completed Survey by IFEX Member Classification



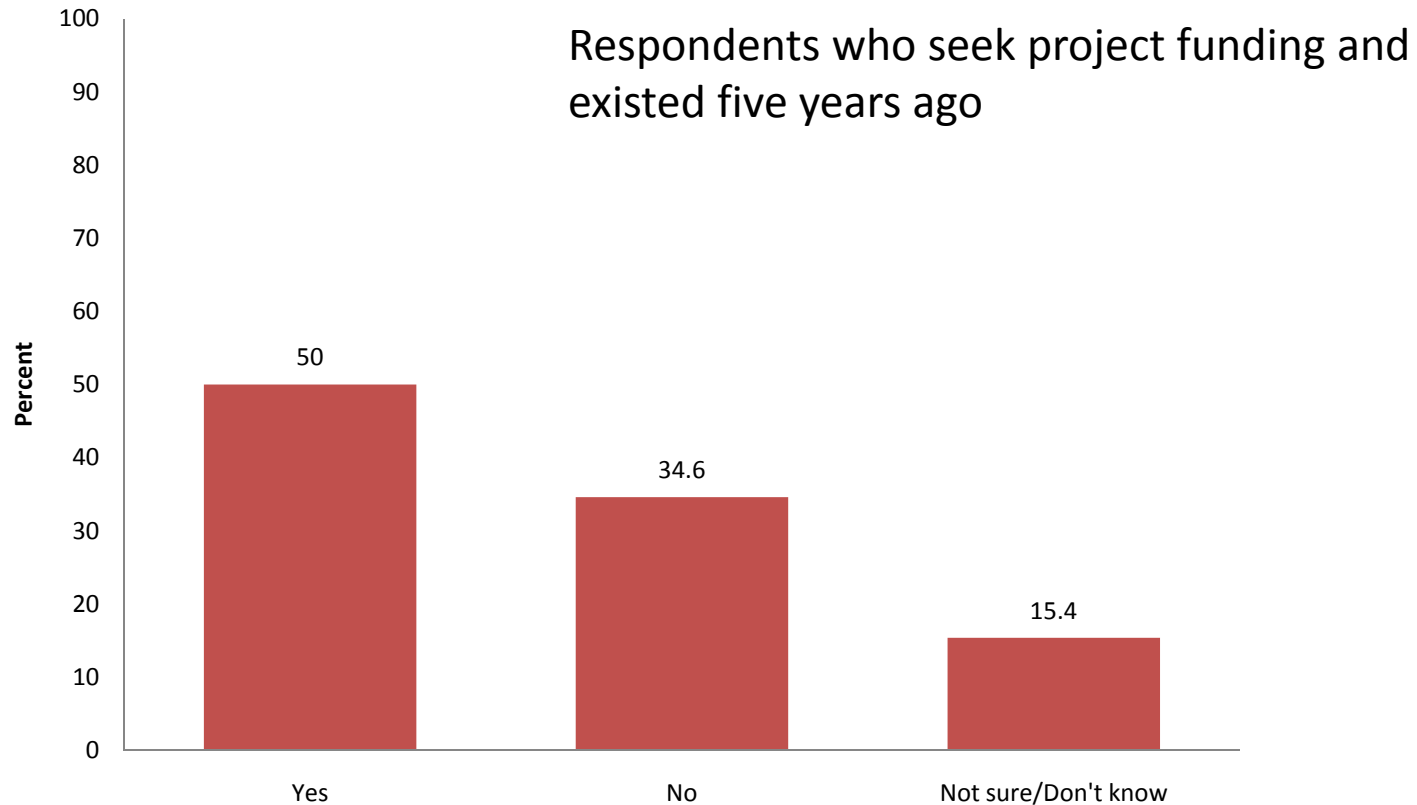
Completed Survey by Region



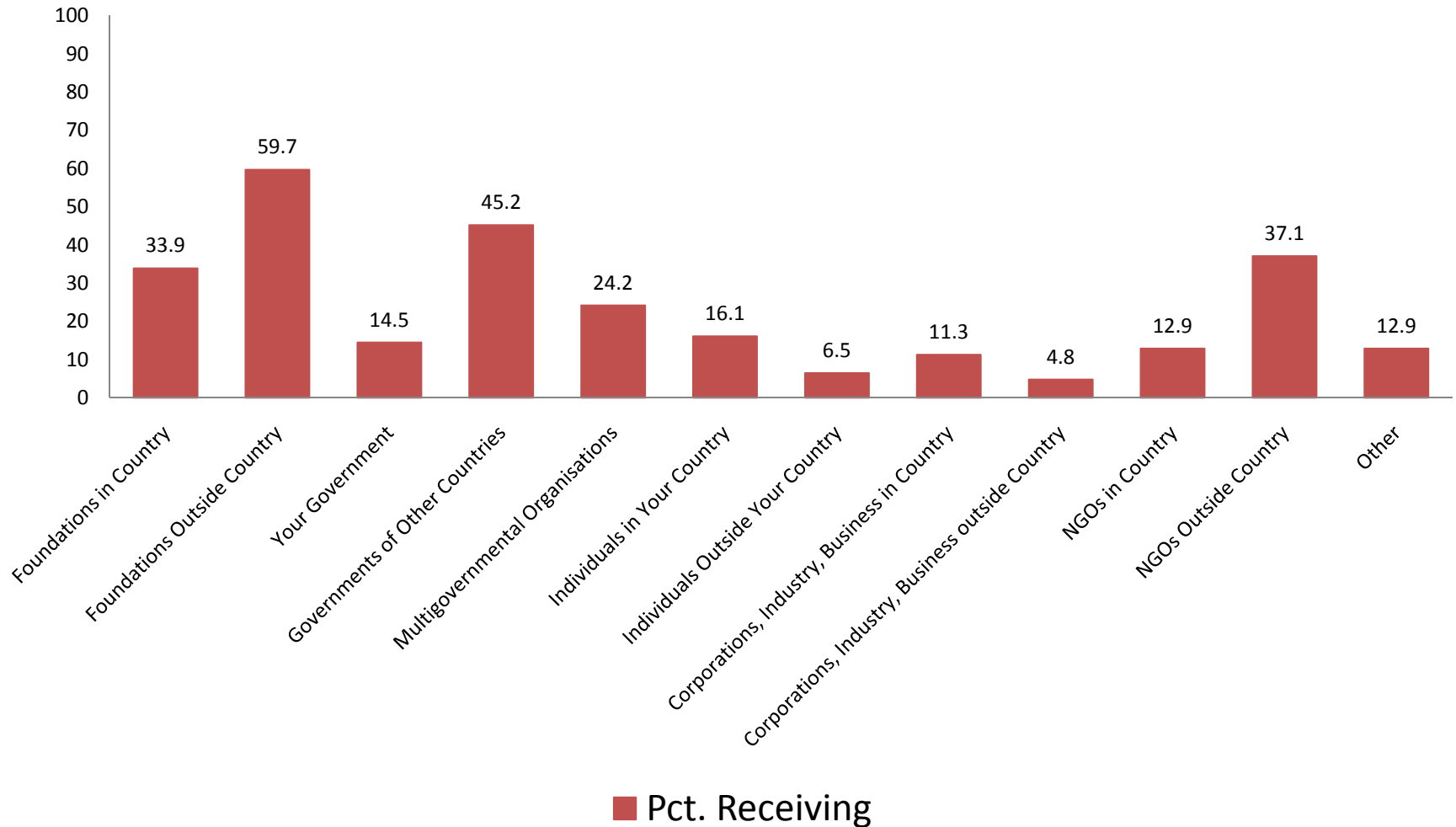
Q1 Are you finding it more difficult now than one year ago to find funding for the freedom of expression projects your organisation would like to undertake?



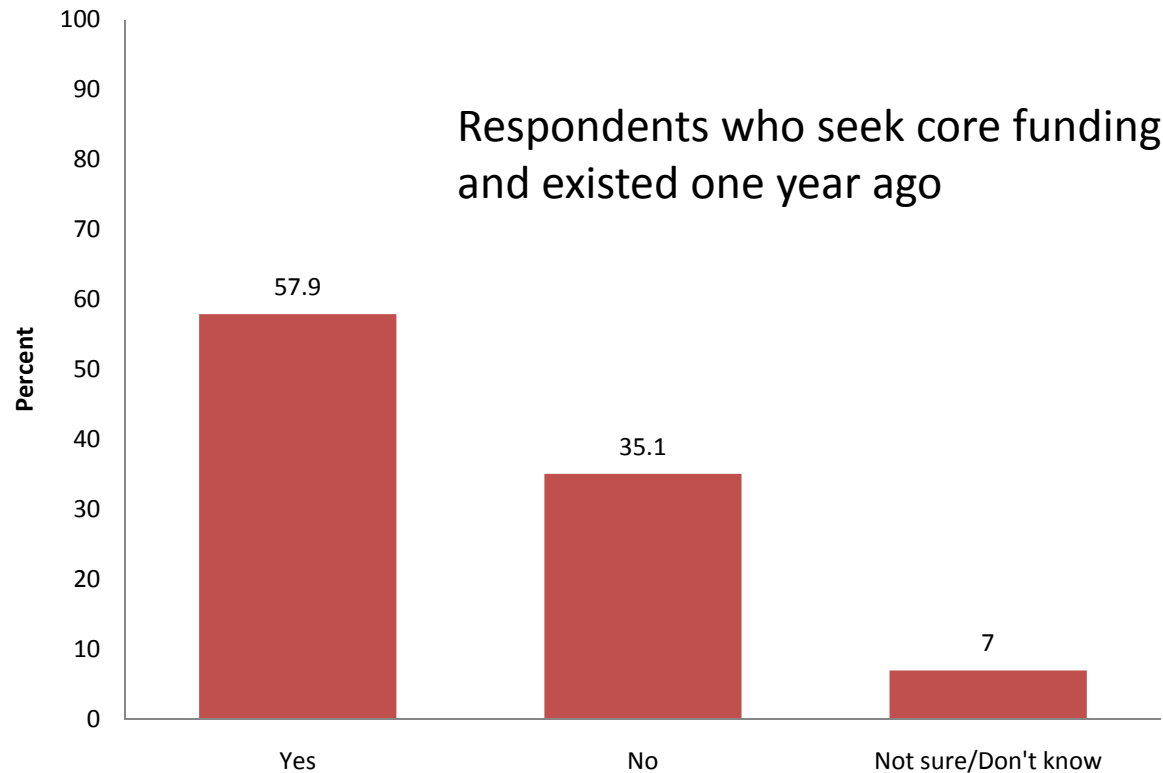
Q2 Are you finding it more difficult now than five years ago to find funding for the freedom of expression projects your organisation would like to undertake?



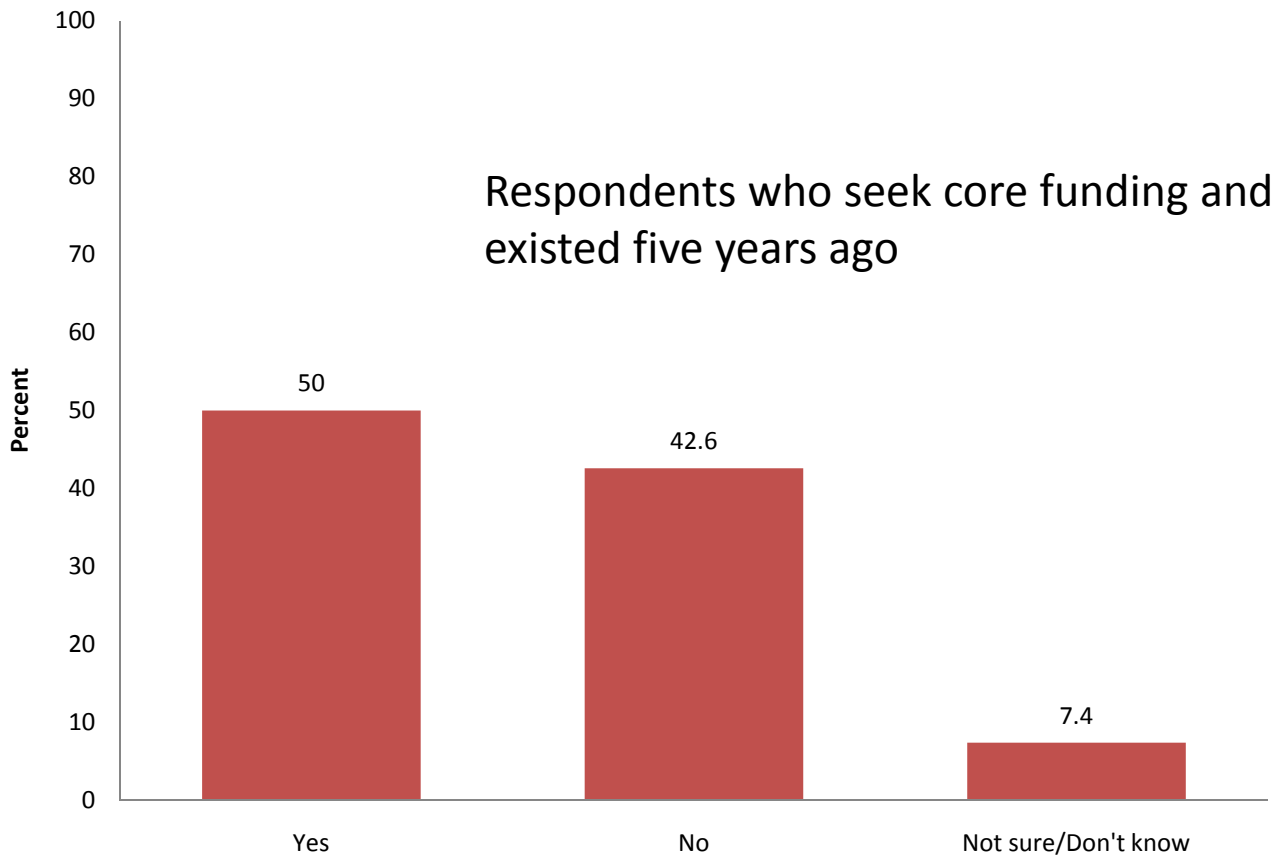
Q3 Please indicate the types of project funding you have been able to obtain in the last five years .



