

The logo consists of the letters 'ZZe' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'ZZ' is dark red, and the 'e' is white with a dark red outline. The letters are set against a light red circular background that overlaps with a larger, darker red circle on the right side.

ZZe

**The first year of VALUE**  
Results from the 1st evaluation survey

Philipp Stemmer  
Jönköping, 5 October 2008

# Countries participating in the survey



## Partners participating (n=15)

- Austria (1)
- Germany (1)
- Hungary (1)
- Italy (1)
- Poland (1)
- Romania (1)
- Slovakia (1)
- Slovenia (1)
- Spain (1)
- Netherlands (2)
- Turkey (2)
- United Kingdom (2)

## Partners missing (n=3)

- Germany (1)
- Spain (1)
- Romania (1)

- a.** Aims and cooperation within the VALUE network
- b.** Cooperation at the national level
- c.** Sub-group work
- d.** Dissemination and exploitation activities
- e.** Expanding the network



## **Aims and cooperation within the VALUE network**

### A.1 What were the three main reasons for you to join the VALUE network in the first place?

#### 1. Exploring and learning about (U=6, VO=7)

- learning opportunities for (older) volunteers as learners (U=1, VO=1)
- the voluntary sector across Europe (U=1)
- LLL across Europe (VO=2, U=1)
- links and benefits from the collaboration between VO and ULL (U=1, VO=2)
- good practise in ULLL delivery to volunteer organisations (U=1)
- new ideas for intercultural dialogue (VO=1)
- instruments to conceptualize and certify learning through volunteering (U=1, VO=1)

#### 2. Networking and developing partnerships on a European level (U=3, VO= 5)

#### 3. Promoting or underpinning (U=3, VO=4)

- the interaction between volunteering organisations/sector and universities (U=1, VO=2)
- ULLL delivery to volunteer organisations (U=1)
- the valorisation of learning through volunteering (VO=1)
- volunteering /voluntary work (U=1, VO=2)

### A.1 What were the three main reasons for you to join the VALUE network in the first place?

#### 4. Developing our own organisation in order to (U=2, VO=5)

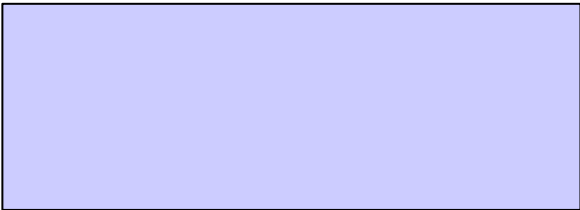
- start a cooperation with a volunteer organisation or a university (U=1, VO=2)
- create new UCE program for older volunteer learners (U=1)
- become more professional by organising educative activities for volunteers (VO=1)
- diversify our areas of interests and activities (VO=1)
- develop human resources (VO =1)

#### 5. Other motivations (U=2, VO=2)

- to exchange experiences and share common interests in an international context (VO=1)
- academic interests in the project (U= 1)
- the project fits in our line of action (VO=1)
- getting ideas how to disseminate the networks results to other UCE centres (U=1)

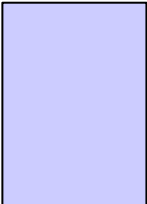
## A2. Do your organisation's interests in VALUE have changed since the beginning of the project? (n=15, absolute numbers)

Our interests haven't changed since then

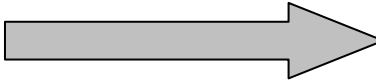


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Our interests have changed:

