



Institute of Policy Analysis
and Research - Rwanda

Dialogue and Consensus For building the culture of self- reliance

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By : Roger Mugisha
Research Fellow

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

- The 1994 genocide against Tutsi destroyed the political, social and economic fabrics of the country
- The clear choice of politics centered on dialogue and consensus to address both national and local issues (see article 9 of the constitution of the republic of Rwanda)
- The focus was to rebuild the country socially, economically and politically
- Focus on sustaining what has been achieved :
 - Stability of the Country
 - Growing economy
 - Poverty is declining
 - Economic transformation is on going
 - On track to achieve MDGs
 - Good governance
- Promote dialogue and consensus to build and consolidate social capital and social cohesion to sustain what has been achieved

Definition of Concepts

- Definitions
 - **Dialogue** : is a “*sustained collective inquiry into processes, assumptions and certainties that compose everyday experiences*” (Isaacs, (nd)p24). Dialogues seeks to bring people to think together.
 - **Consensus**: is a process through which people “*seek rational means to limit options and focus on the ones that are logically acceptable to most people*” (Isaacs, p26)
 - **Self reliance**: a reliance on one’s own resources as opposed to dependence on others. (Emerson, 2000, quoted by Kathleen O’Dwyer,2012)

Why Dialogue AND CONSENSUS

Why create the culture of dialogue?

- Taking our own lives into our hands, individually and collectively
- Establishing collective mind thinking through which our collective intelligence can operate
- For fulfilling the old dream of democracy

Why Dialogue AND CONSENSUS

High quality of dialogue enables to explore:

- Transformation of ourselves and our relationships (groups, organizations, communities, socio-economic and political institutions and cultures)
- Social problems and their possible solutions
- Appropriate responses and approaches to diversity and how to use the diversity for better outcomes
- Values and ethics and how to translate them into our lives
- Forces at work in our environment, how they work, what they mean for our lives
- How we came to be where we are, and what vision we have for the future (individually and collectively)
- New ideas, options, alternatives perspectives, projects and approaches that could make our lives better, our community more healthy and self-reliant, and sustainable

Principles for building self-reliance

1. Assume responsibility
2. Be informed
3. Know where you are going
4. Make your own decision

Objective and Methodology

1. Objective

- Explore how Rwandan dialogue and consensus mechanisms are promoting the culture of self-reliance and ownership.

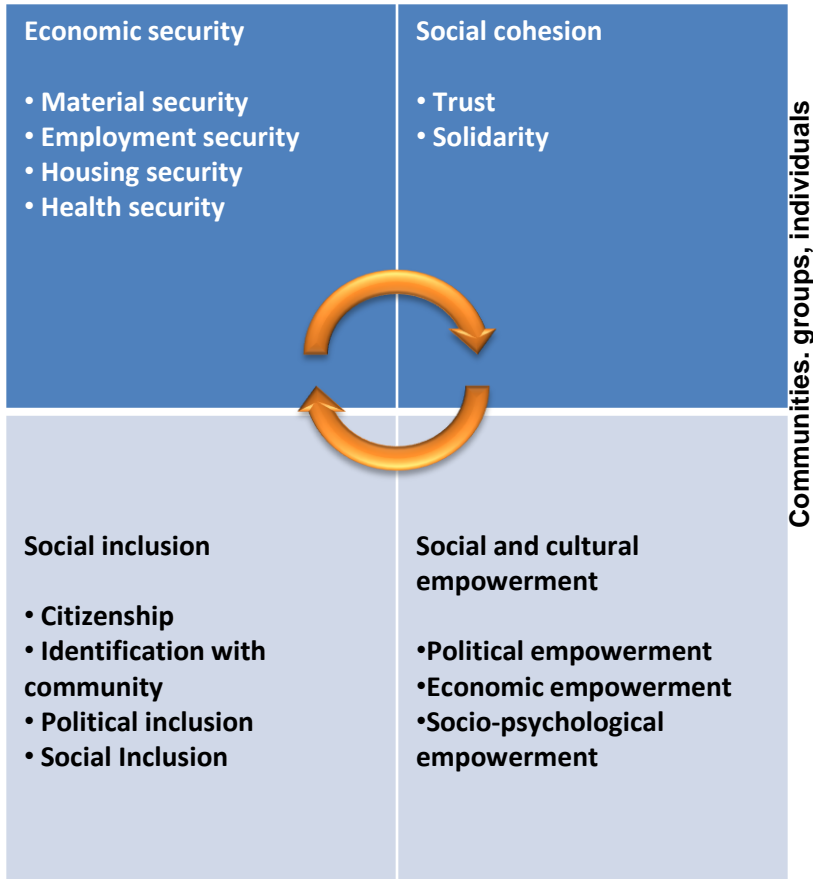
2. Research methods

- Literature review
- Quantitative method

Sampling (stratification: 30 strata)

- Sample size: 3,840 (18 years old and above)
 - Systematic Sampling in each strata (selecting villages)
 - HH were selected from list provided by head of the village
 - Individuals were selected from HH
- Qualitative method: FGDs and key informants

• Global process

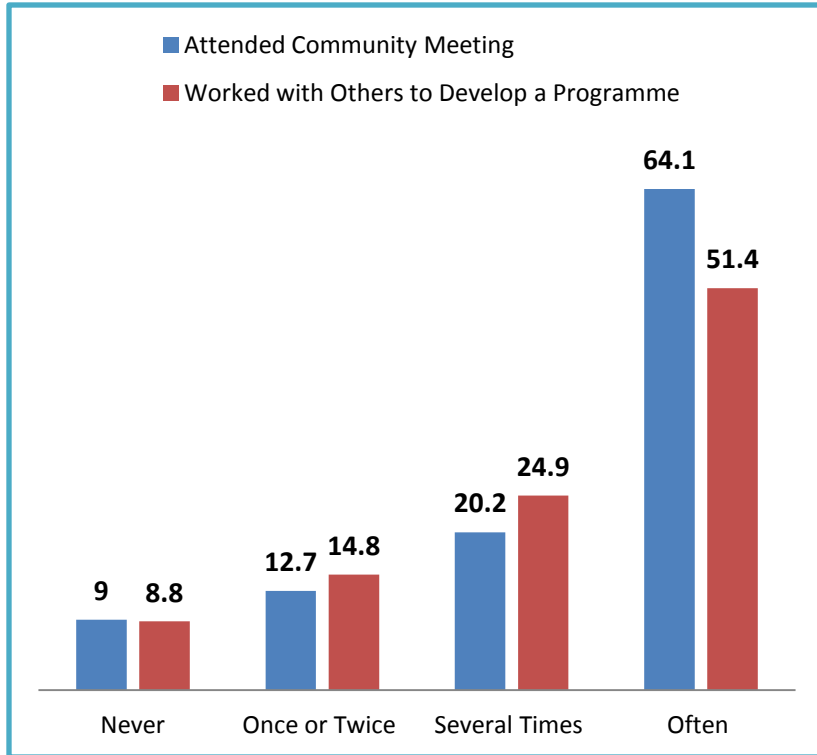


• Rwanda process



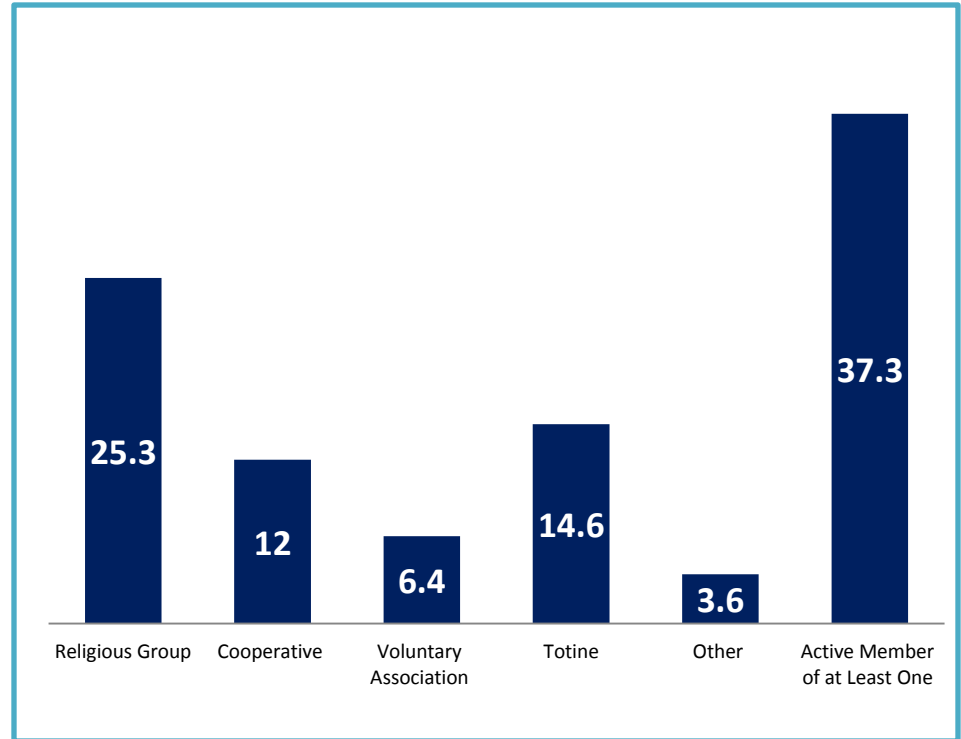
Finding: Community Engagement

Engagement with the Community in the 12 Months Prior to the Survey



(Source: Senate 2012)

