

IMPACT REPORT

Connecting Climate Minds Regional Communities of Practice



Overview of Connecting Climate Minds

Over the last year, Connecting Climate Minds (CCM) convened the climate and mental health communities from research, policy, practice and lived experience across the globe to achieve two main goals:

1. **Develop an ambitious and inclusive research agenda**, deeply grounded in the needs of people with lived experience, which outlines the evidence needed for policy and practice to safeguard mental health while enabling climate action.
2. **Nurture a connected, supported and engaged community of practice** with the right tools to enact this agenda, including greater knowledge sharing.

CCM by the numbers

89 countries represented

42 hours of transdisciplinary virtual dialogue

341 participants for Dialogue 1

275 participants for Dialogue 2

65 Regional Community Convenors and Co-Convenors

31 Lived Experience Advisory Group members

16 Youth Ambassadors

706 survey responses

7 regional research and action agendas

7 summary regional research and action agendas

276 priority research themes

Regional Communities of Practice snapshots

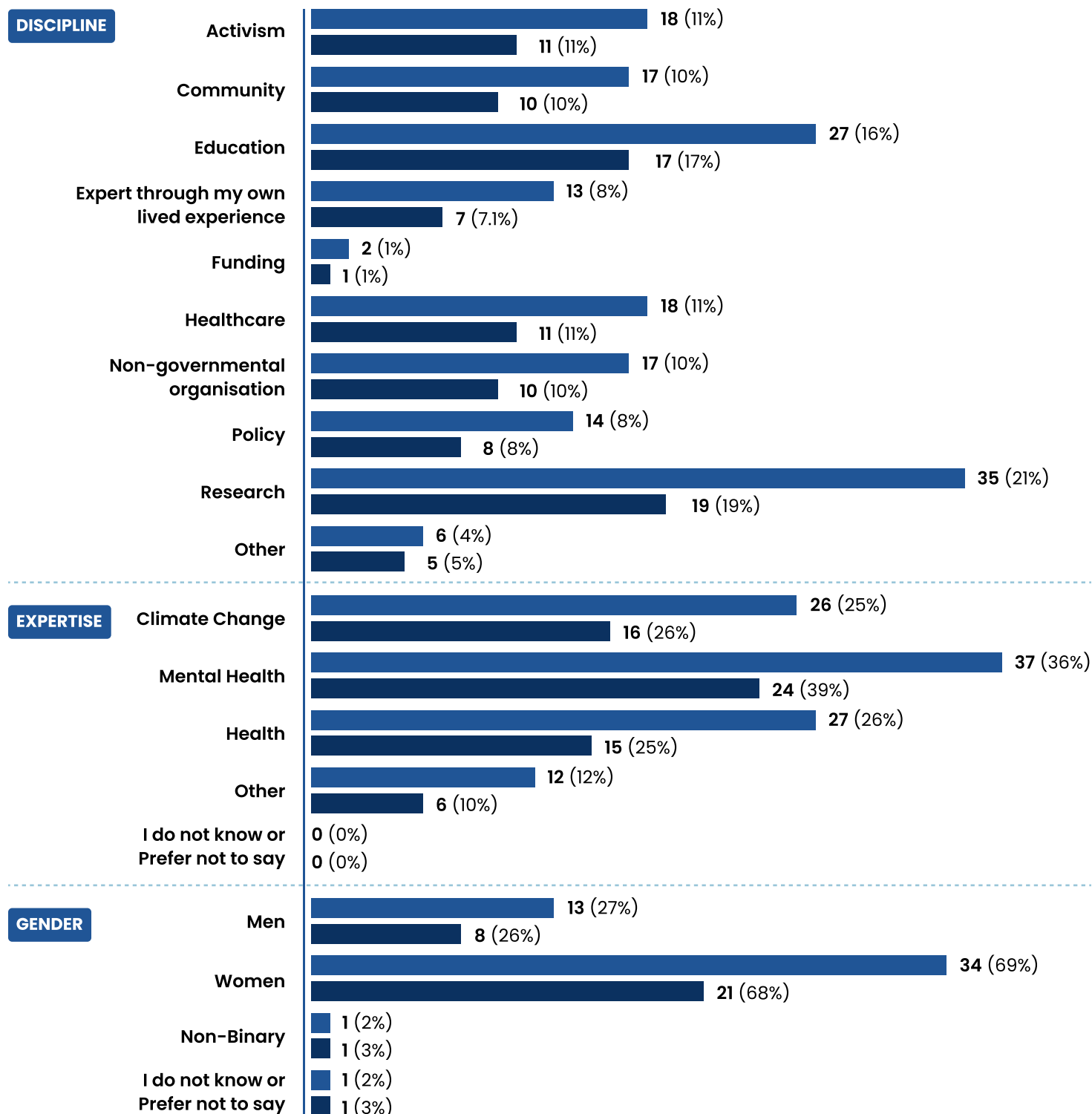
To inform the creation of the regional research and action agendas and foster connection across our RCoPs, we convened two 3-hour virtual dialogues and administered pre- and post-dialogue surveys for each region. The pages that follow provide a snapshot of the value that these activities brought to the participants, who widely expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to share their experiences in these fora and to connect with others across diverse backgrounds, united by their belief in the need to understand and act on climate change and mental health.



Oceania

50 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 49)

32 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 31)



GEOGRAPHY

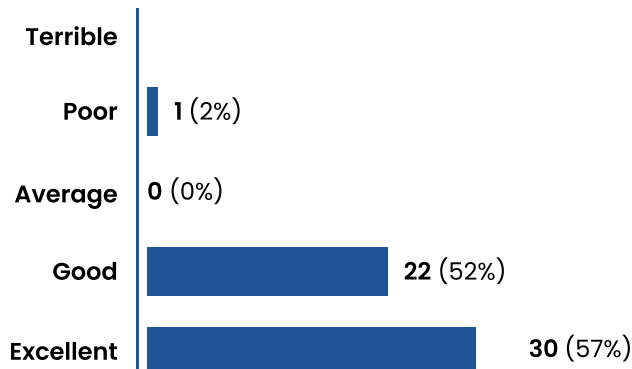


	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Australia	30 (61%)	20 (65%)
Cook Islands	2 (4%)	0 (0%)
Fiji	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Japan	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Kiribati	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
New Zealand	10 (20%)	5 (16%)
Niue	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Palau	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Papua New Guinea	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Samoa	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Solomon Islands	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Vanuatu	1 (2%)	1 (3%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

Total:53

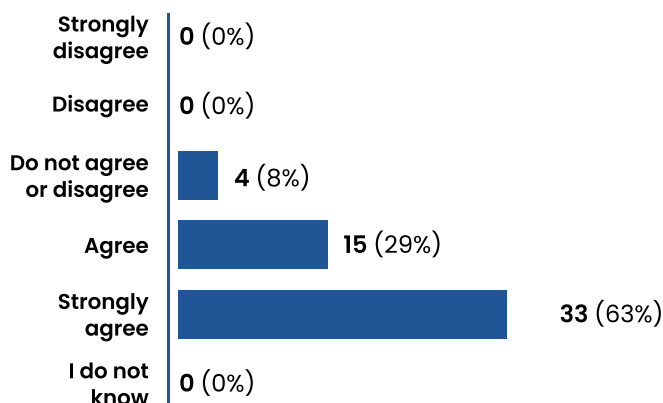


“ It has been very beneficial to be part of a programme that is focused on a topic that is really important to me. I have seen little attention or targeted action for managing mental health affects from climate change, this process has given me some hope. ”

“ For me personally, living, studying and working in a remote area, I often feel very isolated, as I do not have a 'lab group' or colleagues interested in climate change and mental health. So I enjoyed the networking and feeling a part of something bigger, or feeling a part of a group which cares about this topic passionately. ”

