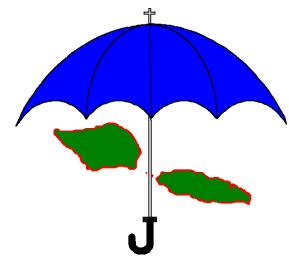

Key CSO priorities and barriers preventing greater engagement with government processes

A SUNGO Research Project



EUROPEAN UNION



Background

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-governmental Organisations (SUNGO) is a national-level umbrella body for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Samoa. SUNGO is a membership-based organisation although its services are often available to organisations beyond its membership. At the beginning of the survey, its membership included 210 members across the above categories.

Civil society organisations in Samoa include non-government organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs) and registered trusts which generally operate in similar ways to NGOs.

Within Samoa, NGOs usually operate at the national or international level, focussing on key issues linked to their mission such as environmental or health issues. Almost all are based in the capital Apia or its surrounding areas and usually governed by a Board and employing staff or using volunteers. Community-based organisations operate at village level, and include village committees, village women's committees, youth committees and also faith-based organisations (FBOs) centred around churches and other faith-based institutions.

SUNGO's overall objectives as set out in its strategic plan are to deliver capacity building, research, information sharing, advocacy and support for civil society in Samoa. SUNGO achieves these objectives by providing training courses and mentoring support, sharing relevant information with its membership, advocating and networking on the behalf of CSOs in Samoa both nationally and internationally, and through conducting research on issues of importance to the civil society sector in Samoa.

This research project is part of a larger project funded by the EU 11th European Development Fund (EU EDF) with the aim to strengthen the capacity of CSOs to be able to conduct research-based advocacy and engage with national policy and oversight mechanisms.

Within the EU EDF project was a specific objective to strengthen SUNGO's capacity to conduct research and to research the key priorities and constraints of CSOs so that this knowledge could then be used to inform better evidence-based advocacy for the needs of CSOs.

Until the advent of the EU EDF grant and the funding available, SUNGO had not been able to successfully set up a research unit, develop its research capacity or conduct any research. The funds from the EU EDF have allowed SUNGO to hire a research officer and programme assistant, undertake their training and hence strengthen SUNGO's capacity in research and data analysis.

In 2020, the research team (comprising of SUNGO's Capacity Building Coordinator, Research Officer and Programme Assistant) and SUNGO's Communications Officer were

provided training in research design and planning, data collection, analysis and interpretation by its technical advisors Talweez Senghera, and John and Mary Cretney, with support from Scott Sheridan. The team was encouraged to use the training to design and implement this research project with support, mentoring and advice from Talweez Senghera and Scott Sheridan.

Acknowledgements

This survey was conducted as part of a project funded by the European Union 11th European Development Fund (EDF). The grant allowed SUNGO to provide a range of capacity building trainings for its membership, as well as undertake and improve its own capacity in research. This research project would not have been possible without the EU EDF and for that SUNGO is grateful.

Gratitude also goes to all the 104 organisations involved for their participation, openness and willingness to speak honestly with SUNGO about their experiences, challenges and successes. This involved coordination and a lot of people and organisations setting aside valuable time to speak with our research team. In many cases, entire organisation memberships took time out of their day to participate in group interviews for this survey. Without their support, this project would not have been successful, and SUNGO would not have as much useful information and insight as it was able to collect.

Without the leadership and ownership of Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia, supported by SUNGO's Programme Team Leader Faapito Opeteia, this project would not have been conducted as well as it has been. Implementing the activities and commitments of SUNGO's various projects, particularly through the measles epidemic and COVID-19 pandemics was a challenge and their leadership saw SUNGO through.

Iairo Jnr Wongling Tala, who was first the Programme Assistant on this project, stepped into the role of Research Officer in September 2020. He led the data collection and conduct of the survey. Iairo and Programme Assistant Tiaremoana Moors Saio coordinated and conducted the 104 interviews with the support and assistance of SUNGO's Administration Officer Agnes Aiono and Assistant Administration Officer Sio Joe Leafa.

This was a large project to undertake alongside SUNGO's many other responsibilities, projects, activities and challenges. The effort, dedication and work of SUNGO's staff has meant SUNGO has achieved good results from a survey that will assist it in supporting CSOs better.

This report was written by Talweez Senghera from data and translations provided by SUNGO. The report was compiled with the support of the SUNGO team and the invaluable input, guidance and assistance provided by SUNGO's technical advisors John and Mary Cretney as well as Scott Sheridan.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSSP	Civil Society Support Programme
EDF	European Development Fund
EU	European Union
FBO	Faith-Based Organisation
MESC	Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture
MNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment
MOH	Ministry of Health
MWCSD	Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
SAME	Samoa Association of Manufacturers and Exporters
SUNGO	Samoa Umbrella for Non-government Organisations

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Executive Summary

SUNGO's two-year grant from the EU 11th European Development Fund was designed to strengthen the capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to be able to conduct research-based advocacy and engage with national policy and oversight mechanisms. This included a specific objective to strengthen SUNGO's capacity to conduct research in order to gain a better understanding of CSOs engagement with policy processes in Samoa and how SUNGO could best support CSOs in this space. The overarching questions for SUNGO were:

1. How are CSOs engaging with policy processes?
2. Where have their successes and key challenges been?
3. What assistance do they need to better engage with policy processes in Samoa?

The survey was designed to better understand the policy areas CSOs seek to influence, methods CSOs use to influence policy, types of evidence they use to influence policy, their successes, key challenges, who they are represented by and the assistance they seek.

Several interesting and useful findings resulted from the analysis.

Most CSOs seek to influence between 3 to 6 **areas of policy**, with an average of 4.3 areas. Most CSOs also reported successfully influencing between 3 and 6 areas of policy, with an average of 3.5 successful areas per CSO.

Health and education were in the top 4 most selected areas of policy CSOs seek to influence, regardless of type of CSO. However, there were significant differences between the types of CSOs in other areas. Agriculture was selected by a noticeably larger number of CBOs and FBOs than NGOs or trusts. Women's issues and disability were a much higher priority for NGOs and trusts as a group than FBOs or CBOs.

CSOs seeking to influence agriculture, children's welfare and the people with a disability policy areas reported the highest success rates with 85% - 86% of organisations who sought to influence policy in these areas reporting that they had been successful.

The responses for the extent to which CSOs used a range of **methods to influence policy**, were stark. For each of ten methods provided, the vast majority of CSOs had not used the methods listed at all. Despite this, only 16 organisations reported they did not use any of the methods. While few CSOs used each individual method, the majority of CSOs had used at least one of the listed methods to some extent.

NGOs reported much higher usage of the listed methods than CBOs or FBOs. Well-represented methods among NGOs were providing services and networking. Among CBOs and FBOs, the most well represented methods of influence were charity, lobbying and face to face engagement.

From a separate list of five methods involving direct policy engagement, the **method most selected for its efficacy** in influencing policy was consultations with SUNGO. Consultations with government and consultations with stakeholders were also selected by a large group of CSOs. These three methods were the most selected regardless of the type of organisation. Among these, NGOs rated consultations with government as the most effective while for FBOs and CBOs it was consultations with SUNGO.

When asked about the **efficacy of different types of evidence**, the majority of CSOs reported personal testimonies, academic research, surveys, statistics and case studies to be ineffective. Almost all CBOs and FBOs found the methods of evidence to be ineffective. At least 62% of NGOs however reported each method to be effective to some extent. The types of evidence NGOs reported as being effective to a significant extent were personal testimonies and statistics.

The top three **challenges** for CSOs as a whole were a lack of funds, a lack of knowledge about policy processes and that policymakers do not value CSO's evidence. More NGOs however nominated a lack of staff time and policy processes not being open to CSO engagement than policymakers not valuing their evidence.

The single main challenge reported by CSOs was a lack of resources (time, money, staff) regardless of type of organisation. This was the main challenge for 70% of NGOs and trusts and 61% of FBOs. While also most CBOs' main challenge, it was selected by a noticeably smaller 49%.

When it came to **representation**, the majority of CSOs were represented by their own organisational representatives, village mayor and/or village women's representatives in policy discussions. Most CBOs and FBOs wanted SUNGO and their organisational representative to represent them in policy making. However the majority of NGOs preferred to represent themselves.

CSOs nominated networking as overwhelmingly the most **preferred way for SUNGO to assist** them in influencing policy. Among NGOs and trusts however, there was an equal amount of support for capacity building.

The majority of CSOs felt the **most important action** SUNGO and the government can take is to increase opportunities for dialogue between CSOs and policymakers.

The results show that while there are key areas of commonality in the experiences and aspirations of CSOs in engaging with policy, there are considerable areas of difference. These are particularly pronounced when comparing NGOs and trusts to CBOs and/or FBOs.

The results and analysis provide useful information for SUNGO on how best to support the different CSO types in policy engagement where their interests converge as well as diverge. The report and its findings should also be useful for other stakeholders in fostering and supporting a robust and engaged civil society sector.

Introduction

Purpose

SUNGO's key objective as part of its two-year grant from the EU 11th European Development Fund (EDF) was to strengthen the capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to be able to conduct research-based advocacy and engage with national policy and oversight mechanisms. The project had five specific objectives:

1. Strengthening and building the capacity of civil Society Organisations in the broad areas of organisation and project management to improve CSO strength and sustainability.
2. Strengthening and building the capacity of SUNGO and civil society organisations in research, investigation, and data collection to promote evidence-based advocacy and improve accountability of public functions.
3. Strengthening of SUNGO to conduct research on key priorities and constraints of CSOs to inform better evidence-based advocacy.
4. Facilitating knowledge sharing in the areas of research and engagement with national policy processes to strengthen the understanding, capacity and impact of the civil society sector.
5. Evaluating the efficacy of SUNGO's capacity building and institutional strengthening activities through an independent impact study (tracer study) to lead to future improvements.

As part of specific objective 3, SUNGO was interested in better understanding CSOs engagement with policy processes and how it could best support CSOs in this area. The broad questions for SUNGO were:

1. How are CSOs engaging with policy processes?
2. Where have their successes and key challenges been?
3. What assistance do they need to better engage with policy processes in Samoa?

Methodology

Instrument and Design

The primary instrument for this project was a survey designed by the SUNGO research team. The team used a survey conducted by the Overseas Development Institute's (ODI) Research and Policy Development (RAPID) programme titled: "CSOs, Policy Influence and Evidence Use: A Short Survey" February 2006¹ as a base and this was then adapted to

¹ Available online at <https://cdn.odi.org/media/documents/202.pdf>

SUNGO's objectives for this survey and the local context of Samoa. Specifically, the survey was designed to better understand:

1. The policy areas CSOs want to influence, and the areas in which CSOs feel they have been successful.
2. The methods CSOs employ in attempting to influence policy and the level of success they felt they had with these methods.
3. The types of evidence CSOs have used in attempting to influence policy and how successful they felt these have been.
4. The key barriers CSOs feel they face in being able to influence policy, and the single biggest challenge they face.
5. Who serves as a civil society representative in policy processes, sharing their concerns and points of view and who do CSOs want to represent them and their concerns?
6. The assistance CSOs desire from SUNGO and the government in supporting them to better engage with policy processes and evidence-based advocacy.

As part of the capacity building element of Specific Objective 3, the team was provided with training in planning and designing research projects and surveys. The SUNGO Research Team was then encouraged to draft the survey based on their desired objectives with minimal input from technical advisors. Once the survey had been drafted, the team was supported on the structuring and finalisation of questions by SUNGO's Technical Advisors in Australia and New Zealand as well as the Chief Executive Officer and Programme Team Leader of SUNGO.

The final survey was then translated into Samoan by two separate staff members, and reviewed by the CEO before the survey was piloted in both languages to ensure comparability of meaning.

Subjects

The aim for SUNGO was to attempt to survey as many of its members as possible by mid-2022. SUNGO's membership at the start of the survey was 210 members, and the research team used this list as a base for organising interviews with member organisations. SUNGO also wished to include non-member organisations as part of the survey and aimed for 10% of the respondents to be non-members.

Due to a COVID-19 outbreak in March 2022, SUNGO decided to halt further data collection. By this point, a total of 104 organisations had been surveyed of which 9 were non-members. While SUNGO would have liked to survey more CSOs, 104 organisations is a sizeable sample. The 95 members surveyed represent 45% of SUNGO's membership, and 8% of the 104 organisations surveyed were non-members.

Interviews were also organised to try to survey a relatively even mix of the various organisation types: non-government organisations (and registered trusts), community-

based organisations and faith-based organisations. By March 2022, SUNGO had surveyed 34 NGOs and registered trusts (32.7%), 39 CBOs (37.5%) and 31 FBOs (29.8%).

Data Collection

The methodology for the collection of data involved the following parameters:

Interviewees:

For non-government organisations and registered trusts, interviews were conducted with one or two key individuals with knowledge of the organisation’s functions and activities.

In the case of community-based organisations and faith-based organisations SUNGO initially attempted to speak with only the key leaders. However, it became evident that due to the less rigid structure of some CBOs and FBOs, speaking with only one or two people did not adequately represent the organisation’s activities or perspectives. When concerns were raised by an organisation’s members that the person SUNGO sought to speak to had not been involved in recent activities undertaken by the organisation, the Research Team decided to conduct group interviews to which the organisations’ entire memberships were invited. This allowed for knowledge and sharing from across organisations’ memberships including *Matai* (titled men and women), *Taulele'a* (young men), *Tama'ita'i* (women), and *Talavou* (youth). This approach ensured that organisations were able to provide SUNGO with a more holistic picture of their work and priorities.

Interviewers: SUNGO's Executive Council members and research team:

Role	Name
National Secretary	Mr. Faleafaga Leilua Toni Selepa Tipama’a
Executive Council	Mr. Figota Manuele
Executive Council	Mrs. Caroline Maria Kovati
Programme Team Leader	Ms. Faapito Opetaiia
Research Officer	Mr. Iairo Jnr WongLing Tala
Programme Assistant	Ms. Tiaremoana Moors Saio
Administration Officer	Mrs. Agnes Aiono
Assistant Administration Officer	Mr. Sio Joe Leafa

Methods of collection: Surveys were administered face to face in either English or Samoan. These were conducted with interviewees at their organisations, the SUNGO office, or an agreed alternative venue. Due to COVID-19, some surveys were conducted partly or wholly via Zoom to allow input from Executive Members of NGOs who were overseas and unable to return to Samoa due to COVID-19. In all instances, surveys were conducted by two staff members. One staff member undertook the primary responsibility for the conduct of interviews while the other staff member was responsible for inputting data into the KoBoToolbox system.

The Research Officer was present at all interviews and often took the role of lead interviewer.

The staff were supported by a member of the executive of SUNGO wherever possible. The presence of the executive member facilitated formal introductions and allowed key leaders to interact with an appropriate authority figure within SUNGO during interviews.

Prior to conducting the survey, SUNGO's Research, Programme, and Administration Teams were provided training and information on interviewing etiquette and how to collect and enter data using the KoBoToolbox platform.

Platform for the survey: The questionnaire was constructed using KoBoToolbox, an open-source survey design tool created by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI). The following factors influenced the selection of this tool:

- It is a free resource that is easy to use.
- SUNGO staff were familiar with it, having previously been trained in the use of KoBoToolbox for SUNGO monitoring and evaluation work.
- This survey provided new SUNGO staff the opportunity to undergo training and capacity development in the use of the KoBoToolbox platform.
- The tool is a reliable and consistent tool for low-resource situations, allowing drafts to be saved and surveys to be collected without the need for an ongoing internet connection. Surveys can be uploaded at a later time when data collectors can access the internet.
- It is a well-respected survey tool within the sector.
- The flexibility to submit surveys instantly through the platform enabled the Research Team to examine the surveys in a timely manner. It also allowed for real-time input from SUNGO's technical advisors at the planning stages.

Data Analysis

Data analysis was carried out using KoboToolbox's integrated data analysis, Microsoft Excel and Tableau Desktop.

Risks and Weaknesses

While SUNGO made concerted efforts to ensure that the survey and data collection were as sound as possible, the survey has limitations that reflect decisions made due to the purpose of this survey, time, and budgetary constraints as well as difficulties arising out of COVID-19. Key limitations are listed below to allow the reader to understand the results with a clearer picture of the strengths and limitations of the methodology used.

Sample: SUNGO used its membership list of 210 members (as at the time of the start of the survey) as the primary list of organisations it hoped to interview. SUNGO aims to interview and survey as many of its members as it can in any given survey or assessment. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Samoa in March 2022, SUNGO curtailed its survey work. By that stage, SUNGO had been able to interview 45% of its membership, a lower percentage than SUNGO had hoped to achieve.

Given the time-consuming nature of group interviews, the unexpected challenges faced since 2019 and considering that there are members on SUNGO's list that are inactive at any given time, the results are commendable. SUNGO's membership represents a large number of CSOs in Samoa and while lower than SUNGO hoped, the significant number surveyed provide relevant and valid insights for SUNGO and interested stakeholders.

Self-reporting: Organisations were interviewed on their experiences in policy engagement. This methodology relies on organisations' own perceptions of their activities and is therefore inherently subjective. For the purposes of this survey, how organisations see their successes, challenges, and the efficacy of the methods they use provides SUNGO and other stakeholders with valuable information from CSOs themselves. It is however important to bear in mind the subjective nature of the responses when considering report.

Single or two-person interviews: Where only one or two individuals were present, there may have been omissions, and it is possible that different information would have been provided by others within the organisation. This is despite SUNGO's best efforts to speak with people with in-depth knowledge of the organisations they represent. The risks of this approach were minimised as it was mainly used for non-government organisations with good and clear leadership structures.

Group Interviews: While group interviews allow for broader input than just one or two members, this approach is not without its limitations. A key limitation of group interviews is that some participants' voices may not be heard. Despite SUNGO's best efforts, it is possible that some within the groups interviewed may not have felt comfortable to speak or provide input.

The limitations of both single or two-person interviews and group interviews could have been overcome with separate surveys for all individuals within an organisation's

membership combined with sub-group interviews and aggregating the results (an approach SUNGO uses as part of its organisational capacity assessments). However, such a comprehensive process would have required considerably more time and resources than SUNGO had available to it.

SUNGO as interviewer: To better understand how SUNGO's membership would like SUNGO to assist them, five questions were included that feature SUNGO either as an option (3 questions) or as part of the question (2 questions). This poses the weakness that where an interviewer is part of the survey, interviewees may feel compelled to answer more positively or include SUNGO as an option where they would not otherwise have done so. While these questions are useful to SUNGO in better understanding its membership, the two questions asking what SUNGO can do for organisations present more reliable information for SUNGO and other stakeholders.

Language: Surveys were conducted in both English and Samoan, and while care was taken in ensuring the surveys were accurate translations of each other and had the same meaning, there is a risk that some translation errors occurred. SUNGO trusts its rigorous testing minimised this risk.

Results

1: Participant Demographics

1.1 Organisation Type and SUNGO membership

Members of 104 Civil Society Organisations were interviewed including 32 non-government organisations (NGOs), 2 trusts, 39 community-based organisations (CBOs) and 31 faith-based organisations (FBOs).

The majority of interviewed organisations were members of SUNGO at the time of interviews (95 organisations in total), while 9 organisations were not SUNGO members at the time. Of those 9 organisations, 2 were NGOs and 7 were CBOs. All trusts and FBOs interviewed were members of SUNGO.

Organisation Types Interviewed

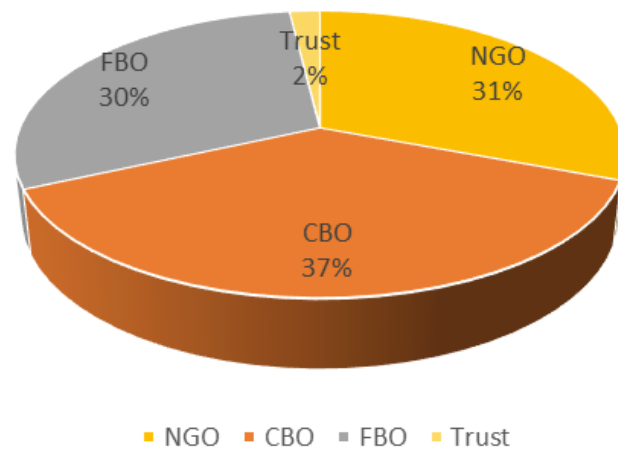


Figure 1: Percentages of each organisation type interviewed

SUNGO made a concerted effort to include a relatively even mix of organisations across the various organisation types: NGOs and trusts, CBOs and FBOs.

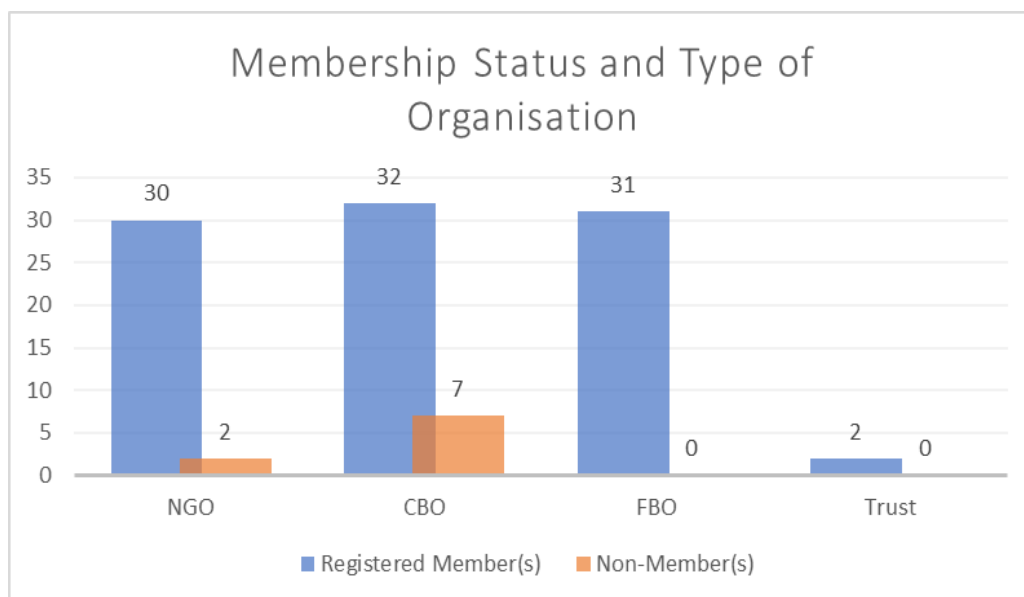


Figure 2: Membership status of organisations interviewed by type of organisation

A note on trusts: In the analysis of the results and throughout the rest of this report, NGOs and trusts have been analysed

as one collective grouping for the reason that the two trusts included (and indeed most registered trusts that are part of SUNGO’s membership) operate very similarly to NGOs.

While their legal structure is different, they tend to focus on national issues rather than community issues and operate at a national level providing services or advocacy for a specific subset of society or a specific subset of issues. They are more likely to operate out of Apia, have regular staff or volunteers and have a body (e.g., Board) overseeing their management. Like NGOs, charitable trusts are required to be registered and have stringent reporting requirements.

1.2 Position of Interviewees or Representatives

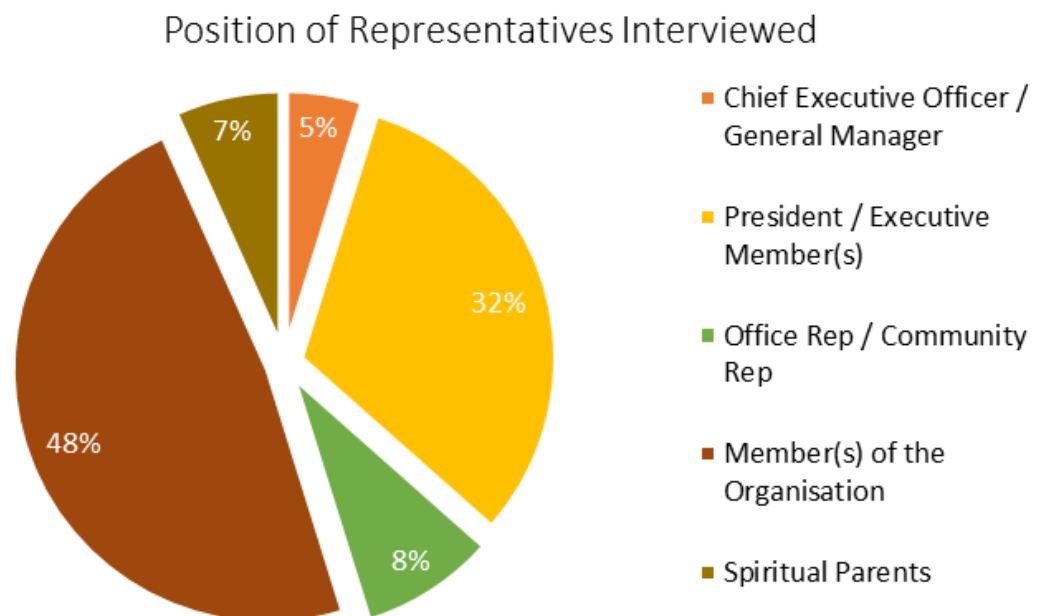


Figure 3: Position of representative interviewed

In the early stages of the project, SUNGO primarily interviewed and sought interviews with key individuals with an in-depth knowledge of the organisation they were representing. Due to concerns that it was less feasible that one or two people within CBOs and FBOs possessed the required level of knowledge about their organisations, SUNGO realised it risked missing key perspectives from within community and faith-based organisations. This point is noted in the interviewees section earlier.

To address this concern, SUNGO switched to group interviews for CBOs and FBOs and extended its invitations to as many members of the organisations as possible and as wished to attend. This is reflected above, showing 50 organisations’ interviewees were

members of the organisation as a collective, representing 48% of the total number of organisations interviewed.

Of the remaining 52%, 37% were organisation CEOs, General Managers, Presidents or Executives. A large proportion of organisations represented by these heads of organisations (26 out of the 38 organisations) were NGOs and trusts. The following table shows the spread by organisation type. NGOs and trusts were more likely to be represented by their heads or a representative while most CBOs and FBOs were represented by a group of their members.

Civil Society Representatives	NGOs	CBOs	FBOs	Trusts	Total
Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	4	0	0	1	5
President / Executive Member(s)	20	9	3	1	33
Office Rep / Community Rep	4	3	2	0	9
Member(s) of the Organisation	4	24	22	0	50
Spiritual Parents (Pastors and Church leaders)	0	3	4	0	7
Total	32	39	31	2	104

Figure 4: Table showing positions of representatives interviewed by organisation type

2: Areas of Policy CSOs Seek to Influence and Reported Success in Influencing

Organisations were asked which areas of policy they aim to influence, and which areas of policy they felt they had had success in influencing.

