



EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

Civil Society Forum

WG 2 Meeting “Economic Integration & Convergence with EU Policies”

Chisinau, 6-8 June 2017

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HIGH REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
SECURITY POLICY

Brussels, 15.12.2016
SWD(2016) 467 final

JOINT STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Eastern Partnership - Focusing on key priorities and deliverables

EaP CSF Policy brief –

Rationale

Discuss the EU Joint Staff Working Document:

EAP – FOCUSING ON KEY PRIORITIES AND DELIVERABLES –

- Cross-cutting deliverables
- **Priority I: Economic development & market opportunities**
 - Deliverable 6. New job opportunities at the local and regional level (plans for local economic development, PAR, stakeholders participation, agricultural development strategies).
 - Deliverable 7. Harmonisation of digital markets
 - Deliverable 8. DCFTAs implementation
- **Priority II: Strengthening institutions and good governance**
- **Priority III: Connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change**
- **Priority IV: Mobility and people-to-people contacts**

Policy brief reflects the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum - its National Platforms' and Working Groups' opinions and expert input

Three experts were covering the following deliverables, based on the input from the EaP CSF members:

- ▶ **Andrei Yahorau**, lead expert, Centre for European Transformation, Belarus, Deliverables: 1,2,3,9,11,18,20
- ▶ **Artashes Sargsyan**, sectoral expert, ECOTEAM, Armenia, Deliverables: 14,15,16
- ▶ **Georgeta Mincu**, sectoral expert, Center for Development and Management, Moldova, Deliverables: 6,7,8

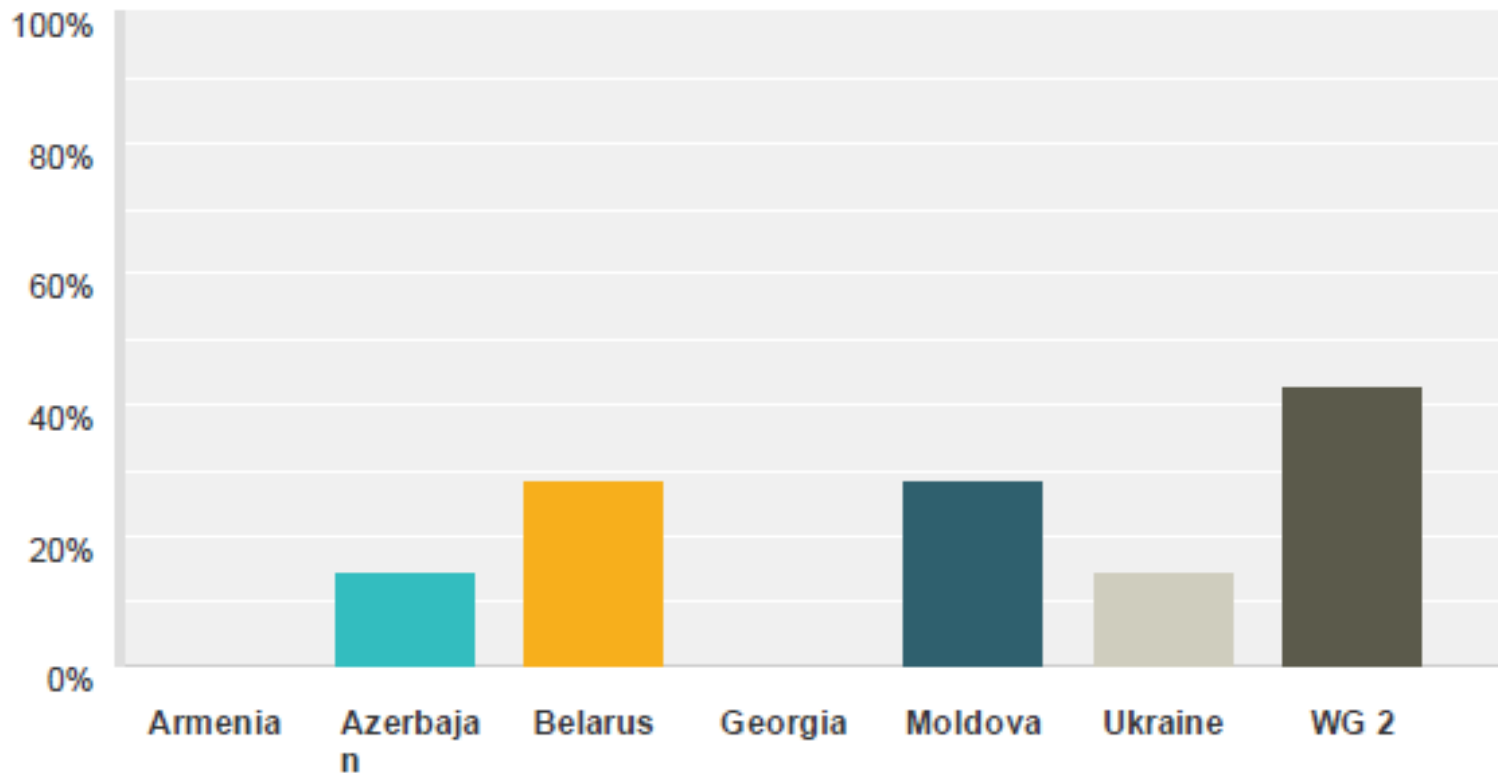
Questions to be discussed:

