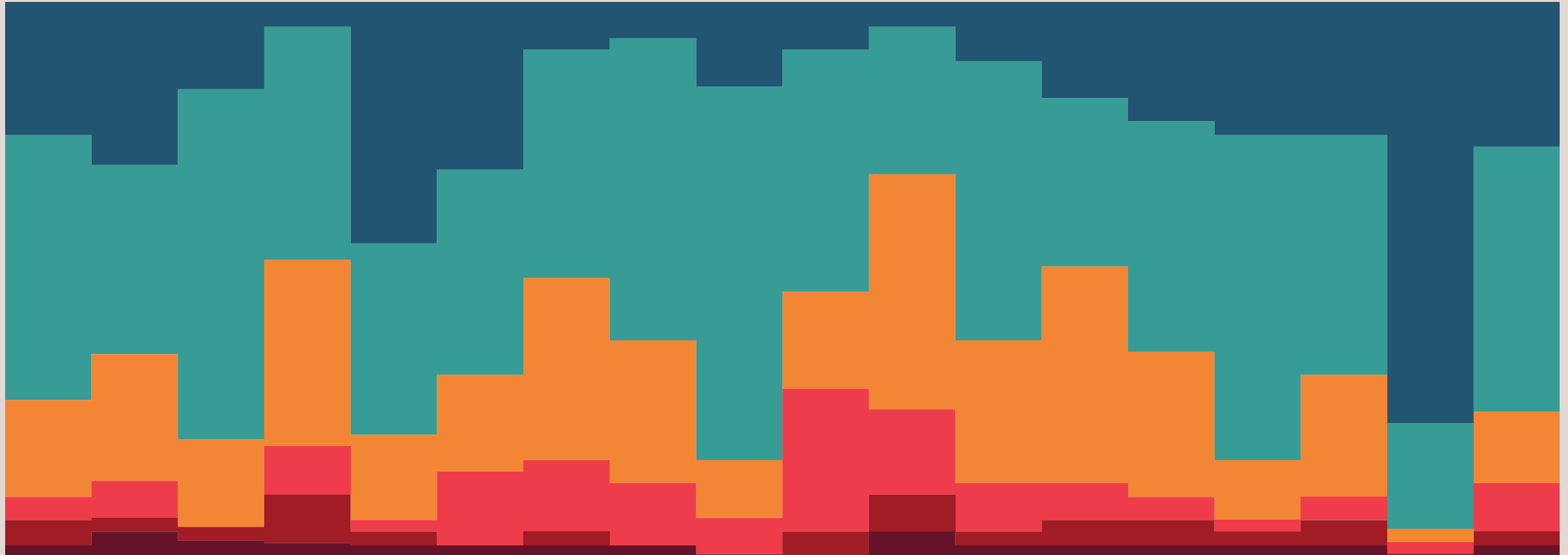


Evaluation Synthesis Report

Annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP
Eleventh meeting, Nairobi, 8 – 12 July 2024

