



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

DCED Annual Meeting and Global Seminar 2026 on

*'PSD at a crossroads:
Navigating a shared way forward'*

Participant feedback summary



With generous support from



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> A well attended, highly rated Seminar

- 220 participants bilateral donors, foundations, financiers, multilateral agencies and implementing organisations from 40+ countries...
- ... met for interactive discussions on effective PSD in the changing aid context, structured around eight thematic tracks.
- About 50% of the participants filled in the feedback form
- 98% of respondents rating their overall experience of the DCED Seminar as excellent or very good



Overall satisfaction

> High marks across every dimension

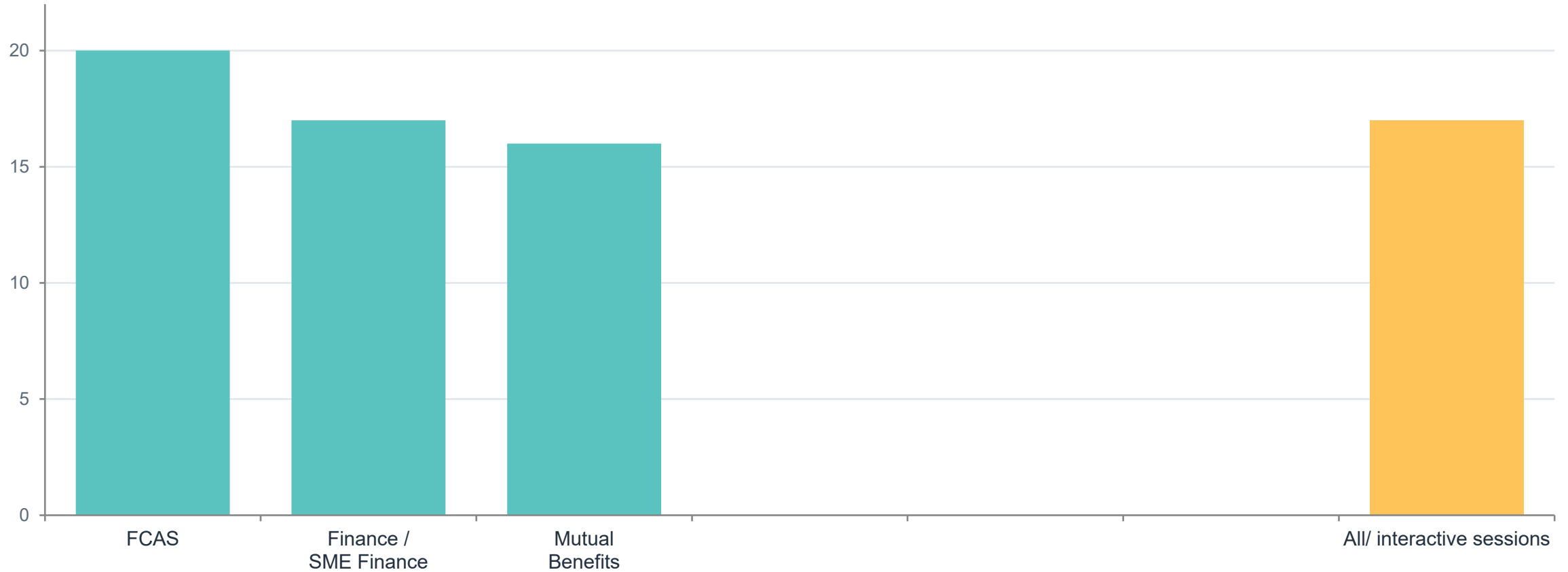
Bars show the share of respondents rating 4 or 5 stars (out of 5).



Most valued elements

> FCAS, finance and mutual benefits the most-valued thematic tracks...