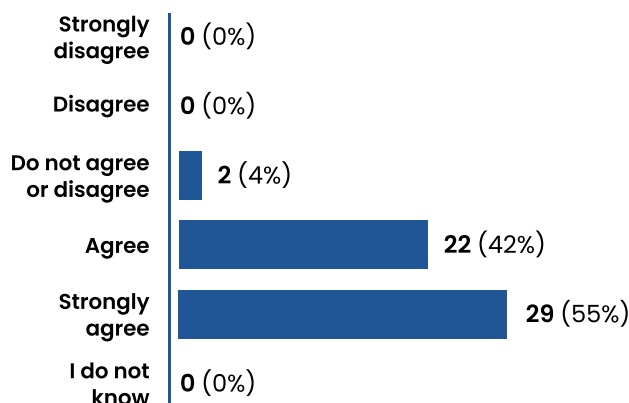
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:52



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

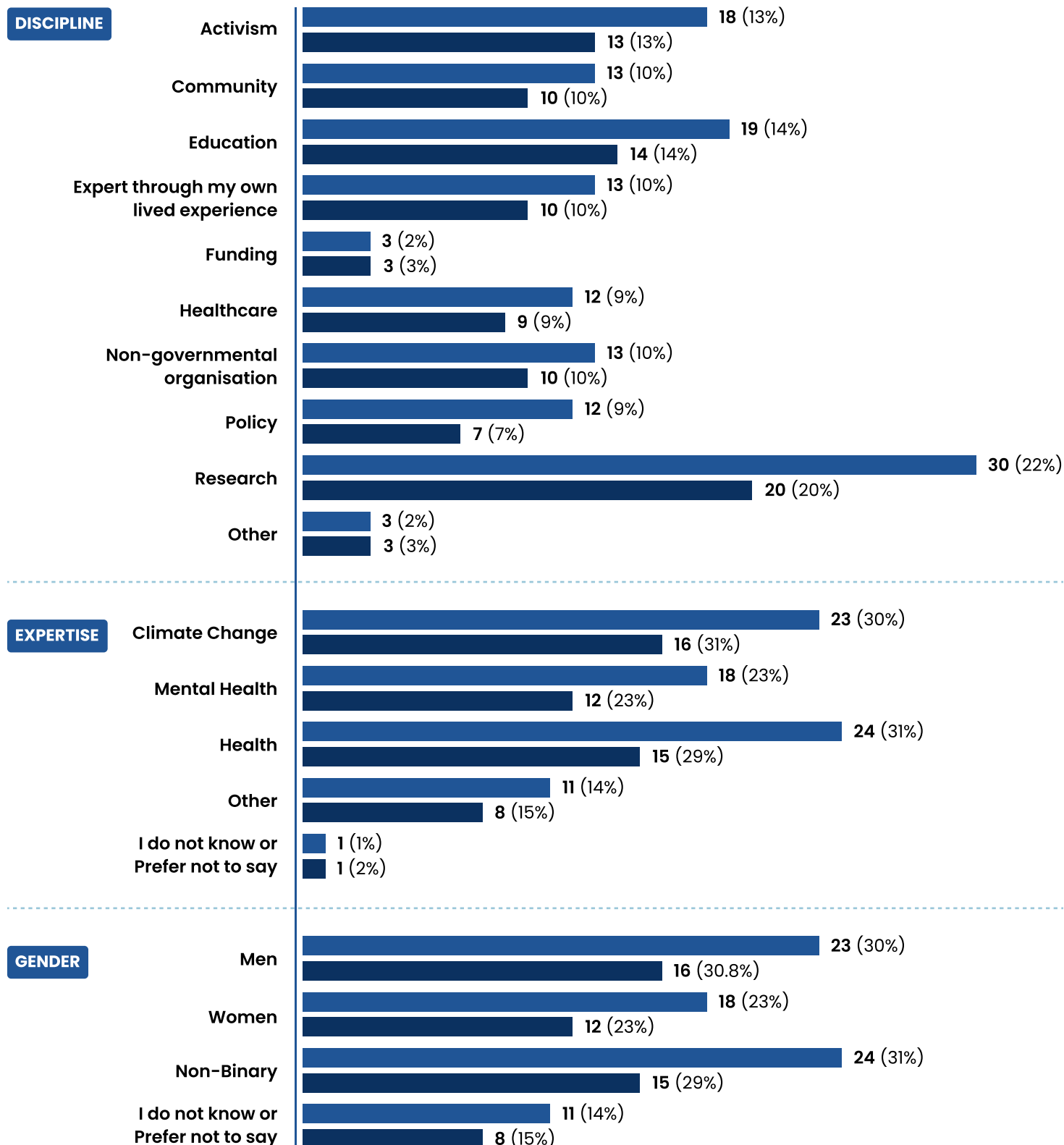
Total:53



Sub-Saharan Africa

46 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 38)

51 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 29)



GEOGRAPHY

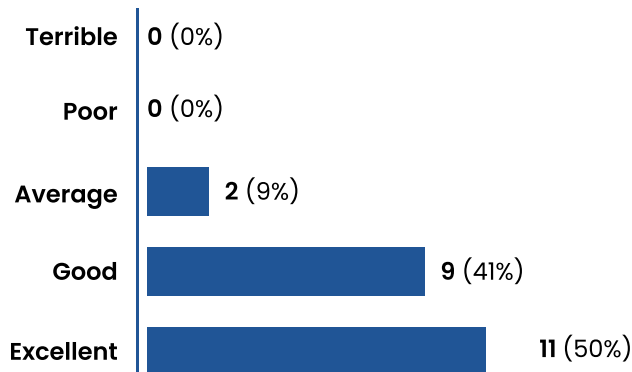


	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Botswana	1 (3%)	
Cameroon	1 (3%)	1 (3%)
Eswatini	1 (3%)	1 (3%)
Guinea	1 (3%)	
Haiti	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Kenya	10 (26%)	10 (35%)
Nigeria	6 (16%)	7 (24%)
Sierra Leone	3 (8%)	1 (3%)
South Africa	6 (16%)	3 (10%)
Uganda	3 (8%)	1 (3%)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2 (5%)	3 (10%)
United Republic of Tanzania	1 (3%)	
Zimbabwe	3 (8%)	1 (3%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

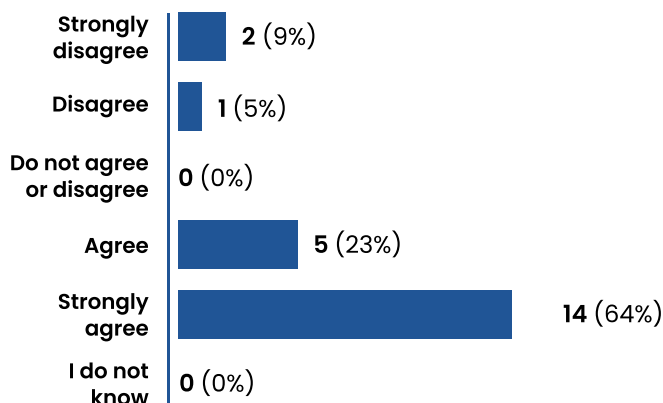
Total:22



“If everyone is inspired and motivated to act [...] this will become an antidote for hopelessness.”

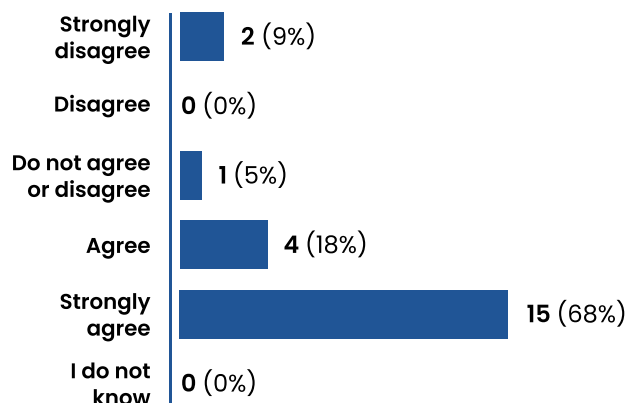
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:22



