



Global Assessment of Environment Statistics

Expert Group Meeting on the Framework for the Development of
Environment Statistics
(New York, 10-12 November 2009)

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Outline

1. Introduction
2. Institutional arrangements
3. Scope of the environment statistics programme
4. Dissemination and uses
5. Impeding factors



1. Introduction

- The Global Assessment of Environment Statistics and Environmental-Economic Accounting was undertaken by the UN Statistics Division. The main objectives were:
 - To assess the status of national implementation of environment statistics, environmental-economic accounting and related statistics;
 - To identify priorities and future plans in the programmes above; and
 - To assess the impeding factors in the collection, compilation and dissemination of environment statistics, environmental-economic accounting and related statistics.

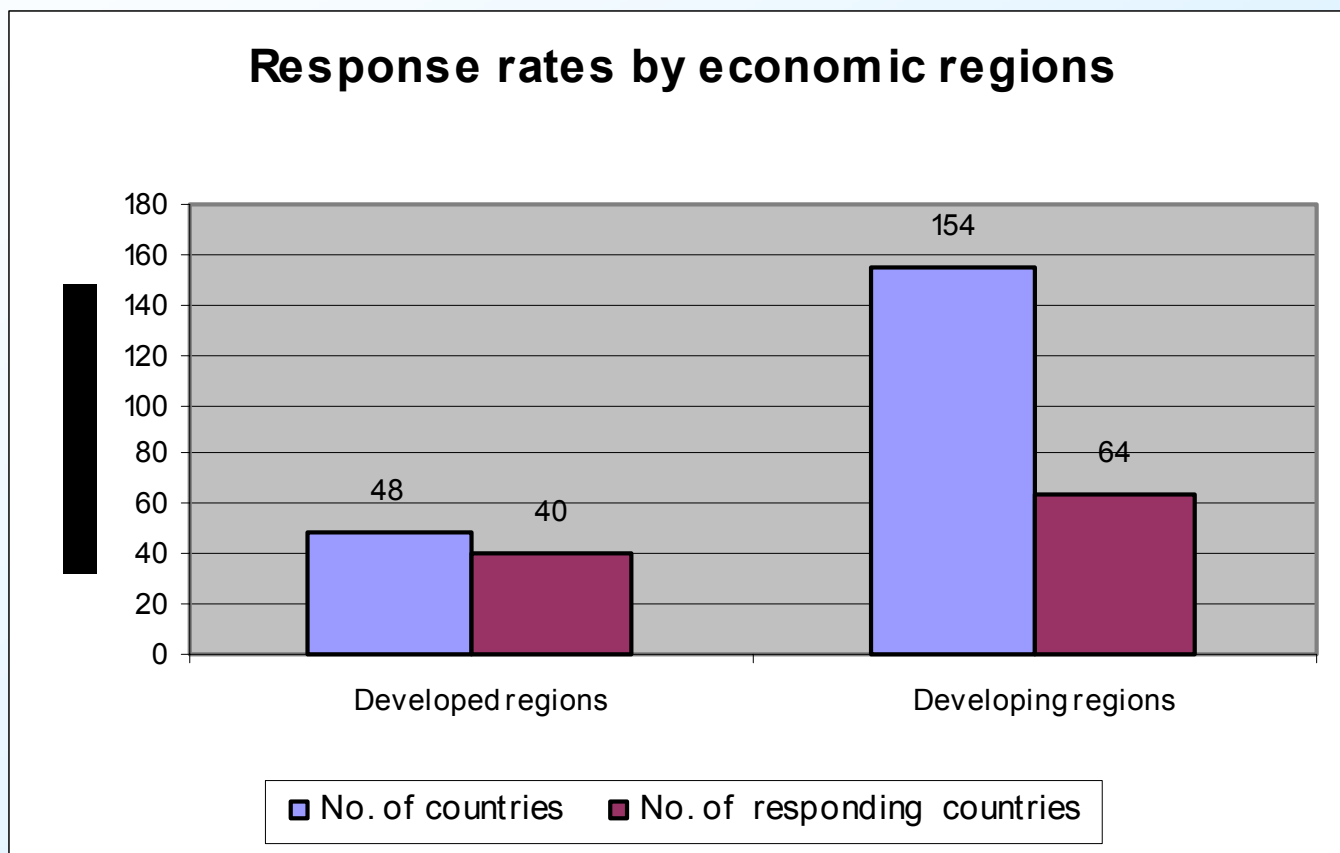


1. Introduction (Cont.)

- The Global Assessment was sent to National Statistical Offices of the 192 UN Member Countries on 16 October 2006.
- A summary of the results of the assessment was presented to the 38th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The detailed report can be found at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc07/Analysis_SC.pdf
- This presentation will focus on the results of the environment statistics part of the assessment.
- 104 countries responded to the environment statistics part, which corresponds to a response rate of 54 percent. Among them, 96 responses were from NSOs and the other 8 were from Ministries of Environment or other agencies.