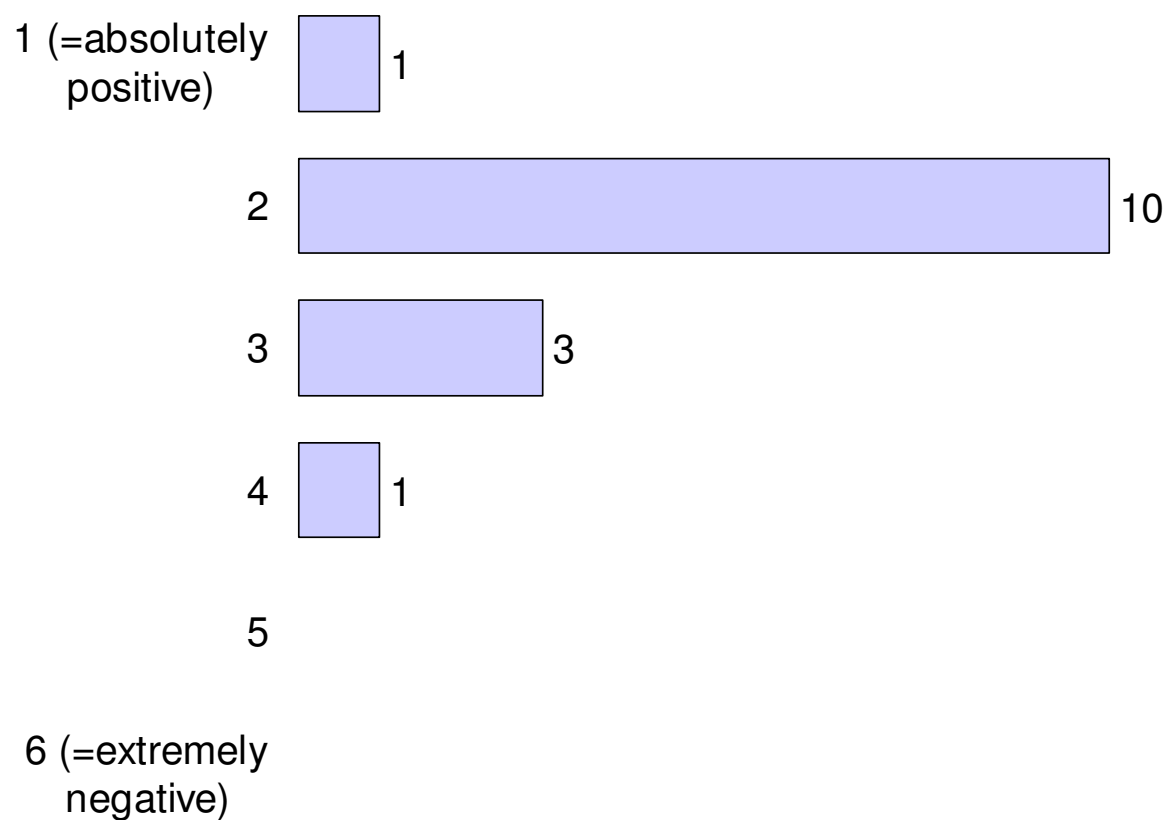


3



- **'Interest of local voluntary support centres to develop projects on the certification of competences of volunteers.'**
- **'We realized that we can organize training programs for our volunteers by collaborating with universities.'**
- **'We have started to think more positively toward organizing course for voluntary organizations.'**

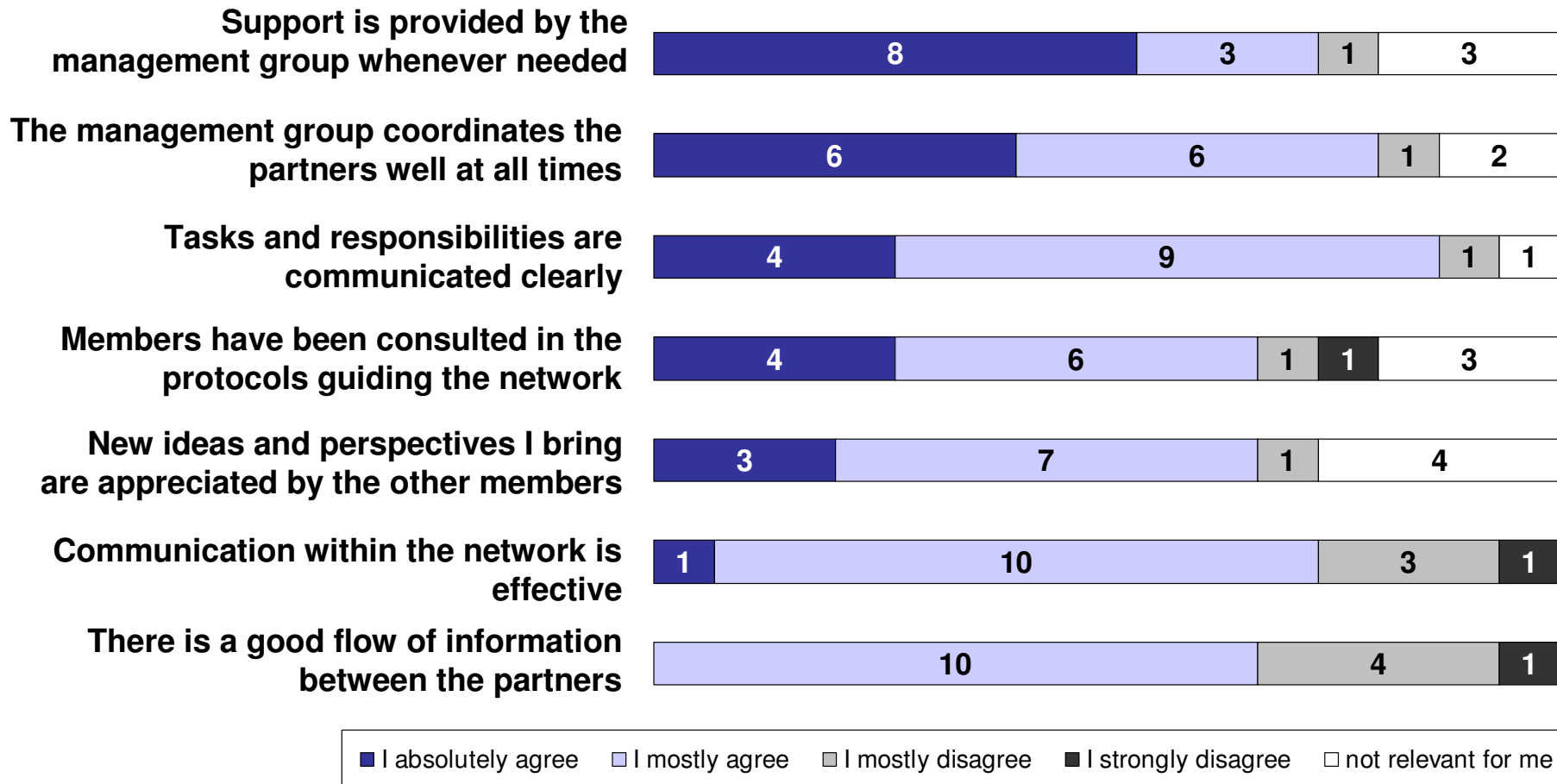
### A.3 How do you evaluate the collaboration to date within the VALUE Network in general? (n=15; absolute numbers)