Active Membership of Community Based Organisations

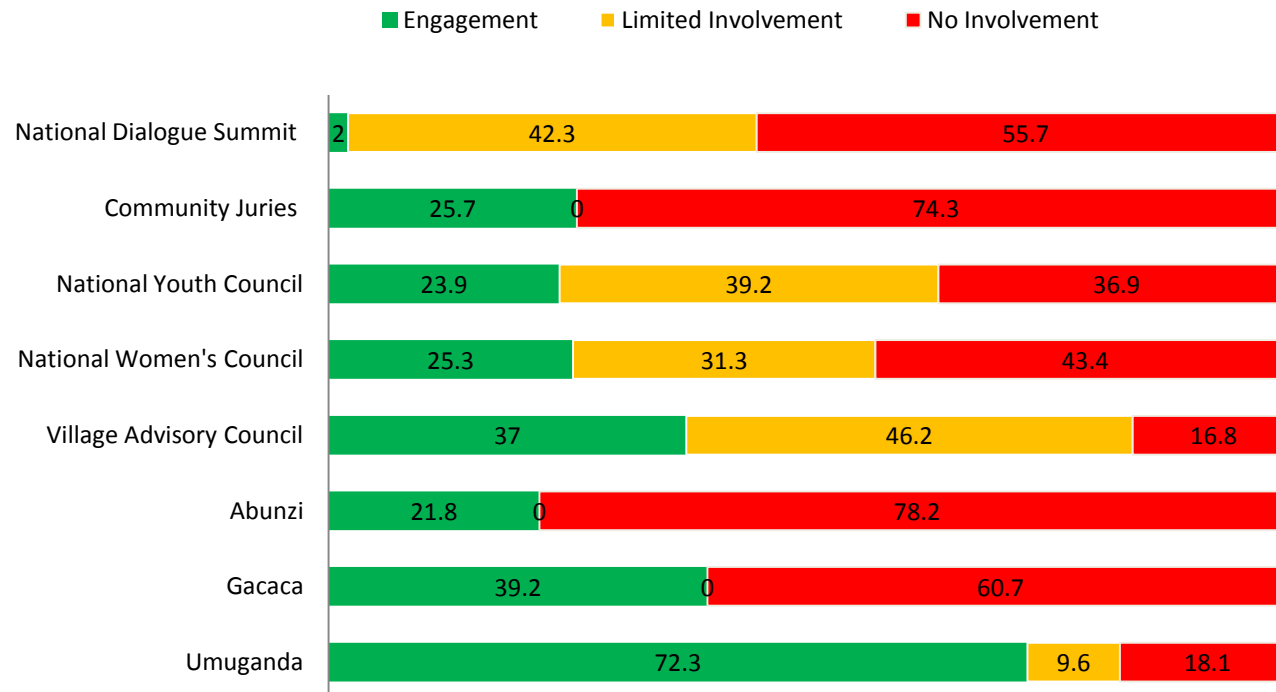


(Source: Senate 2012)

There are Differences in Community Engagement by Province, location, Age, Gender, Marital status, Education, Social deprivation and disability

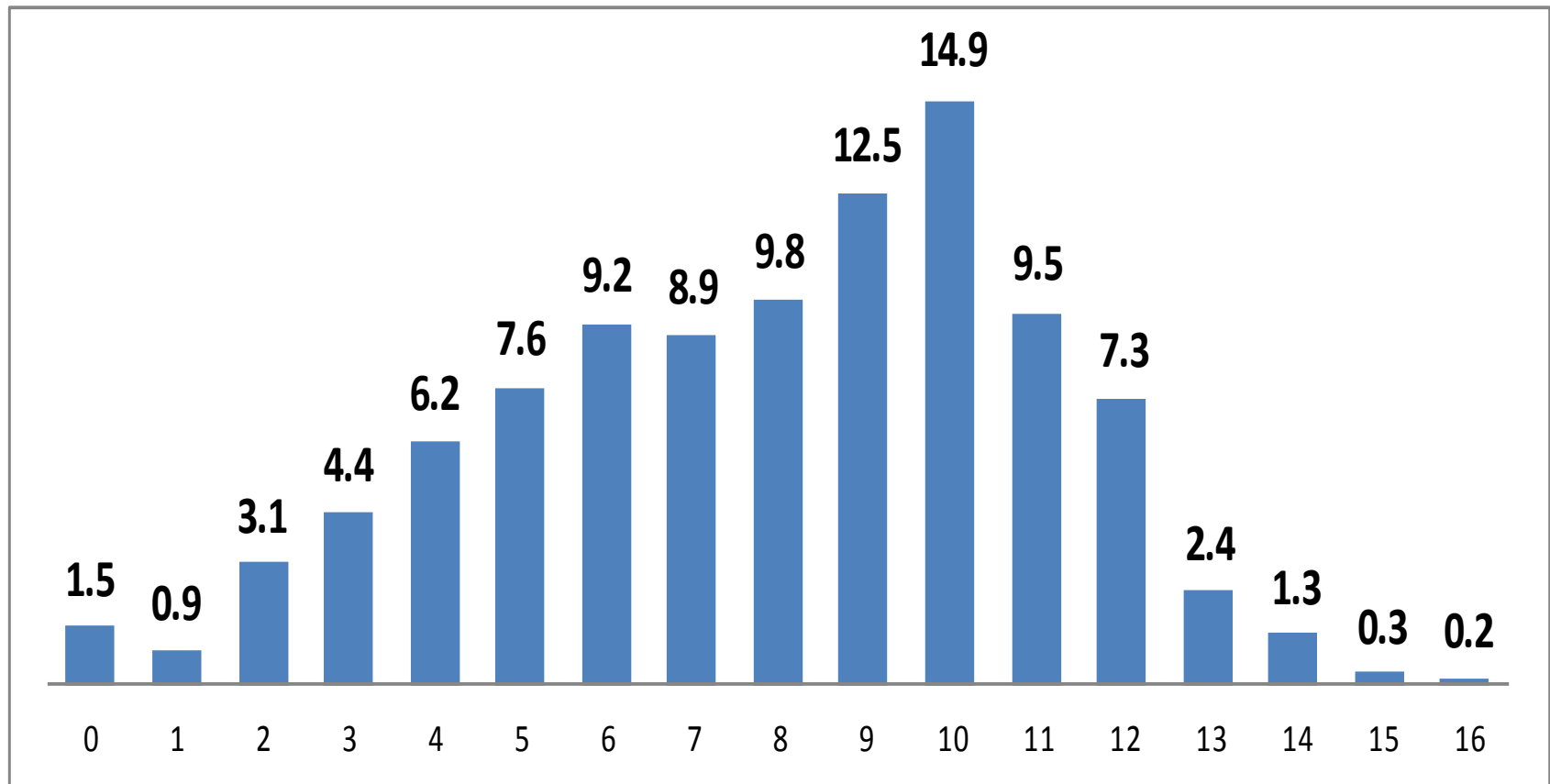
Finding: Engagement with mechanisms of dialogue and consensus

