



# 10<sup>th</sup> Evaluation Conference in Prague

**What is (not) going well  
in evaluations and why?**

**Mapping the EU Fund Evaluator  
Community**

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MINISTRY  
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DEVELOPMENT CZ



EVALUATION  
UNIT NCA

# Mapping the EU Fund Evaluator Community



**Why:** 10th anniversary of this conference



**Goal:** to evaluate the change in the evaluation community and evaluation culture in the CZ



**How:** survey (EU MA/NCA, evaluators from suppliers), interviews, desk research

# Key findings

# There are some changes. BUT ...



## Positive changes:

- Professionalization
- Public procurement
- Communication with stakeholders
- Communication between contractors and suppliers



## Remain challenges/ no change:

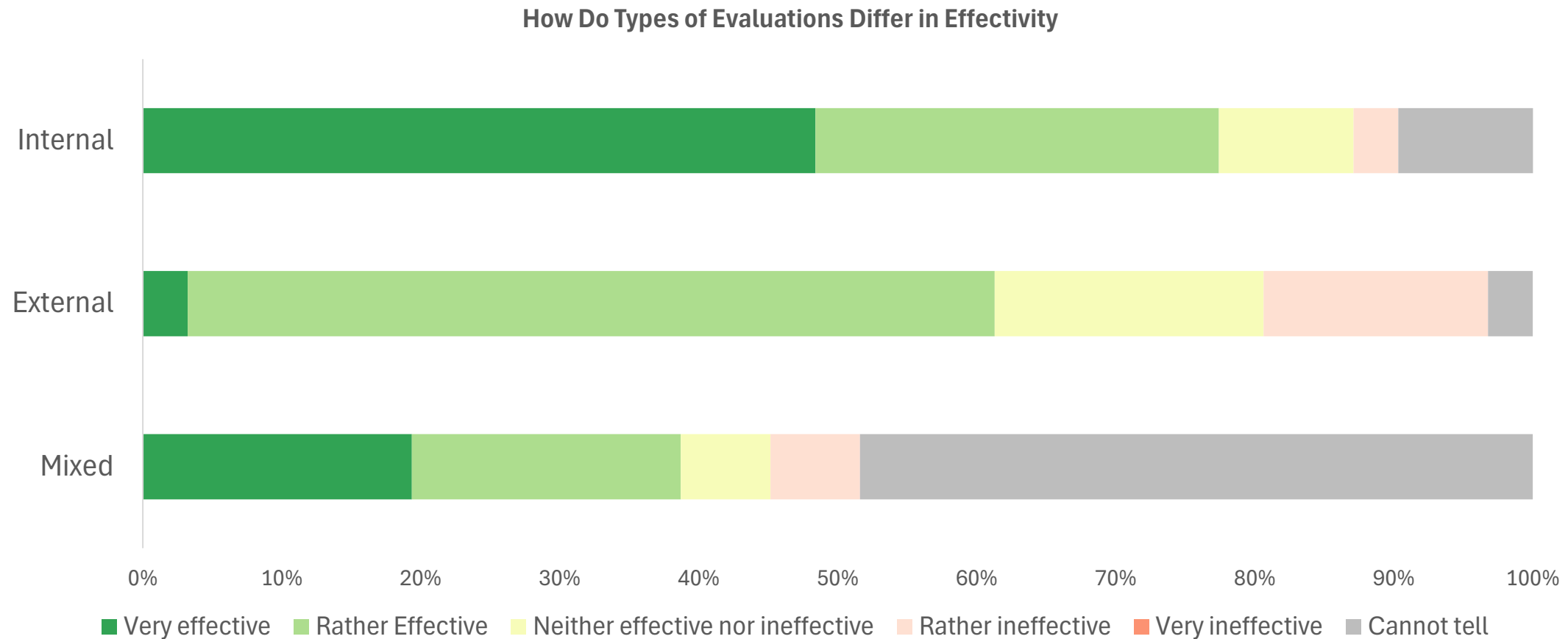
- Spillovers of evidence-based policy into general policy beyond EU funds
- Data
- Price of the evaluation tenders