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

Total:22



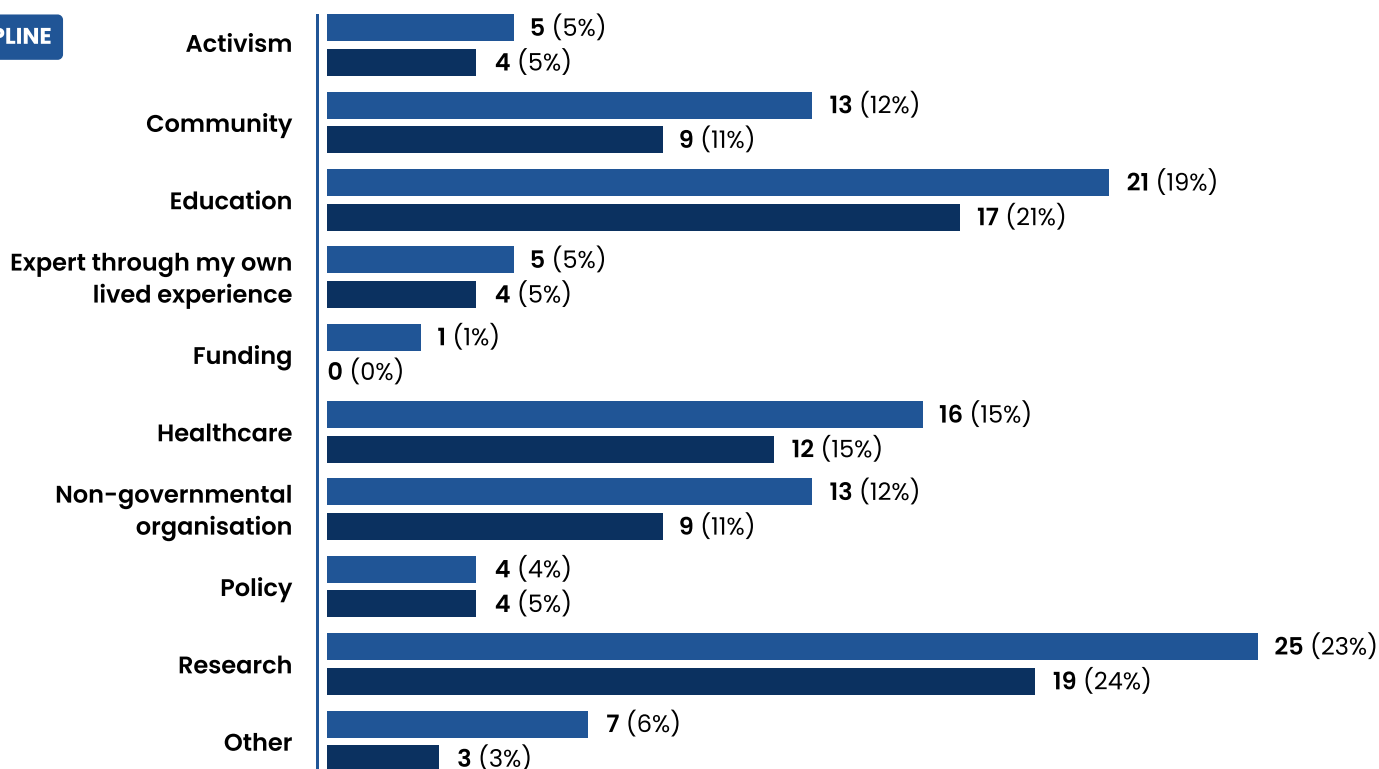
Latin America and the Caribbean

45 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 38)

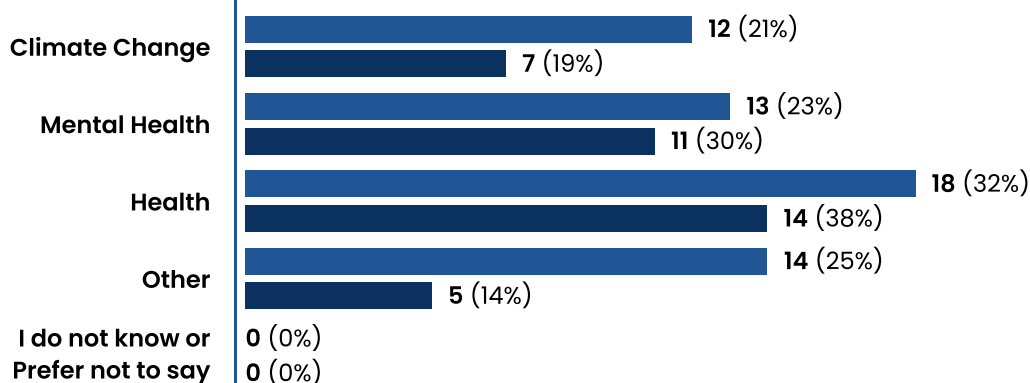
30 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 26)



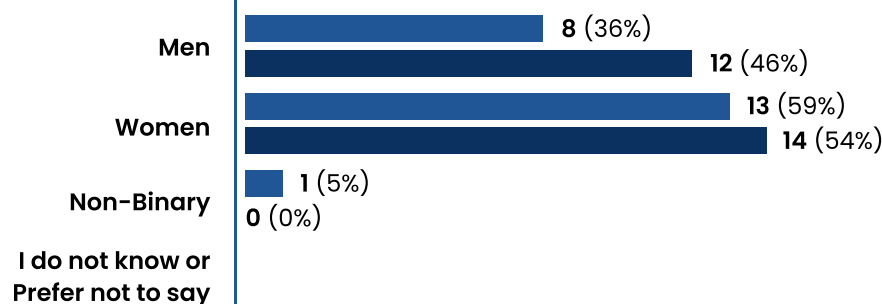
DISCIPLINE



EXPERTISE



GENDER



GEOGRAPHY

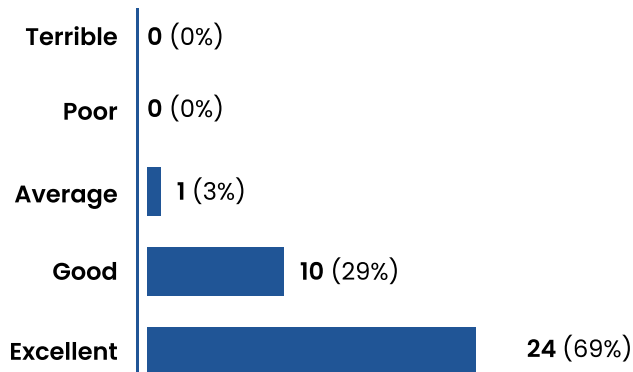


	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Bahamas	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
Barbados	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Brazil	4 (11%)	5 (19%)
Chile	2 (5%)	0 (0%)
Costa Rica	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
Ecuador	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Grenada	2 (5%)	0 (0%)
Guatemala	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
Haiti	4 (11%)	5 (19%)
Honduras	3 (8%)	0 (0%)
Jamaica	3 (8%)	2 (8%)
Mexico	3 (8%)	1 (4%)
Nicaragua	3 (8%)	2 (8%)
St Lucia	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Trinidad and Tobago	2 (4%)	7 (27%)
United States of America	2 (5%)	0 (0%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

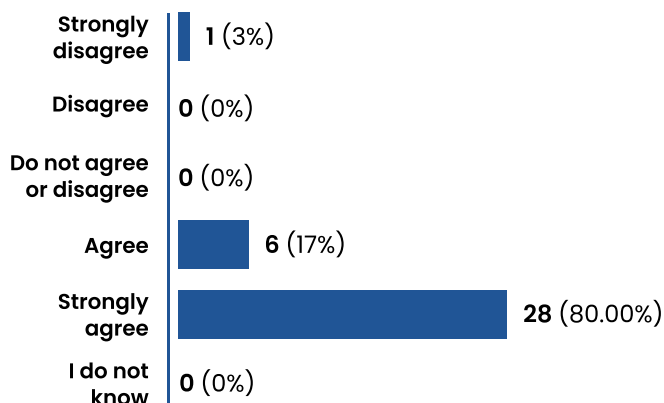
Total:35



“A major positive insight [from the dialogues] was the simple recognition of the lack of prioritization of mental health in climate change discussions.”