% of Respondents Engagement with Mechanisms for Dialogue and Consensus¹



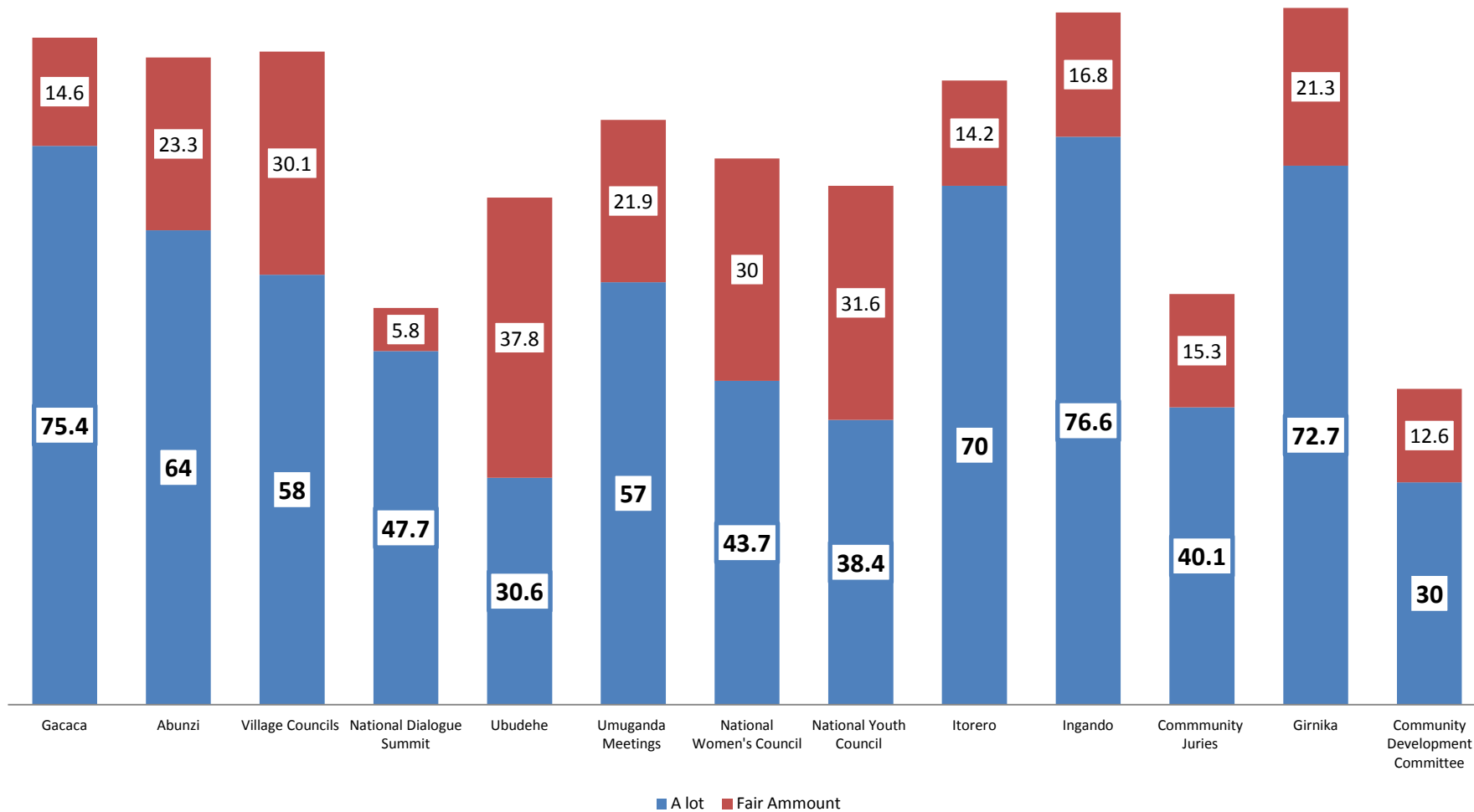
(¹ Umuganda engagement is attending every month, for Village Advisory Committee 12 or more times a year, for NWC and NYC attending regularly. For NWC % of women and for NYC % 35 years and under)

Finding: Index of Density of Engagement with the Mechanisms for Dialogue and Consensus



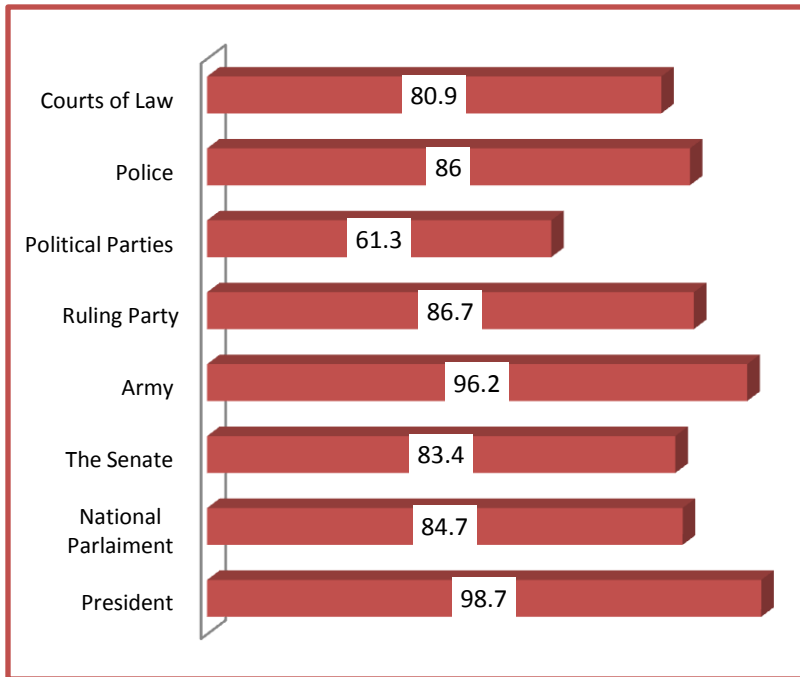
(Source: Senate 2012)

Subjective Evaluation of the Contribution of the Mechanisms to Dialogue and Consensus.

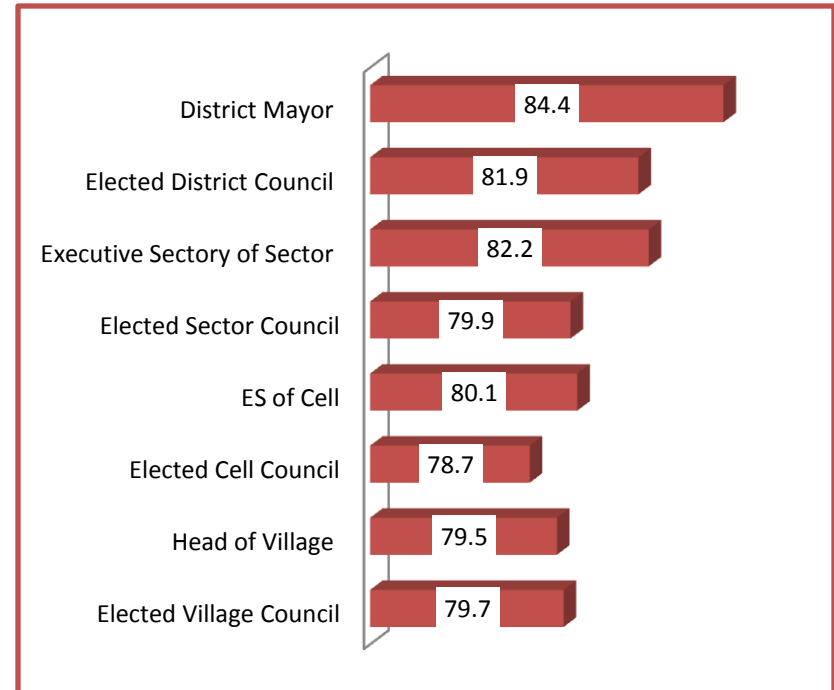


Finding: Trust

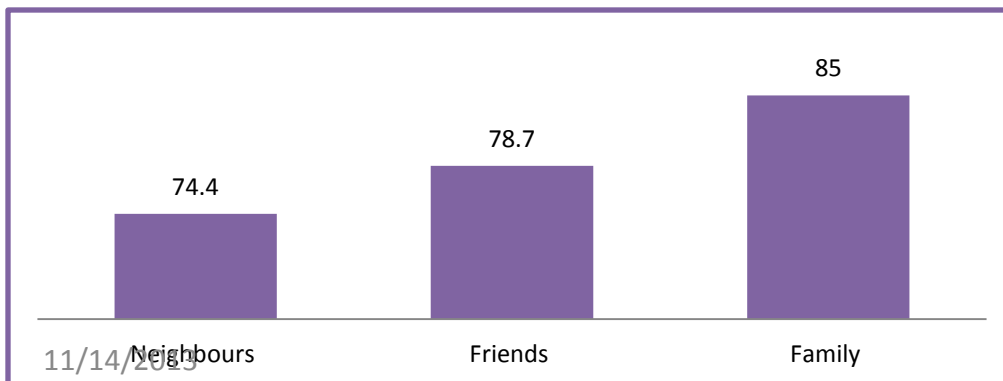
High Trust in National Political Institutions