# Overview

# Some data...about evaluation of EU funds in the CZ

|                              | PP 2007-2013             | PP 2014-2020             |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Numbers of evaluations       | 553                      | 327                      |
| Numbers of public tenders    | 269                      | 129                      |
| Average price of evaluation  | 700 tis CZK (27 600 Eur) | 1,1 mil CZK (43 500 Eur) |
| Total budget for evaluations | 206 mil CZK (8M Eur)     | 143 mil CZK (5,6M Eur)   |

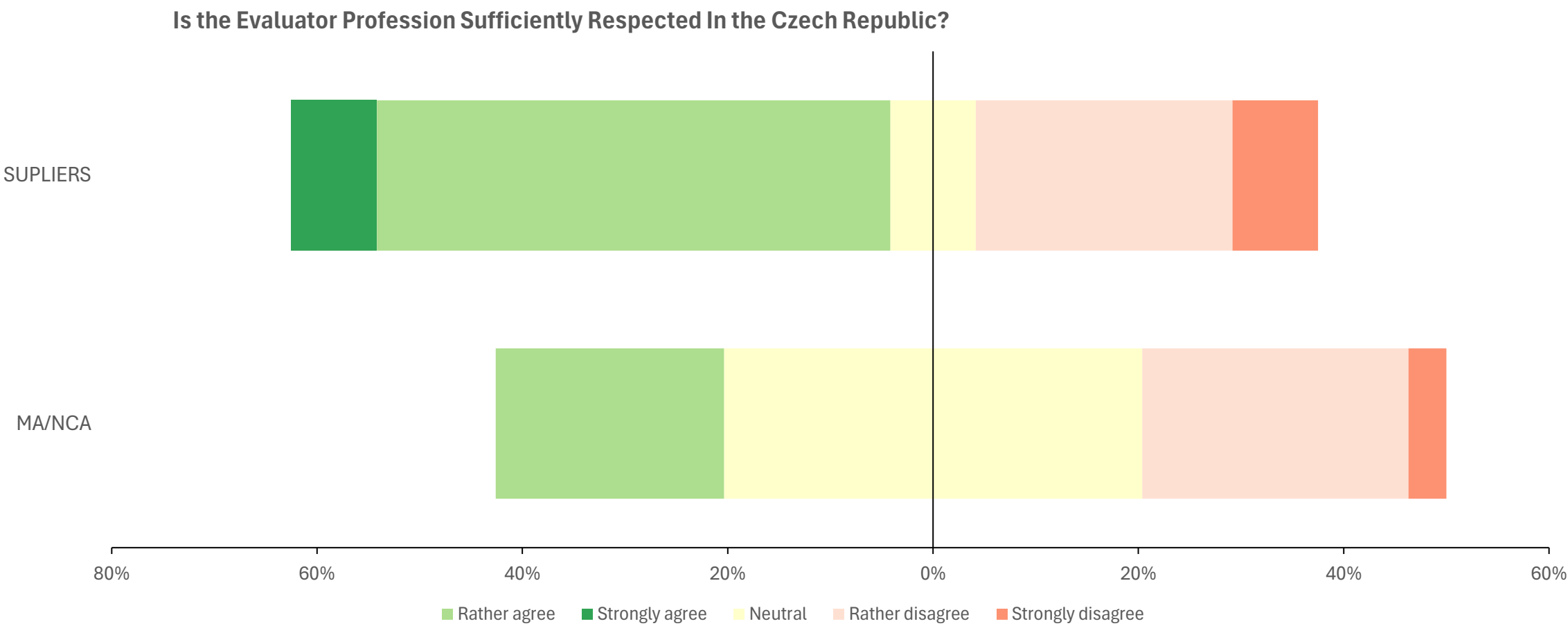
**According to evaluators from MA/NCA internal evaluations are the most effective. Mixed evaluations are not commonly used.**



