



# **Global Survey of Multi-Disciplinary Experts Engaged in Environmental Public Health Tracking**

**INPHET Scientific Committee, July 2015**

**Website:**

**<http://www.epiprev.it/INPHET/home>**

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# The Public Health Problem

- Environmental public health issues are becoming increasingly complex.
- Globalization and growing population size are placing significant stress on the environment, while emerging threats in chronic and infectious diseases, injury, and terrorism, all have been associated with environmental factors.

# Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT)

- To address these challenges, EPHT aims to merge, integrate, analyse and interpret environmental hazards, exposure and health data.
- Public health decision makers can use this timely, accurate and systematic data to inform and draft policies that reduce environmental health burdens and prevent disease efficiently and cost-effectively.

# International Network on Public Health and Environment Tracking (INPHET)

- INPHET aims to support the development, implementation and evaluation of national and local EPHT initiatives by providing an international clearinghouse for practitioners and researchers on how to monitor and use environmental intelligence for action.
- INPHET will further increase understanding of this complex field, document decisions, improve comparability of risks between countries, and enable transparency and trust among citizens, institutions and the private sector.

# **INPHET Global Survey of Multi-Disciplinary Experts Engaged in Environmental Public Health Tracking**

- In the following slides we present the first findings of the INPHET expert profiles survey.

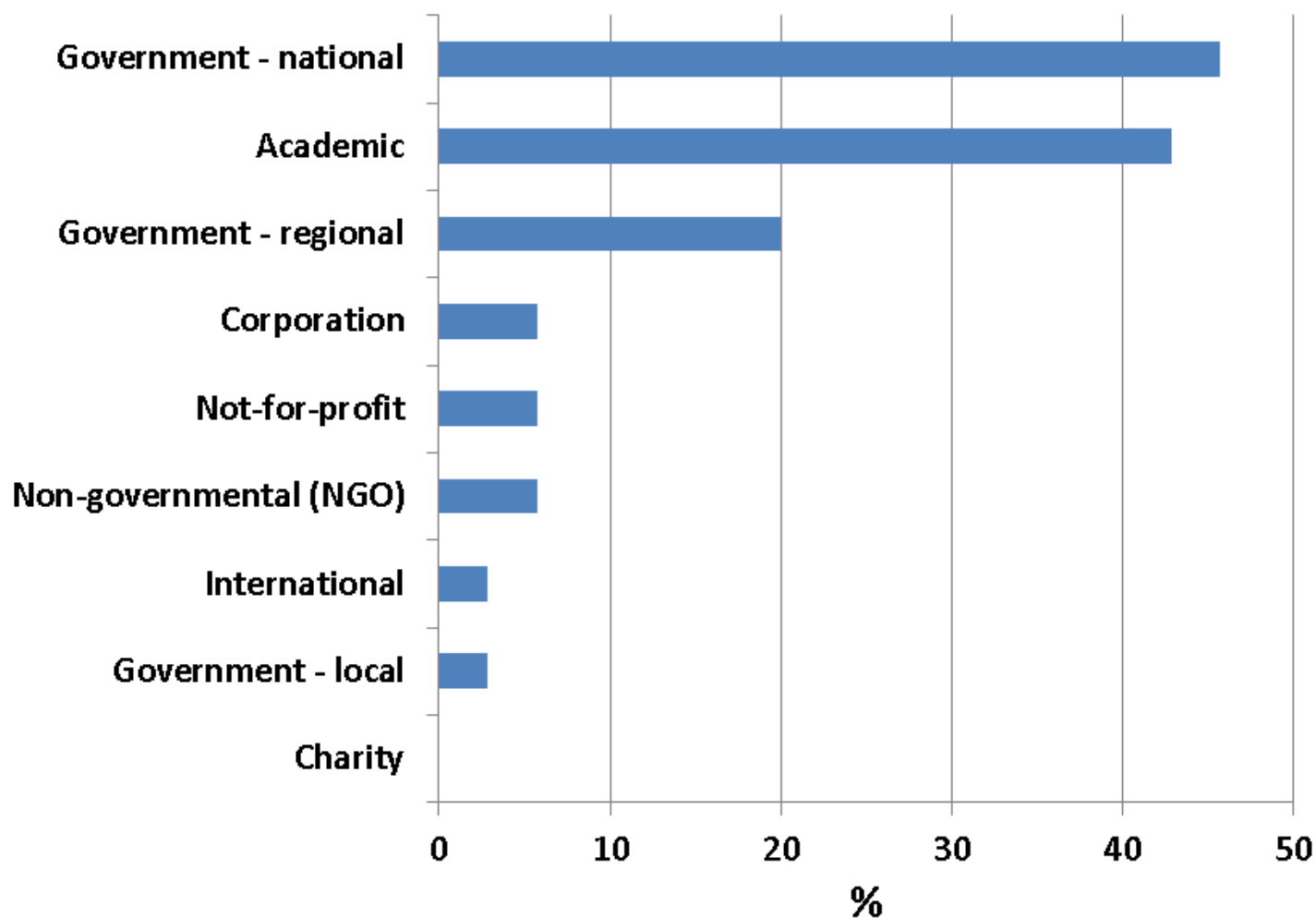
# Results To Date (1)