1. Is the implementation of given target set by 2020 realistic or unrealistic?
2. Is the target set by 2020 ambitious enough?
3. What additional or more appropriate targets and benchmarks can be suggested?
4. What are the major obstacles if you consider given target set for 2020 unrealistic.
5. What is the impact of achieving given target in your country in the wider context?

Survey Monkey - **FEEDBACKs** to Joint WD-Focusing on key priorities and deliverables

What National Platform do you represent or WG member? Please choose one option !

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0



Priority I: Economic development & market opportunities – Delivery 5

Milestones by 2017 Summit and Targets by 2010 - D6

Adoption of **SME strategies and action plans / roadmaps.**

To date 3 countries already have SME Strategies in place

EaP countries to **improve score on a 2019 OECD Small Business Act assessment by 10%** on the regulatory framework, the operational environment and support to SMEs (comp.to 2015).

EaP countries provide for **more transparent and efficient SME taxation system**, as verified in the World Bank Paying Taxes report

Improvements in **support services to businesses** via the strengthening of 100 BSOs network

150 client-oriented business support organisations provide services to their SME members, in **particular on DCFTA requirements** as well as global market requirements.

Priority I: Economic development & market opportunities, Milestones and Targets for Deliverable 6

Agricultural development strategies in three countries.

at least 15 000 farmers are members of business oriented farmer groups /cooperatives,

and at least 1 000 business-oriented farmer groups created to promote better access to markets.

Priority I: Milestones and Targets for Deliverable 6 – Cross Cutting - Gender

Launching of new projects fostering women entrepreneurship and employability.

Access to financial services at community level for women entrepreneurs improved, with 550 more SMEs directly benefitting from the programme,

creating or sustaining 2 500 jobs.