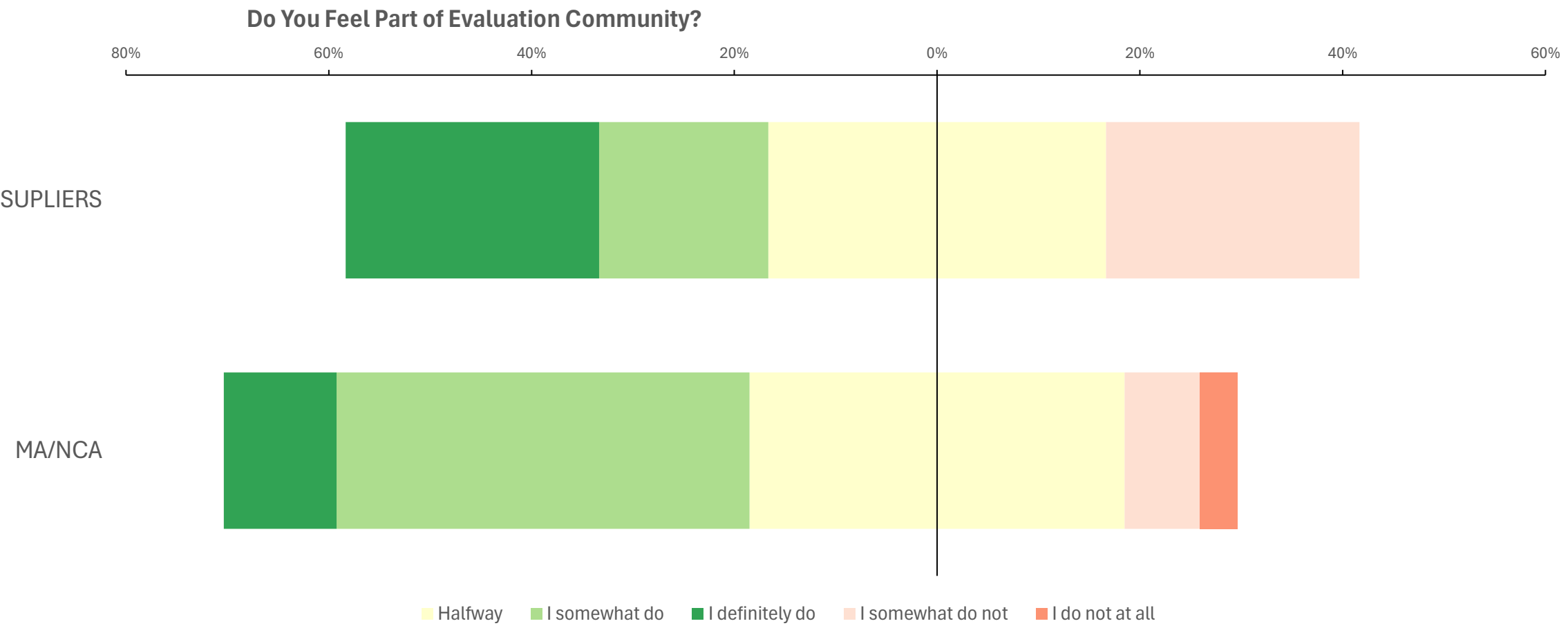
# Evaluation community



# Is the profession of an evaluator respected in the Czech Republic?



**MA/NCA feel more like a part of the community (51%) than suppliers (36%). Both are satisfied with the profession of evaluator (62% MA/NCA; 82% suppliers)**



# Motivation

## Evaluators from MA/NCA

- Opportunity to contribute to social change
- Opportunity to learn new things
- Opportunity to raise your own ideas

## Evaluators from suppliers

- Creativity at work
- Impact on policy
- Intellectual challenges

# Education and competence development



Education and competence development are important for both (MA/NCA and suppliers)