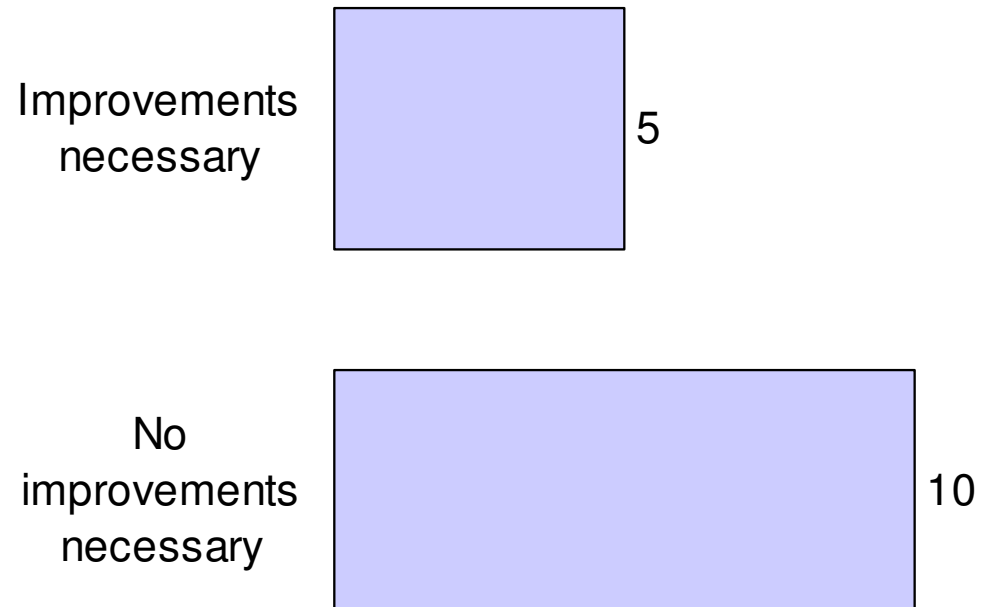
# A. Aims and Cooperation within the VALUE Network



**A.4 Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about the collaboration within the VALUE Network (n=15, absolute numbers)**



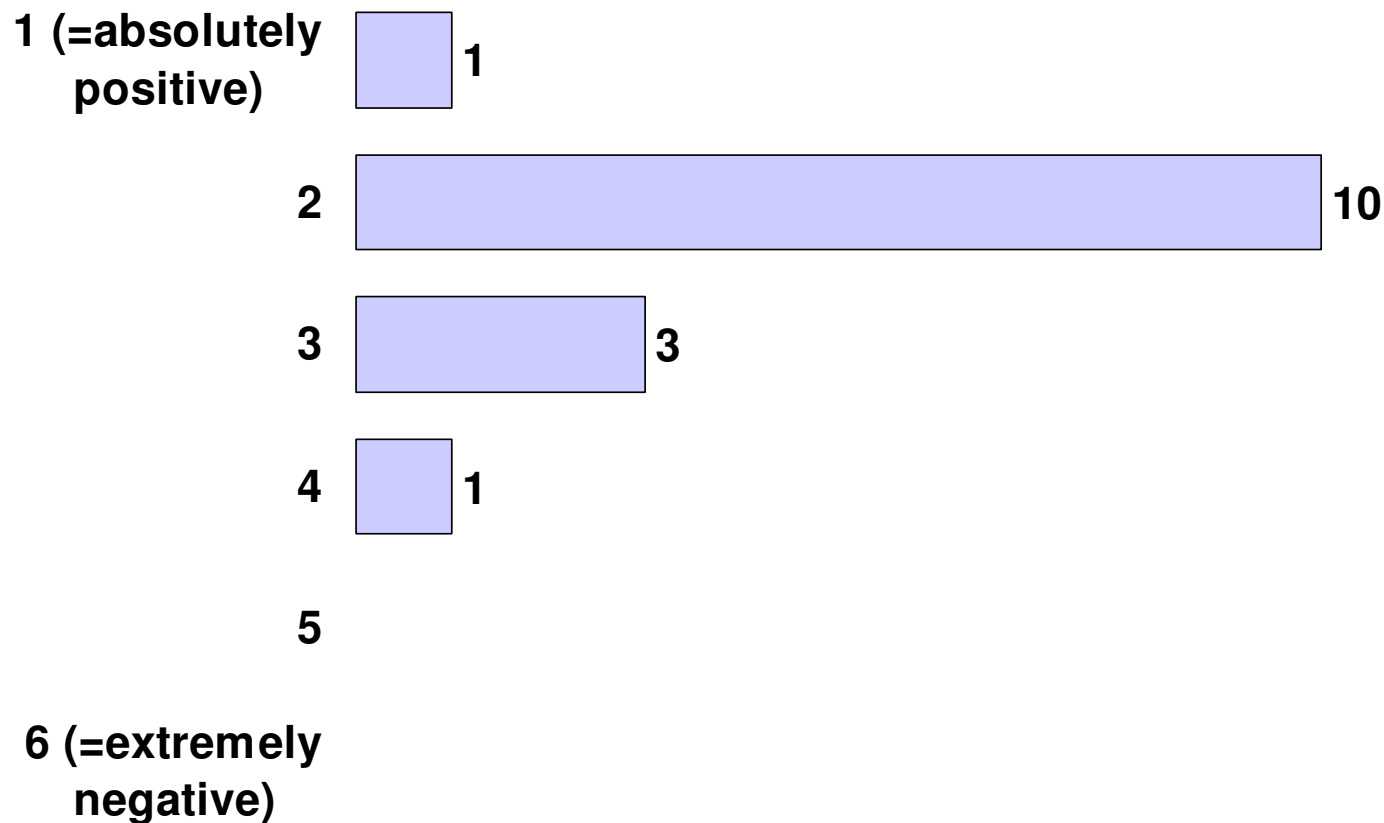
## A.5 What do you suggest to improve the cooperation within the VALUE network? (n=15; absolute numbers)



