Breaking Barriers: how governments and ccTLDs advance UA

Tuesday, 10 June 2025 (13:45-15:00 local, UTC +2)

Session chair: Abdalmomen Galila | ccNSO UAC Chair, مصر.

- Looking back at ICANN82: drivers for UA Acceptance
  Regina Fuchsová, ccNSO UAC Vice Chair, .eu, .ею and .ευ
- Barriers to UA Readiness | Bart Boswinkel, ccNSO
- Breaking barriers
  - Sami Mohamed Ali (.bh)
  - Guðrun Poulsen (.fo)

We will use Mentimeter for live audience input during the session, so keep your phone or laptop handy to take part.

What is Universal Acceptance (UA)?

It ensures that all domain names, including new TLDs, Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), and email addresses are treated equally and can be used by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems.

Please select how much you agree or disagree with the statement

My ccTLD is currently engaged in initiatives related to Universal Acceptance (UA) or Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

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What are the most important drivers for UA readiness?

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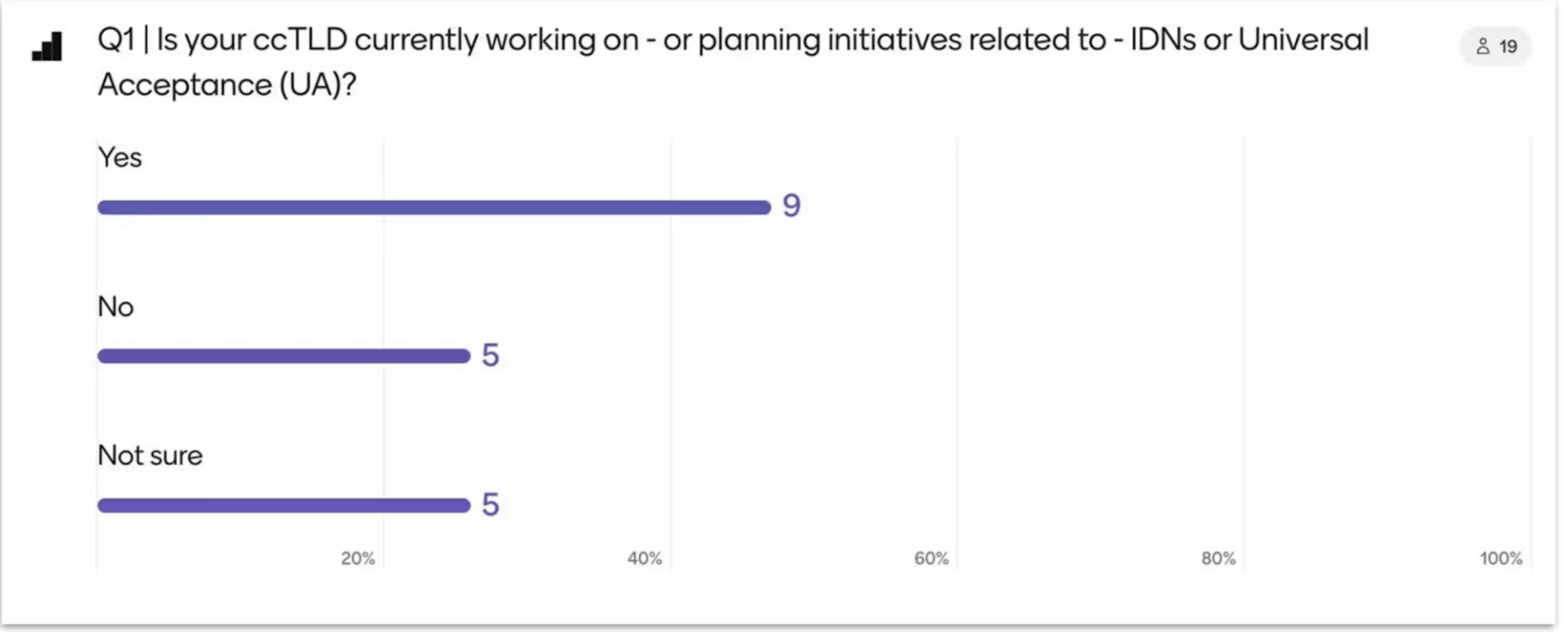
Polling results ICANN82