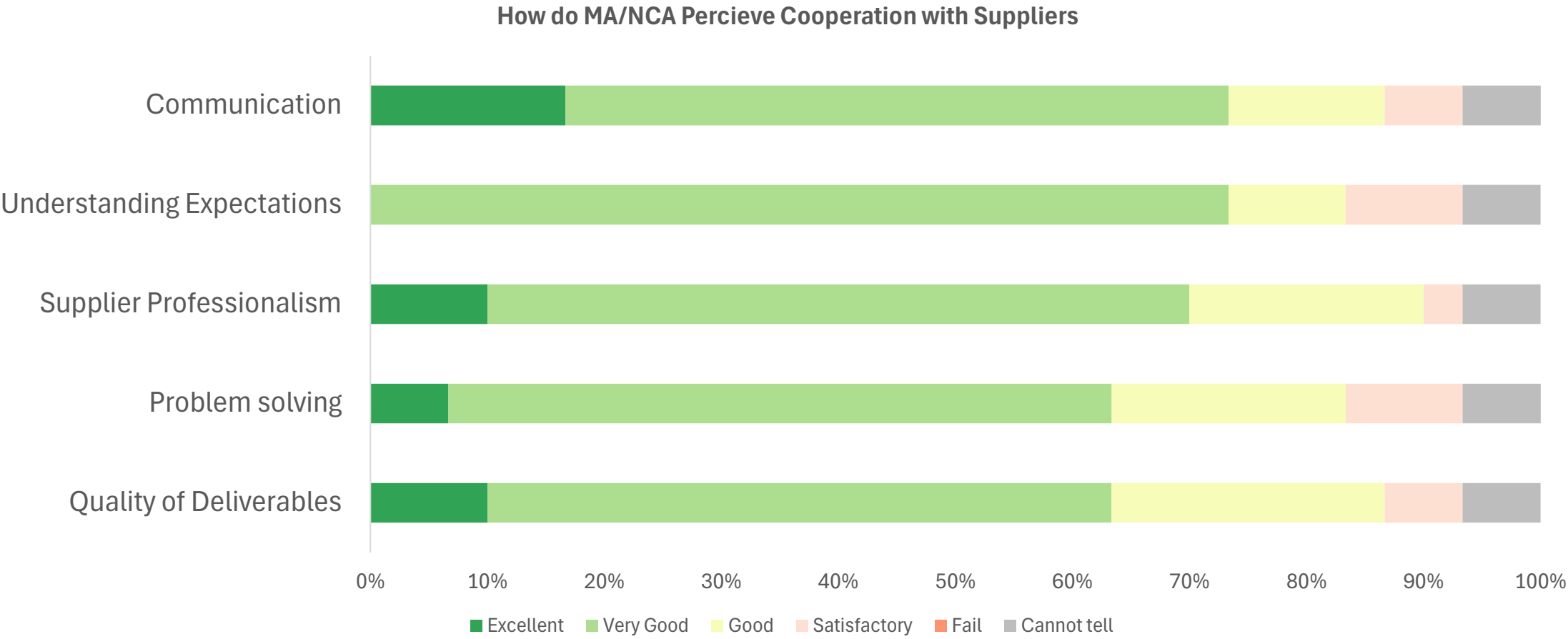
Mostly they educate themselves as least 2-3 times per year



The most important types are: exchange experience from practice, conference, trainings

# Public tendering

**Cooperation – both, evaluators from MA/NCA as well as evaluators from suppliers grade common cooperation as very good (2). It seems we start to understand each other better.**



# Supplier views

## Positive:

- Transparency of the tendering
- Clarity of objective, qualification requirement and selection criteria
- Communication during realization
- Higher focus on quality of the bid than on the price

## Challenges:

- Time for preparation of high quality bid
- The length of the public tendering
- Lack of flexibility during the realization
- (Un)realistic schedule
- Usefulness of feedback from the client

# Independence



# How independent are the EU MCA/NCA?

## Evaluation units NEVER experience

- » Lack of protection of sensitive data (47%)
- » Hiding/omitting/suppressing negative findings to protect someone's interests (40%)
- » Experience pressure on changes the evaluation findings (36%)
- But very often are forced to accept inaccurate data for fast finishing of the report.