- 37 respondents between 12<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015.
- Most respondents work in national governmental and academic organisations in Europe and North America.
- Respondents have a range of experience in EPHT activities, predominantly in the biomonitoring of exposure and the surveillance of outdoor and indoor air hazards, exposures, and associated health outcomes.

## Results To Date (2)

- Potential contributions to INPHET by respondents include epidemiology, exposure assessment, teaching / training, public health information system support, and analysis or review for policy makers.
- The most frequently reported benefits of being an INPHET member include opportunities for networking and research collaborations.
- The following slides present further details.

**Figure 1. Organisation Types Responding to the INPHET Expert Profile Survey between 12 May to 30 June 2015.**

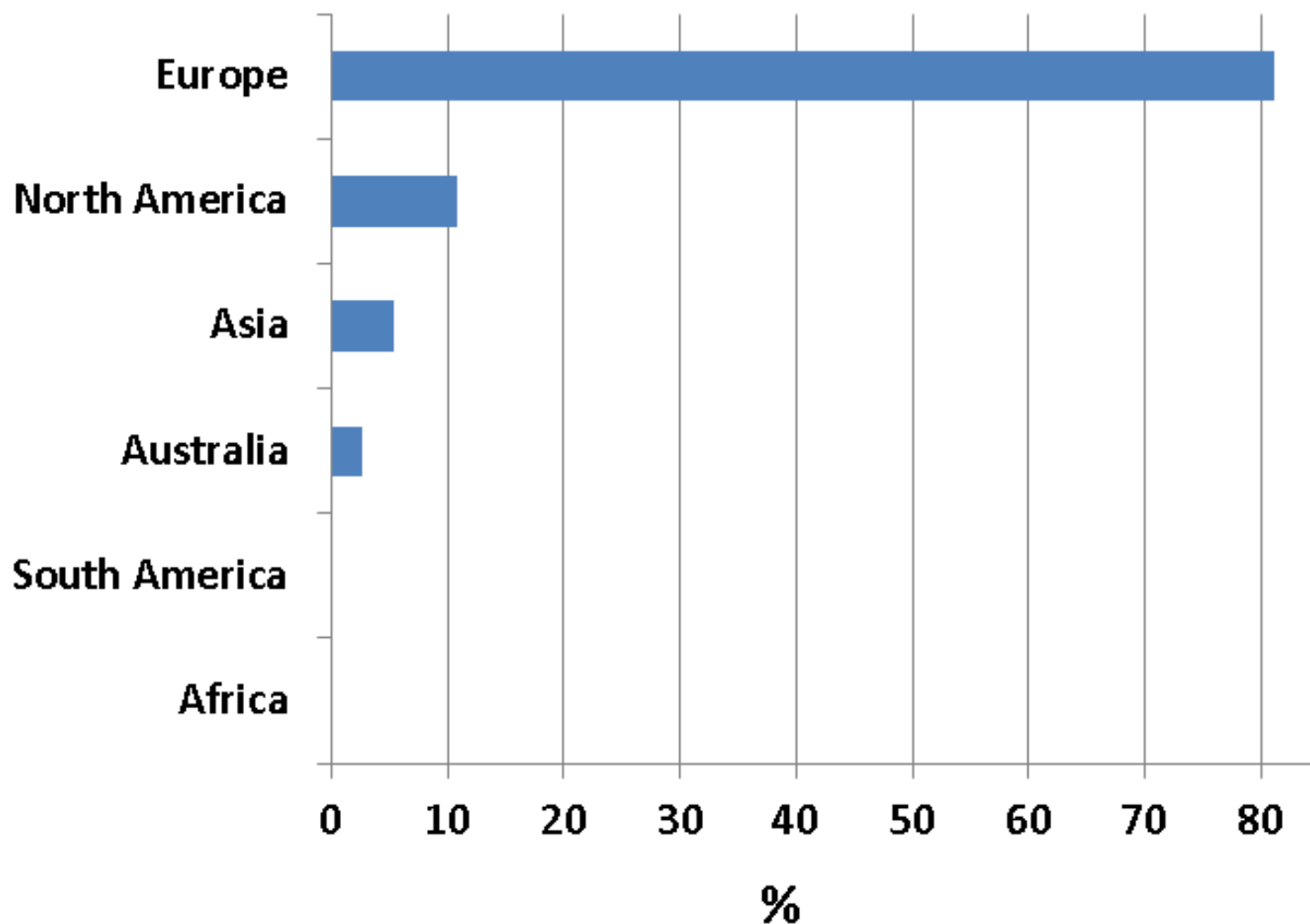


**Notes:**

- 1. 35 of 37 respondents answered this question;**
- 2. Respondents may have reported more than one organisation type.**