High Trust in Local Politicians

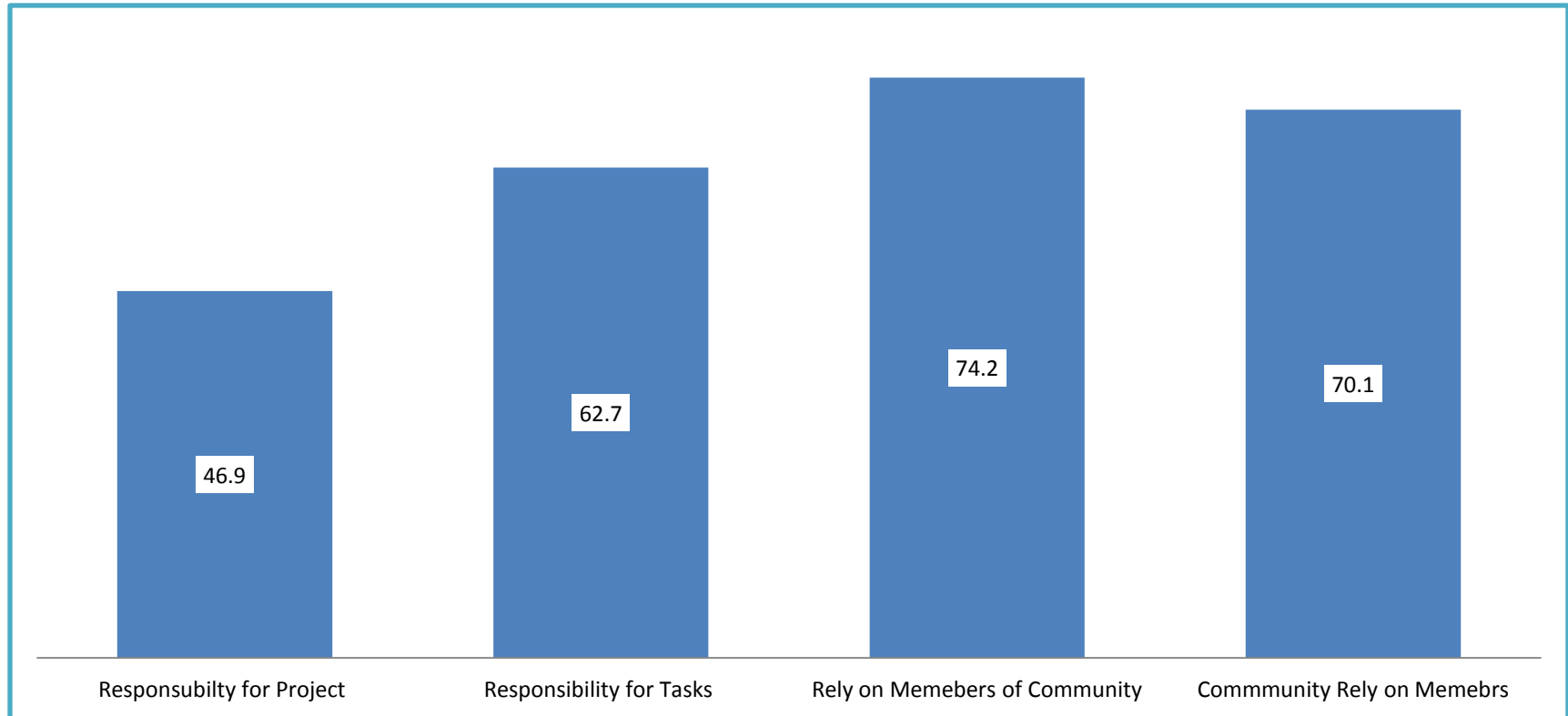


High Trust in Family, Friends and Neighbours



Finding: Community collaboration

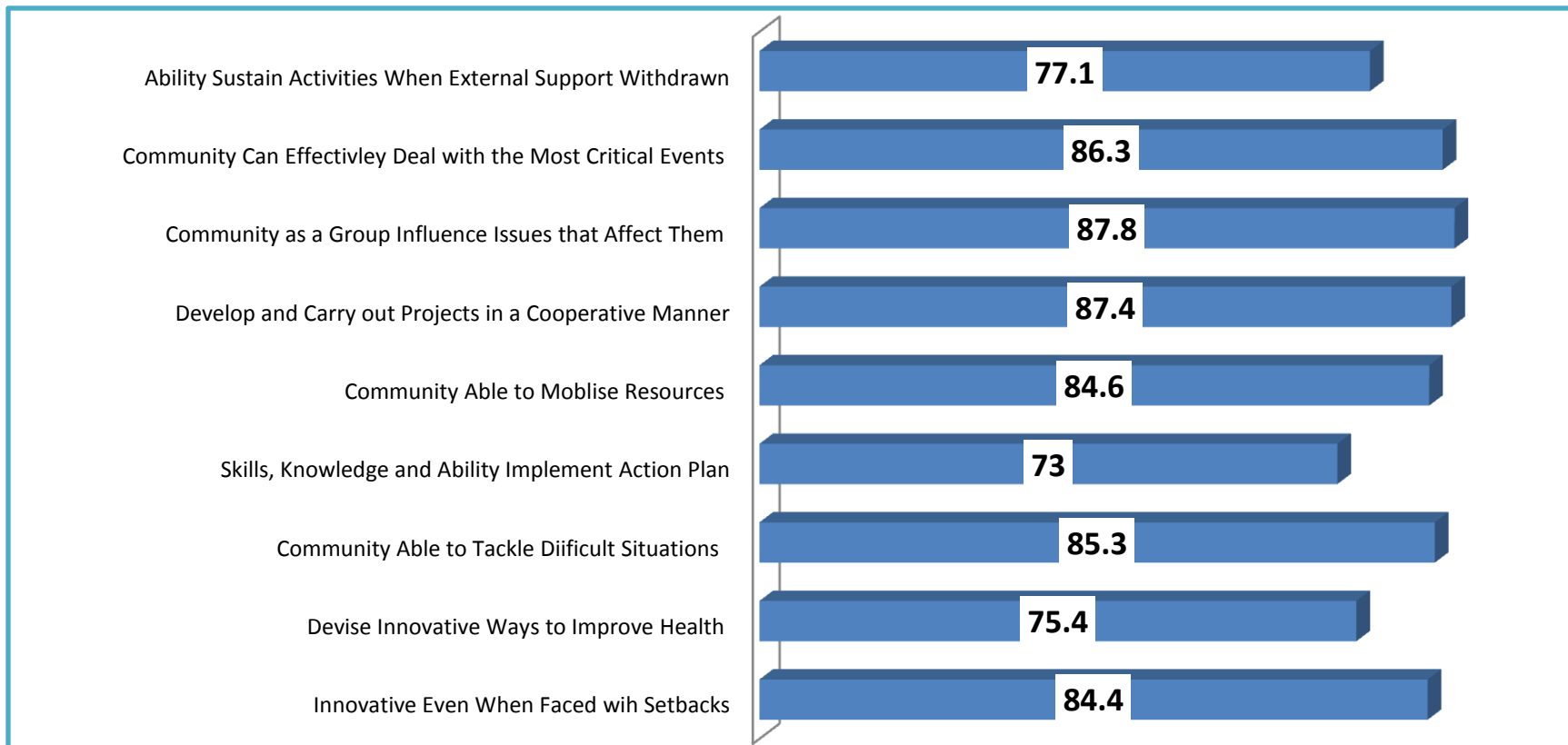
Perceptions of Reliability of and Confidence in Members of the Community