## The view of supplier is little bit different

- 16% are often forced to change the findings; 25% from time to time

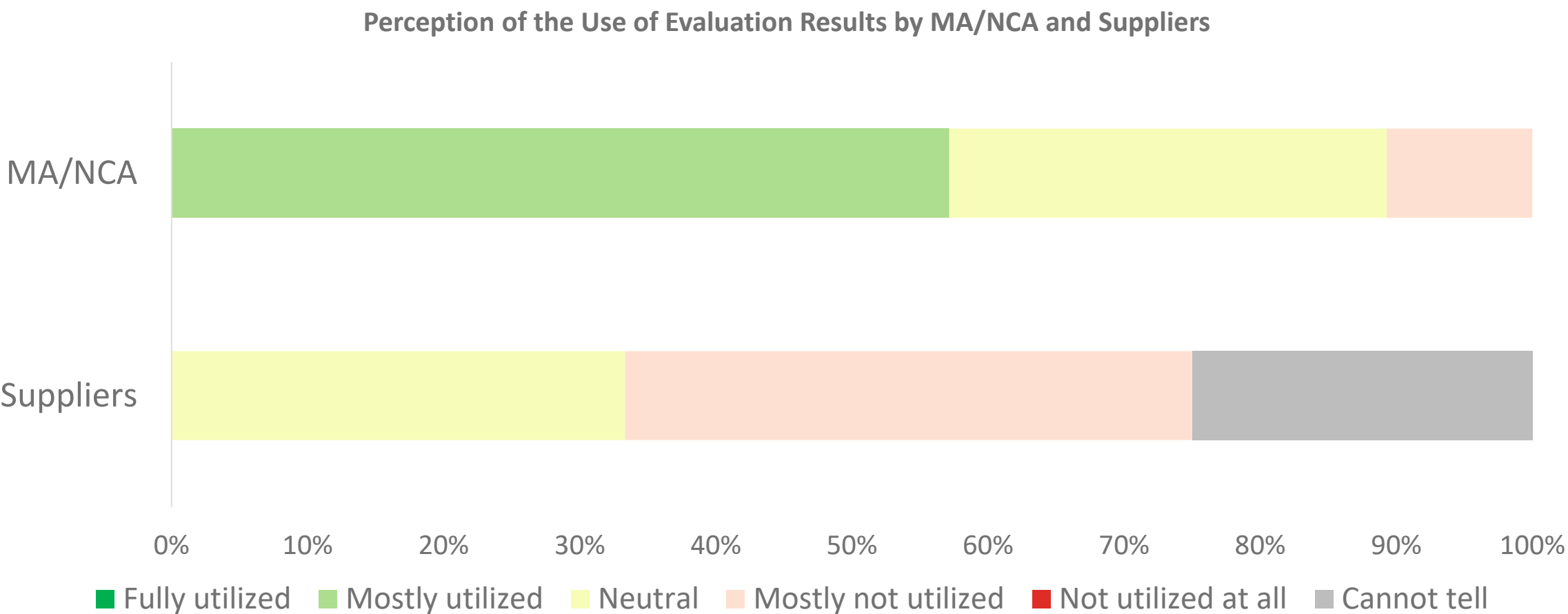
# So, what do evaluation units do if the results of the evaluation are unfavorable for the ministry?

