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UNDERSTANDING THE UPTAKE AND MANAGEMENT OF HWC MITIGATION MEASURES BY LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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Introduction

- HWC occur when the needs and behavior of wildlife impact negatively on the goals of humans.
- OR when the goals of humans negatively impact on the needs of wildlife.
- *Human–Wildlife Conflict Often Involves :*



Human-Human Conflict



People have different goals, attitudes, values, feelings, levels of empowerment, and wealth

Of gaps in trust and communication over how to conserve wildlife and ensure the well being of people at the same time.

Struggles among people over empowerment and access to resources or needs for survival



Objective of the study

- Assessing the attitudes and perceptions of local communities on the UPTAKE AND MANAGEMENT of HWC interventions
- Many Interventions have failed to resolve this conflict.
- Farmers' perceptions are important in developing appropriate interventions (Hill et al, 2002). These include:
 1. What they would like to see implemented,
 2. what is working for them,
 3. how comfortable they feel when using particular interventions,
 4. The costs and benefits associated with uptake and management of these interventions

STUDY HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN TWO PHASES

- First phase: General survey of interventions in BMCA, QEPA, Kibale NP, Semuliki NP, RMNP and Budongo Forest reserve. From a community perspective we:
 1. Effectiveness of different interventions
 2. How these interventions can be improved
 3. Challenges associated with the interventions
 4. Comparison of intervention management by local communities at the different sites

Second Phase (Dec 2010 to March 2011)

- Considered social relationships which may positively or negatively influence the management of interventions by communities.
- An average of 20 respondents cultivating closest to the park from each of the 30 Villages were selected. Villages had experience with interventions
- Focused group discussions were held with HUGO members, leaders of problem animal management groups, local leaders and CCRs in of the some villages.

- 106 respondents from :

- Kanungu: Kanyashogi, Hakikome, Mushasha

- Kabale: Kigumira, Kabere, Kagogo

Baboons

Elephants



Results show

- How HWC are ranked by local people compared to other problems within the communities
- Perceptions of local people to specific interventions
- Why local people manage and maintain interventions?
- Why they fail to manage and maintain interventions?
- An assessment of cooperation in their communities

PERCEPTIONS OF LOCAL PEOPLE TO DIFFERENT INTERVENTIONS

Intervention	Advantages	Challenges
Guarding	-Very effective against baboons and Bush pigs	-Time consuming -Difficult to guard against large animals -Guarding in the night involves numerous risks
Live traps	-Effective against Baboon	-Baboons learn to avoid them after some time -Cant be used against large animals -Lack Materials to To construct traps

Intervention	Advantages	Challenges
Mauritius Thorn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Very effective against Bush pigs and Baboons in Places where its grown well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Labour intensive and time consuming-Lack of equipment e.g. Sickles,Gloves-No incentives for mgt-Bogy and rocky areas don't favour the hedge-Boundary trees prevent proper growth
Stone wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Effective for animals like bush bucks, Mongooses, Porcupines-In places where its built well its very effective against buffaloes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Buffaloes can jump over the wall where its not high and wide enough-Maintenance is labour intensive-Some people throw down the wall to enter the park-Facilitation for maintenance still a lacking in some places

Intervention	Advantages	Challenges
Buffer crops	-Tea has been quite helpful against baboons in Kanungu	-Market for other crops like Artemisia and lemon grass not there -Famine. Fertile land used to cultivate tea -Maintenance is quite expensive
Red pepper	-Can be effective against elephants	-Risks of harm -Irritating fumes given off -Lack of cooperation affects its effectiveness -Supply of pepper inadequate -Elephants are getting habituated

Intervention	Advantages	challenges
Scare shooting	Very helpful with elephants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Rangers take long to arrive some times-Elephants are getting habituated and come back after rangers have left
HUGO	Helpful with gorillas and elephants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Response time is poor-Poorly motivated-Local people unwilling to help them because they think HUGO is paid- In some areas Inadequately facilitated i.e. lack torches, rain gear, boots etc