### A.5 What do you suggest to improve the cooperation within the VALUE network?

- **Making project aims for the different parts of the project even clearer, more transparent and more concrete.** What are the desired achievement after three years? (mentioned by 3 partners)  
*„Sometimes I seem to be lost in the middle of an action with only a live vest in knowing the eventual outcome of the projekt“*
- **More regular contact between some partners and the contracting and coordinating bodies.** In particular, partners should not be afraid of saying that they don't understand what is required of them, or that they disagree with aspects of the project.
- **More time for physical, face to face contact** between group members in the sub-groups
- It would be an exchange of experiences from the different partners but there are big differences among the different partners: volunteering organizations and universities, etc.

## A.3 How do you evaluate the collaboration to date within the VALUE Network in general? (n=15; absolute numbers)



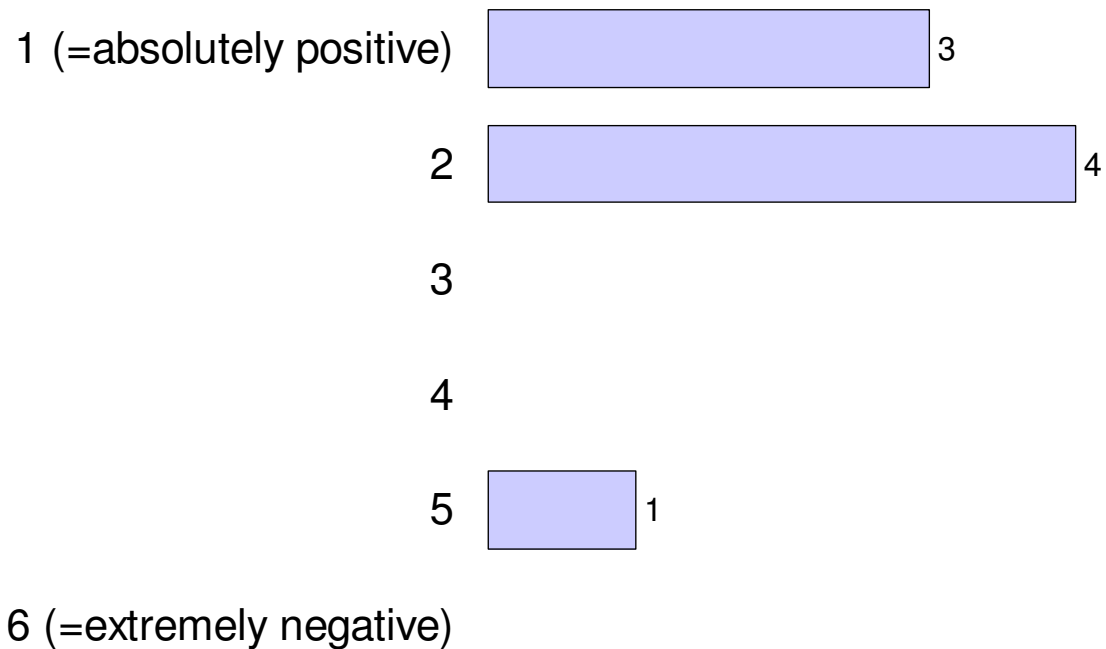


## Cooperation at the national level

## B. Cooperation at the national level

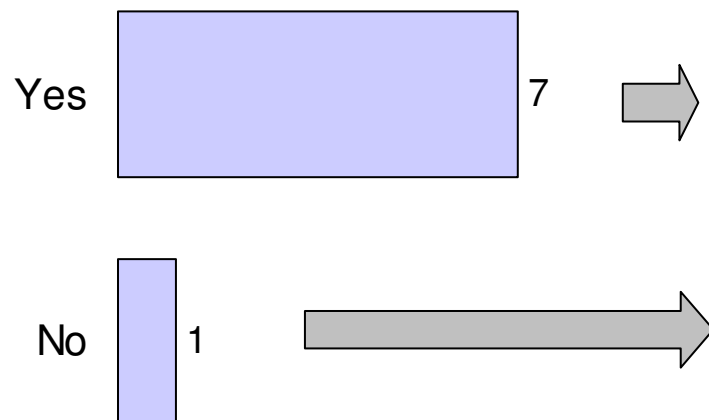


### B.2 How do you evaluate the collaboration with your national partner organisation in general? (n=8; absolute numbers)



## B. Cooperation at the national level

### B.3 Did you know your national partner before working with them in this Project? (n=8)



### Has the project helped to develop this relationship?

- Access to academy-profiles
- Information about results from research
- Regular meetings and discussions about importance of interaction
- Making both more aware of the other's work
- Established contact
- Project has not helped due to the strict hierarchy in university, university has not signed the value contract yet