Reactions of MA/NCA to Less Favorable Evaluation Outcomes



# Use of conclusions and recommendations from evaluations

# Evaluators from MA/NCA are more optimistic than suppliers in regards of use of findings and recommendations



# Challenges regarding using conclusions and recommendations

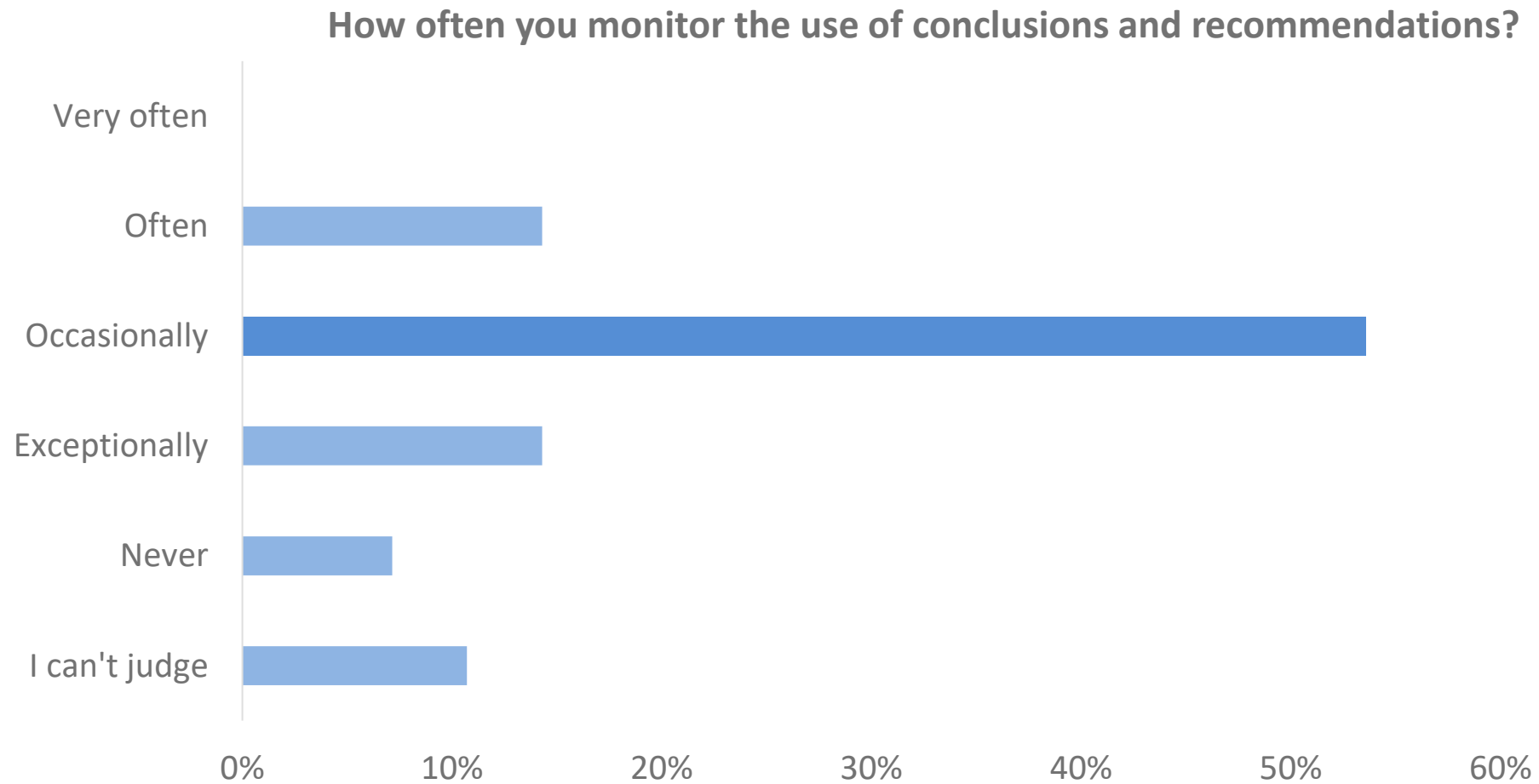
## Evaluators from MA/NCA

- Management reluctance to change
- Lack of support from management
- Low practical applicability of conclusions and recommendations - too general

## Evaluators from suppliers

- Reluctance to change at side of the contracting authority
- Limited resources - time and money
- Insufficient dissemination of results

# The use of conclusions and recommendations are occasionally monitor (54%)



# Challenges

# The biggest challenges for evaluators

## Evaluators from MA/NCA

- Lack of interest & time of decision-makers
- **Administrative burden**
- Quality of external suppliers
- **Future of evaluations**
- **Data unavailability**