Working live trap



Well Maintained Buffalo wall in MGNP



Combination of Mauritius thorn and Tea works well against Baboons



Buffalo wall in MGNP



Mauritius Thorn hedge

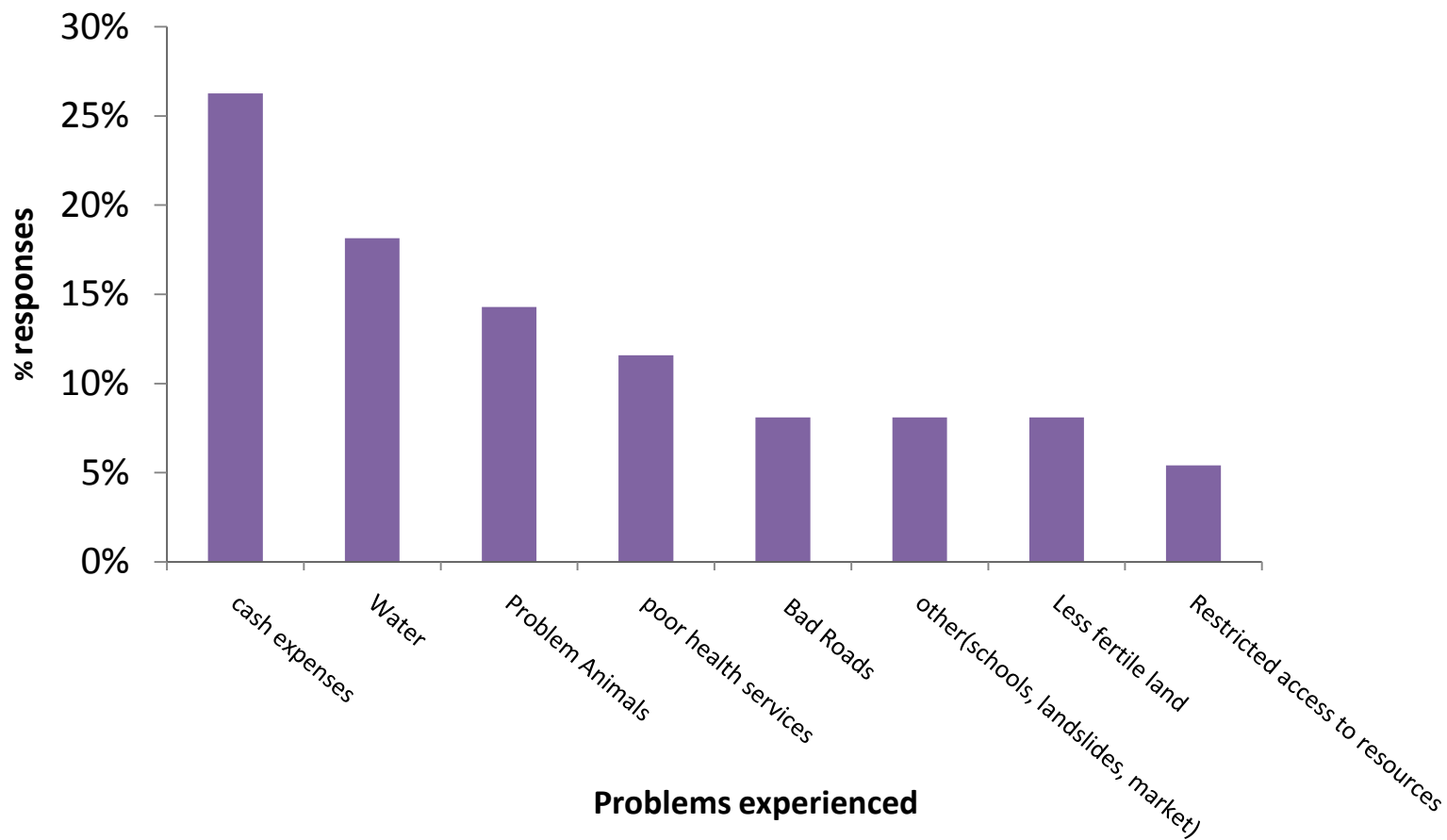


Tea plantation

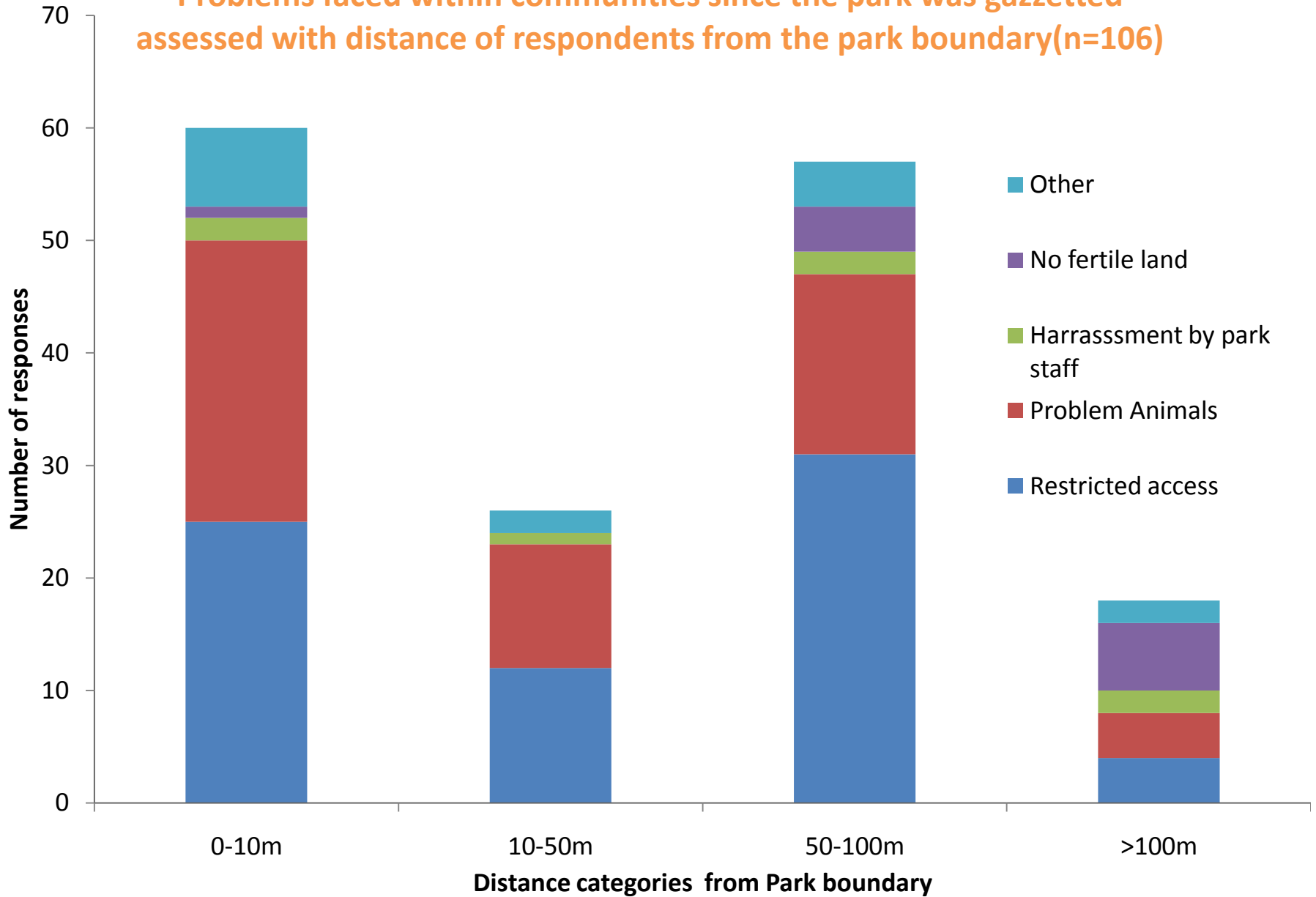