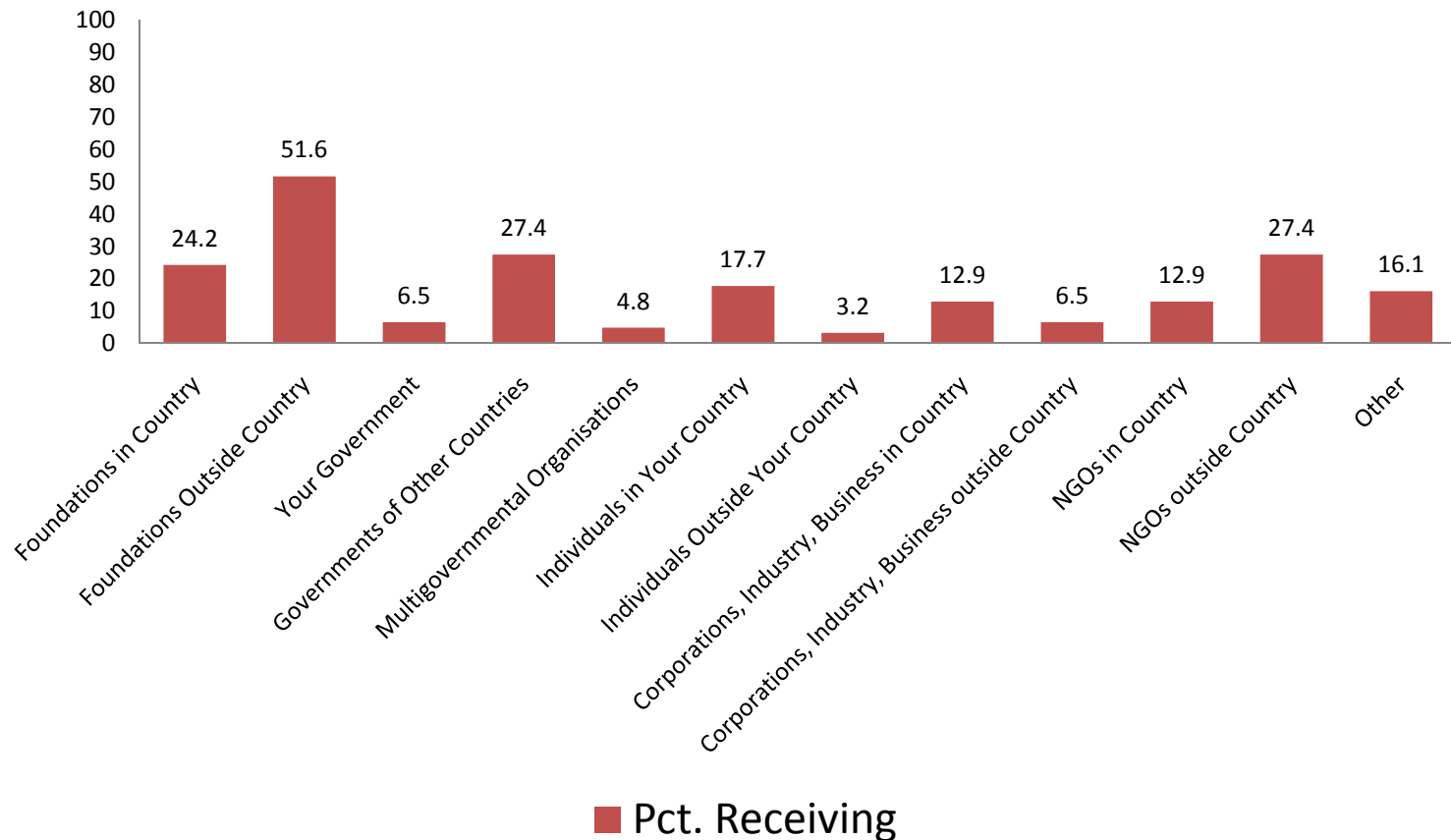
Q4 Are you finding it more difficult now than one year ago to find funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?



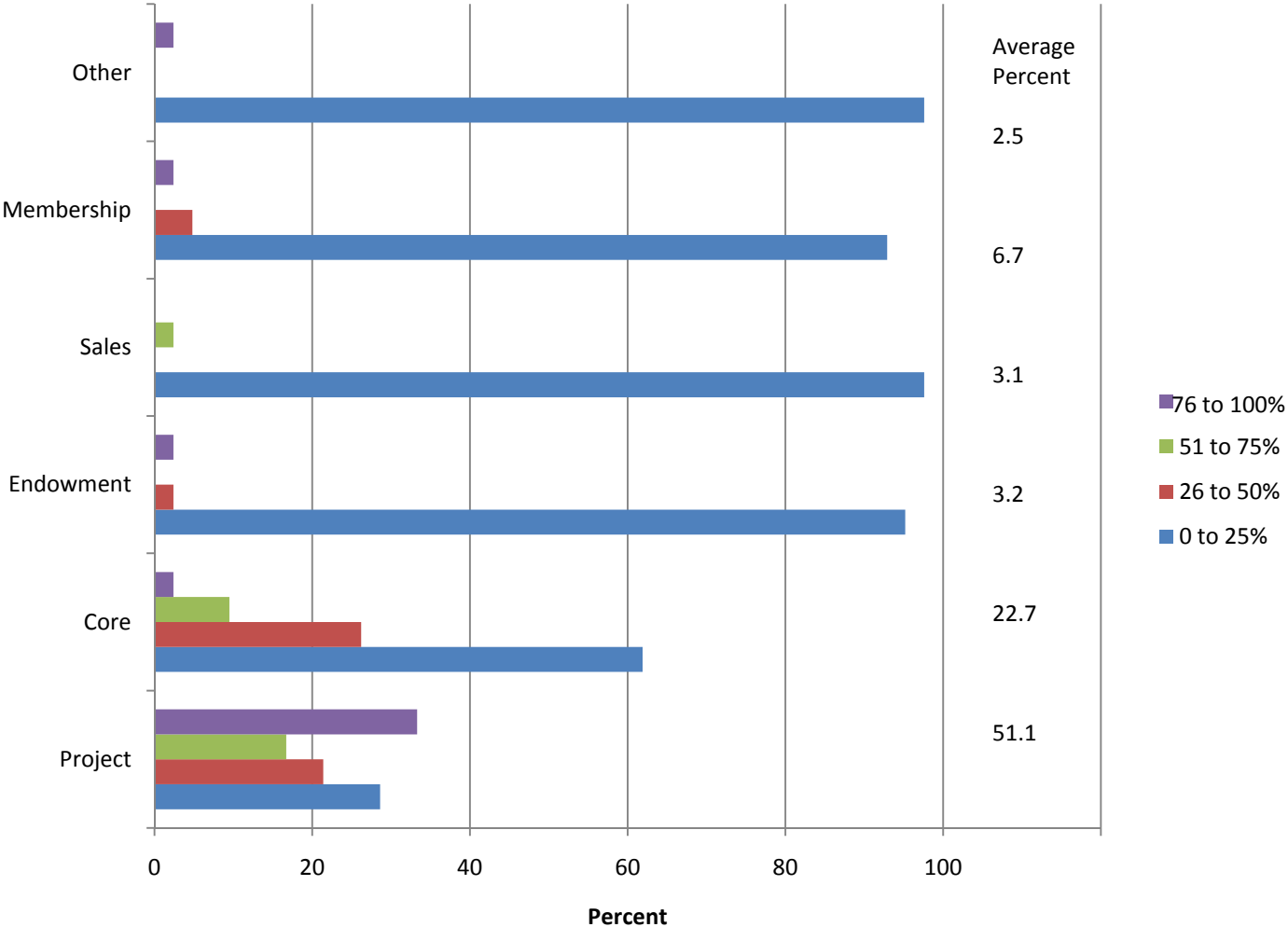
Q5 Are you finding it more difficult now than five years ago to find funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?



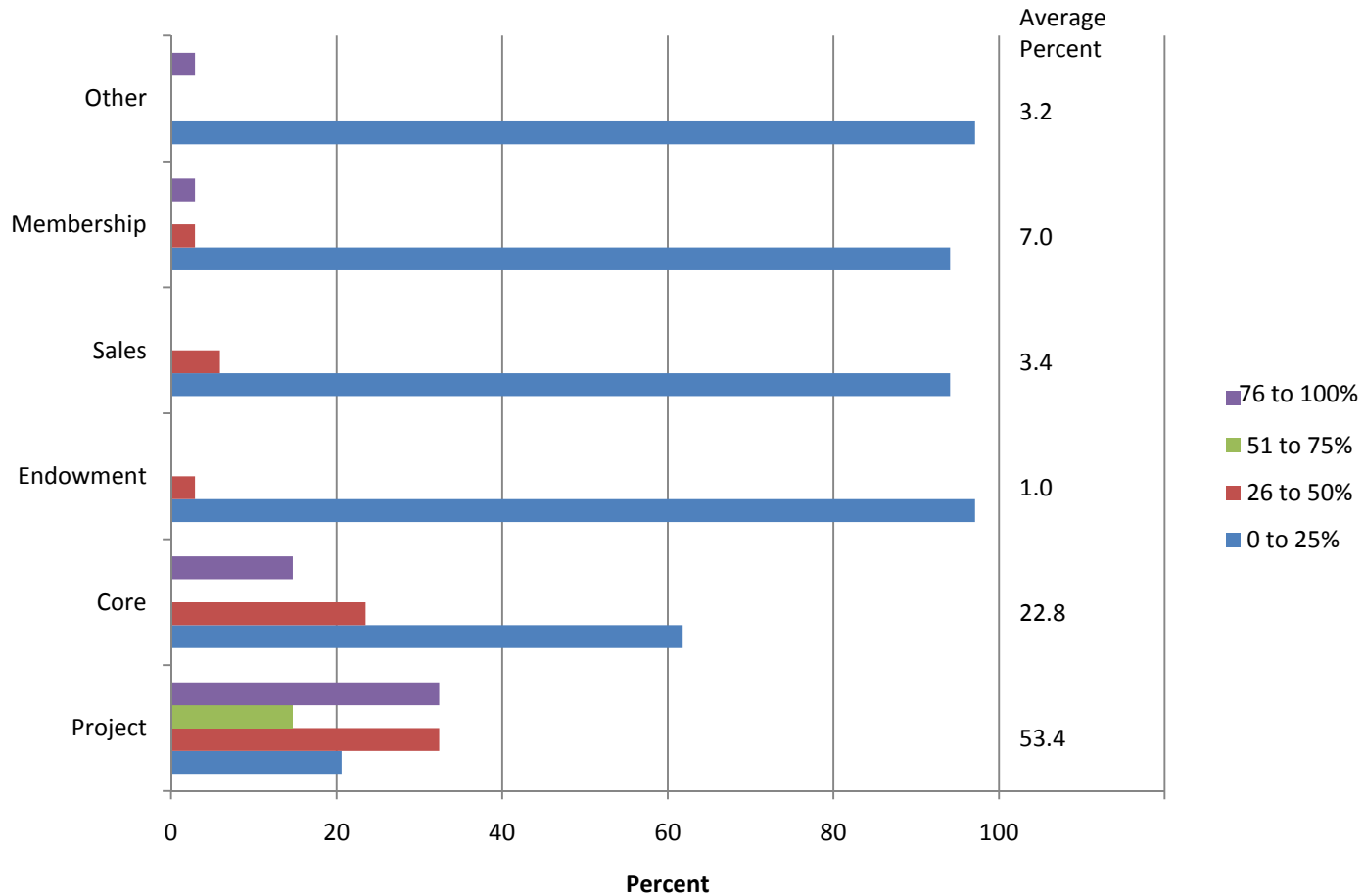
Q6 Please indicate the types of core funding you have been able to obtain in the last five years .