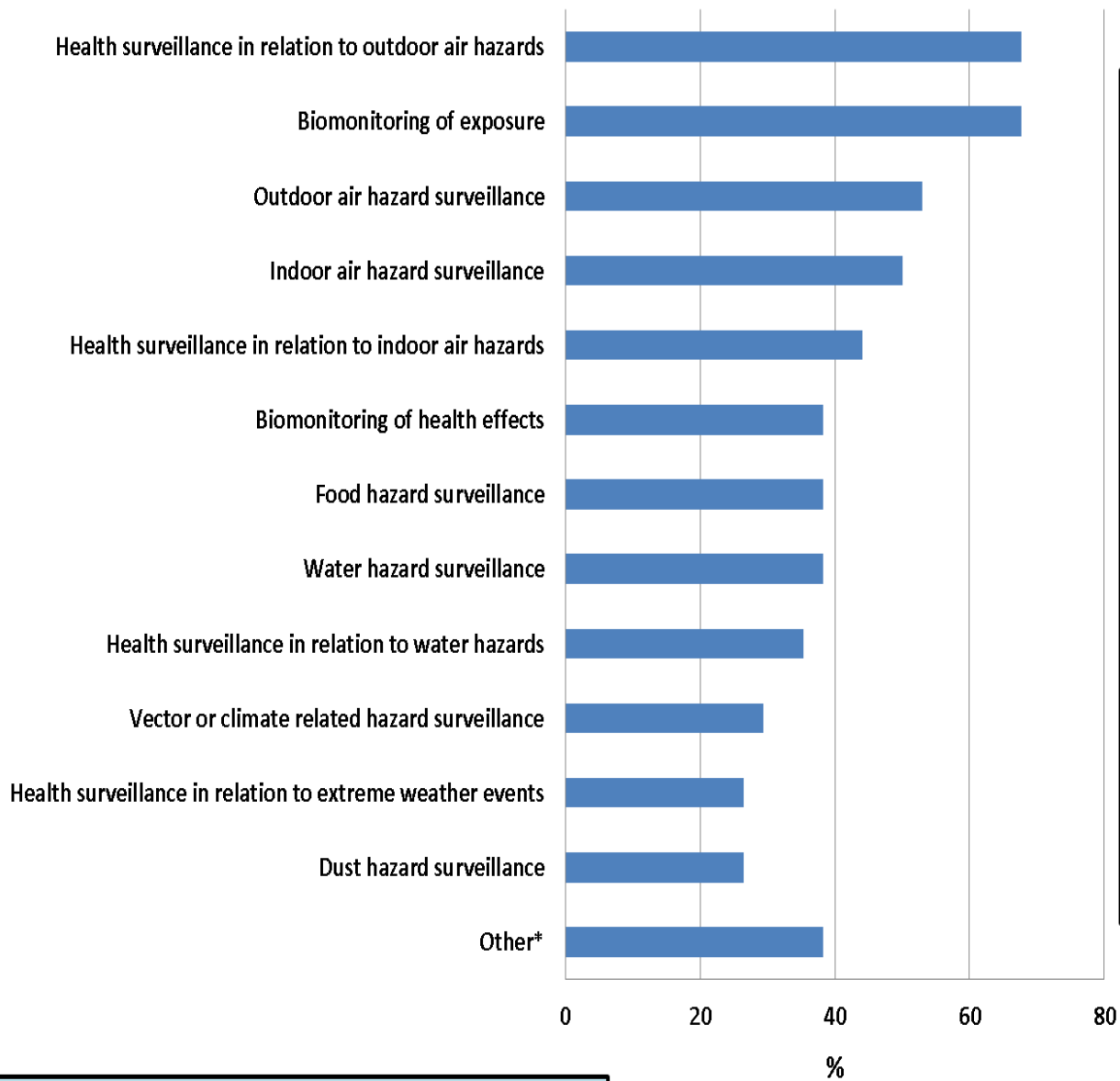


**Figure 2. Continental Spread of Respondents to the INPHET Expert Profile Survey between 12 May to 30 June 2015.**



**Note: All 37 respondents answered this question.**

**Figure 3. Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Activities That Respondents Are Or Have Been Engaged In.**