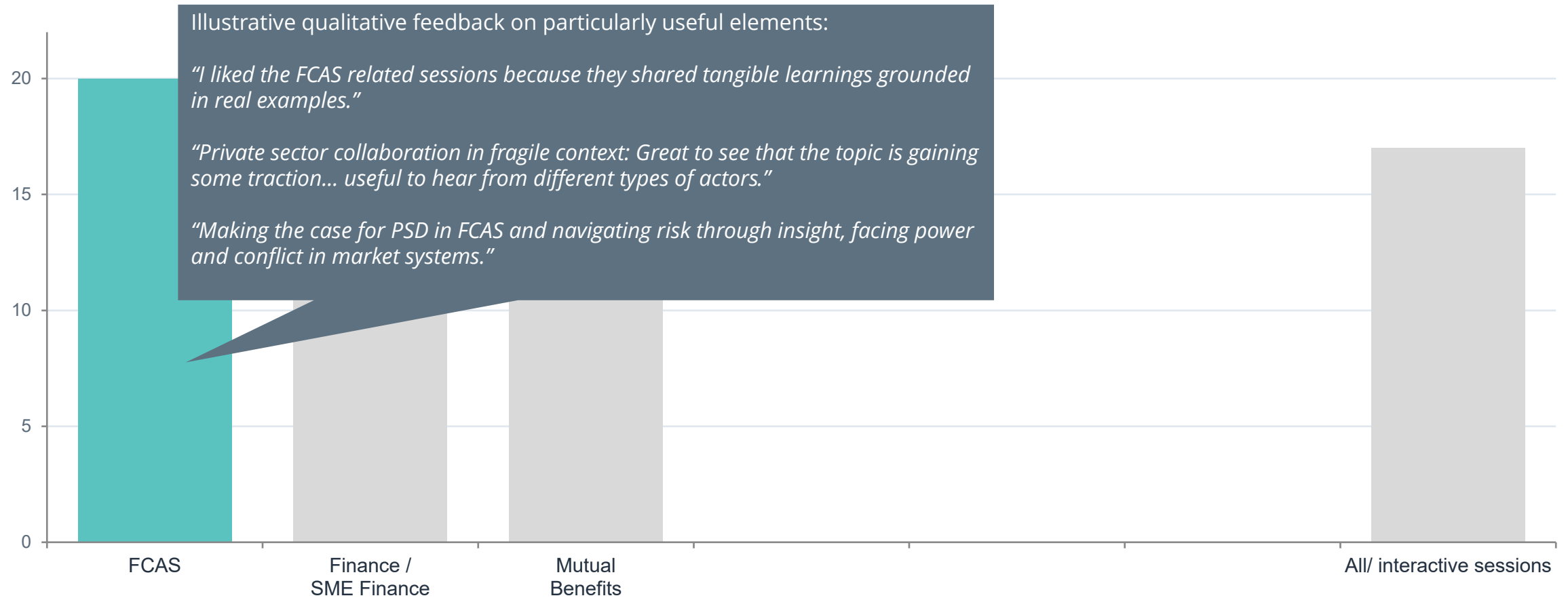
Number of “useful sessions” responses naming each theme: Top three



Most valued elements