The specific questions asked were:

- *Which of these policy areas does your organisation want to influence?*
- *Which of these policy areas has your organisation been most successful in influencing?*

In each case the options provided were:

- *Agriculture*
- *Urban Poverty*
- *Education*
- *Health,*
- *Environment/ Conservation*
- *Women's Issues/ Gender Inequality*
- *Child Welfare*
- *Labour*
- *Budget Processes*
- *Economic (Domestic Policy)*
- *International Trade and/or Finance*
- *Rule of Law/Justice/ Human Rights*
- *Governance/ Accountability*
- *Transport*
- *People with Disability*
- *Other (please specify)*
- *None*

They were asked to select as many responses as applied to them.

2.1 Number of Areas Organisations Seek to Influence

Given that organisations were able to select as many of the policy areas as they wished to influence, it is interesting to note that the majority of CSOs (77 organisations) want to influence between 3 and 6 areas of policy. Of the 77, 49 organisations selected 3 or 4 areas of policy.

As a group, the average number of policy areas they wish to influence was 4.4, with notable outliers being two organisations who selected 12 areas of policy and one organisation that selected none. Of the 104 organisations participating in this survey, only 4 selected just one policy area.

The chart on the next page shows the number of policy areas organisations seek to influence.

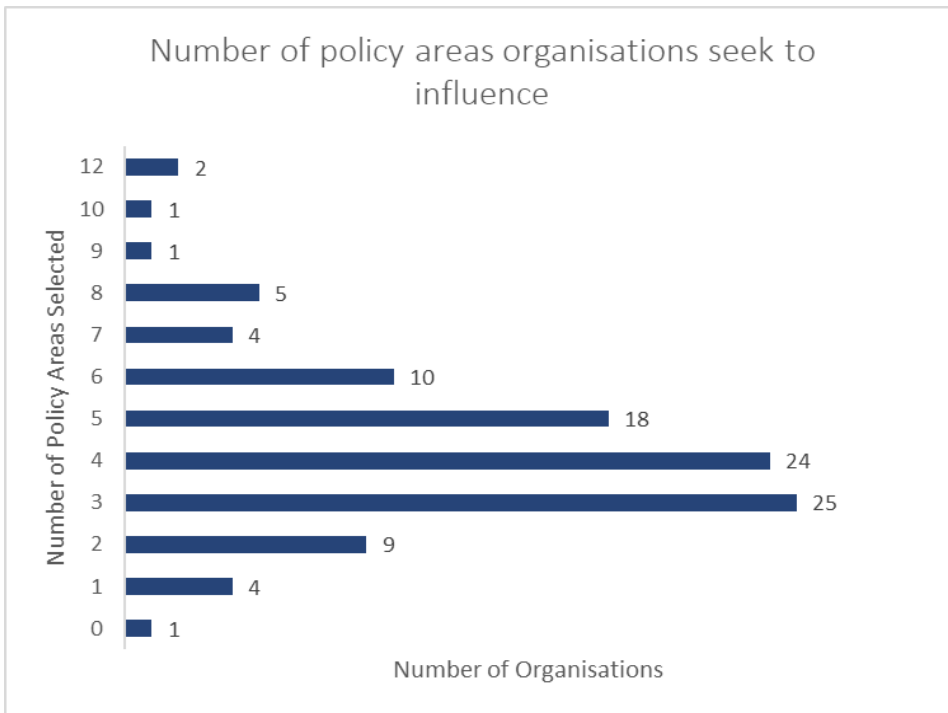


Figure 5: Number of policy areas organisations seek to influence

2.2 Number of Areas Organisations Feel they have Successfully Influenced



Figure 6: Number of policy areas organisations reported successfully influencing

Looking at the spread, 68 organisations felt they had been successful in between 3-6 areas, and of these 41 fell in the 3-4 range. Outliers were the 6 organisations who said they felt they had not been successful in any areas of policy and one organisation each that selected 8, 9 and 10 areas of policy they had been successful in influencing.

On average, CSOs reported they were successful in influencing 3.5 areas.

When disaggregated by organisation type, the number of policy areas NGOs and trusts as a joint group wish to influence was higher (5.4) on average than CBOs (3.8) or FBOs (3.9).

The difference between the types of CSOs was minimal when it came to the average number of policy areas they felt they had successfully influenced. NGOs and Trusts combined reported they had success influencing 3.6 areas, FBOs and CBOs reported success in 3.5 areas.²

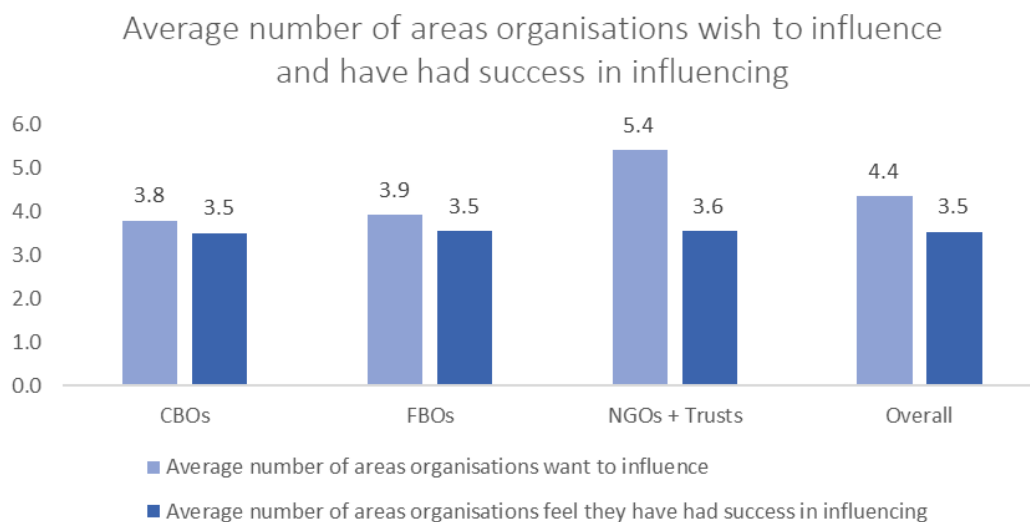


Figure 7: Average number of policy areas organisations seek to influence and were successful in influencing

The survey responses show that most CSOs interviewed were seeking to influence multiple policy areas and reported having success in influencing multiple areas of policy.

² Note that for the above calculations, 'other' was counted as one response. Most CSOs who chose other nominated one 'other' area however some CSOs did nominate more than one 'other' area they seek to influence. As CSOs were not asked how many other areas they were successful in influencing (see section 2.4 below), it was not possible to take into account where CSOs may have nominated more than one 'other' response. For consistency in analysing areas of policy CSOs want to influence and areas of policy CSOs were successful in influencing, 'other' responses were therefore only counted once for each question.

2.3 Areas of Policy CSOs Overall Seek to Influence

When asked about the areas of policy they sought to influence, education, agriculture, child welfare and health were selected by 50 or more separate CSOs.

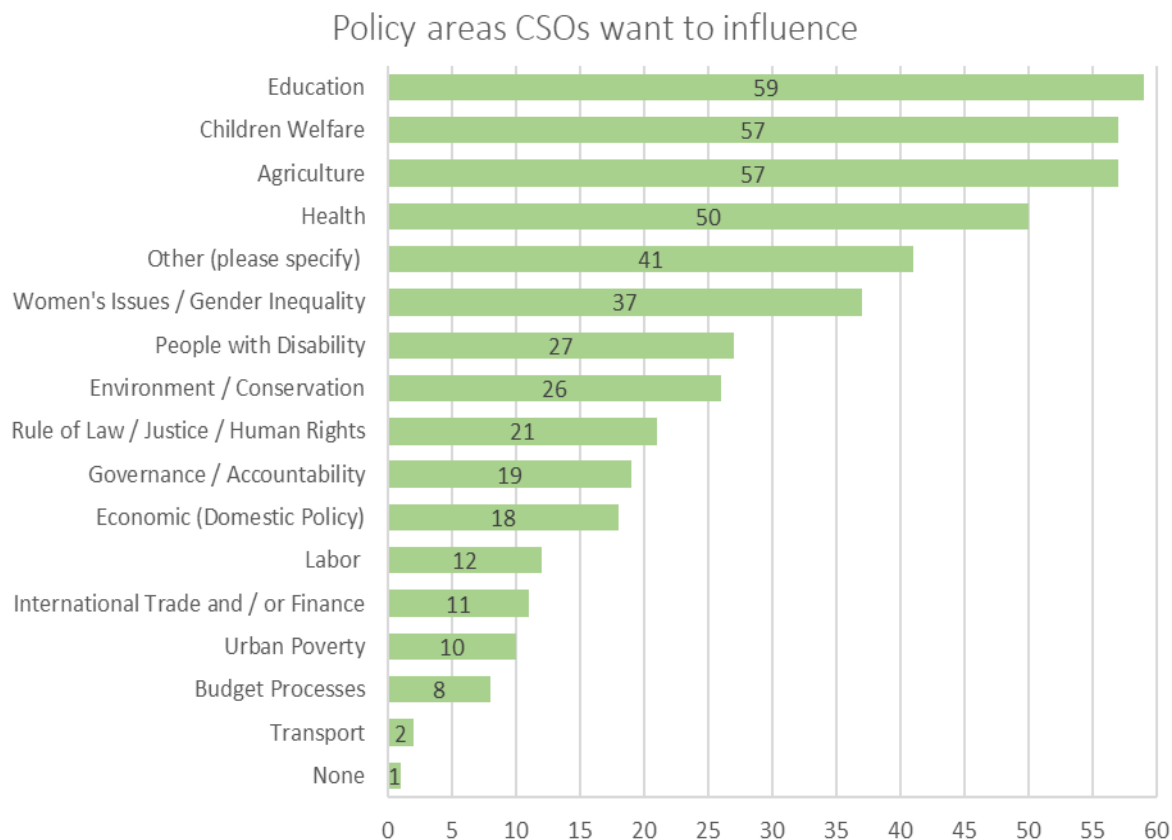


Figure 8: Policy areas CSOs want to influence

At the other end, the policy areas 10 or fewer CSOs wished to influence were transport, budget processes and urban poverty.

Further analysis on the areas the various CSO types seek to influence is provided in section 2.5 below.

2.3.1 'Other' Responses

The 'other' option was selected by 41 organisations – a significant number of the total 104 organisations interviewed. Some of these organisations nominated 2 or 3 areas of policy other than those in the list provided, bringing the total individual count of other responses to 51, i.e. the 41 organisations provided 51 'other' responses. Of these 51 responses, there were a total of 20 distinct areas of policy nominated. These 20 areas of policy are shown in the chart below.

Other policy areas CSOs want to influence

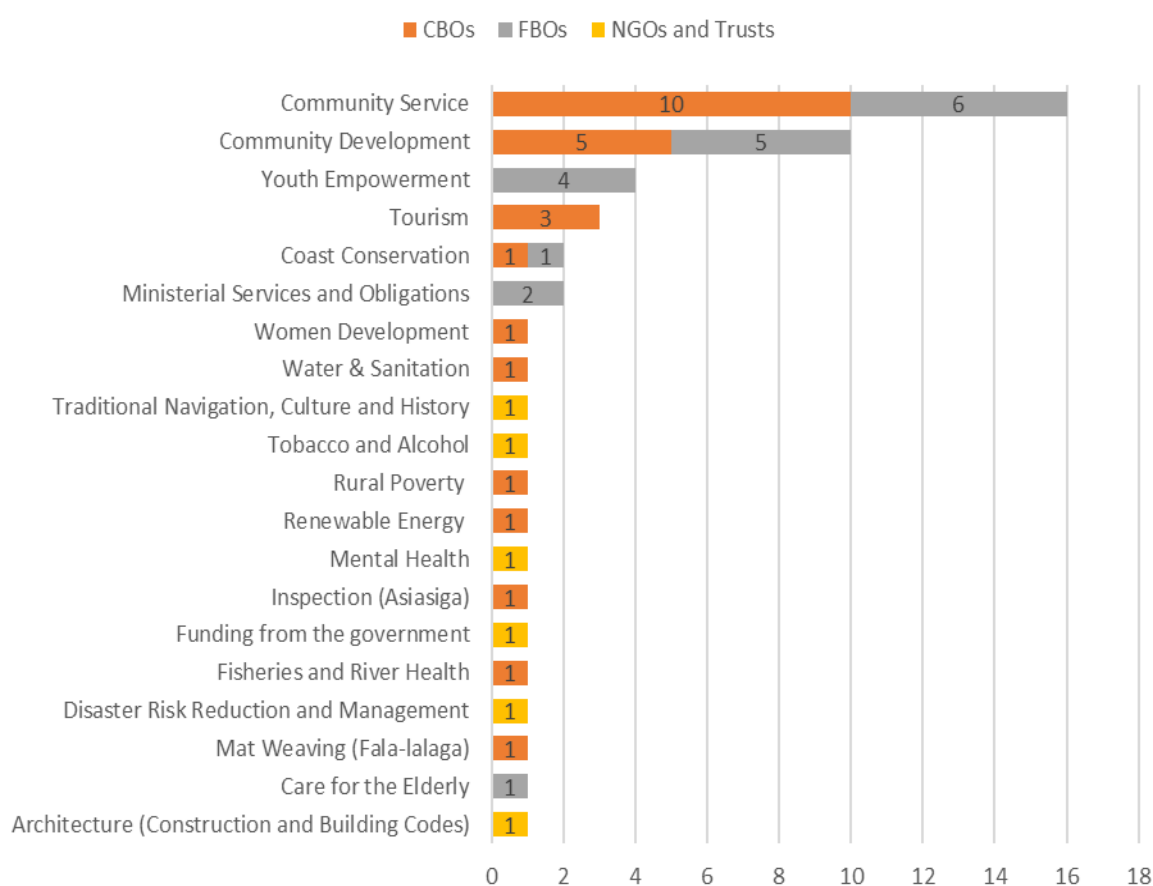


Figure 9: Other areas of policy CSOs want to influence

Most of the 20 separate policy areas were nominated by one or more rarely, two organisations each. There were four areas selected by three or more organisations separately: tourism, youth empowerment, community development and community service. Notable among these were community development, which was nominated by 10 separate organisations, and community service, which was nominated by 16 separate organisations.

The types of organisations nominating each 'other' response provides useful insight into the priorities of the different organisation types. Many FBOs heavily involve young people within their organisations, and in this context all four organisations nominating youth empowerment being FBOs is notable. Community service and community development were both nominated only by CBOs and FBOs, and all three organisations that selected tourism were CBOs.

While there was common interest among CBOs and FBOs, with six policy areas being nominated by more than one CBO or FBO, all 'other' policy areas nominated by NGOs were selected by just one NGO each.

Many of the nominated ‘other’ areas of policy would conceivably be areas of interest for other CSOs who may not have nominated them but may have selected them if they were presented with them. It is important to keep in mind that the selections for other policy areas are based only on those who separately nominated these areas. These options were not presented to the whole cohort. Therefore, this data does not show how much of a priority these ‘other’ areas are for the rest of the CSOs interviewed.

2.4 Areas of Policy CSOs Overall Reported Successfully Influencing

In comparing areas CSOs want to influence with the areas they felt they had been successful in influencing, there are clear parallels. The number of organisations reporting they had been successful in any given area however was fewer than said they wished to influence that area of policy.

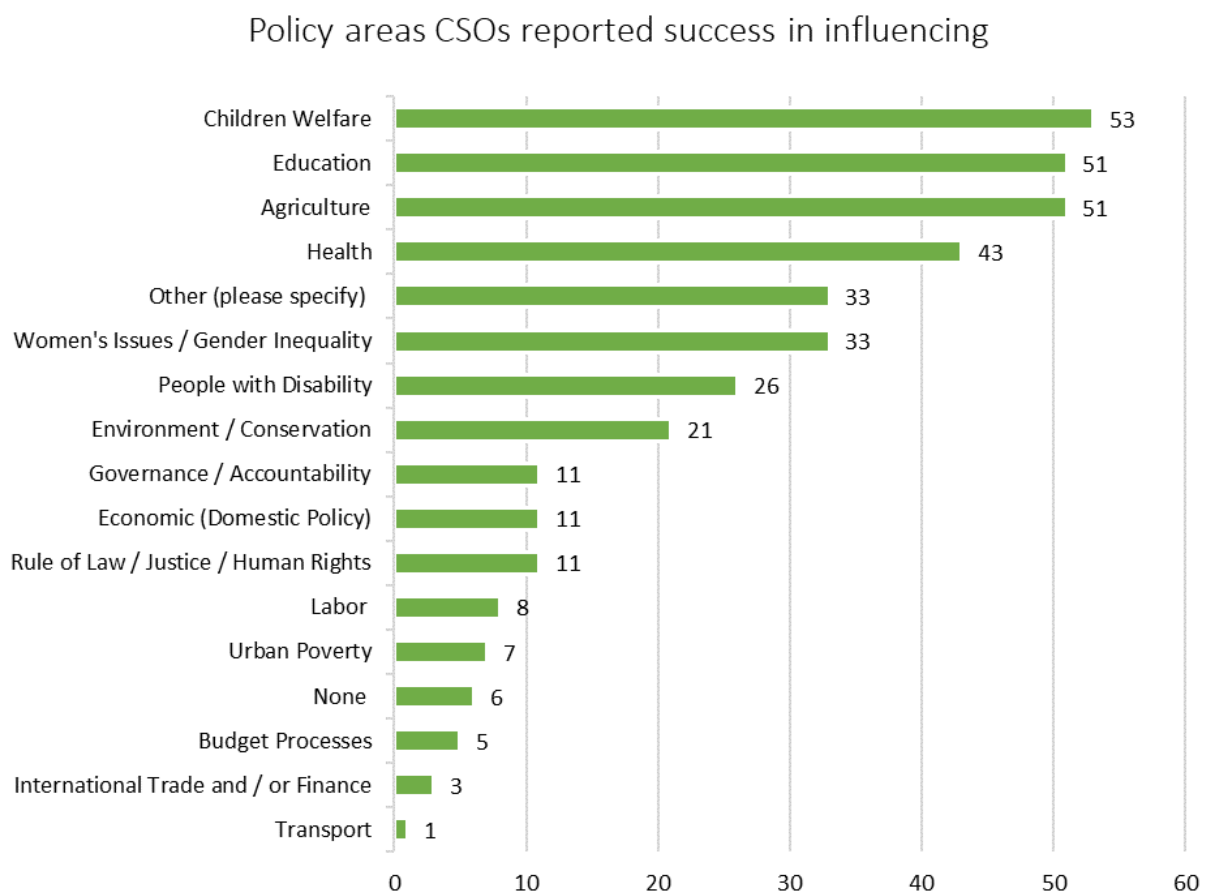


Figure 10: Areas of policy CSOs had been most successful in influencing

Among the organisations interviewed, children’s welfare was the area most selected as an area where CSOs had experienced success in influencing policy. 53 separate organisations reported they had been successful in influencing policy around children’s

welfare. The only other policy areas where over 50 organisations reported success were education and agriculture.

Six organisations said they had not had success in influencing any policy areas, compared to the one organisation that did not wish to influence any areas of policy.

Further analysis on the areas the various types of CSOs were successful in influencing is provided in section 2.6 below.

2.4.1 Lack of follow up question for 'other' responses

One limitation of this data is that those selecting 'other' areas of successful influencing were not then asked what those areas were. This omission arose out of an error made between the final approved and the final rolled-out form. The limitation prevents comparison between the 'other' areas CSOs seek to influence and the 'other' areas they have been successful in influencing. It is also not possible to determine if any of the 'other' responses would have fallen into a pre-existing category.

While a significant limitation, the results obtained from the main question still provide useful insights on CSO priorities.

2.5 Areas of Policy CSOs Seek to Influence by Organisation Type

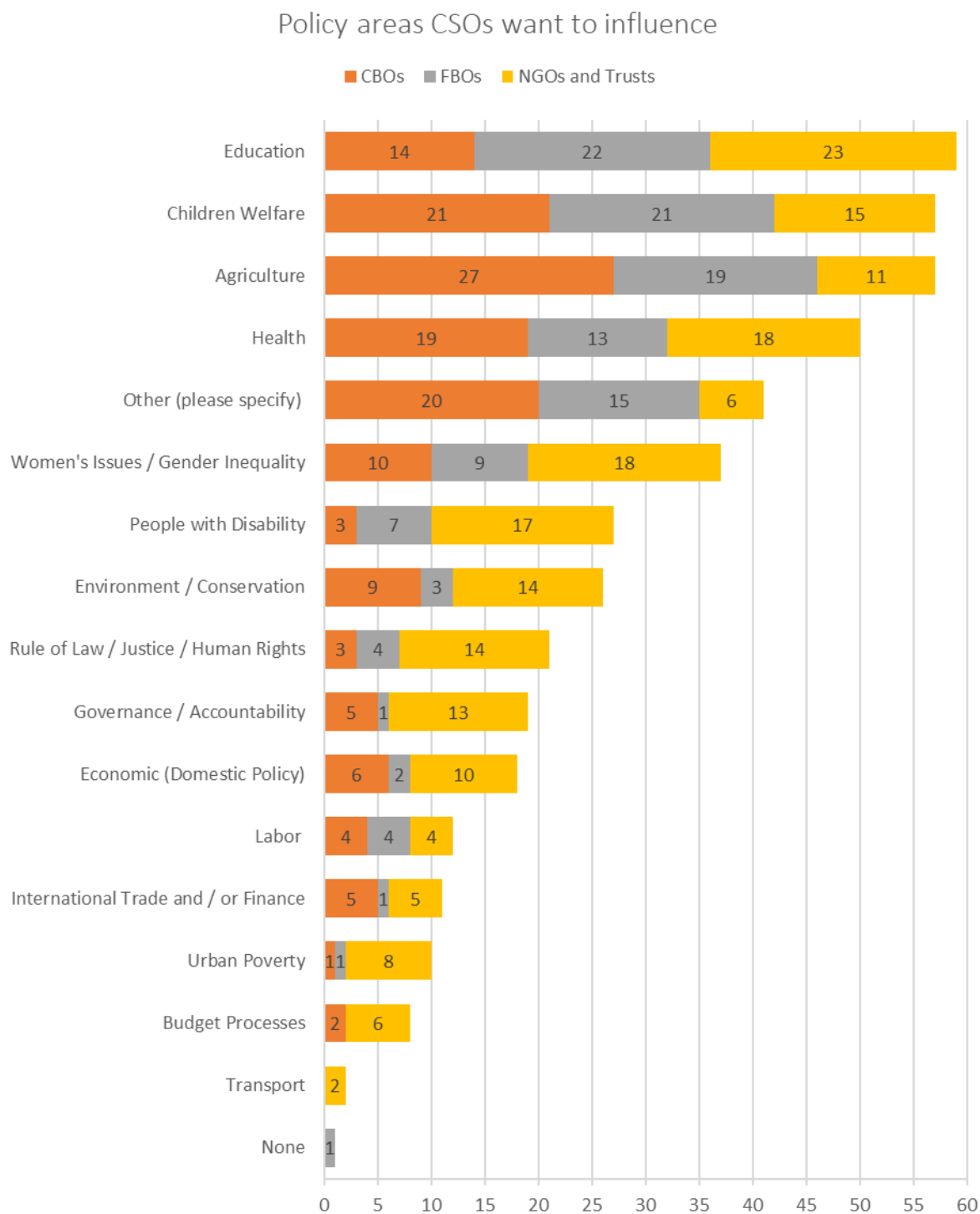


Figure 11: Areas of policy CSOs want to influence by type of organisation

Looking at the organisation types separately, agriculture is an area that more CBOs want to influence than FBOs and much more than NGOs and trusts. 69% of CBOs indicated this was an area they wished to influence, compared to 61% of FBOs and a much smaller 32% of NGOs and trusts.

Other notable findings include that a larger portion of FBOs (71%) and NGOs/trusts (68%) want to influence education than the portion of CBOs who wish to do so (36%). More NGOs and trusts were interested in rule of law, justice and human rights policy areas than CBOs and FBOs put together. This was also the case for governance and accountability, people with a disability, domestic economic policy and budget processes (although the numbers for budget processes were low across the board).