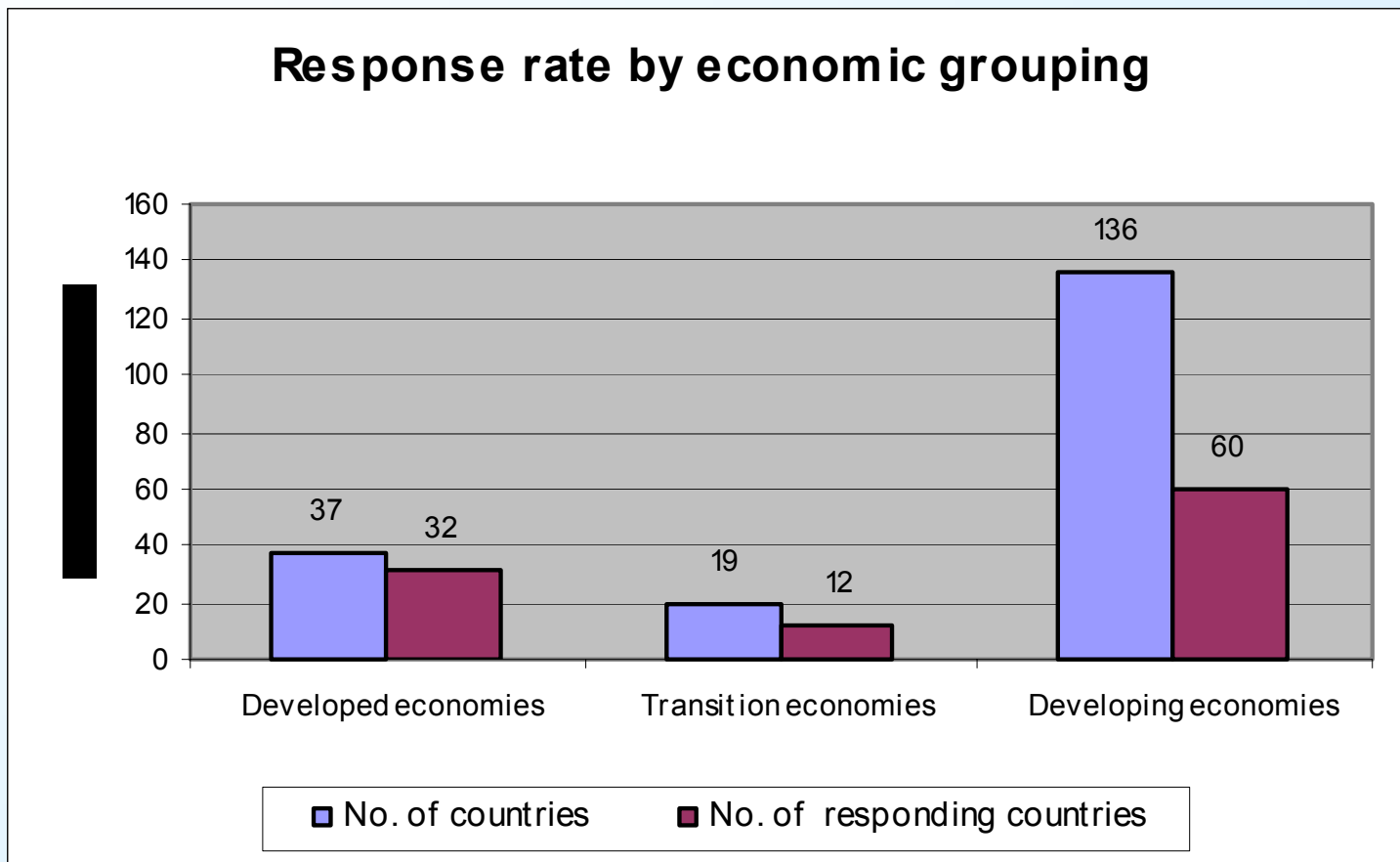


1. Introduction (Cont.)



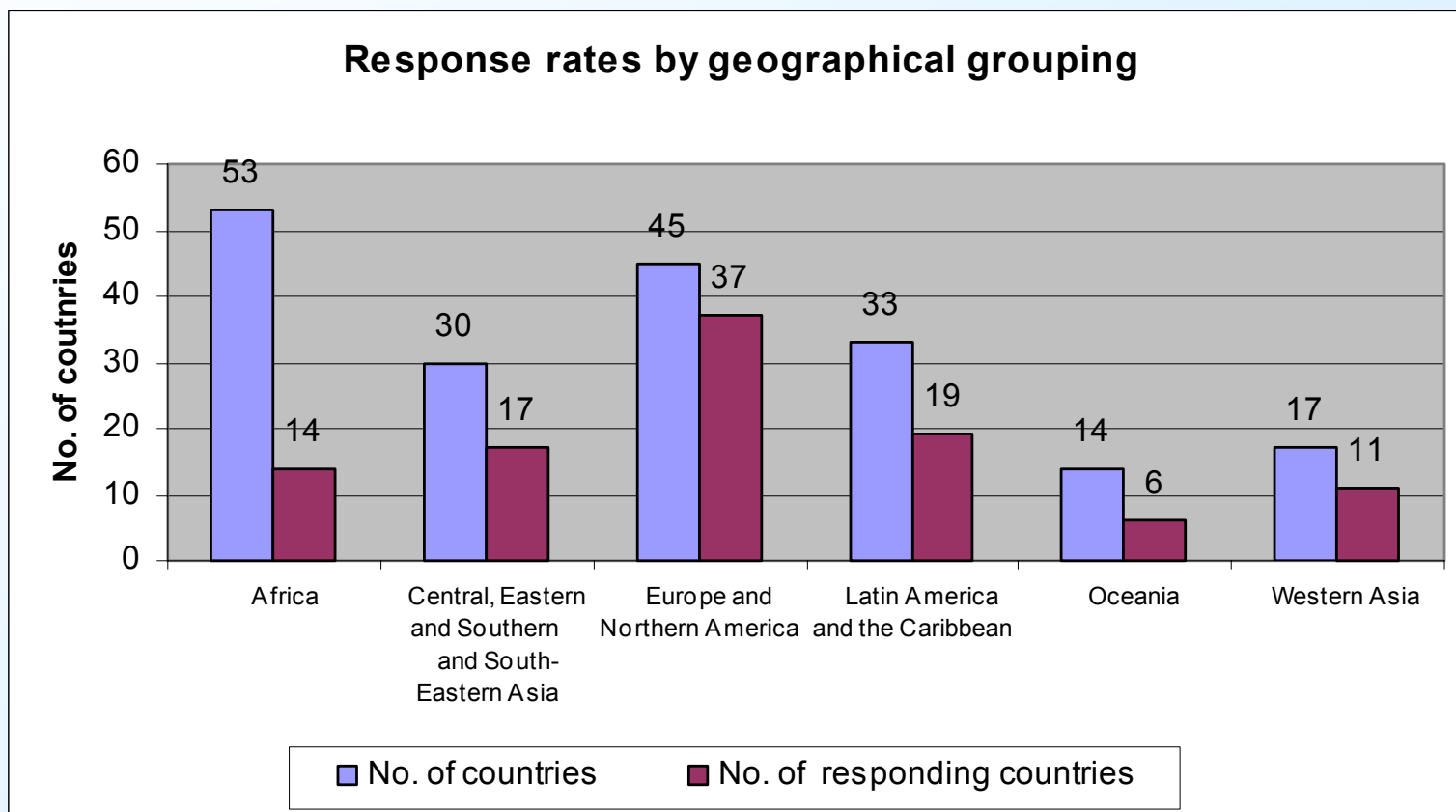


1. Introduction (Cont.)





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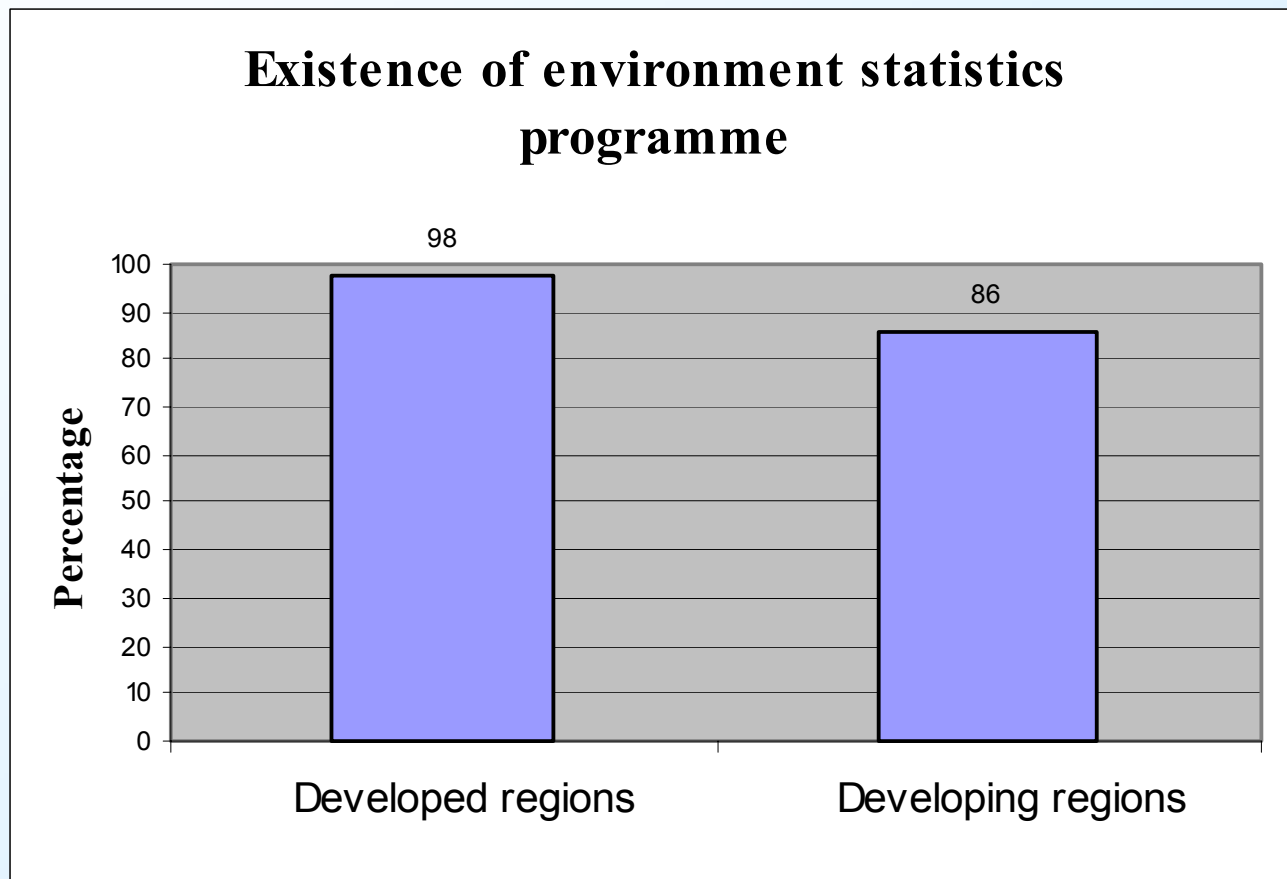


2. Institutional arrangements

- A legal framework for environment statistics exists in 84 percent of the responding countries, in the form of a statistical act or environmental protection act.
- Among the 104 responding countries, 94 indicated that an environment statistics programme exists, either in the responding agencies or in other agencies.