Live trap

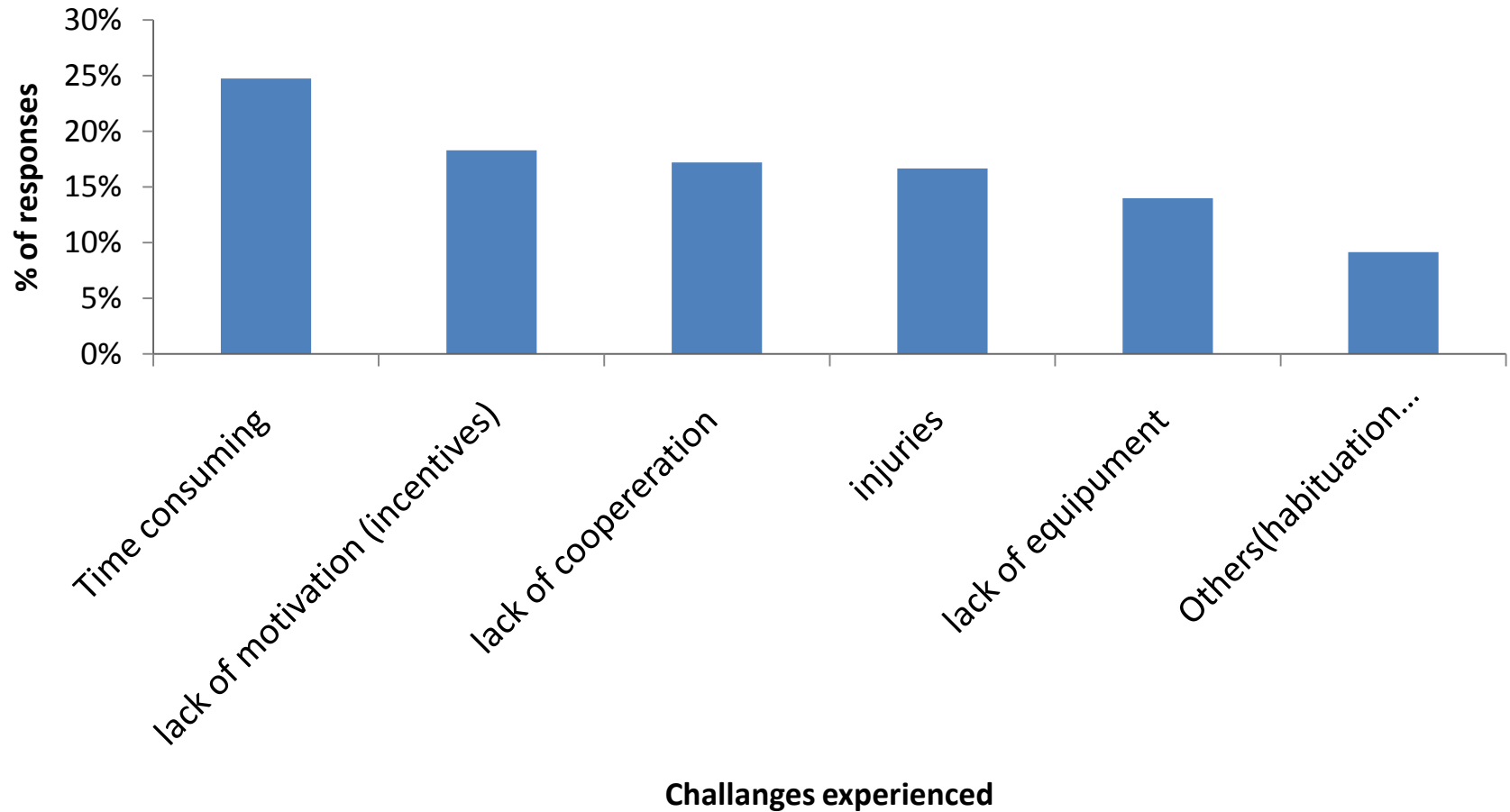
Most pressing problems in selected villages(n=106)



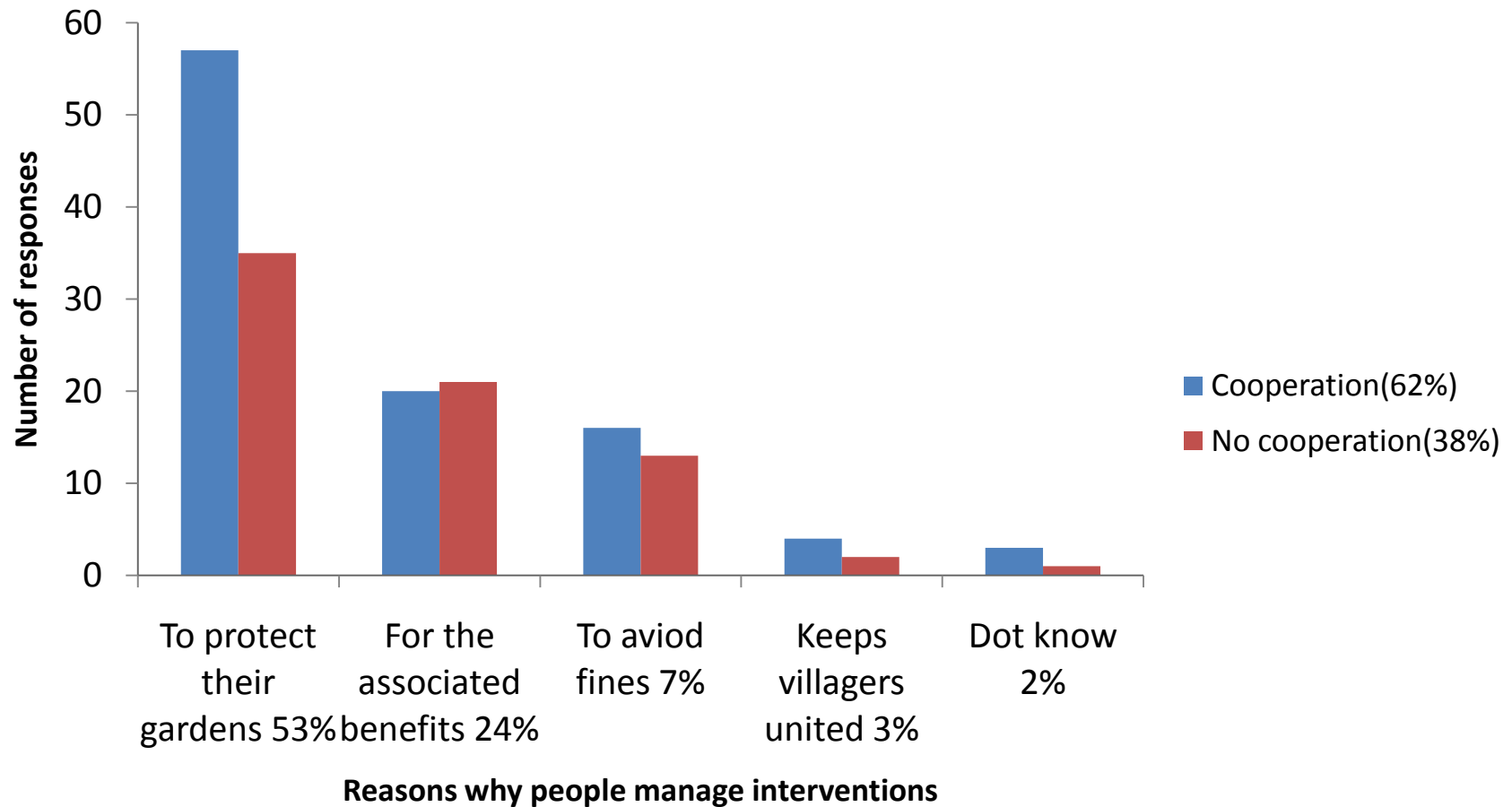
**Problems faced within communities since the park was gazzetted
assessed with distance of respondents from the park boundary(n=106)**