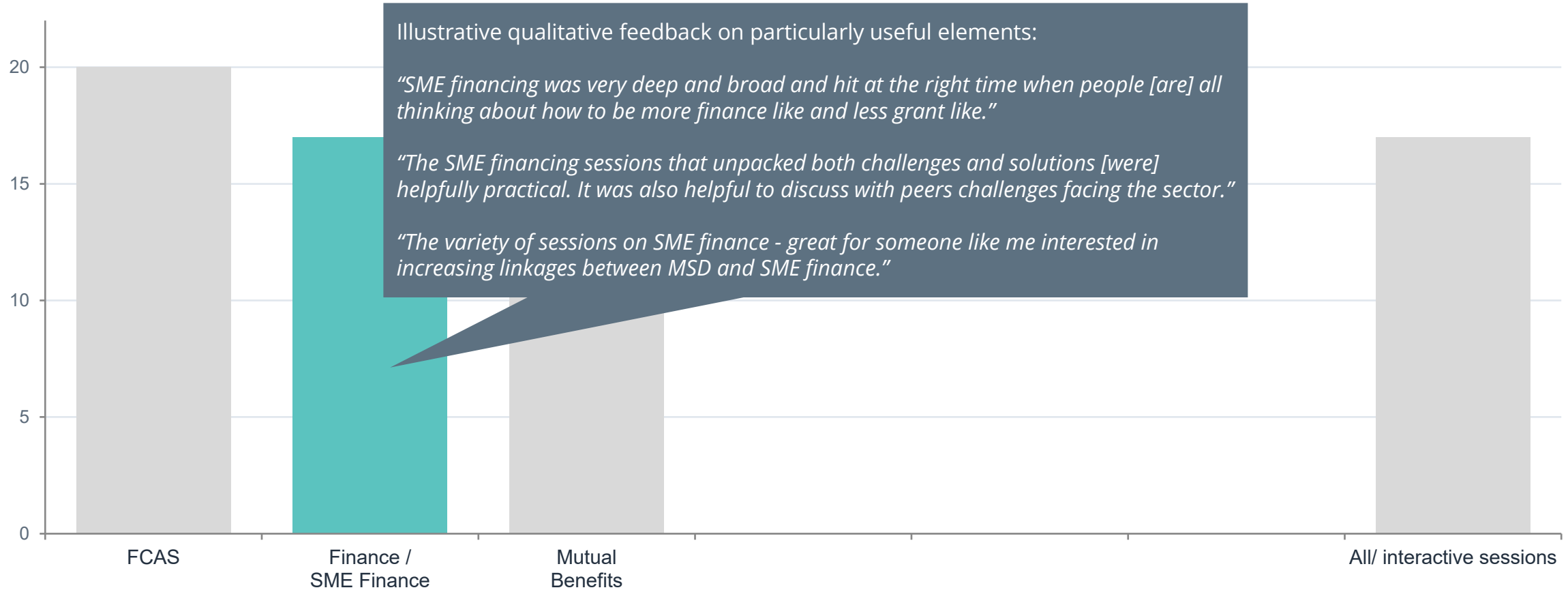
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> FCAS and finance the most-valued thematic tracks...