Q7 Please give the percent of your current freedom of expression budget coming from project funding and from core funding and from other revenue sources.



Q8 Please give the percent of your budget five years ago coming from project funding, from core funding and from other revenue sources.



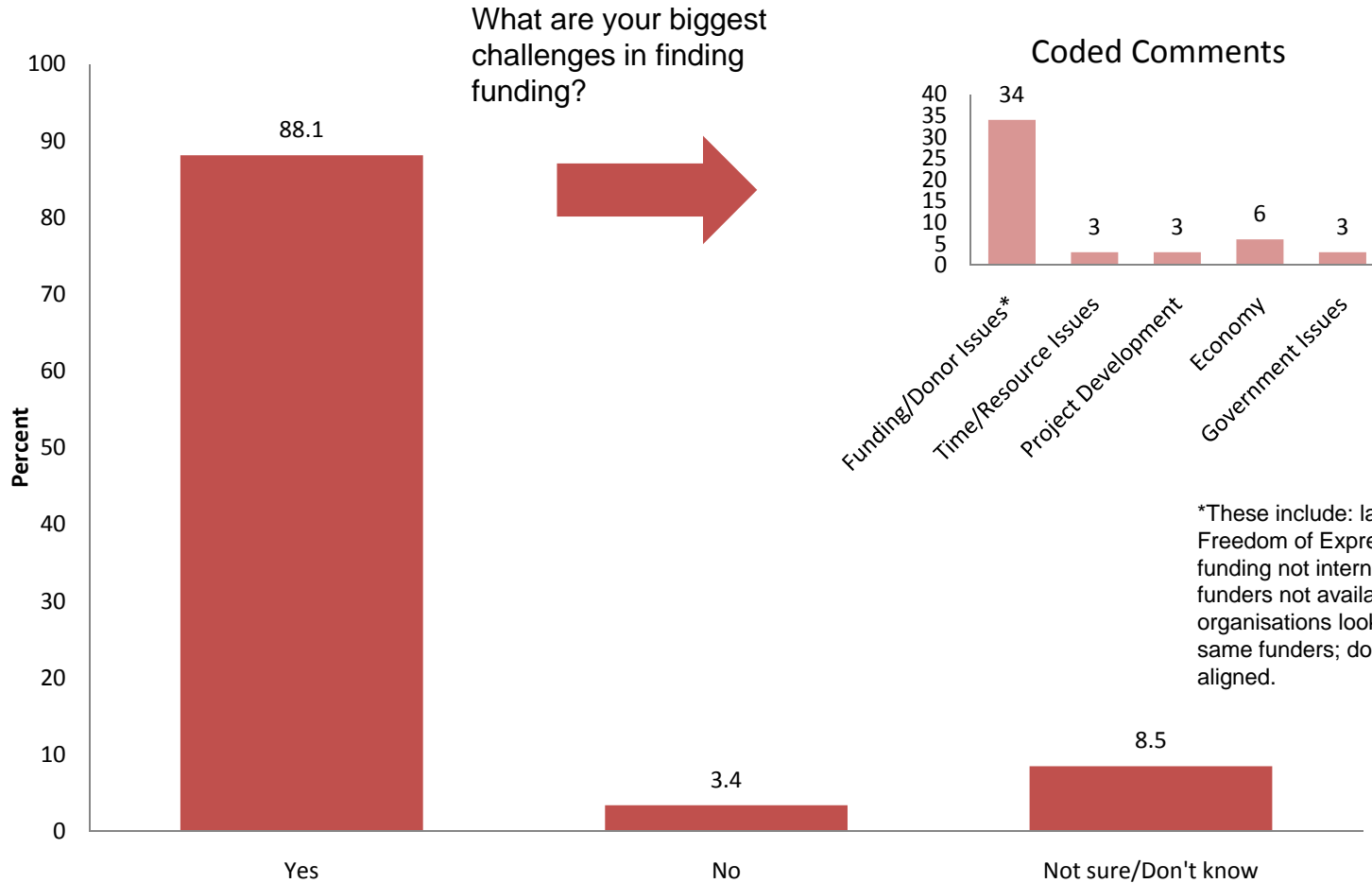
Q9 If possible, please identify your top three funding sources this year.

Funder	Number of Mentions
Open Society Institute	15
National Endowment for Democracy	11
Memberships	7
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	6
UNESCO	6
European Union	4
Other activities	4
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	4
Ford Foundation	3
Foundations (unspecified)	3
Free Voice	3
Government	3
Individual donations	3
British foreign aid	2
Corporate sponsors	2
International Center for Journalists	2
Knight Foundation	2

Q10 If possible, please identify your top three funding sources five years ago.

Funder	Number of Mentions
Open Society Institute	14
Memberships	8
UNESCO	8
National Endowment for Democracy	7
IFEX	4
Knight Foundation	4
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	4
Corporate Donations	3
European Union	3
Ford Foundation	3
Foundations (unspecified)	3
Other activities	3
Dutch Foreign Ministry	2
Free Voice	2
Individual Donations	2
United Nations organizations	2
USAID	2

Q11 Do you face challenges in finding funding?



*These include: lack of interest in Freedom of Expression issues; available funding not internationally focused; local funders not available; many organisations looking for support from the same funders; donor/organisations not aligned.

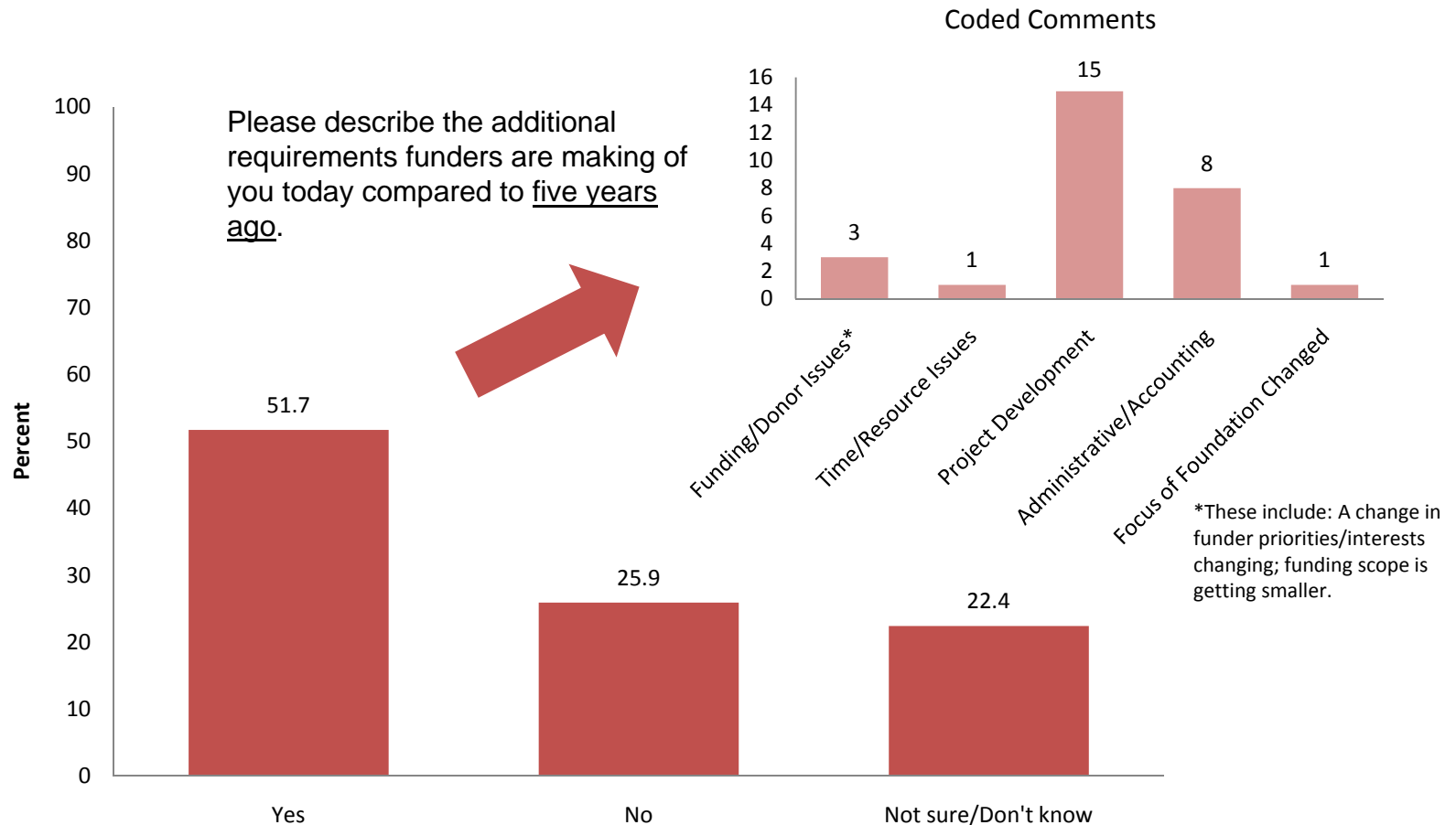
What are your biggest challenges in finding funding?

Detailed Comment Coding



Comments	Number
Donor focus/priority/policy does not match member needs	22
Funding Limited/No core, administrative, multi-year support	17
Time/Resources required to apply	11
Hard to find information on donors/Hard to find funding	10
Economy/Market downturn	9
Government policy or political situation	7
Competition	6
Member organisation not aligned with funder requirements	4

Q12 Are funders today requiring you to do things that they did not require you to do five years ago?



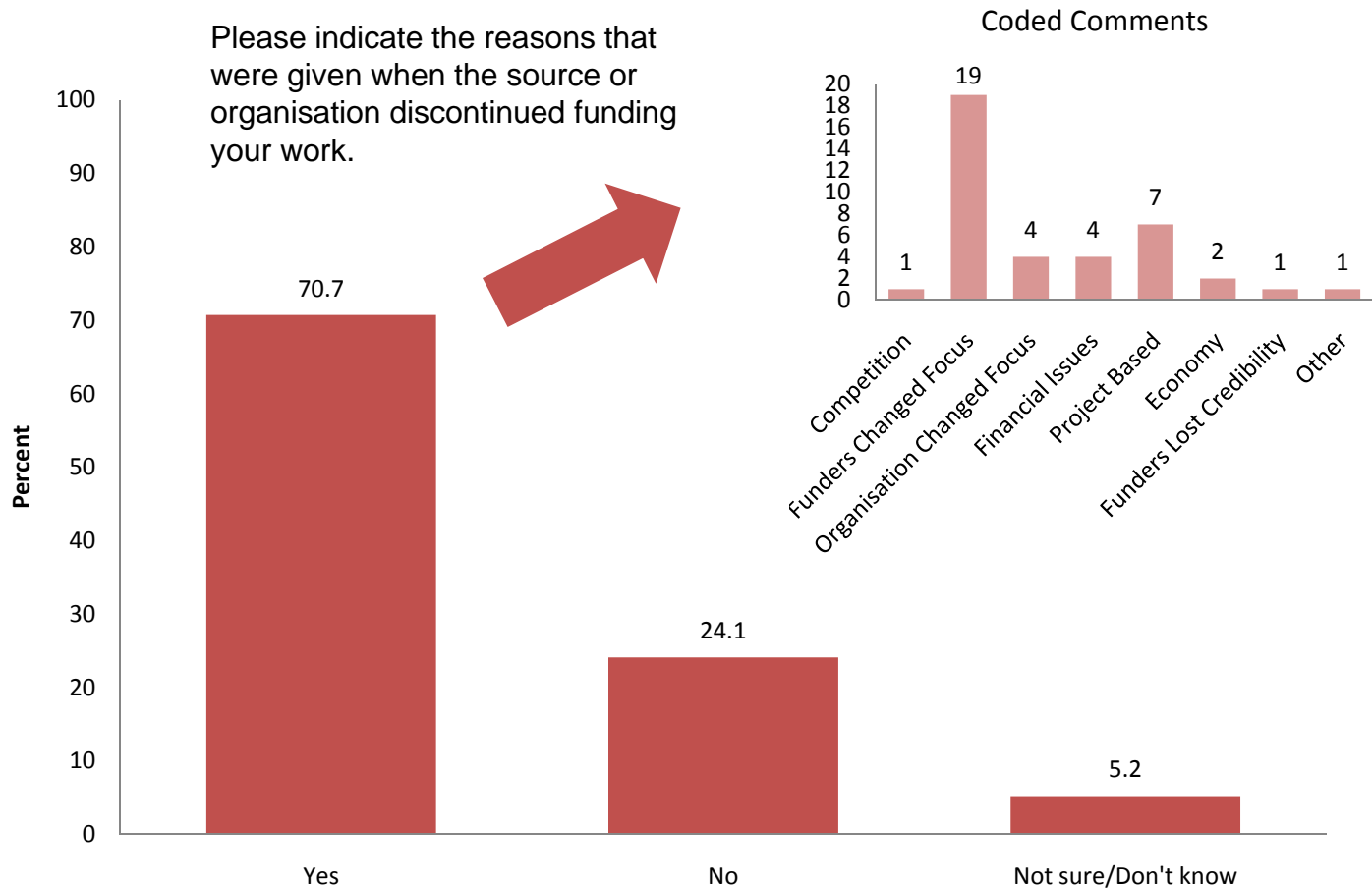
Please describe the additional requirements funders are making of you today compared to five years ago.