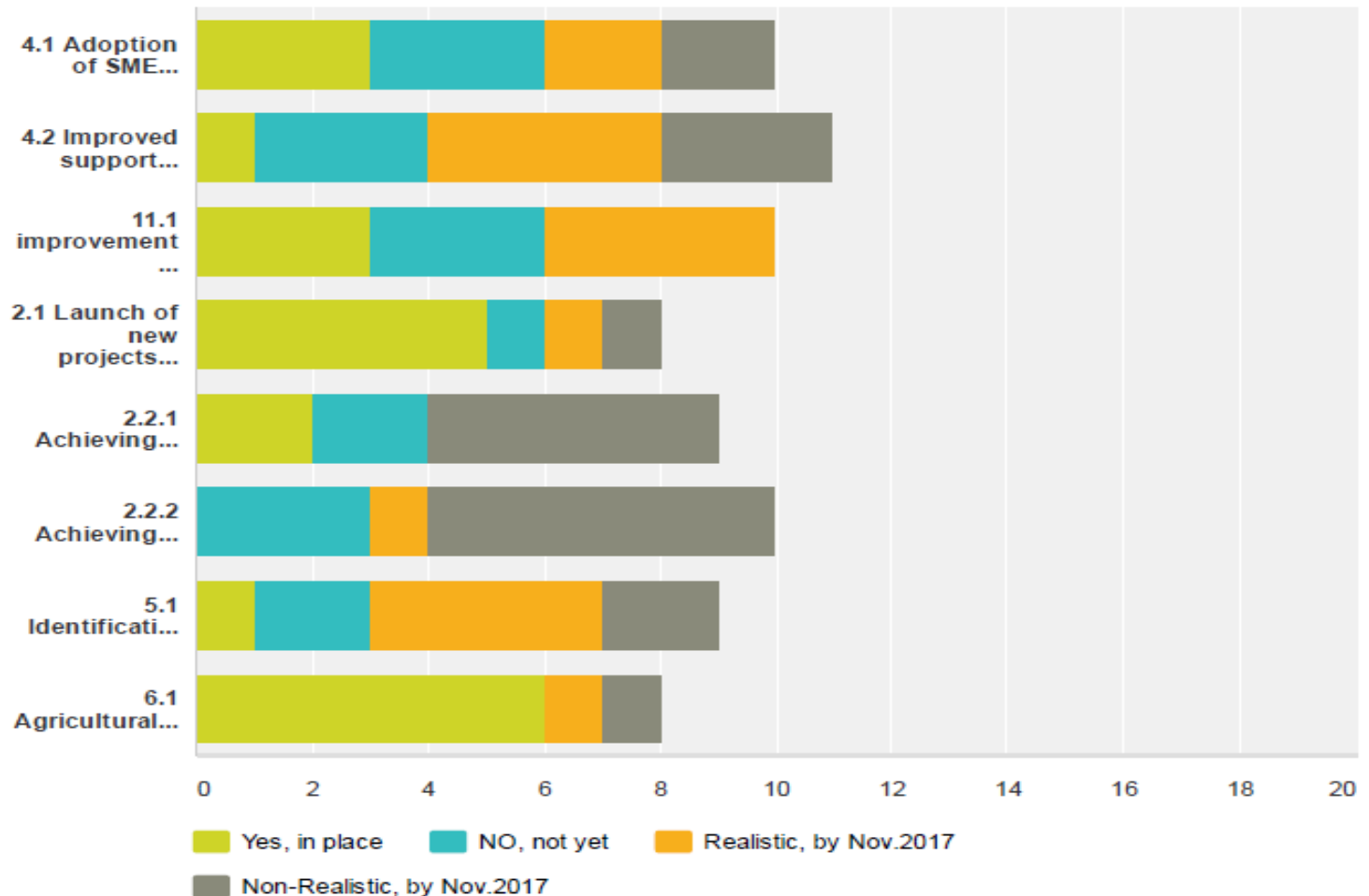
Achieving increases in employment of at least 40% of Women SMEs, one year after completion of advisory projects,

At least 60% of FW funds disbursed in countries with ‘large’ and ‘medium’ access to finance gender gaps,

and WiB sub-loan portfolio increased by at least USD 55 million.

Achieving increases in turnover of at least 50% of assisted Women SMEs, by expiration of one year after completion of advisory projects.

Related to Regulatory Environment, Access to Finance and Employment. Please choose Yes or No. If you selected NO, please select if is Realistic or Non-Realistic to be achieved by EaP Summit 2017 !



Priority I: Deliverable 7. Harmonization of digital market

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Milestone by 2017 Summit	Target by 2020
Commitment to establish an independent regulatory authority for electronic communications	Independent national regulatory authority for electronic communications in place in at least 4 countries.
Advancement of the feasibility study on unified roaming tariffs in the EaP.	Significant progress in spectrum coordination and in unifying roaming tariffs in the EaP.
Commitment by partners to coordinate on spectrum of issues?	