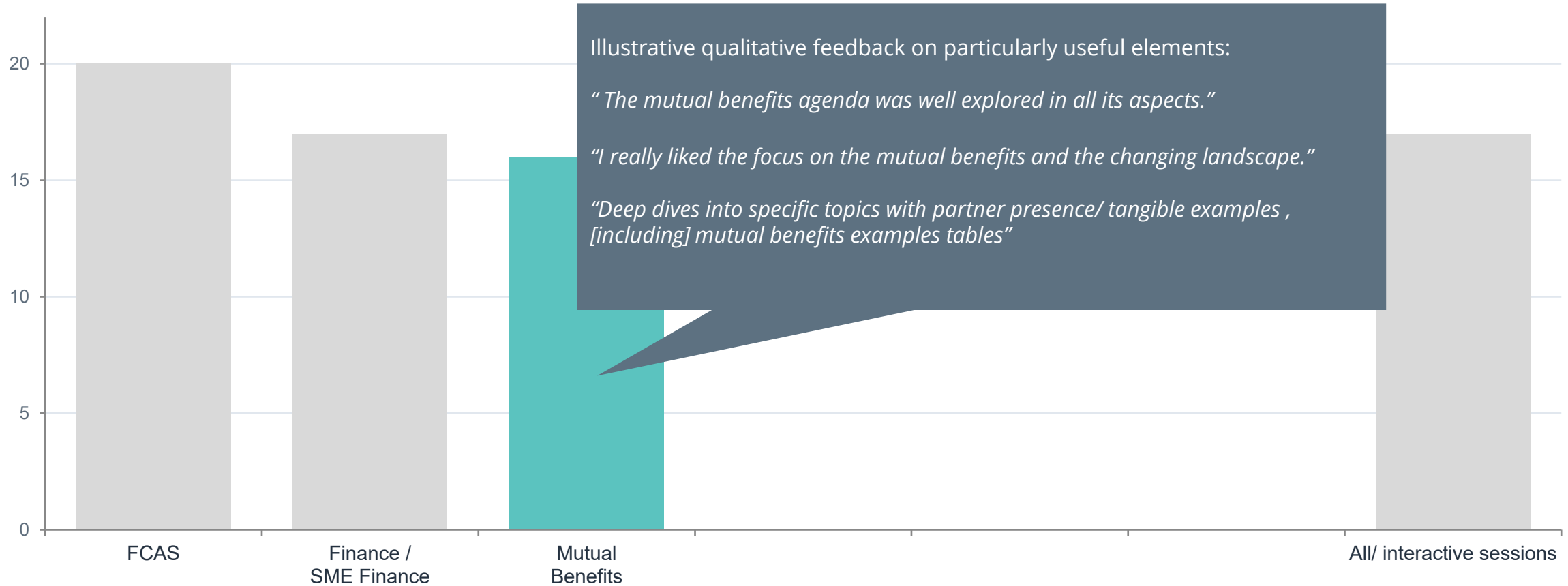
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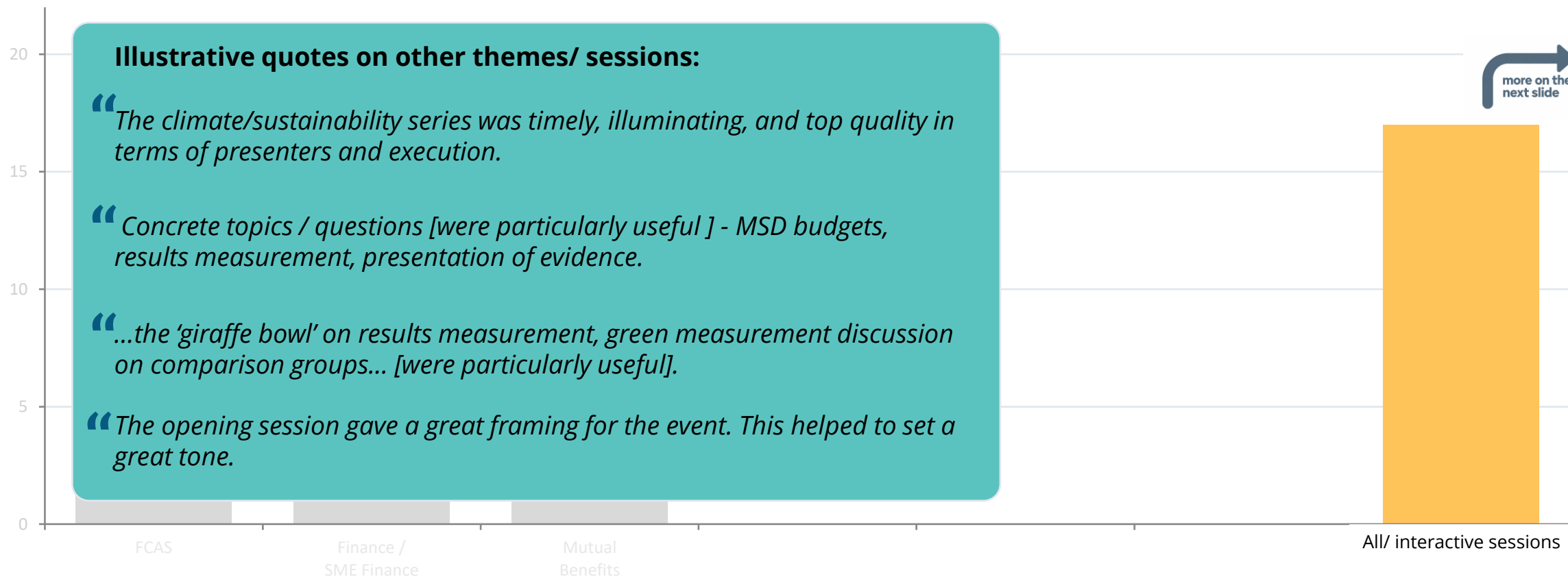
Most valued elements

