



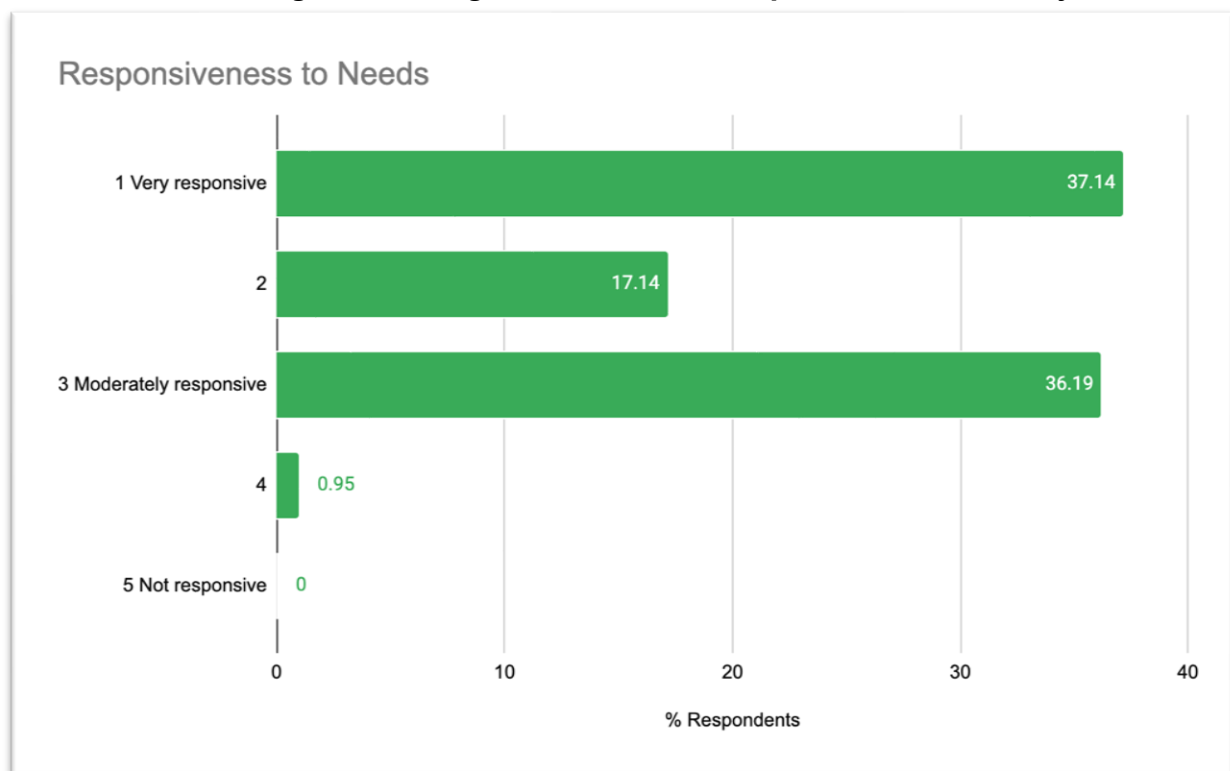
Independent Review of EvalForward Community of Practice

Annex 3.
Member survey
evidence

Introduction

1. The Member Survey method consisted of an online questionnaire that gathered feedback on EvalForward from those users registered on the EvalForward Platform, DGroup, and/or the Mailchimp E-Newsletter. It used a mix of Open Text, Sliding Scale, Multiple Choice and Rating type collectors. The type of collector for each question has been selected for a balance between ease of response (to achieve more complete responses) and quality of information (to achieve more granular information). The survey questions explored themes related to suitability, usefulness, positioning, contribution, knowledge, attitudes, practice, gender equality and social inclusion. It also asked one completely open feedback question to accommodate unexpected views and one question asking about preferences for future activities and content to aid planning.
2. The Member Survey provided for anonymous responses to build trust in the process but did collect basic demographic information to help with analysis. It was administered using an online survey platform (SurveyMonkey). The Member Survey was available in English, French and Spanish. French and Spanish responses were translated and aggregated with those in English prior to analysis.
3. The online survey platform recorded the Internet Protocol (IP) address of every respondent. By default, only one response per IP address is allowed. It would be possible to circumvent this restriction by using different computers to respond from. The risk of this occurring and biasing the evidence is low as it would require concerted action by more than one respondent as most individuals have access to a limited number of computers.
4. Invitations to respond to the survey were sent out in bulk via the EvalForward E-Newsletter, via a message to the DGroups email ListServe and by an announcement on the EvalForward website. Individual reminders were sent by email to twelve staff in the founding agencies (three in each) who were EvalForward members and who might be interested in sharing their opinion. Their responses, if any, would also be anonymous.
5. The Member Survey is one of six methods used by the Review to meet the evidence needs set out in the Evaluation Matrix. The other methods are Key Informant Interviews, Document Review, Theory of Change Retreat and Reflection, Membership Analysis and Online Platforms Analysis. Triangulation across these methods in the analysis stage has been used to offset the positive bias risk associated with a self-selecting population of respondents created through the Member Survey method.
6. Following the deadline of 3 August 2022, 149 responses were received. This represents 11 percent of the number of EvalForward members with a profile on the website. Respondents were based in 44 countries, and of these 15 percent were based in Italy and 27 percent in developed countries. As such respondents who might be staff of the founding agencies could not have significantly weighted the overall response. In terms of language groups, 62 percent chose to respond in English, 30 percent in French and 8 percent in Spanish.
7. The rest of this annex sets out the analysis of the evidence by survey question.

1. To what extent is EvalForward responding to your needs in conducting or using evaluations/monitoring related to agriculture, rural development or food security?

