

# Improving the ACs: some problems and solutions

Anne-Cécile Dragon - WWF

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Inter-AC meeting, 8 November 2019, Brussels

## What is the objective of the ACs?

“To contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in Article 2” (art. 43)

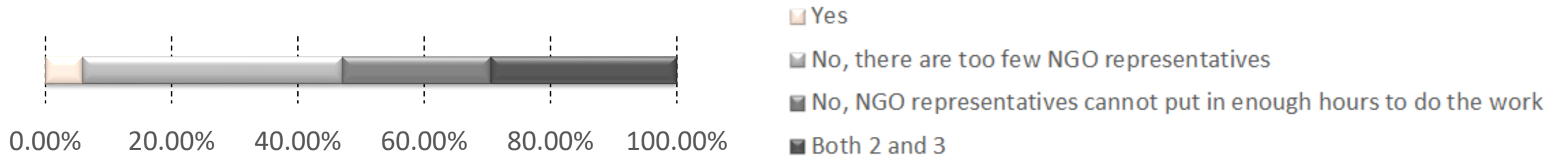
## What is happening in the ACs? (or in some ACs?)

- Discussions on how to implement (parts of ) the CFP
- but do AC really contribute to the timely achievement of CFP objectives ?
- No, at least in several ACs.

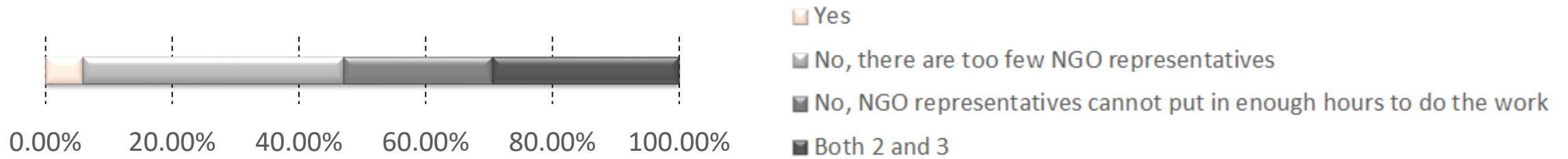
## Just a few statistics (NGO survey, Feb. 2019, n=19)

- Do you feel there is adequate NGO involvement in the AC(s) you sit on?
- Do you expect the involvement of your organisation to increase, decrease or stay the same over the next 2 years?
- Would you recommend another NGO in your country or region to work in your AC(s) even if they do not get external funding for it?