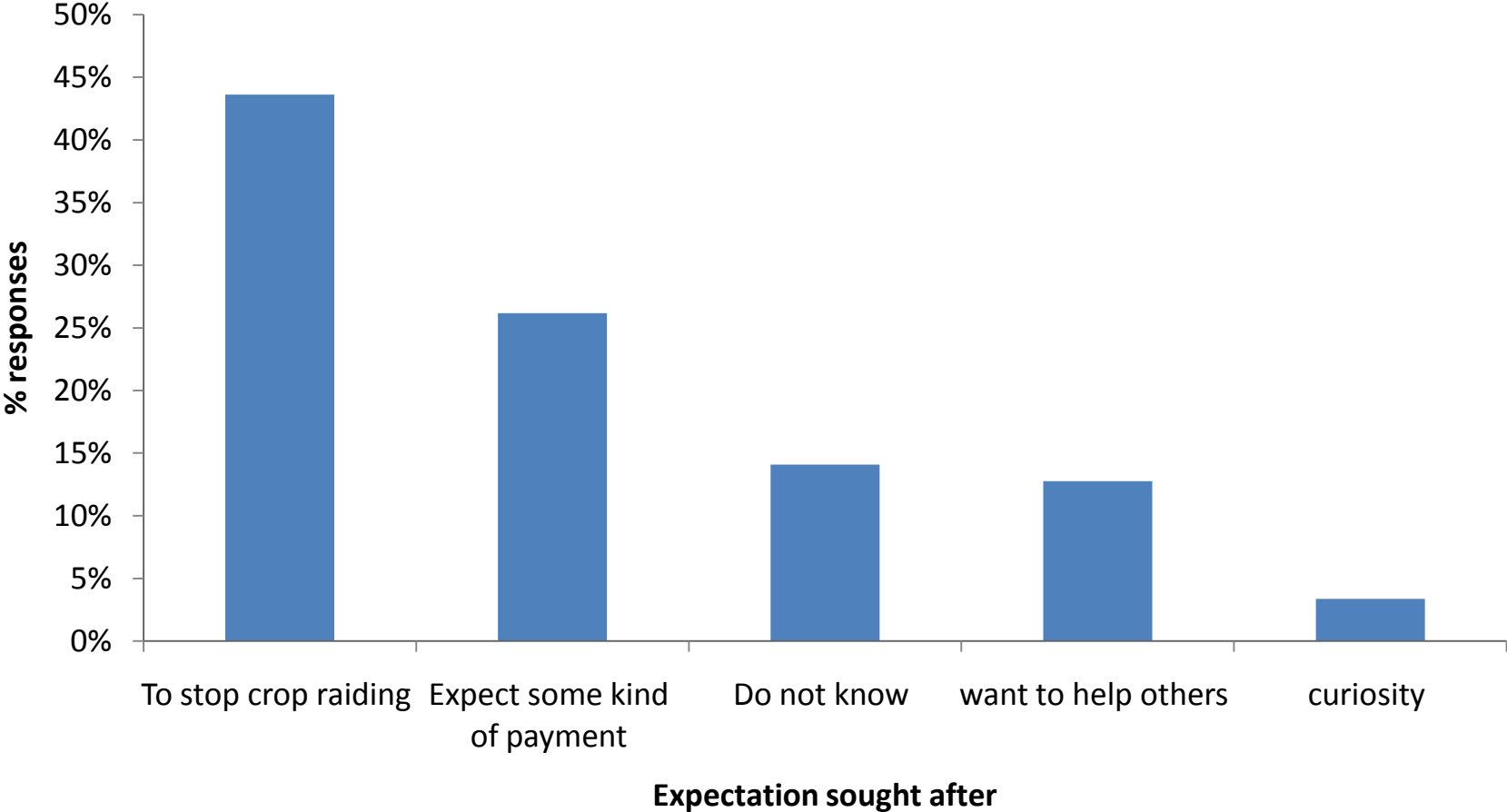
Challenges experienced in the management of problem animal interventions by local communities(n=106)



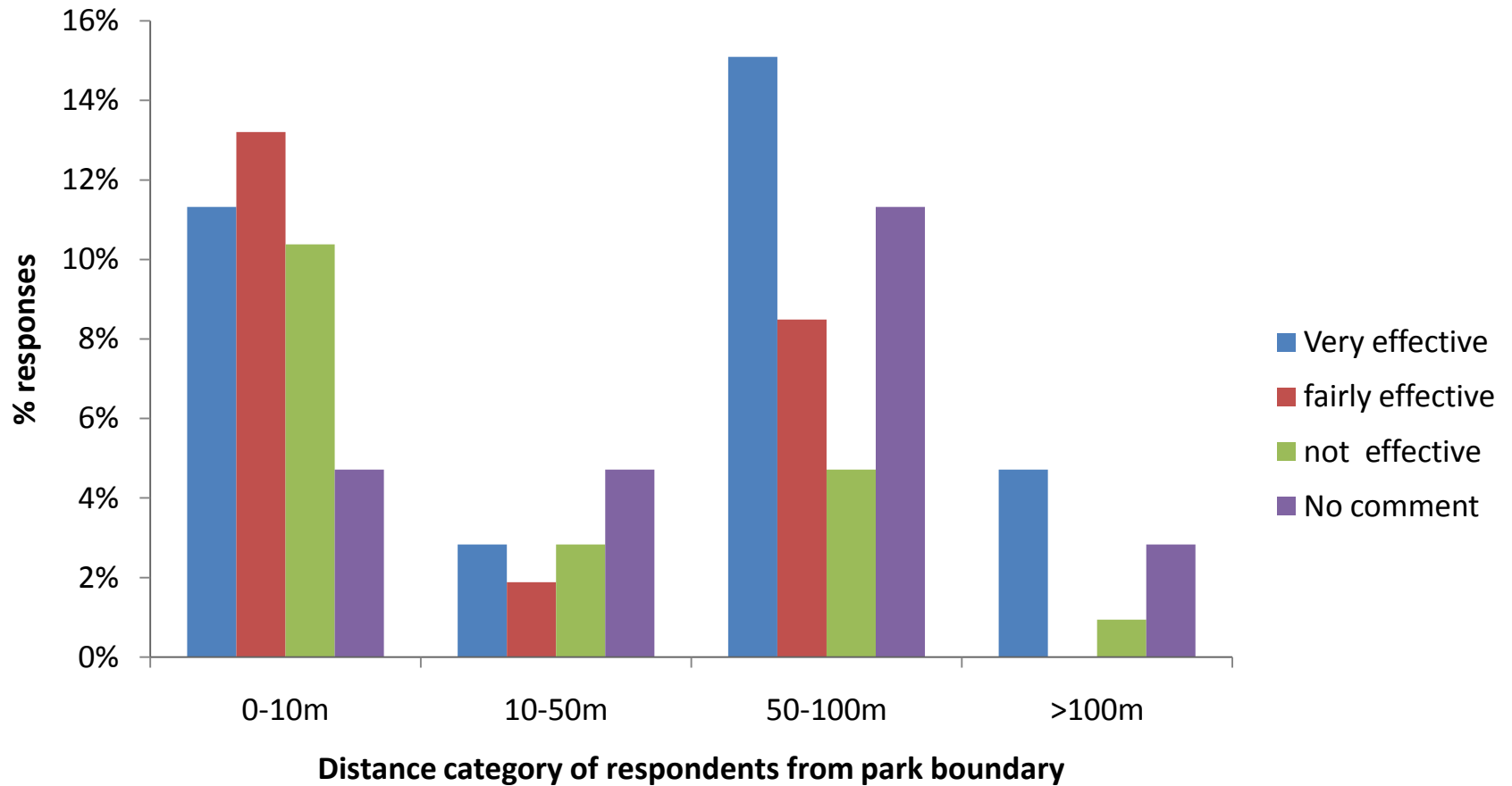
Reasons why people manage interventions with an assessment of cooperation within their communities (n=106)