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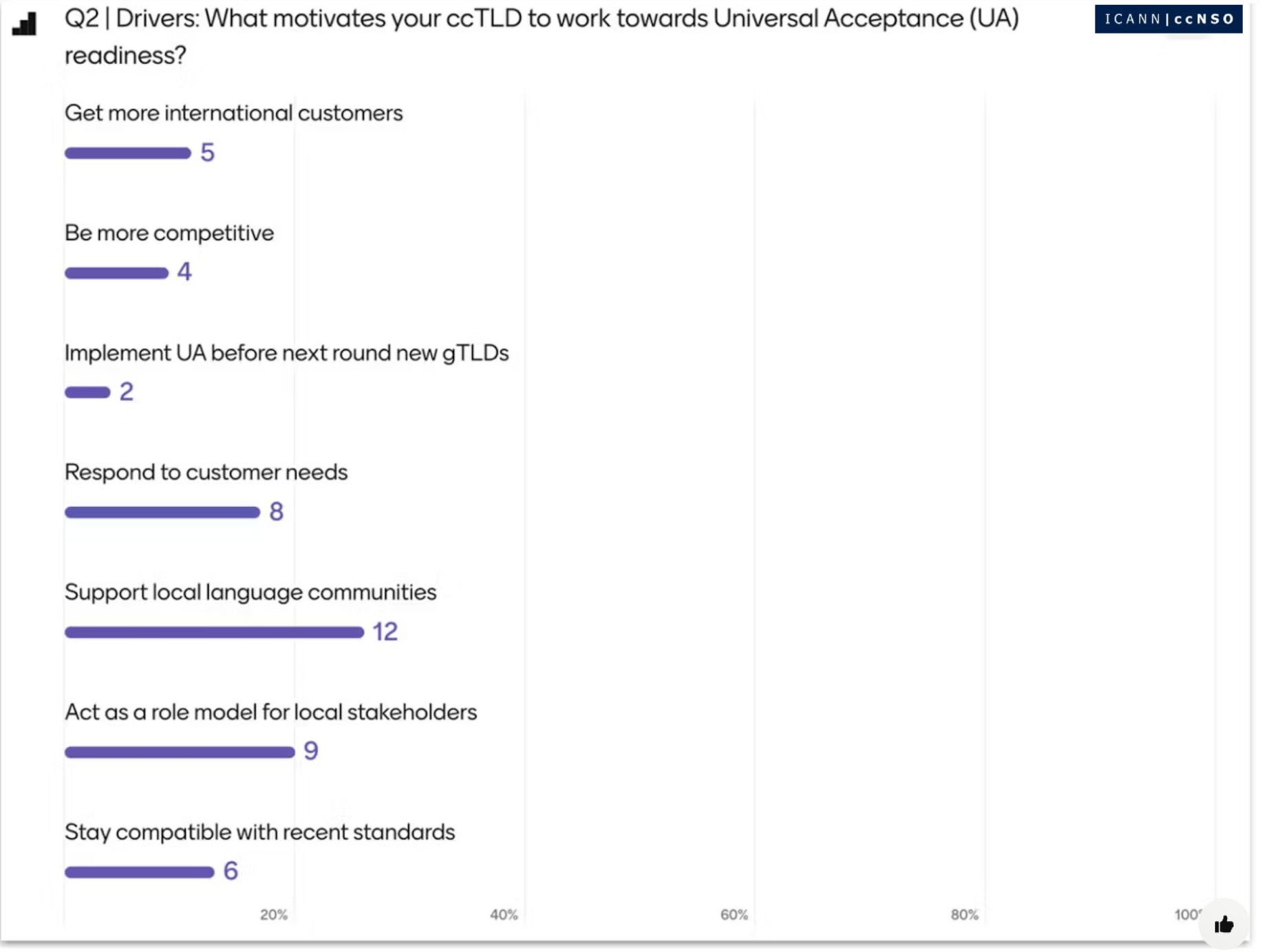

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Q3 | Beyond the drivers listed earlier, are there other important factors driving UA readiness for your ccTLD?