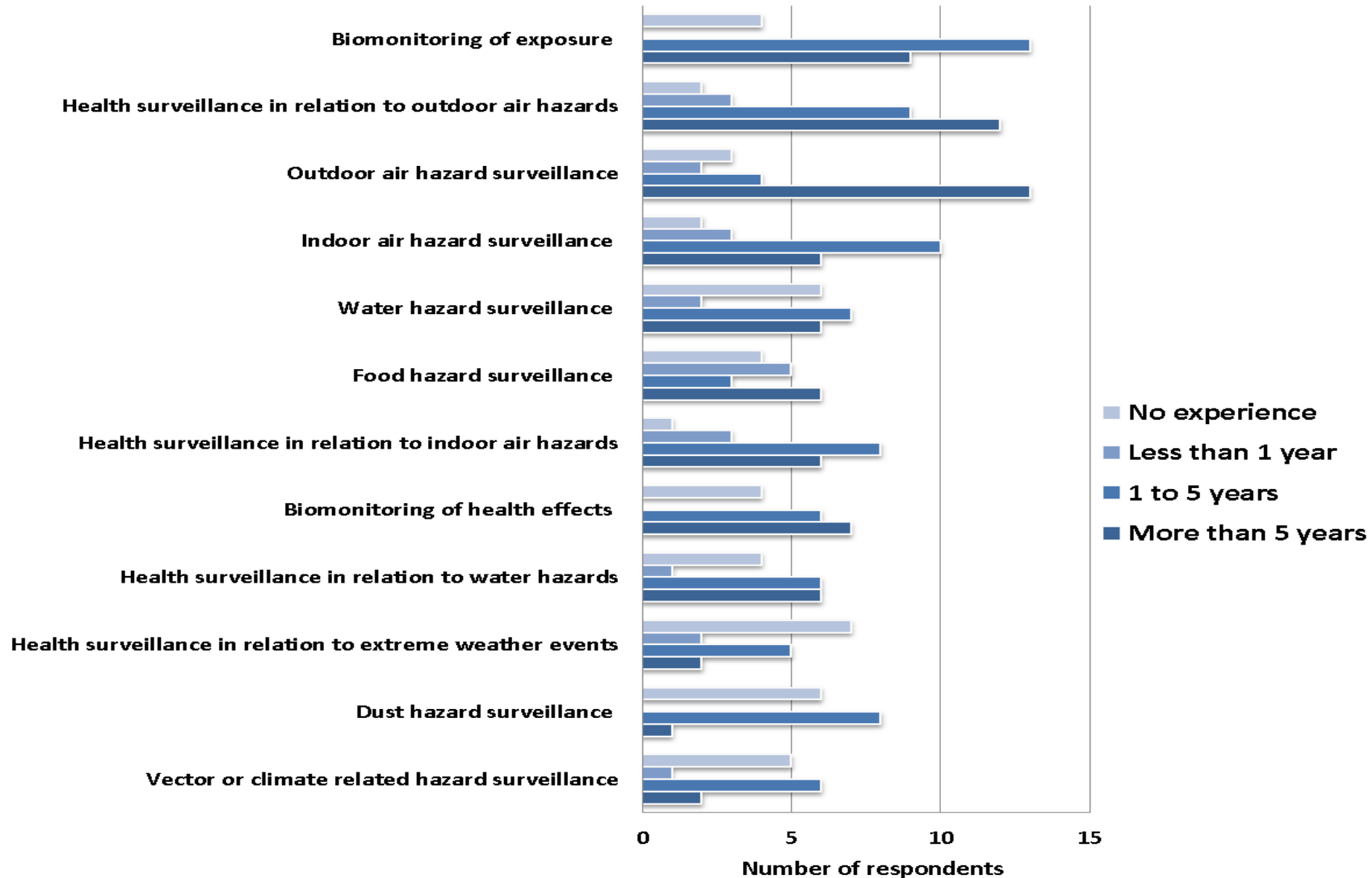
**\*Other EPHT activities reported:**

- Animal free toxicology
- Chemical safety
- Epidemiology research
- Exposure assessment to sources of atmospheric pollution
- Health surveillance from chemical toxicants
- Health surveillance in relation to chronic diseases
- Health Surveillance in relation to food hazard
- Noise and Health
- Noise exposure and assessment
- Risk assessment of toxic elements in water, soil, food and dust
- Health Impact Assessment in relation to waste management, and exposure assessment to outdoor air pollution
- Detect unusual trends in health, exposures, and hazards; Identify populations at risk of environmentally related diseases or of exposure to hazards; Generate hypotheses about the relationship between health and the environment
- Surveillance of environmentally related diseases, surveillance of access to environmental assets, and surveillance of environmental stressors (nuisances) including air quality, contaminated land, noise, pests, housing quality

**Notes:**

1. 34 of 37 respondents answered this question;
2. Respondents may have reported more than one EPHT activity.