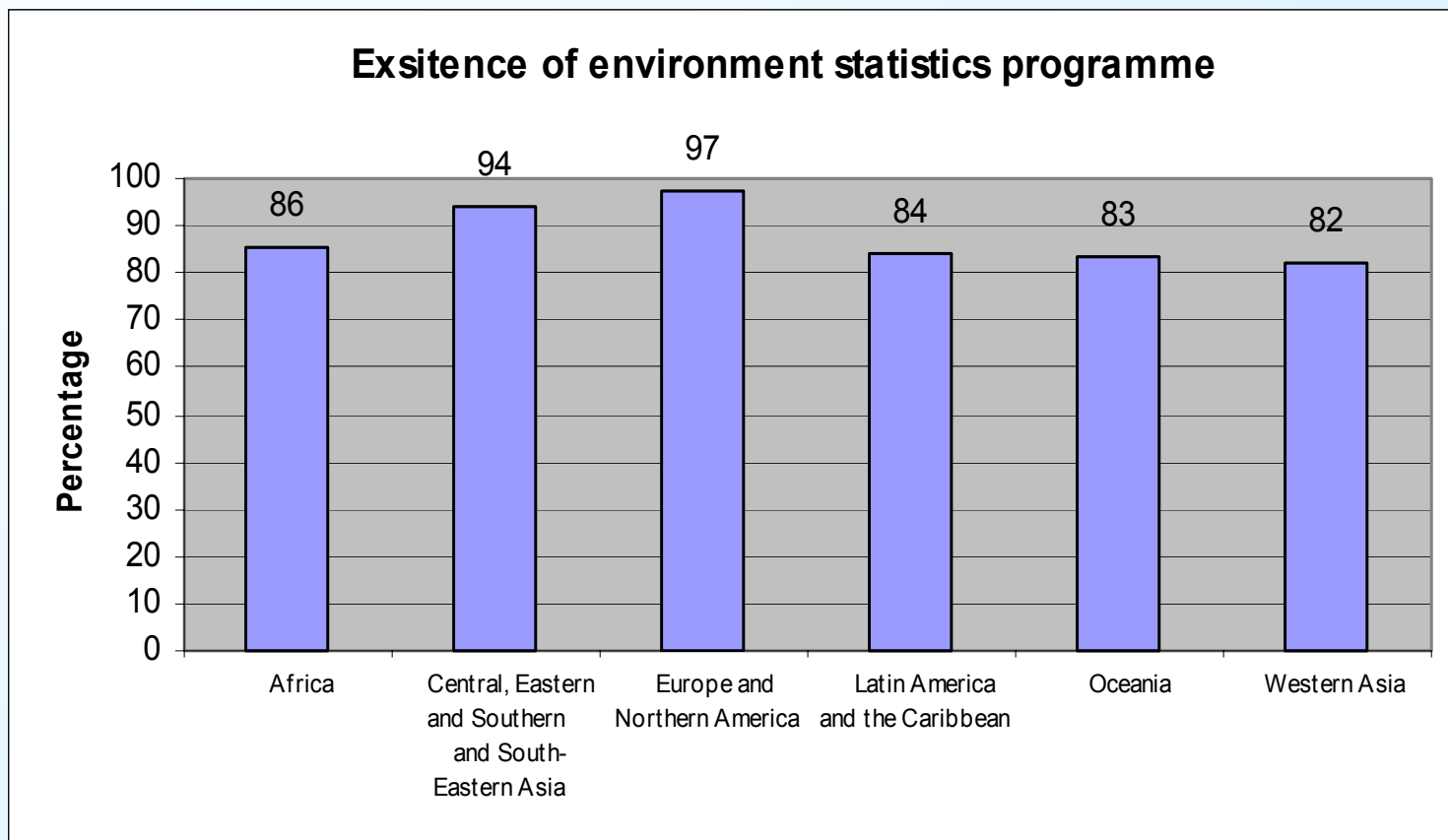


Existence of environment statistics programme by economic regions





Existence of environment statistics programme by geographical grouping





2. Institutional arrangements (Cont.)

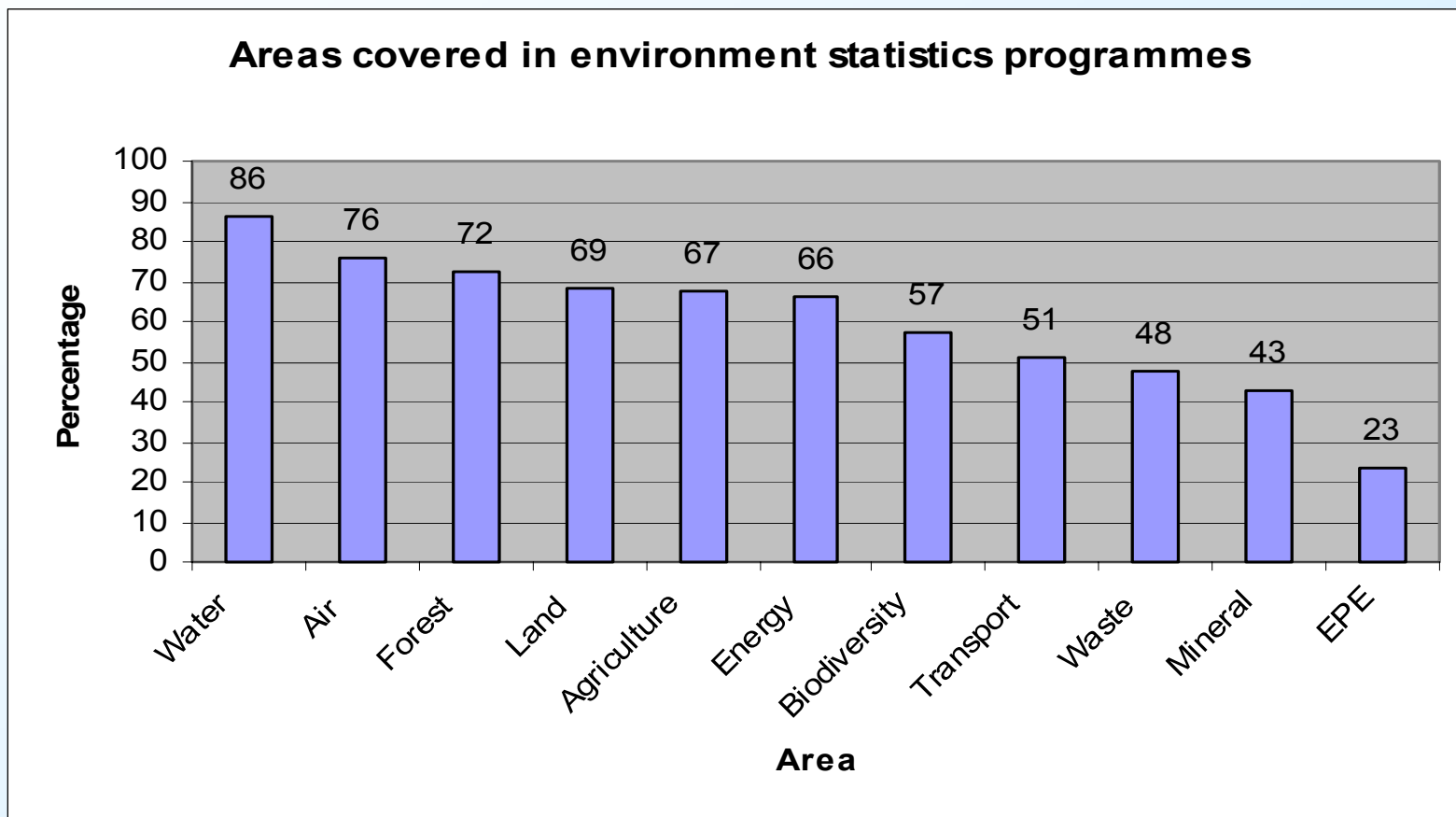
- Location of the environment statistics programmes in countries

Location	No. of countries	Percentage
NSO + Ministry	55	63
NSO alone	23	26
Ministry alone	10	11

- Almost all institutions (98 percent) with an environment statistics programme indicated that cooperation exists with other institutions in the sense that there are formal or informal agreements of data-sharing between institutions. The national statistical office often has a prominent role in the overall coordination, compilation and dissemination of statistics: the national statistical offices are the leading institutions for all subject areas in 39 percent and for specific subject areas in 48 percent of the countries. In 13 percent of countries, other agencies are the leading institutions in environment statistics.