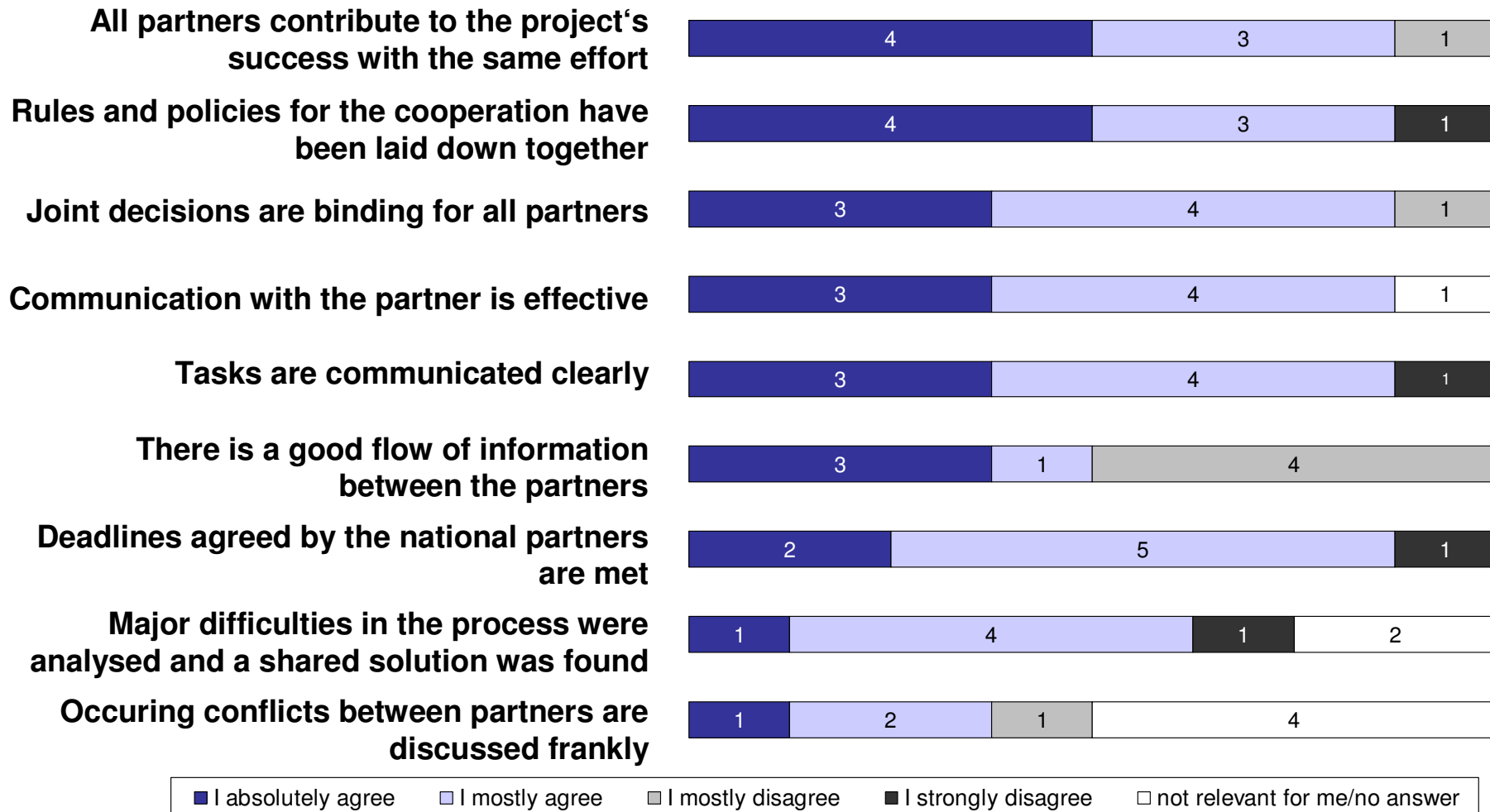
### Potentials for developing this new relationship

- 'Some ways of collaborating for specific issues depend on the evolution of their projects in the volunteering area'

## B. Cooperation at the national level



**B.4 Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements** (n=8, absolute numbers)

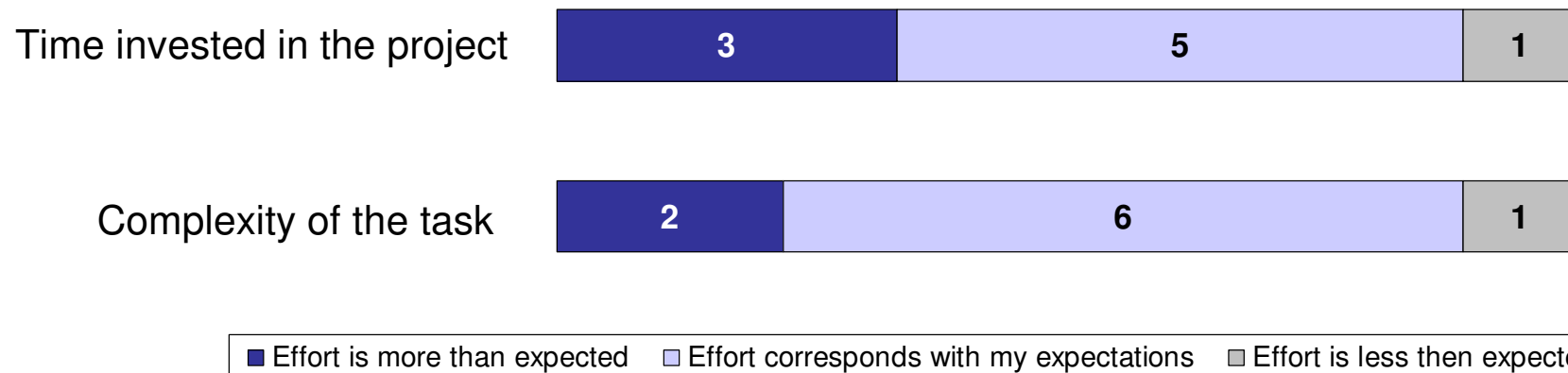


## B. Cooperation at the national level



### B.5 Production of the national report (with or without your national partner)

(n=9; absolute numbers)