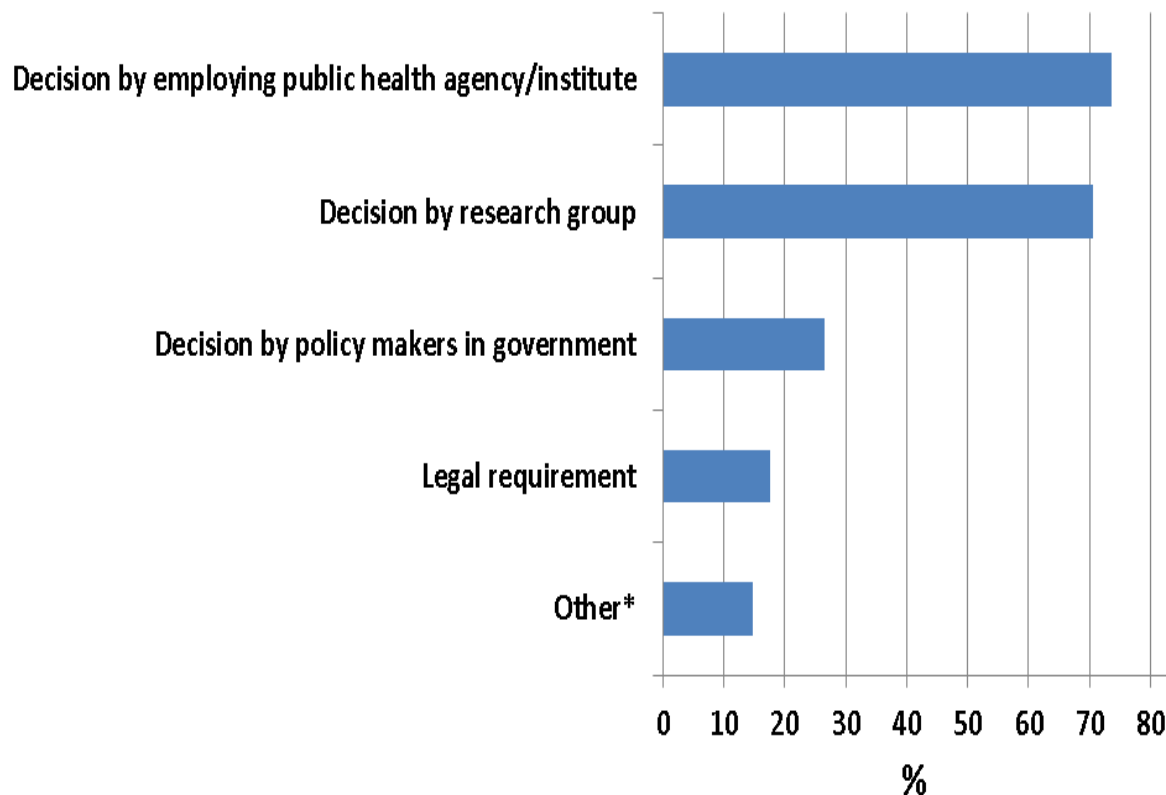
**Figure 4. Duration of Experience in Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Activities Amongst Survey Respondents.**



Note: 33 of 37 respondents answered this question.

Other EPHT activity experience	Duration of experience (years)
Use of GIS and interactive mapping applications	less than 1
Risk assessment food	2
Risk assessment (outdoor) dust	2
Risk assessment water	3
Risk assessment soil	4
Noise exposure and assessment	1 to 5
Information technology and management/stewardship of data	1 to 5
Health surveillance in relation to food hazard	1 to 5
Noise and health	more than 5
Health Impact Assessment in relation to waste management	more than 5
Exposure assessment to outdoor air pollution	more than 5
Data manipulation and analysis using statistical software	more than 5
Chemical hazard surveillance	more than 5
Epidemiological research	10
Health surveillance for chronic disease and risk factors	12
Chemical safety and risk assessment	12

**Figure 5. Reasons for EPHT Activity by Respondents of INPHET Expert Profile Survey between 12th May to 30th June 2015.**