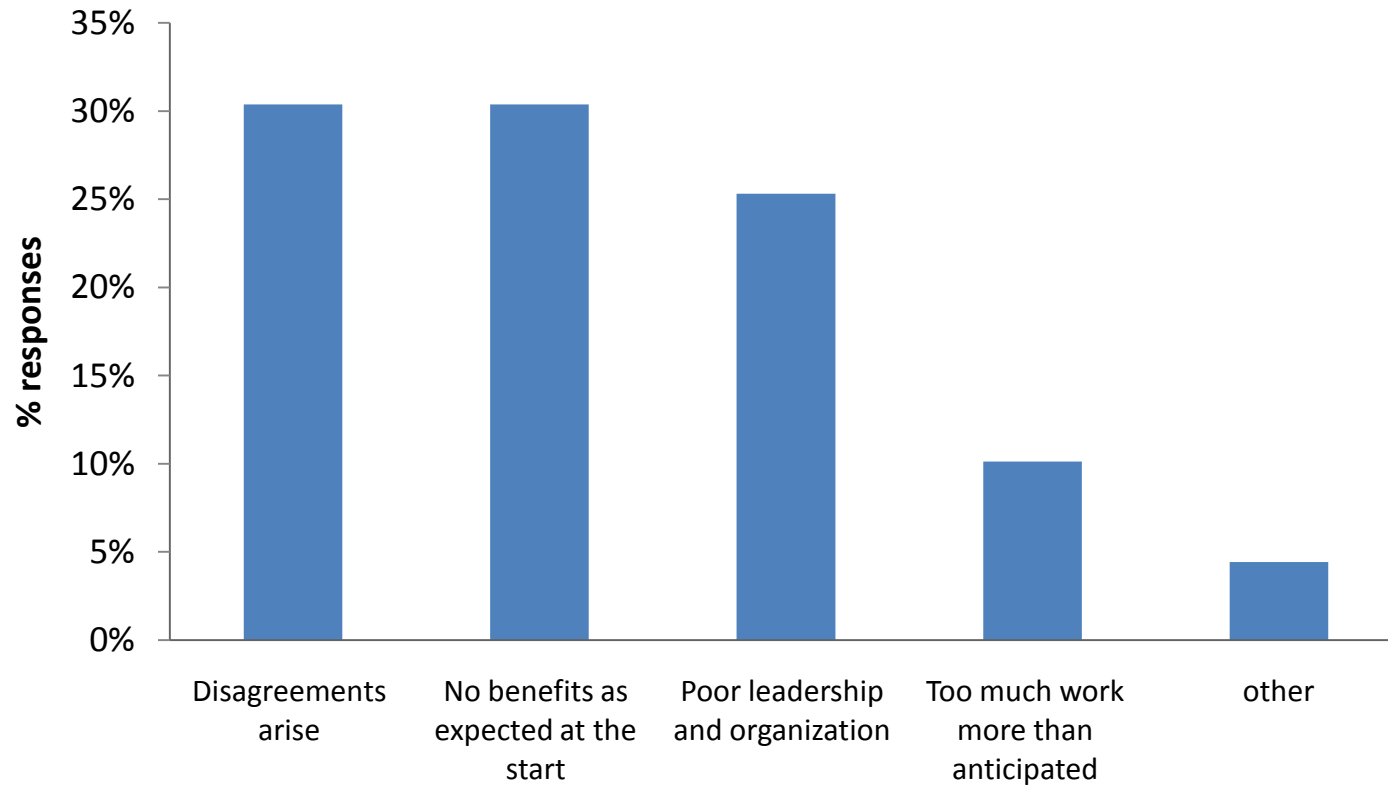
Expectations of people when joining a problem animal management group(n=106)