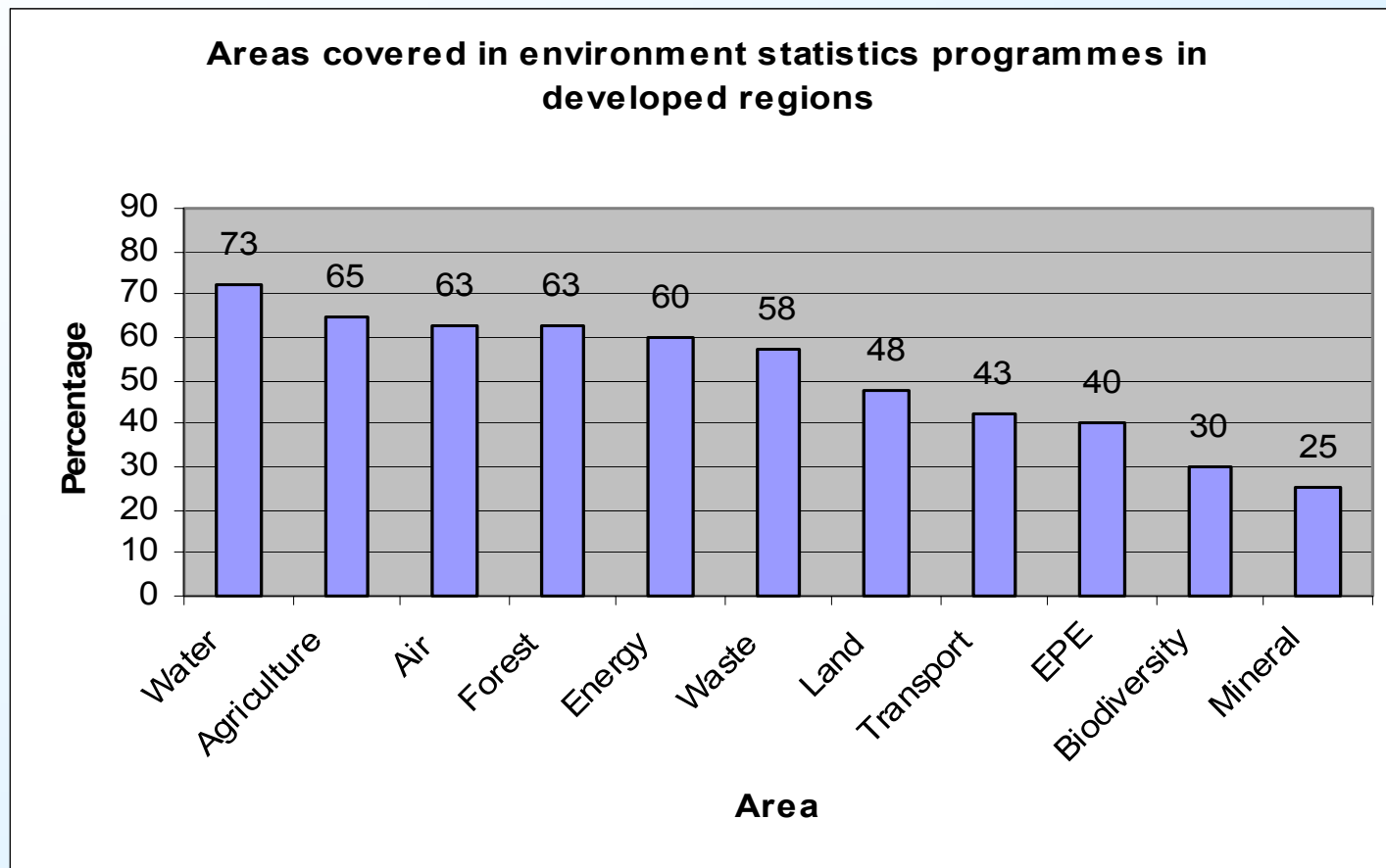


3. Scope of the environment statistics programme - Areas covered



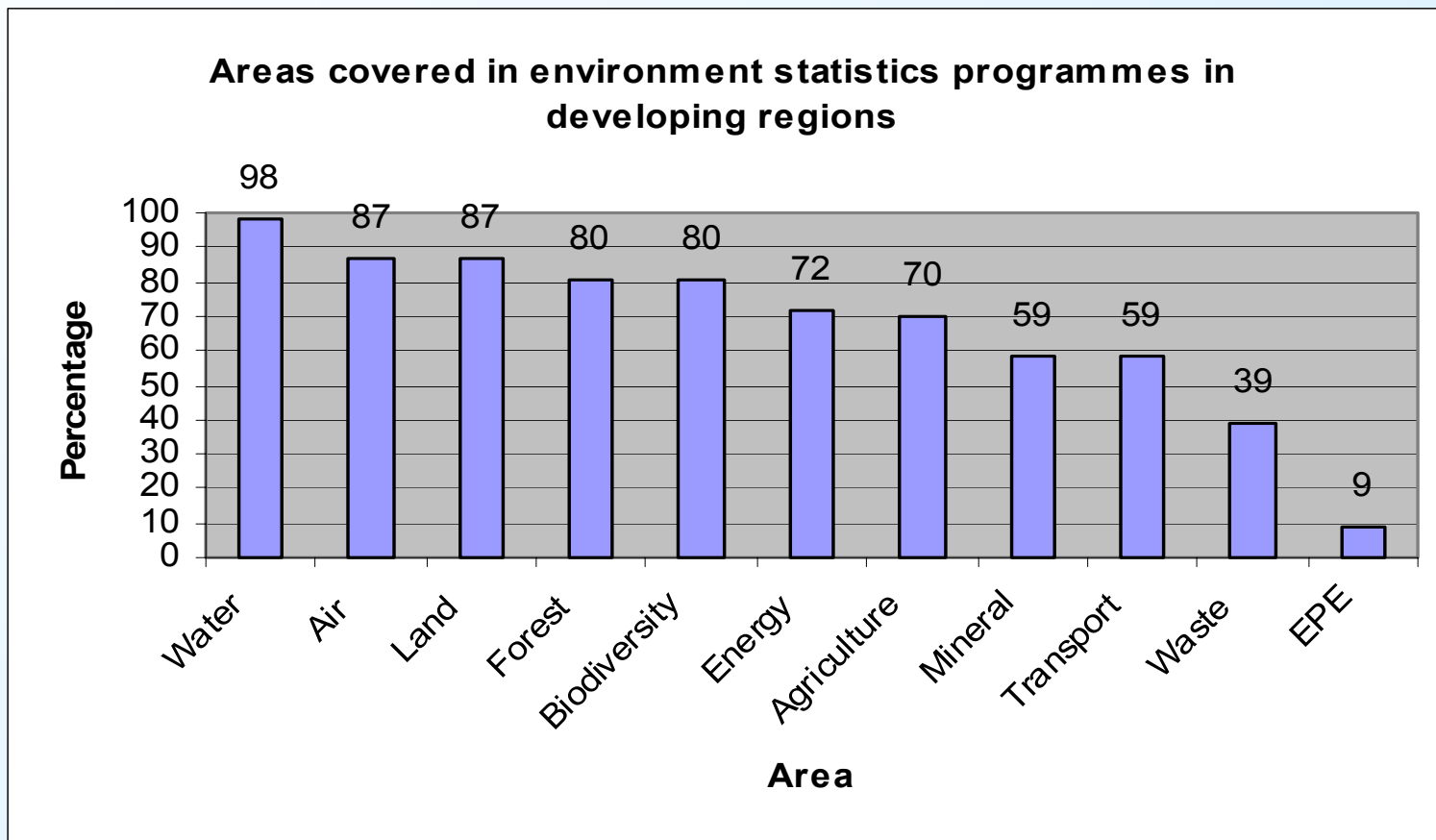


3. Scope of the environment statistics programme - Areas covered





3. Scope of the environment statistics programme - Areas covered





3. Scope of the programme (Cont.)

- Future plans : All the responding institutions compiling environment statistics are planning to continue the existing data compilation programme. In addition, 70 percent of these countries are also planning to expand their programmes both in terms of broadening the coverage and expanding to new areas. The subject areas of environment statistics that are most commonly identified as areas for expansion include, in order of importance: 1) Air; 2) Water; 3) Land; 4) Biodiversity; 5) Forest and 6) Energy.
- 88 percent of responding countries indicated that they made use of training material, methodological guidelines and/or other countries expertise. The training material used predominantly included the Eurostat publications, UN publications, IPCC, FAO, OECD and EEA on environment statistics.