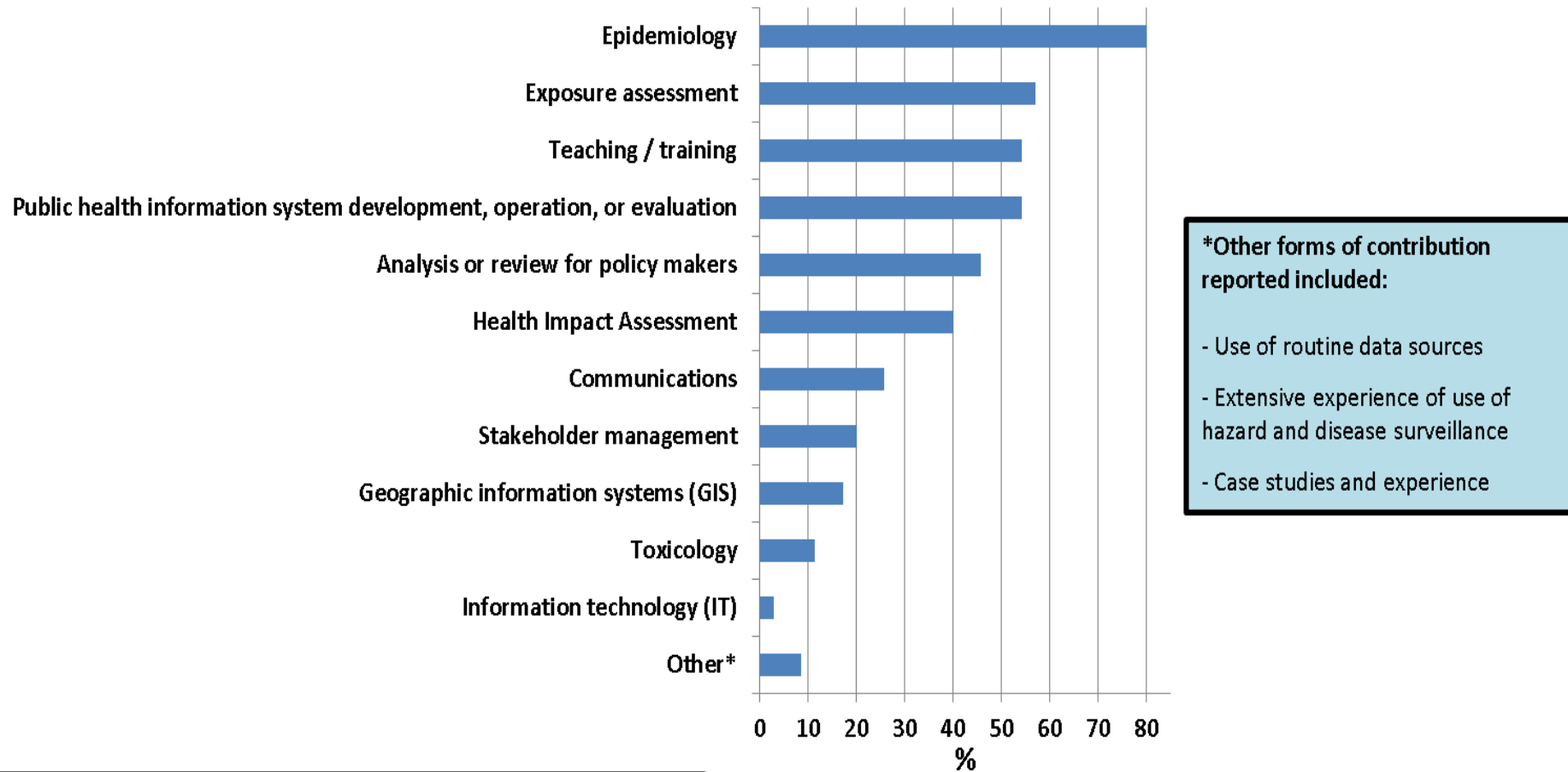
**\*Other reasons reported included:**

- Experience gained through employment or training, research areas funded, investigating incidents or complaints
- Personal input based on several decades working in environmental and public health in response to public concerns
- Projects
- My work experience
- Continuous training of Public Health Officers

**Notes:**

1. 34 of 37 respondents answered this question;
2. Respondents may have reported more than one reason.