Detailed Comment Coding



Comments	Number
Increased reporting and paperwork	12
More financial requirements: Reporting/Budgeting/Documentation	8
Evaluation and Monitoring: Demonstrating measurable success	8
Struggling to keep up with changing donor issue focus	6
Demonstrating sound organisation structure and governance	3
Imposition of donor priorities	2
Time limits imposed	1

Q13 Are there funding sources or organisations that have supported your work in the past that are no longer supporting you?



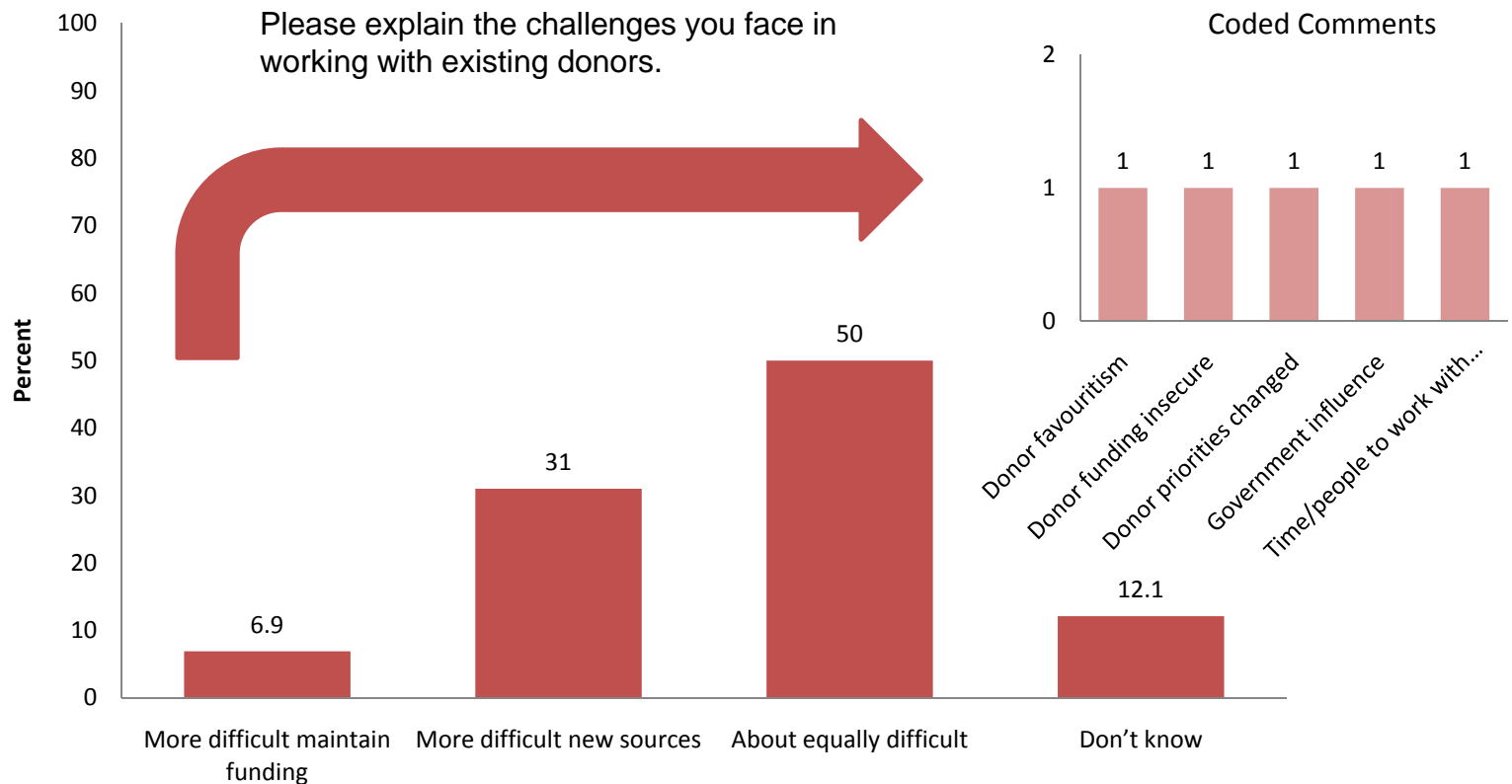
Please indicate the reasons that were given when the source or organisation discontinued funding your work.

Detailed Comment Coding

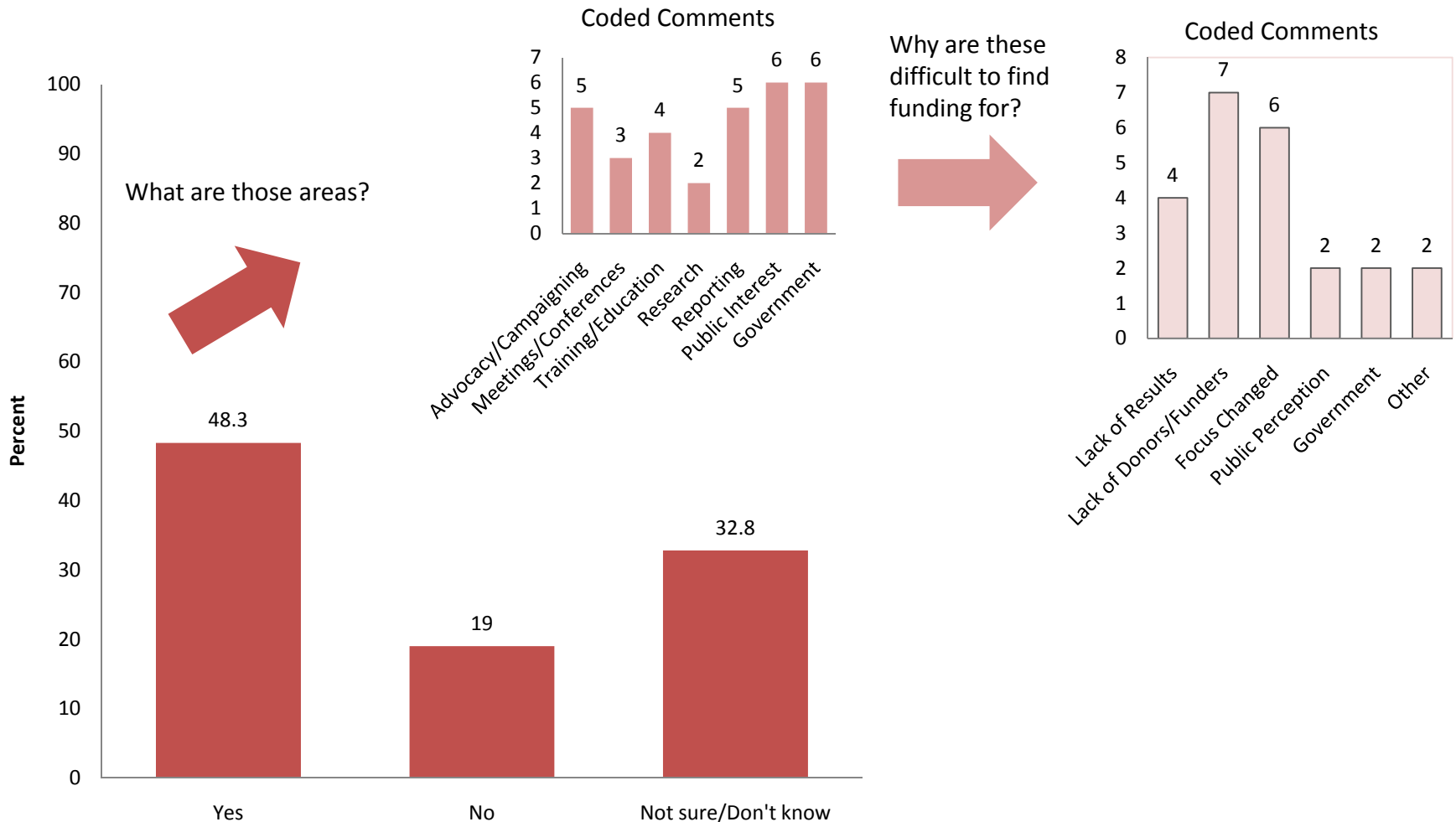


Comments	Number
Funder priorities/policies changed	23
Project completed	9
Donor has decreased/insufficient funding	5
Economy/market downturn	3
Lack of continuity at donor	3
Bypassing international organizations for local	2
Member focus changed	2
Member terminated relationship (credibility/sought new funders)	2
No specific reason	2
Competition	1
Perceived lack of sustainability of grantee	1
Time limit for funding	1

Q14 In general, which have you found more difficult in the last five years: maintaining funding levels from existing donors, or obtaining funding from new sources, or has it been about equally difficult to obtain funding from both existing and new donors?



Q15 Are there particular areas of freedom of expression work that you feel are becoming more difficult to fund than in the past?



What are those areas?

Detailed Comment Coding



Comments	Number
Advocacy and campaigning	7
Education/Training	4
FoE violations reporting	4
Capacity building support	3
Meetings and conferences	3
Press freedom	3
Journalists at risk	2
Research	2
Broadcast media restrictions	1
Cartoonist rights	1
Legal Defense of FoE	1
Right to offend	1
Soft censorship	1
U.S. organizations not funded	1

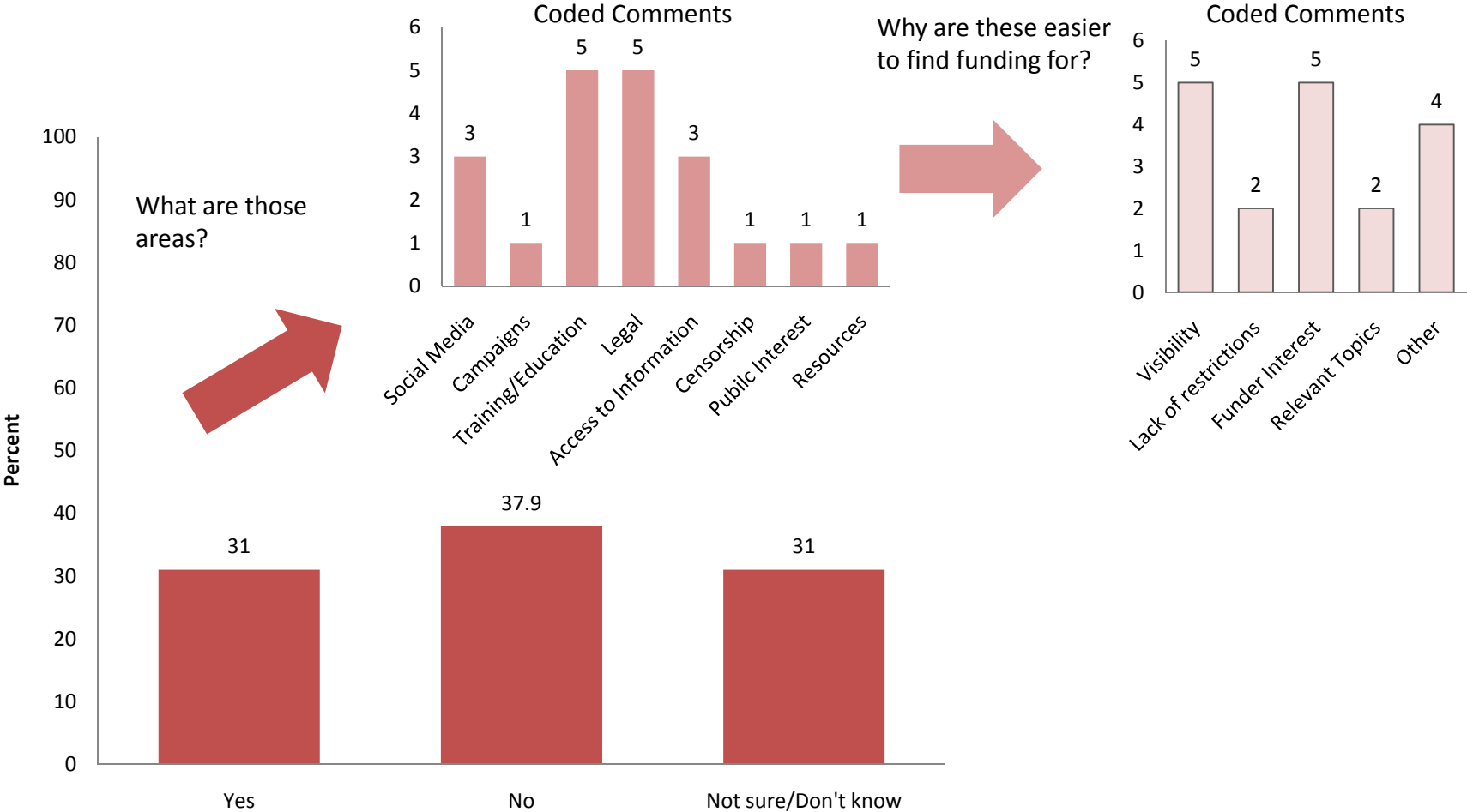
Why are these difficult to find funding for?