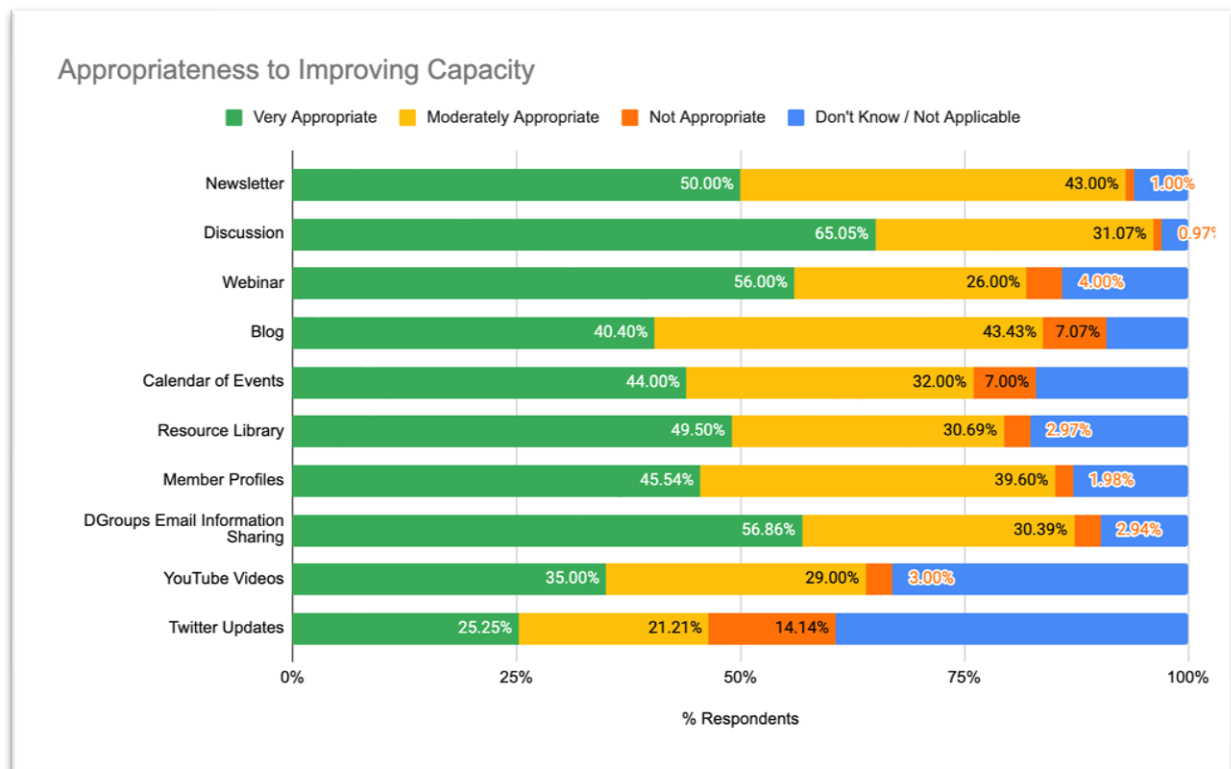


Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A slight majority said EvalForward is very responsive or responsive to their needs (54 percent combined). A significant minority said it was moderately responsive (36 percent)

105 responses in total to this question.

2. To what extent are each of these EvalForward activities appropriate to improving your capacity to conduct or use evaluations/monitoring?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A large majority (65 percent) said discussion was very appropriate for improving capacity. A slight majority said DGroups email Information Sharing (57 percent), webinars (56 percent) and E-Newsletter (50 percent) were very appropriate. A significant minority said the resource library (49 percent), member profiles (45 percent), calendar of events (44 percent) and blog (40 percent) were very appropriate (or moderately appropriate). YouTube videos were seen as very (35 percent) or moderately (29 percent) appropriate but don't know/not applicable accounted for 33 percent of responses. Twitter was said to be moderately appropriate (25 percent) or not appropriate (14 percent) but don't know/not applicable accounted for the largest response at 39 percent.

105 responses in total to this question.

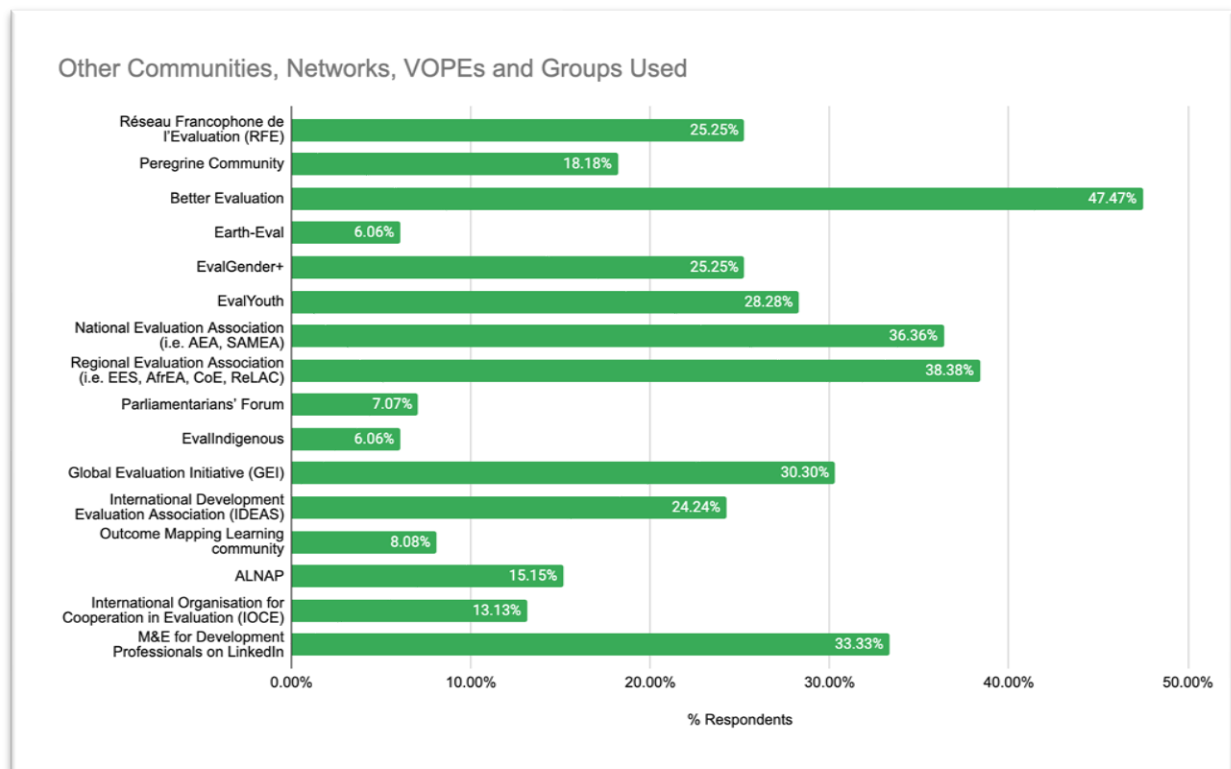
3. For any of the activities you said were ‘Moderately appropriate’ or ‘Not appropriate’ or which you believe are missing, what advice or feedback can you give? Please say which activity you are referring to.