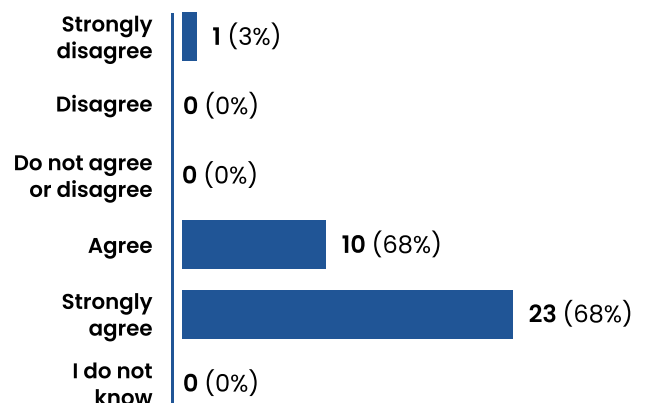
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:35



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

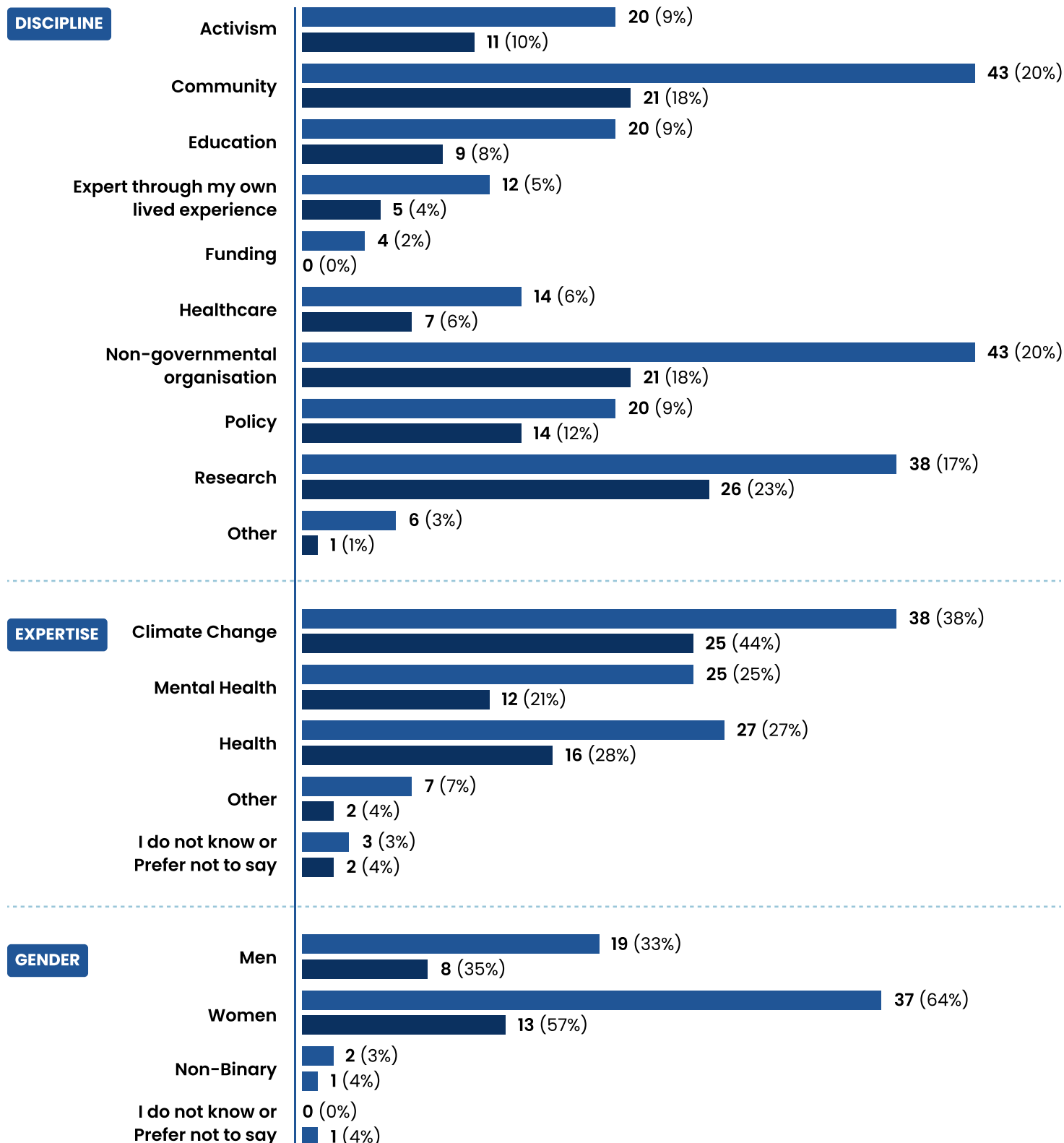
Total:35



Central and Southern Asia

65 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 60)

56 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 37)



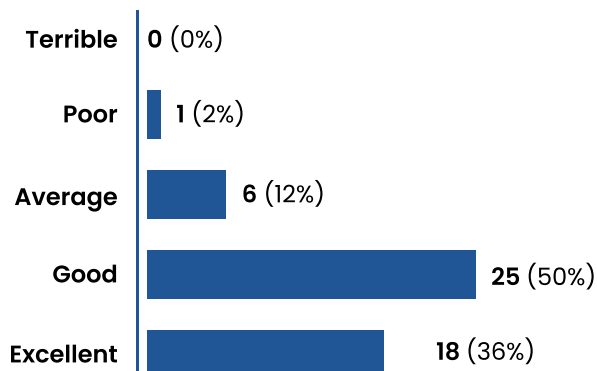
GEOGRAPHY

	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Afghanistan	4 (7%)	3 (9%)
Bangladesh	25 (42%)	21 (60%)
Belgium	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Bhutan	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
India	8 (13%)	5 (14%)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Kazakhstan	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Kenya	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Kyrgyzstan	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Maldives	3 (5%)	0 (0%)
Nepal	4 (7%)	1 (3%)
Pakistan	6 (10%)	1 (3%)
Sri Lanka	4 (7%)	2 (6%)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Uzbekistan	1 (2%)	0 (0%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

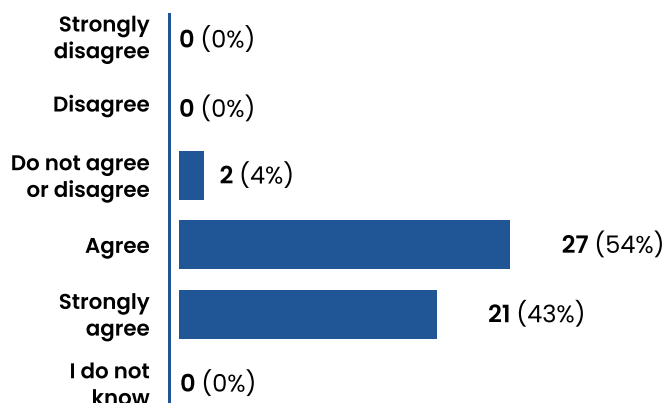
Total:50



“ Meeting like-minded people and also listening to the global experiences and thoughts gives the best of validation of the work you do in silo. This has been an amazing platform. ”

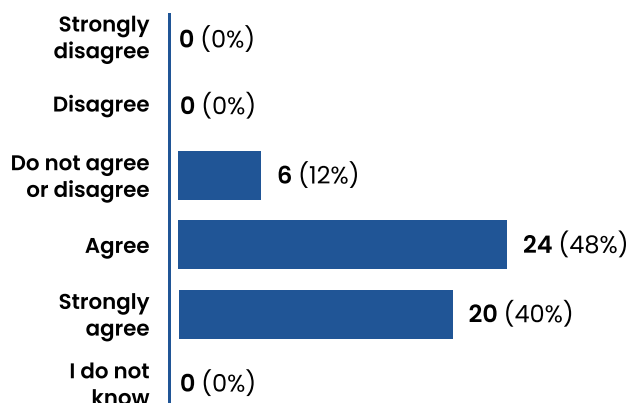
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:50