> FCAS, finance and mutual benefits the most-valued thematic tracks...

Number of “useful sessions” responses naming each theme: Top three



> ...with many other sessions receiving positive qualitative feedback...



Most valued elements

➤ ...and many respondents focusing on the high quality of sessions overall, interactive formats and/or participant mix

“ Highly interactive and varied formats across the different sessions. This kept it interesting...

“ Poster sessions – they were great! Really appreciated the innovative facilitation methods - small group discussions, cards, etc - and the thought that had been put into them

“ Loved the streams, loved the interactive session designs.



“ Sessions were well curated to bring out relevant experiences from both donor and implementer perspectives and were well facilitated / interactive...

“ The most important was that people were honest about what is working and what is not.

“ Enjoyed the fact that there was very few slide presentations. The interactive conversational sessions were great.

“ Honest discussions with donors/implementers as peers — with funding going down we're all in the same boat and the discussions have been focused on finding solutions together.

“ All of the sessions I attended included very practical examples to ground themes and topics. It allowed the technical conversations and experience sharing to go quite deep.

> Poster sessions were loved in concept, could be enhanced

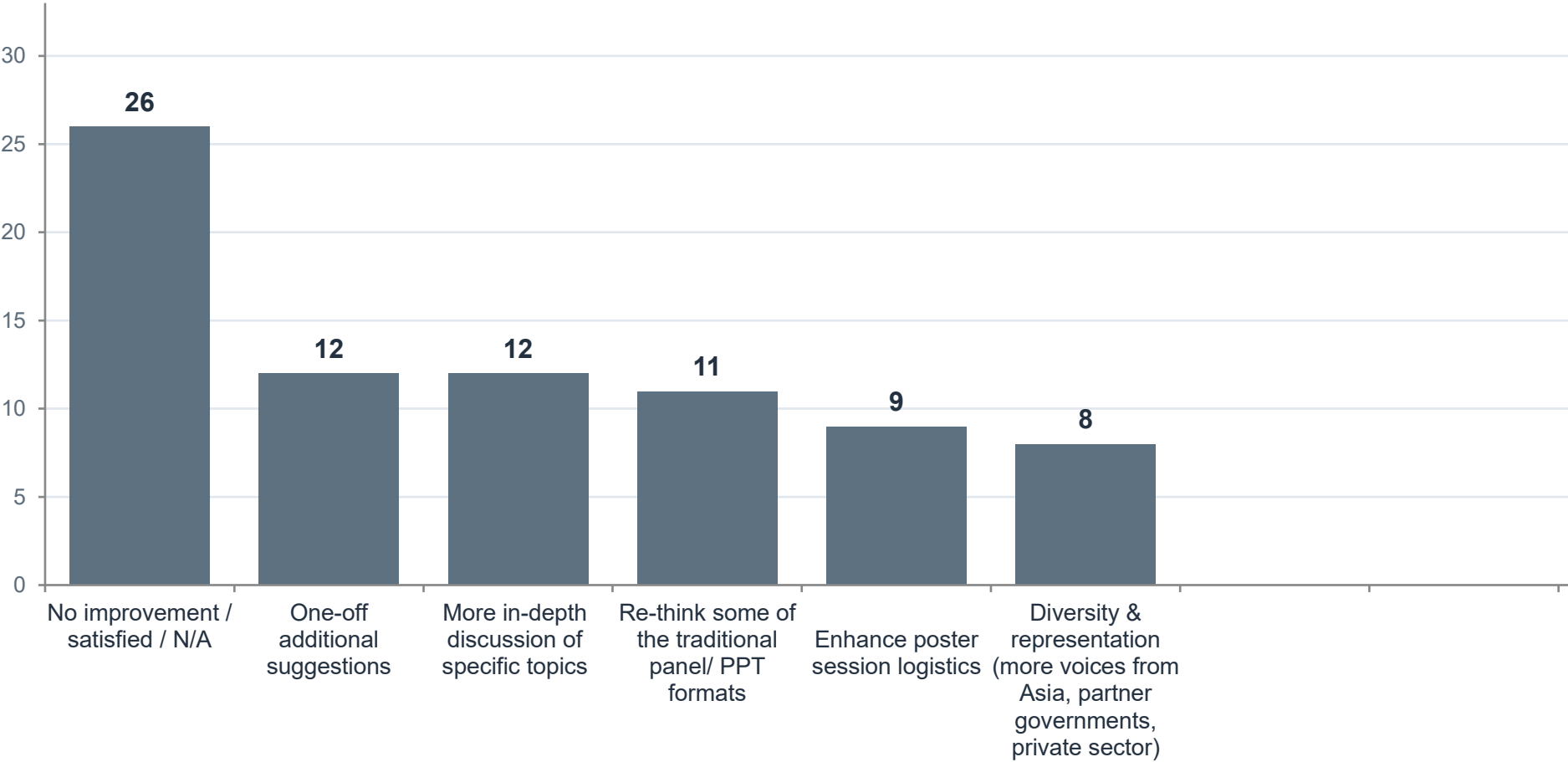
- Frequently named among the most useful/enjoyable elements
- Valued for the informal, small-group networking they created
- But: low turnout, consider earlier timing in the schedule and longer slots for each poster



“ It would have been great to have all the posters in one space and displayed throughout the seminar.