## Evaluators from suppliers

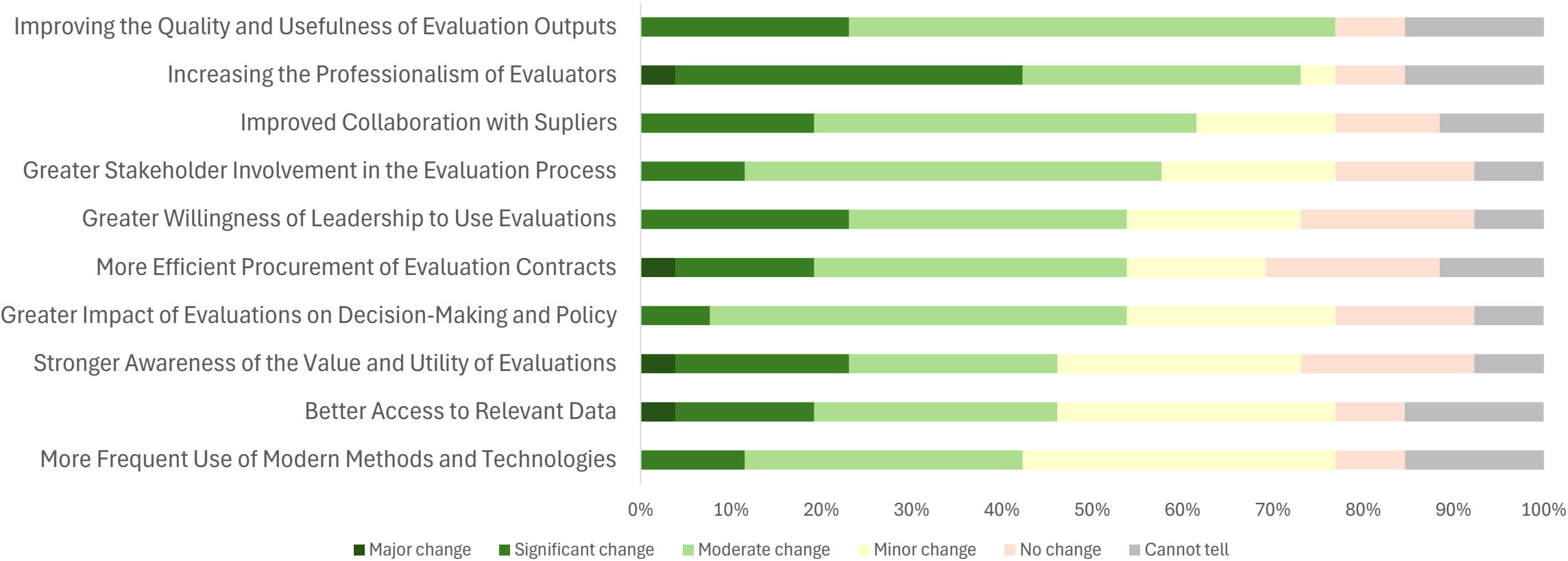
- Time and resources
- **Administrative burden**
- Price of the evaluation tenders
- Objectivity of evaluation
- **Data unavailability**
- Lack of flexibility during realization
- **Future of evaluations**
- Lack of support for education



# Changes over time

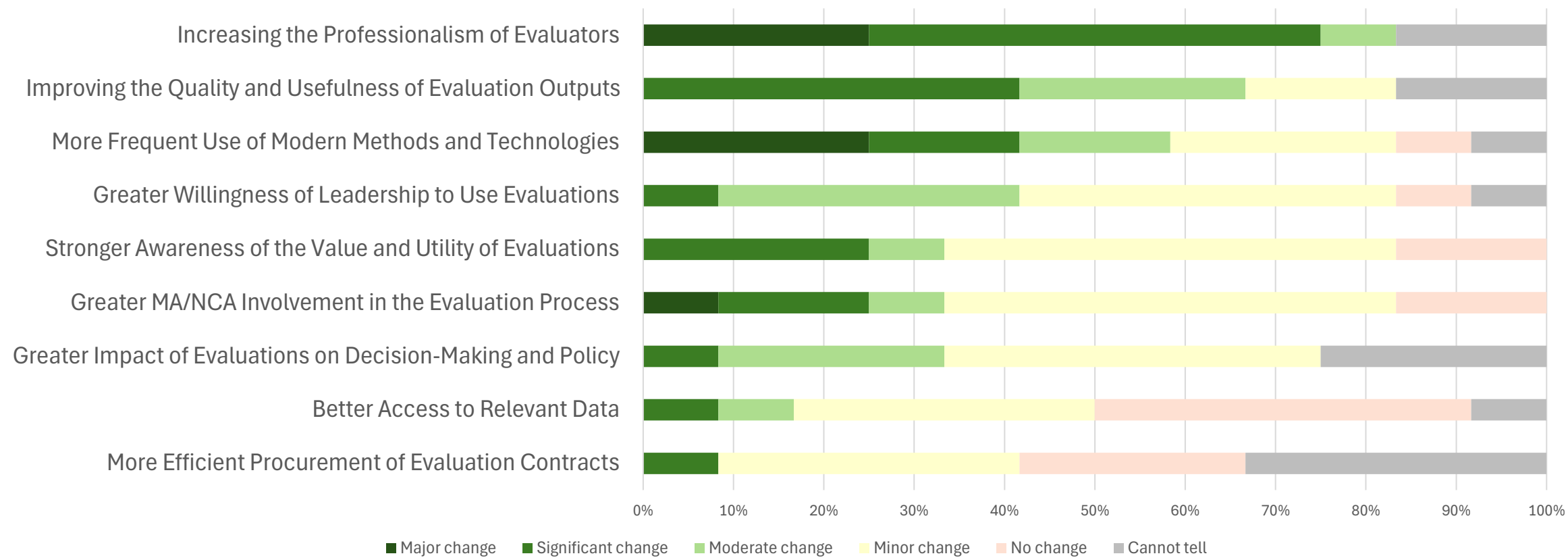
**According to MA/NCA there positive changes in terms of better quality of evaluation reports, higher impact of evaluation on decision-making, higher involvement of stakeholders in evaluations and better communication with suppliers.**