Priority I: Deliverable 7.

Harmonization of digital market

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Target by 2020
<p>Commitment by partners to adopt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eCommerce, • eCustoms and • eLogistics- <p>related EU <i>acquis</i>.</p>	<p>Partners' eCommerce, eCustoms and eLogistics legal frameworks harmonised with those in the EU.</p> <p>Pilot cross-border eTrade system in the EaP.</p>
<p>Commitment by partners to adopt eIDAS, the General Data Protection Regulation and other relevant EU <i>acquis</i>.</p> <p>Partner's needs assessment and development of a platform for experience exchange within EU on cyber issues.</p>	<p>Pilot interoperable cross border eSignature and regional framework for cross border eServices for businesses in place.</p> <p>Network of national CERTs in all partners in place, linked to EU CERTs.</p>

Priority I: Deliverable 7. Harmonization of digital market

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Target by 2020
<p>Establishing National coalitions for digital jobs by all Partners, based on the EU's digital skills & jobs coalition</p>	<p>National digital skills strategies formulated and implemented by all Partners, in line with similar EU strategies under the digital skills & jobs coalition.</p>
<p>Mapping of Partners' digital innovation ecosystem stakeholders, including those in ICT research.</p> <p>Incorporation of Partners' stakeholders' information in Start-up Europe Networks and online platforms.</p>	<p>Well-structured ecosystems for ICT research & innovation in all partners, linked to the EU's ecosystems.</p> <p>Connections among partners' ecosystems and with similar EU's ecosystems established.</p>

Priority I: Deliverable 8. DCFTAs implementation - 1

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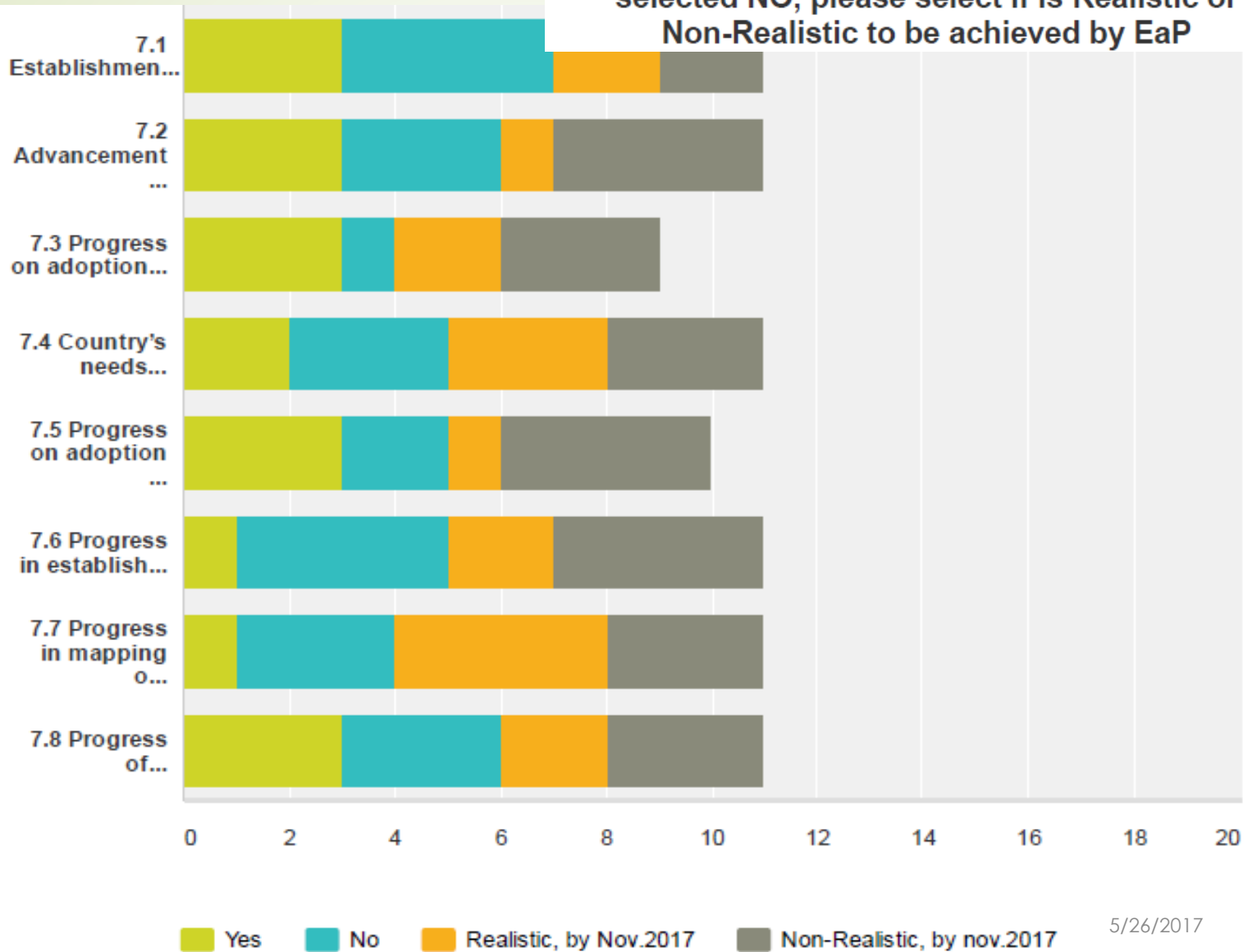
Joining the Pan-Euro-Mediterranean Convention on Preferential Rules of Origin by DCFTA countries