(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Community collaboration

Community Collaboration % of Respondents



(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Community collaboration

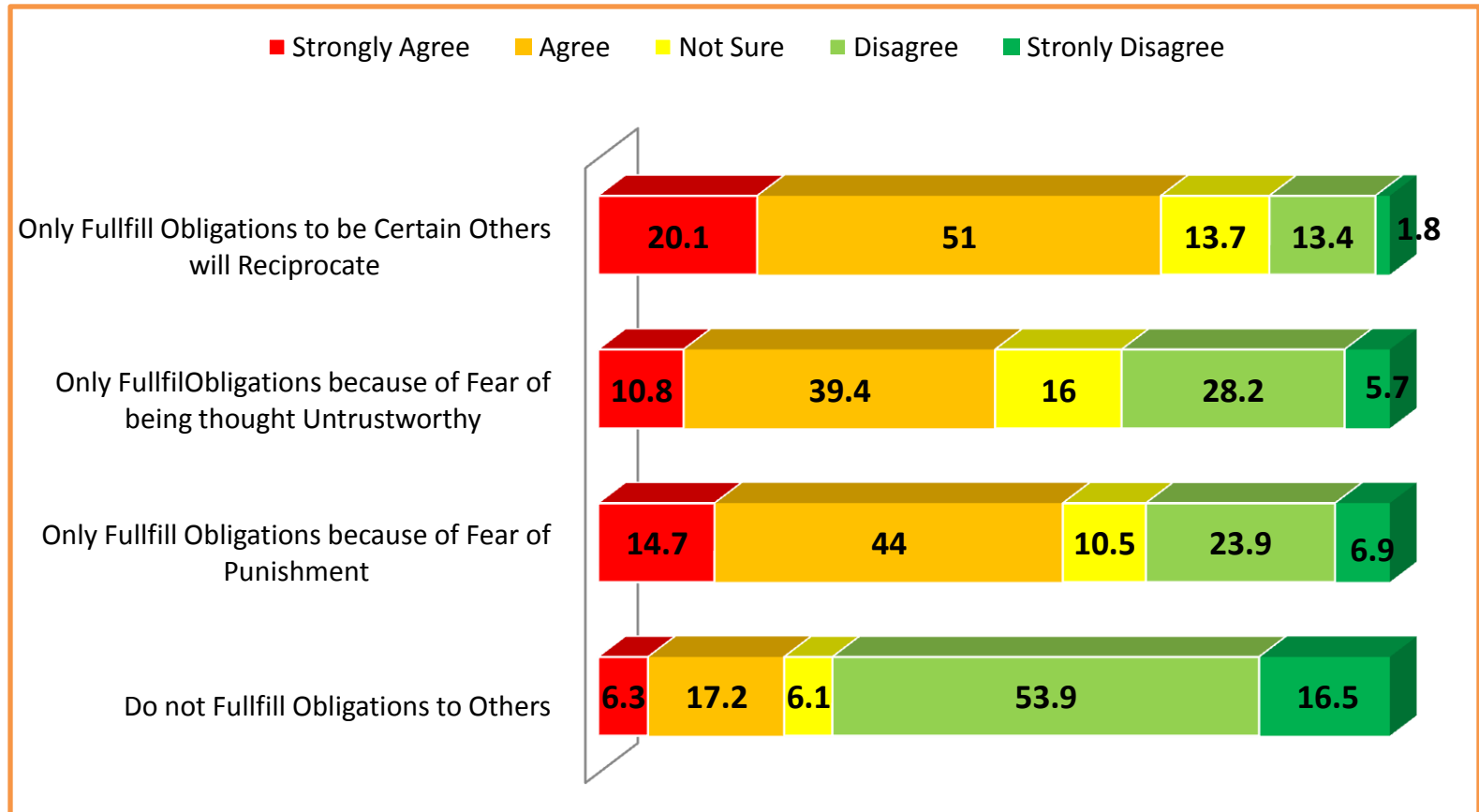
Perceptions of Community Willingness and Ability to Solve Problems



(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Community collaboration

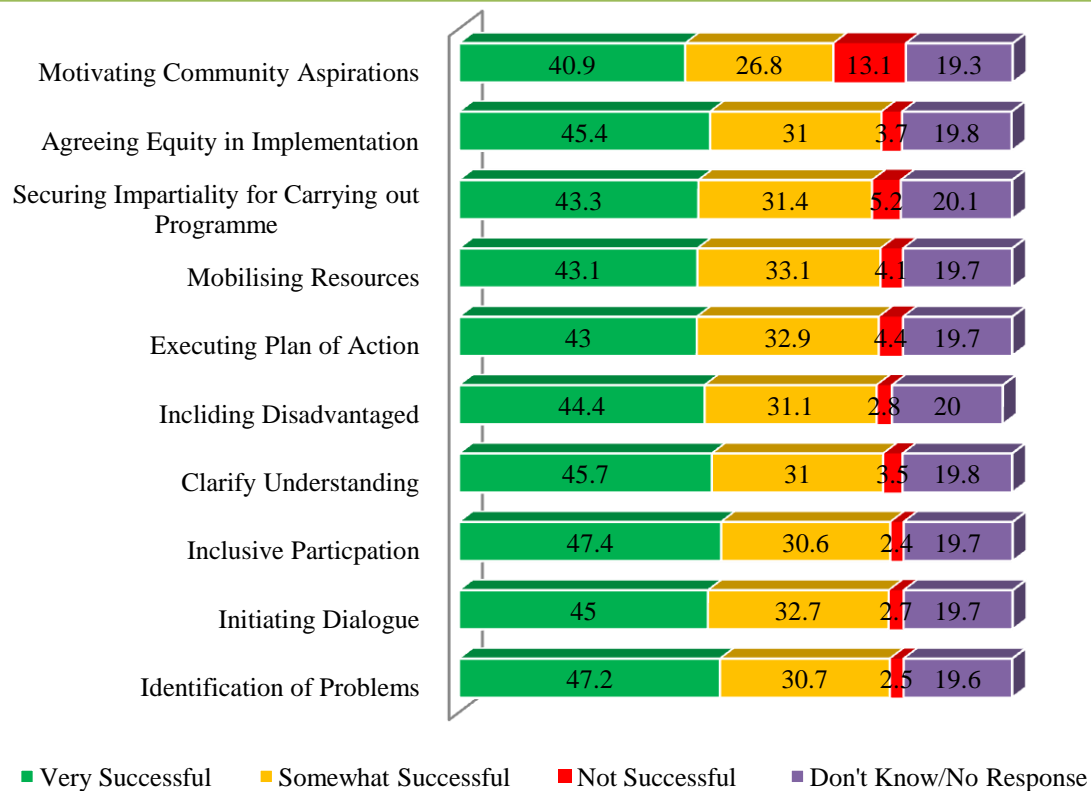
Motivation for Fulfilling Obligations to Others



(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Community collaboration

Perception of Effectiveness of Meetings after *Umuganda* in Dealing with Community Issues

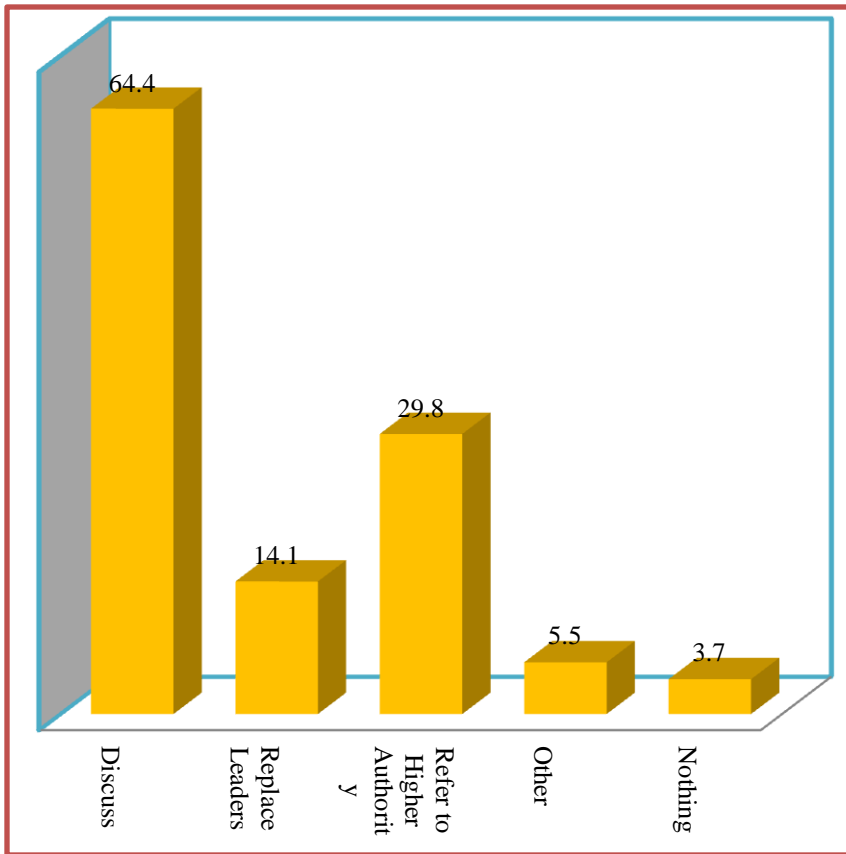


(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Resolving Problems, Village Advisory Council