#### Other:

- The lack of of the sources of information (Effort corresponds with my expectations)
- Available sources/ general information (Effort is less than expected)

### B.6 What major problems did you face during the production process? What solutions did you find?

#### 1. Data mining (15 problems)

- **Identification of examples for volunteering-university interactions** (8 problems)  
Solutions found:
  - Contact to representatives of local government and universities (1 partner)
  - Contact to experts / colleagues (1 partner)
  - Call for practice examples (1 partner)
  - Adaption of the report structure. Focus on possibilities for establishment of interaction (1 partner)
  - Other solution (1 partner)
  - No solutions found yet (3 partners)
  
- **Coping with poor research and data on the voluntary sector** (2 problems)  
Solutions found:
  - Contact to the ministry in charge (1 partner)
  - Contact to organisations dealing with volunteering (1 partner)
  
- **Identification of data and scientific background for LLL** (2 problems)  
Solutions found:
  - Help from the national partner university (1 partners)
  - Expertise from colleagues (1 partner)
  
- **Finding sources/data – not specified** (4 problems)  
Solutions found:
  - Contact to experts (1 partner)
  - No solutions found yet (3 partners)

### **B.6 What major problems did you face during the production process? What solutions did you find?**

#### **2. Identification of the political and legal framework (for LLL) (2 problems)**

**Solutions found:**

- Expertise from colleagues (1 partner)
- Research (1 partner)

#### **3. Difficulties to describe informal learning in voluntary work in terms of competences and linking them to (national) standards (2 problems)**

**Solutions found:**

- Development of a competence-databank in which the link will be demonstrated(1partner)
- Starting a best practice collection (1 partner)

#### **4. The indifference of universities and other organisations towards voluntary work (3 problems)**

**Solutions found:**

- Working with foreign role models (2 partners)
- No solutions found yet (1 partner)

### B.6 What major problems did you face during the production process? What solutions did you find?

#### 5. Other:

- ‘Getting a general overview for the national report’ – **Solution:** ‘Selective view’
- ‘The concept of LLL is not known or correctly understood’ – **Solution:** ‘A short description of the concept in the body of the message’
- ‘Communicating with other voluntary organisations’ – **Solution:** No solution found yet
- ‘Doing justice to complex situation of U-V interaction’ – **Solution:** ‘Shortened description’
- ‘Barriers and opportunities’ – **Solution:** ;Research in the university library’
- ‘The knowledge of the issue were very different from each partner’ – **Solution:** ‘Each partner contributed with their area of expertise’