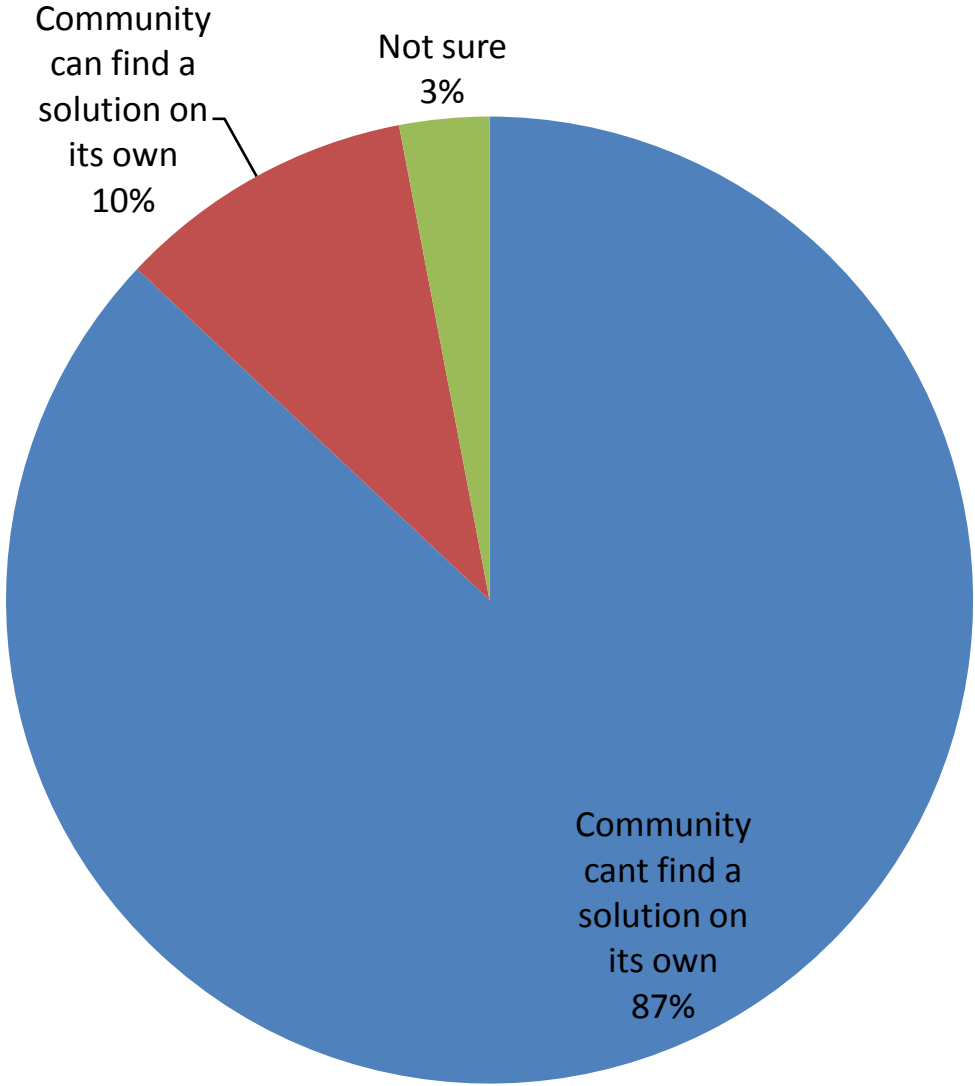
Assessment of effectiveness of problem animal management groups with distance of respondents from the PA(n=106)



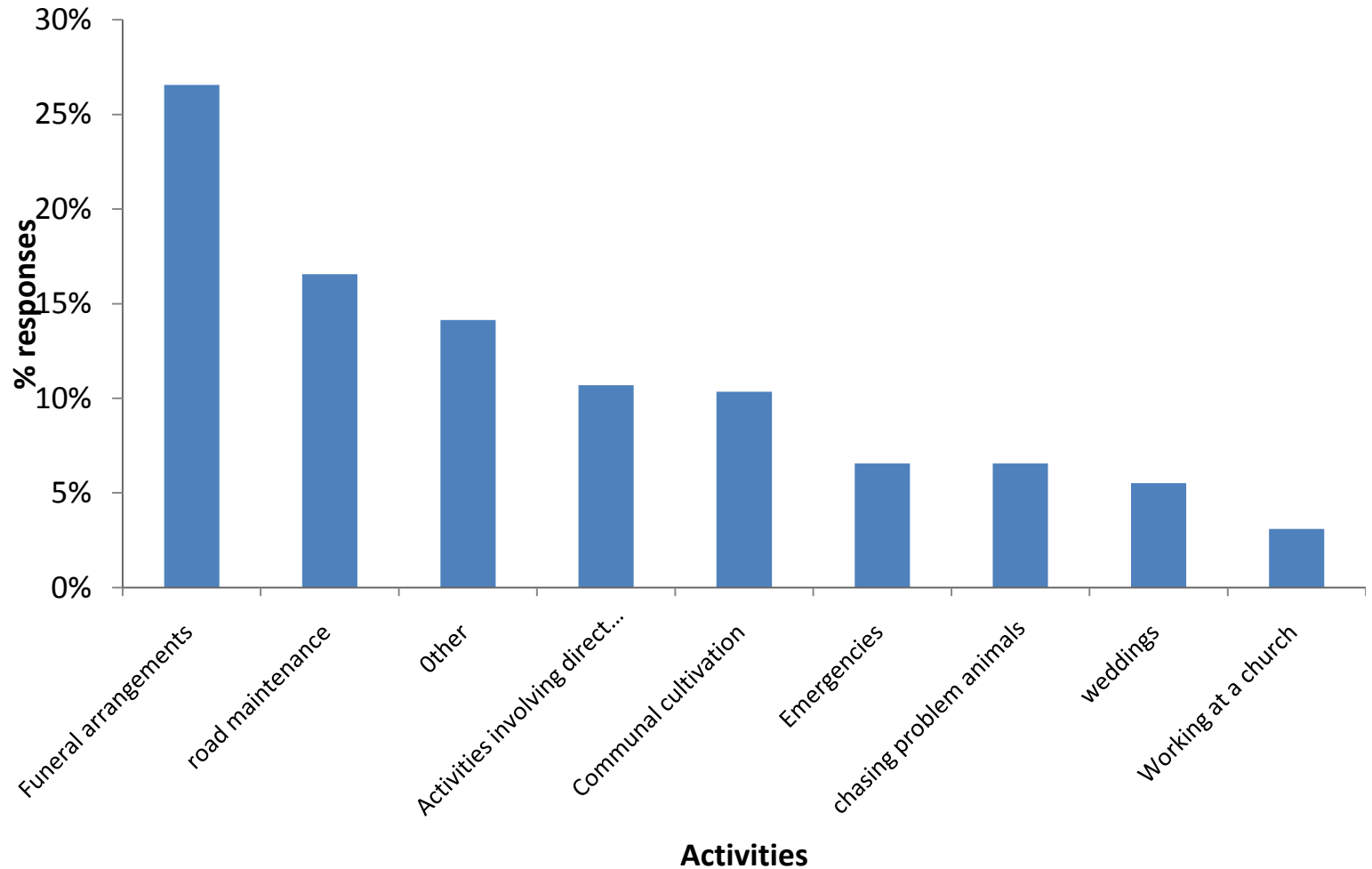
Reasons why problem animal management groups fail(n=106)