Evaluation Synthesis Report

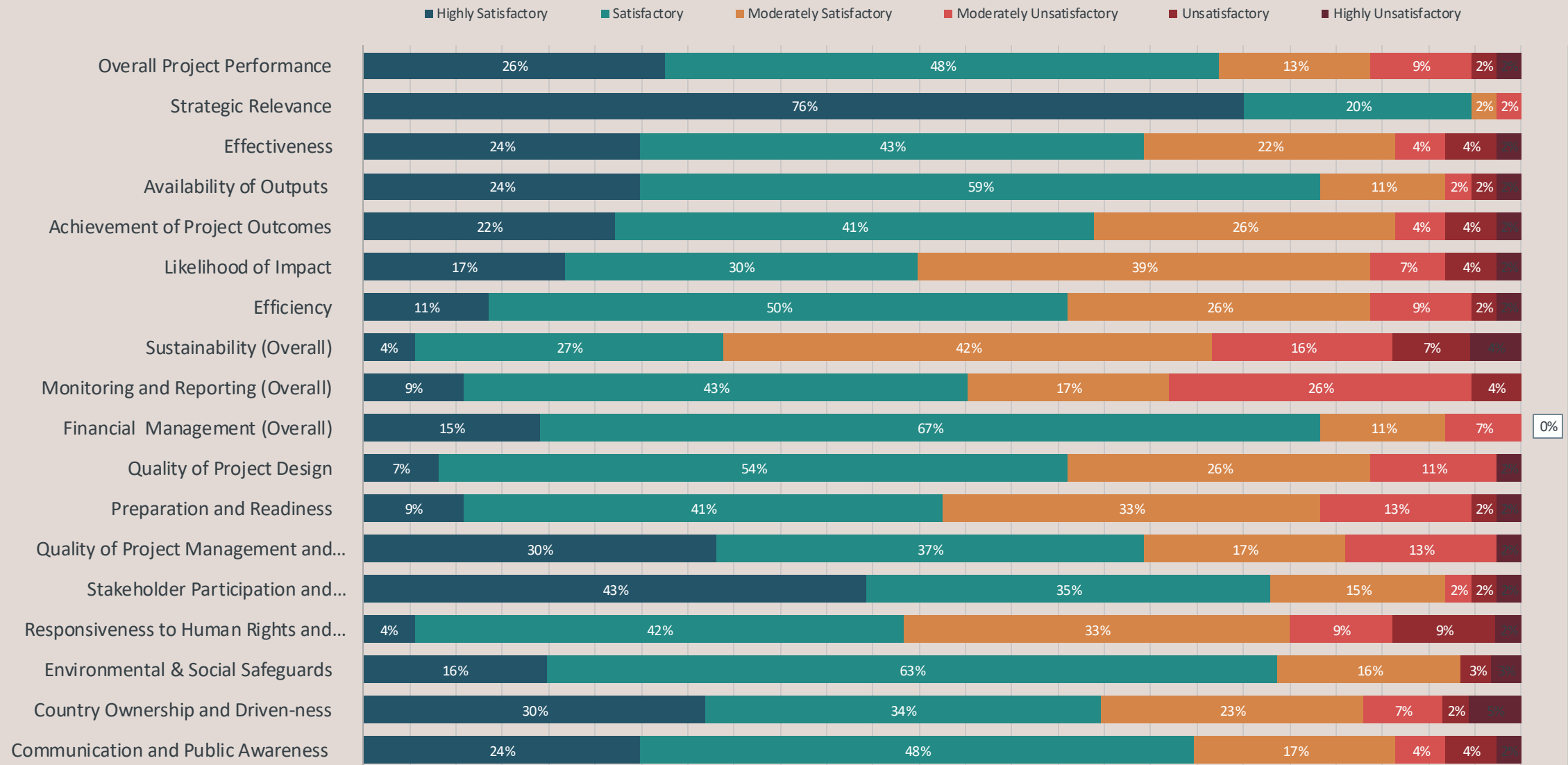
2022–2023



Overview

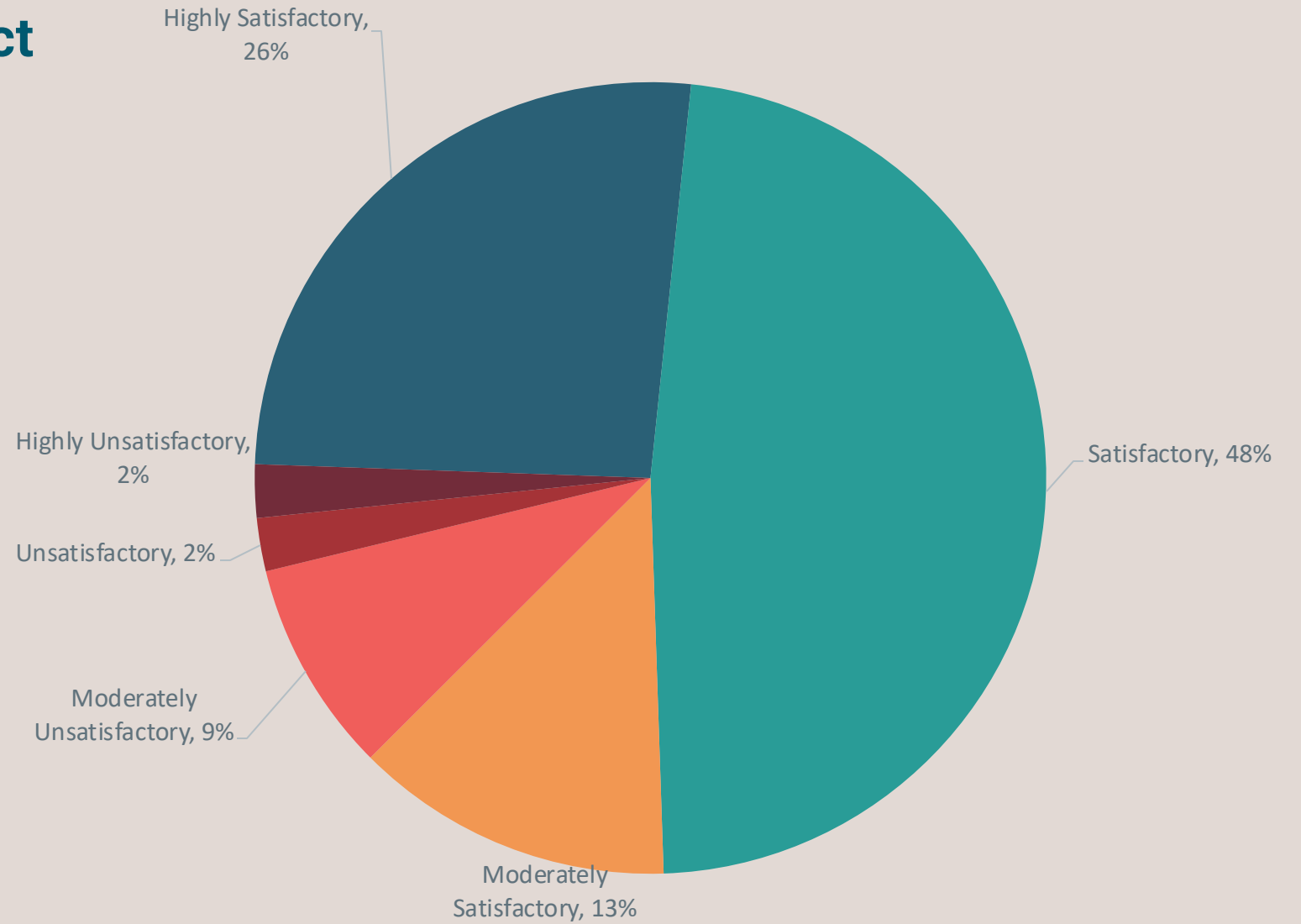
- **Evaluations completed in 2022-2023:** 46 evaluations of UNEP project interventions
- **Value of projects evaluated in 2022-2023 :** in excess of USD 157 million of expenditure
- **Overall objective:** To examine performance trends over time and provide feedback for improving planning, implementation and management processes

Summary of project performance against evaluation criteria (n = 46)



Overview of overall project performance, 2022-2023 (n=46)

Total project expenditure = \$157 million



A positive performance trend continues for the proportion of projects attaining ratings in the Satisfactory range

Top rated evaluation criteria

Percentage of projects rated against these criteria achieving 'Satisfactory' or better ratings (S/HS) is >70%