Growth in volume of Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in the DCFTA countries.

Increase of number of entities from DCFTA countries authorised to export agricultural/food products to the EU.

Recognition by the EU of equivalence of food safety measures for sectors/products that fully comply with EU acquis and with feature enforcement by inspection structures in the DCFTA countries

Qs. Related to DIGITAL ECONOMY. How do you assess the availability of the following MILESTONES to be achieved by November 2017? Please choose Yes or No. If you selected NO, please select if is Realistic or Non-Realistic to be achieved by EaP



Priority I: Deliverable 8. DCFTAs implementation - 2

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Adoption and start of implementation of the **PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ROADMAPS**, aiming at the creation of a well-functioning, competitive, accountable and transparent procurement system in DCFTA countries.

Adoption and start of implementation of the **SPS Strategies by the DCFTA countries**, aiming at aligning their legislation and hence gaining further access to the EU market for agricultural products.

Increased market access opening on reciprocal basis in accordance with the staging provided in the DCFTAs.

Accession to the **Convention on common transit** and thus simplification of the transit procedures between the parties to the Convention.

Priority I: Deliverable 8. DCFTAs implementation - 3

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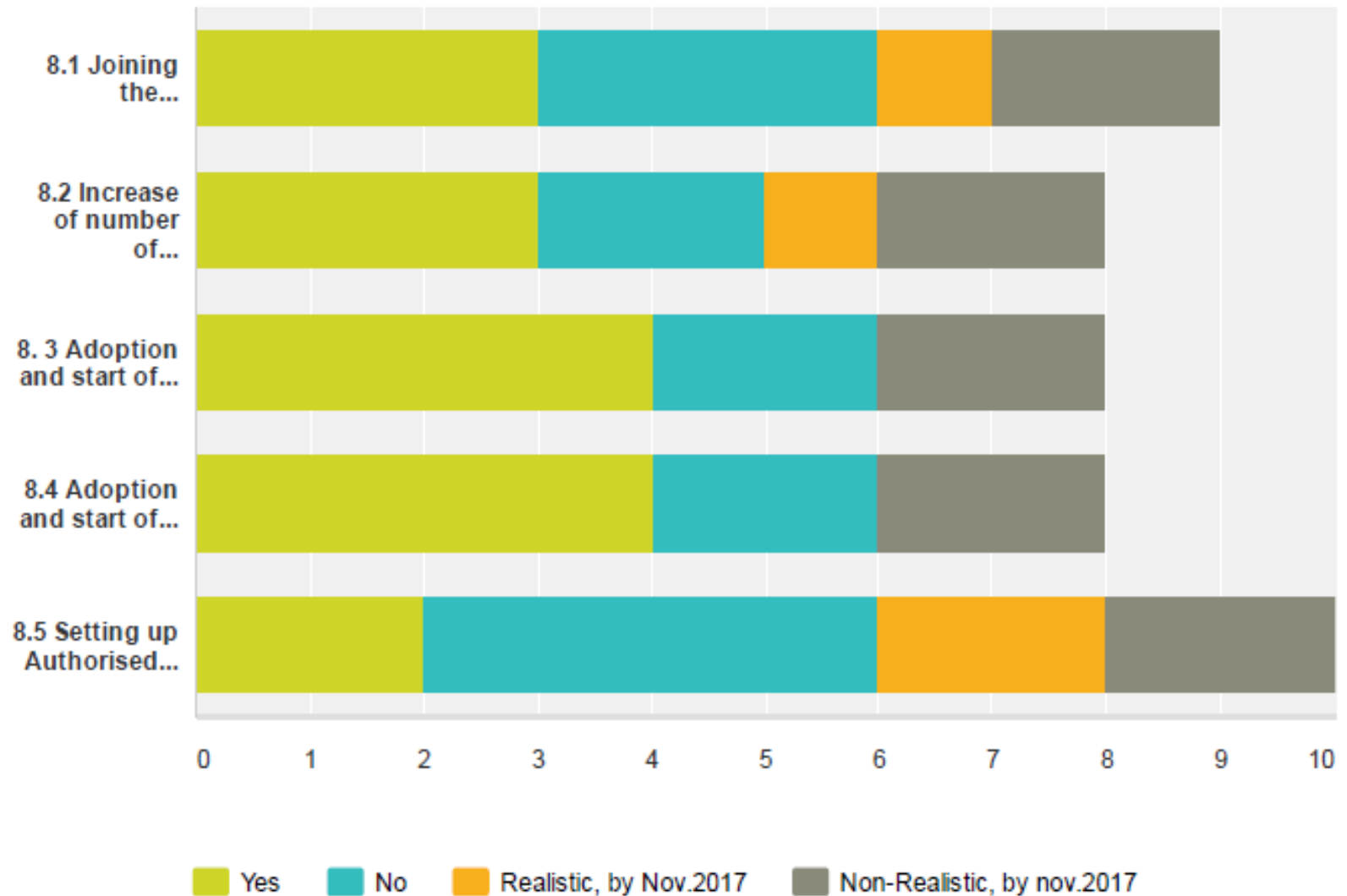
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Delivery 8. How to you assess the achievement by your country of the following MILESTONES by November 2017?



Lessons Learned

- ▶ Gained additional knowledge and competences economic development pillars and drivers
- ▶ Partnership and communication quality are crucial for common discussion of policy papers or positioning papers
- ▶ No Problems without Solutions – consensus with EaP partners and organisations is very important
- ▶ GIVING-UP – is not a solution = Communication is



FOLLOW – UP

- Currently EaP Index is conducting by all countries – I was responsible for filling in indicators for Moldova – about 100 indicators, some of them mentioned in our policy briefs
- Conduct presentation of EaP Index in each countries and discuss possible cooperation for the purpose of improvements
- Share experience of the advanced countries in specific indicators, targets, milestones and deliverables and place on SCF website – results of achievement of indicators,
- Involvement of civil society in monitoring and discussing the target will make the society and the administration
- more ACCOUNTABLE and RESPONSIBLE





**Professional Cooperation among
CSF Members** according to internal
culture and practices, based on
international standards and serve
our countries willing to **Grow**

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