2.6 Areas of Policy CSOs Reported Successfully Influencing by Organisation Type

Policy areas CSOs reported success in influencing

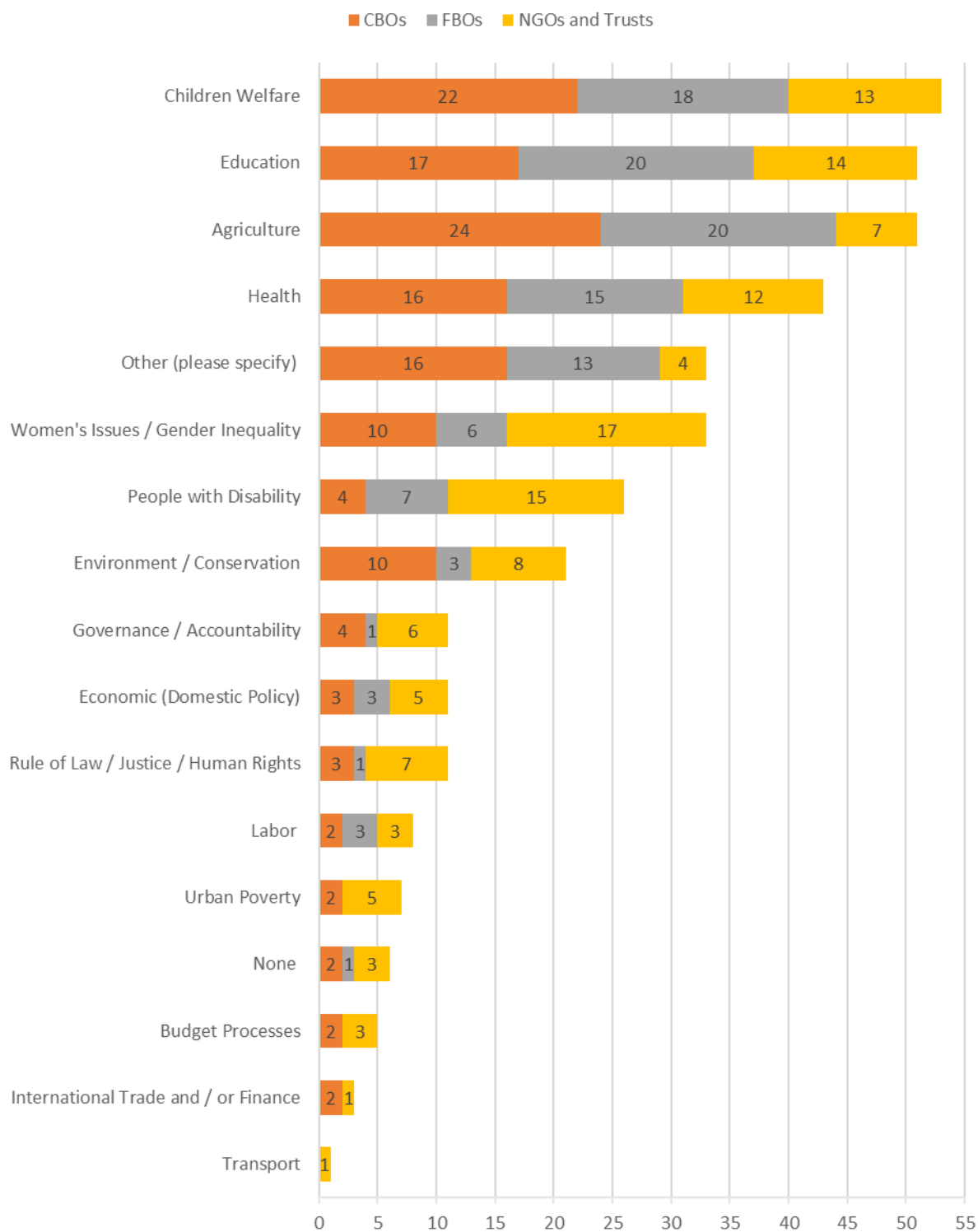


Figure 12: Areas of policy CSOs feel they have been most successful in influencing by type of organisation

Number of CSOs who want to influence an area of policy and were successful in doing so

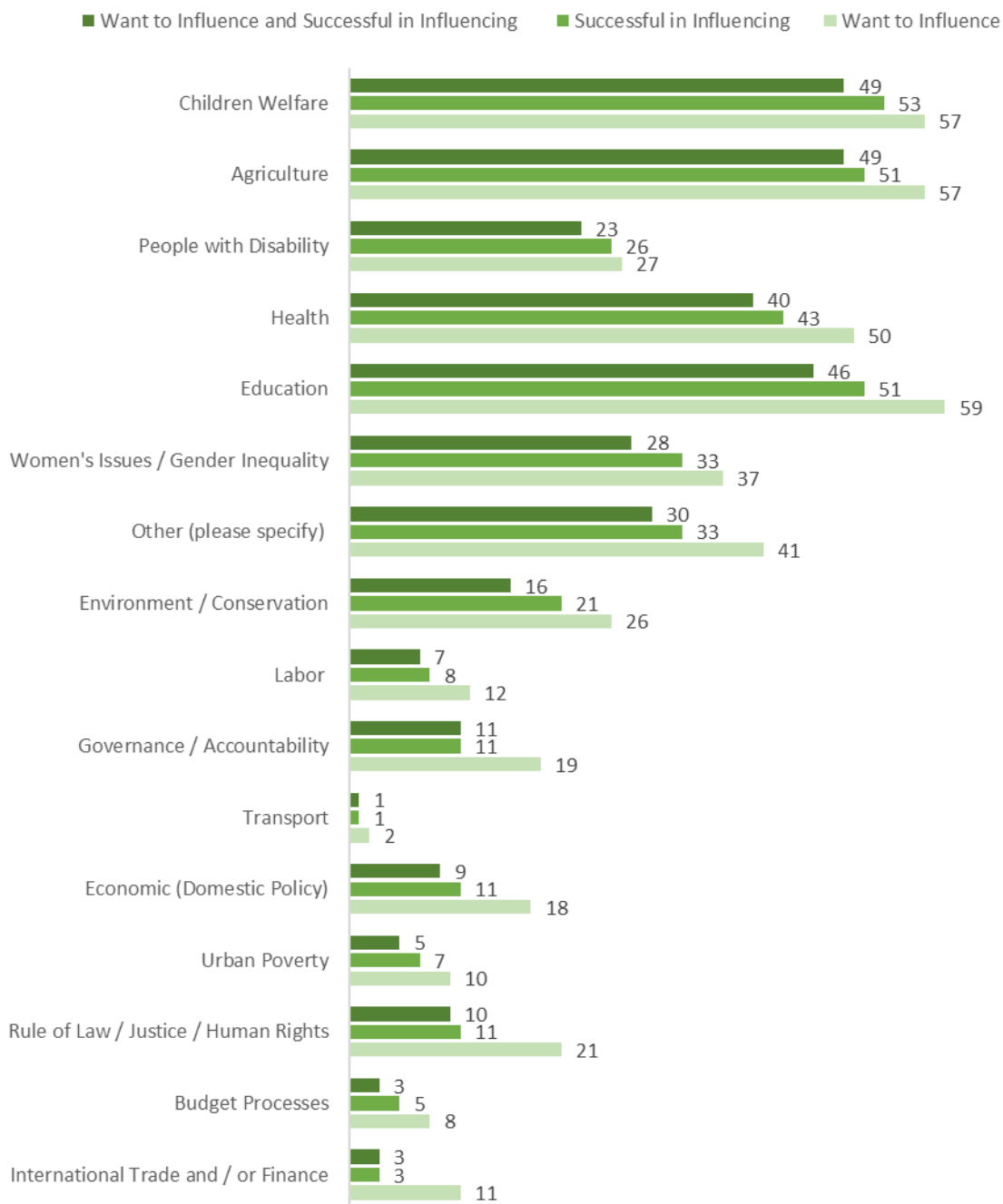


Figure 13: Number of CSOs who want to influence an area of policy and who were successful in doing so

Interestingly, for most policy areas, there were organisations that did not want to influence an area of policy but reported that they had successfully influenced policy in that area. The exceptions to this were international trade, transport and governance and accountability.

Success rate of organisations who want to influence each area of policy

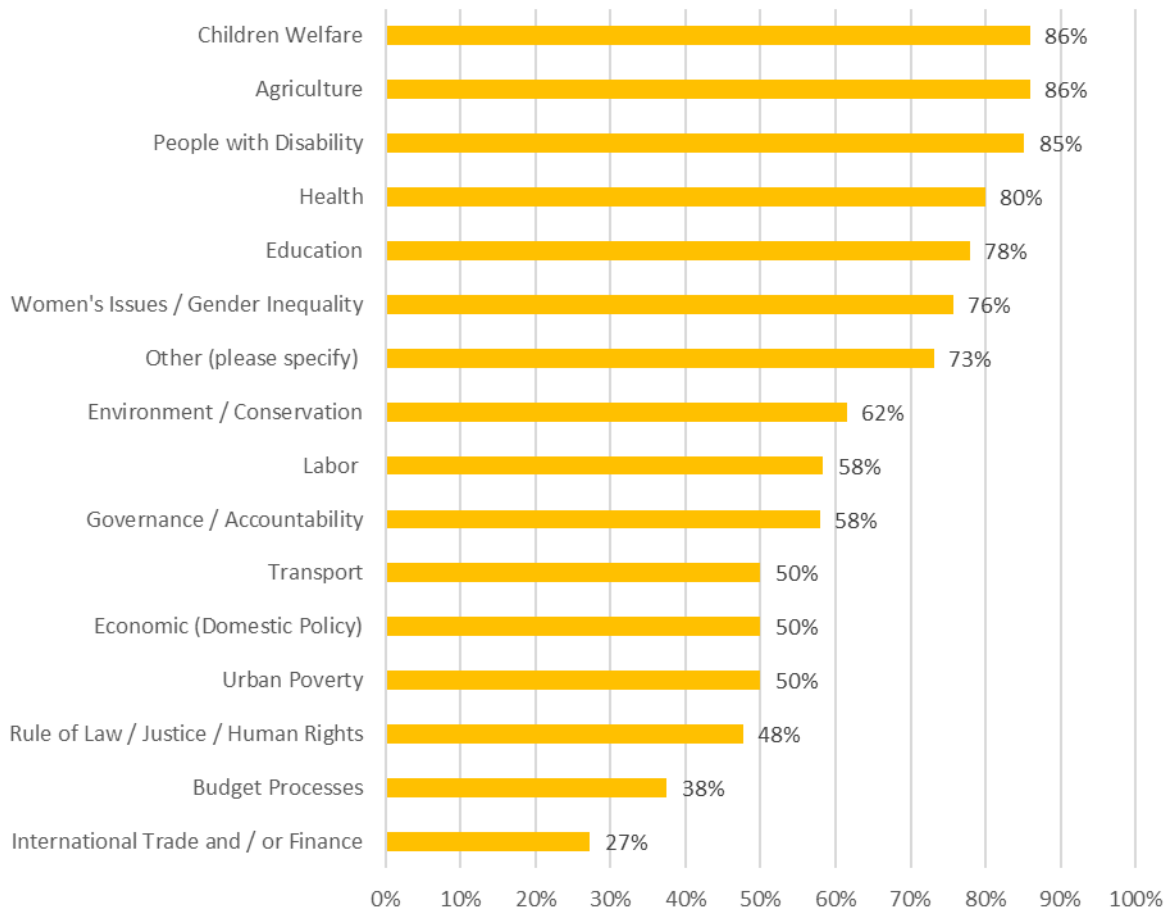


Figure 14: Success rate of organisations who want to influence each area of policy

Education was the area the largest number of CSOs wanted to influence, and 46 (78%) of those organisations reported being successful in doing so. Those wanting to influence agriculture and children’s welfare reported more success. 57 organisations wanted to influence agriculture and children’s welfare and 49 (or 86%) of them were successful.

The success rates of CSOs wanting to influence a given area of policy were highest in the areas of agriculture (86%), children’s welfare (86%) and people with a disability (85%). Other areas with success rates above 75% were women’s issues/gender inequality, health and education.

2.7 Overall Observations

The areas the largest numbers of CSOs wanted to influence were agriculture, education, children's welfare and health. These are also the areas in which the largest number of CSOs have reported success.

The top three areas NGOs and trusts wanted to influence were education, women's issues/gender equality and health with people with a disability being a close fourth most-selected option. The top three areas that the largest number of NGOs and trusts were successful in influencing were (in order) women's issues/gender equality, people with a disability and education.

The most selected options by CBOs were agriculture, children's welfare and health. However, 20 CBOs (51%), which is one more than the number who chose health, told SUNGO they wanted to influence other policy areas not on the list provided. Of the other areas they nominated, community service was the most selected with 10 nominations. This makes it the equal fourth policy area nominated by CBOs, along with women's issues/gender equality as an area they want to influence. See figure 9 for a list of the other areas CSOs want to influence.

For faith-based organisations, their top three most selected options were education, children's welfare and agriculture.

For CBOs and FBOs, the top three areas they wanted to influence were also the areas in which the largest number of CBOs and FBOs reported having success.

The highest success rates of CSOs wanting to influence a given area of policy were seen in the areas of agriculture, children's welfare and people with a disability.

3: Methods and Evidence used to Influence Policy

3.1 Extent to which Organisations Use Specific Methods to Influence Policy

CSOs were asked:

- *To what extent does your organisation use the following methods to influence policy?*

They were asked to select from 0 (not at all) to 5 (significant extent) for each of the given methods.

The list of methods CSOs were asked to rank their usage of were:

- *Face to Face*
- *Lobbying*
- *Charity*
- *Organise policy seminars*
- *Newsletters to policymakers*
- *Networking with other organisations*
- *Submit articles to the media*
- *Website*
- *Provide trainings*
- *Provide services*

Two charts are provided below, showing the same information in separate ways. The first chart shows the data by methods used to influence policy, while the second chart separates the information by the extent to which the methods were used.

The most selected option across any of the methods was 0, i.e. that the method was not used. This is the case across the board and across all methods. For each of the methods listed, the majority of the CSO sector told SUNGO they do not use these methods to influence policy.

Despite the above, only 16 organisations reported they did not use any of the methods listed. The remaining 88 organisations reported using at least one of the methods in the list to at least some extent.

Overall, the numbers of 'not at all' or '0' responses suggest a low rate of usage of these methods of influencing policy among the CSOs surveyed. Digging into the data however, shows that with the exception of 10 CBOs and 6 FBOs, every CSO interviewed used at least one of the methods asked about – an interesting finding. It also shows that every single NGO and trust interviewed used at least one of method of influencing policy listed.

When looking at just the numbers who said they used specific methods to a significant extent (5 on the scale), lobbying and face to face were the highest, with 17 organisations. This was followed by networking (15) and providing services (15). In the

context of the whole sample, these are small numbers, representing only 14-16.5% of the whole cohort.

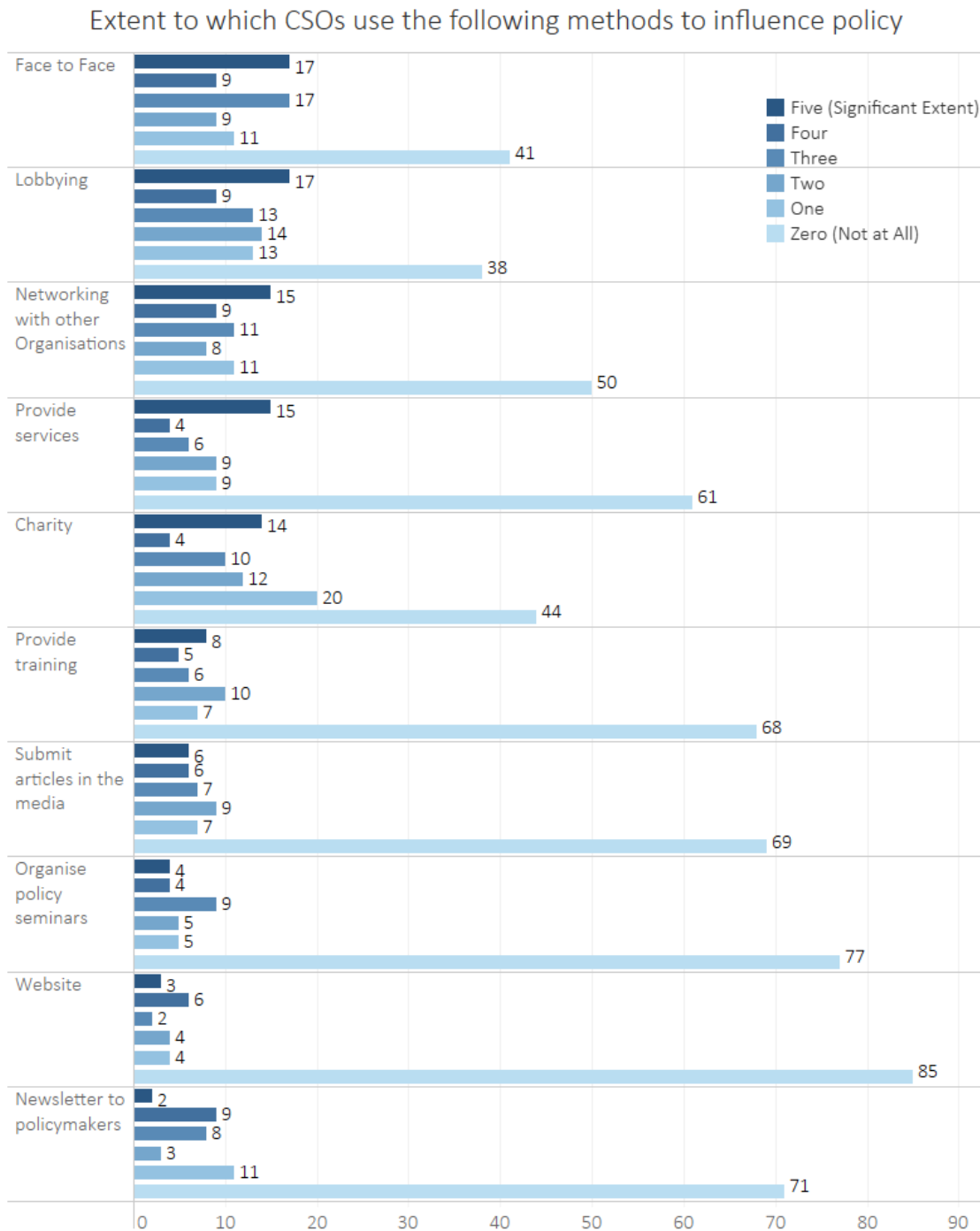


Figure 15: Extent to which CSOs use the following methods to influence policy by type of method

Extent to which CSOs use the following methods to influence policy

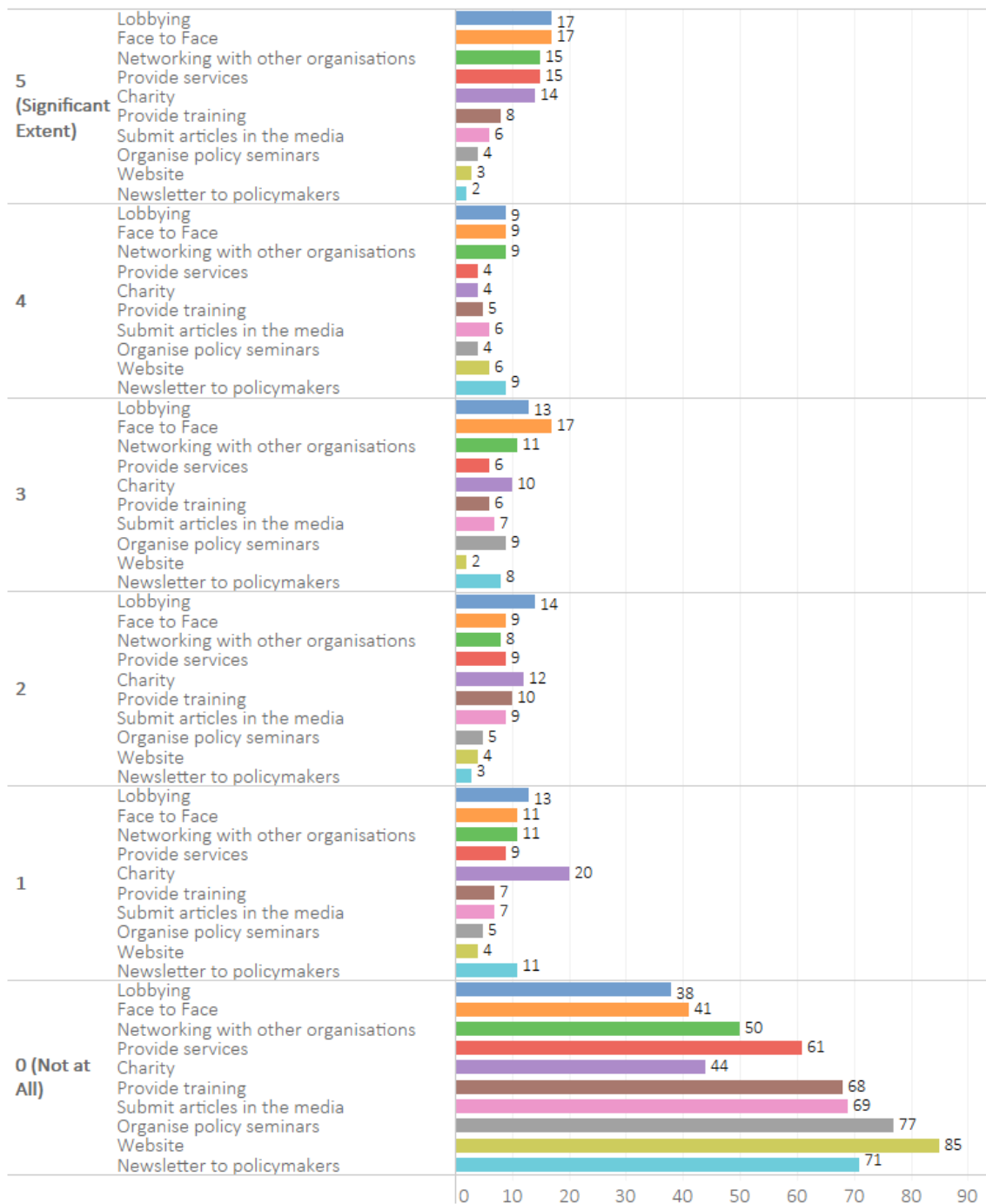


Figure 16: Extent to which CSOs use the following methods to influence policy (0 = not at all, 5= to a significant extent)

The least used method overall were websites which had the highest number of ‘not at all’ responses. Given that the majority of FBOs and CBOs are unlikely to have (or have need for) a website, this result is unsurprising.

The methods the fewest CSOs used to a significant extent were newsletters to policymakers (2), websites (3), and organising policy seminars (4). For each of these

methods, less than 5% of the 104 organisations reported using them to a significant extent.

These are interesting results for the whole sample. When the data is broken down by organisation type, there are some interesting differences between NGOs (and trusts) when compared to FBOs and CBOs.

3.1.1 Non-Government Organisations and Trusts

Extent to which NGOs and Trusts use the following methods to influence policy

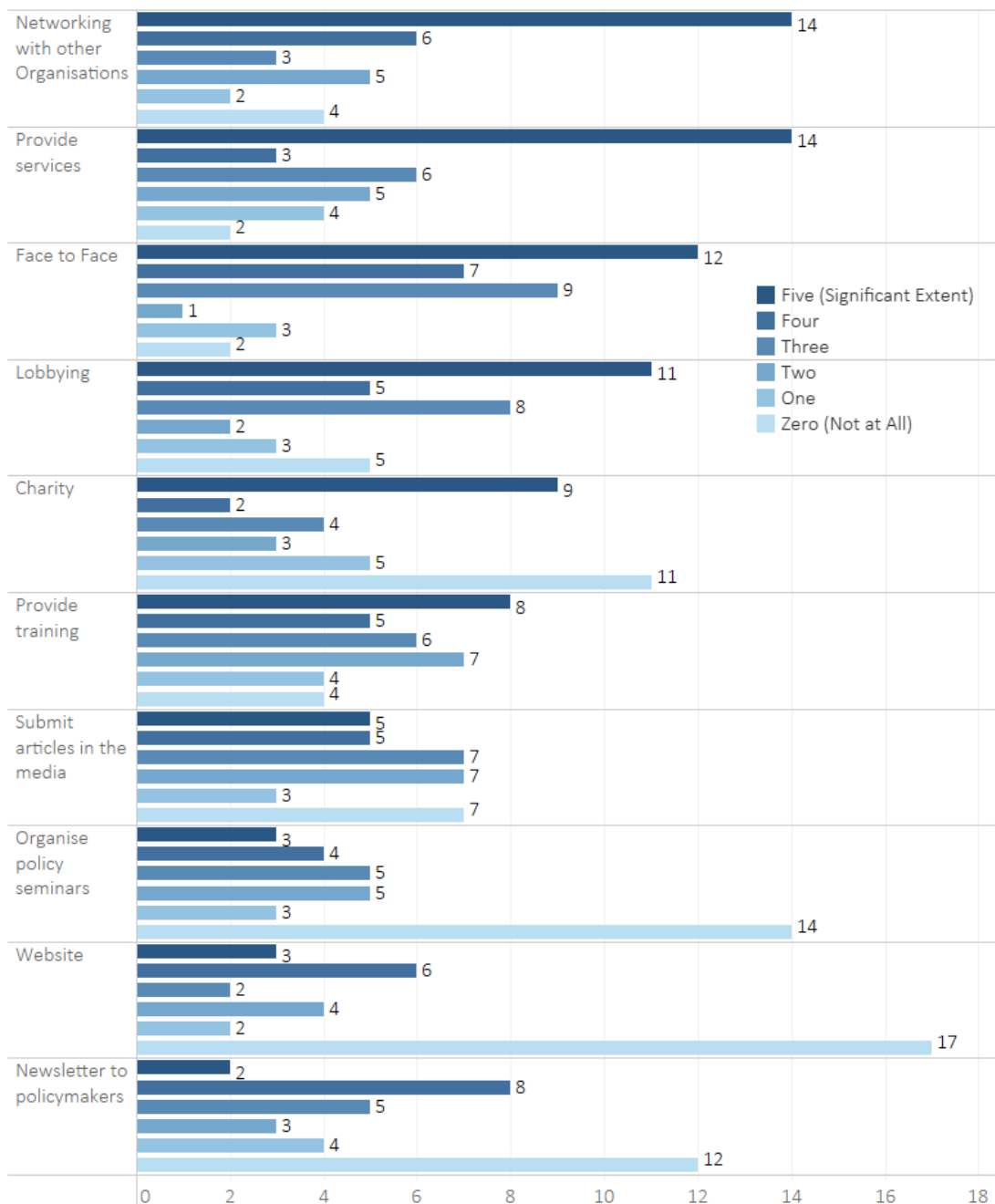


Figure 17: Extent to which NGOs and Trusts use the following methods to influence policy by type of policy

NGOs had a much more even spread of responses across the scale 0-5 compared to the overall CSO results or the CBO or FBO results.

Extent to which NGOs and Trusts used the following methods to influence policy

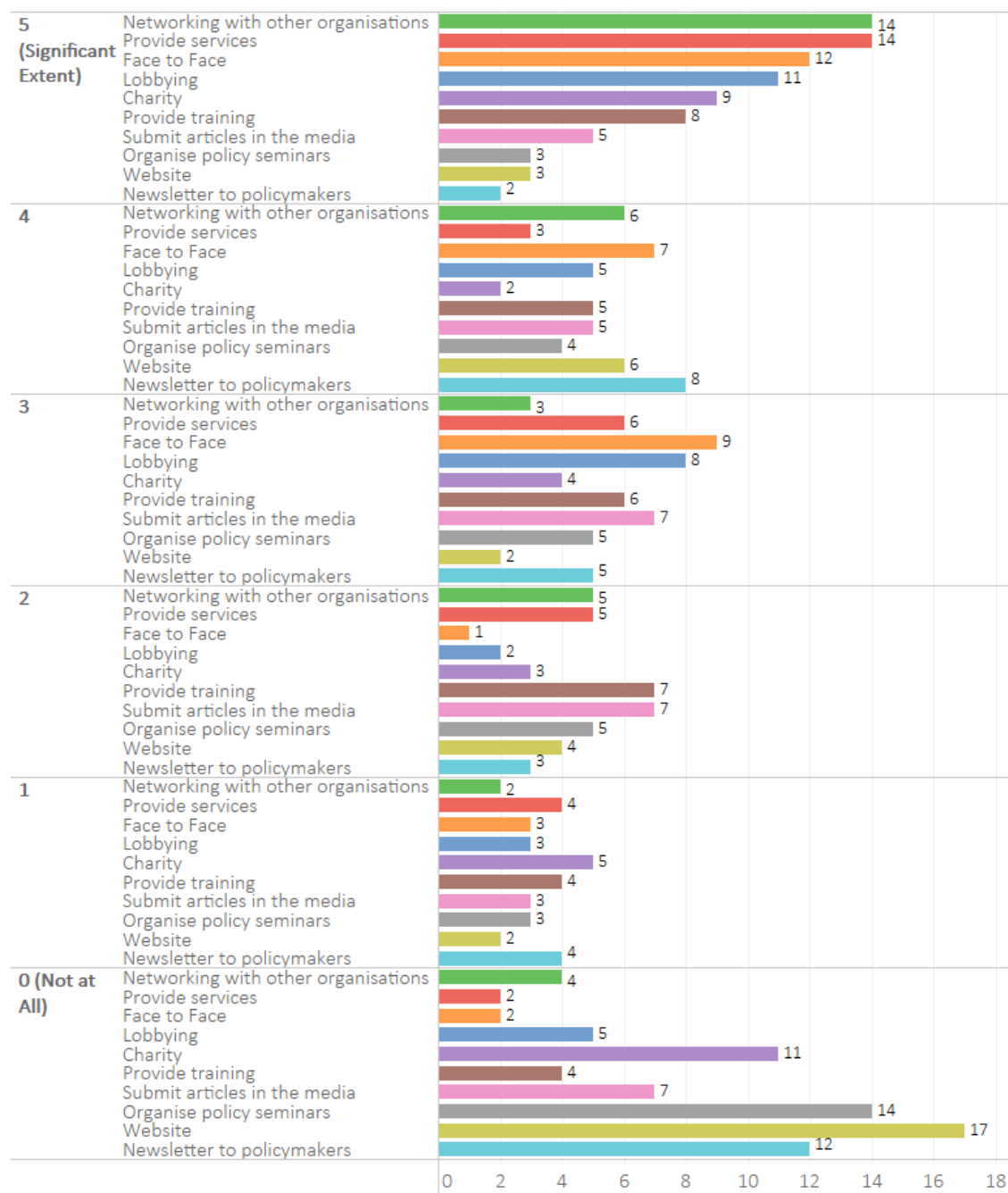


Figure 18: Extent to which NGOs use the following methods to influence policy. (0 = not at all, 5 = to a significant extent)

Only one method – websites – was used ‘not at all’ by half of the 34 NGOs and trusts participating in the survey. For every other method, more than half of participants indicated they used them to at least some extent.

When looking at the 3-5 range, the most selected were face to face (26), providing services (22), lobbying (22) and networking (22). Of these, 13 organisations reported

providing services ‘to a significant extent’ to influencing policy, the highest number for a ‘5’ response among the methods CSOs were provided.

Only 2 out of 34 NGOs and trusts did not use face to face engagement or providing services as a method of influencing policy i.e., 32 NGOs and trusts used these methods to at least some extent.

3.1.2 Community Based Organisations

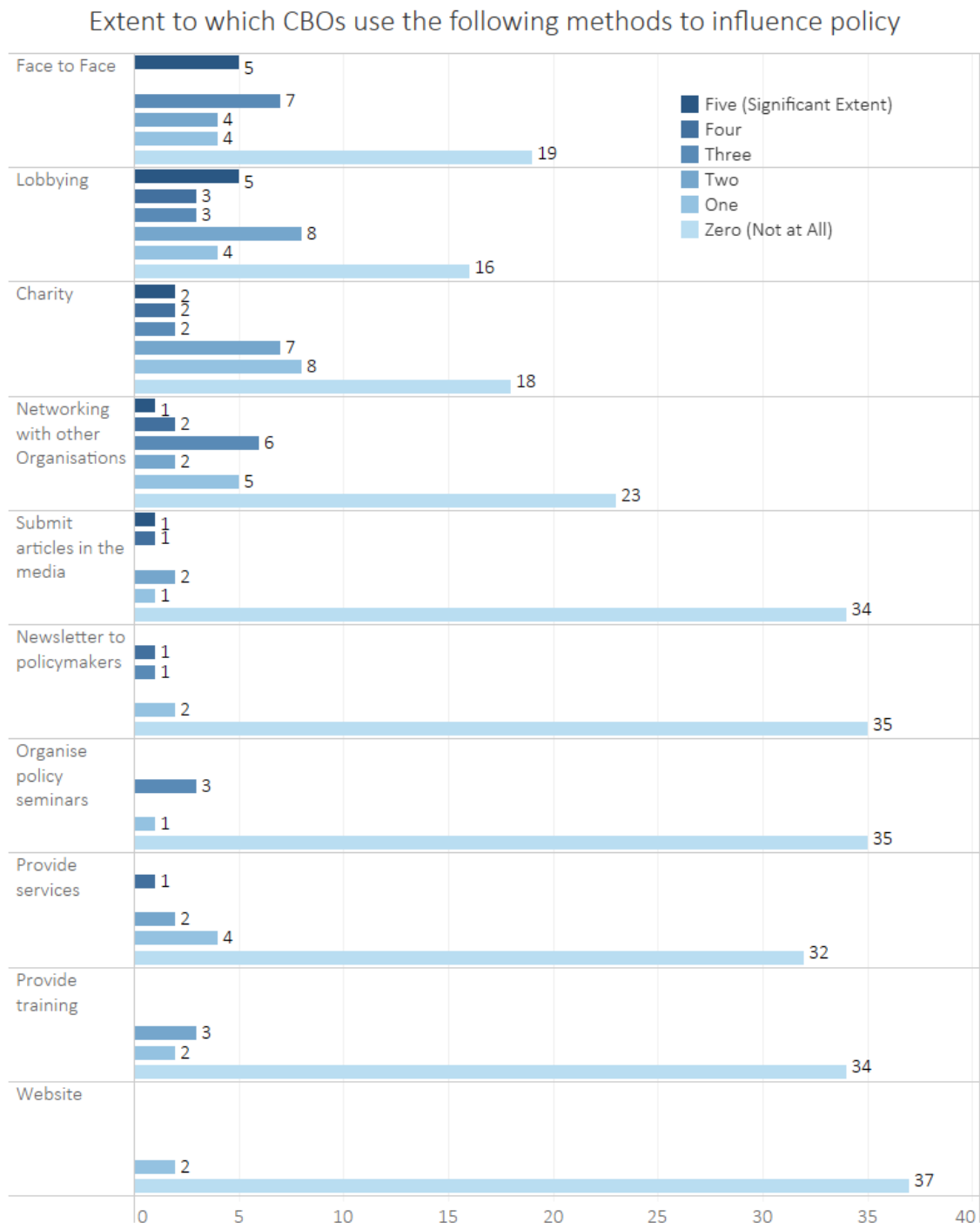


Figure 19: Extent to which CBOs use the following methods to influence policy by type of method

Community based organisations had very few ‘to a significant extent’ responses when asked to what extent they use any of the above methods to influence policy. Five organisations said they used face to face advocacy and lobbying to a significant extent, and two organisations used charity to a significant extent.

Extent to which CBOs used the following methods to influence policy

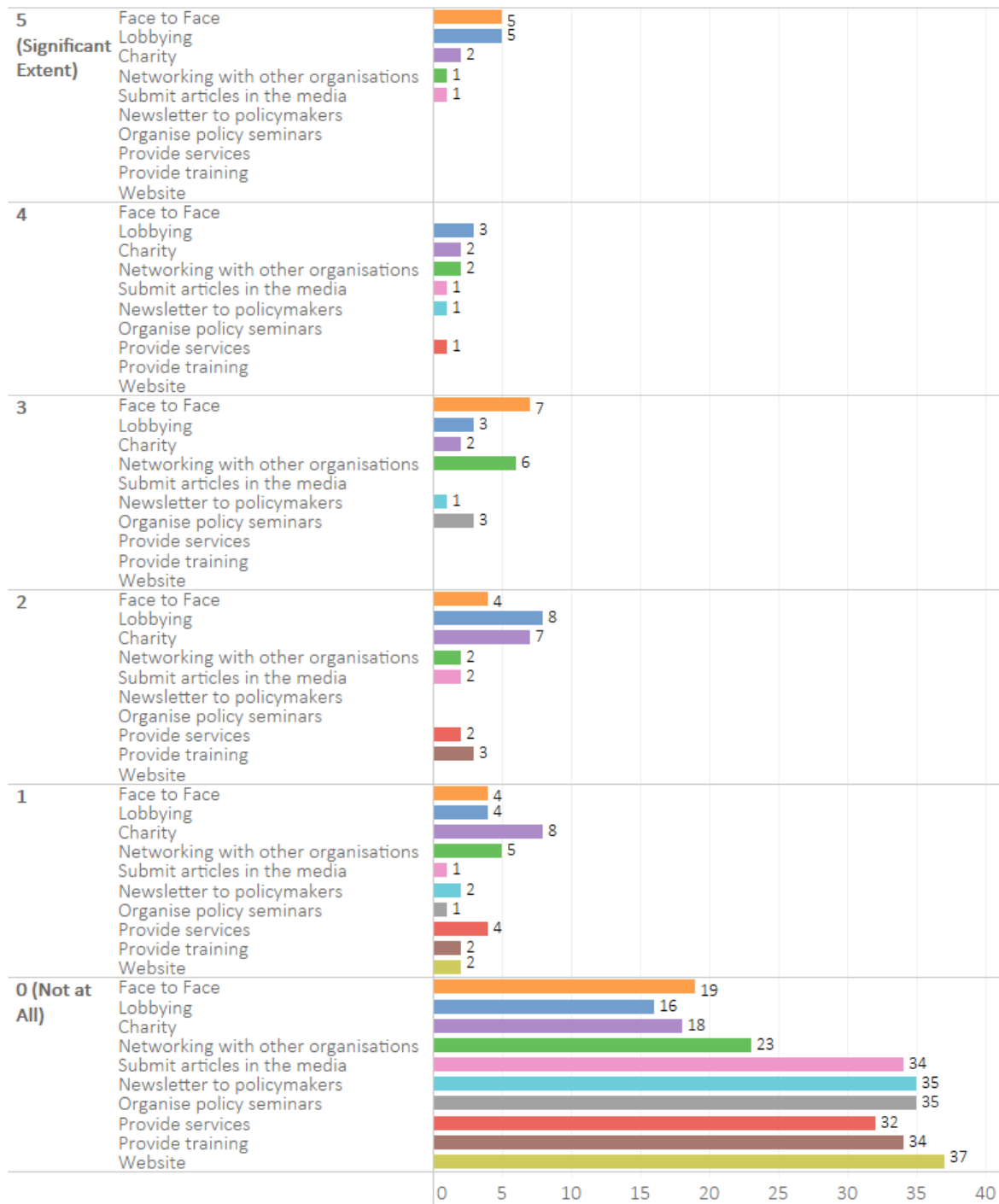


Figure 20: Extent to which CBOs use the following methods to influence policy (0 = not at all, 5 = to a significant extent)

Ten (26%) of 39 CBOs surveyed did not use any methods listed to influence policy. For six out of the ten methods asked about, 80% of CBOs said they had not used them at all. There were only three methods where more than 50% said they had used them to some extent – face to face engagement, lobbying and charity.

3.1.3 Faith Based Organisations

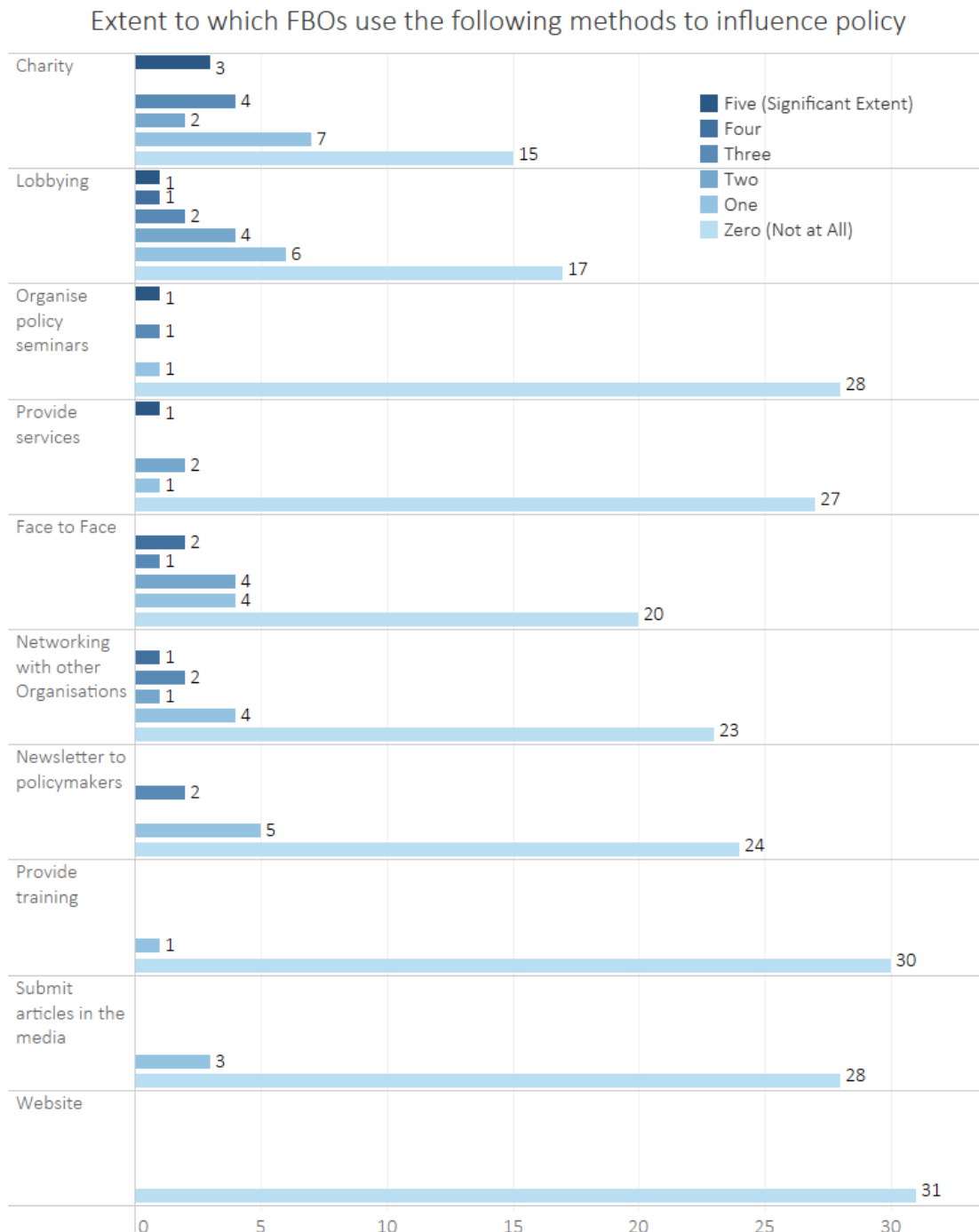


Figure 21: Extent to which FBOs use the following methods to influence policy by type of method

Extent to which FBOs used the following methods to influence policy

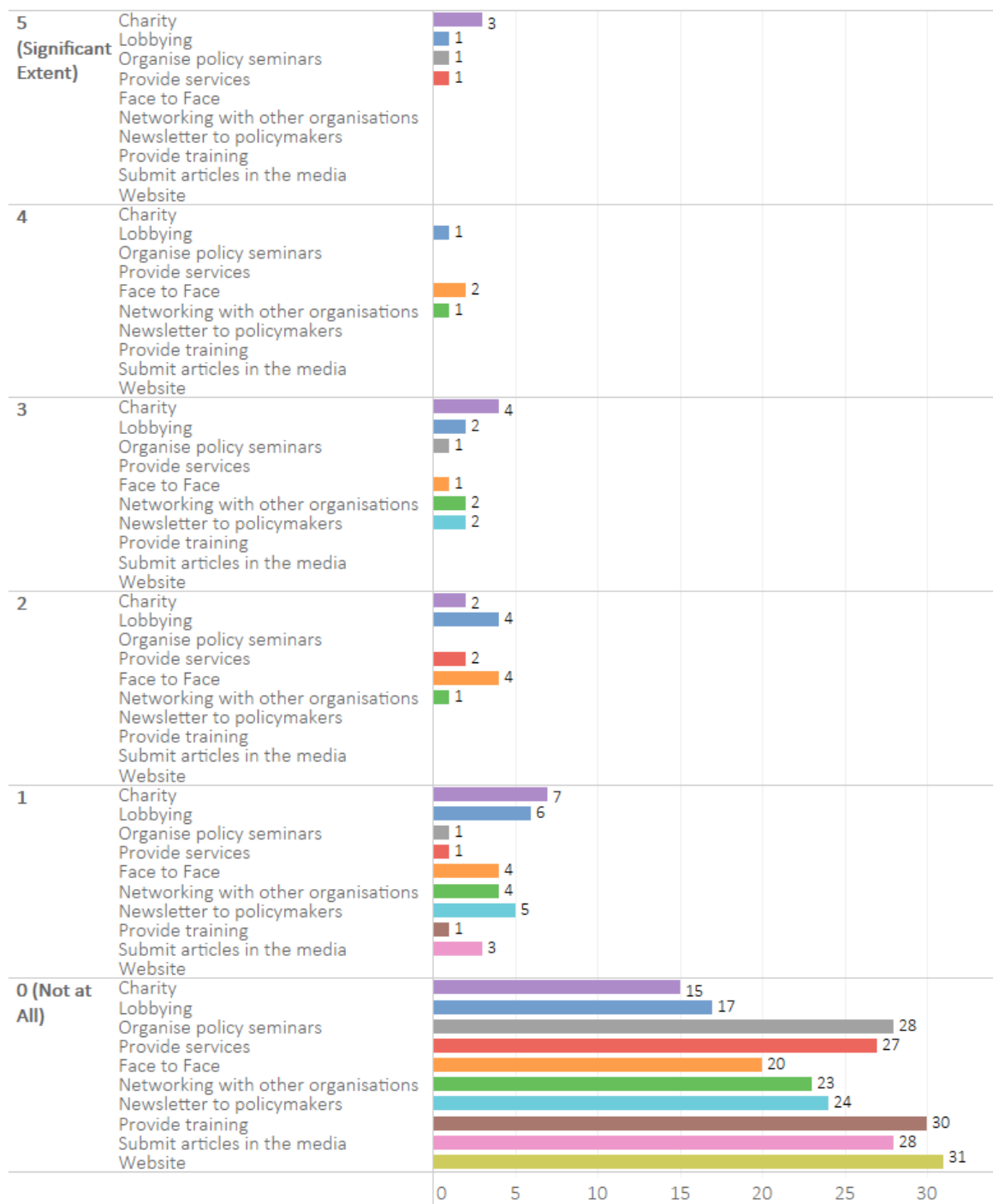


Figure 22: Extent to which FBOs use the following methods (0 = not at all, 5 = significant extent)

Faith based organisations painted a similar picture, with over 80% of FBOs saying they did not use the method at all, for six out of the ten methods listed. Six of 31 FBOs interviewed did not use any of the methods listed.

When compared to CBOs, there were even fewer responses in the ‘significant extent’ end of the scale: three for charity, one each for lobbying, organising seminars and

providing services. Combined, the 4-5 range only had 10 responses (32%), compared to 22 responses among CBOs (56%). The responses for '3' are also similar with 12 for FBOs (39%) and 20 for CBOs (51%).

However, 16 organisations (52%) told SUNGO they used charity to at least some extent (1 and above responses), 14 organisations (45%) used lobbying to some extent and 11 (35%) organisations used face to face interactions to some extent.

3.1.4 CBOs and FBOs observations

Community-based organisations' and Faith-based organisations' low use of some of the listed methods to influence policy might be explained by their focus on local, village-level issues. During interviews, many CBOs and FBOs expressed to SUNGO's Research Officer that influencing policy was not their top priority. Instead, local services, church and community issues were more front of mind in their regular activities.

In this light, their use of face to face engagement, lobbying and charity (as opposed to more resource intensive methods such as providing training, organising seminars etc) was unsurprising. That more than 50% of CBOs had used face to face engagement, lobbying and charity to some extent to influence policy is encouraging for the sector. While not as high as CBOs level of use of these methods, that 35-52% of FBOs used face to face engagement, lobbying and/or charity is also an encouraging finding in terms of CSOs' engagement with policy.

Elsewhere in the survey (see section 2.1), both CBOs and FBOs indicated they want to influence policy across a range of policy areas. Many also reported that they had been successful (see section 2.2 above). In light of the findings in sections 2.1 and 2.2 as well as the low rates of usage of the methods listed in this section, a further area for SUNGO to explore with CBOs and FBOs would be to understand what methods and channels they had used to influence policy.

Given many methods in the list above would not be relevant to the average CBO or FBO, seeking information from these organisations on what methods they would like to improve their use of would also be useful and interesting for SUNGO and other stakeholders.

3.2 Efficacy of Methods

CSOs were asked to choose which methods had been the most effective for their organisations in influencing policy out of five given options.

Question posed:

- *Of the following, what have been the most effective methods for your organisation in influencing policy?*

Options:

- *Submissions/policy papers*
- *Consultations and Forums with SUNGO*
- *Consultations and Forums with Government*
- *Consultations and Forums with other stakeholders*
- *Letters (written requests to policy makers).*

Methods CSOs found to be most effective in influencing policy ranked

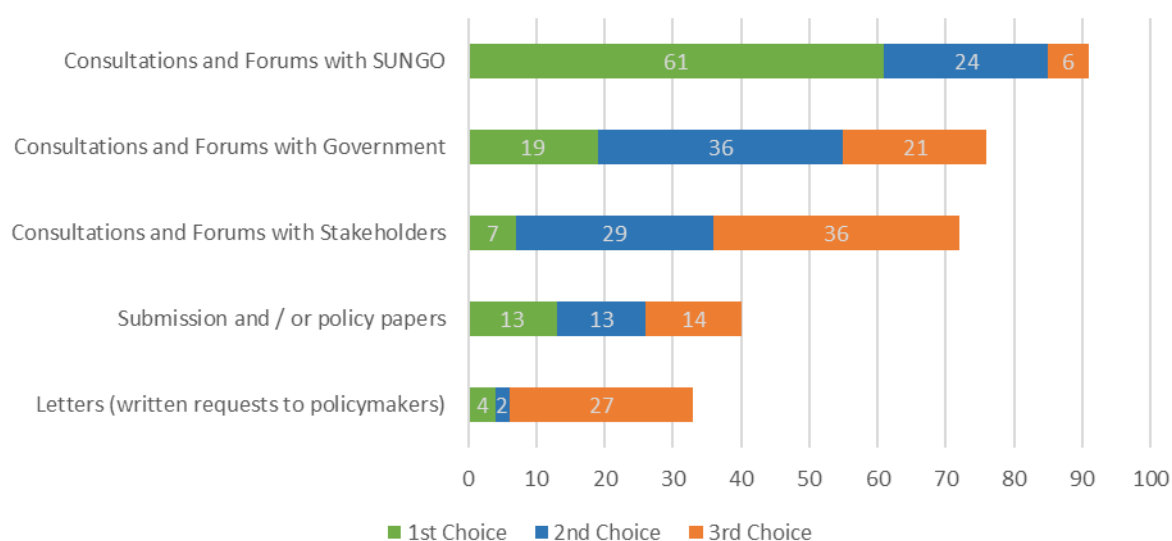


Figure 23: Methods CSOs found to be most effective in influencing policy ranked

CSOs were asked to select their top three methods in order of efficacy. CSOs were required to select an option for each (no non-answers or blanks). There were also no 'other' or 'none of the above' options. For this question, SUNGO wanted to determine from the five nominated methods, which were seen as most effective. The following analysis should be read with this mind.

Methods CSOs found to be most effective in influencing policy ranked

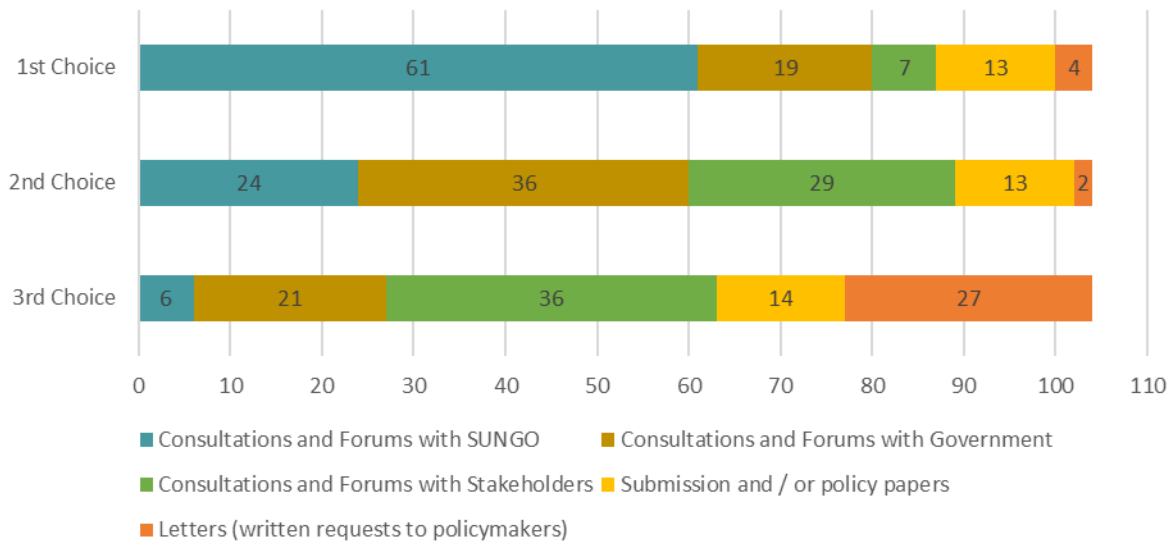


Figure 24: Methods CSOs felt have been most effective in influencing policy by rank

Figures 23 and 24 above show each option in terms of the numbers choosing it as their first, second or third choice in two different ways.

Consultations and forums with SUNGO are reported as being the most effective (first choice) by 61 CSOs (59%). This is also the choice selected by the greatest number of organisations.

For context, SUNGO hosts consultations with CSOs on key issues of concern and to hear CSO concerns when it can. SUNGO also makes the effort to host consultations across Upolu and Savai'i, not just in Apia, allowing CBOs and FBOs to participate more directly.

CSOs have been comfortable sharing their perspectives at SUNGO forums. It should be noted however that CSOs generally do not have direct knowledge on how effectively the outcomes of these forums are conveyed to government and other relevant stakeholders. When CSOs participate in these forums, they rely on SUNGO to convey their concerns to the relevant parties and rely on SUNGO to then report back to CSOs through a combination of annual general meetings, newsletters, reports and additional forums.

Consultations and forums with government was the next highest selected (76 organisations), followed by consultations and forums with stakeholders (72 organisations). Comparisons between the first, second and third choices all show that on the whole CSOs found consultations with government to be more effective than consultations with stakeholders.

Letters to policymakers was notably the least selected option. Among interviewed organisations only 29 organisations (28%) saw it as among their top three effective methods for influencing policy. The second lowest selection (submissions and/or policy papers) was seen by 40 organisations (38%) as among their top three.

When disaggregated by organisation type below, there are some differences between the types of organisations and their preferences.

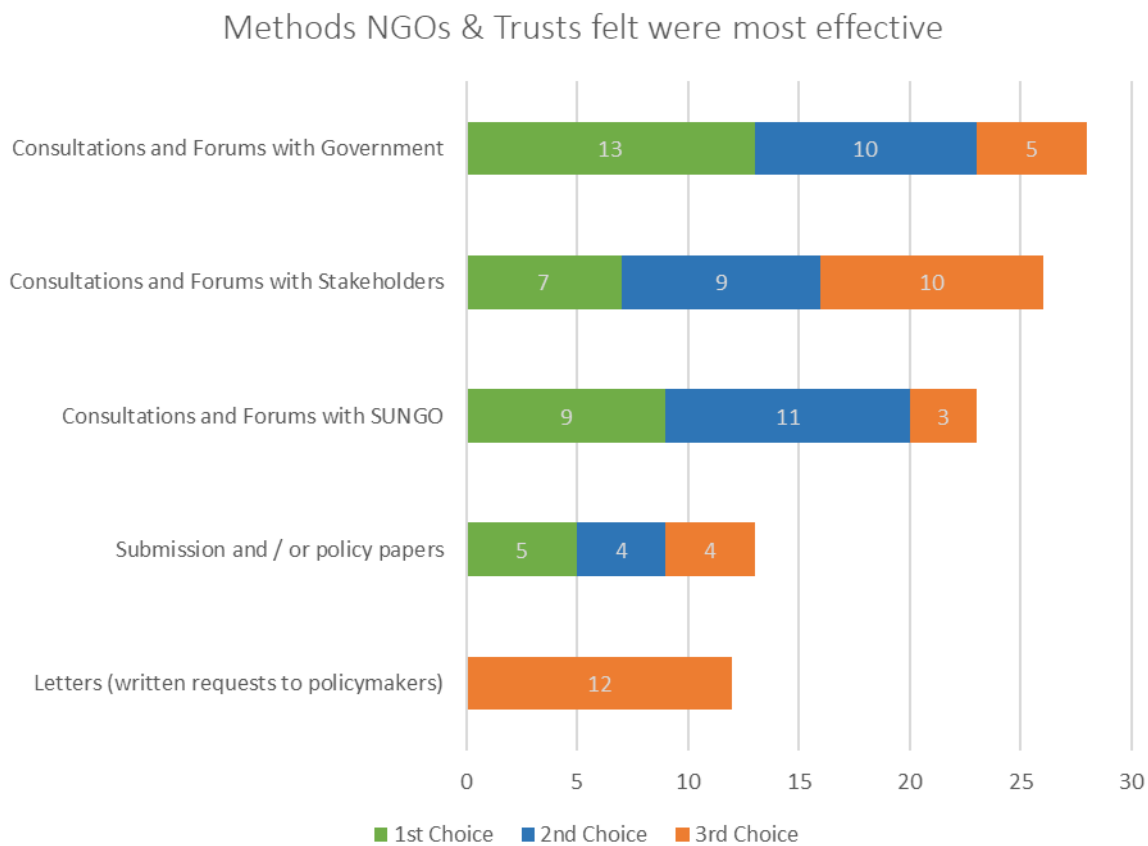


Figure 25: Methods NGOs and Trusts felt were more effective in influencing policy

More NGOs and trusts chose consultations and forums with government as one of their top three options than consultations and forums with SUNGO (the overall most selected for the whole group of CSOs). Additionally, fewer NGOs and trusts selected consultations with SUNGO than the 26 NGOs and trusts who selected consultations and forums with stakeholders. Interestingly however, when looking at just the first choices, consultations with SUNGO was selected by more organisations as their first choice than consultations with stakeholders.

Letters were only selected by 35% of NGOs and trusts as among their top three most effective methods of influencing policy of the five options listed. Even then, all twelve NGOs and trusts who chose letters only chose it as their third option.

Methods CBOs felt were most effective

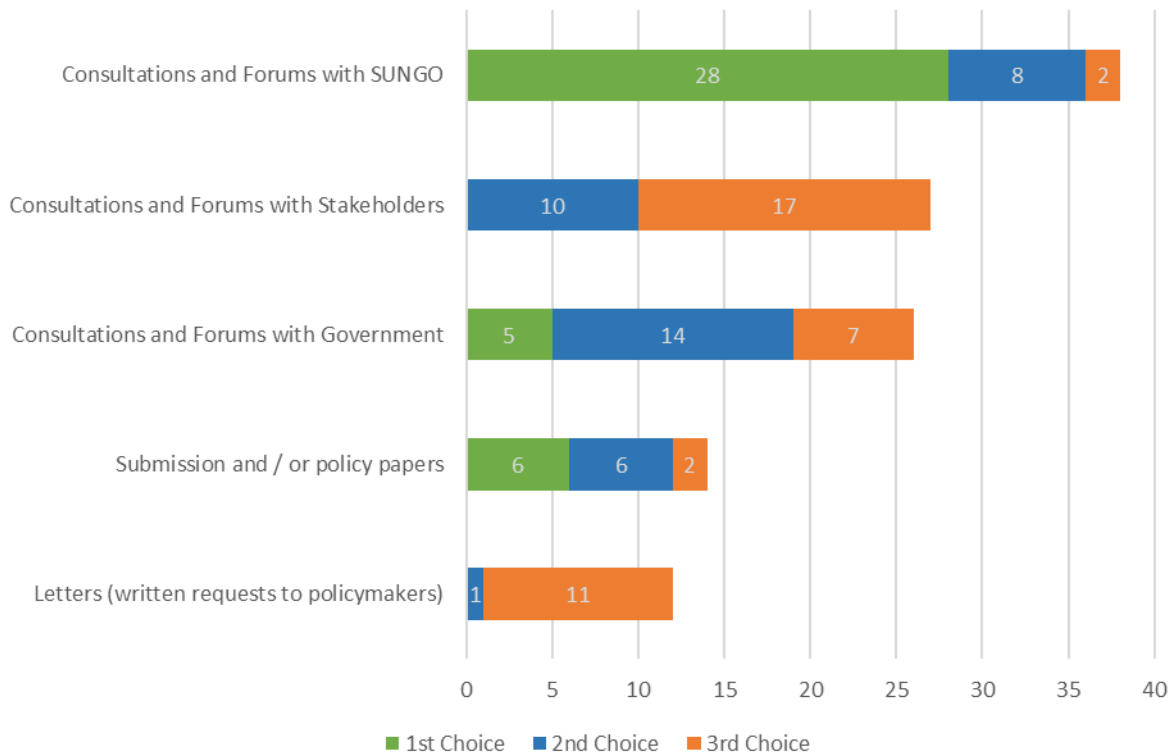


Figure 26: Methods CBOs felt were most effective in influencing policy

For CBOs the order was consultations and forums with SUNGO followed by consultations and forums with stakeholders then government in third place. Notably, there was a strong preference among CBOs for consultations with SUNGO not just through the highest number of selections across their first, second and third choices but this was also most CBOs’ first choice (72%).

While more CBOs chose consultations and forums with stakeholders than consultations and forums with government, no CBOs selected consultations with stakeholders as their first option.

Although consultations with stakeholders was selected as among their top three most effective methods by more CBOs than consultations with government, more CBOs believed consultations with government to be a more effective method for influencing policy as shown by comparing their first and second options.

For FBOs, the order of most selections across their first second and third choices were: consultations and forums with SUNGO, consultations and forums with government, then consultations and forums with stakeholders (see figure 27 below).

Methods FBOs felt were most effective

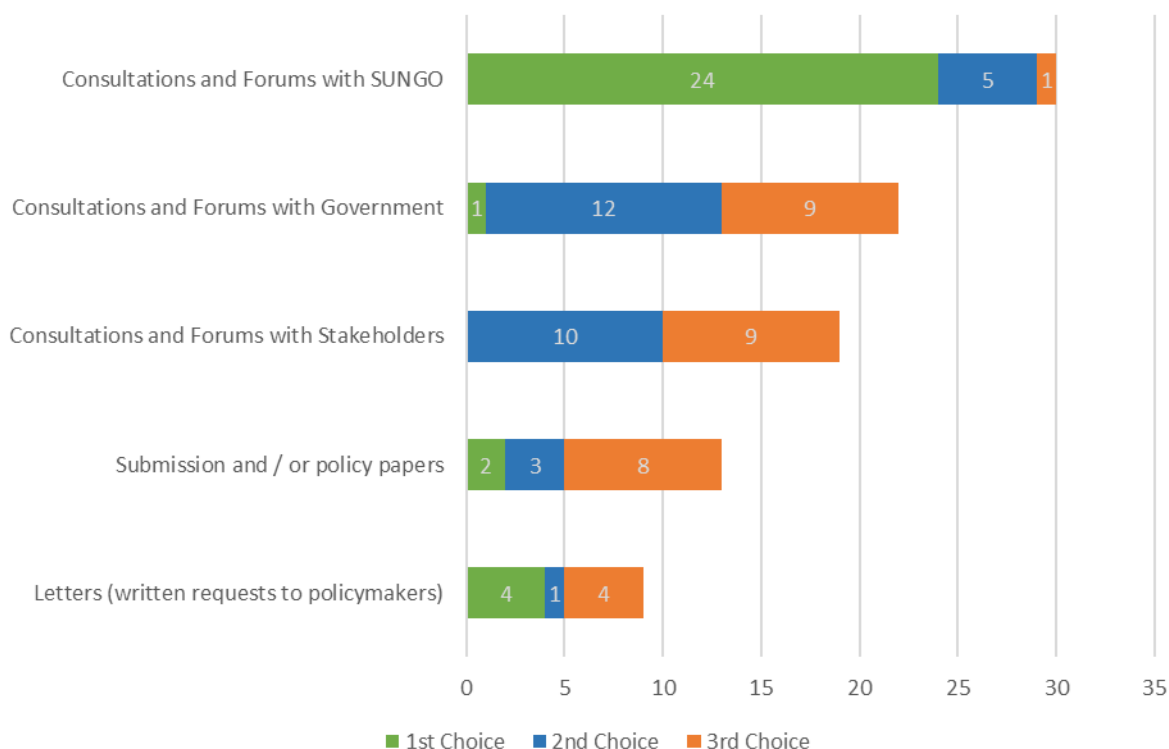


Figure 27: Methods FBOs felt were most effective in influencing policy

Similarly to CBOs, the overwhelming number of first choice selections were for consultations with SUNGO (77%). However, only one FBO selected submissions or consultations with government as their first choice. Like CBOs, no FBOs selected consultations with stakeholders as their first choice.

3.2.1 Overall observations on efficacy

As discussed earlier in this section, when SUNGO hosts forums and consultations with CSOs it tries to host them at locations across both islands, allowing more village-based CBOs and FBOs to attend and participate. This may explain the much larger numbers of CBOs and FBOs who selected consultations with SUNGO (74%) as their first choice, compared to 26% of NGOs and trusts.

It is interesting to note that submissions and letters were the bottom two options for all the different types of CSO. Regardless of type of CSO, CSOs felt consultations and forums were most effective, whether with government, SUNGO or stakeholders at least among this set of five options. This is useful information for any organisation or individual looking to engage CSOs and obtain CSO input on matters of policy in Samoa.

3.3 Efficacy of Types of Evidence

CSOs were also asked to what extent they felt the list of evidence types provided were effective when seeking to influence policy.

The question posed:

- *In your organisation's experience in the last 4 years, to what extent are the following types of evidence effective when seeking to influence policy?*

Options:

- *Surveys*
- *Statistics*
- *Academic research*
- *Case studies*
- *Personal testimonies from beneficiaries*

They were asked to rate the efficacy of each method type on a 0-5 scale with 0 being 'not at all' and 5 being 'significant extent'.

Two graphs have been provided below for CSOs as a whole and for NGOs and trusts to better illustrate their responses.

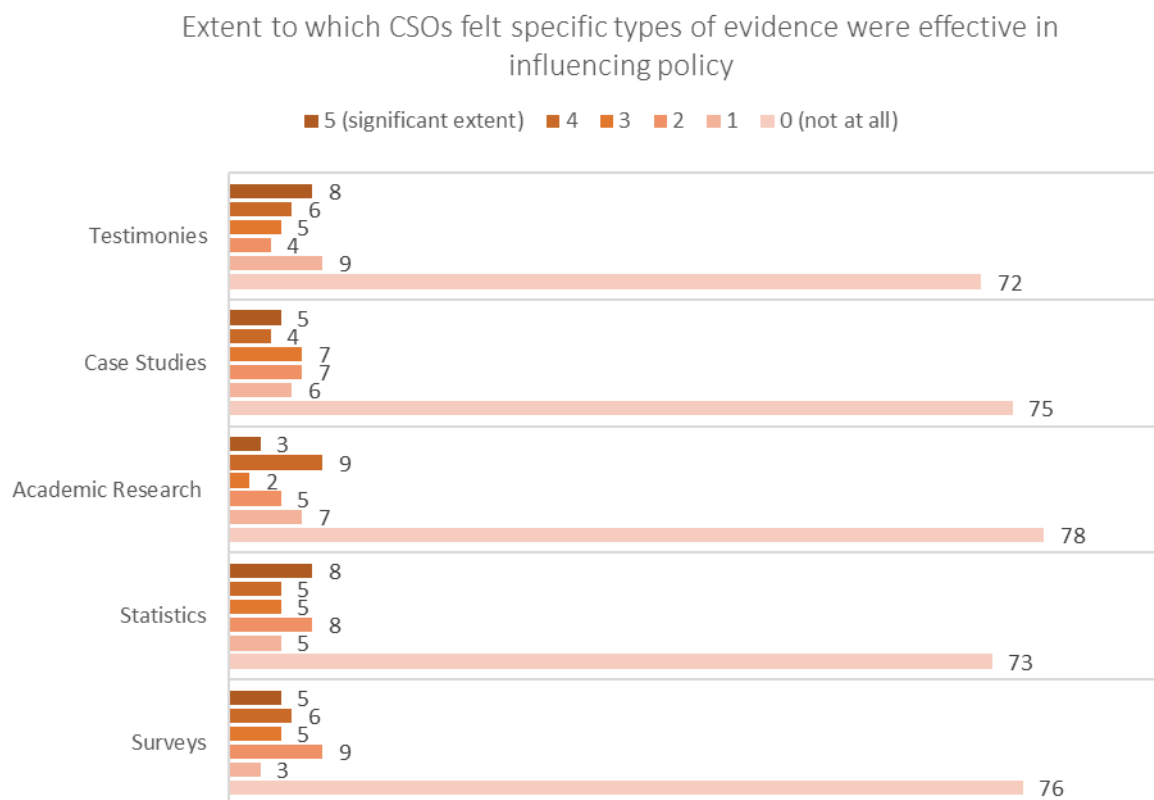


Figure 28: Extent to which CSOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy by evidence type

Extent to which CSOs felt the following types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

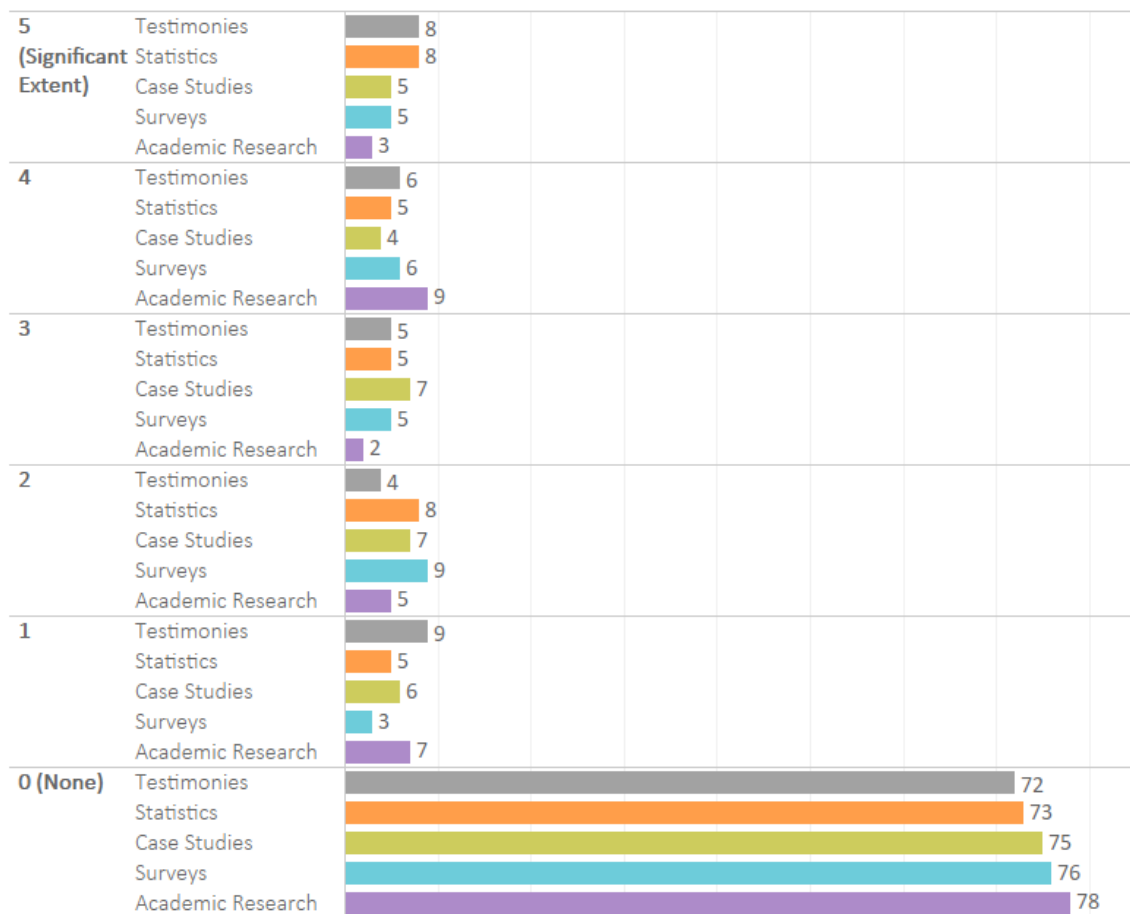


Figure 29: Extent to which CSOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy by scale (0 = not at all, 5 = to a significant extent)

Most organisations reported these methods were not at all effective in influencing policy (0 on the scale). Only 8 organisations indicated that statistics and testimonies were effective to a significant extent. All other options scored lower.

Expanding the range to the number of organisations selecting 3-5 on the scale, testimonies (19) and statistics (18) were still the most selected, however there was not a large difference between all five options provided. Case studies and surveys was selected by 16 organisations and academic research was selected by 14 organisations.

Extent to which NGOs and Trusts felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

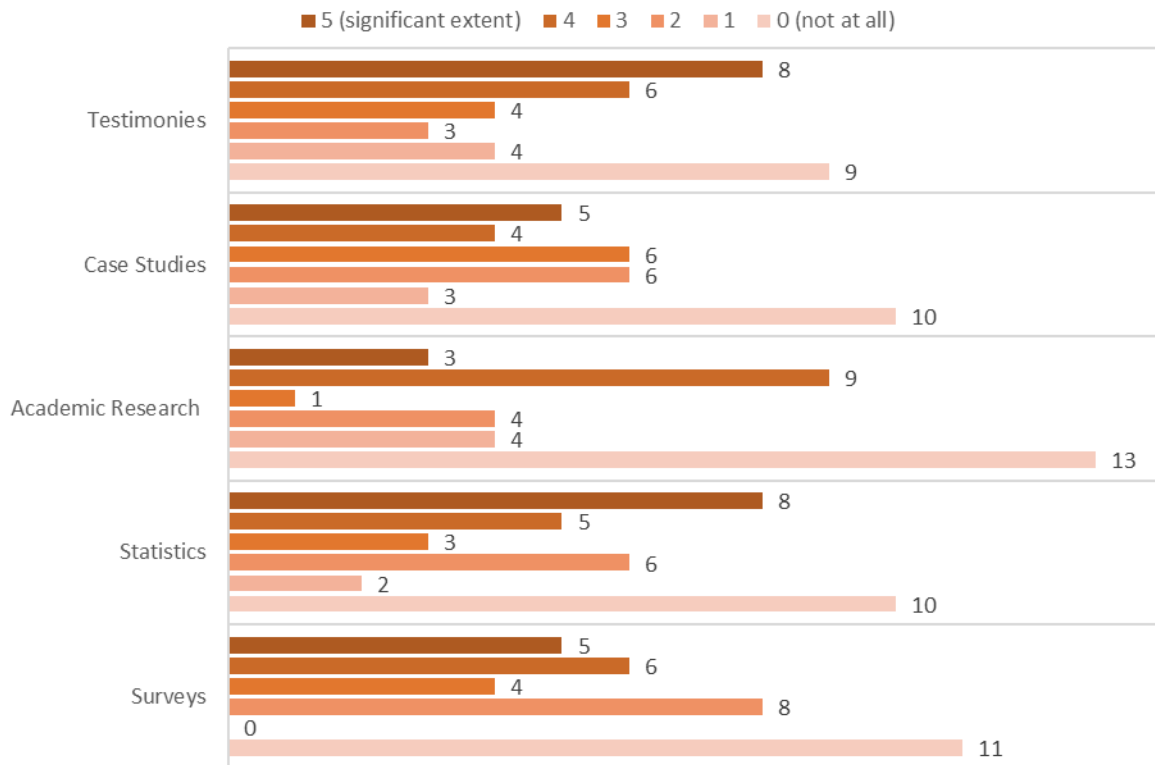


Figure 30: Extent to which NGOs and Trusts felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

Disaggregating the results by organisation type showed that as a group, NGOs and trusts reported some level of efficacy for each of the methods. 74% chose some level of efficacy (1-5 on the scale) for testimonies. 71% chose some level of efficacy for case studies and statistics respectively. 68% said surveys were at least effective to some extent and 62% told SUNGO academic research had been effective to some extent.

Even so, for all options provided, the number on the scale most selected by NGOs and trusts was 0 or that the method was not effective at all. Between 26% and 38% of NGOs and trusts chose 'not effective at all' (0 on the scale) for each option provided.

The highest 'significant extent' selections among NGOs and trusts were for testimonies and statistics, with 24% of NGOs and trusts reporting that these methods had been effective to a significant extent.

The same two methods were the most selected when looking more broadly at selections 3-5 on the scale. 18 organisations (53%) selected 3, 4 or 5 (50% or more effective) for testimonies and 16 organisations (47%) said the same for statistics.

Surveys and case studies were close with 15 organisations (44%) providing answers in the 3-5 range. The lowest number of selections in the 3-5 end of the scale were for academic research with 13 organisations (38%).

Extent to which NGOs and Trusts felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

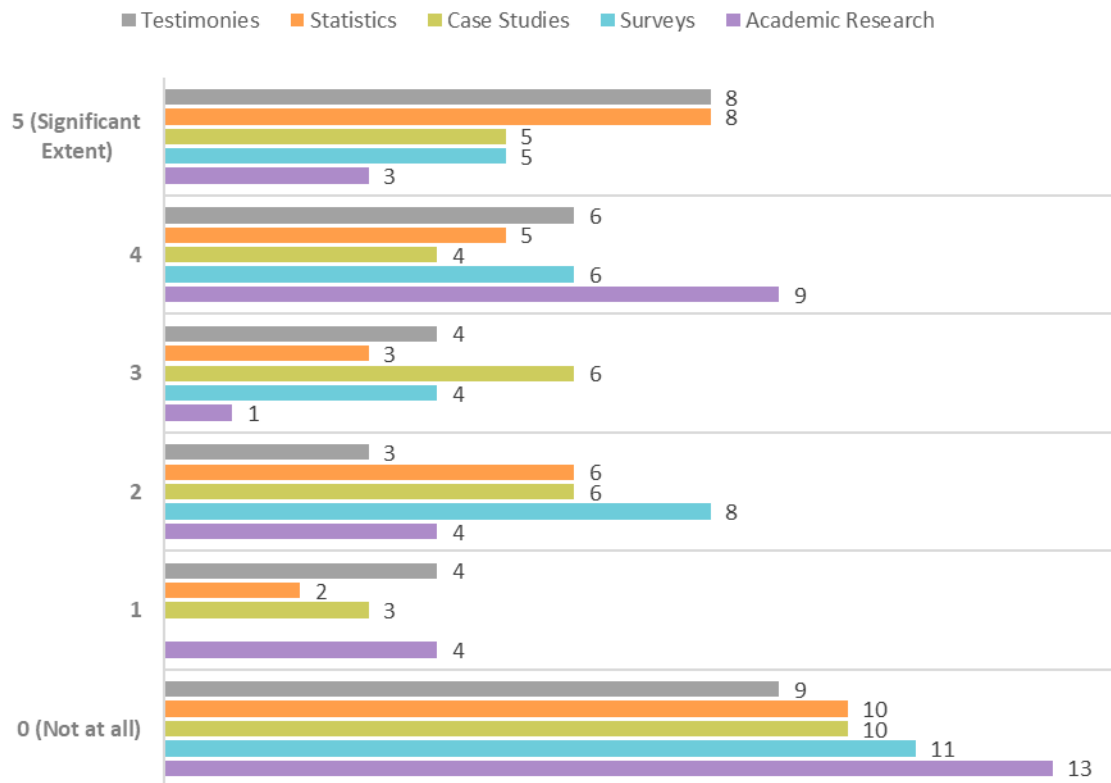


Figure 31: Extent to which NGOs and Trusts felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

These findings show that as a group, NGOs and trusts have found the five types of evidence listed more effective than the CSO cohort as a whole.

While in each case, at least 28% of NGOs (9 organisations) said they did not think the method was effective at all, at least 62% (21 organisations) selected some level of effectiveness. This is particularly interesting when considering that only 25% to 31% of CSOs overall selected some level of effectiveness for any of the options.

Extent to which CBOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

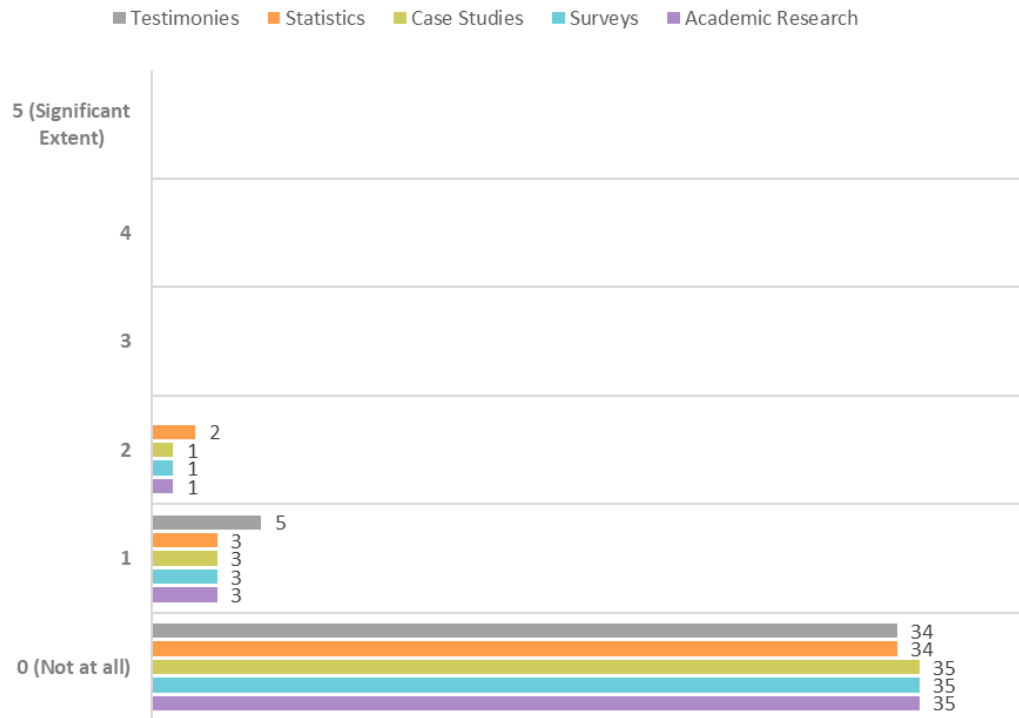


Figure 32: Extent to which CBOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

Extent to which FBOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

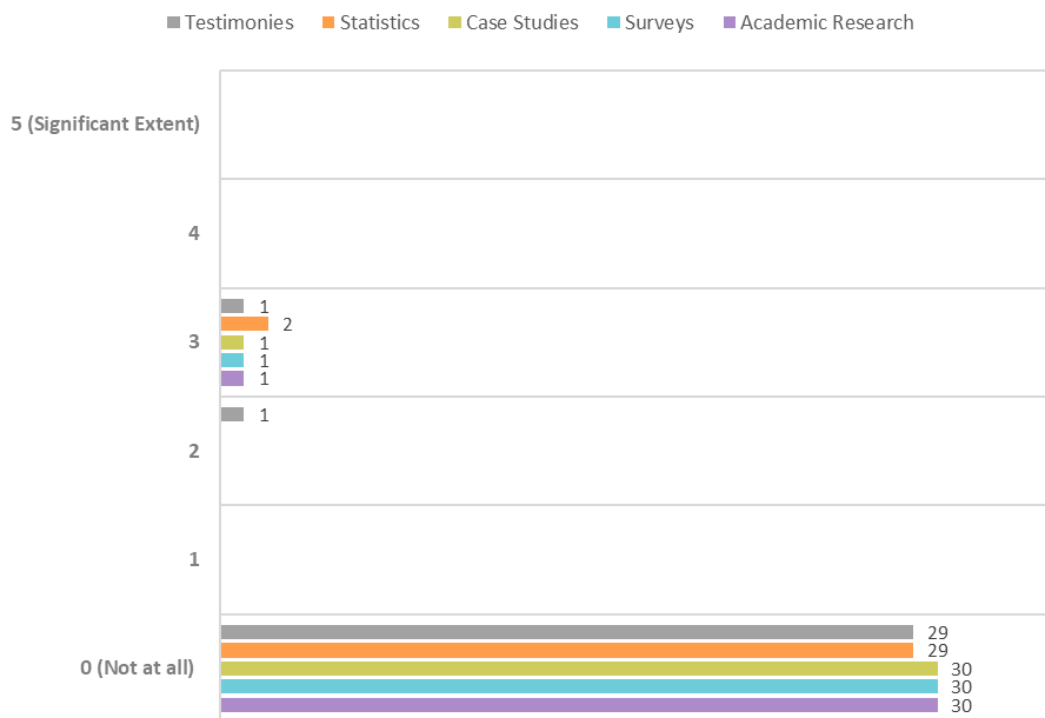


Figure 33: Extent to which FBOs felt specific types of evidence were effective in influencing policy

Almost all FBOs and CBOs reported none of the methods as being effective.

Among CBOs, five was the largest number of organisations that selected some level of efficacy for any of the types of evidence listed. These five said testimonies were effective to at least some extent however none of these responses were above a 3 on the scale.

While some FBOs selected 3 on the scale, the highest number of selections in the 1-5 range of selections for any option was two. Looking into the data, all selections within the 1-5 range for FBOs came from just two organisations. 29 of 31 FBOs selected 0 for all five options i.e. they did not think any of the evidence types were effective in their experience in the previous four years.

3.3.1 Overall Observations

Among the cohort of CSOs surveyed, NGOs and trusts appear to have experienced a much higher level of success with the listed evidence types.

Based on SUNGO's knowledge and experience with the CSO sector in Samoa, NGOs are also much more likely to use and be aware of the listed evidence types in their core areas of work.

The lack of faith in the efficacy of the listed methods among CBOs and FBOs could be investigated further by SUNGO. In particular, whether, and to what extent CBOs and FBOs use these evidence types would be a worthwhile question to pursue. Relatedly, it would be interesting for SUNGO to seek further information on whether CBOs and FBOs use any other methods of evidence in engaging with policy processes and advocating for their needs in the areas relevant to their specific organisations.

4: Barriers Faced

4.1 Key Challenges for CSOs in Influencing Policy

CSOs were asked what their key challenges to influencing policy and engaging with policy processes were.

Question posed:

- *What are the challenges to CSO engagement in policy processes?*

Options:

- *CSOs do not have sufficient knowledge about policy processes*
- *CSO staff do not have enough time*
- *CSOs do not have enough funds to do this*
- *Policy processes are not open to CSO engagement*
- *Policymakers do not see CSO's evidence as valid*

Challenges to CSO engagement in policy ranked

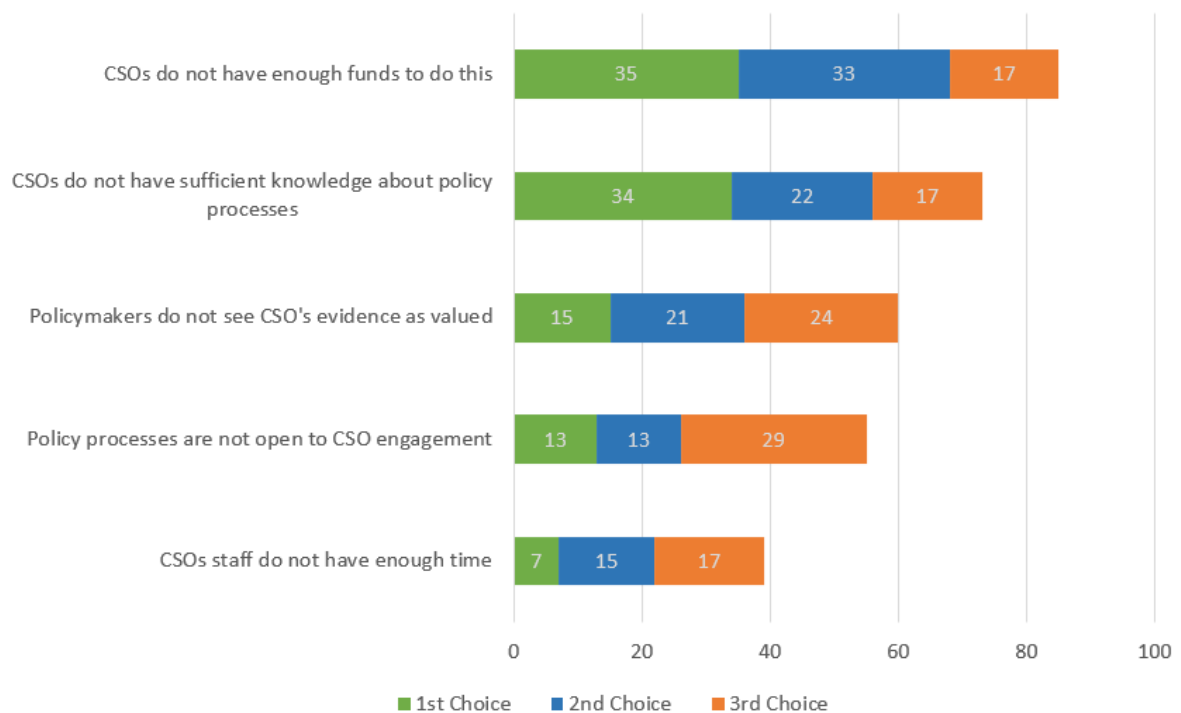


Figure 34: Challenges to CSO engagement in policy ranked by option type

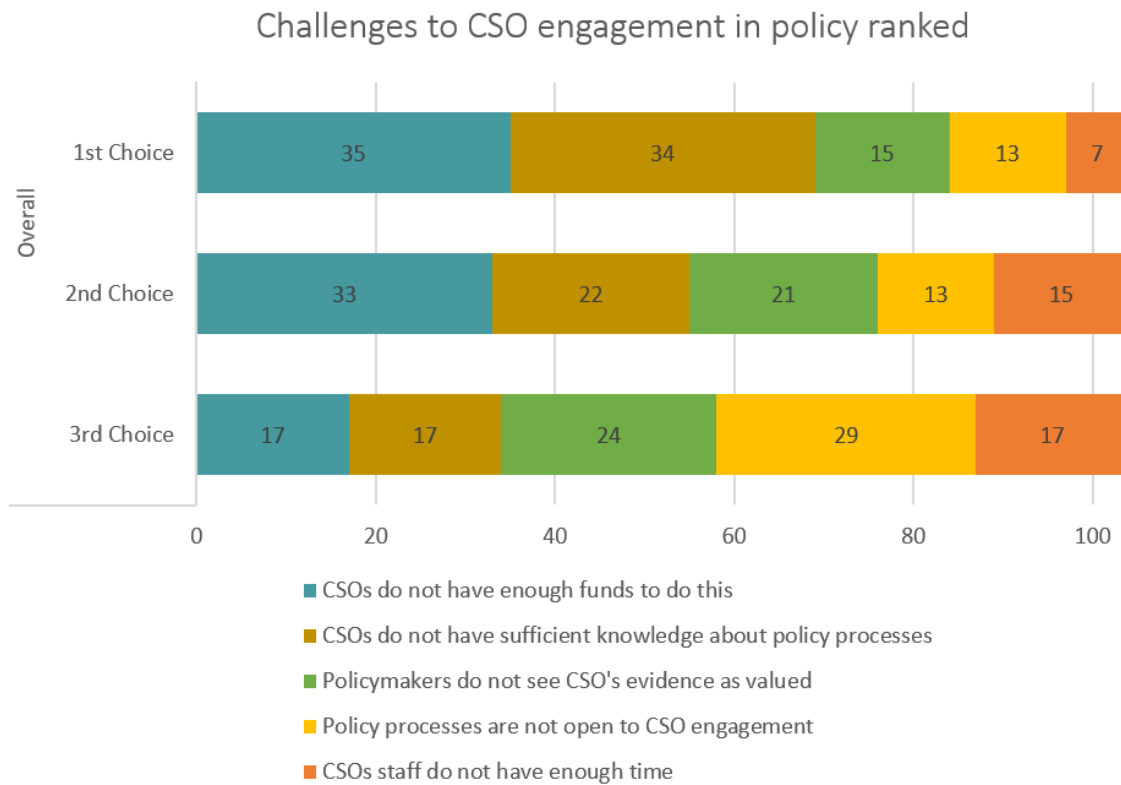


Figure 35: 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices in challenges to CSO engagement in policy ranked by choice

The options for this question were selected based on previous forums, discussions, and consultations with members on their key challenges to engagement with policy processes over a number of years. There was no ‘none’ or ‘other’ option and they were not able to leave a choice blank.

Here, SUNGO was hoping to find out among these key challenges experienced by CSOs, whether there were specific challenges that emerged as greater barriers than others.

The results show that across the group, two options were selected more than the other three: that CSOs do not have enough funds (85 organisations or 82%) and that CSOs do not have sufficient knowledge about policy processes (73 organisations or 70%).

Even when disaggregated by type of organisation, a lack of funds was the most selected option by each type of organisation. However, the remaining spread was different among the different types of organisations.

Challenges to NGOs and Trusts engaging in policy

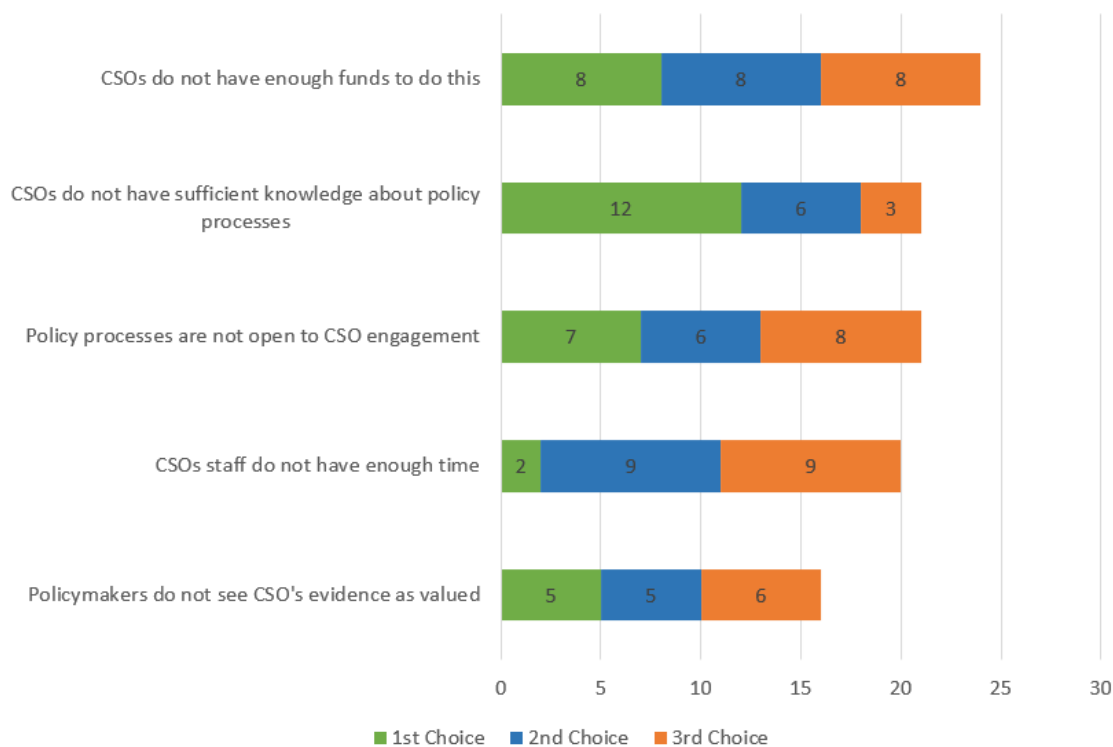


Figure 36: Challenges to NGO and Trusts engaging in policy

Among NGOs and trusts, while the lack of funds was the most selected (70%), the biggest challenge (most selections for first choice) was that CSOs had insufficient knowledge about policy processes. 35% of NGOs and trusts (12 organisations) said insufficient knowledge about policy processes was their top challenge among the five options presented. This option was also tied overall with ‘policy processes are not open CSO engagement’ for selections across the top three choices, with 21 organisations (62%) selecting the two options.

Only 16, or less than half of NGOs and trusts selected ‘policymakers do not see CSO’s evidence as valued’. This was the least selected option among NGOs and trusts, but the third most-selected among CSOs as a whole.

Challenges to CBOs engaging in policy

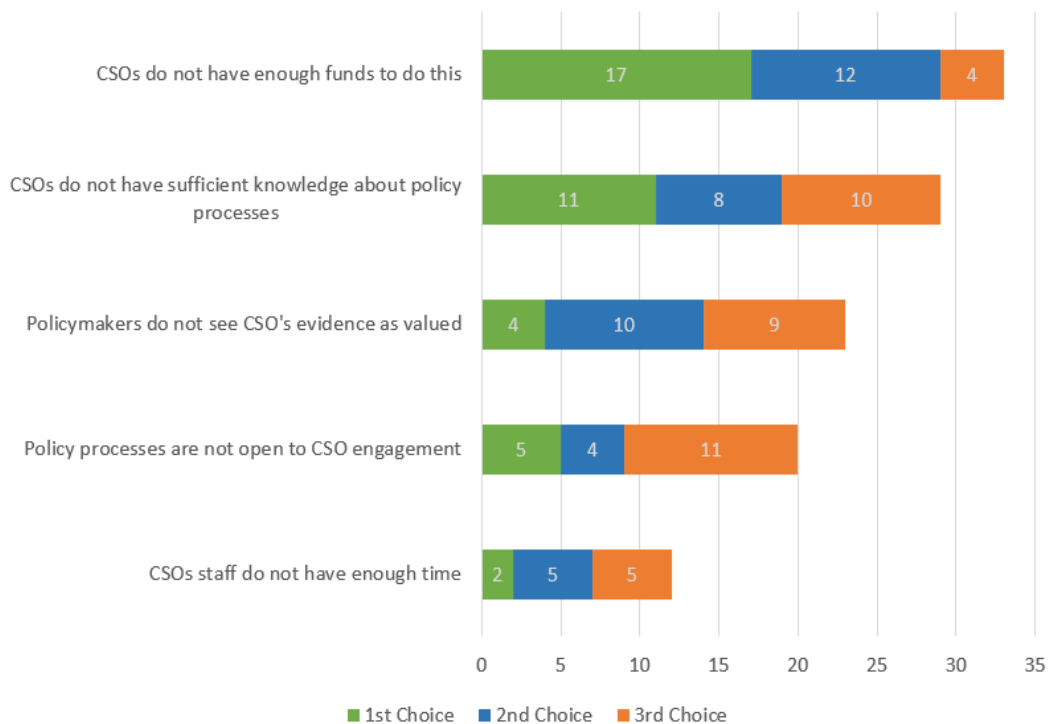


Figure 37: Challenges to CBOs engaging in policy

Among CBOs, a lack of funds was not only the option with the most overall selections (84%), it was also the option with the most selections for organisations’ top challenge (44%).

Insufficient knowledge about policy processes was the next most selected, with 29 selections overall (74%) and 11 organisations (28%) saying it was their top challenge.

A lack of funds and insufficient knowledge about policy processes were also the top two most selected overall and most selected for top challenge among FBOs (see figure 38 below). However, the option most selected as their top challenge for FBOs was a lack of knowledge (11 organisations or 35%) rather than a lack of funds (10 organisations or 32%).

For both FBOs and CBOs, their third most selected challenge overall was that policymakers do not see CSO’s evidence as valued (68%), which is a contrast to NGOs for whom this was the least selected option overall (47%).

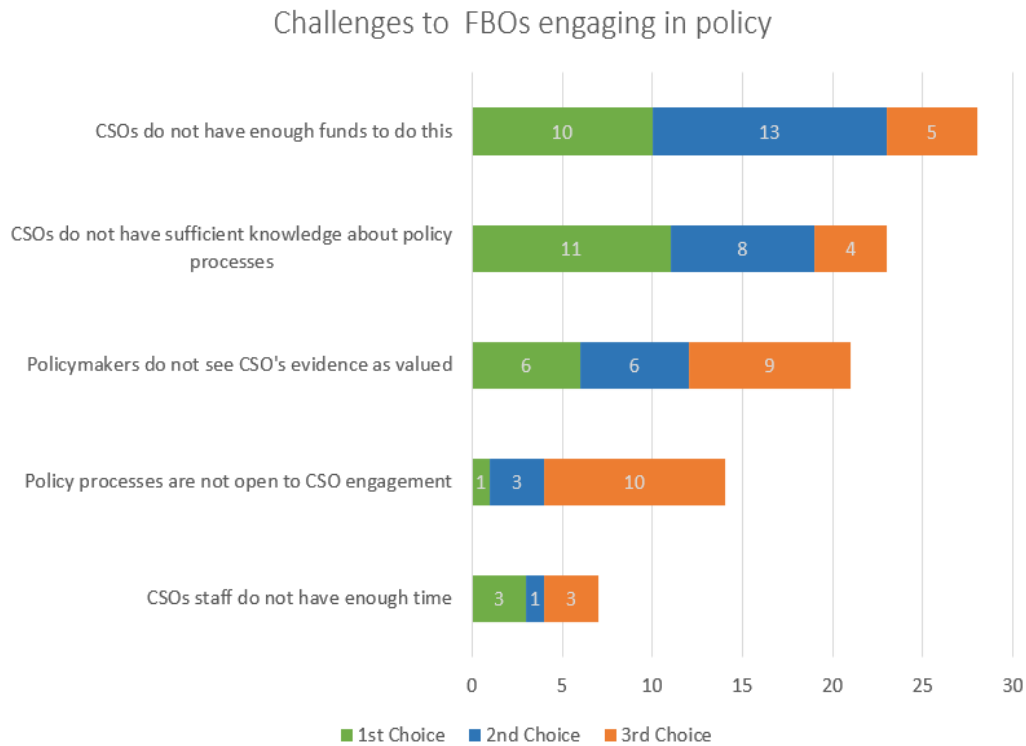


Figure 38: Challenges to FBOs engaging in policy

‘CSOs staff do not have enough time’ was the least selected challenge for CBOs and FBOs with only 12 and 7 organisations nominating this among their top three choices respectively (27% of CBOs and FBOs). While it was not among NGOs and trusts’ top three challenges, it was selected by 20 organisations, or 59% of NGOs and trusts.

4.2 Single Main Challenge

CSOs were then asked what their single main challenge was in using research and evidence to influence policy.

The question asked was:

- *Please select the single main challenge of using research and evidence to influence policy.*

Options:

- *CSOs do not have the resources (time, money, staff) to conduct research and analysis*
- *CSOs have limited capacity to use and adapt research results*

- *CSOs have insufficient research capacity (knowledge, skills, confidence)*
- *Policymakers are not used to using research and evidence*
- *Policymakers have limited capacity to use and adapt evidence in policy processes*
- *Other*

They were also asked to nominate what ‘other’ was where this was selected and to expand on why their selected option was their single main challenge.

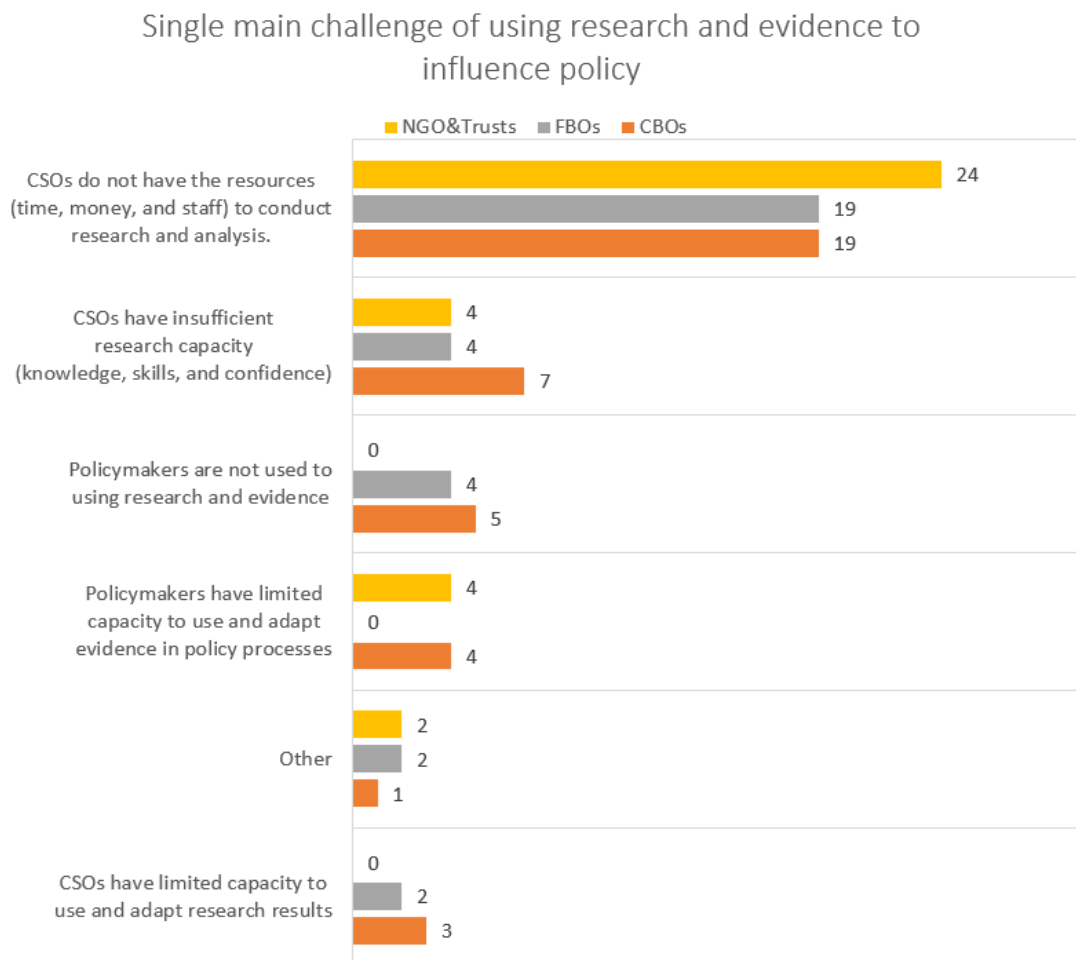


Figure 39: Single main challenge of using research and evidence to influence policy (all CSOs)

The overwhelming main challenge for CSOs was a lack of resources. However, interestingly, it was only the main challenge for 49% of CBOs compared to 61% of FBOs and 70% of NGOs and trusts.

Two options tied in second place for NGOs and trusts: that they have insufficient research capacity (12%) and that policymakers have limited capacity to use and adapt evidence in policy processes (12%).

Main challenge for NGOs & Trusts

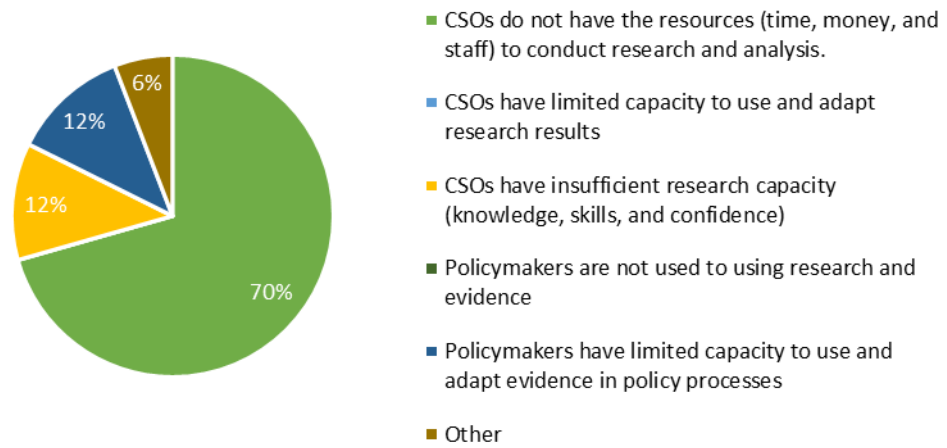


Figure 40: Main challenge for NGOs & Trusts

Main challenge for CBOs

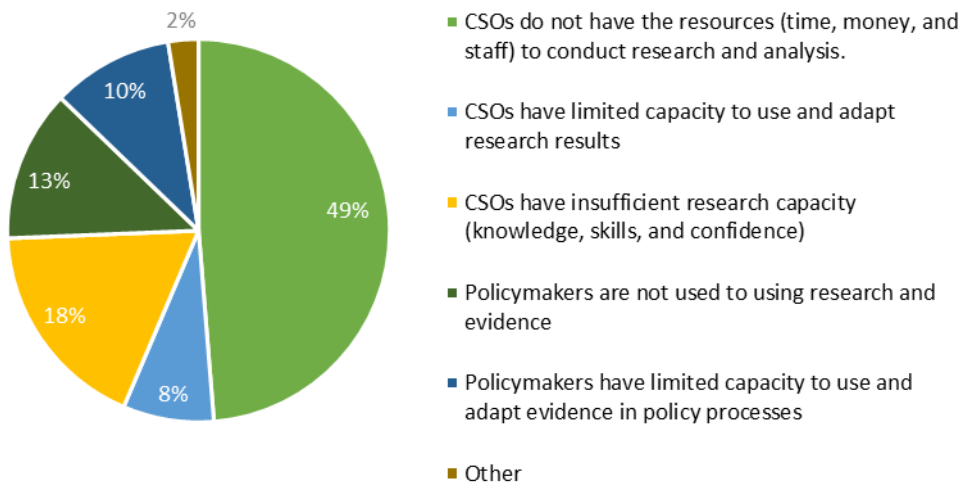


Figure 41: Main challenge for CBOs

Main challenge for FBOs

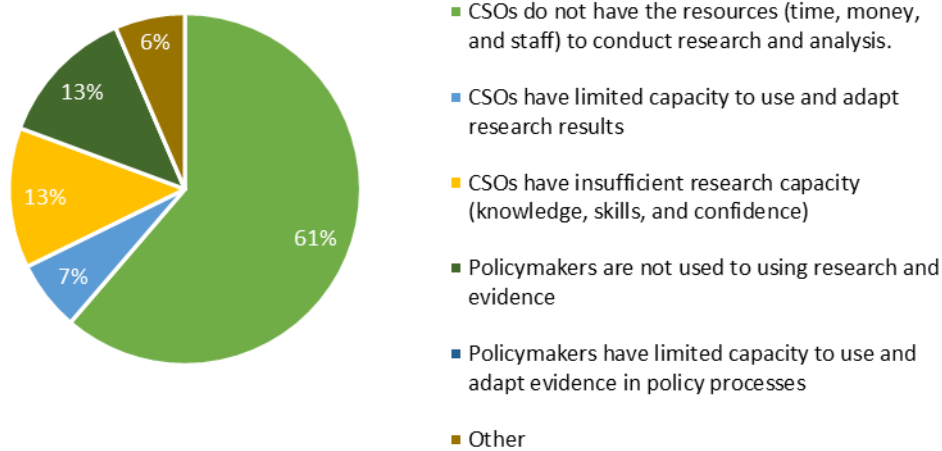


Figure 42: Main challenge for FBOs

Among CBOs, the second most selected option for their main challenge was that CSOs have insufficient research capacity in terms of knowledge, skills and confidence (18%). This was also second for FBOs, however it was tied with policymakers not being used to using research and evidence (13% each).

4.2.1 Reasons for CSOs 'main barrier' selections

CSOs were asked:

- *Please explain why this is the main barrier in your opinion*

Some themes that emerged from the many and varied responses to the open-ended question above were:

Resource constraints (time, money, staff) – Selected by 62 organisations

- The vast majority of the 62 CSOs who selected resource constraints pointed out it was self-evident that finance is critical for CSOs to perform their functions. Without finance specifically, they are unable to hire staff or purchase the necessary equipment to participate better in evidence-based advocacy and policy engagement
- CSOs also wanted to point out that it was not a lack of interest, or a disregard of policy issues that limits their engagement but a lack of resources.

Insufficient Capacity (knowledge, skills and confidence) – Selected by 15 organisations

- Some CSOs told SUNGO that they were not confident in expressing their concerns due to a lack of understanding of policy processes, and a worry that they would be attacked for not having enough knowledge of the situation
- For CBOs, the fact that most conferences and meetings happen in Apia means that they lack the ability to attend and increase their knowledge at these forums. There is a sense that the government does not go to them to explain what is going on.
- For smaller NGOs, responses provided included: a lack of technical research capacity, lacking an understanding of how to analyse policy, research and policy engagement not being a key function of their organisation, and the organisation not being well-established enough to dedicate resources to this area (i.e. no permanent staff).

4.3 Overall Observations

Given the responses to the questions on barriers above, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that more secure funding and resourcing for CSOs in Samoa would result in a much more robust and engaged CSO sector. In both questions around challenges, CSOs overwhelmingly said their key challenges were a lack of funds, and a lack of resources including funds, time and staff, that latter of which are solvable problems with sufficient funds.

Another area where more work can be done, and where perhaps SUNGO and key government bodies can assist is the lack of knowledge about policy processes, which was the second most selected option when CSOs were asked to select their top three challenges.

Similarly, improving CSOs knowledge, skills and confidence in research capacity is an area that CSOs can address more easily than funds, and that SUNGO has worked to improve through its EU EDF grant. It should be noted however that without funding and resources, CSOs are limited in their capacity to put their improvements in skill, knowledge and confidence to use.

5: Representation

SUNGO also wanted to understand who CSOs were currently represented by in policy making arenas, and who they would like to be represented by.

To this end, two questions were put to participating organisations:

- *Who is currently representing your organisation in policy making?*
- *Who would you like to represent your organisation in policy making?*

The options provided were:

- SUNGO
- CSSP
- MWCSO
- Village Representative
- Your Organisation Representative
- Other

Organisations were asked to select as many options as were relevant to them.

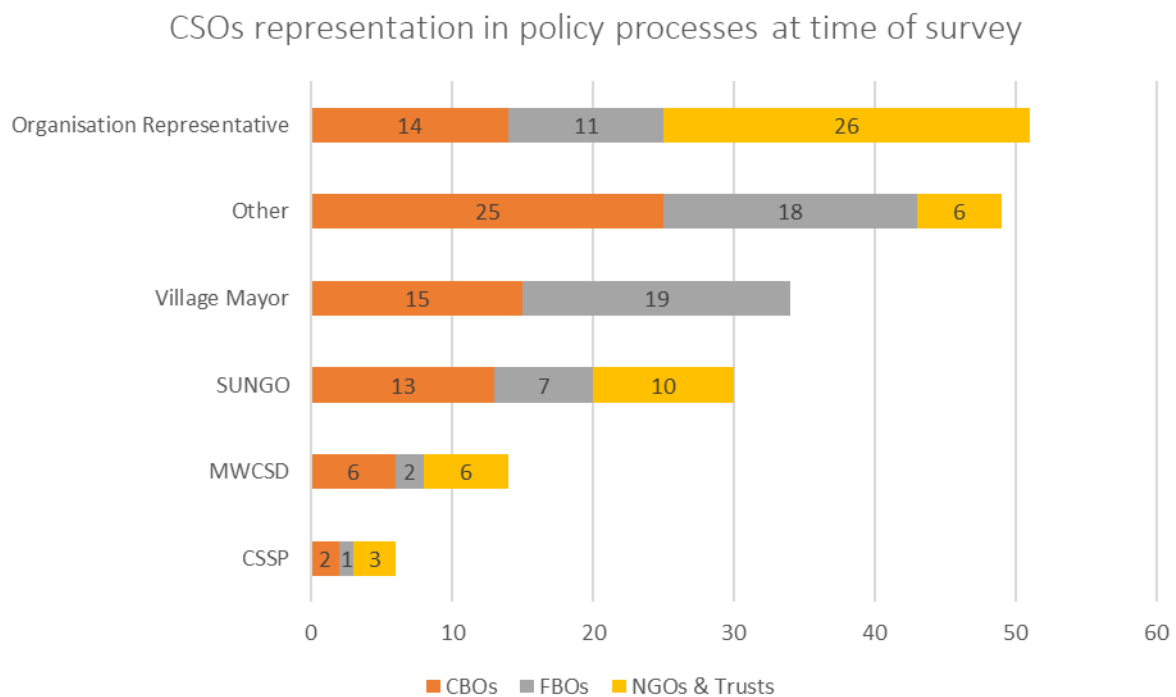


Figure 43: CSOs representation in policy making at the time of the survey

From the results, 76% of NGOs and trusts (25 organisations) who responded to this question were being represented by their own organisational representatives.³ This was less so for FBOs and CBOs among whom only 11 (35%) and 14 (36%) were being represented by their own organisation's representatives.

'Other' was the second-most selected option, indicating researchers missed key representatives in designing the options. The main omission was *Sui Tama'ita'i* or Village Female Representatives. 31 organisations (30%) nominated their Village Female Representatives as their current representatives in policy making.

Given the nature of CBOs and FBOs as mostly operating at village or community level, it is unsurprising that all 31 organisations nominating their *Sui Tama'ita'i* were CBOs and FBOs. This represents 44% of CBOs and FBOs surveyed. Equally expectedly, all organisations who were being represented by their Village Mayors were CBOs and FBOs.

There were also 5 'none' or 'no one' responses. These were from three CBOs, one FBO and one NGO.

Remaining 'other' responses were one or two responses each for a variety of government departments (Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture [MESC], Ministry of Health [MOH], Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment [MNRE]) and two NGOs Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) (2 organisations) and Samoa Association of Manufacturers and Exporters (SAME) (1 organisation). Of the departments, MESC was nominated by four organisations.

Finally, two organisations indicated they were being represented by their spiritual parents (or other church representatives), and neither of these organisations chose 'organisational representatives'. Whether the nominated spiritual representatives are someone other than an organisational representative is unclear.

SUNGO was also well-represented however, communities' own representatives and organisational representatives were clearly the main persons CSOs felt they were being represented by in policy making processes.

³ Due to surveyor omission, one NGO was not asked this question. The total number of CSOs who answered this question was 103, the total number of NGOs and trusts was 33.

CSOs preferred representatives in policy processes

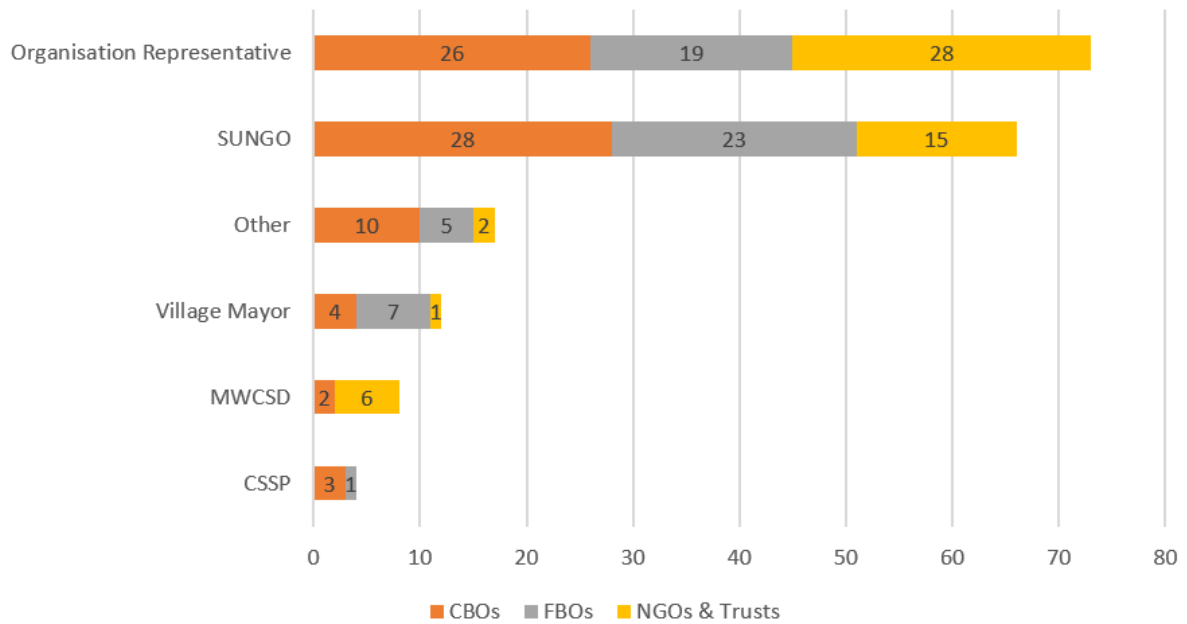


Figure 44: CSOs preferred representatives

When asked who they would like to represent their organisations in policy making, a large number of organisations across the board chose their organisational representatives.

For CBOs and FBOs, SUNGO was the most selected preferred representative, followed by their organisational representatives, however for NGOs and trusts, their organisational representatives were selected by considerably more than the number selecting SUNGO. Less than half of NGOs and trusts surveyed selected SUNGO as a preferred representative however 70% of CBOs and 74% of FBOs surveyed chose SUNGO.

Interestingly only twelve organisations selected their Village Mayor. ‘Other’ was also less represented than when asked who was representing their organisations currently. Among the ‘other’ responses, ten were for their Village Female Representatives, three were for their President, Executive or Chairmen (arguably organisation representatives), and one response each for MESC and MNRE. There was also one non-response and one organisation which said they would take any help they can get in this space.

6: Desired Assistance

6.1 Ways CSOs would prefer SUNGO to assist them in their efforts in influencing policy

SUNGO asked CSOs how it might best assist them in research capacity and engaging with policy processes.

Specifically they were asked:

- *Of the following, what is your most preferred way for SUNGO to assist your organisation in its efforts in influencing policy? (select one)*

Options:

- *Networking*
- *Capacity Building/Trainings*
- *Advocacy*
- *Support for more research on policy*

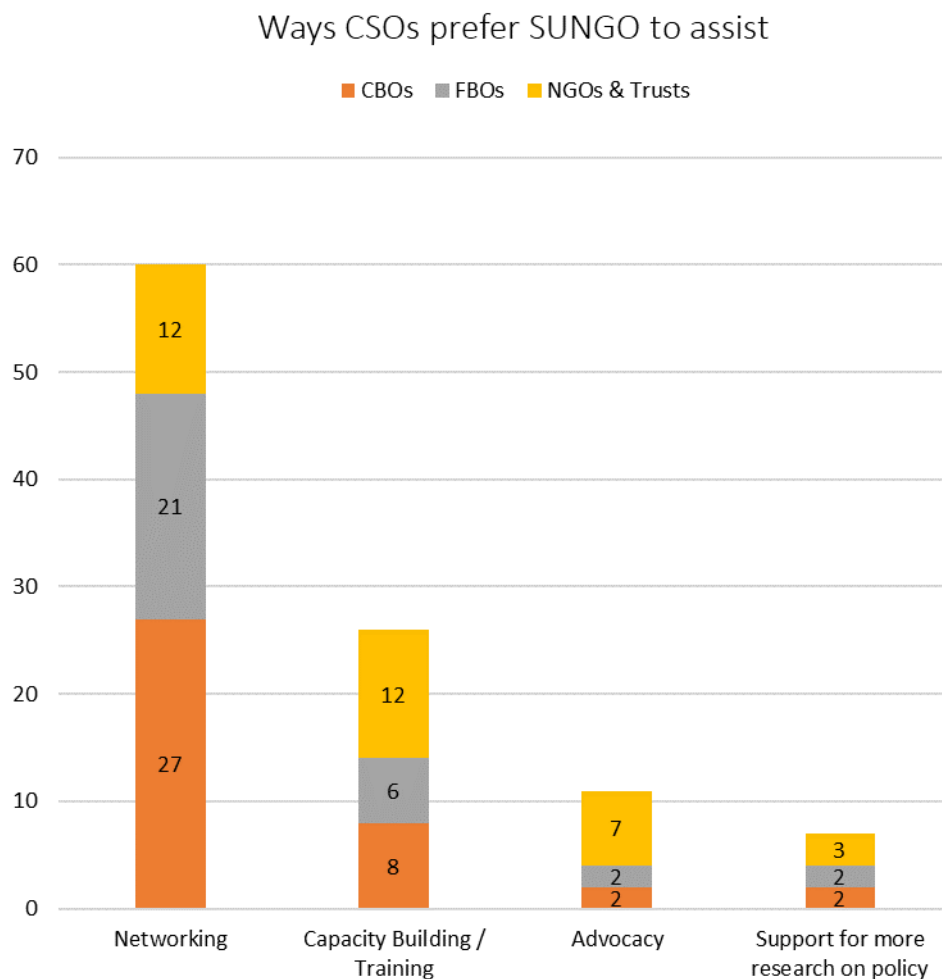


Figure 45: Ways CSOs prefer SUNGO to assist their efforts in influencing policy

The results were overwhelmingly for networking (58%) compared to 25% for capacity building, 11% for advocacy and 7% for support for more research on policy.

Disaggregating by organisation type, 69% of CBOs and 68% of FBOs interviewed selected networking as their most preferred way for SUNGO to assist. The results for NGOs were more mixed with an equal number of NGOs and trusts nominating capacity building/training and networking (12 organisations or 35% each).

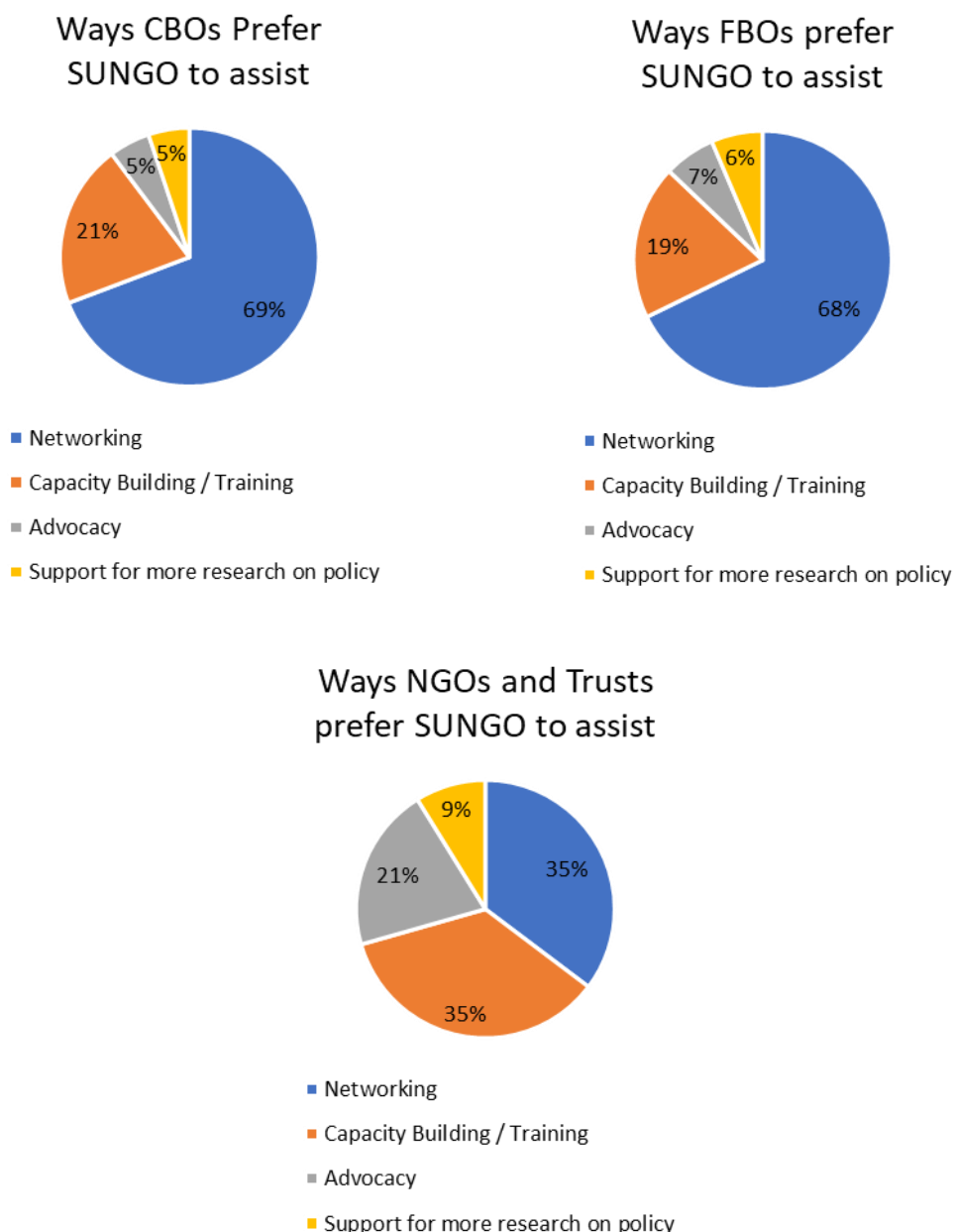


Figure 46: Ways CSOs prefer SUNGO to assist their efforts in influencing policy by type of organisation

6.2 Reasons for CSOs 'preferred method' selections

Organisations were also asked to expand on why they chose their preferred method.

Question:

- *Please explain your choice*

While there were a range of varied responses, two themes emerged around the responses as to why CSOs chose networking as a preferred method:

- Networking offered new avenues of possibility and the opportunity for SUNGO to deliver more training, capacity building and information exchange.
- Networking is a way some organisations felt SUNGO could show and strengthen its commitment to CSOs and the role of civil society by facilitating joint lobbying and campaigning in areas of importance to civil society as a whole.

For those who selected capacity building, the following themes emerged as to why this was their preferred way for SUNGO to assist their organisations:

- Capacity building could increase CSO engagement in policy making processes through better understanding of these processes.
- Capacity building could open the door to information exchange and other areas of collaboration that may benefit their policy engagement efforts in the future.
- For some, the capacity building was not specifically chosen for policy engagement or evidence-based advocacy but rather they took it as an opportunity to emphasise that there were other areas of training that were a bigger priority to them.

6.3 Most important action SUNGO and the Government can take to assist CSOs

CSOs were asked two further questions in the theme of what assistance they would like.

Questions:

1. *What is the most important action that SUNGO can take to assist your organisation in its ability to engage with and influence policy?*
2. *What is the most important action that the Government can take to assist your organisation in its ability to engage with and influence policy?*

Options:

- *Provide easily accessible, clear information to CSOs on policy processes, avenues to engage with policy and the relevant stakeholders in the policy process*

- *Improve the relationship between CSOs and policy makers (Government Ministries) by increasing the opportunities and avenues for dialogue and understanding between CSOs and policy makers.*
- *Other*

Most important action SUNGO can take to assist organisations

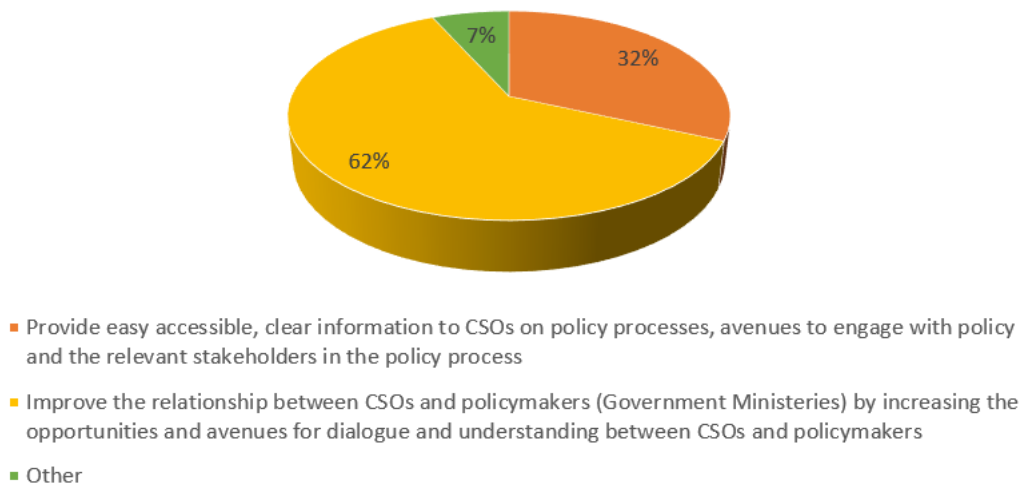


Figure 47: Most important action SUNGO can take to assist organisations

Most important action SUNGO can take to assist organisations

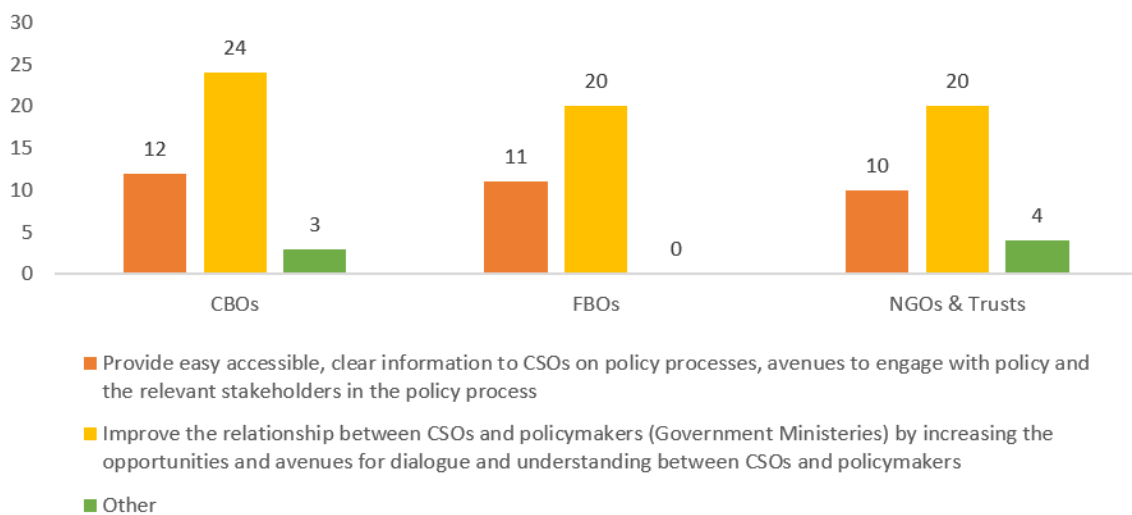


Figure 48: Most important action SUNGO can take to assist organisations by type of organisation

When asked about the most important action SUNGO can take to assist organisations, the majority of organisations (62%) and the majority of organisations in each organisation type selected increasing opportunities and avenues for dialogue and

understanding between CSOs and policymakers. 62% of CBOs, 65% of FBOs and 59% of NGOs and trusts chose this option.

Most important action the Government can take to assist organisations

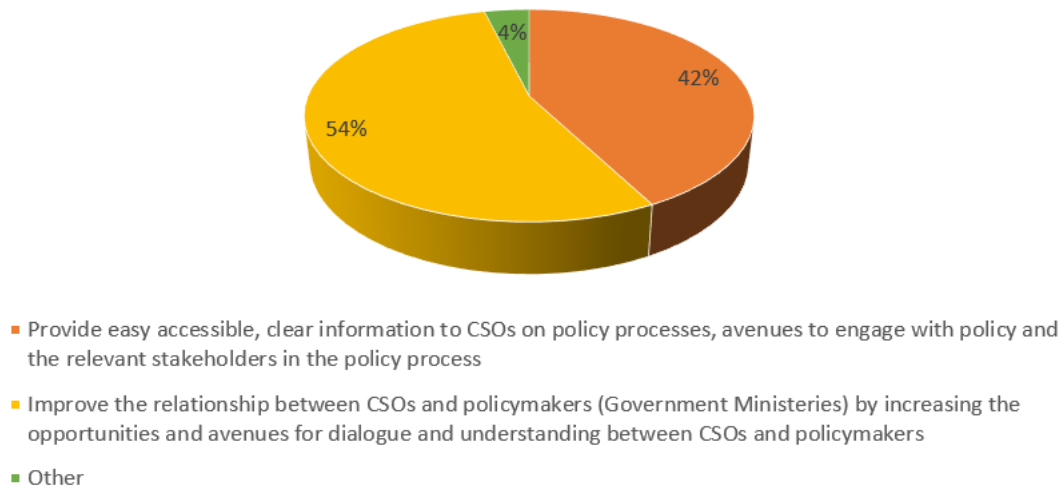


Figure 49: Most important action the Government can take to assist organisations

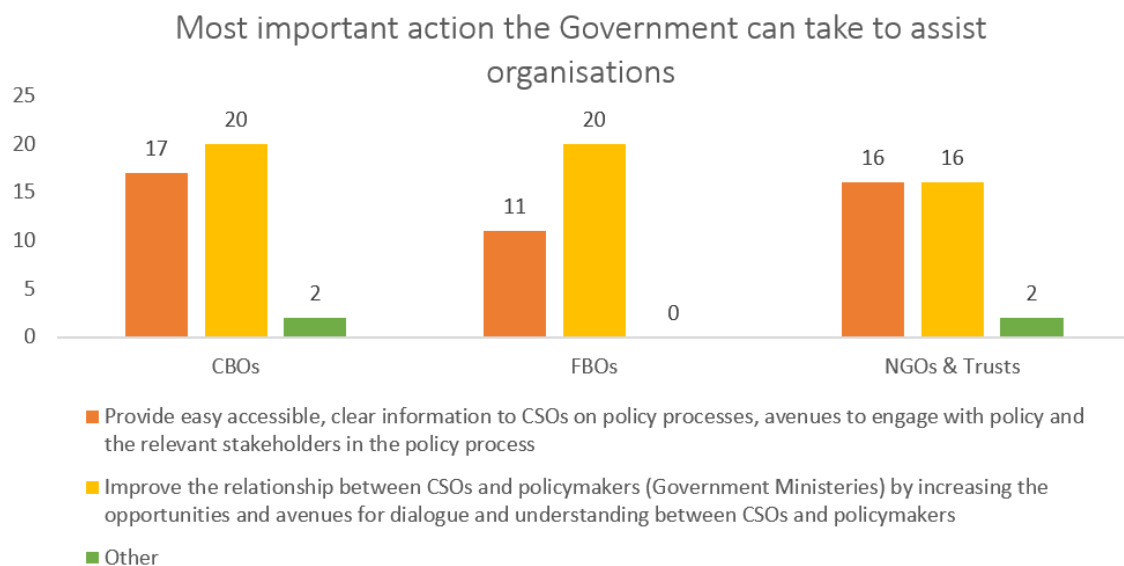


Figure 50: Most important action the Government can take to assist organisations by type of organisation

While most CBOs and FBOs chose the same response when asked about the most important action the Government can take, there was a much higher preference for improving the relationship between CSOs among FBOs (65%) than CBOs (51%). Among CBOs the difference between the two options was smaller than FBOs.

NGOs and trusts in contrast to CBOs and FBOs were evenly split 16-16 between the two options, with two selecting 'other'.

6.3.1 Overall Observations

The single most important action both SUNGO and the government can take is to move towards improving relationships and opportunities for engagement between CSOs and the government.

There was however a noticeably higher percentage of CBOs (44%) and NGOs (44%) who would like the government (as opposed to SUNGO) to provide easy, accessible and clear information to CSOs on policy processes and avenues to engage with policy. This option was only selected by 30% of CBOs and 29% of NGOs when asked what SUNGO could do.

Conclusion and Key Findings

This survey was designed to gain a better understanding of CSOs engagement with policy processes in Samoa and how SUNGO could best support CSOs in this space. The overarching questions for SUNGO were:

1. How are CSOs engaging with policy processes?
2. Where have their successes and key challenges been?
3. What assistance do they need to better engage with policy processes in Samoa?

The survey has provided useful insight into an area which has not been extensively researched. The key findings are summarised below.

Areas of Policy Most CSOs seek to influence between 3 to 6 areas of policy, with an average of 4.3 areas. The majority of CSOs also reported having success in influencing between 3 and 6 areas of policy, with an average of 3.5 successful areas per CSO.

Regardless of the type of CSO, health and education were within the top 4 most selected areas of policy CSOs seek to influence however there were significant differences between the types of CSOs in other areas. Agriculture was selected by a noticeably larger number of FBOs and CBOs but not NGOs and trusts. Women's issues and disability were a priority for more NGOs and trusts than FBOs or CBOs.

Over 50% of CSOs wanting to influence an area of policy reported success in doing so for most policy areas listed. The exceptions were rule of law/justice/human rights, budget processes and international trade. CSOs seeking to influence agriculture, children's welfare and people with a disability policy areas had the highest success rates with 85%-86% of organisations who sought to influence policy in these areas reporting that they had been successful.

Methods of Influencing Policy The results for the extent to which CSOs used a range of methods to influence policy, were stark. For each of ten methods, the vast majority of CSOs reported that had not used the method at all. Interestingly, only 16 organisations reported they did not use any of the methods, indicating that while the usage of each method was not high, the majority of CSOs had used at least one of the listed methods to some extent.

The difference between organisation types was significant, with NGOs reporting much higher usage of the listed methods of influencing policy than CBOs or FBOs. Well-represented methods among NGOs were providing services and networking. Among CBOs and FBOs, the most well represented methods of influence were charity, lobbying and face to face engagement.

Efficacy of Methods used to Influence Policy From a list of methods involving direct policy engagement, the method most selected for its efficacy in influencing policy was

consultations with SUNGO. Consultations with government and consultations with stakeholders were also selected by a large group of CSOs. Of the five options presented to CSOs, these three methods were the highest selected methods for their efficacy regardless of the type of organisation. NGOs however rated consultations with government as the most effective while for FBOs and CBOs it was consultations with SUNGO.

Efficacy of Types of Evidence in Influencing Policy The majority of CSOs reported personal testimonies, academic research, surveys, statistics and case studies to be ineffective. While almost all CBOs and FBOs found the methods of evidence to be ineffective, at least 62% of NGOs said each method was effective to some extent. The types of evidence NGOs reported as being effective to a significant extent were personal testimonies and statistics.

Barriers and Challenges to Influencing Policy The top three challenges for CSOs as a whole were a lack of funds, a lack of knowledge about policy processes and that policymakers do not value CSOs' evidence. However, lack of staff time and policy processes not being open to CSO engagement were greater barriers for NGOs than policymakers not valuing their evidence.

The single main challenge reported by most CSOs was a lack of resources (time, money, staff) regardless of type of organisation. 70% of NGOs and trusts and 61% of FBOs reported this as their main challenge. While a lack of resources was also the largest selected main challenge of CBOs, a noticeably smaller 49% of CBOs chose this as their main challenge.

Representation in Policy Discussions When it came to representation, the majority of CSOs were represented by their own organisational representatives or village mayor and village women's representatives. Most CBOs and FBOs wanted SUNGO and their organisational representative to represent them in policy making, however the majority of NGOs preferred to represent themselves.

Desired Assistance in Engaging with Policy CSOs nominated networking as overwhelmingly the most preferred way for SUNGO to assist them in influencing policy. Among NGOs and trusts however, there was an equal amount of support for capacity building.

The majority of CSOs felt the most important action SUNGO and the government can take is to increase opportunities for dialogue between CSOs and policymakers.

Overall Observations

The results show that there are some key areas of commonality among CSO experiences in engaging with policy.

Most CSOs regardless of type seek to influence a range of policy areas within Samoa, and many organisations had seen success in influencing policy. Interestingly as well, most CSOs had used some of ten methods of influence surveyed to at least some extent. The main challenge for CSOs was a lack of funds or a lack of resources more broadly and the main way CSOs wished for SUNGO and government to assist them was to provide networking opportunities and increase the opportunities for dialogue between CSOs and policymakers.

In contrast to the above however were a number of key areas of divergence between the different categories of CSOs.

NGOs as a group were much more likely to have used a variety of methods to influence policy. They also reported higher usage of a variety of evidence types, and they found a range of evidence types more useful in influencing policy than FBOs or CBOs.

NGOs and trusts results differed from CBOs and FBOs when nominating the most effective methods of engaging with policy, their key barriers and challenges, their representation preferences, and their desired assistance.

From SUNGO's understanding of the CSO sector and its membership, that NGOs and trusts have different needs and experiences to CBOs and FBOs is unsurprising.

The information provided by this survey on how CSOs differ and the specific needs, experiences and priorities of each type of CSO, provides invaluable information to SUNGO on how best to support the different parts of the CSO whole. The results should also provide useful information to other stakeholders on how they might do the same for a more robust civil society sector that is engaged with policy debates in the areas that are important to them, their membership and Samoan civil society.

Appendix 1: Full Survey - English Version

KEY CSO PRIORITIES AND THE BARRIERS PREVENTING GREATER ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

AIM: The aim of the Capacity Assessment is to identify key obstacles and challenges that prevent civil society organizations from participating in government policy processes, as well as to distinguish specific areas that CSOs want to impact policy makers.

OBJECTIVE: To identify the key barriers and priorities related to CSOs engagement with government processes.

NOTE 1: This CSO Capacity Assessment Survey is based on the ODI's Research and Policy Development (RAPID) program, which aims to enhance the use of research in development policy and practice by improving information about research/policy links, knowledge management and learning processes, communication, and research awareness. Some of the questions have been updated to match the objectives at the national level, notably for the inclusion of clear questions about organizational targets in policymaking.

The responses to the questionnaire are strictly confidential, and they will be used to compile valuable data on organizational functions such as CSO research, advocacy, and capacity building. Your responses will include valuable information that will be used to define obstacles that prevent CSOs from engaging in government policymaking, as well as particular areas that CSOs target when trying to influence these processes.

DONOR: This is a key activity funded by the European Union under its 11th EDF (European Development Fund)

QUESTIONS / FESILI

1. Name of Organization.

2. What is your position within the Organization?

3. What type of Organization you are representing?

- Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
- Community Based Organization (CBO)
- Faith Based Organization (FBO)
- Trust

4. To what extent does your organization use the following methods to influence policy?

0 (< Not at all) ----- (Significant extent >) 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Face to Face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lobbying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Charity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Organize policy seminars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Newsletter to policymakers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Networking with other Organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Submit articles in the media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Who is currently representing your Organization in policy making?

- SUNGO (Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organization)
- CSSP (Civil Society Support Programme)
- MWCSD (Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development)
- Village Representative (Village Mayor)
- Your Organization Representative
- Other

5.1 Please specify

6. Who would you want or like to represent your Organization in policy making?

- SUNGO (Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organization)
- CSSP (Civil Society Support Programme)
- MWCSD (Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development)
- Village Representative (Village Mayor)
- Your Organization Representative
- Other

6.1. Please specify.

7. Which of these policy areas does your Organization want to influence?

- Agriculture
- Urban Poverty
- Education
- Health
- Environment / Conservation
- Women's Issues / Gender Inequality
- Children Welfare
- Labor
- Budget Processes
- Economic (Domestic Policy)
- International Trade and / or Finance
- Rule of Law / Justice / Human Rights
- Governance / Accountability
- Transport
- People with Disability
- Other (please specify)
- None

7.1 Please specify.

8. Which of these policy areas has your organization been most successful in influencing?

- Agriculture
- Urban Poverty
- Education
- Health
- Environmental / Conservation
- Women's Issues / Gender Inequality
- Child welfare
- Labour
- Budget processes
- Economic (Domestic policy)
- International trade and / or finance
- Rule of Law / Justice / Human Rights
- Governance / Accountability
- Transport
- People with Disability
- Other (Please Specify)
- None

9. In your organization's experience in the last 4 years, to what extent are the following types of evidence effective when seeking to influence policy.

0 (< Not at all) ----- (Significant extent) 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Surveys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Statistics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic Research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Case Studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal testimonies from beneficiaries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. Of the following, what is your most preferred way for SUNGO to assist your organization in its efforts in influencing policy?

- Networking
- Capacity Building / Trainings
- Advocacy
- Support for more research on policy

11. Please explain your choice

Please refer to your choice in question 10

12. Of the following, what have been the most effective methods for your Organization in influencing policy?

1st choice

- Submission and / or policy papers Consultations and forums with SUNGO
 Consultations and forums with government Consultations and forums with other stakeholders
 Letters (Written requests to policy makers)

2nd choice

- Submission and / or policy papers Consultations and forums with SUNGO
 Consultations and forums with government Consultations and forums with other stakeholders
 Letters (Written requests to policy makers)

3rd choice

- Submission and / or policy papers Consultations and forums with SUNGO
 Consultations and forums with government Consultations and forums with other stakeholders
 Letters (Written requests to policy makers)

13. What are the challenges to CSO engagement in policy processes?

1st choice

- CSOs do not have sufficient knowledge about policy processes CSOs staff do not have enough time
 CSOs do not have enough funds to do this Policy processes are not open to CSO engagement
 Policymakers do not see CSO's evidence as valued.

2nd choice

- CSOs do not have sufficient knowledge about policy processes CSOs staff do not have enough time
 CSOs do not have enough funds to do this Policy processes are not open to CSO engagement
 Policymakers do not see CSO's evidence as valued.

3rd choice

- CSOs do not have sufficient knowledge about policy processes CSOs staff do not have enough time
 CSOs do not have enough funds to do this Policy processes are not open to CSO engagement
 Policymakers do not see CSO's evidence as valued.

14. Please select the single main challenge of using research and evidence to influence policy.

Please select one

- CSOs do not have the resources (time, money, staff) to conduct research and analysis
- CSOs have limited capacity to use and adapt research results
- CSOs have insufficient research capacity (knowledge, skills, confidence)
- Policy makers are not used to using research and evidence
- Policy makers have limited capacity to use and adapt evidence in policy processes
- Other

14.1 Please specify.

15. Please explain why this is the main barrier in your opinion.

Note: This question is based on your answer in 14.

16. What is the most important action that SUNGO can take to assist your organization in its ability to engage with and influence policy?

- Provide easily accessible, clear information to CSOs on policy processes, avenues to engage with policy and the relevant stakeholders in the policy process
- Improve the relationship between CSOs and policy makers (Government Ministries) by increasing the opportunities and avenues for dialogue and understanding between CSOs and policy makers.
- Other

16.1. Please specify.

17. What is the most important action that the Government can take to assist your organization in its ability to engage with and influence policy?

- Provide easily accessible, clear information to CSOs on policy processes, avenues to engage with policy and the relevant stakeholders in the policy process
- Improve the relationship between CSOs and policy makers (Government Ministries) by increasing the opportunities and avenues for dialogue and understanding between CSOs and policy makers.
- Other

17.1. Please specify.

18. Please feel free to offer any additional comments you may have, including any topics you think we may have missed in designing this survey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / FA'AFETAI

Appendix 2: Full Survey – Samoan Version

KEY CSO PRIORITIES AND THE BARRIERS PREVENTING GREATER ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

SINI AUTU: O le fa'amoemoe autu o lenei su'esu'ega 'ina ia fa'a'iloa i Fa'alapotopotoga Tuma'oti ma Tagata lautele o Samoa, taiala ma faiga fa'avae fa'aletulafono aua le silafia, 'ina ia mafai ai 'ona fa'aleo se tu'ualalo ile Malō.

FA'AMOEMOEGA: 'Ina ia 'au'ilili fa'afitauli ma matafaioi e uiga i feso'otaiga a Fa'alapotopotoga Tuma'oti ma Tagata Lautele ma tai'ala faaletulafono a le Malō.

FA'AMATALAGA 1: O lenei su'esu'ega o lo'o fa'avae i luga o taiala o su'esu'ega ua fa'aigoaina ole ODI Research & Policy Development (RAPID), e fa'amoemoe e fa'alauteleina le fa'aaogaina o sa'ililiga i le atina'eina o su'esu'ega ma fa'ata'ita'iga e ala i le fa'aleleia atili o fa'amatalaga, e uiga i iloiloiga, feso'ota'iga o faiga fa'avae, tomai ma agava'a, fa'asoa, ma le fa'alauloaina o su'esu'ega. O nisi o fesili ua mae'a 'ona iloiloina 'ina ia o gatasi ma le fa'amoemoe ole tulaga fa'aleatunu'u, aemaise o le aofia ai o fesili manino e uiga i sini o fa'alapotopotoga i faiga faavae.

O fa'amatalaga uma ua tu'uina mai e matua malupuipua, ma e fa'aaogaina e tu'ufa'atasia ai fa'amatalaga tāua, fautuaga, su'esu'ega ma tomai fa'alea'oa'oga mai i Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti ma Tagata Lautele. Matou te fa'afetaia lou fa'amaoni ma le tali fa'amae'ae'aina o fesili sa tu'uina atu.

FA'ATUPEINA: O lenei su'esu'ega o lo'o fa'atupeina e le Luni a Europa i lalo ole vaega 11 ole EDF (European Development Fund).

FESILI

1. Igoa o le Fa'alapotopotoga

2. O le a lou tulaga i totonu o le Fa'alapotopotoga?

3. O le a le ituaiga Fa'alapotopotoga o lo'o e sui ai?

- Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti
- Fa'alapotopotoga i Nu'u ma Afio'aga
- Fa'alapotopotoga Fa'alelotu
- Fa'alapotopotoga Tausi Mavaega

4. O le a le fa'alautelea o lo'o fa'aaogaina ai e lau fa'alapotopotoga auala o lo'o taua i lalo e fa'aleo ai outou manatu i ta'iala fa'aletulafono a le Malō.

0 (< Leai lava) ----- (Taua tele >) 5

Talanoa Fa'afesaga'i

0	1	2	3	4	5
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Talanoa Fa'asamasamanoa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fa'alapotopotoga e ofoina atu auaunaga e leai se totogi	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A'oa'oga fuafuaina mo le fa'avae	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pepa o fa'amatalaga mo le 'au faitulafono	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feso'ota'iga ma isi fa'alapotopotoga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tu'uina atu ni fa'amaumauga mo le 'au fa'asalalau	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Upega o fa'amatalaga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tapenaina o ni a'oa'oga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tapenaina o ni 'au'aunaga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. O ai o lo'o avefa nei ma sui o la outou Fa'alapotopotoga i le talanoaina o ta'iala fa'aletulafono?

- Fa'amalu mo Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti a Samoa (SUNGO)
- Polokalame mo Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele (CSSP)
- Matagaluega o Tina, Tama'ita'i, Atinae o Nu'u ma Agafeso'otai (MWCSD)
- Pulenu'u (Sui ole Malō)
- Sui a la outou Fa'alapotopotoga
- Ma isi

5.1 Fa'amolemole fa'a'iloa mai

6. O ai ete finagalo e avefa ma sui o la outou Fa'alapotopotoga i totonu o iloiloga o faiga fa'avae ma tulafono a le malō?

- Fa'amalu mo Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti a Samoa (SUNGO)
- Polokalame mo Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele (CSSP)
- Matagaluega o Tina, Tama'ita'i, Atinae o Nu'u ma Agafeso'otai (MWCSD)
- Pulenu'u (Sui ole Malō)
- Sui a la outou Fa'alapotopotoga
- Ma isi

6.1 Fa'amolemole fa'a'iloa mai

7. O fea o vaega nei (iloiloga fa'aletulafono) o lo'o finagalo la outou Fa'alapotopotoga e suia ana faiga fa'avae e tusa ai ma tulafono?

- Fa'atoaga
- Aiga lima vaivai i nofoaga-tu-taulaga
- A'oga
- Soifua Maloloina
- Si'osi'omaga /Fanusua Fa'asao
- Itupa Tutusa/ Sauaga o Tina ma Tamaita'i
- Manuia mo tamaiti
- Galuega
- Fa'agasologa o paketi
- Tamaoaiga (faiga fa'avae fa'alotoifale)
- Fefa'atauaiga Fa'ava-o-Malō/Tupe.
- Tulafono/Fa'amasinoga tonu/Aiā Tatau
- Pulega /Tiutetau'ave
- Femalaga'iga
- Tagata e iai ma'i tumau ole tino
- Ma isi
- E Leai

7.1 Fa'amolemole fa'a'iloa mai.

8. O fea o vaega o lo'o taua i lalo, ua i ai se suiga i la outou Fa'alapotopotoga?

- Fa'atoaga
- Aiga lima vaivai i nofoaga-tu-taulaga
- A'oga
- Soifua Maloloina
- Si'osi'omaga /Fanua Fa'asao
- Itupa Tutusa/ Sauaga o Tina ma Tamaita'i
- Manuia mo tamaiti
- Galuega
- Fa'agasologa o paketi
- Tamaoaiga (faiga fa'avae fa'alotoifale)
- Fefa'atauaiga Fa'ava-o-Malō/Tupe.
- Tulafono/Fa'amasinoga tonu/Aiā Tatau
- Pulega /Tiutetau'ave
- Femalaga'iga
- Tagata e iai ma'i tumau ole tino
- Ma isi
- E Leai

9. Mai le 4 tausaga talu ai, ua iai se suiga i vaega o lo'o taua i lalo, 'ina ua auai la outou Fa'alapotopotoga i talanoaga o faiga fa'avae?

0 1 2 3 4 5

0 (< Leai lava) ----- (Taua tele >) 5

Su'esu'ega	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fauinmera	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Su'esu'ega Aloa'ia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mataupu su'esu'eina	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Molimau totino mai Tagata Lautele	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. Mai i vaega nei, o le a le 'auala pito sili ona outou talitonuina e fesoasoani ai le SUNGO i la outou Fa'alapotopotoga i e fa'aleo se tu'ualalo mo faiga fa'avae ma tulafono a le malō?

- Galulue So'oso'otau'au
- Fausiaina o tomā/a'oa'oga
- Faufautua
- Lagolago mo nisi su'esu'ega e fa'ataua i iloiloa faaetulafono

11. Fa'amolemole faamatala mai lau filifiliga

(Fa'amolemole vaai i lau filifiliga ile fesili 10)

12. Mai i vaega nei, o le a se metotia/auala pito sili 'ona lelei mo lau Fa'alapotopotoga ile fa'atautaia ai o iloiloga o faiga fa'avae ma tulafono?

Filifiliga 1

- Tu'uina atu/po'o le folasia o pepa tulafono
- Fa'atalanoaga ma fonotaga ma le Malō
- Tusi talosaga i Tagata fai tulafono
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma le SUNGO
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma isi pa'aga

Filifiliga 2

- Tu'uina atu/po'o le folasia o pepa tulafono
- Fa'atalanoaga ma fonotaga ma le Malō
- Tusi talosaga i Tagata fai tulafono
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma le SUNGO
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma isi pa'aga

Filifiliga 3

- Tu'uina atu/po'o le folasia o pepa tulafono
- Fa'atalanoaga ma fonotaga ma le Malō
- Tusi talosaga i Tagata fai tulafono
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma le SUNGO
- Feutanaiga ma fonotaga ma isi pa'aga

13. O a ni lu'itau o lo'o feagai ma fa'alapotopotoga i le auai atu i faiga fa'avae?

Filifiliga 1

- E lē lava le tomai/ihoa o Fa'alapotopotoga i fa'agasologa o iloiloga o tulafono
- E lē lava le taimi mo tagata faigaluega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti
- E lē lava fa'atupega mo Fa'alapotopotoga e faatinoaina ai nei 'au'aunaga.
- E lē tatalaina i Fa'alapotopotoga le iloiloina o tulafono.
- E lē fa'atauaina e le au fai tulafono molimau ma su'esu'ega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti

Filifiliga 2

- E lē lava le tomai/ihoa o Fa'alapotopotoga i fa'agasologa o iloiloga o tulafono
- E lē lava le taimi mo tagata faigaluega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti
- E lē lava fa'atupega mo Fa'alapotopotoga e faatinoaina ai nei 'au'aunaga.
- E lē tatalaina i Fa'alapotopotoga le iloiloina o tulafono.
- E lē fa'atauaina e le au fai tulafono molimau ma su'esu'ega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti

Filifiliga 3

- E lē lava le tomal/iiloa o Fa'alapotopotoga i fa'agasologa o iloiloga o tulafono
- E lē lava le taimi mo tagata faigaluega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti
- E lē lava fa'atupega mo Fa'alapotopotoga e faatinoina ai nei 'au'aunaga.
- E lē tatalaina i Fa'alapotopotoga le iloiloina o tulafono.
- E lē fa'atauaina e le au fai tulafono molimau ma su'esu'ega a Fa'alapotopotoga Tumaoti

16. Fa'amolemole filifili le lu'itau autu o le fa'aaogaina o su'esu'ega ma fa'amaoniga e suia ai iloiloga o tulafono.

(Fa'amolemole filifili na'o le tolu e sili 'ona taua)

- E lē lava puna'oa (taimi, fa'atupega, aufaigaluega) a Fa'alapotopotoga e fa'atino ai su'esu'ega ma iloiloga.
- E lē gafatia e Fa'alapotopotoga tapula'a e fa'aaoga ma fetu'unai ai i'uga o su'esu'ega
- E lē lava le tomal ma le agavaa i Fa'alapotopotoga e fa'atinoina ai su'esu'ega
- E lē fa'aaogaina e le au fai tulafono su'esu'ega ma molimau
- E lē gafatia e le au faitulafono tapula'a e fa'aaoga ma fetu'una'i ai molimau ile fa'agasologa o tulafono.
- Ma isi.

-

15. Fa'amalamalama pe aisea ua avea ai lenei fa'afitauli ma lu'itau autu.

Fa'amatalaga: O lenei fesili o lo'o fa'atatau i lau filifiliga ile fesili 14.

17. O le a se gaoiga tāua e mafai ai e le SUNGO 'ona fesoasoani ai i lau Fa'alapotopotoga, i lona agava'a e auai ai i iloiloga o tulafono ma faiga fa'avae?

- Saunia 'auala faigofie ma ia manino fa'amatalaga e tu'uina atu i Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele e uiga i iloiloga fa'aletulafono.
- Fa'aleleia atili le so'otaga ile va o Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele ma le au faitulafono ile fa'ateleina o avanoa ma auala mo talanoaga ma le malamalama i le va o CSOs ma le au faitulafono.
- Ma isi.

17.1 Fa'amolemole fa'aailoa mai.

18. O le a se gaoiga tāua e mafai e le Malō 'ona faia, e fesoasoani ai i lau Fa'alapotopotoga ina ia si'itia agava'a mo le iloiloga o faiga fa'avae ma tulafono?

- Saunia 'auala faigofie ma ia manino fa'amatalaga e tu'uina atu i Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele e uiga i iloiloga fa'aletulafono.
- Fa'aleleia atili le so'otaga ile va o Fa'alapotopotoga o Tagata Lautele ma le au faitulafono ile fa'ateleina o avanoa ma auala mo talanoaga ma le malamalama i le va o CSOs ma le au faitulafono.
- Ma isi.

18.1 Fa'amolemole fa'ailoa mai

19. Afai e i ai ni au fa'amatalaga fa'aopoopo, e aofia ai ma ni mataupu e te silafia ua matou lē ta'ua, fa'amolemole fa'ailoa mai

FA'AFETAI

Fa'afetai tele lava mo fa'amatalaga ua tu'uina mai auā lenei fa'amoemoe ina ia si'itia le silafia e le atunu'u o faiga fa'avae ma suiga o tulafono a le malō.

Mo nisi fa'amatalaga fa'afesootai mai le vaega o su'esu'ega i imeli ua ta'ua; research@sungo.ws po'o le programme@sungo.ws.

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