Activity	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Twitter updates	Not all users have Twitter accounts for work (5)
YouTube videos	Improve awareness of YouTube videos by sharing links and embedding them into the website (2)
DGroups email	Help users to stop DGroup emails from going into spam (1)
Member Profiles	Improve the categories in member profiles (e.g. country and thematic experience) to make it easier to search for potential evaluators (1)
Resource Library	Improve visibility and access to resources by marketing and summarising more (1)
Calendar of Events	Improve the calendar of events (1)
Blog	Choose blog topics more systematically (1) Make blogs easy to search by categories in the Resources section (1) Author or translate more blogs in French and Spanish (1)
Webinar	Provide training as well as more webinars (1)
Discussion	Widen participation in discussions (1) Summarize discussions (1)
E-Newsletter	Use simpler language to make the E-Newsletter more accessible (1)
Other	Use Instagram (1) Internet access restricts those most in need from accessing activities (1) Make information and guidance more practical (1) Increase marketing of activities (1) Share more evaluation reports, with feedback on how they have been used (1)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

33 responses in total to this question.

4. Which other evaluation communities, networks, voluntary organizations for professional evaluation and groups do you participate in or follow?

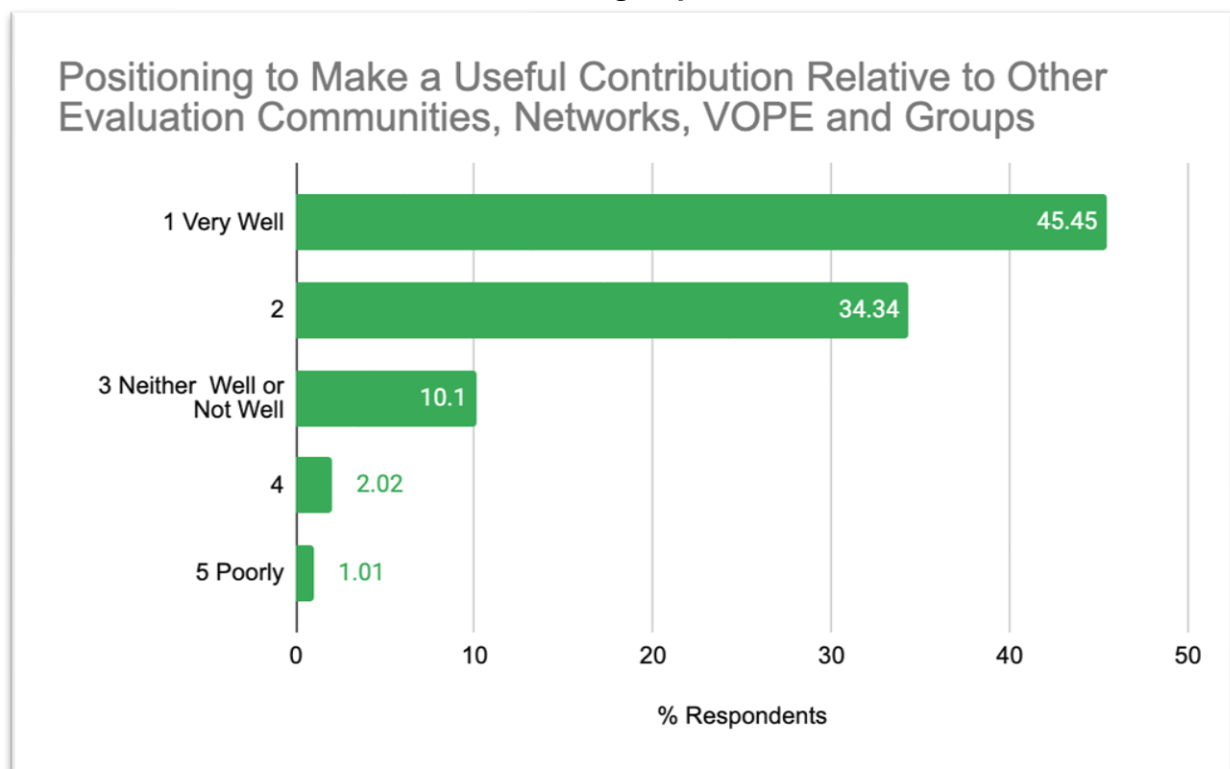


Source: Elaborated by the authors.