96%

Strategic
relevance

83%

Availability of
Outputs

82%

Financial
management

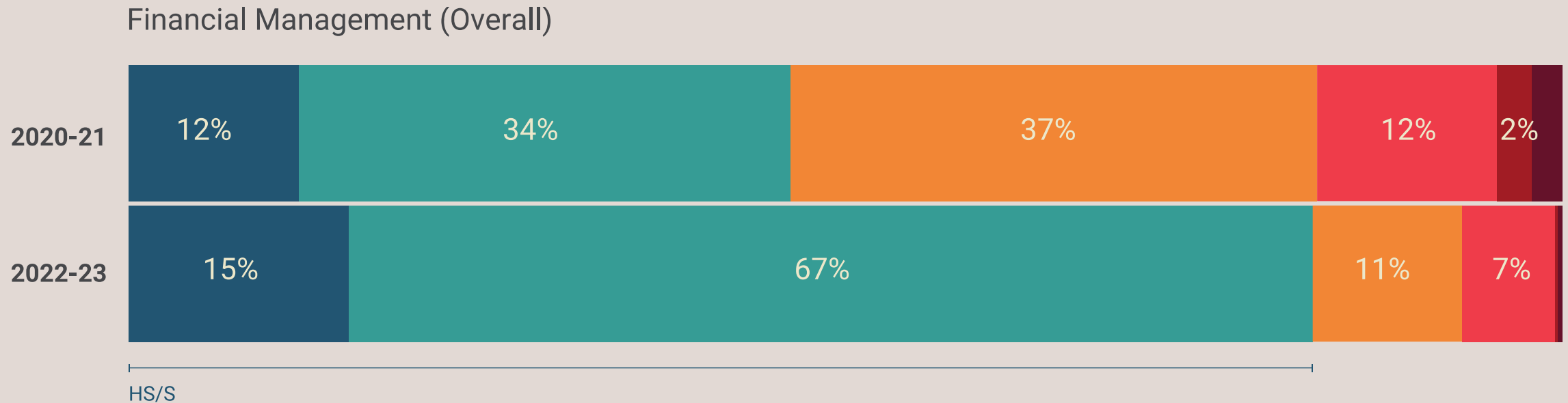
78%

Stakeholder
participation and
cooperation

72%

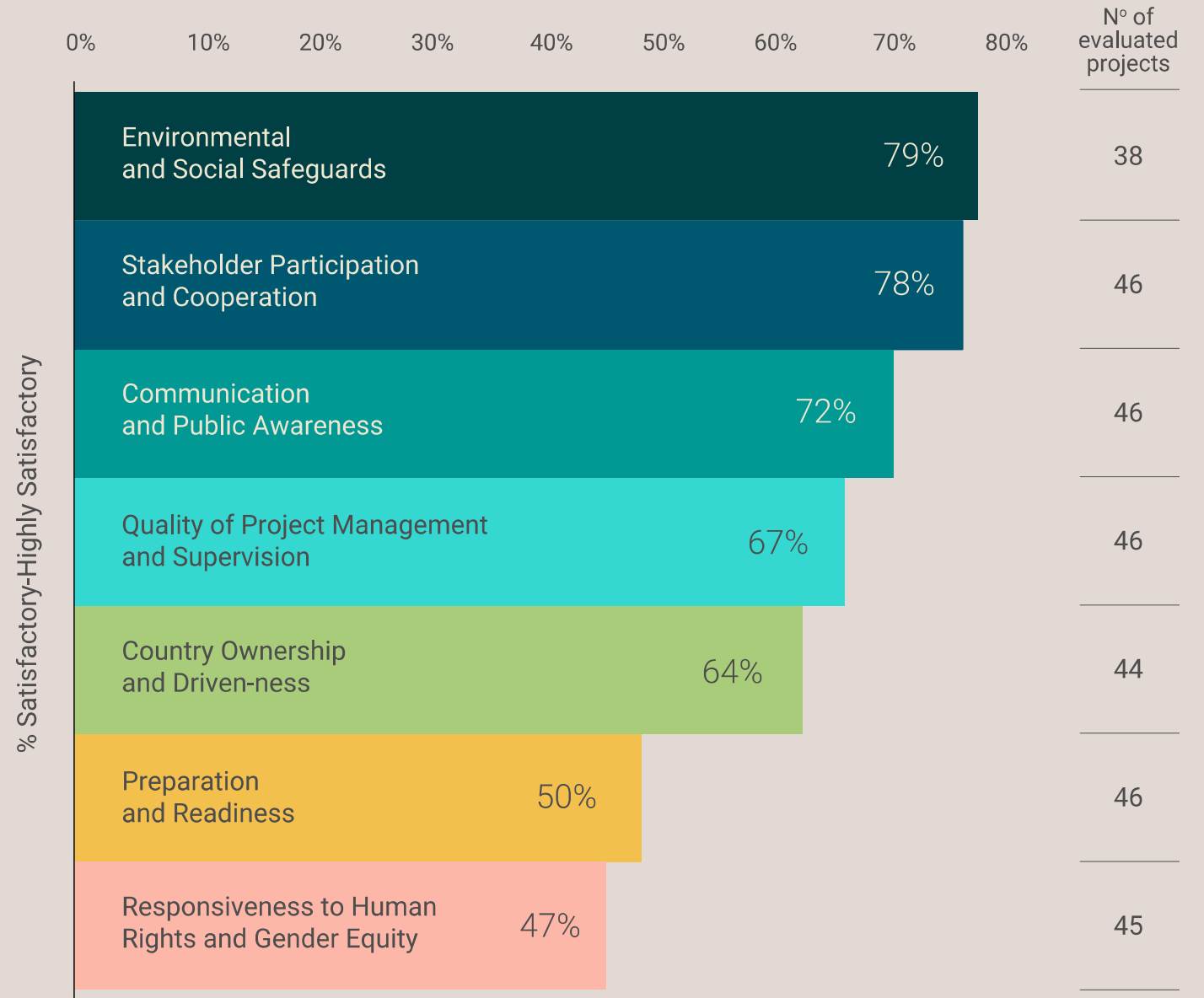
Communication
and public
awareness

Another noteworthy increase was in proportion of projects attaining S/HS ratings across the 2022 and 2023 sample for the criterion on Financial Management (87%); an increase of 41 percentage points when compared to the sample for the previous biennium (46% in 2020-21).