3. Scope of the programme (Cont.)

- 54 percent of responding countries have made use of technical assistance in the compilation of environment statistics. Technical assistance programmes were mainly from international organizations but also from other countries.

<i>Source of assistance (percentage)</i>		
<i>International/ regional organization</i>	<i>NGOs</i>	<i>Other countries</i>
70	5	32

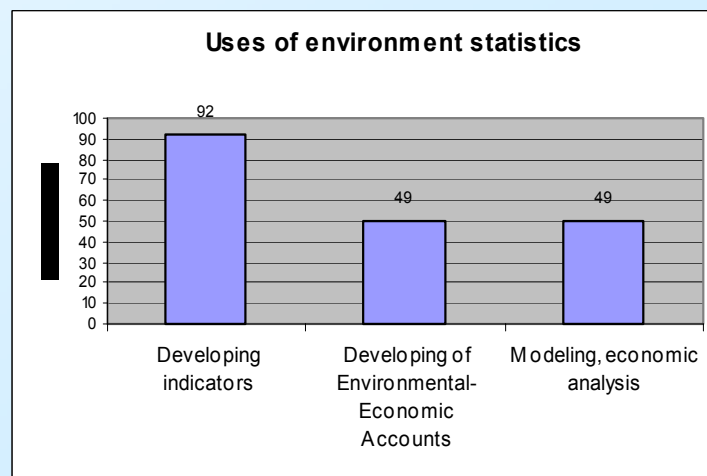
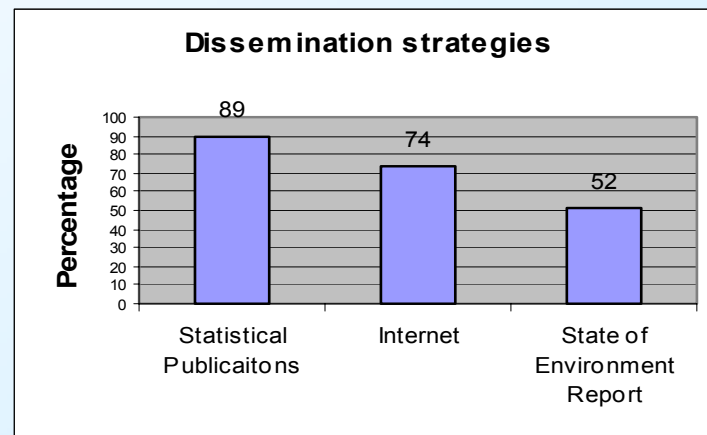
- 52 percent of responding countries have made use of external funding in the compilation of environment statistics. Sources of external funding included mainly international/regional organizations (most commonly from Eurostat) but also frequently other institutions/agencies within the country.

<i>Source of funding (percentage)</i>		
<i>International/ regional organization</i>	<i>Other agency within the country</i>	<i>Other countries</i>
62	32	14



4. Dissemination and uses

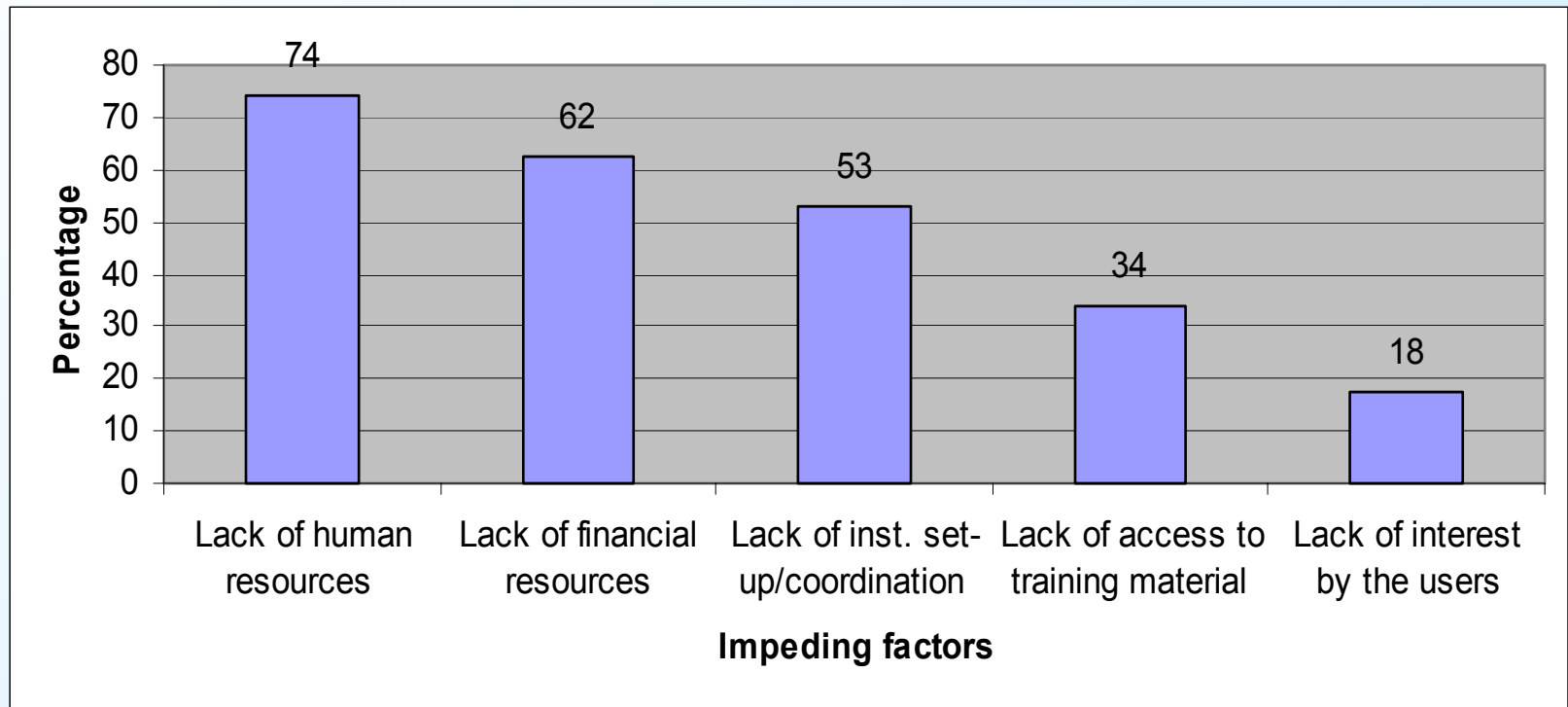
- The dissemination strategies for environment statistics mostly include dissemination through statistical publications and the internet.
- The most common use of environment statistics is for the derivation of indicators.
- 87 percent of responding countries report the statistics to international/regional organizations such as Eurostat/OECD, the United Nations and its regional commissions.