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

Total:50



Northern Africa and

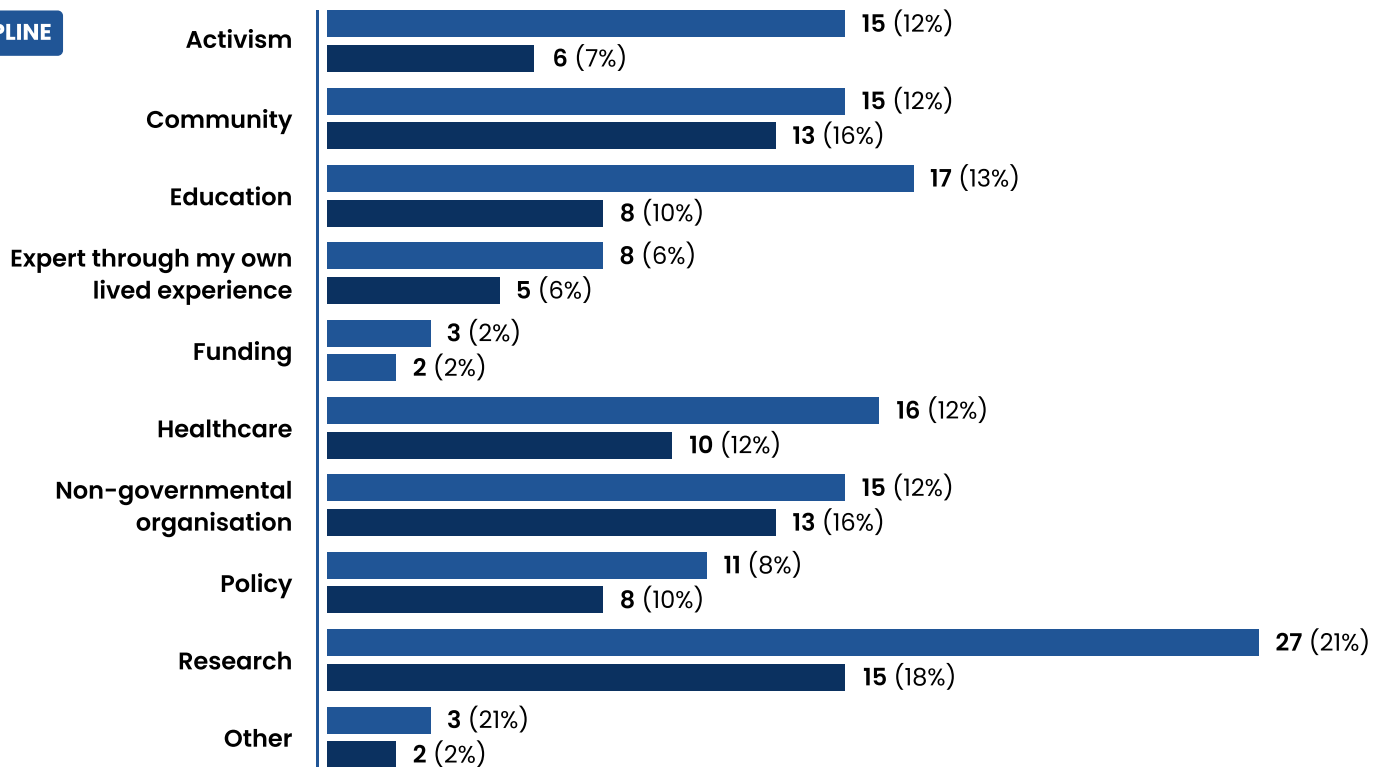
Western Asia

50 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 43)

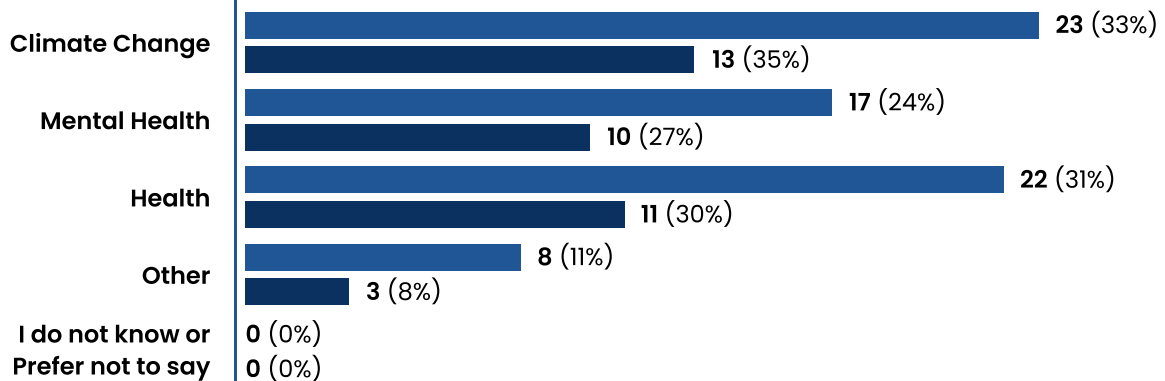
31 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 22)



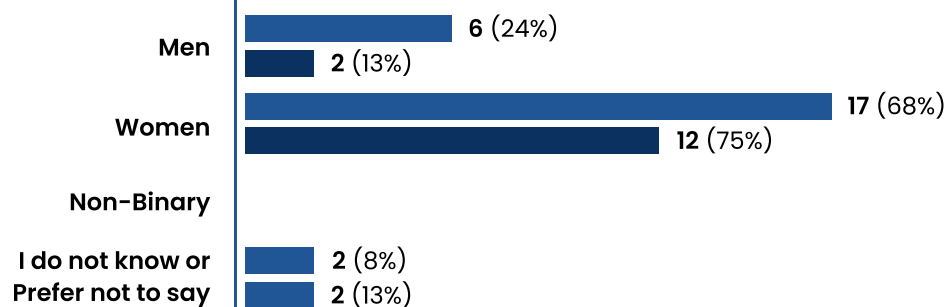
DISCIPLINE



EXPERTISE



GENDER



GEOGRAPHY

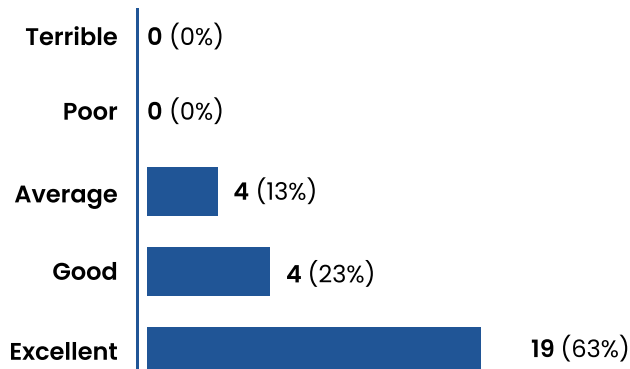


	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Egypt	7 (16%)	4 (17%)
France	0 (0%)	1 (4%)
Iraq	8 (19%)	5 (22%)
Jordan	14 (33%)	5 (22%)
Lebanon	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Morocco	2 (5%)	2 (9%)
Qatar	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Saudi Arabia	2 (5%)	1 (4%)
State of Palestine	1 (2%)	0 (0%)
Tunisia	3 (7%)	3 (13%)
United Arab Emirates	2 (5%)	1 (4%)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2 (5%)	1 (4%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

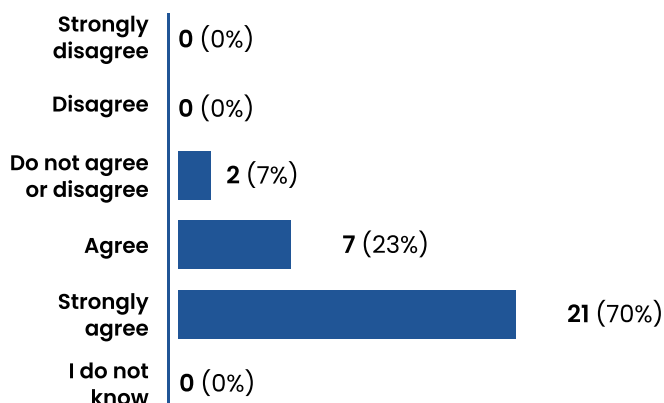
Total:30



“ This project could change peoples’ lives and...help them cope better in adapting [to] climate change impact. ”