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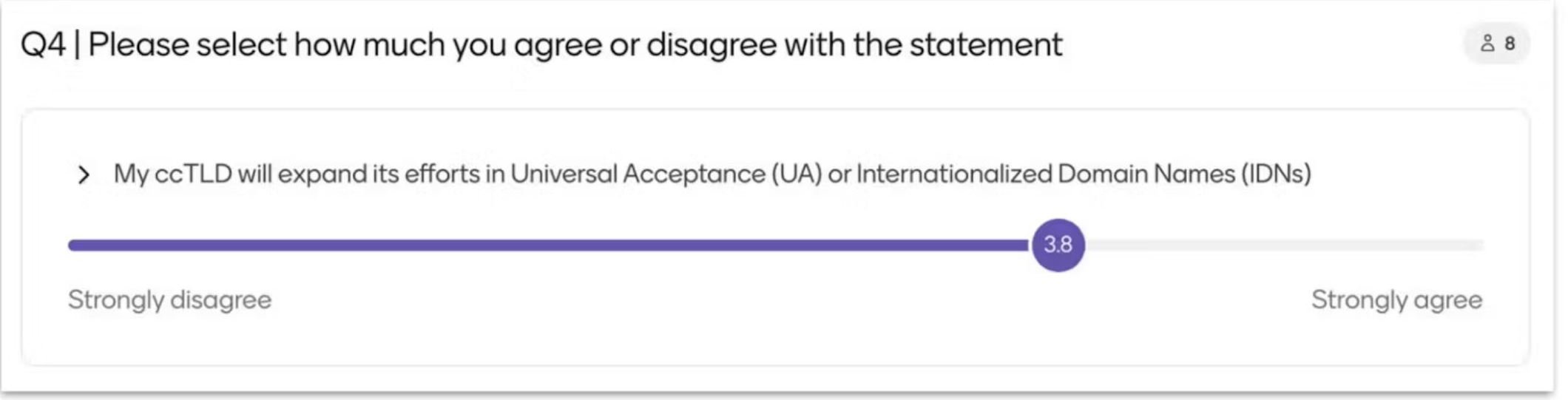
- Digital inclusion
- Capacity within our organisation to understand and do the work
- Need for digital literacy
- Digital inclusion
- Legal requirements
- We have more than 800 languages in a single country, how we accommodate oral languages in the IDN system?
- Support the digital transformation projects to do its role
- To bridging digital divide
- Needed for the nation that has 16 recognized languages
- Inclusive digital development
- Create inclusive Internet Get unconnected connected Develop local communities online
- National policy

Polling results ICANN82



Barriers to UA Readiness

2022 ICANN ccTLD UA Readiness Survey
Barriers for UA readiness (⇦ technical, operational)

- Other priorities (58%)
- No need to support UA readiness (30%)
- Lack of UA technical expertise (26 %) ⇦
- Critical 3rd party: supporting services not UA ready (15%) ⇦
- Critical 3rd party: vendor not UA ready, but services are (11%) ⇦
- Other (15%)
  - Lack of demand
  - Political situation in the region
  - No trust in open sources
  - Maintenance of EAI servers more manpower ⇦

2024 UASG Report
Barriers for UA readiness (⇦ technical, operational)

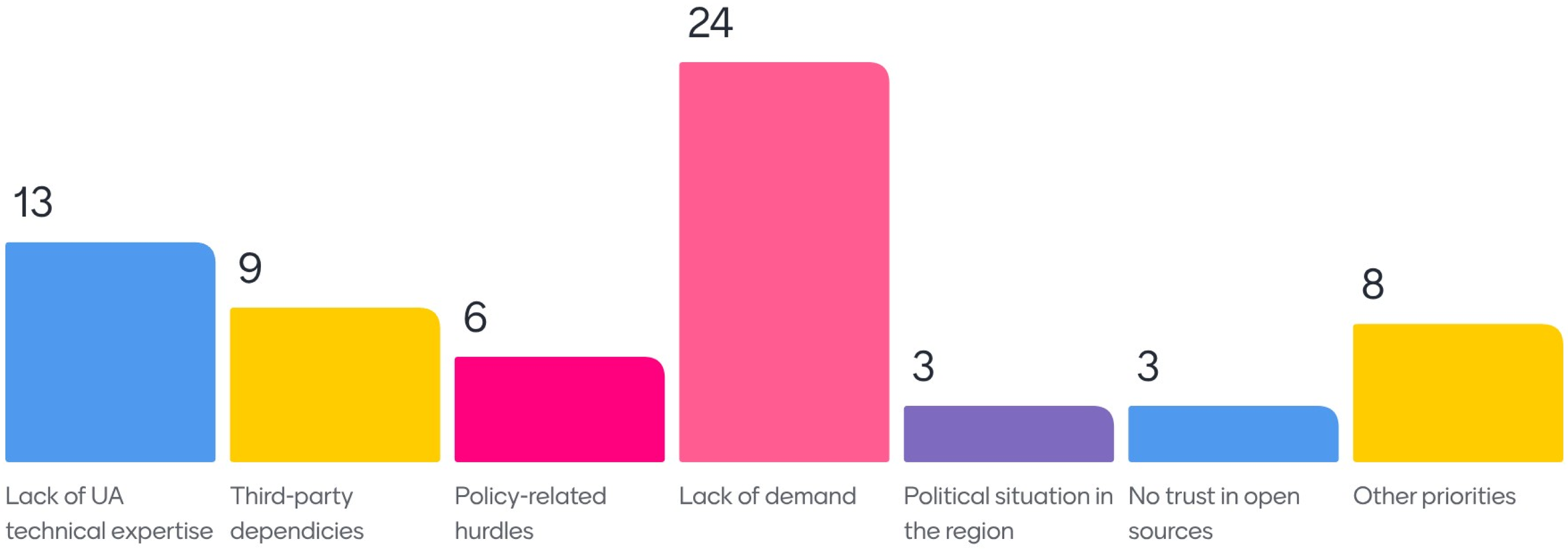
- Technical limitations ⇦
- Software issues ⇦
- Lack of awareness and education
- Resistance by companies
- Third party dependencies
- Policy-related hurdles