Detailed Comment Coding



Comments	Number
Funder priorities not same	13
Hard to show concrete results	7
Public Perception	3
Government	1
Economy/Market downturn	1
Other	1

Q16 Are there particular areas of freedom of expression work that you feel are becoming easier to fund than in the past?



What are those areas?

Detailed Comment Coding



Comments	Number
Access to information	4
Bloggers/Citizen journalism	4
Monitoring/Reporting violations	4
Legal work	3
Campaigns	1
Censorship	1
Good governance promotion	1
Health related issues	1
Office equipment	1
Organizational development	1
Projects on free speech for youth	1
Public hearing	1
Public participation	1
Regional work in the Global South	1
Studies, publications, consultations	1
Writers in exile	1

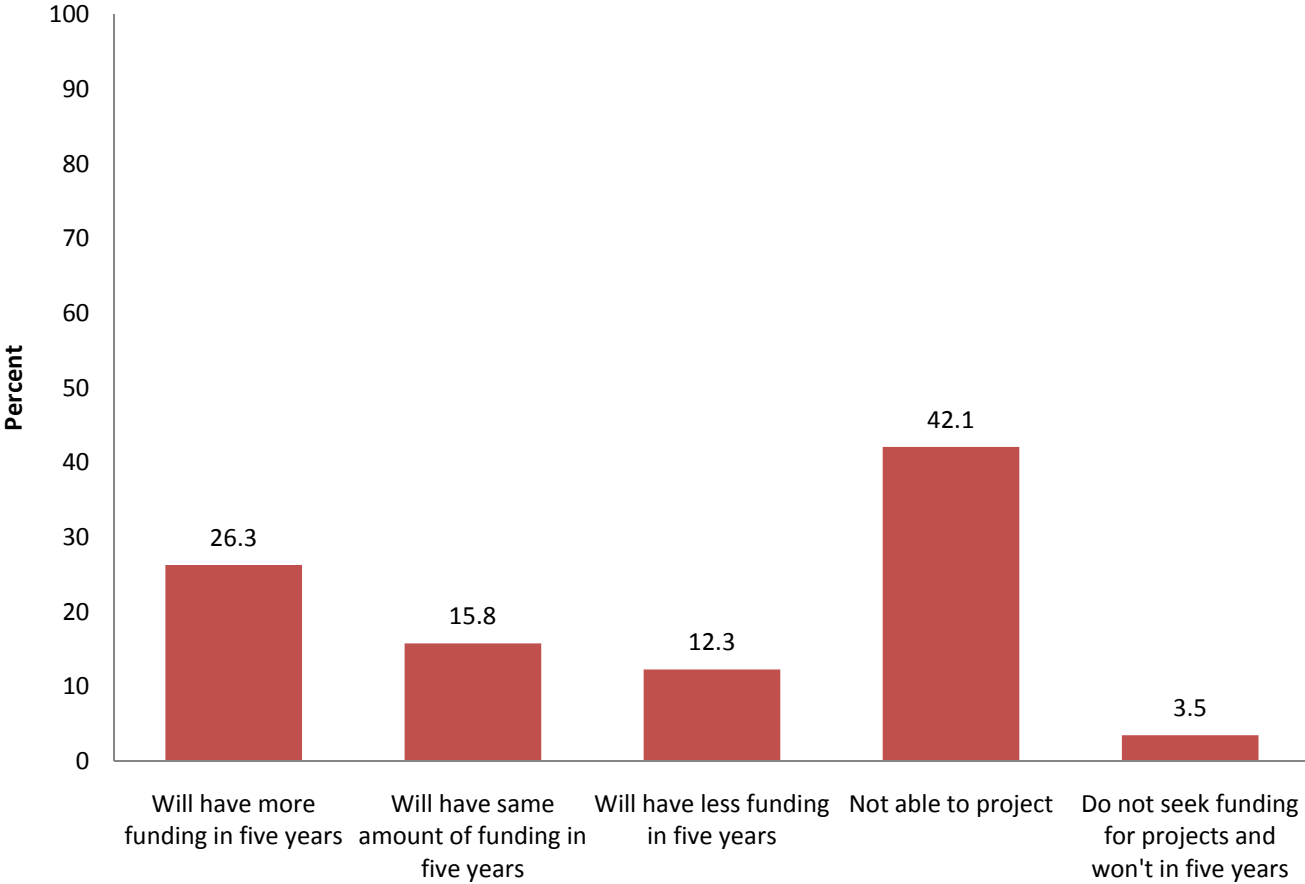
Why are these easier to find funding for?

Detailed Comment Coding

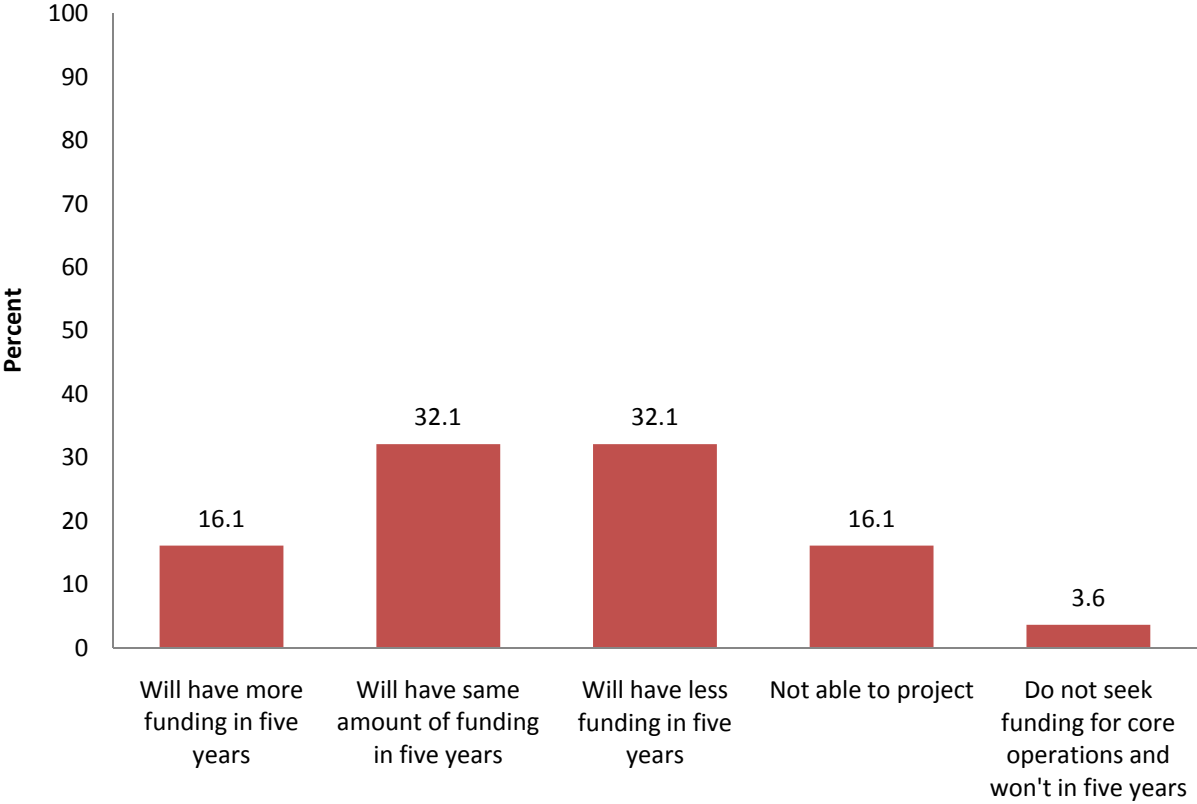


Comment	Number
Matches funder interest	7
Visibility and impact	5
Tangible and concrete	2
Fashionable to focus on access to information	1
New problem arising in mass media	1
Research shows American youth insensitive to Article 19	1
Topics are relevant in region	1
Other	2

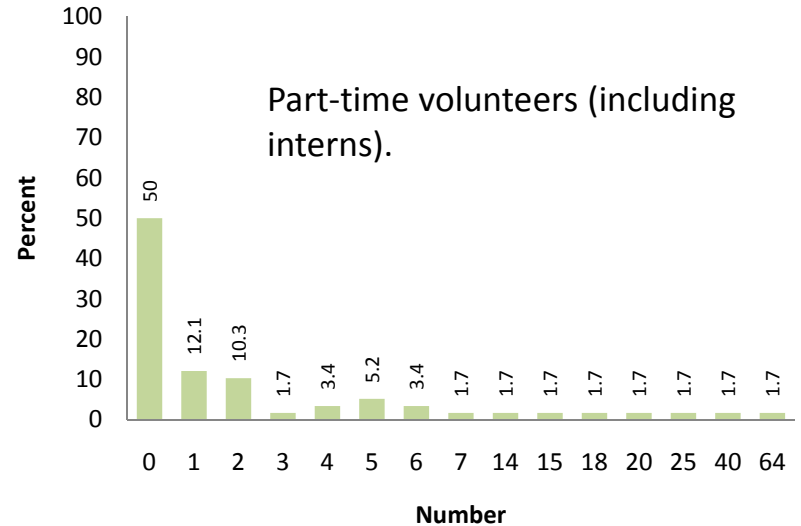
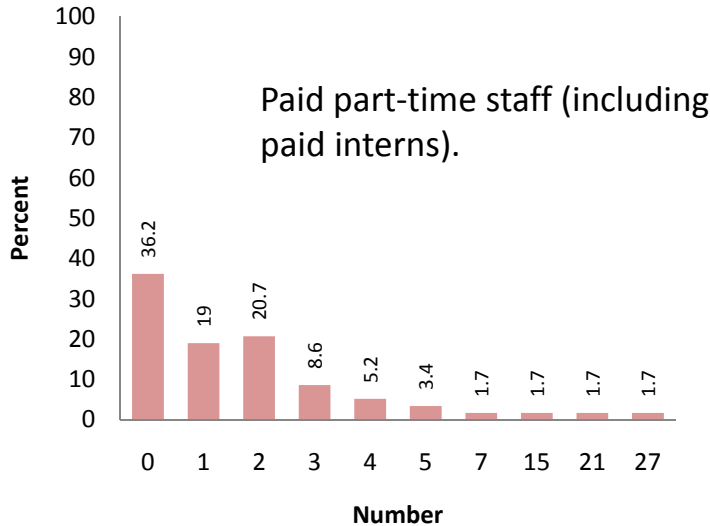
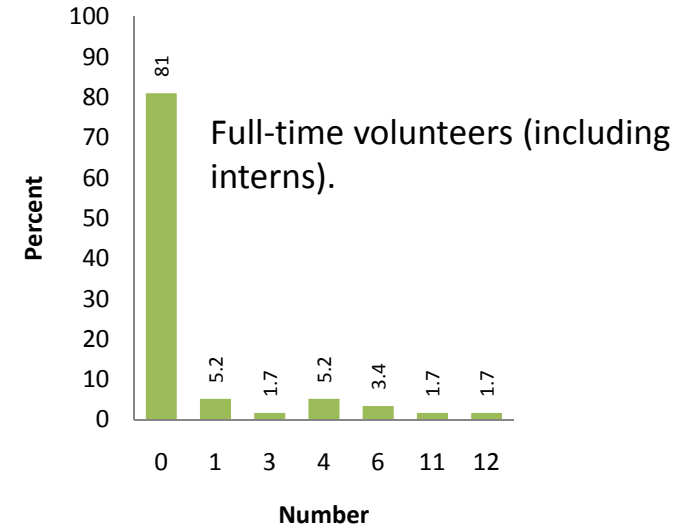
Q17 What are your expectations regarding funding for projects in the future?