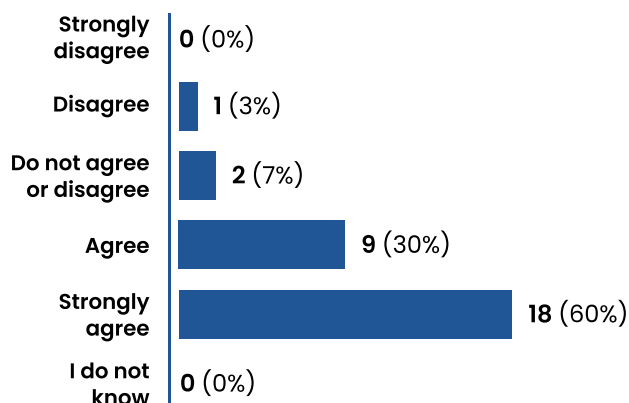
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:30



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

Total:30



Europe and

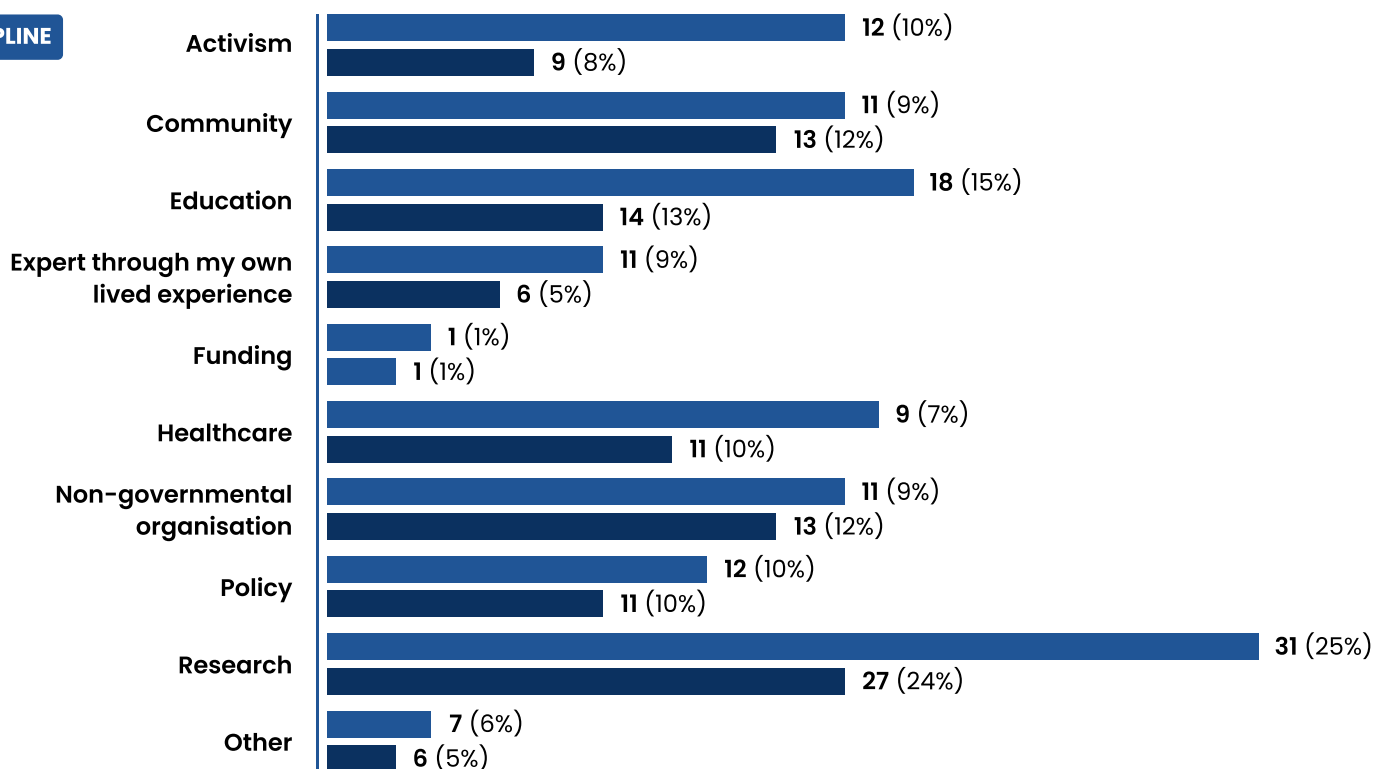
Northern America

46 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 44)

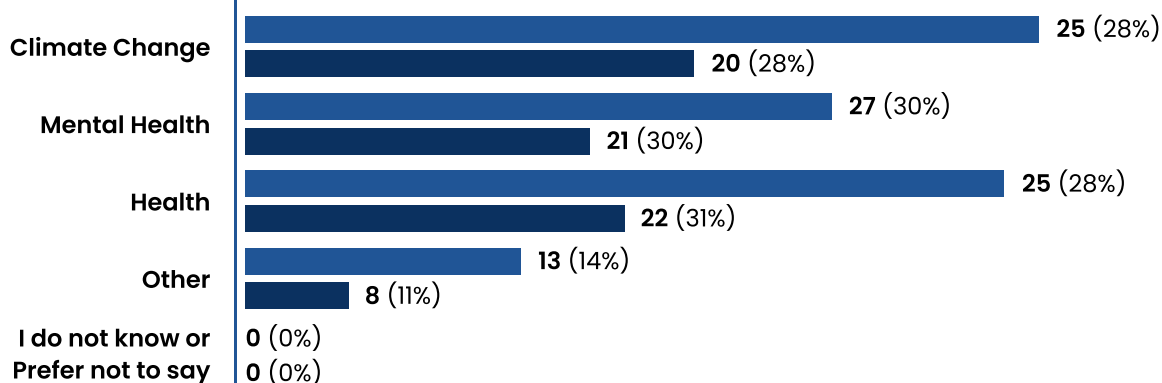
43 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 39)



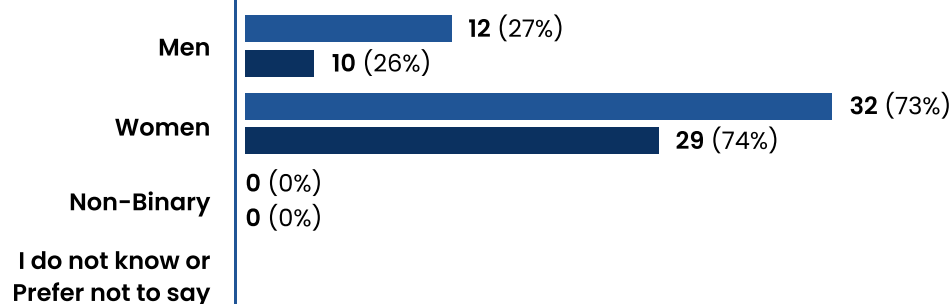
DISCIPLINE



EXPERTISE



GENDER



GEOGRAPHY

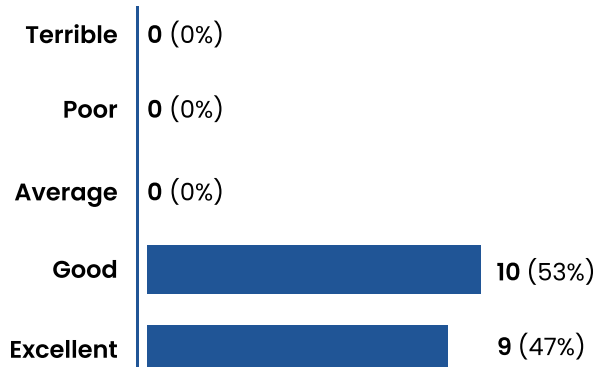


	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Belgium	0 (0%)	3 (8%)
Canada	5 (11%)	3 (8%)
Finland	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
France	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Germany	2 (5%)	1 (3%)
Italy	3 (7%)	6 (15%)
Malta	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Netherlands	3 (7%)	1 (3%)
Serbia	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
Spain	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
Switzerland	2 (5%)	2 (5%)
United Arab Emirates	1 (2%)	1 (3%)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	11 (25%)	8 (21%)
United States of America	13 (30%)	9 (23%)

DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue?