26 other evaluation communities, networks, VOPES and groups are participated in by respondents, with the top five being Better Evaluation (47 percent), Regional Evaluation Associations (39 percent), National Evaluation Associations (36 percent), M&E for Development Professionals LinkedIn Group (33 percent) and Global Evaluation Initiative (30 percent).

99 responses in total to this question.

5. How well is EvalForward placed to make a useful contribution in relation to the other evaluation communities, networks, VOPEs and groups?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A significant majority said EvalForward is very well or well positioned (80 percent combined) to make a useful contribution in relation to other initiatives.

99 responses in total to this question.

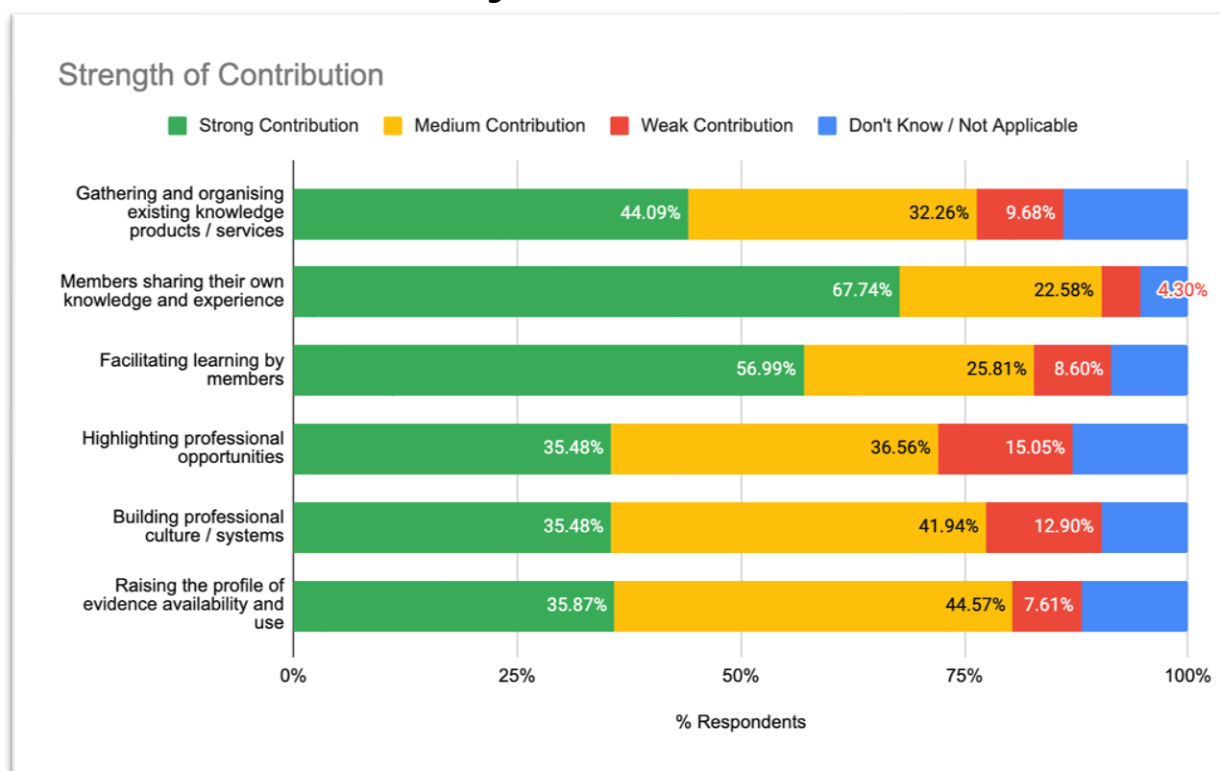
6. What should EvalForward continue or start to do to complement other evaluation communities, networks, VOPEs and groups?

Suggestions on Complementing	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Collaboration and Connection	Co-organize events and other activities. Share content of interest to specific networks (e.g. EF webinars, discussions) (15)
Training/Events	Organize training (e.g. face-to-face events, webinars, distance learning courses) with certification. Collaborate with other initiatives on training (14)
Marketing	Market EvalForward's benefits and purpose more, especially on social media networks (e.g. LinkedIn) (8)
Resources	Strengthen the Resources Library with content (e.g. on contemporary M&E topics, evaluation reports, academic literature) and enhanced search facilities (7)
Practical Techniques	Develop and advocate for practical M&E techniques for agriculture, food security and rural development in the context of SDGs, UN and OECD DAC (5)
Young Professionals	Target young professional evaluators with tailored capacity development (e.g. mentoring, internships) (4)
Discussions	Have more frequent practical topical discussions (3)
Evaluate	Support evaluation implementation (3)
Themes	Increase the focus on themes in M&E (2)
Member profiles	Improve the ability of members to search for each other and connect (2)
Targeting	Target activities based on member needs assessment (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

39 responses in total to this question.

7. In relation to evaluation/monitoring of agriculture, rural development and food security, how much is EvalForward contributing?