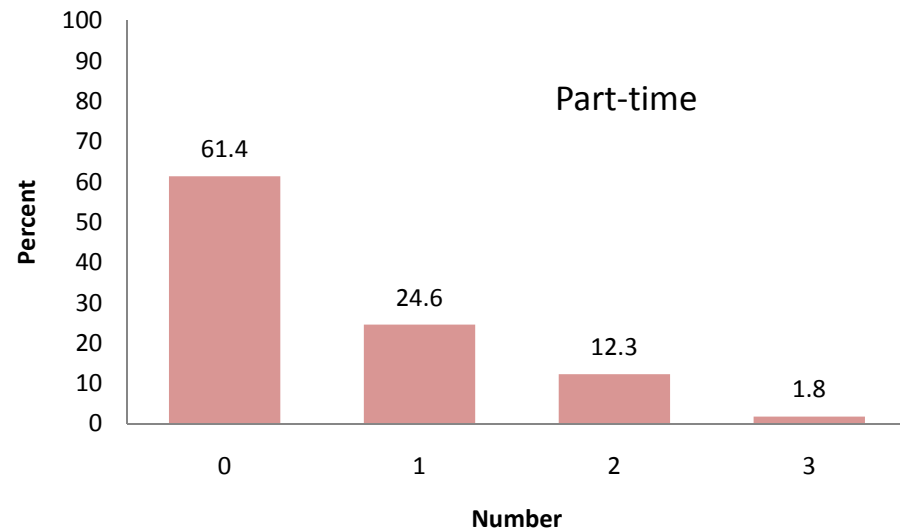
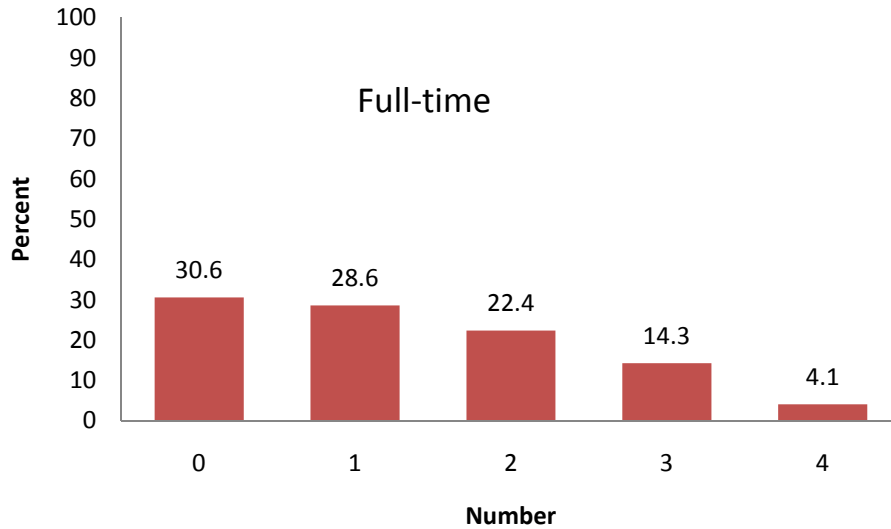
Q18 What are your expectations regarding funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?



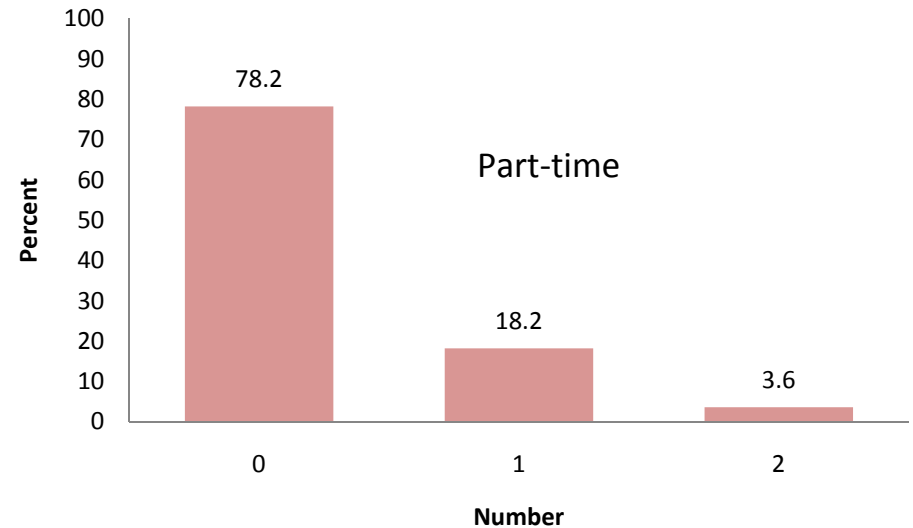
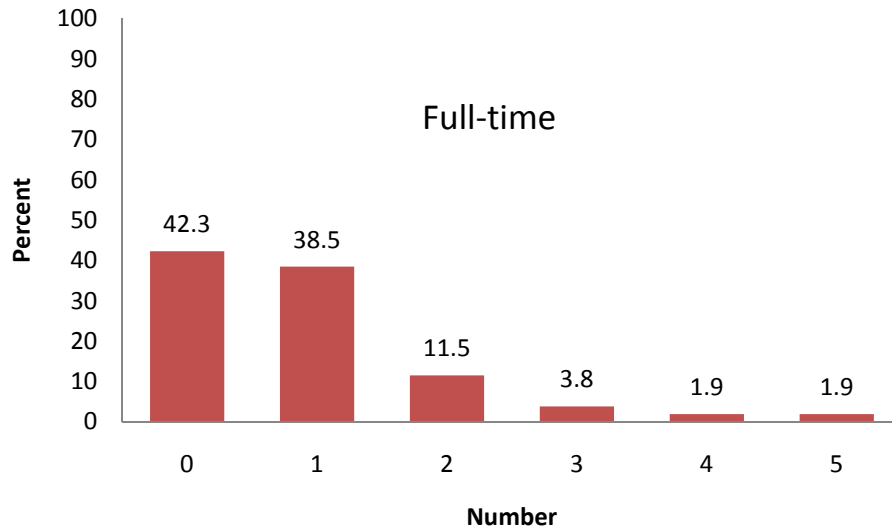
Q19 How many persons work in your organisation on freedom of expression-related issues?



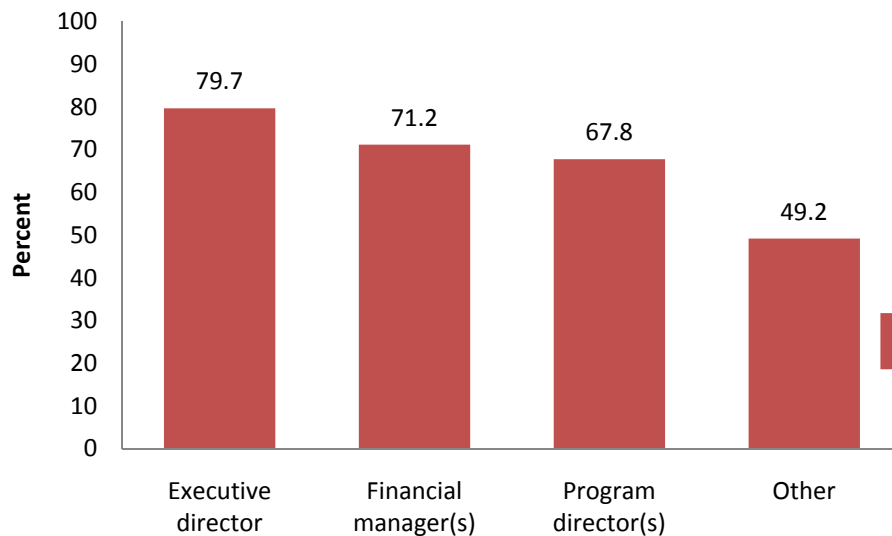
Q20 How many people in your organisation are responsible for budgets and finance?



Q21 How many persons in your organisation are responsible for fundraising?



Q22 Please check all the individuals in your organisation who are consulted when your organisation plans its annual budget.



Title (Number):

Board (10)

Other management (5)

Treasurer/Financial

Advisor/Accountant (5)