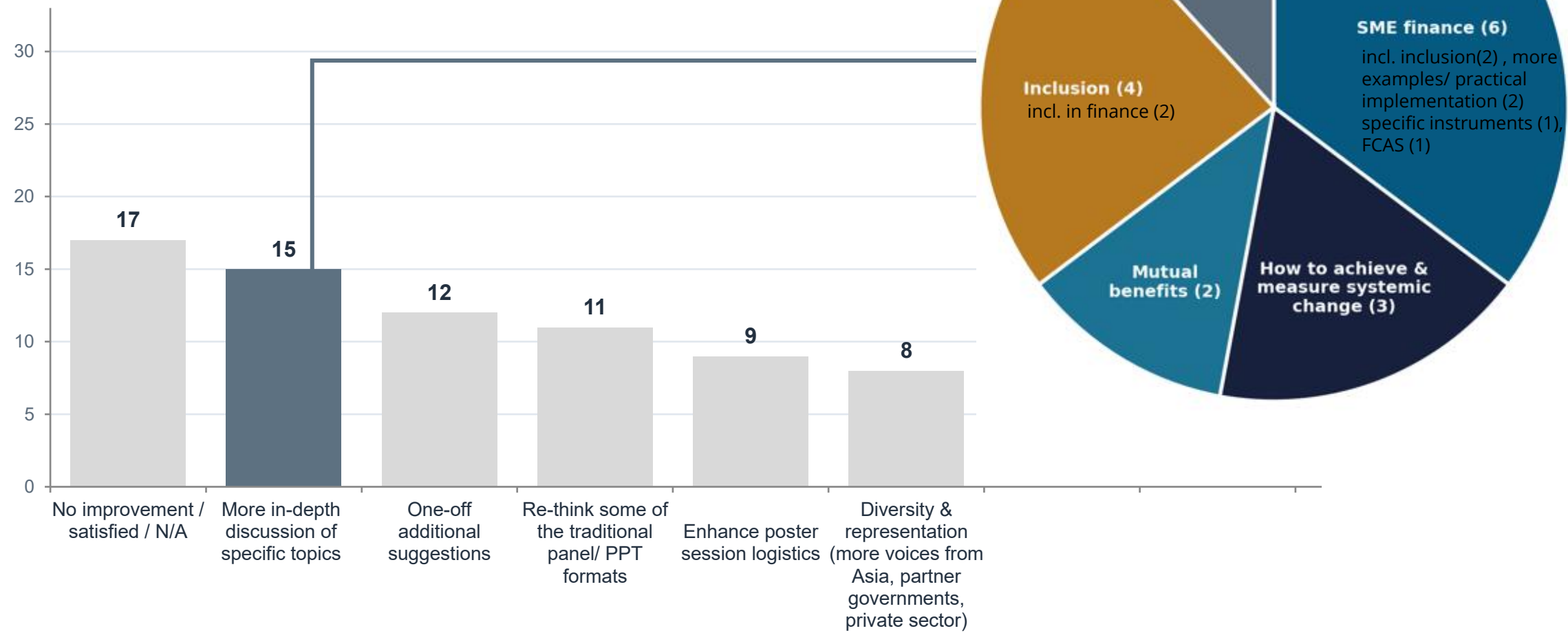
“ The timing of the poster session could be improved. Too late — so many people already left.

> Recurring improvement themes and requests for additional content



Note: “One-off topic suggestions” (grey) is a long tail of ~17 individually-mentioned ideas — not a single shared theme.