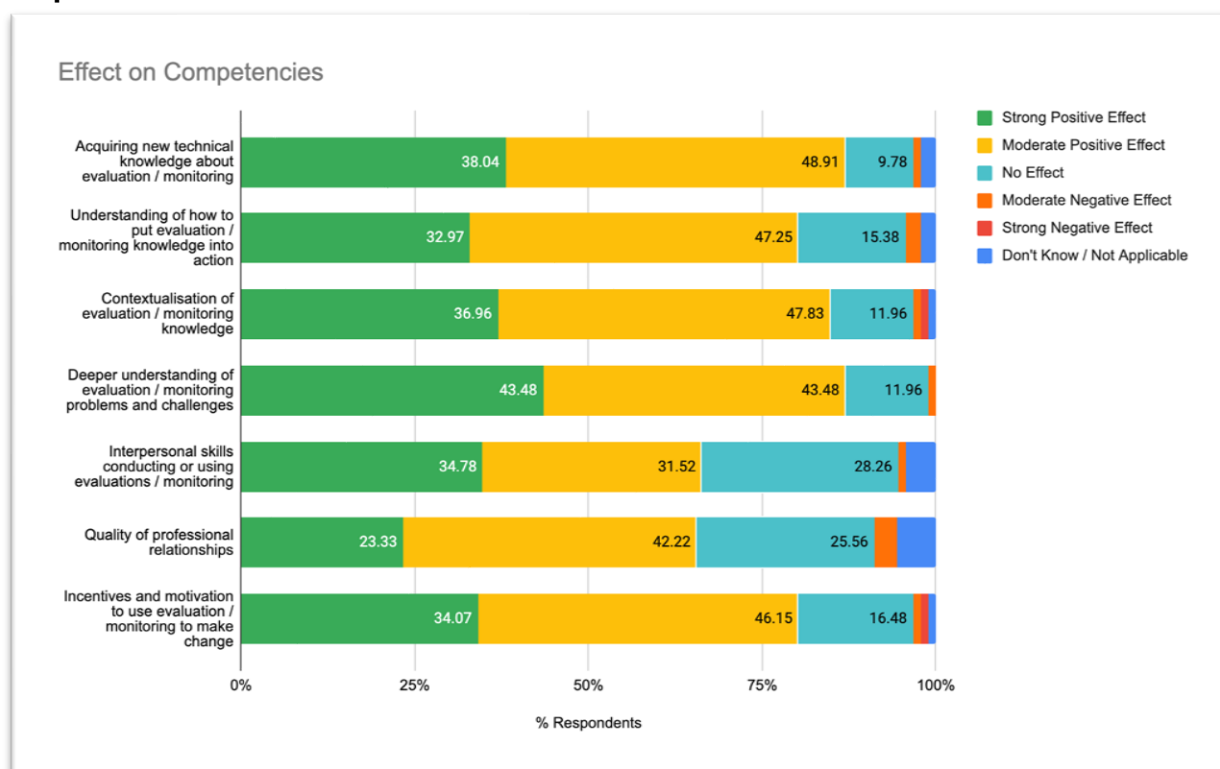


Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A significant majority (68 percent) said that EvalForward makes a strong contribution to Members sharing their knowledge and experience. A majority (57 percent) said it makes a strong contribution to facilitating learning by members. A significant minority said it makes a strong (44 percent) or medium (32 percent) contribution to gathering and organizing existing knowledge products and services. A significant minority said it makes a strong (35 percent) or medium (36 percent) contribution to highlighting professional opportunities. A significant minority said it made a strong (35 percent) or medium (42 percent) contribution to building professional culture/systems. A significant minority said it made a strong (36 percent) or medium (44 percent) contribution to raising the profile of evidence availability and use.

93 responses in total to this question.

8. How much has involvement in EvalForward affected your evaluation/monitoring competencies?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A significant majority (87 percent combined) said EvalForward has had a strong or moderate positive effect on deepening their understanding of problems and challenges. A significant majority (87 percent combined) said EvalForward has had a strong or moderate positive effect on the acquisition of new technical knowledge. A significant majority (84 percent combined) said EvalForward has had a strong or moderate positive effect on the contextualization of knowledge. A significant majority (78 percent combined) said EvalForward has had a strong or moderate positive effect on their understanding of how to put knowledge into action. A majority (80 percent combined) said EvalForward had a strong or moderate positive effect on their incentives and motivation to use evaluation and monitoring to make change. A majority (66 percent combined) said EvalForward had a strong or moderate positive effect on their interpersonal skills in conducting or using evaluation and monitoring, but a significant minority (28 percent) said it had no effect. A majority (65 percent combined) said EvalForward had a strong or moderate positive effect on the quality of their professional relationships, but a significant minority (25 percent) said it had no effect.

92 responses in total to this question.

9. What event, resource, discussion, etc have you most appreciated and why is that?

Appreciated Activities	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Discussions	Discussions (DGroup Email/Web) as they provide a constructive and open exchange of problems, experience and new ideas on useful topics (16)
TOC Webinar / Discussion	Theory of change webinar and discussion because of useful connection to current M&E responsibilities and approaches (12)
Resources	Resource library with useful and easy-to-find documents (methods, evaluation reports) (8)
Webinar	Webinars for exchange of experience, challenges, relevant topics and translation (8)
Collaborative Events	Collaborative events through which individual and organizational members participate under the EvalForward umbrella (7)
Blogs	Blogs that share experiences of members (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

38 responses in total to this question.

10. What more could EvalForward do to amplify or spread the effects of its existing activities?

Suggestions on Amplifying and Spreading Effects	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Resources	Improve Resources Library with more technical documents (methods, evaluation reports, case studies) on priority topics for members (9)
Webinars	Increase the frequency of Webinars with topics that are a priority for members (7)
Training	Provide technical training with certification (e.g. online Massive Online Open Courses - MOOCs) (6)
Collaboration with other Communities	Increase collaboration with other communities of practice, networks, etc. including in related sectors (e.g. humanitarian, academia) (6)
Marketing	Increase marketing of EvalForward, including through social media (e.g. LinkedIn) (5)
Events	Organize more face-to-face events, ideally on a regular schedule (5)
Membership	Increase membership through active recruitment (2)
Discussions	Encourage more informal discussion, including with speakers from outside of evaluation profession (2)
Blogs	Encourage members to blog, especially on practical topics and challenges in evaluation (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

34 responses in total to this question.