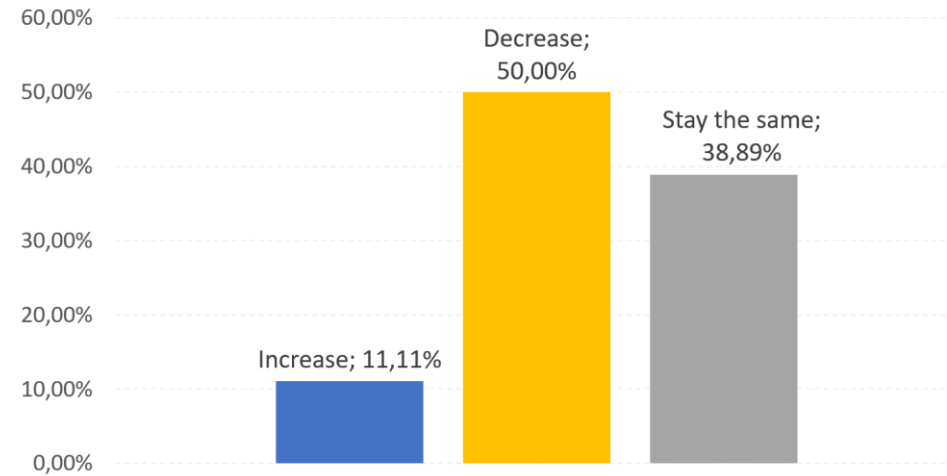
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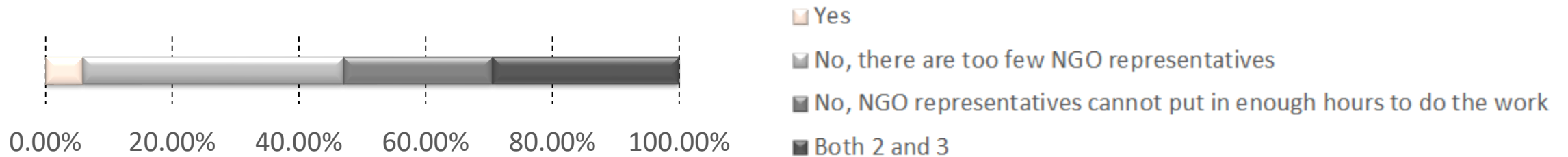
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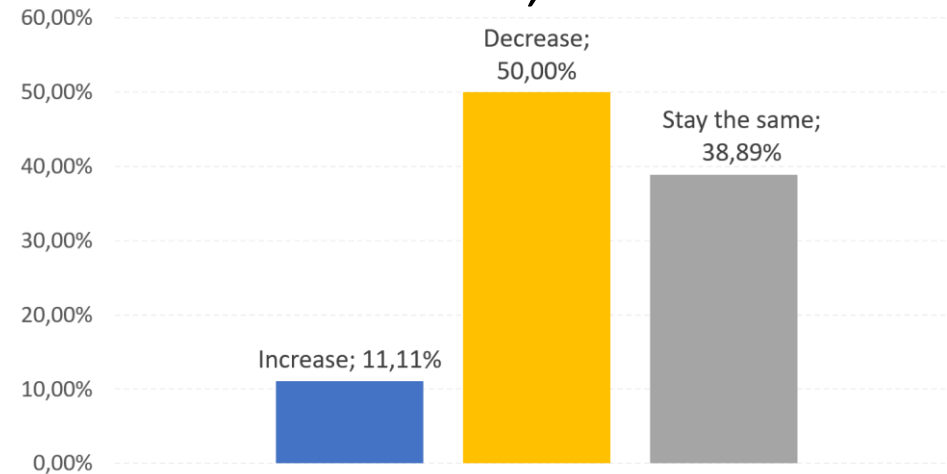
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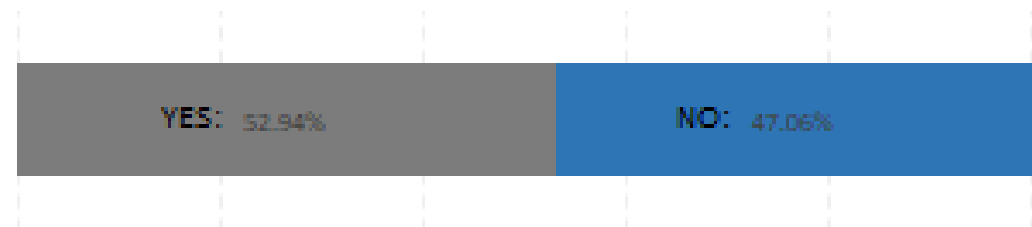
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**Problems identified**

**Our constructive recommendations / good practices**

**Clarify what is the role of the ACs**

- As OIGs don't have a mandate to re-litigate the CFP regulation.

- **The Commission to make it clear what ACs are and what they are not.**
- **Commission to monitor functioning and interfere when necessary;**

Problems identified	Our constructive recommendations / good practices
<p><b>Clarify what is the role of the ACs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As OIGs don't have a mandate to re-litigate the CFP regulation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Commission to make it clear what ACs are and what they are not.</b></li> <li><b>Commission to monitor functioning and interfere when necessary.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda mainly driven by industry:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OIG time and energy is spent to control that advice are good enough.</li> <li>E.g.: time spent on discussing exemptions to the LO or validity of ICES advice... compared to time implementing art. 8 and 11</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Shared ownership of the agenda</b></li> <li><b>Constructive drafting in line with CFP</b></li> <li><b>Commission to react when advice are not in line with CFP objectives</b></li> </ul>



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<p><b>On the process/rules:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Failure to reflect our minority positions</li> <li>Shortcomings and partiality of AC secretariats/AC chairs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Changes in AC rules:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>adoption of advice by consensus only?</b></li> <li><b>Protocols for the development and presentation of advice</b></li> <li><b>Shared best practices among ACs initiated by Commission</b></li> </ul>

Thank you for your attention

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