What Changes Do You Percieve in these Evaluation Aspects over Times - MA/NCA



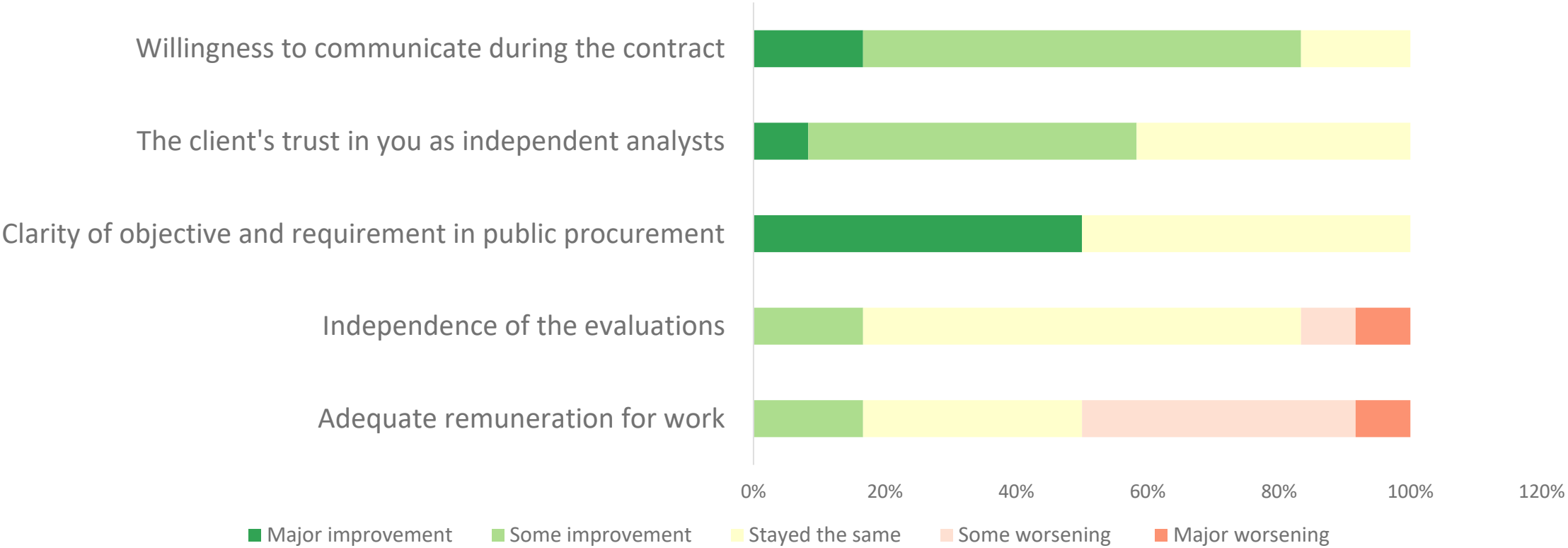
**According to SUPPLIERS there are positive changes in terms of professionalization of the evaluation community and efficiency of evaluation reports. There are no changes in regarding of accessibility of data and efficient tendering.**

What Changes Do You Percieve in these Evaluation Aspects over Times - Supliers



**According to suppliers there are positive changes in terms of better clarity in terms of reference, and there some positive changes in communication. The adequate price for evaluations work get worse.**

How do you assess the change in the quality of cooperation with contracting authority?





# Thank you!

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