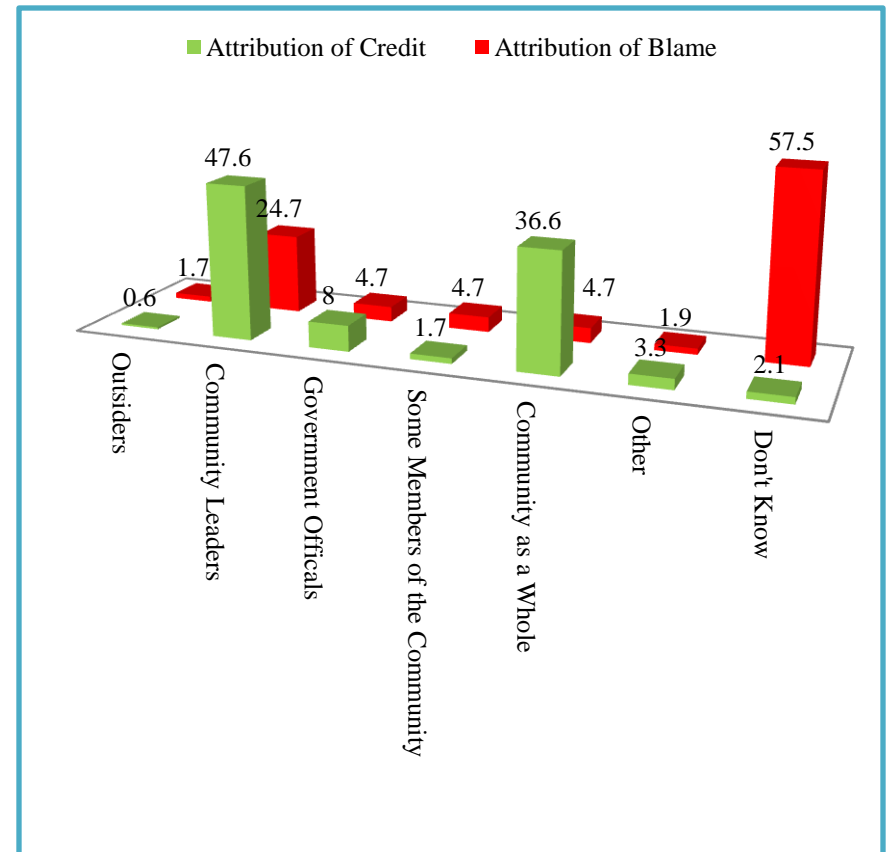
Resolving Problems, Village Advisory Council

Attribution of Credit and Blame for Success and Failures of Village Council % of Respondents Giving Positive and Negative Responses



(Source: Senate 2012)

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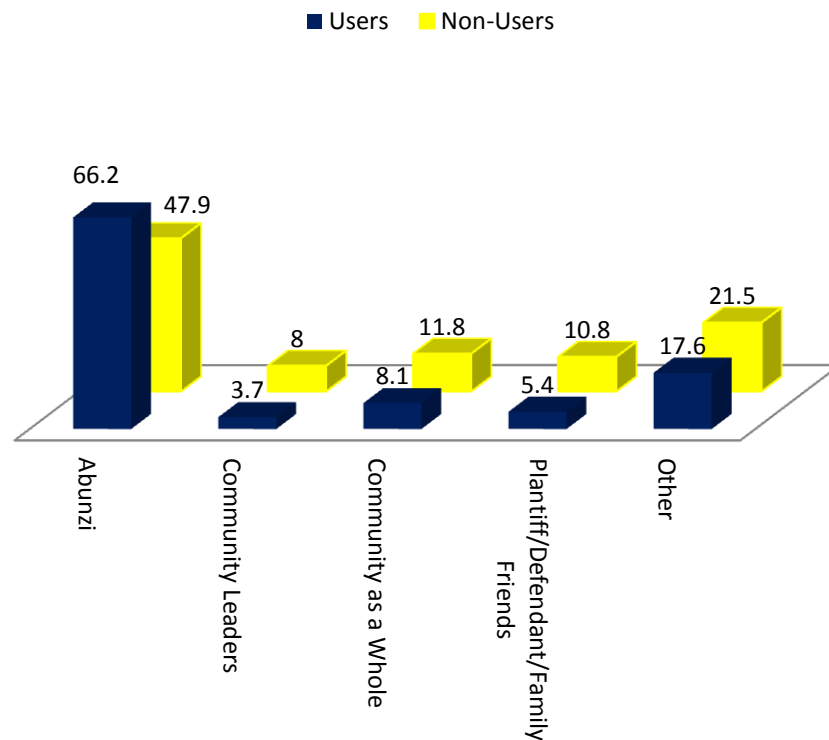
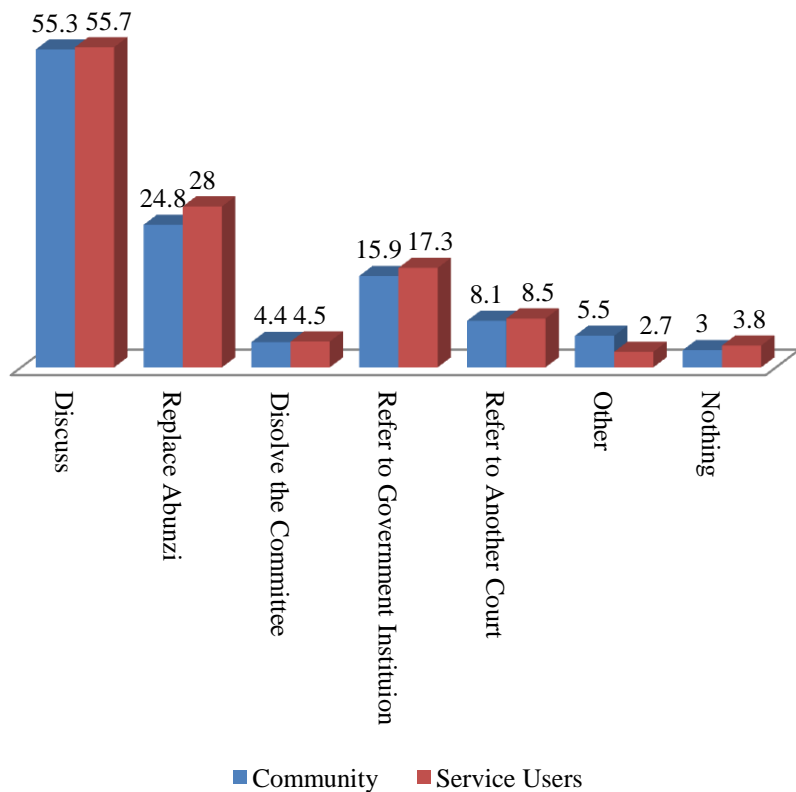


(Source: Senate 2012)