Barriers to UA awareness
Combined list (2022 to 2024)

- Lack of UA technical expertise
- 3rd party dependencies
- Policy-related hurdles
- Lack of demand
- Political situation in the region
- No trust in open sources
- Other priorities

Please select all that apply

What are the biggest barriers your ccTLD faces regarding Universal Acceptance (UA)?



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What other challenges does your ccTLD face to become UA ready?

technical solutions in the market awareness lack of demand

No interest from registrars

Lack of ICANN technical support

Awareness

Technical solutions and capacity

EAI continues to be a challenge

Not at the priorities at the moment

almost no demand from local community

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What other challenges does your ccTLD face to become UA ready?

Software vendors do not support IDNs

Awareness Connectivity Economic hurdles

No intend to change

non available softwares that support UA

lack support by internet application

We are too small and there is very little demand

Email Client Support

No interest from the ccTLD

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What other challenges does your ccTLD face to become UA ready?

No procurement policy

Get the funding to develop organisation and technology

awareness and policy . at policy level we havent opened up to things like gTLD

It's not so much about the ccTLD but users who are heavily acustomed to English alphabet, especially from the period before diacritics were introduced

Lack of support for PSL for UA support

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If you could change one thing to accelerate your ccTLD's UA readiness, what would that be?

Demand

Government decision

Emoji Domain Support

adoption by big players like gmail, outlook will help in adoption

We don't need to change anything since we muddled through. ICANN needs to improve to support UA

Remove/Reduce the Politics that the government likes to impose - which distracts the ccTLD

Wirking emails accross big vendor solutions

More awareness and adoptions by all the key players

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If you could change one thing to accelerate your ccTLD's UA readiness, what would that be?

Government should require all suppliers for gov needs to be UA ready

strong voice from the community

promoting digital literacy among citizens

Capacity Building on UA and connect with Partially/ not connected users

More content in local languages

Collaboration and goverement decision

More awareness efforts

Stop waiting for the demand and start working for cctld's UA readiness

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If you could change one thing to accelerate your ccTLD's UA readiness, what would that be?

EAI readiness and a more committed response and action from the global social media actors

Persuade government to instruct all ministries + kindly ask academia (both having independent .gov and .ac domain spaces) to stimulate use of Cyrillic and diacritic Latin scripts in domain names

Get management and government to understand the importance

Lack of need

Gov department leading useing IDN and EAI

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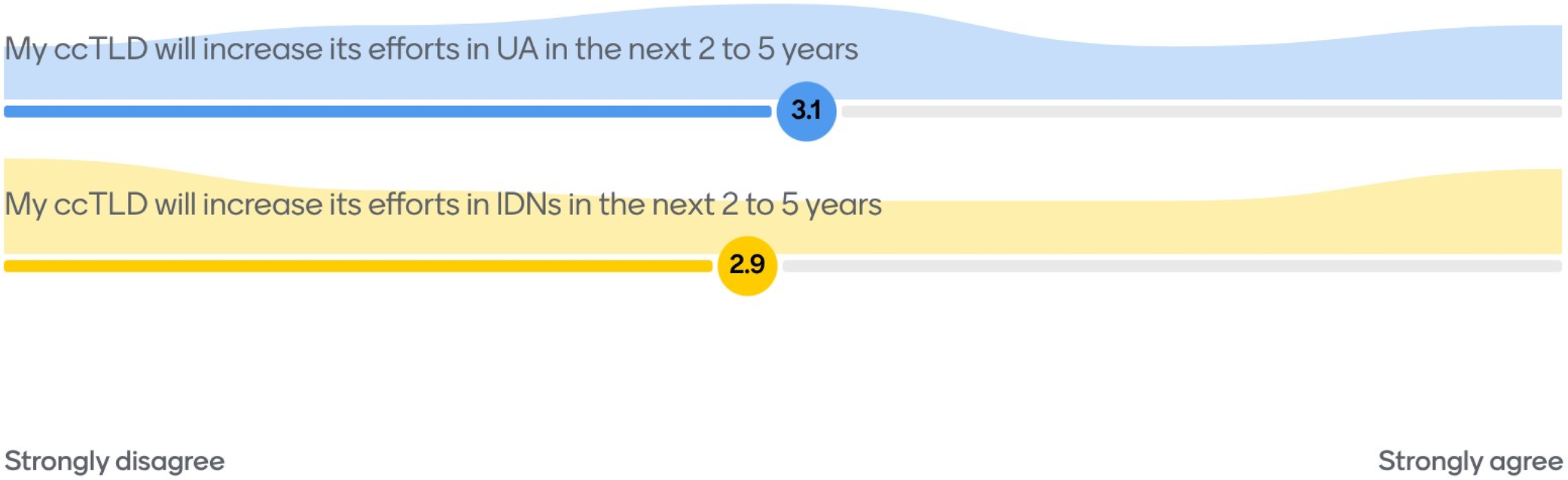
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statements?