11. What advice would you give on how EvalForward can promote the relevance of and access to its resources by different genders and those at risk of marginalisation in the evaluation community?

Suggestions on GESI	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Training and discussion	Offer training, more webinars and discussions on gender equality and social inclusion, including in collaboration with other communities and networks specialized in the topic (10)
Participation	Increase participation by different genders and those at risk of marginalization in all aspects of the CoP (speakers, discussion) by proactive outreach and provision of space (10)
Resources	Improve the resource library collection and categorization of documents relevant to gender equality and social inclusion topics (methods, evaluation reports) (8)
Social Media	Increase use of social media to reach out to those at risk of marginalization (5)
Consultation	More regular consultation with members to get feedback, including on gender equality and social inclusion (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

28 responses in total to this question.

12. What technique, tool or topic would you like EvalForward to highlight this coming year and why?

Suggestion on Highlighting	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Qualitative	Qualitative data collection and analysis methods and software (4)
Theory of change	Theory of change development and review (4)
Food Security, Agriculture and Rural Development	Evaluation specific to Food Security, Agriculture and Rural Development (4)
Trends	Latest trends in MEL practices (4)
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (4)
Data science	Data science analysis and visualization methods and software (3)
Uptake	Uptake and use of evaluation, including by decisionmakers and in the agriculture and food security sector (3)
MEL Systems	Set up of MEL systems (2)
Sustainability	Sustainability assessment criteria and methods, including post implementation (2)
Climate change	Climate change evaluation, including in relation to climate finance and to food security (2)
Analysis	Analytical approaches, methods, criteria and scoring (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

39 responses in total to this question.

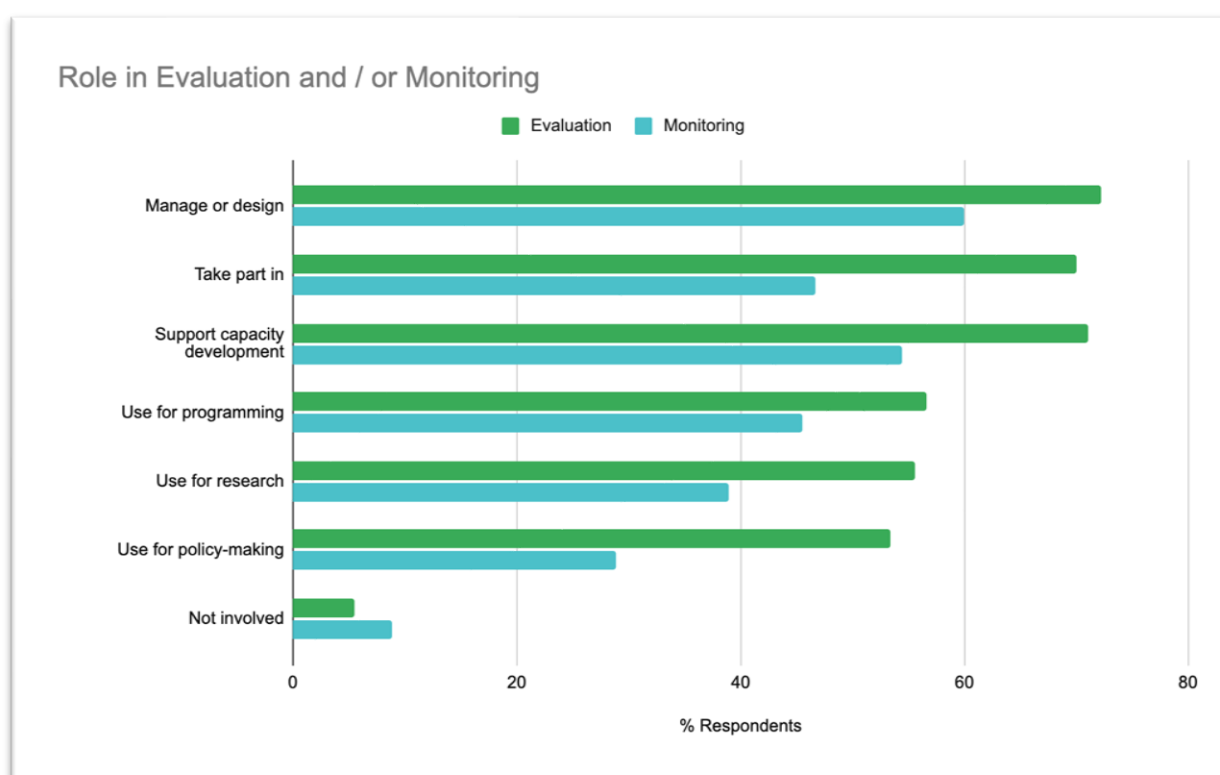
13. What else should the Independent Review of EvalForward know about your experience as a member of the Community of Practice?

Membership Experiences	Synthesis of Responses (number of individual responses represented in brackets – highest first)
Appreciation	EvalForward is valued and has contributed to professional capacity development and finding solutions to problems (7)
Membership	Members should be onboarded, enabled to connect more easily and grown in numbers (4)
Global Exchange	Global exchange between M&E practitioners in the global South and North and with different levels of experience is valued (2)

Source: Elaborated by the authors.

29 responses in total to this question.