Summary of project performance against factors affecting performance, 2022-2023

% of Projects achieving Satisfactory and Better Performance in Cross-cutting Areas (2022-2023)



Areas for improvement

Percentage of projects rated against these criteria with ratings in the 'Unsatisfactory' range (MU-HU) is >15%

30%

Monitoring
and reporting

27%

Sustainability
of Project
Outcomes

20%

Responsiveness
to gender and
human rights

17%

Preparation
and readiness

15%

Quality of project
management and
supervision

Monitoring and Reporting

One of the key areas of weakness observed, especially in projects not attaining the S/HS level, is the lack of distinction made between reporting on project implementation (what has happened) and monitoring implementation against the expected results.

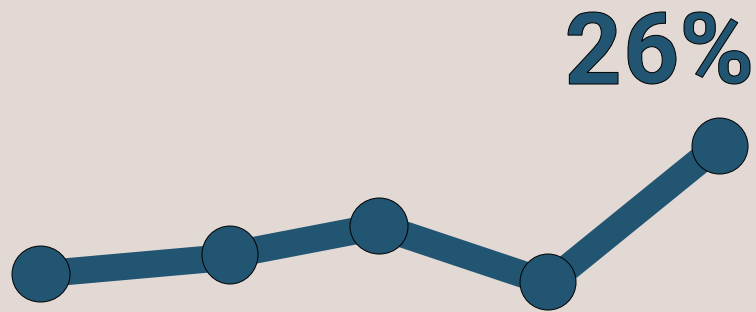
Learning from past evaluations also emphasize the need to strengthen the institutionalization of project documentation to ensure that critical project information is secured with UNEP regardless of staff turnover or operational completion of the project.





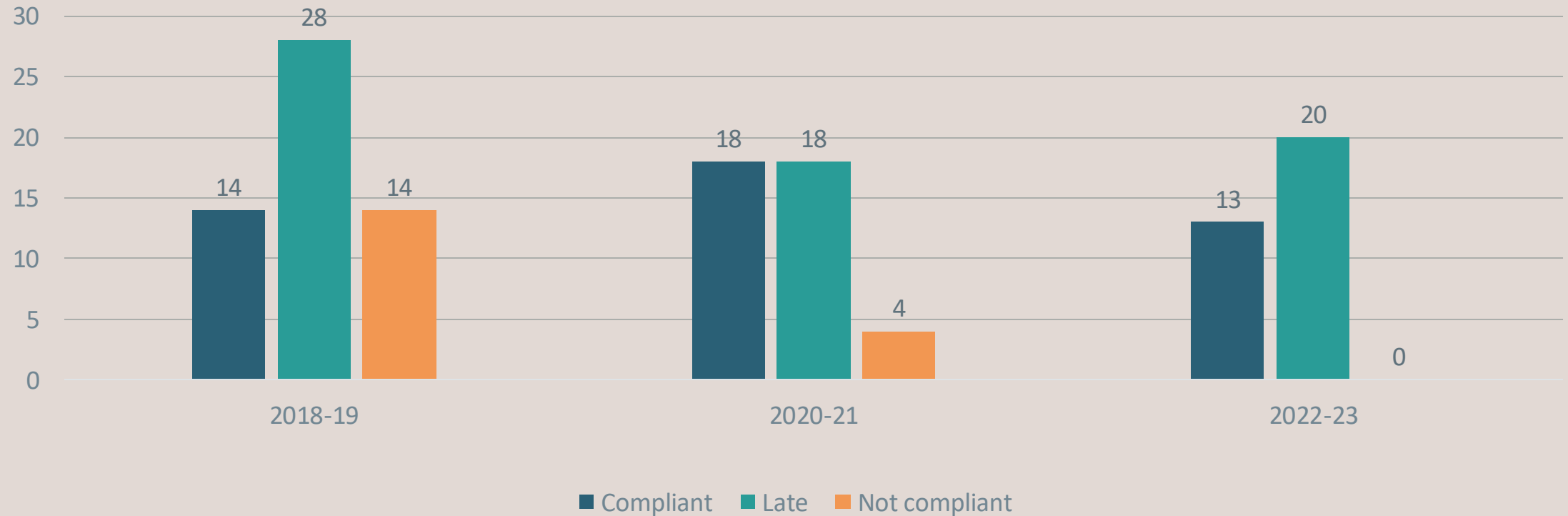
Sustainability

The need to pay particular attention to the development of exit strategies and on creating the conditions that help to sustain direct outcomes in both project design processes and during project implementation remains. Strategies that enhance country ownership can also help ensure the continuance of project outcomes.