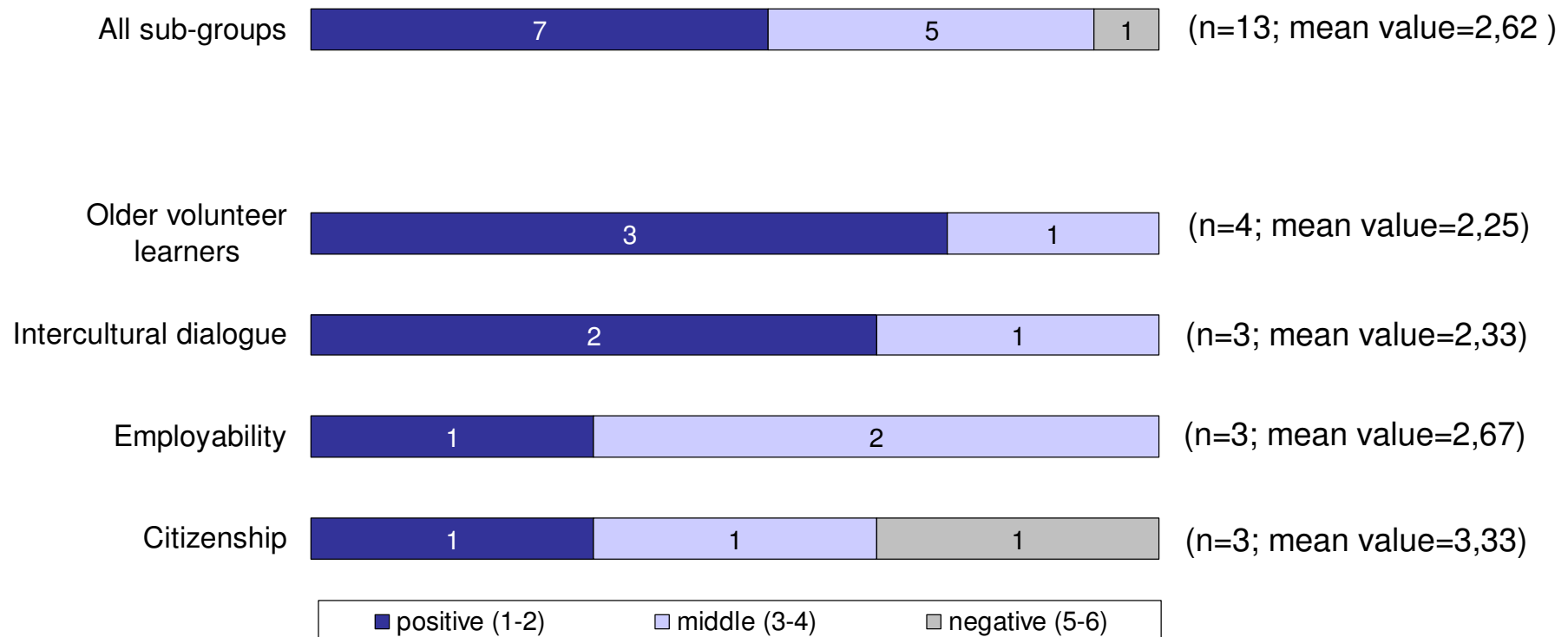
## Sub-group work

## C. Sub-group work



### C.2 How do you evaluate the cooperation within your sub-group?

(n=13, absolute numbers)



## C. Sub-group work



### C.3 Please explain your rating:

#### Employability (n=3):

Rating	Explanations
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There was <b>good discussion</b> in the meeting and <b>provision of materials for the webpage afterwards</b>. <b>One of the partners has been very quiet since.</b></li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Generally the cooperation has been positive. <b>The group addressed any definitional or cultural differences proactively</b> and have moved on to the meatier issues of the sub-group subject area. On a more negative note it <b>isn't always clear what the specific role of each member of the group is</b>. There are no fixed tasks for each member and therefore it can seem a bit loose to really develop ideas collaboratively.</li><li>we only met once; it proved to be enough; <b>got good reflection on my national report</b></li></ul>

## C. Sub-group work



### C.3 Please explain your rating:

#### Citizenship (n=3):

Rating	Explanations
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The <b>communication and information about the process before the meeting was well</b>. Also, we wrote a report together in the meeting.</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>It could have evolved much more if there was more feedback between all the partners.</b></li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I am the coordinator, and I'm afraid I <b>haven't cultivated an on-going interaction</b>. The meetings were productive with very good atmosphere, understanding, good will and creativeness: but <b>we haven't produced materials so far</b>.</li></ul>

## C. Sub-group work



### C.3 Please explain your rating:

Intercultural Dialogue (n=3):

Rating	Explanations
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>the meeting</b> of the sub-group in Koper in May 2009 <b>was very successful</b>, the <b>exchange of information and experience encouraged us to cooperate closely</b>.</li><li>• The subgroup had one meeting and <b>we worked well, completing all suggested tasks. We also got along very well on the personal level.</b></li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>We did not have chance to share ideas after subgroup meeting.</b></li></ul>

## C. Sub-group work



### C.3 Please explain your rating:

#### Older Volunteer Learners (n=4):

Rating	Explanations
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was very helpful to have an extra sub-group meeting in year 1; the meeting went very well and was productive. However, it <b>is not easy to find common ground for cross-sectoral learning between two different sectors</b>, each with its own culture, rules, language, etc. And the amount of work invested must also correlate to the project time and resources available.</li><li>• We had a <b>very good subgroup meeting</b>. However <b>not to all of us is clear enough what the expected outcome of the subgroup should be</b>.</li><li>• <b>all partners very friendly, good cooperation</b>, but <b>not enough contact/exchange due to excessive workloads and official commitments of all involved</b> (within their respective institutions)</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I enjoy the sub group I have been assigned to. <b>The other colleagues are very good in their jobs</b>. I am afraid <b>I have not been able to contribute to the sub group work as I have been deeply engaged with other projects</b>. However this will change in the next few months and I will be able to dedicate my full attention to the VALUE project.</li></ul>

## C. Sub-group work



### Terms, whose definitions may have led to confusion amongst the members in your sub-group

#### • Citizenship

- ‘citizenship’
- ‘competent citizen’
- ‘citizenship skills’
- ‘basic skills’
- ‘participation’
- ‘**volunteering**’

#### • Intercultural Dialogue

- ‘intercultural’ (2x)
- intercultural differences
- ‘international’
- ‘multicultural’

#### • Employability

- ‘employability’ (2x)
- ‘employment’
- ‘**volunteering**’
- ‘**voluntary sector**’
- Accreditation / validation of prior learning - APL / VPL / APEL etc

#### • Older Learners

- ‘**volunteer/ volunteering**’ (3x)
- ‘**volunteering sector**
- ‘older learner/ volunteer’ - who is ‘old’? (3x)
- Concepts behind University Lifelong Learning, University Continuing Education, Adult Learning, Older Learners etc.



## **Dissemination and exploitation activities**

## D. Dissemination and exploitation activities



### D.1 Which activities have you undertaken to promote or inform about the VALUE project? (n=15)

Mean of Dissemination/ Exploitation	Number of partners	Examples
<b>Presentations</b> internal external	<b>3</b> <b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to members of the university of Three Ages (PL)</li> <li>• to the national voluntary support centre network</li> </ul>
<b>Workshops/Lectures/ Trainings</b>	<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to teachers and educators from Warsaw</li> <li>• with experts from five UCE centres</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b> Partner's website Other websites	<b>2</b>	
<b>Press reports</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Leaflets or e-mail</b>	<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to UCE-networks, ministries, volunteer-networks</li> </ul>