Finding: Resolving Problems, Abunzi

Resolving Problems %Abunzi Users and Non-Users of the Service

Attribution of Responsibility for Failure of Abunzi Service Users and Non-Users

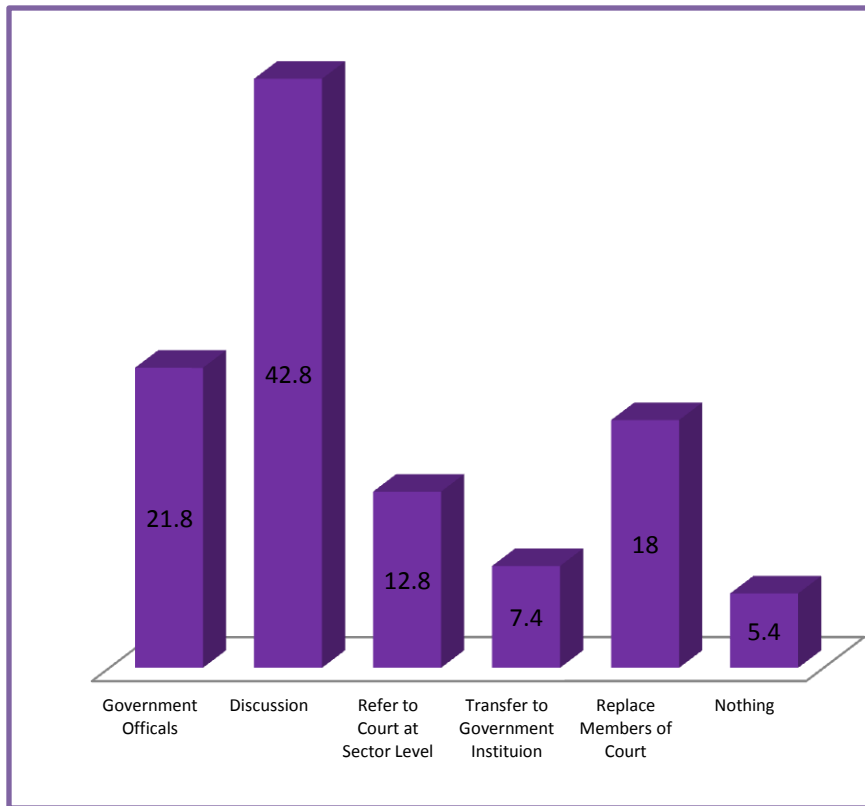


(Source: Senate 2012)

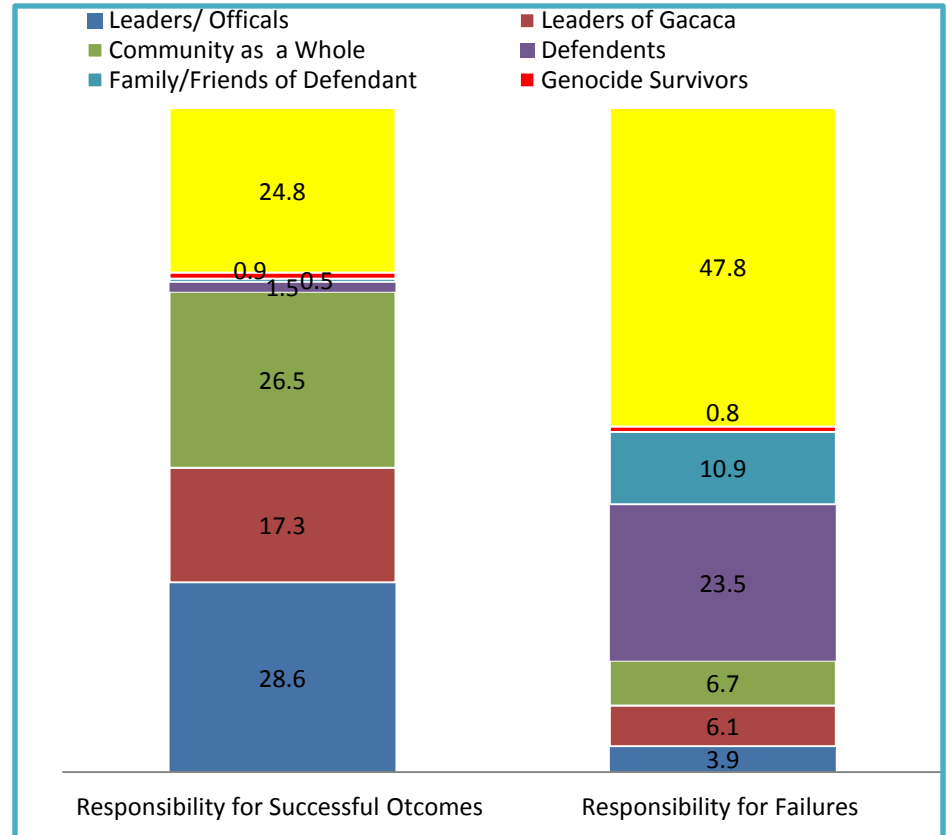
(Source: Senate 2012)($\alpha^2 < 0.05$)

Finding: Resolving Problems, Gacaca

Resolving Problems Relating to *Gacaca* Courts at Cell Level



Responsibility for the Success and Failure of *Gacaca* Courts

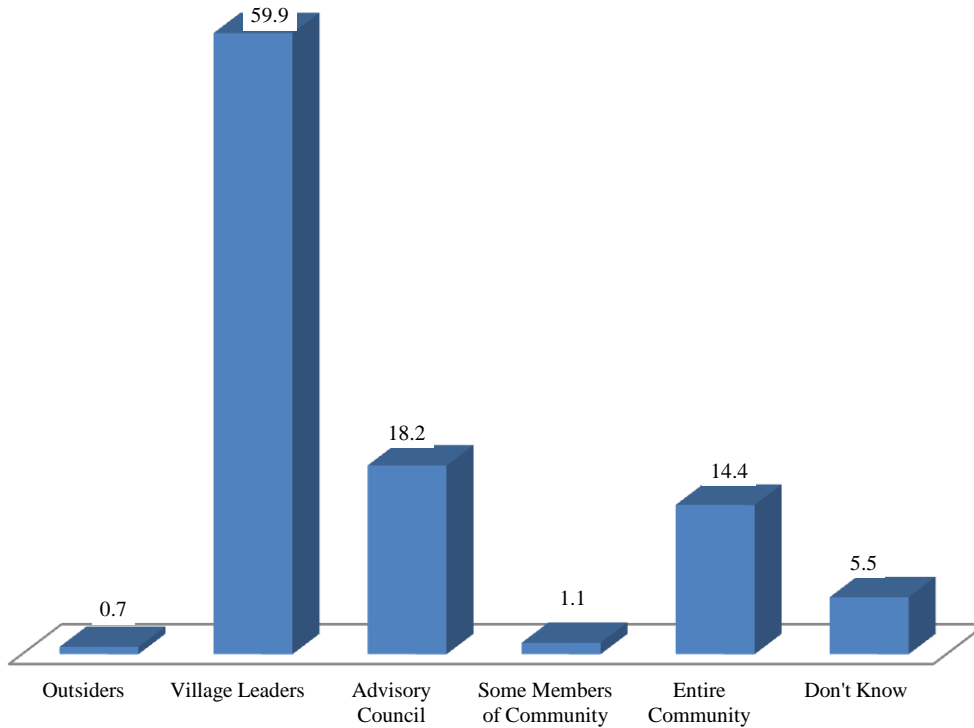


(Source: Senate 2012)

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Finding: Resolving Problems, Village Executive Committee

Responsibility for Resolving the Problems to Make Village Executive Committee More Successful % of Respondents

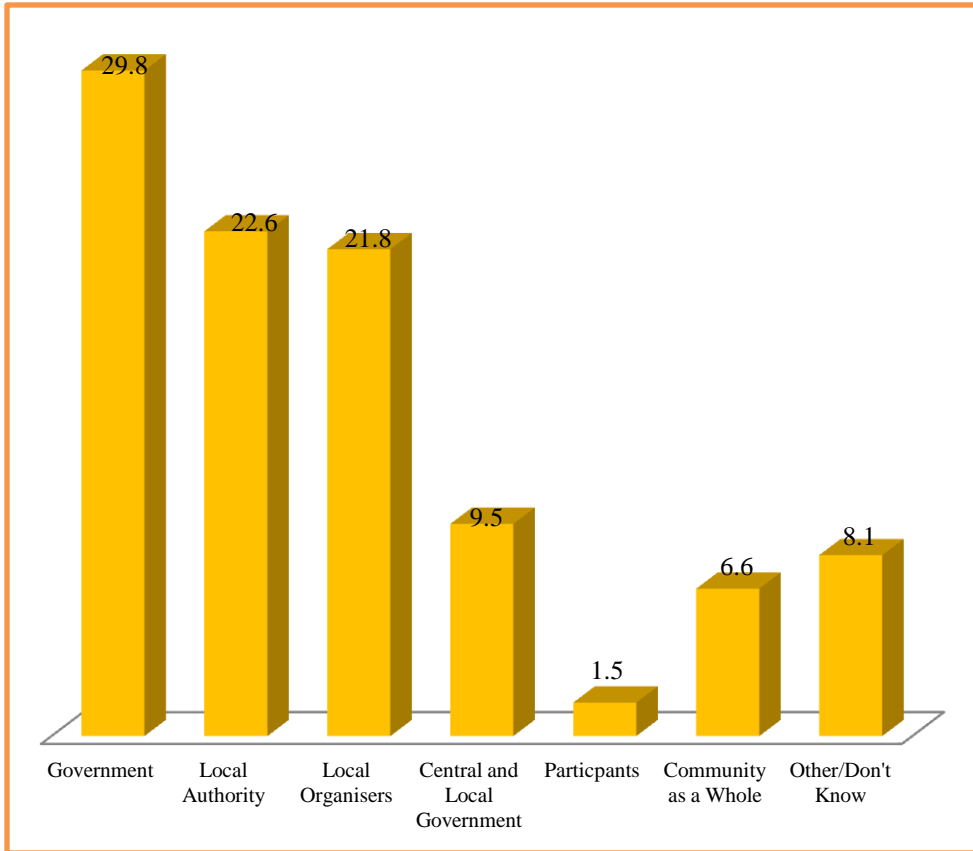


(Source: Senate 2012)