Consultant

Executive Committee

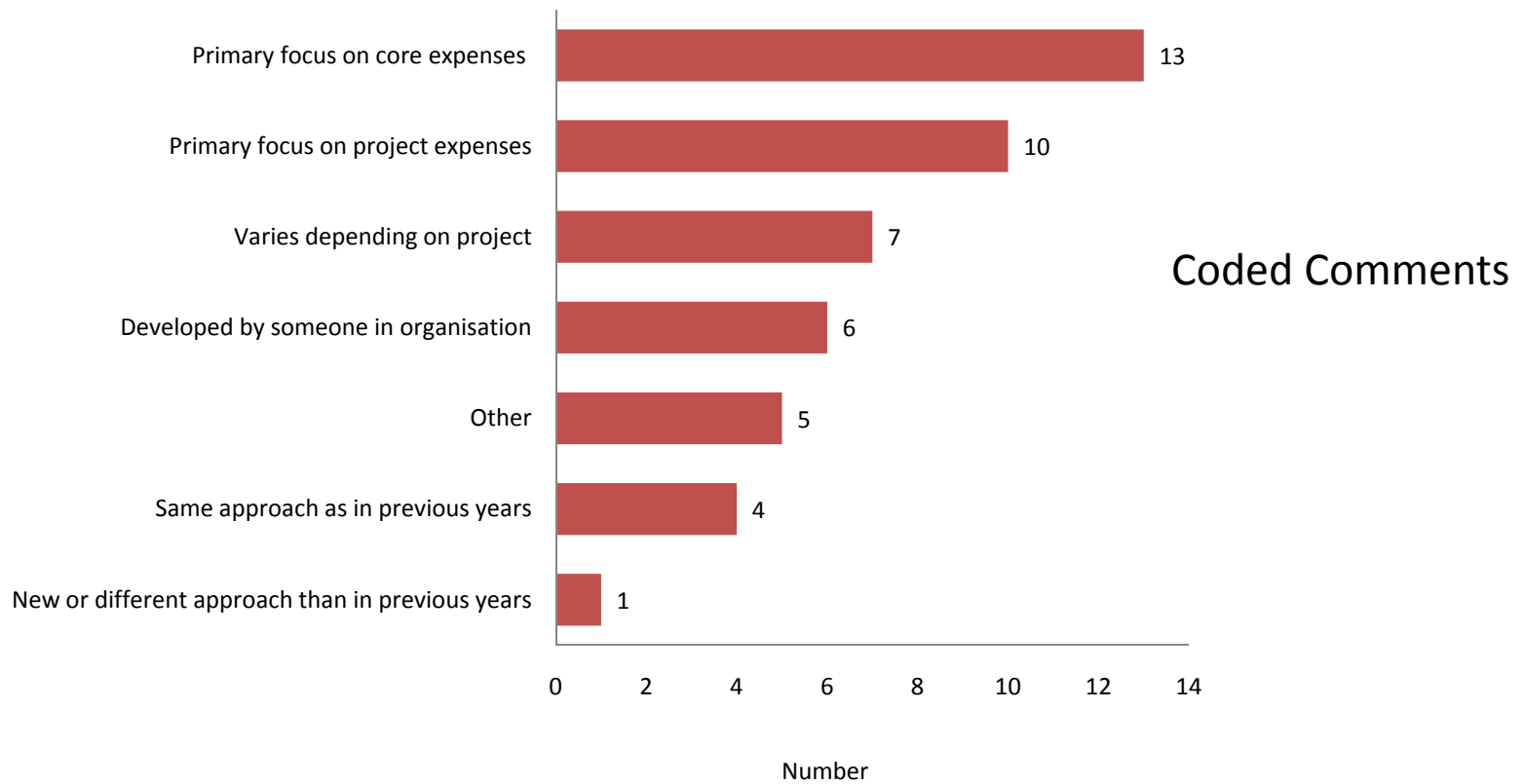
Everyone in the organisation

Lawyer

Planning team

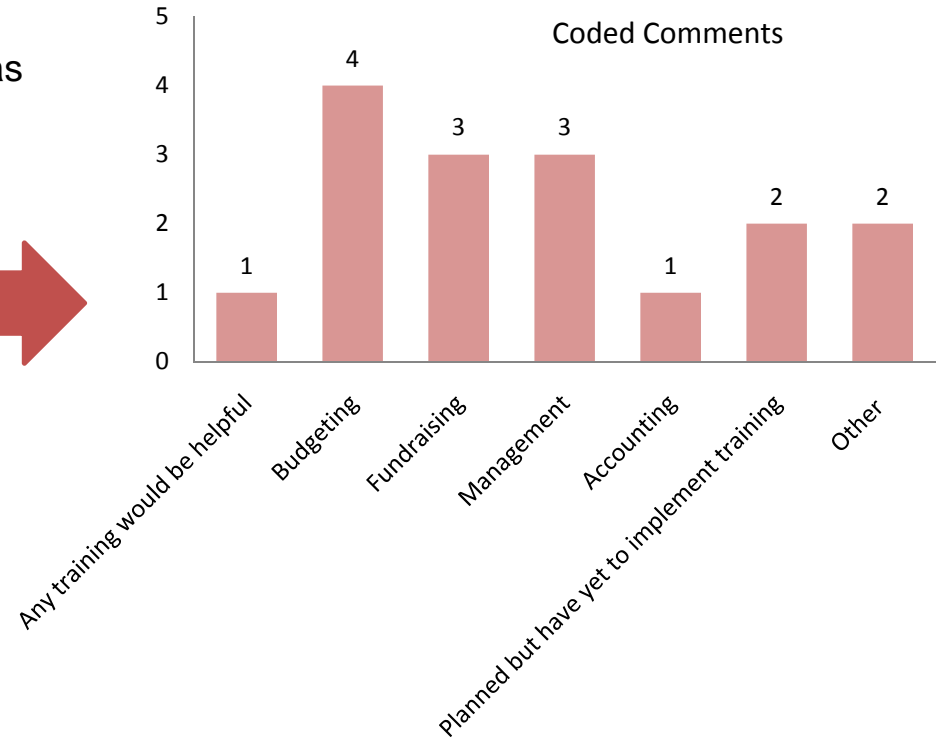
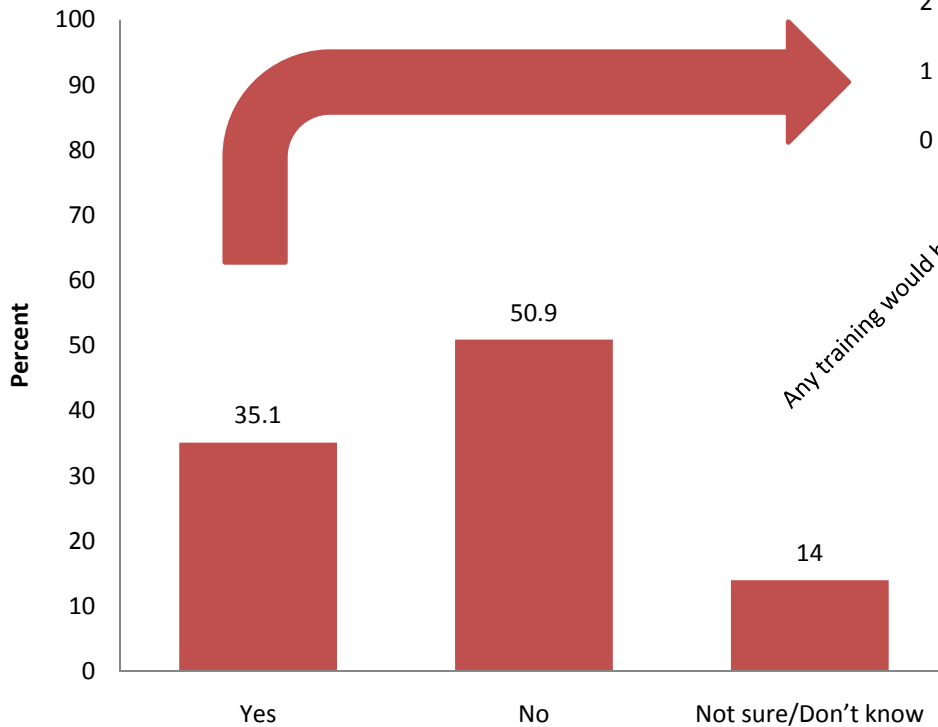
Video technician

Q23 Briefly describe the budgeting approach of your organisation.



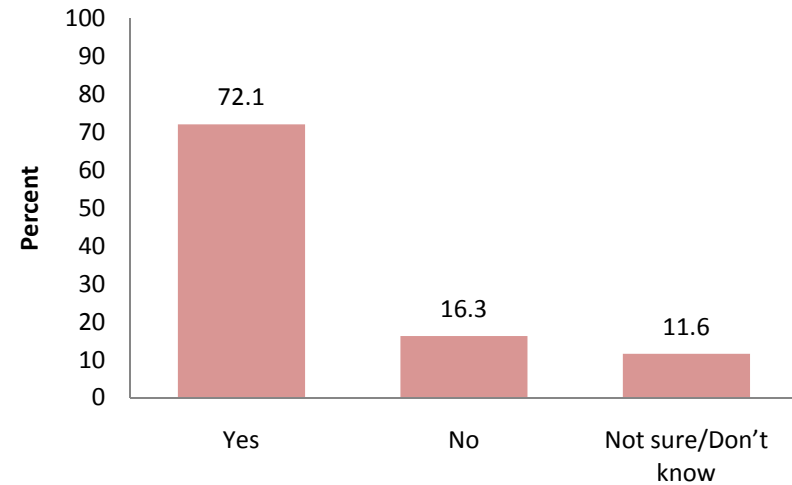
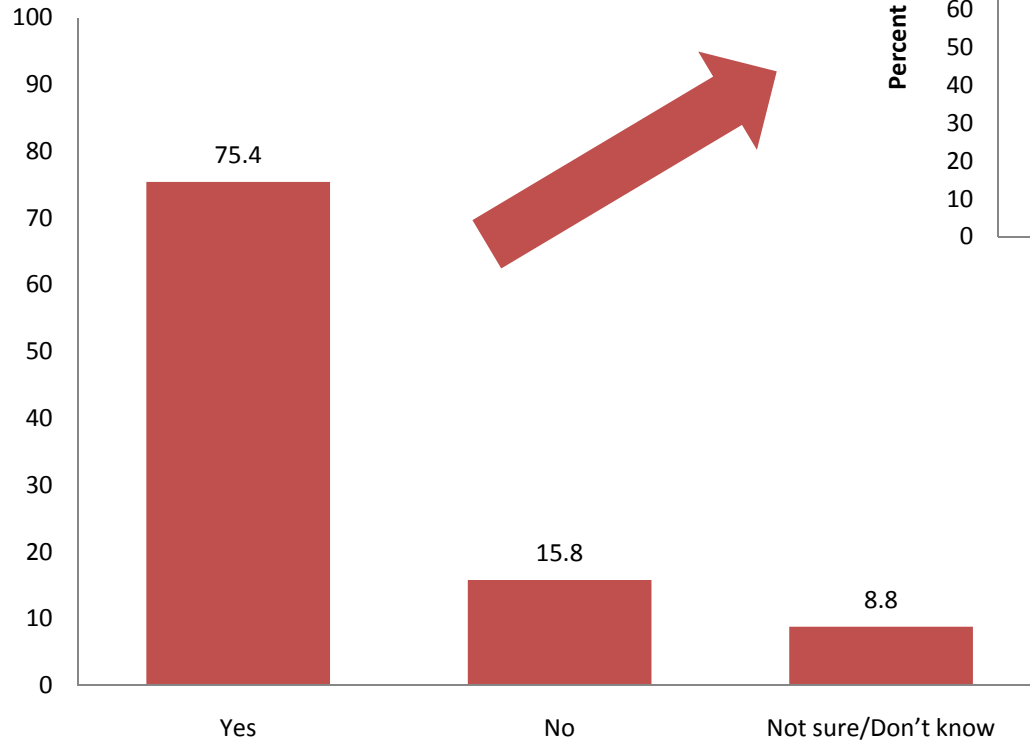
Q24 Has anyone in your organisation had access to financial planning training?

What type of financial training has been most helpful?

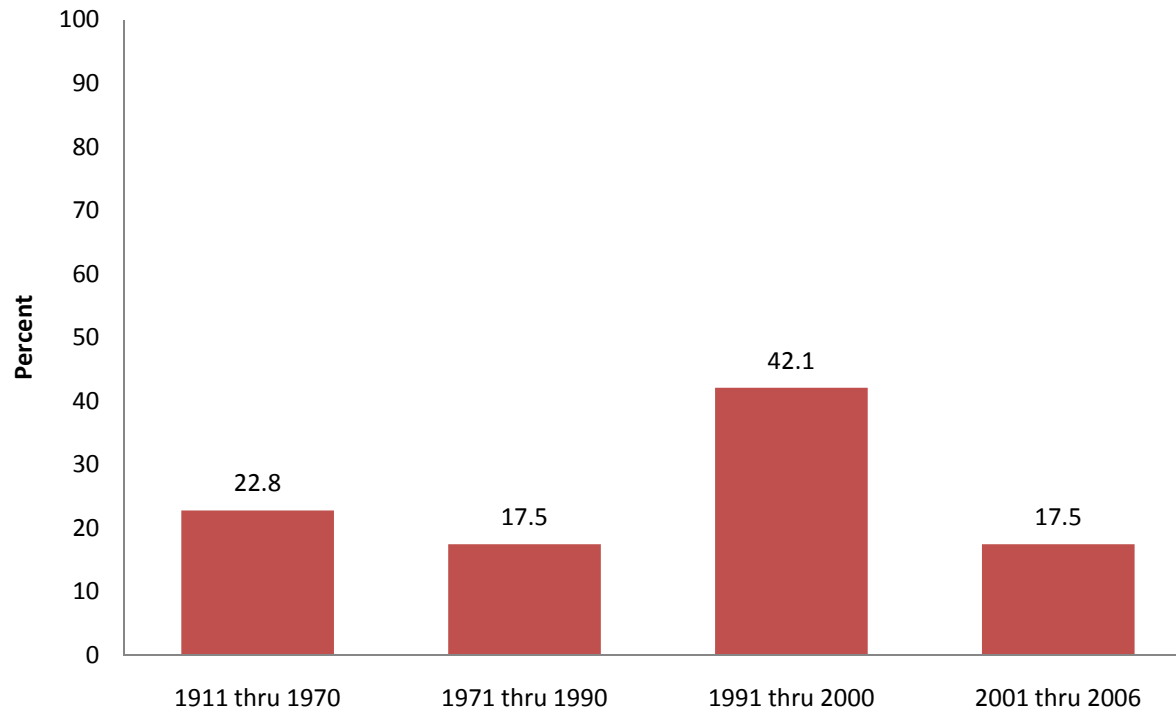


Q25 Does your organisation have an annual financial audit?

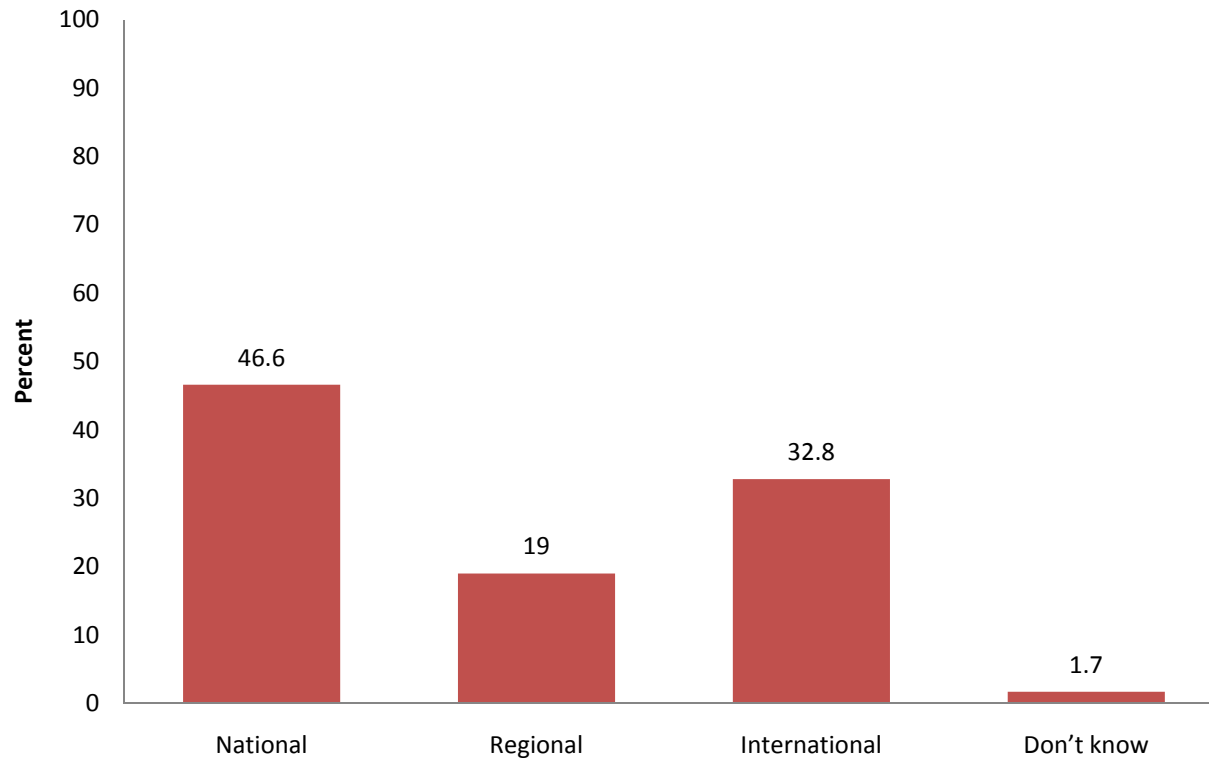
Are annual financial audits helpful to your financial planning?