> Specific additional content requests

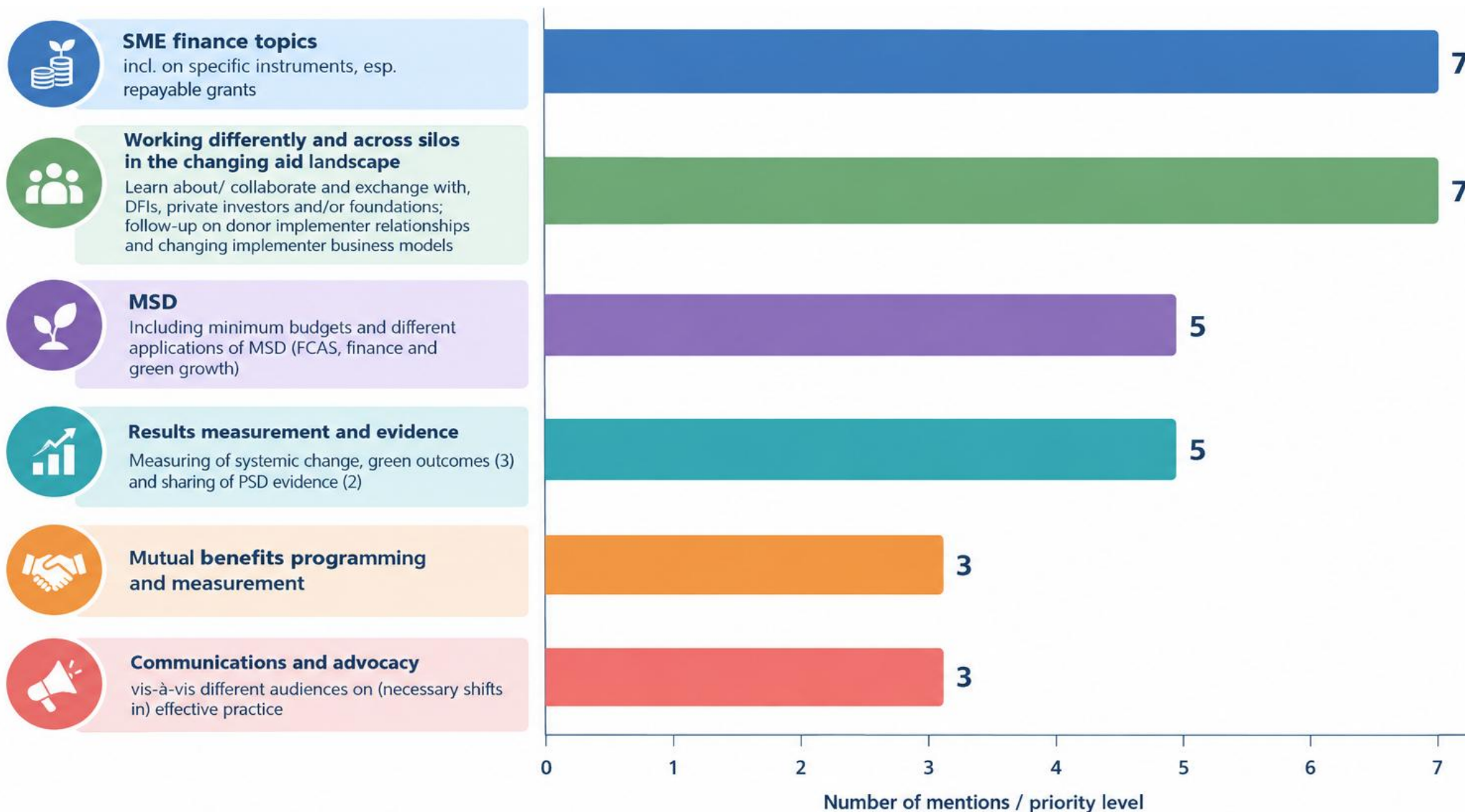


Note: "One-off topic suggestions" (grey) is a long tail of ~17 individually-mentioned ideas — not a single shared theme.

➤ Strong demand for continued networking & exchange, knowledge generation on key topics after the Seminar

- **Access to Seminar resources and outcomes the most frequently mentioned request** (slides, summaries, takeaways, etc) – alongside requests for different forms of knowledge sharing in general to continue the discussions, without specifying the theme
- **Useful prioritisation of follow-up themes and action areas emerging – see *the next slide*:** Appetite for continued learning and exchange across different communities stands out as a top priority
- **A number of themes/action areas mentioned once or twice, including**
 - Follow-up on engagement in critical minerals value chains
 - Producing more resources in French
 - Regional events
 - Next Seminar in an Asian country

➤ Breakdown of priority themes and action areas for the DCED



> A few more quotes from the feedback form...

“

- *"This was a top-notch quality event in every way. Thank you to the organizers for all the effort that went into it."*
- *"It was the first conference in a long time that ... was actually useful."*
- *"Really great event, nice design of session, interactive, great organization, also type of orgs/people you convened was excellent."*
- *"This was outstanding - congratulations to the organizers."*
- *"Topics were on point. Speaker quality good. Session choreography good."*
- *"Really well put together and especially good participant list."*
- *"Incredible logistics and communication through the week."*