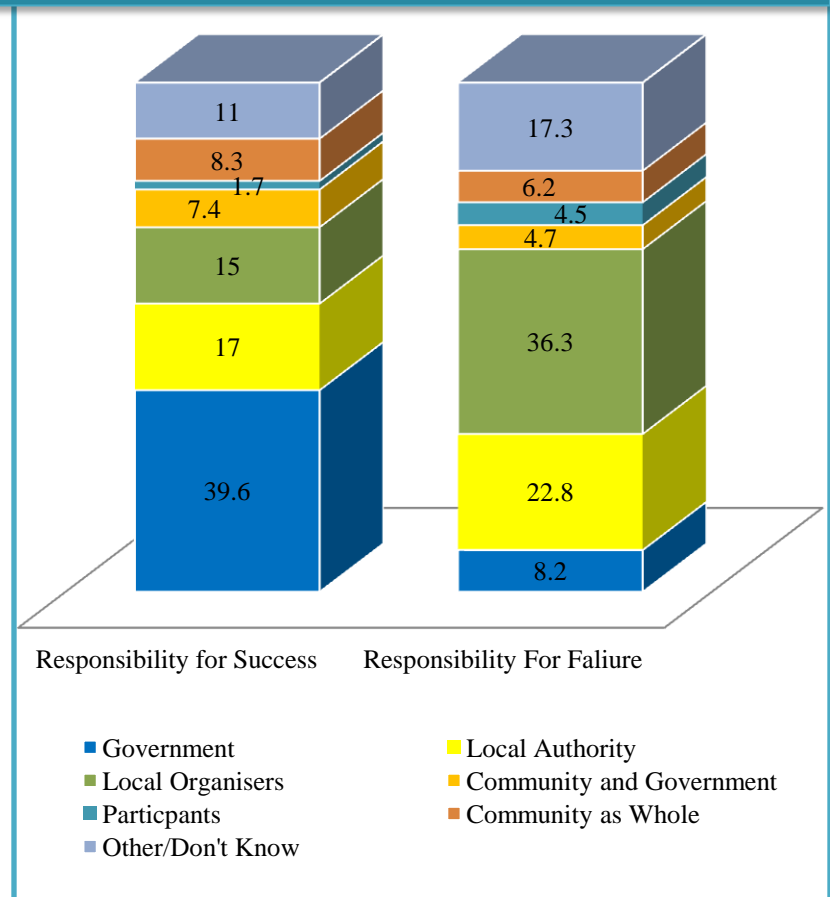
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Finding: Resolving Problems, Umuganda

Responsibility for Resolving the Problems to Make *Umuganda* More Successful % of Respondents



Attribution for Responsibility for Success and Failure of *Umuganda* % agreeing Success and % Seeing it as a Failure

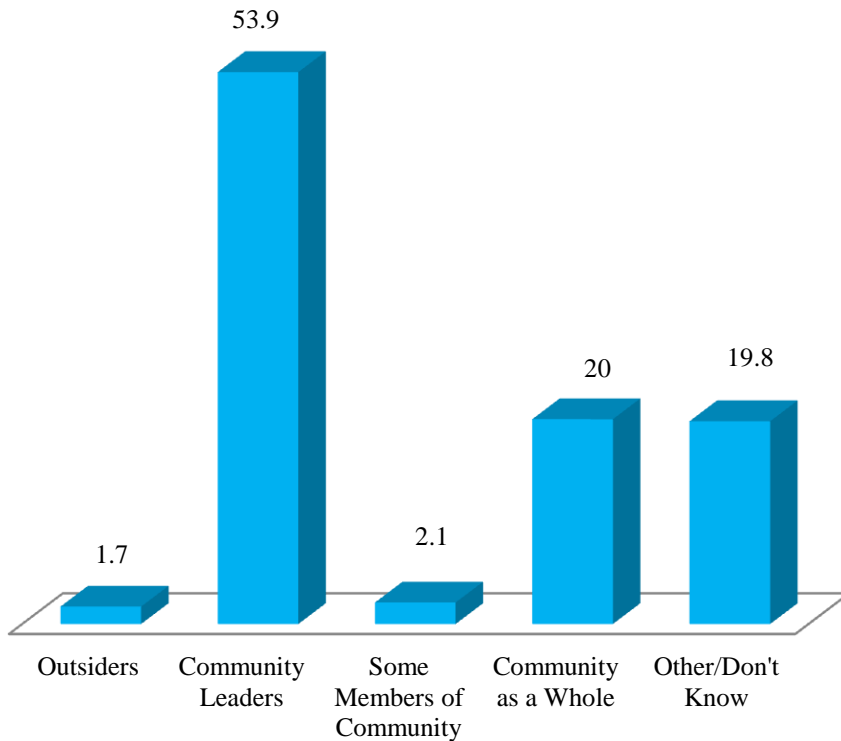


(Source: Senate 2012)

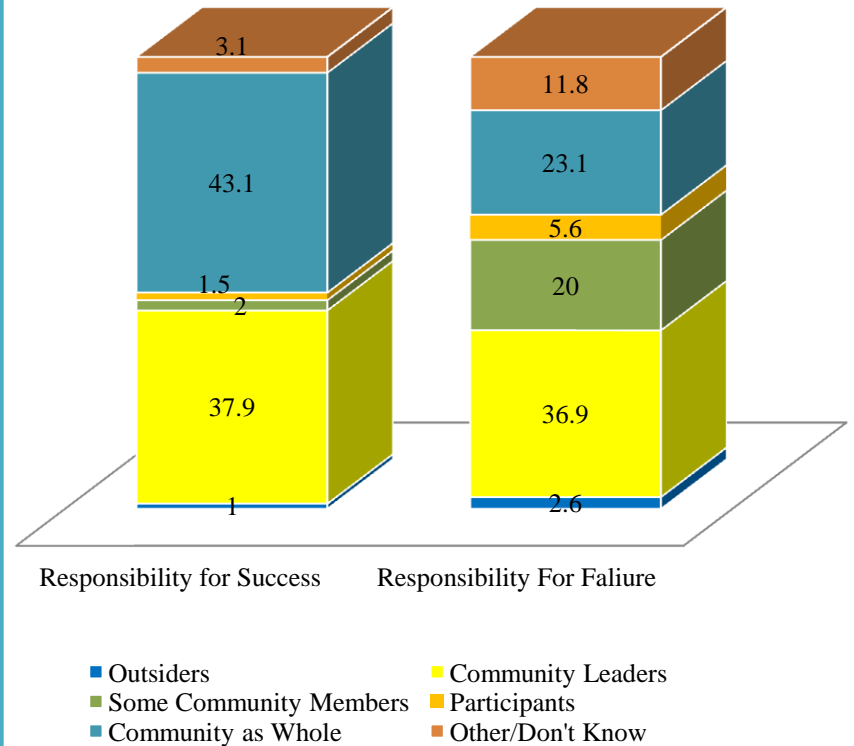
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Finding: Resolving Problems, Meeting after Umuganda

Responsibility for Resolving the Problems to Make Meetings after Umuganda More Successful % of Respondents



Responsibility for Resolving the Problems to Make Meetings after Umuganda More Successful % of Respondents



Conclusion and recommendations

- Conclusion
 - There is a relatively good community collaboration
 - Evidences show that there is lack of a strong sense of community ownership when it comes to taking responsibility
 - This is an indication that community is passive and think that the government should do everything.

Recommendations

- encourage deeper discussions on why certain policies are adopted
- Give more opportunity to people to contribute to policy formulation and decision making



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