Q26 When was your organisation founded?



Q27 Does your organisation have a national, regional or international focus?



Q28 If you have any further comments or reflections on funding trends and working with donors that you would like to share with IFEX and its members, please provide them.

Donors must stop paying too much attention to the popular and renowned organizations and identify emerging ones and work with them to ensure many more participation in the engagement for free expression. Donors are becoming lazy, they only want to work with noted organizations to ease the burden of accounting.

It's just getting tougher and tougher, especially for core needs. Who will pay the salaries, rent and supplies?

Most productive are personal introductions with donor reps and key IFEX players in policy development for free speech.

Q28 Continued

Our concern is about how we can insure more funding stability; and how can we diversify our source of fund, especially how can we encourage the private sector in our country to start investing in our projects in a professional way... till now we still count on outside sources of funding.

We need training in the area of proposal writing on how to be very effective with our proposals.

We don't have vast experience in funding that we would be able to share with others. Members of our organization are journalists and some academics.

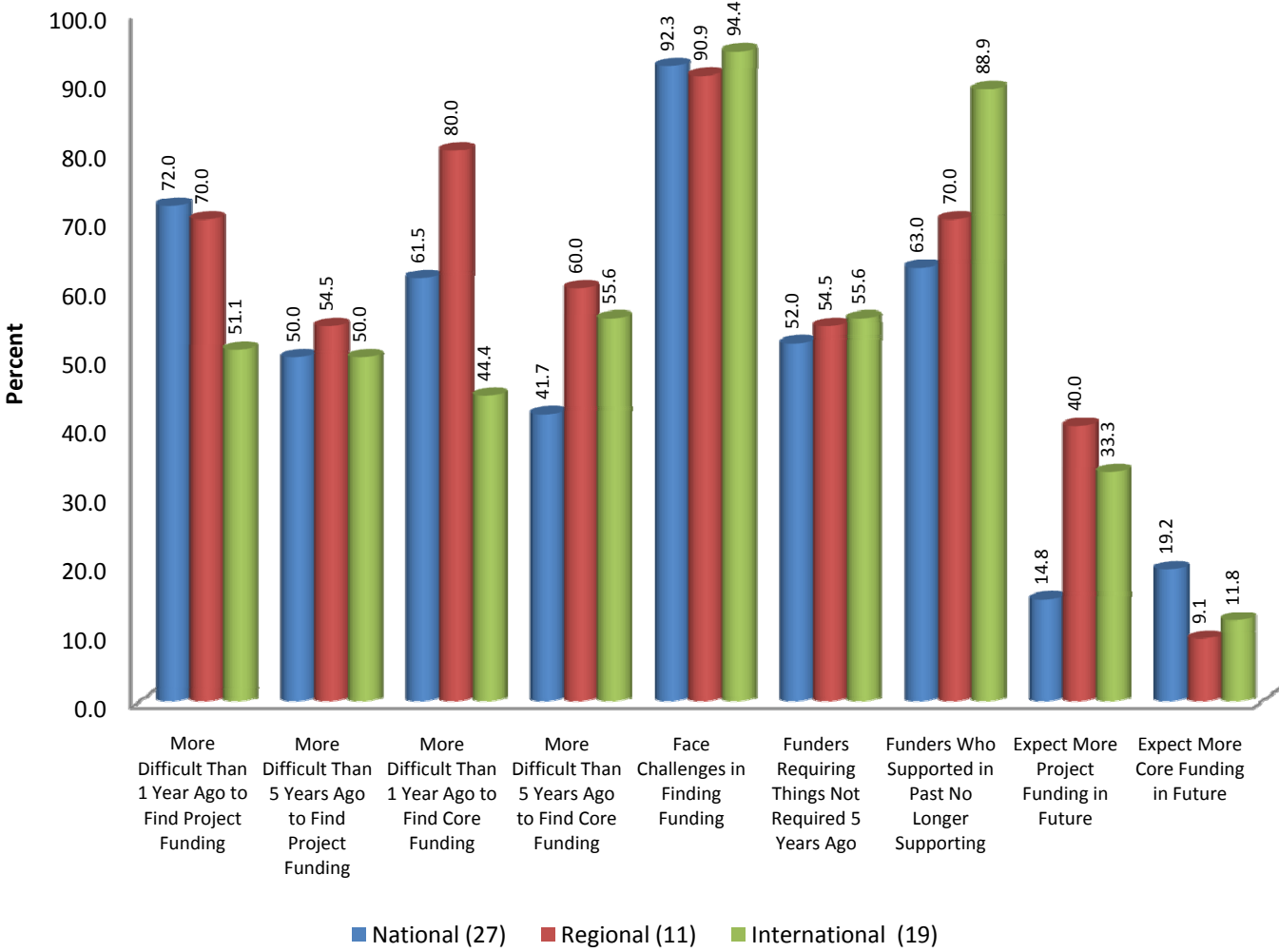
To persuade donors to restart funding core funding and institutional support. Weak organisations would not be able to execute programs.

Q28 Continued

The power relationship between donors and donees sometimes inhibits honest dialogue which is crucial if we are all working towards the same end. Openness to disagree and find creative ways to work together within new challenges or constraints is difficult in this paradigm. There are sometimes geographic trends with donors (Central Asia and Middle East) where funds are funneled excessively to one region sometimes leaving long term successes in other regions in jeopardy. Often an organization is used as a project delivery system for some donors without consideration of the true human resource and other costs it incurs in ensuring a successful project. Ongoing duplication of work in the sector means we need to find valid ways to share the work (the competition for funds among donors). Unreal timelines for success in projects sometimes forces the natural development of a project.

Thank you for this initiative. The lack of funds is our main problem as regards freedom of expression. Other than the support we receive from IFEX, we have had to work on a volunteer basis, supplementing our income with other consultative work. ..(W)e focus on the plight and struggle of those who are not benefitting from development and are being “left behind”, such as the poor, women and indigenous people. We hope that the analysis we provide serves to educate and enlighten funders.

Analysis of Responses to Key Questions by Focus of Member



Printed Version of Web Survey Instrument

1. Are you finding it more difficult now than one year ago to find funding for the freedom of expression projects your organisation would like to undertake?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know
- We did not seek project funding one year ago

2. Are you finding it more difficult now than five years ago to find funding for the freedom of expression projects your organisation would like to undertake?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know
- We did not seek funding five years ago
- We did not exist five years ago

3. Please indicate the types of project funding you have been able to obtain in the last five years.

- From foundations in your country
- From foundations from outside your country
- From your own government
- From governments of other countries
- From multigovernmental organisations
- From individuals inside your country
- From individuals outside your country
- From corporations, industry or business inside your country
- From corporations, industry or business outside your country
- From NonGovernmental Organisations in your country
- From NonGovernmental Organisations outside your country
- From other, specify:

4. Are you finding it more difficult now than one year ago to find funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know
- We do not seek core funding

Note: By core funding we mean funding for your organisation's infrastructure - i.e., the staff salary and overhead costs required for your organisation to exist and offer programs. This includes: management and financial management costs, rent and utilities, program staff, communications, equipment, stationery, and expenses related to organisational governance. Core funding does not include project activity expenses.

5. Are you finding it more difficult now than five years ago to find funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know
- We did not exist five years ago
- We did not seek core funding five years ago

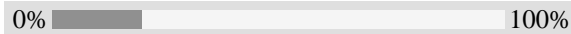
6. Please indicate the types of core funding you have been able to obtain in the last five years.

- From foundations in your country
- From foundations from outside your country
- From your own government
- From governments of other countries
- From multigovernmental organisations
- From individuals inside your country
- From individuals outside your country
- From corporations, industry or business inside your country
- From corporations, industry or business outside your country
- From NonGovernmental Organisations in your country
- From NonGovernmental Organisations outside your country
- From other, specify:

7. Please give the percent of your current freedom of expression budget coming from project funding and from core funding and from other revenue sources. If you do not know the answer, please leave the appropriate line blank.

% Project Funding
 % Core Funding
 % Endowment
 % From sales of merchandise, reports or other such products
 % From membership or user fees
 % Other, specify
 % Total

Next



8. Please give the percent of your budget five years ago coming from project funding, from core funding and from other revenue sources. If you do not know the answer, please leave the appropriate line blank.

% Project Funding
 % Core Funding
 % Endowment
 % From sales of merchandise, reports or other such products
 % From membership or user fees
 % Other, specify
 % Total

9. If possible, please identify your top three funding sources this year.

10. If possible, please identify your top three funding sources five years ago.

11. We're interested in learning about challenges in finding funding. First, do you face challenges in finding funding?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

11b. What are your biggest challenges in finding funding?

12. Are funders today requiring you to do things that they did not require you to do five years ago?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

12b. Please describe the additional requirements funders are making of you today compared to five years ago.

13. Are there funding sources or organisations that have supported your work in the past that are no longer supporting you?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

13b. Please indicate the reasons that were given when the source or organisation discontinued funding your work.

14. In general, which have you found more difficult in the last five years: maintaining funding levels from existing donors, or obtaining funding from new sources, or has it been about equally difficult to obtain funding from both existing and new donors?

- More difficult to maintain funding from existing sources
- More difficult to obtain funding from new sources
- About equally difficult to obtain funding from existing and new sources
- Don't know

14b. Please explain the challenges you face in working with existing donors.

15. Are there particular areas of freedom of expression work that you feel are becoming more difficult to fund than in the past?

- Yes

- No
- Not sure/Don't know

15b. What are those areas?

15c. Why are these difficult to find funding for?

16. Are there particular areas of freedom of expression work that you feel are becoming easier to fund than in the past?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

16b. What are those areas?

16c. Why are these easier to find funding for?

17. Based on what you know, what are your expectations regarding funding for projects in the future?

- We will have more funding for projects five years from now.
- We will have about the same amount of funding for projects five years from now.
- We will have less funding for projects five years from now.
- I am not able to project to the future based on what I know now.
- We do not seek funding for projects and I do not think we will in five years.

18. Based on what you know, what are your expectations regarding funding for core operation of your organisation, that is, funding that keeps your organisation running day-to-day?

- We will have more funding for core operations five years from now.
- We will have about the same amount of funding for core operations five years from now.
- We will have less funding for core operations five years from now.
- I am not able to project to the future based on what I know now.
- We do not seek funding for core operations and I do not think we will in five years.

19. How many persons work in your organisation on freedom of expression-related issues?

- Paid full-time staff. How many?
- Paid part-time staff (including paid interns). How many?
- Full-time volunteers (including interns). How many?
- Part-time volunteers (including interns). How many?
- Don't know

20. How many people in your organisation are responsible for budgets and finance?

- Full-time person (s). How many?
- Part-time person(s). How many?
- None
- Don't know

21. How many persons in your organisation are responsible for fundraising?

- Full-time person (s). How many?
- Part-time person(s). How many?
- None
- Don't know

22. Please check below all the individuals in your organisation who are consulted when your organisation plans its annual budget.

- Executive director
- Financial manager(s)
- Program director(s)
- Other, please specify:

23. Briefly describe the budgeting approach of your organisation.

24. Has anyone in your organisation had access to financial planning training?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

24b. What type of financial training has been most helpful?

25. Does your organisation have an annual financial audit?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

25b. Are annual financial audits helpful to your financial planning?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure/Don't know

26. When was your organisation founded?

- Founded in (year):
- Founded but became inactive and then was reactivated.
- Not sure/Don't know

27. Does your organization have a national, regional or international focus?

- National
- Regional
- International
- Don't know

28. If you have any further comments or reflections on funding trends and working with donors that you would like to share with IFEX and its members, please provide them below.