### D.3 Please comment on any difficulties associated with this. (n=6)

- 'Time ist very limited for following both content elaboration and promoting and networking' (2)
- 'Not the highest attention at the national sport federation' (1)
- 'Difficulties to describe the benefit for the participants of the meetings' (Lectures) (1)
- 'It's difficult to get in touch with all voluntary organisations in Turkey' (1)
- 'No results to present yet' (1)
- 'Sometimes the PowerPoint presentations tend to offer too much information' (1)

### D.3 What opportunities these dissemination activities have provided to make new contacts with possible stakeholders of VALUE? (n=13)

- The dissemination activities have provided new contacts / helped to develop existing contacts (7 partners)
  - e.g.
    - Experts from Universities
    - Other Grundtvig projects
    - Local organisations that use volunteers
    - Trade unions
    - Interested Third sector organisations
    - Interested Volunteer support centres
- It has helped us identify stakeholder/key recipients of the outcome of the project (3 partners)
- 'I got access to a subsidy-programme of the ministry of education. The aim is to investigate informal learning on higher education level in volunteering.'

## D. Dissemination and exploitation activities



### D.4 Which activities are you planning to promote or inform about the VALUE project? (n=15)

Mean of Dissemination/ Exploitation	Number of partners	Examples
<b>Presentations</b> internal external	<b>2</b> <b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at the national ULLL conference</li> <li>• to teachers and educators from Warsaw</li> <li>• at the Volunteering England's practitioner conference</li> </ul>
<b>Workshops/Lectures/ Trainings</b>	<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert panel with stakeholders on the value of volunteering on higher education levels</li> <li>• Training programme for voluntary support centres</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b> Partner's website Other websites	<b>5</b> <b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• university website</li> <li>• national website for volunteering</li> </ul>
<b>Press reports</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Distribution of materials produced</b> (e.g. national reports, sub- group work)	<b>6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation of national report in italian</li> <li>• Creating online bulletins/documents</li> </ul>
<b>Leaflets or e-mail</b>	<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to UCE-networks, ministries, volunteer-networks</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'collecting good practise on the valuation of voluntary work</li> </ul>

### D.6 Has your organisation develops any spin-off activities or ideas stimulated from the VALUE project yet?

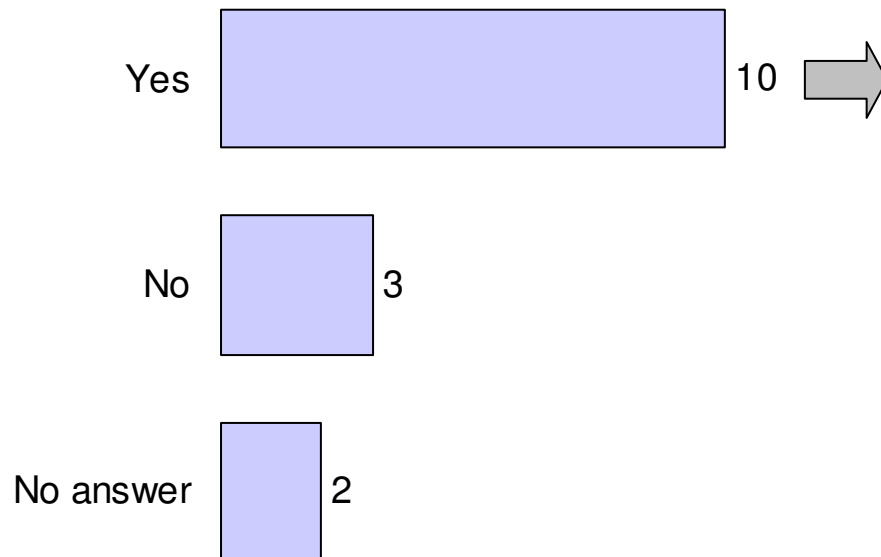
- Starting a new international Gruntvig project on validation of non formal learning in voluntary work. It can be a practical extension of VALUE (SLK)
- The idea of a project to develop a scheme for the certification of competences acquired through volunteering (based on best practice from the VALUE reports). (IT)
- UCE programmes for older volunteer learners in cooperation with volunteer networks/organisation (GER)
- The idea of a Seminar to see if there is a terrain for possible collaborations with a university professor expert in valorisation of non-formal learning. (IT)
- The idea of a designing a training session for local volunteer organisations about the valorization of competences acquired through volunteering. (IT)
- The idea of a specific 'relay point' for the volunteering sector in universities to make them more accessible. (AU)



## Expanding the network

## E. Expanding the network

**E.1 Have you already got in contact with other stakeholder organisations outside the VALUE Project? n=15**



**E.2 What kind of organisations have you contacted?\*** n=11

- **Universities with UCE programmes (6)**
- **Volunteer/voluntary organisations (2)**
- **Volunteer support centres (1)**
- **Voluntary work umbrella organizations (1)**
- **NGOs with interest in LLL (2)**
- **Ministries (2)**
- **United Nations Volunteers (1)**

### E.4 Do you have any new ideas about the future of the VALUE project? (n=7)

- A project to codify the basic citizenship skills and see these in the light of the European Qualification Framework.
- Collecting a set of good practise and instruments for the certification of competences gained through volunteering
- Provide funding and framework to continue the work with VALUE's results on a national or regional level
- The possibility of a follow up project should be considered; e.g. to develop concrete collaborative learning projects.
- Finding effective ways of how to reach potential organizations for the expansion of the project.
- It would be useful to link the final conference and the end of the project to work that is being planned on an international scale through the celebrations for IYV+10, which is taking place in 2011
- Becoming a learning community