14 What is your role in evaluation and/or monitoring?

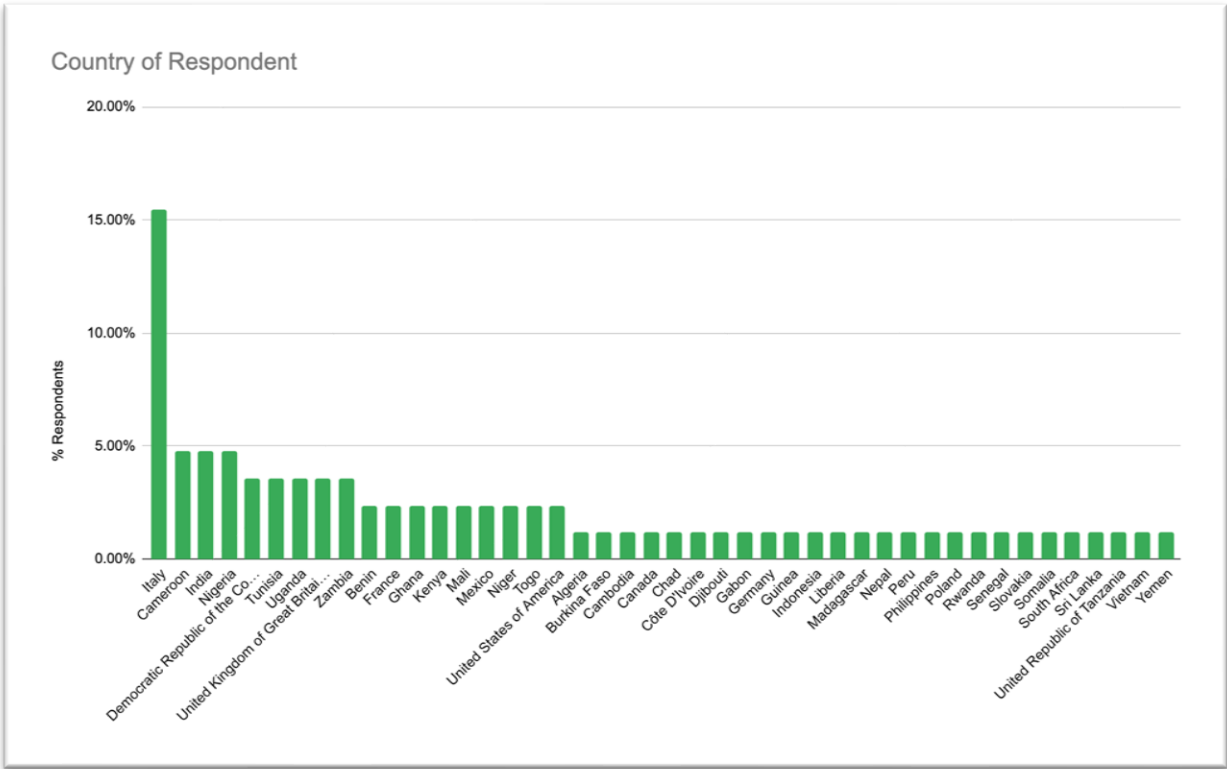


Source: Elaborated by the authors.

Most respondents reported being involved in conducting or using evaluation (around 70 percent and 55 percent respectively). Around 50 percent of respondents reported being involved in conducting monitoring and some 40 percent in using monitoring. Less than 10 percent of respondents are not involved in conducting or using evaluation and monitoring.

90 responses in total to this question.

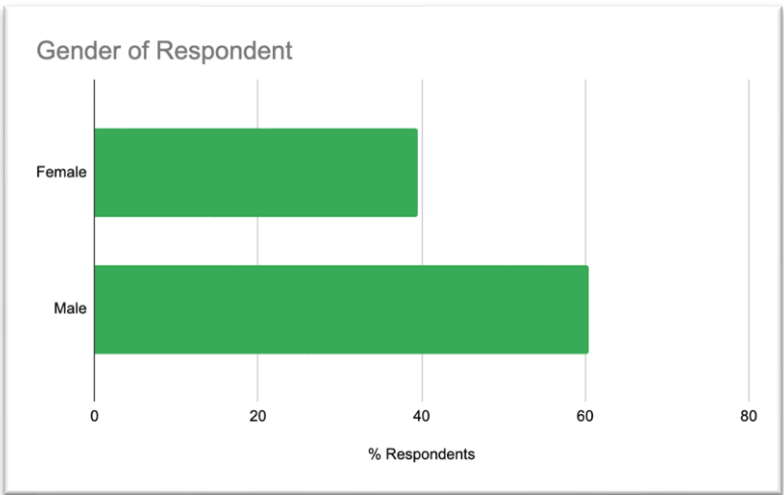
15. What country are you based in?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

Some 15 percent of respondents are based in Italy and other respondents are based in 43 other countries accounting for the bulk of respondents (some 85 percent).
84 responses in total to this question.