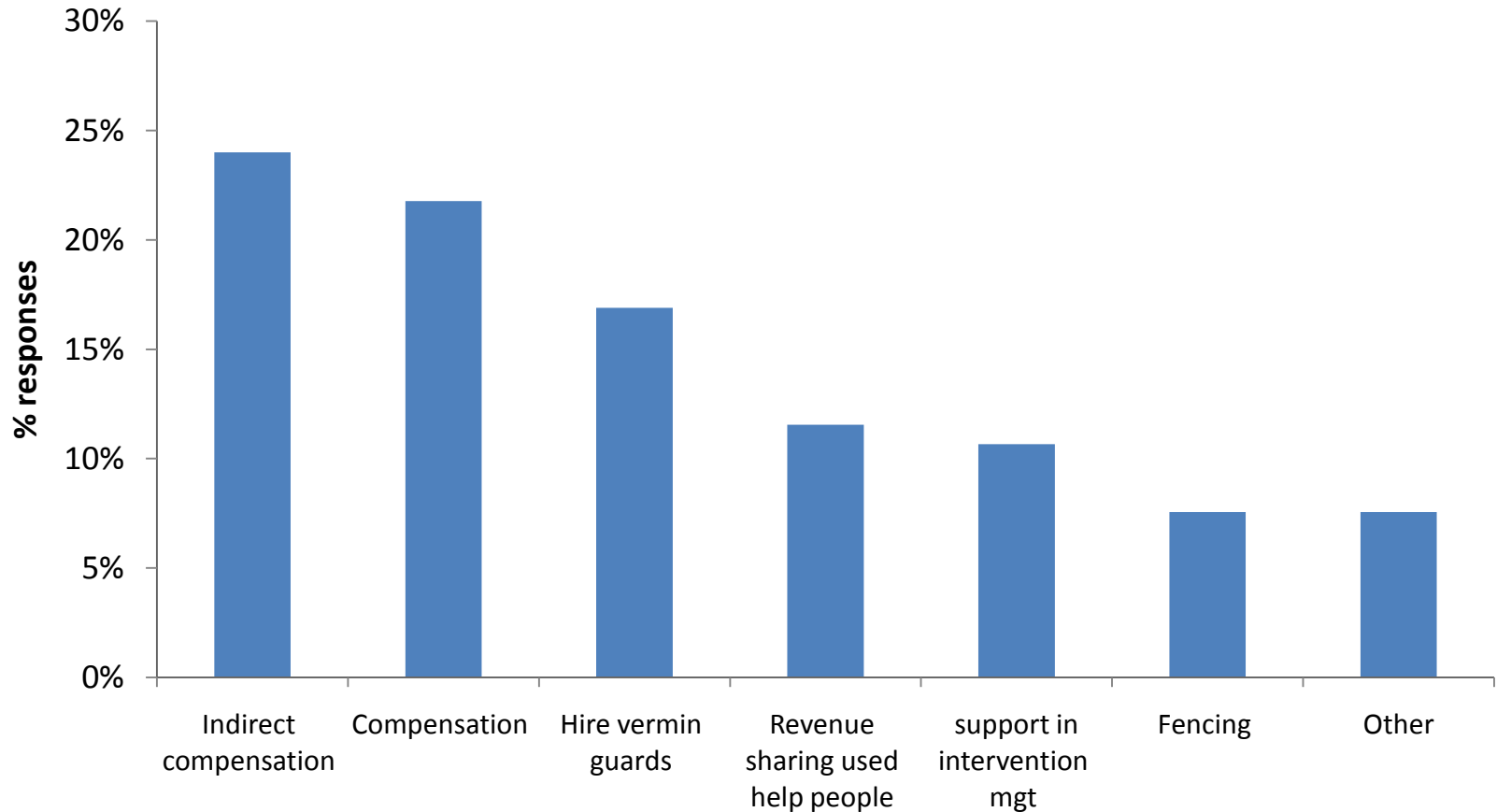
Can front line communities find solutions to HWC on their own (n=106)



Activities that enlist communal work(n=106)