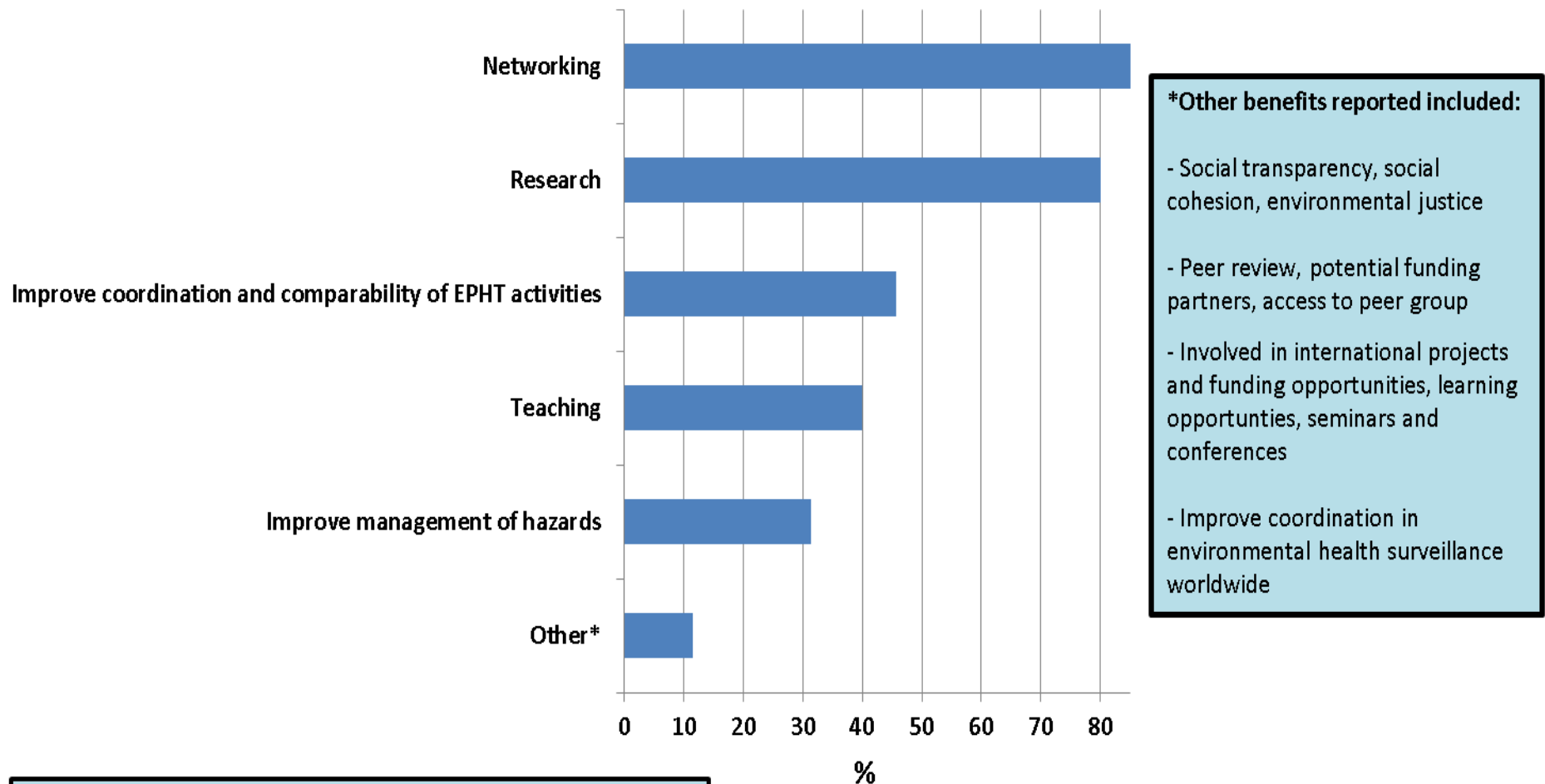
**Figure 6. Potential Contributions to INPHET by Respondents of INPHET Expert Profile Survey between 12th May to 30th June 2015.**



**Notes:**

1. 35 of 37 respondents answered this question;
2. Respondents may have reported more than one form of contribution.

**Figure 7. Potential Benefits of Being an INPHET Member Reported by Respondents of INPHET Expert Profile Survey between 12th May to 30th June 2015.**



**Notes:**

1. 35 of 37 respondents answered this question;
2. Respondents may have reported more than benefit.

# Join us!

- We are inviting anyone with an interest or expertise in EPHT activities worldwide to join and contribute to INPHET's global membership and to be included in our register of EPHT experts.
- If you wish to be included, please complete the online form available at the link below. It won't take more than 5 minutes.

<https://surveys.phe.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=8l0H9p41>

- Please also share this link and presentation with your network.



# INPHET



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK  
ON PUBLIC HEALTH  
& ENVIRONMENT TRACKING

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