5. Impeding factors

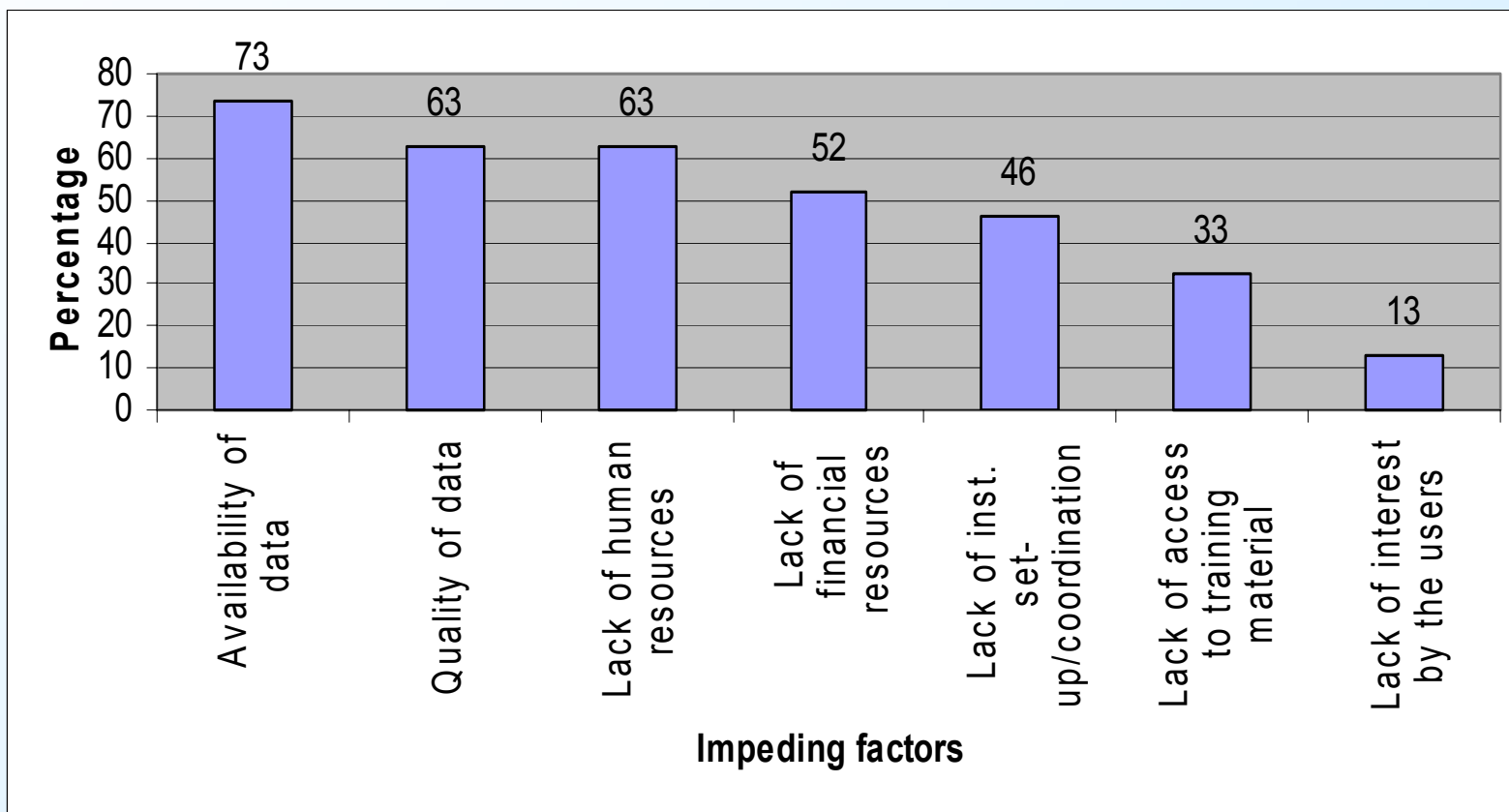
- Impeding factors in the *development* of environment statistics





5. Impeding factors (Cont.)

- Impeding factors in the *compilation* of environment statistics





Thank you
for your attention