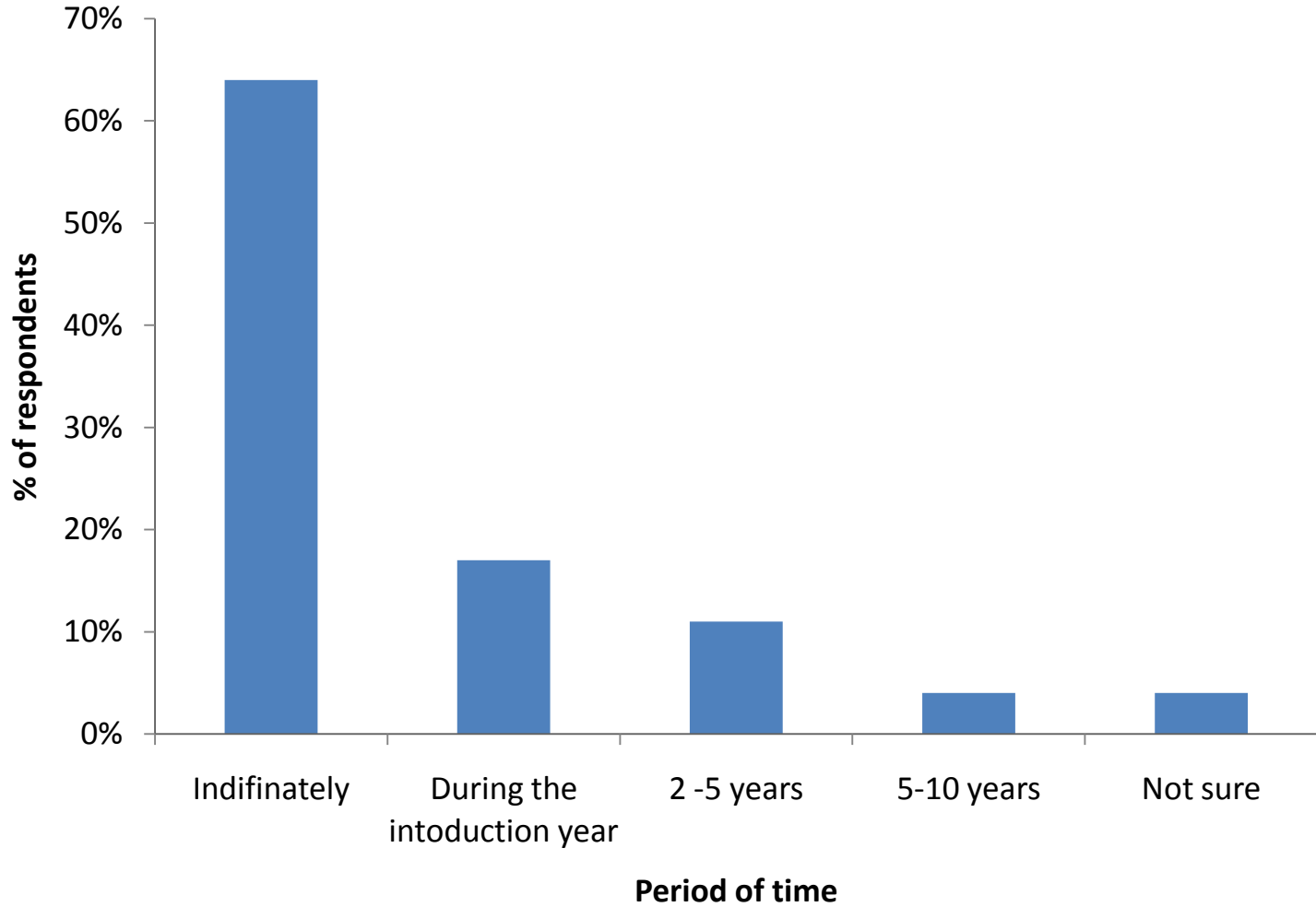


What local communities think they can do better if they had the authority and resources Gov't and UWA have (n=106)



Things local communities think they could do better

**How long communities think they should get assistance
with an intervention(n=106)**



Preliminary Conclusions

- Not all local people living next to PAs consider HWC as a problem
- Incentives play a big role in the management of interventions by local communities.
- Community cooperation and organization affects UPTAKE and MANAGEMENT of interventions.
- Local communities feel they cannot find solutions to HWC and also feel that the management of interventions is not their responsibility.
- **Technical structure** of interventions affects uptake and management by local communities .
- Stake holder cooperation is
- Unfair distribution of benefits affects the dynamics of HWC, most importantly intervention management by local communities

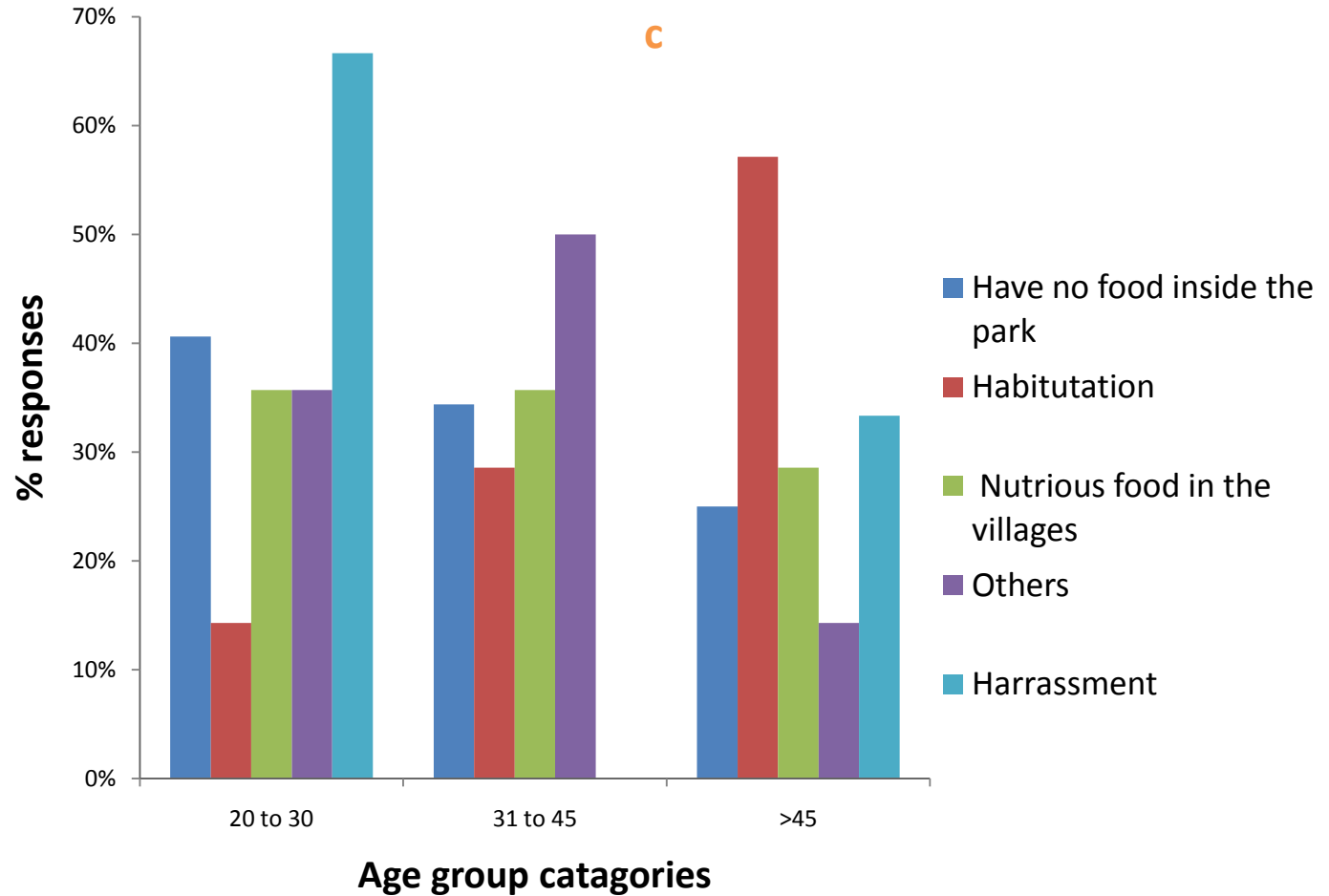
Preliminary Recommendations

- Cost- benefit analysis of any intervention should be done before and after an intervention is introduced, people made aware of possible short
- Increased stake holder analysis which might require signing of MOUS or formal contracts on responsibilities of each stake holder
- Incentives for communities to manage interventions have to be considered and ought to be sustainable
- Strengthening Existing Problem animal management groups
- Community groups that are formed for intervention management should be monitored and evaluated regularly.
- To achieve effective cooperation for intervention management problem animal intervention groups should be small in size
- Agriculture programmes of the government should incorporate HWC mitigation strategies
- Interventions should be monitored regularly in order address technical loop holes as they arise

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2. WCS
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10. Front line communities

Local people perceptions of why gorillas leave the PA(n=69)



How gorillas can be controlled(n=68)