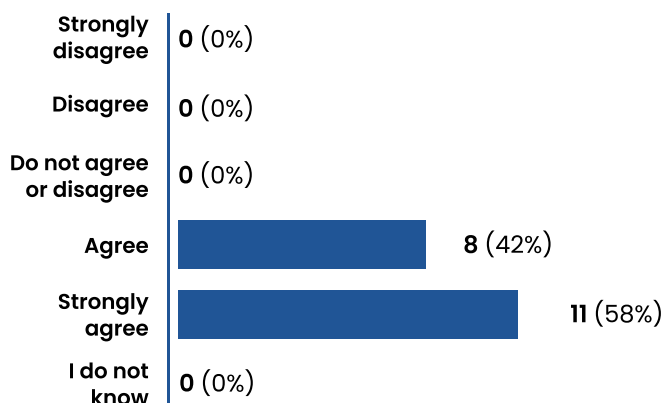
Total:19



“It has been so incredible to share the space with so many wonderful people and help develop ideas that will turn into action. I love the research that is being developed and feel honoured to be part of it.”

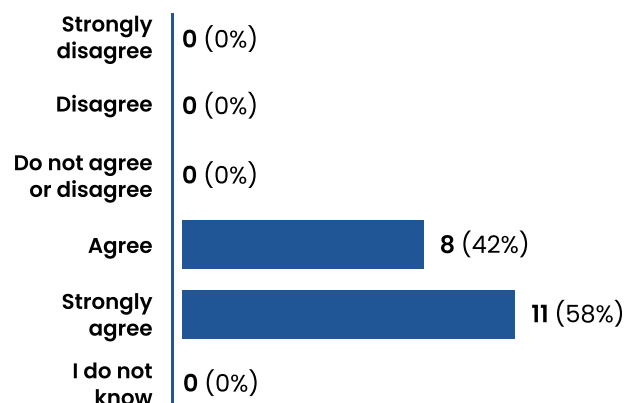
I felt comfortable to express my views

Total:19



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project

Total:19



Eastern and

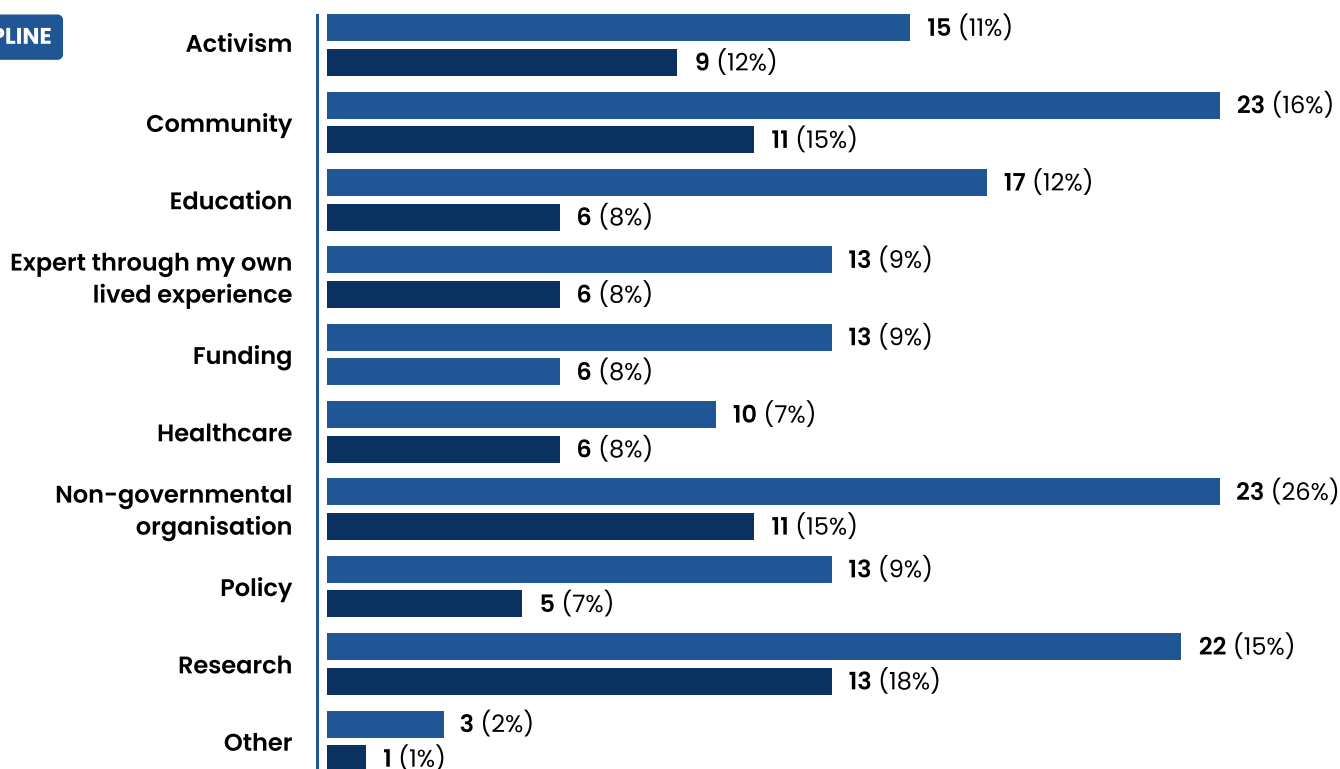
South-Eastern Asia

39 participants for Dialogue 1 (data available from 37)

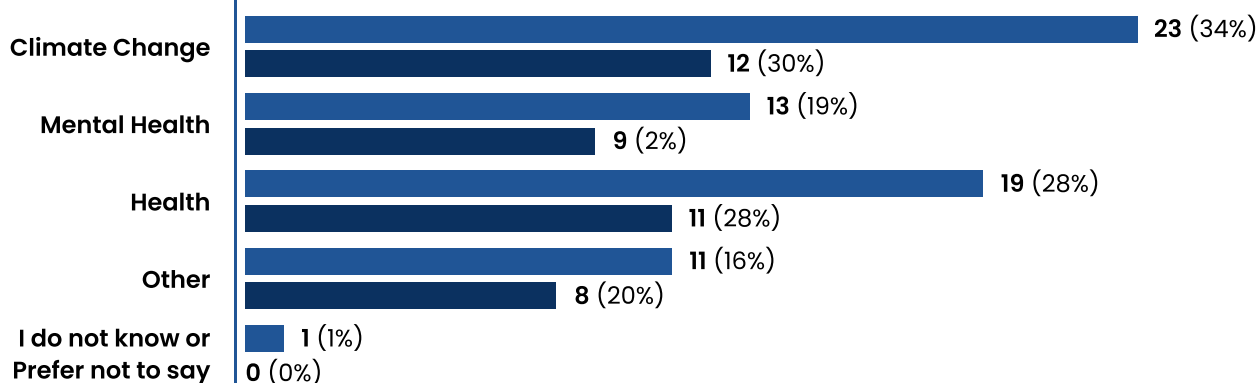
32 participants for Dialogue 2 (data available from 22)