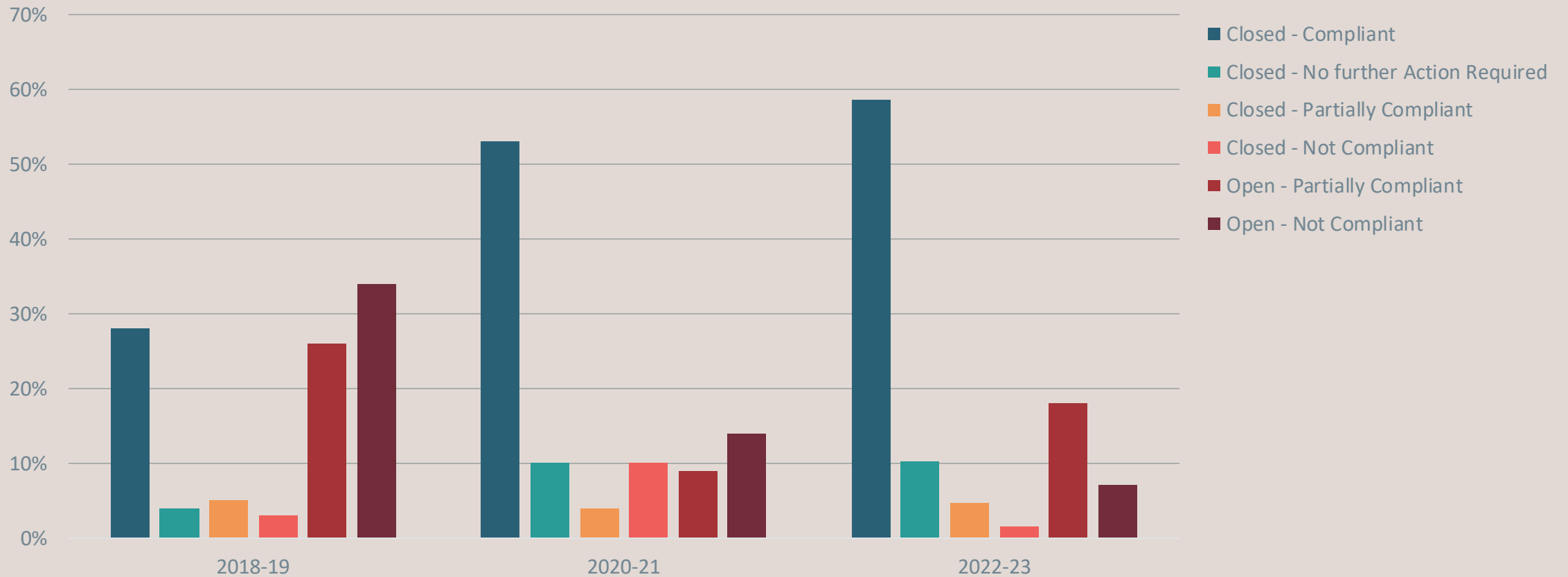


Across the last 10 years, the 2022-23 biennium shows the highest proportion of projects rated 'Highly Satisfactory' for their overall performance.

Submission of evaluation management response compliance levels by biennium 2018-23



Recommendation compliance status by biennium 2018-23



The Evaluation Office attributes much of the compliance improvement to the use of corporate dashboards that are reviewed by the Senior Management Team every quarter.

Continuous management attention is recommended for sustained progress in meeting UNEP's performance targets.

Other topics covered in this report

Summary of strategic evaluations

- Environmental Governance Subprogramme
- UNEP Policy and Strategy for Gender Equality and the Environment, 2015-2020
- UNEP Inquiry into the design of a sustainable financial system
- Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) interagency programme 'Operational Strategy 2016-2020'

Trends in the quality of the design of projects assessed

- Overall positive trends in quality of project designs assessed in evaluations over time
- Opportunities for further improvement:
 - 'Intended Results and Causality'
 - 'Sustainability/Replication and Catalytic Effects'
 - 'Risk Identification and Social Safeguards' and
 - 'Learning, Communication and Outreach'

Evaluation Policy and performance of the Evaluation Office

- UNEP's evaluation function positively assessed by OIOS
- New policy, strategy and Manual for evaluation prepared in 2022

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION