



TCA WG meeting

28th October 2019

Taking stock of realized TCAs 2014-2018

Research results, conclusions

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Aims of the study

The taking stock study has twofold aims concerning the TCA:

1. summarizing the results of the TCAs that took place between the project rounds of 2014 – 2018;
2. drawing conclusions for the upcoming period in order to raise the quality and the impact of the TCAs.

Methods used



Quantitative method

- Data analysis

Qualitative methods used

- **Questionnaire**

- Questionnaires were sent to all relevant NAs' TCA officers - E&T sectors

- **Interviews**

- Certain NAs were chosen for interviews

Data analysis



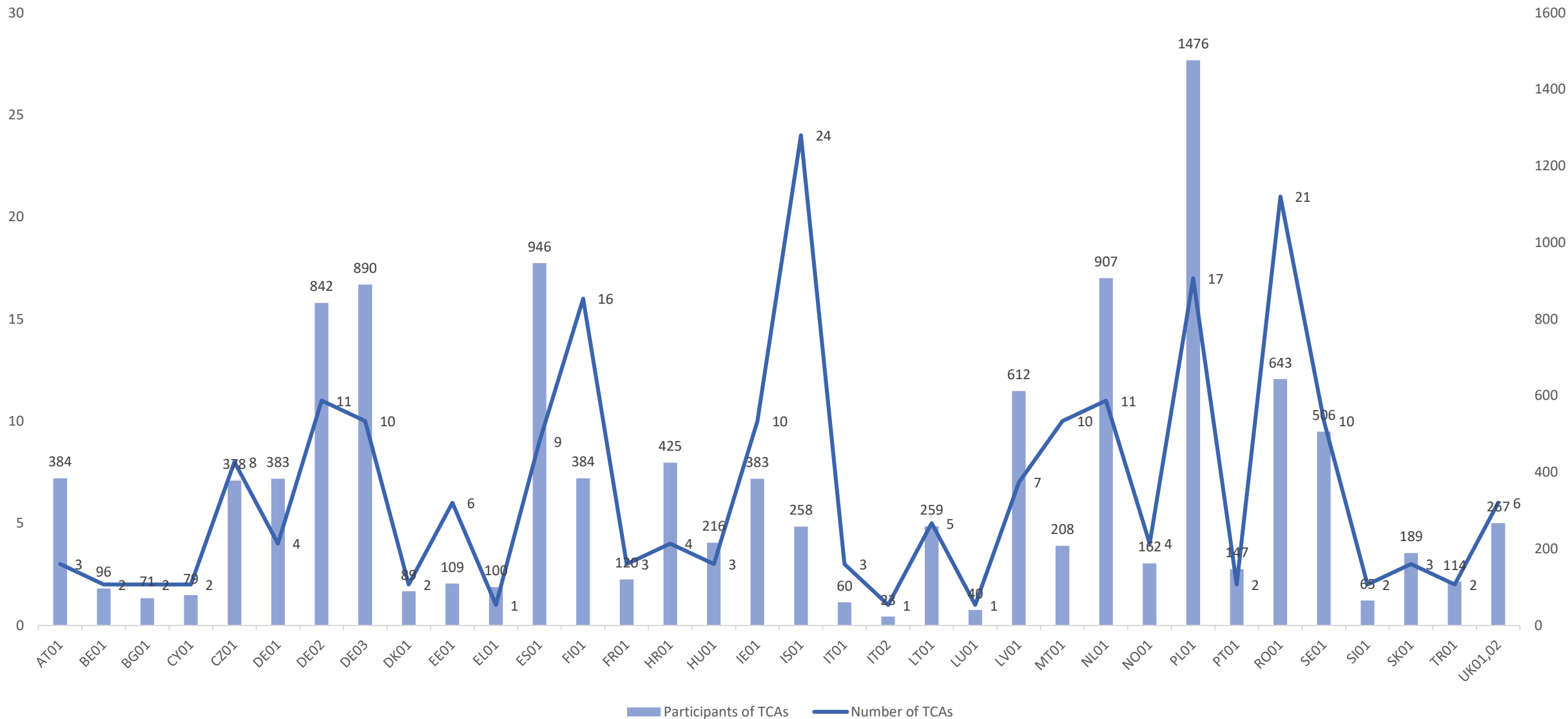
- Data were derived and extracted from EplusLink between 2014 – 2018
- Following project rounds were counted: 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and TCAs with realised status of 2018 budget year.
- *All realised activities* registered in the EplusLink until 11 July 2019 were taken into account.
 - No planned, cancelled or cancelled with eligible costs
- International events were counted only.
- Data were analysed both from hosting and sending perspective
- The study summarizes the results of all TCAs except the youth sector.

Summary of the data analysis – hosting side

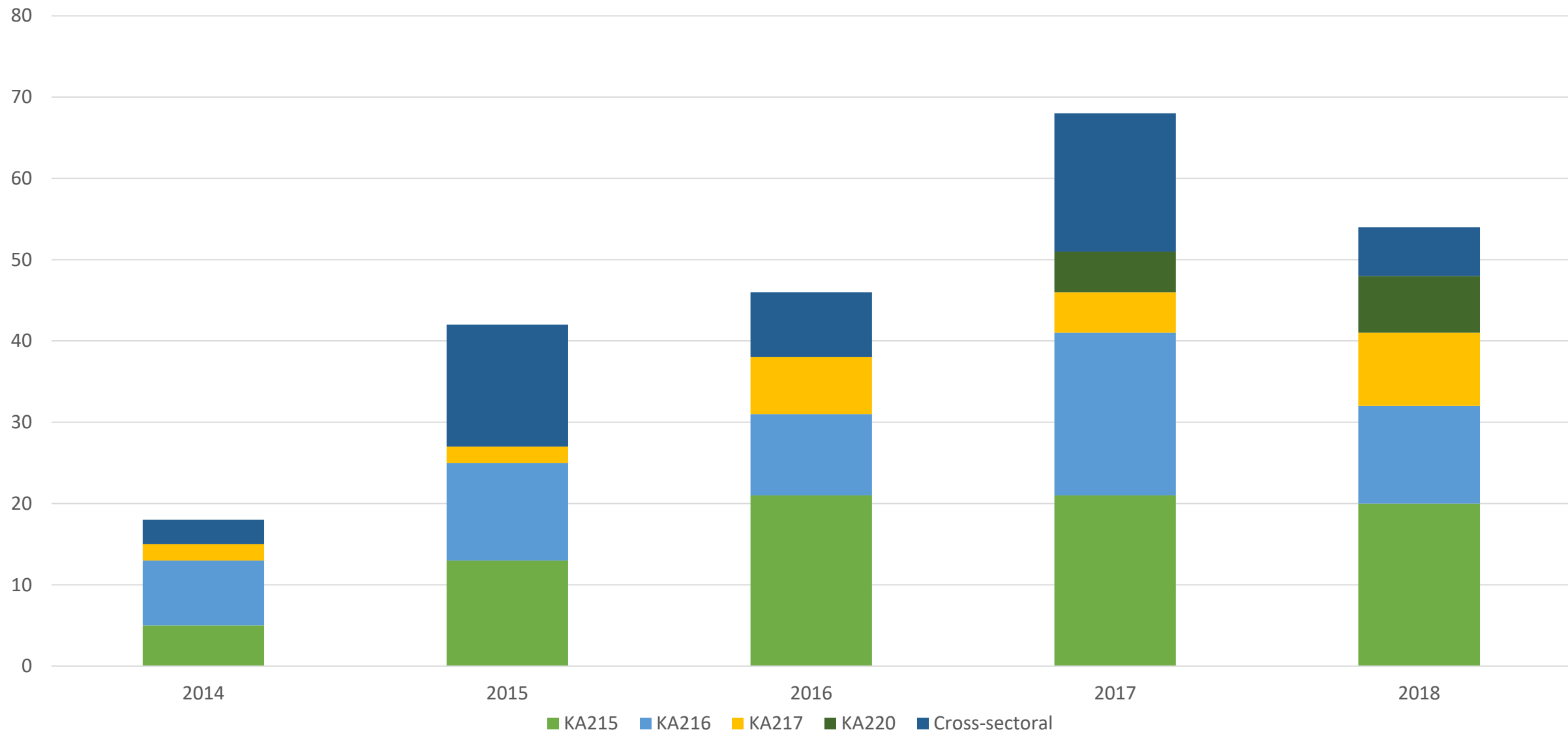
- 228 TCA events were realised
- 11 930 participants were hosted
- School education sector was the most active (4 780 participants, 80 events)
- TOP5 hosting NAs (above 800 participants)
 - Poland
 - Spain
 - Netherlands
 - Germany – school education
 - Germany – VET and adult education
- Most popular TCA type: THO (6 591 participants, thematic activities)



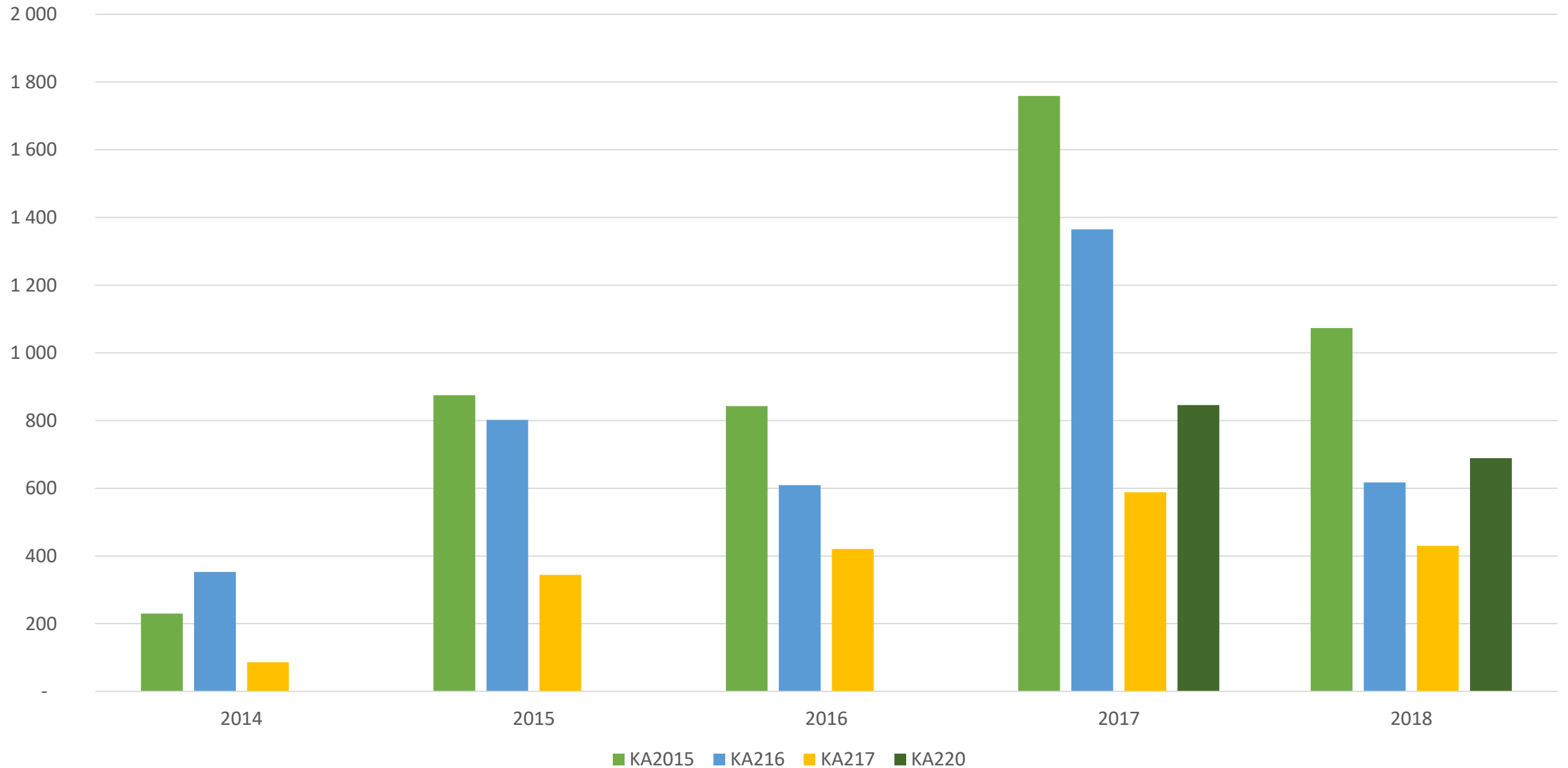
Number and participants of hosted TCAs per NAs



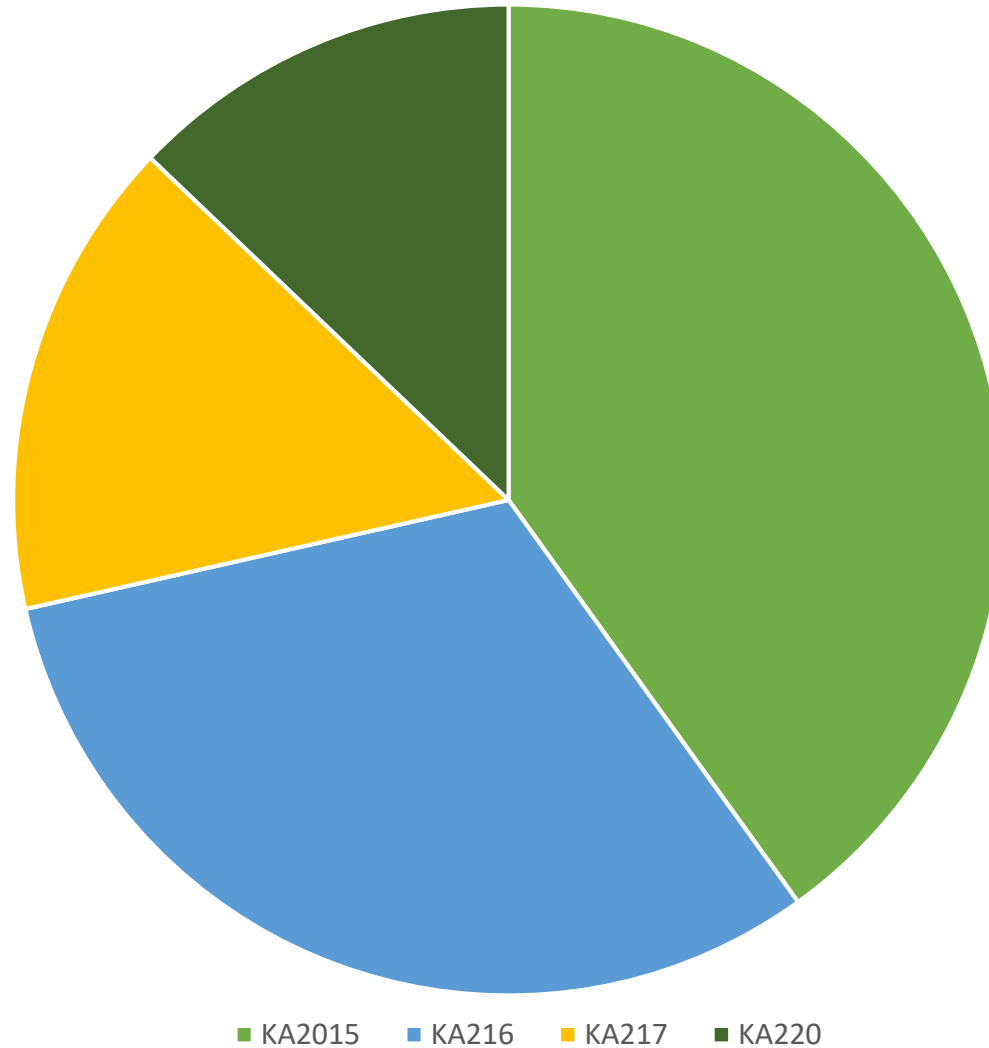
Number of Realised TCAs - as registered in ESLPlus



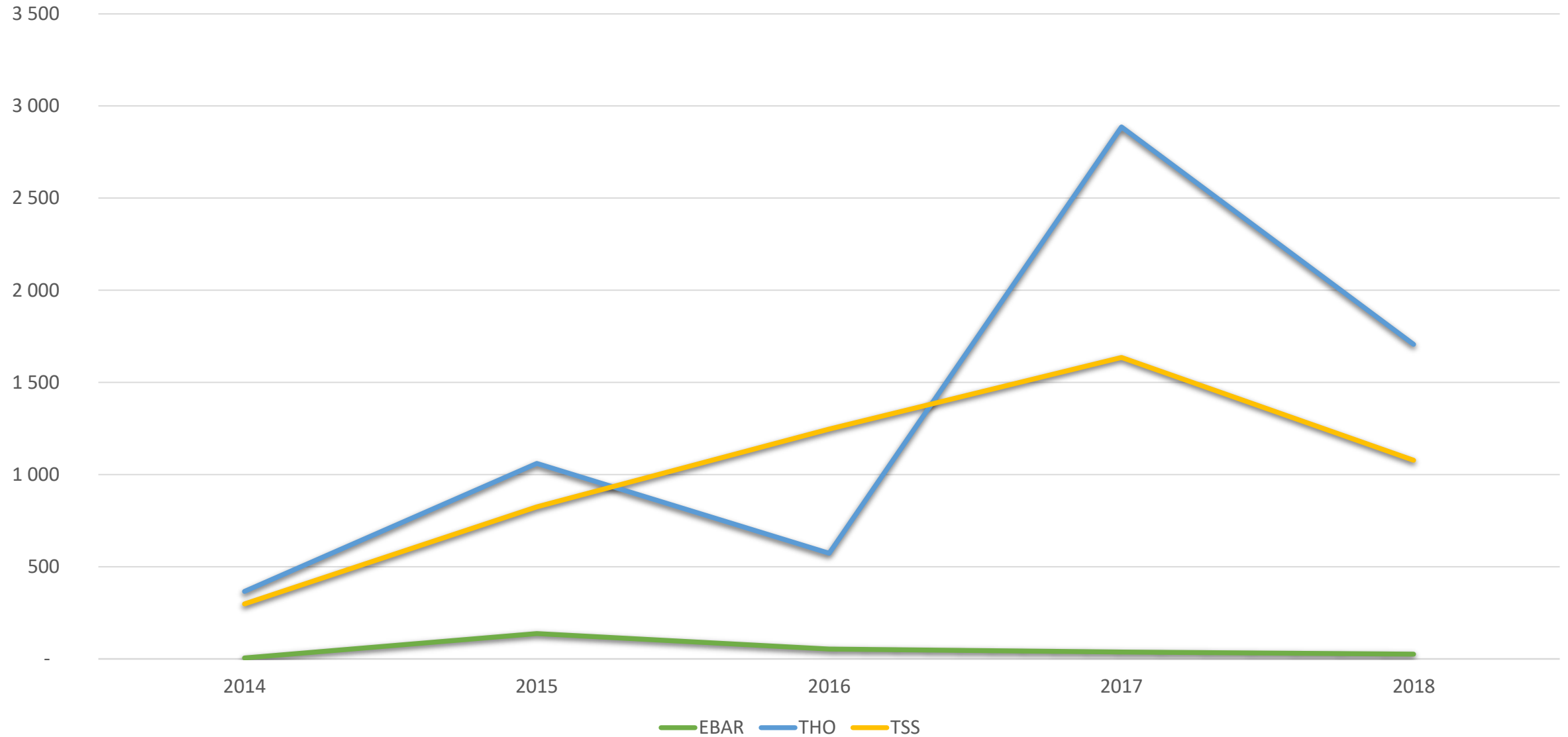
Number of Participants in Realised TCAs



Total number of TCA participants per sector



Number of participants according to training area codes

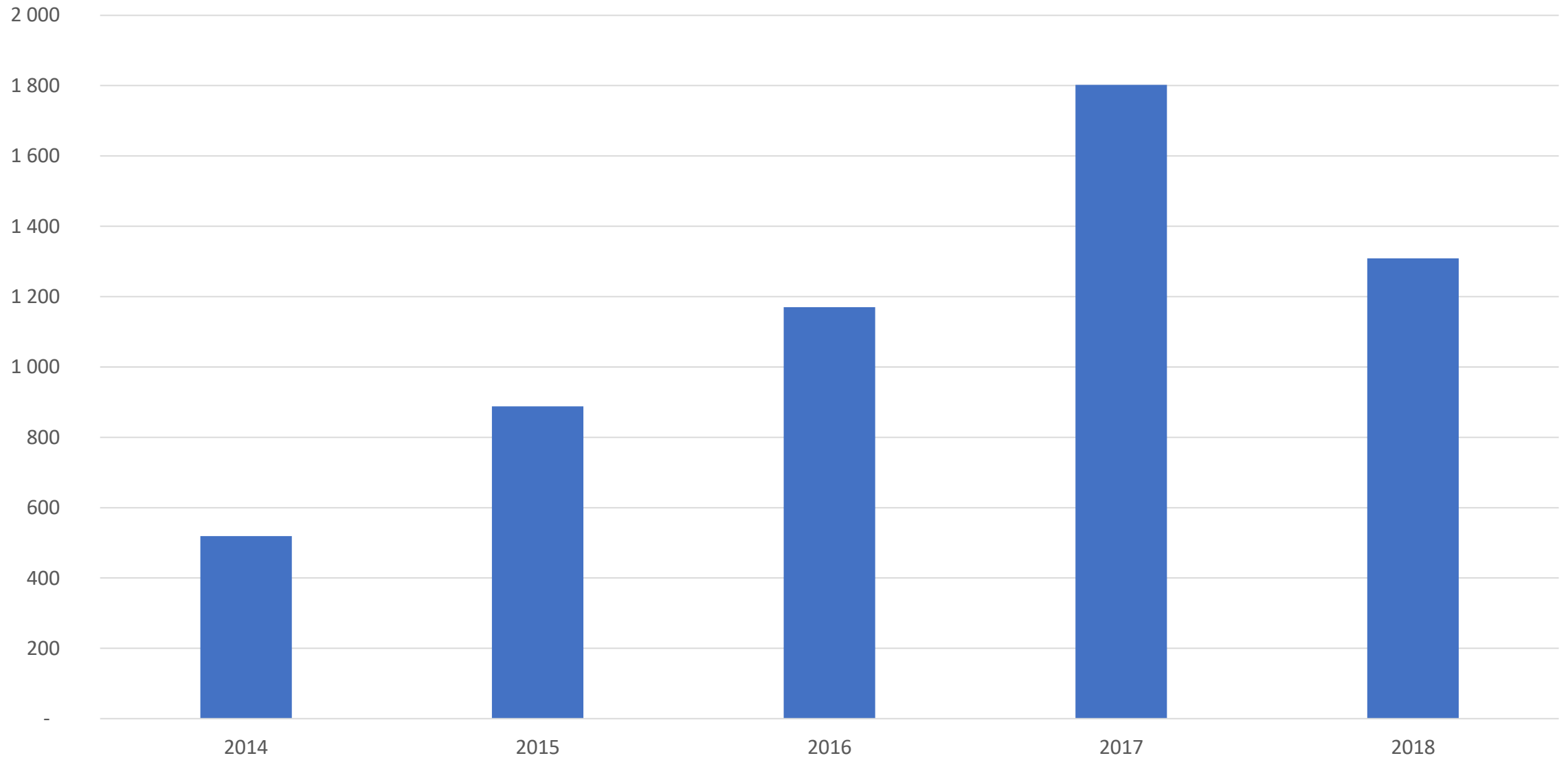


Summary of the data analysis – sending side

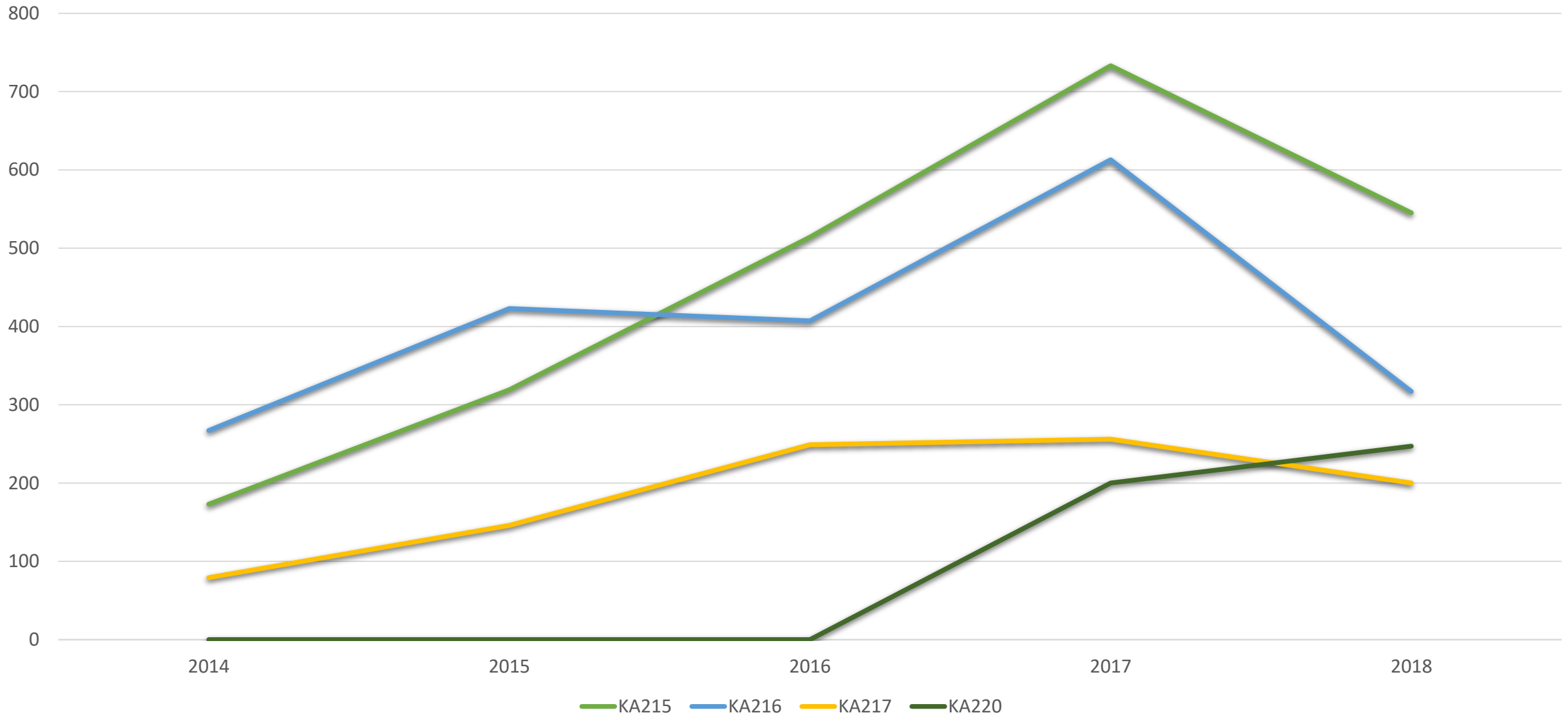
- Approx. 5 688 participants were sent
- School education sent the most participants (2 284), then comes VET – Adult Education – Higher Education
- Approx. 6 242 national participants
- Most popular TCA type: TSS (3 402 participants)



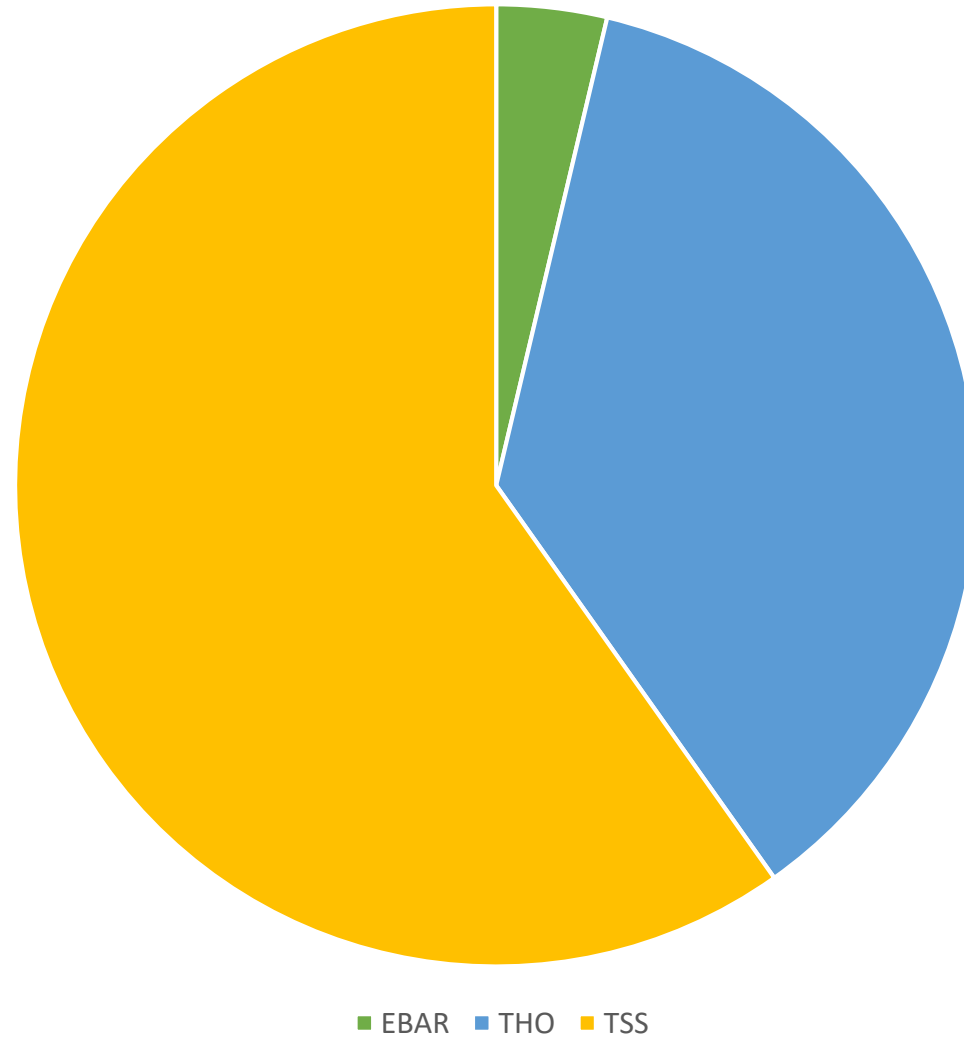
Number of sent participants



Sent TCA participants per sector



Number of sent participants per training area



Questionnaire

- 29 NAs answered out of 41
- Adult education was represented the highest (N: 27),
- There were 26 answers from the higher and the school education sector, VET (N: 24), Youth (N: 13)
- Colleagues' experiences:
 - started to work with the TCAs since 2014 (N: 11),
 - only two of them are newcomers and started in 2019.
 - others with 3-5 answers started between 2015 and 2018.



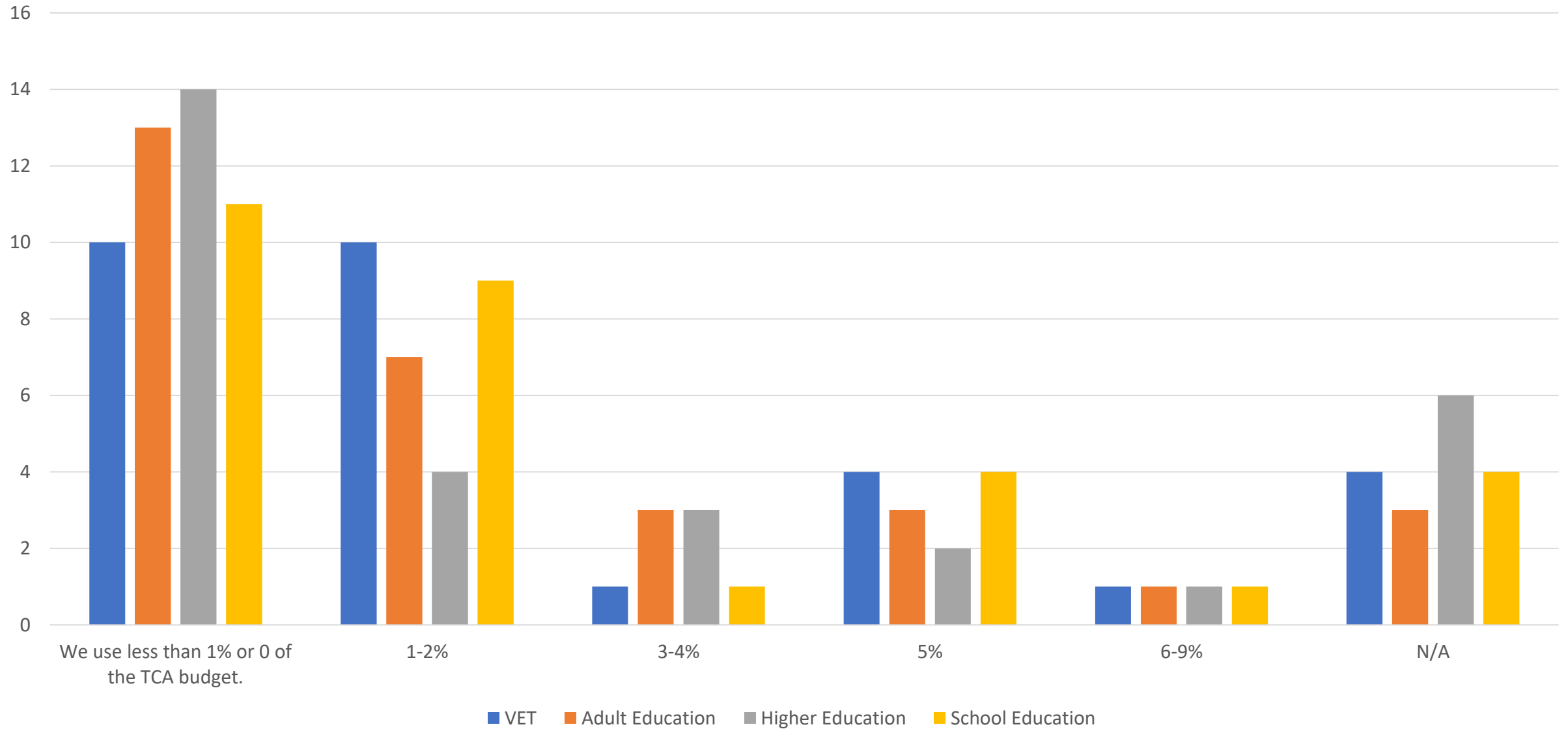
Questionnaire

- NAs tend to organise TCAs occasionally or yearly
- NAs have organised TCAs together with another NA (N: 28, Yes:23, No: 5).
- We can only see the tendency that working on TCA is fragmented both in terms of time and personnel:

The highest ratio of personnel: *“In our NA, the team for event management is responsible for TCAs: 2 x 0,3 TCA-officers, 0,75 event manager, 15%, 1 administrator (also ideal)”*. It adds 2,5 colleagues.

“no one works full time only with TCAs, we have split work with TCA (0,5 TCA officer, 0,3 colleague evaluating applications, 0,3 financial colleague, PR colleague).

Questionnaire: Budget spent on TCAs (5% of KA2)



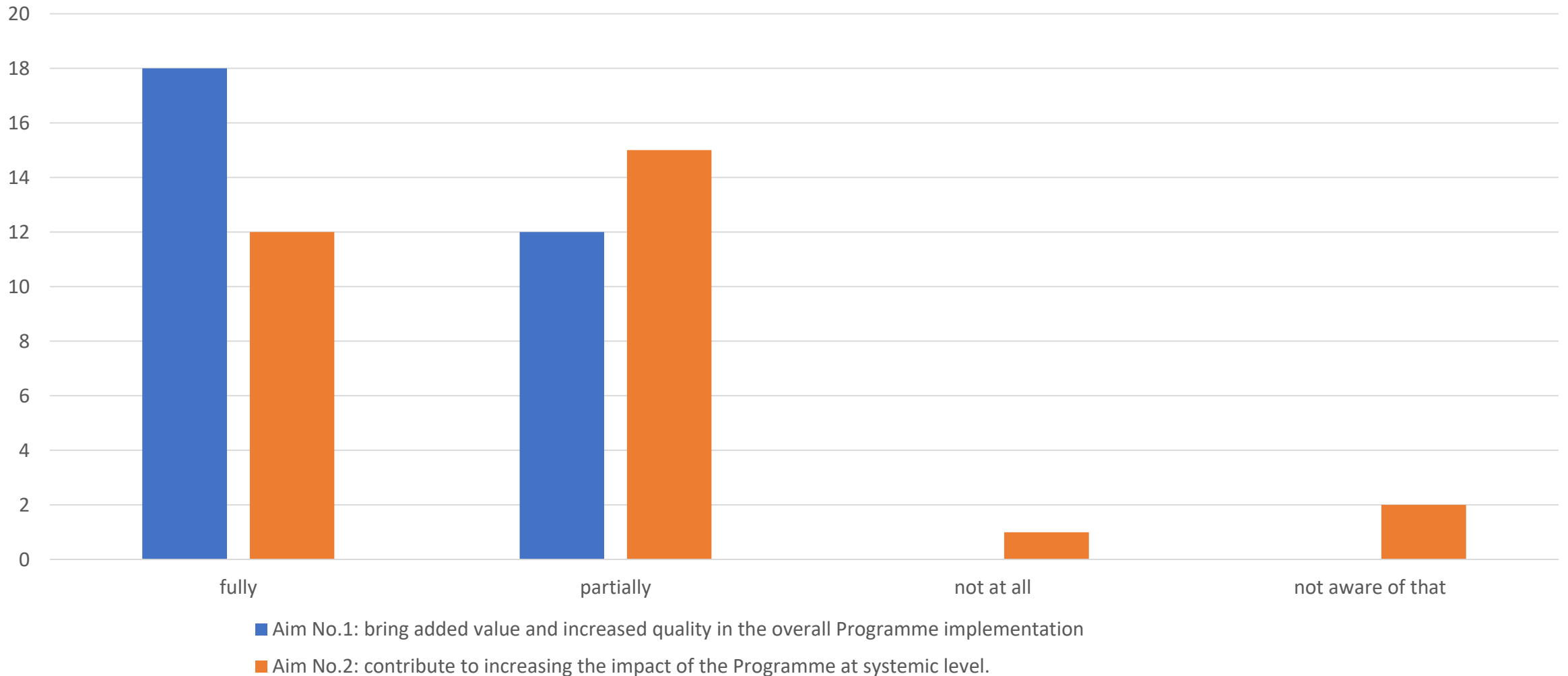
Questionnaire – most challenging TCA elements

The NAs gave the highest scores to the following 5 steps:

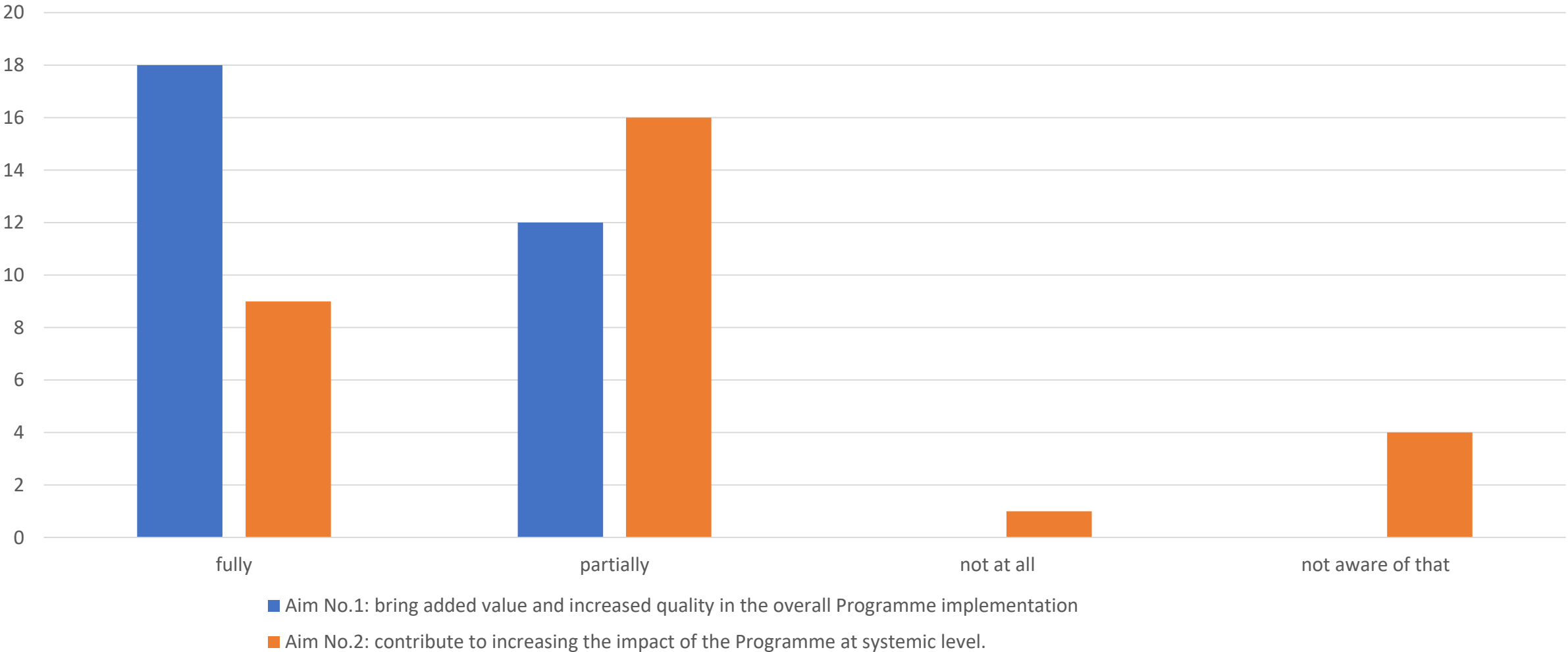
- Evaluation of achieved outcomes (14)
- Carrying out follow-up (14)
- Realization of TCA event (10)
- Administration in EplusLink (10)
- Define the budget (9)

More than one answer could be given, N: 95

To what extent could have the TCAs organised by your NA reached their aims?



To what extent could have the participants/institutions sent to TCAs contributed to the TCA's aim



Questionnaire

- NAs define expected learning outcomes in advance (Yes: 20, occasionally: 7, no or no time for that: 1-2 answers)
 - However, if we examine SALTO RC website, we can see incoherency in the template.
- 1/3 of the NAs do not define outputs like:
 - *Number of (successful) Erasmus+ applications submitted resulting from the TCA*
 - *New contacts, networks of the participating institutions*
- 1/3 of the NAs do not define outcomes like:
 - Improved / modified working methods at NA level

Conclusions so far...

- TCA activities attracted almost 12 000 participants from the hosting and almost 6000 people on the sending side. It is a good first result.
- NAs use different approach when they define the advantage of TCAs – TCA is a flexible tool.
- Almost all the NAs were active in the hosting role - TCA is an attractive and useful tool from the NAs' perspective.
- TCAs fully or partially can reach their set aims according to the NAs.
- How on a 5-point scale do the TCAs serve the original aim? 4 on average

Conclusions so far...

- EplusLink is a weak point: definitions and clarifications are needed.
 - Several anomalies in the system
 - Definitions are missing
 - The elements of the TCA lifecycle are not interlinked.
- The registered data are hardly can help to define the TCAs' impact.
- There are no indicators to measure the success of TCAs.
- High level of administration vs small-scale „projects” (individual agreements).
- Tendency that working on TCA is fragmented both in terms of time and personnel.
- Most NAs can spend less than 1 % of the available TCA budget.

TCA's in future – thoughts for discussion

1. How administrative process could be streamlined at SALTO – E&T and / or NAs level?
2. How to measure the TCA's impact? (indicators)
3. What are the keys to raise / make more visible the TCA outcomes?
4. How TCA budget could be more exploited?



Let's develop TCAs together!

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