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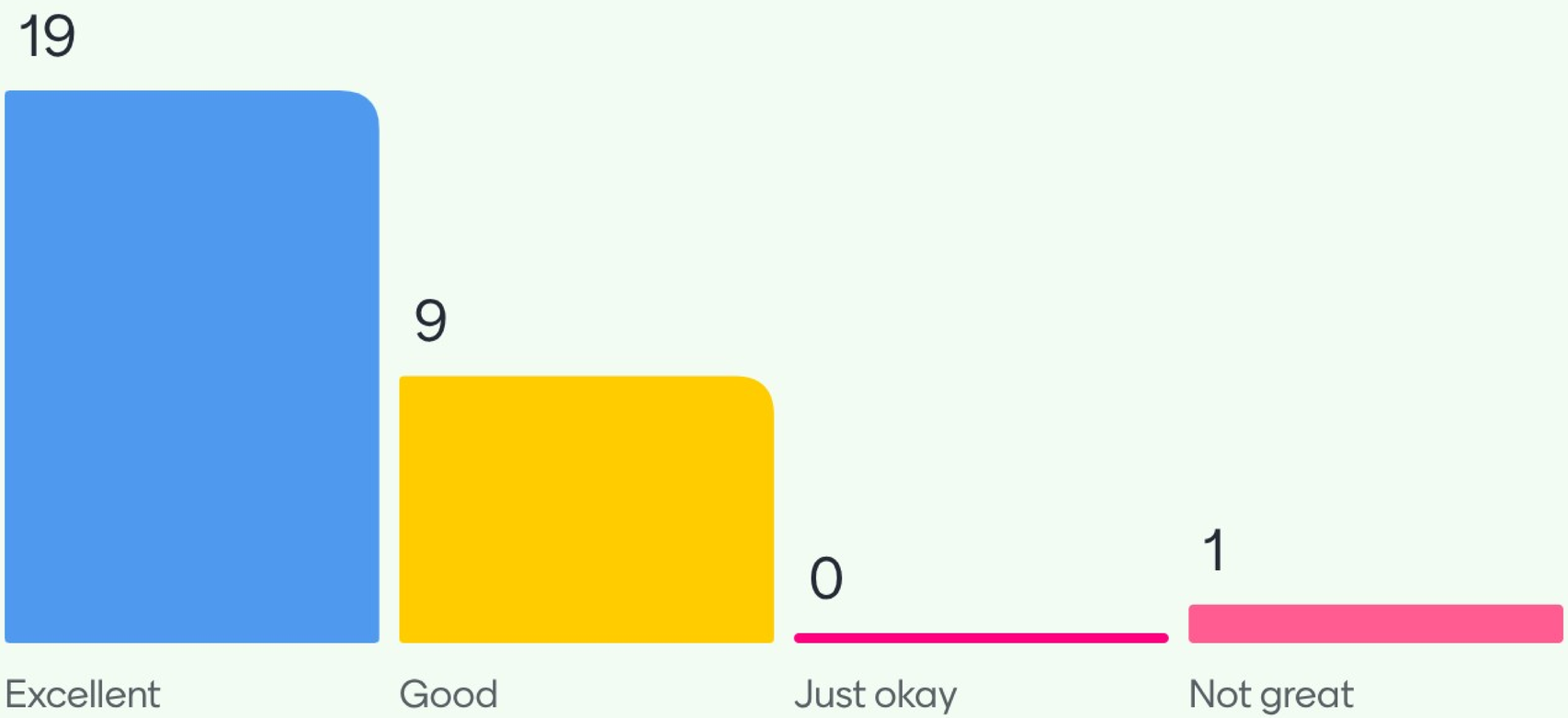
How would you rate this session?



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