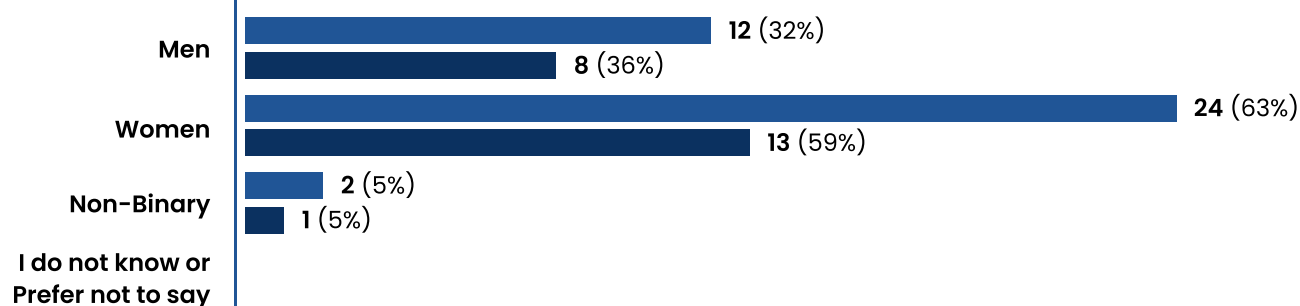
DISCIPLINE



EXPERTISE



GENDER



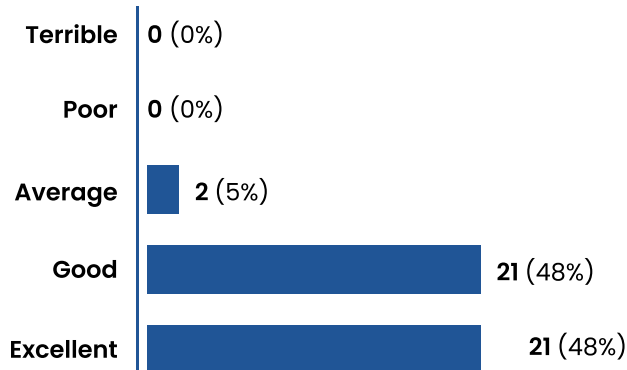
GEOGRAPHY



	Dialogue 1	Dialogue 2
Australia	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Brunei Darussaleem	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Cambodia	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Hong Kong	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Indonesia	6 (16%)	3 (14%)
Japan	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Malaysia	1 (3%)	3 (14%)
Mongolia	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Myanmar	1 (3%)	1 (4%)
New Zealand	1 (3%)	5 (19%)
Philippines	9 (24%)	6 (27%)
Singapore	2 (5%)	2 (9%)
Sweden	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Taiwan	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Thailand	1 (3%)	0 (0%)
Timor-Leste	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1 (3%)	1 (5%)
Viet Nam	2 (5%)	0 (0%)

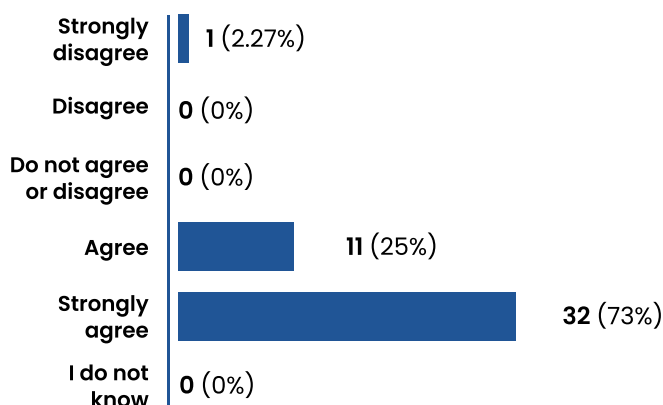
DIALOGUES FEEDBACK

How would you rate this dialogue? **Total:44**

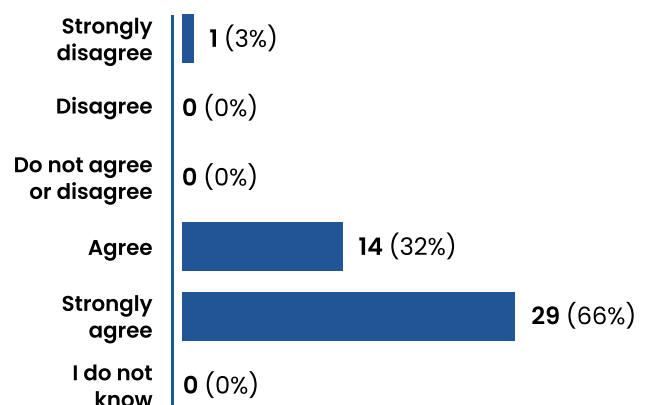


“As an Indigenous youth, Connecting Climate Minds has been a long-awaited avenue for us to formally explore and legitimise the mental health impacts of climate change experienced by many vulnerable communities on the frontlines...It is inspiring to witness the collective effort towards mainstreaming this crucial issue, reinforcing the importance of addressing the intersection of climate change and mental health.”

I felt comfortable to express my views **Total:44**



I am confident that I will be included and listened to in future aspects of this project **Total:44**



Emerging insights from the Regional Communities of Practice

CCM has built a diverse, engaged global community committed to understanding and addressing the effects of climate change on mental health. While the production of regional research and action agendas was a key first step for this community, our work is just beginning and the ripple effects from the project continue to emerge.

CCM's work has been discussed or presented during at least 28 conferences, ranging from global events like COP28 in Dubai, UAE, to regional events such as the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, to the Creating Futures Conference (held online). Regional Community Convenors (RCCs) have also been active in promoting CCM's work via newsletters and social media, with three RCCs forming regional CCM accounts on X.

RCCs have also highlighted how their involvement in CCM has led to opportunities for new and additional research collaborations and meetings with key policymakers. The MENA RCC, for instance, presented their CCM work in a number of meetings with key officials from the Ministry of Health in Jordan; this work will help inform the Ministry's national climate adaptation plan. The SSA RCC, via an introduction from one of the CCM facilitators, established a partnership with the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies to provide capacity building training on climate change and mental health. Even when discussions haven't led to concrete next steps, CCM activity and outputs have provided contributors with a platform to start conversations on this important topic and lay groundwork for future action.

In addition to direct research and policy impacts, several contributors mentioned the positive impacts of being involved as individuals – both personally and professionally. Several RCC teams mentioned expanding their professional networks and having the opportunity to engage with a diverse group of experts. Others mentioned building not only professional connections, but deeper bonds of friendship and a true feeling of community.

The CCM global online hub – which we hope will serve as the global 'go-to' space for climate and mental health resources – showcases the diverse outputs that are the collective efforts of the growing RCoPs. Following the global event for CCM in March, we are excited to see the continued impact of the project and the hard work of the RCoPs. There is a strong appetite from both the core RCCs and the wider research communities to further engage with one another and take this important work forward. With continued commitment and investment, CCM is poised to lead the way to a future that safeguards the mental health of all in a changing climate.

“Even if our interactions are mostly virtual, I feel connected across so many people from around the world...This project is very welcoming and it felt like a very safe and open space to bring up issues and also to celebrate successes. ”

– ESEA RCC (Gail S Co)

“I think that was really, really great to see that [this dialogue] wasn't just an outcry going into the void...Everyone involved has been working on the impact that our changing planet has on our physical and our mental health. It has been really, really incredible to see. ”

– EUNA RCC (Tulsi Modi)

“ [Our involvement in CCM] increases our visibility at national and regional levels and even global levels...Now we're seen as a pioneer in this new space and it's surely connected us with more organisations, not only within the region but across the world. So I think the summary that you're hearing is [the project] has benefitted us from the individual level all the way to the more institutional level and everything in between. ”

– ESEA RCC (Renzo Guinto)

“ “I don't know what to call it, but due to this project, we now have a really big database of stakeholders who we have actually engaged with, be it in person or online...We actually took time to have conversations or meetings with them, learning about what they do, telling them what we do, the purpose of [CCM]. So this really helped build meaningful relationships, I would say. ”

– CSA RCC (Wafa Alam)

“ This whole project has been centred on connecting with other people, right? It has been a really beneficial experience for me... professionally and personally. ”

– Oceania RCC (Dr Suhailah Ali)

“ “Being able to gather all these people together to understand that it's not a solution from one sector, it's all sectors that should collaborate and work together. [CCM] has led to amazing outcomes and very fruitful discussions... Being able to connect to all these people... now we are friends and are talking about potential collaboration outside this project. ”

– NAWA/MENA RCC (Mo'nes Qudah)

“ CCM has extended our experience of daily living to the world. The project has brought different experts in diverse fields together to share knowledge about climate change and mental health impact. ”

– SSA RCC (Kenneth Yongabi Anchang)

“ “[CCM] showed us as a region why we are more similar than different and how two major problems affect us all. The most important outcome, however, has been the wide range of innovative solutions from the ground up...This says to us, 'all is not lost, there is hope and ingenuity...to solve our big complex problem.' We just need to give them a voice...as this project did. ”

– LAC RCC (Sandeep Maharaj)