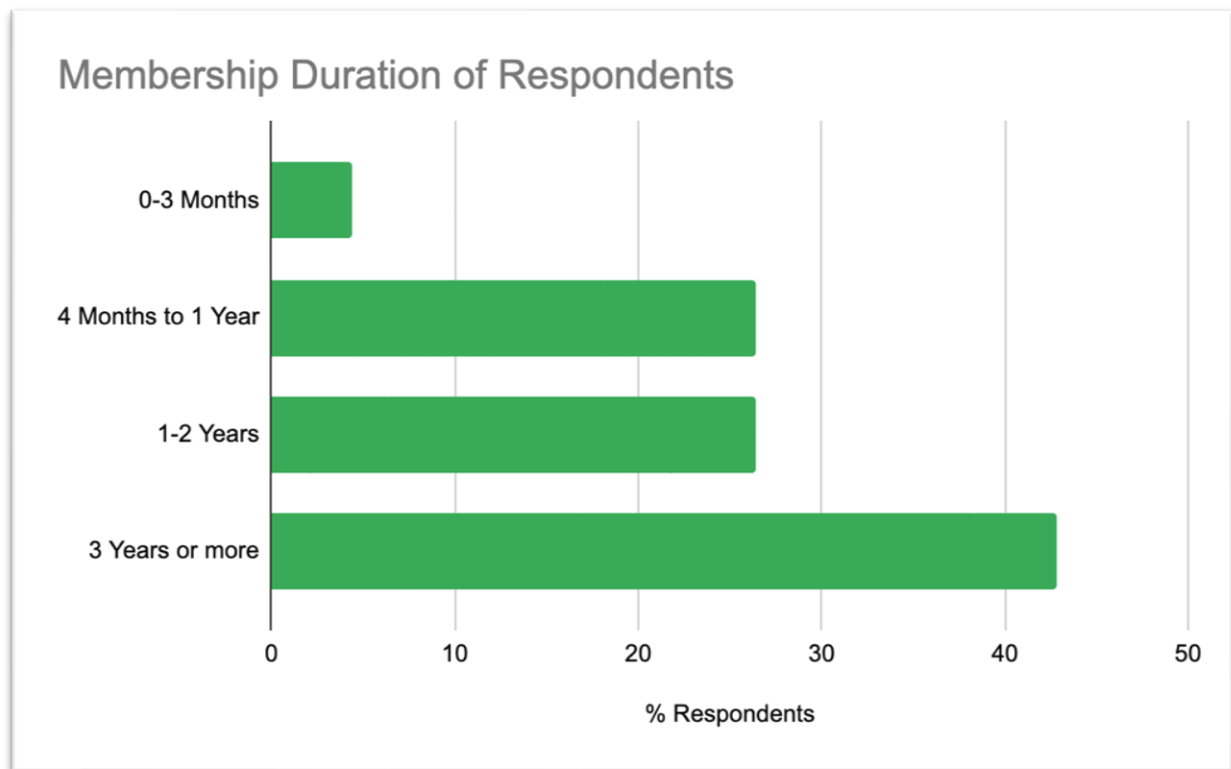
16. What is your gender?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

Respondents identify as being male (some 60 percent) or female (some 40 percent).
91 responses in total to this question.

17. How many years have you been a member of EvalForward (website, e-newsletter, or DGroup)?

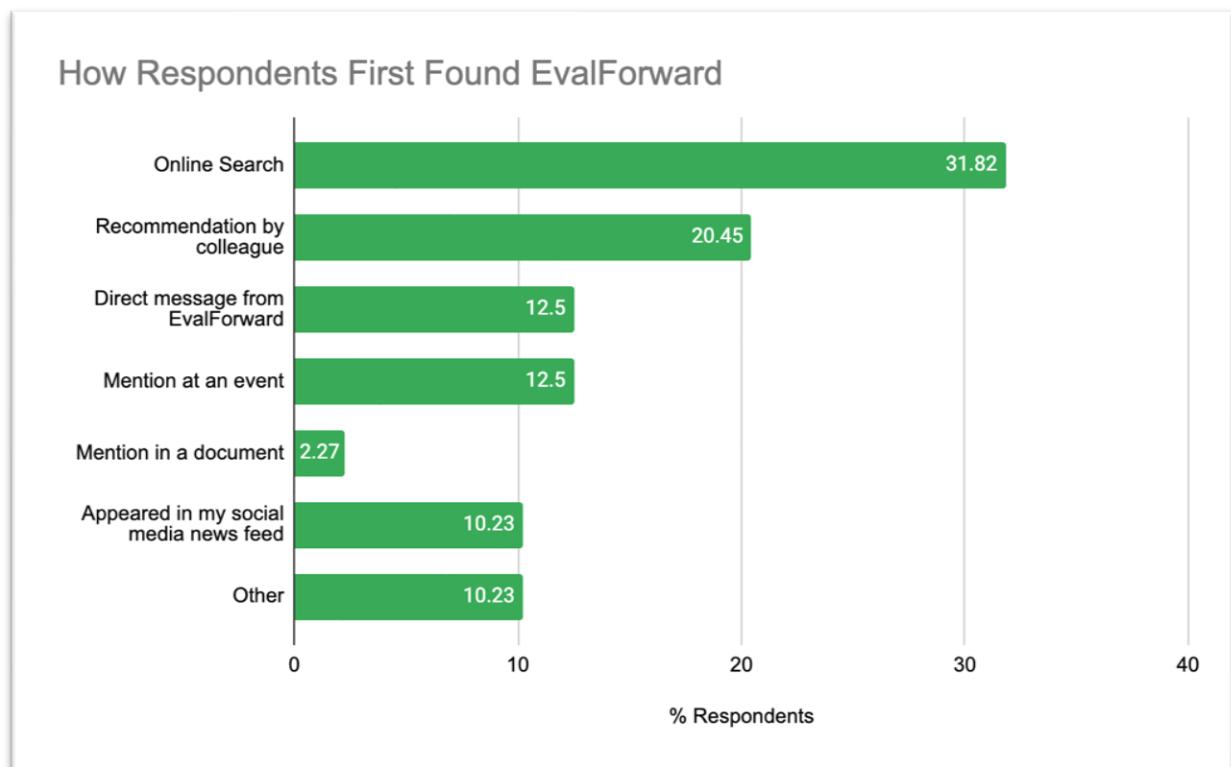


Source: Elaborated by the authors.

A significant minority of respondents have been members since around the launch of EvalForward (43 percent). Only a small percentage have been members for less than three months (4 percent).

91 responses in total to this question.

18. How did you first hear of EvalForward?



Source: Elaborated by the authors.

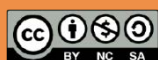
A significant majority of respondents first heard of EvalForward through channels over which it has limited control such as online search and recommendation by colleague (52 percent).

88 responses in total to this question.



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