

GLOBESCAN

# Think Tank Initiative Policy Community Survey Latin America



April, 2011

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## Project: 2411, GlobeScan®

*For more information, contact:*

Simon Jimenez  
Vice President,  
GlobeScan Incorporated

65 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 900,  
Toronto, Canada, M4T 2Y3  
tel: + 416.969.3083

[Simon.Jimenez@GlobeScan.com](mailto:Simon.Jimenez@GlobeScan.com)  
[www.GlobeScan.com](http://www.GlobeScan.com)

Gwen Cottle  
Research Manager,  
GlobeScan Incorporated

65 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 900,  
Toronto, Canada, M4T 2Y3  
tel: + 416.969.3097

[Gwen.Cottle@GlobeScan.com](mailto:Gwen.Cottle@GlobeScan.com)  
[www.GlobeScan.com](http://www.GlobeScan.com)



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# Introduction and Objectives

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- As part of IDRC's Think Tank Initiative, GlobeScan has been engaged to conduct a survey of policy stakeholders in three specific regions. In 2009/2010 GlobeScan conducted the Think Tank Initiative Policy Community Survey in Africa. In 2010/2011 the survey was repeated in South Asia and Latin America.
- Through the Policy Community Survey, the Think Tank Initiative aims to:
  - Develop an understanding of the policy community in specific countries.
  - Understand the strengths and weaknesses of particular think tanks, , as perceived by a subset of the policy community
  - Understand what activities are associated with the success of think tanks in order to help prioritize support strategies—e.g., funding, training, and technical assistance.
  - Create a benchmark against which future surveys can be compared to indicate broad changes in the policy community and perceptions of think tanks in selected countries.
- This report presents the results of the Latin America survey.

# Methodology

- The survey was conducted using a mix of online, telephone, and face-to-face interviews; Six respondents took the survey online, and the rest (284) took the survey either by telephone or face-to-face interviews in 7 Latin American countries.
- Latin American countries included : Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, and Peru.
- Other details:
  - The survey was offered in English and Spanish.
  - The survey ran from December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
  - Respondents were contacted by phone and given the option to complete the interview over the phone or online. Where necessary, face-to-face interviews were conducted.

		Latin America						
Total		Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Total	290	46	40	40	42	40	40	42
Online	6	0	1	1	0	4	0	0
Offline	284	46	39	39	42	36	40	42
Telephone	56	2	15	0	0	4	27	8
Face-to-face	228	44	24	39	42	32	13	34

# Respondent Description

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- Respondents are from the following sectors:
  - **Government:**\* Senior officials (both elected and non-elected) who are directly involved in or influence policy making.
  - **Non-governmental organization:** Senior staff (local or international) whose mission is related to economic development, environmental issues, and/or poverty alleviation.
  - **Media:** Editors or journalists who report on public policy, finance, economics, international affairs, and/or development, who are knowledgeable about national policy issues.
  - **Multilateral/bilateral organization:** Senior staff from organizations run by foreign governments either individually (bilateral e.g., DFID, USAID, etc.), or as a group (multilateral e.g., UN agencies, World Bank, etc.).
  - **Private sector:** Senior staff working at large well-known national and multinational companies.
  - **Research/Academia:** Senior staff at universities, colleges, research institutes, and/or think tanks.
  - **Trade Unions:** Senior representatives of national trade unions.
- Stakeholders surveyed are active members of the national policy community, meaning that they develop or influence national government policy.

# Sample Summary

## Number of stakeholders, by stakeholder group, by country, 2011

		Latin America						
	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Total	290	46	40	40	42	40	40	42
Government—elected	39	7	5	4	7	7	5	4
Government—non-elected	37	6	5	6	5	4	5	6
Media	34	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Multilateral/bilateral	34	6	5	5	5	3	5	5
NGO	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Private sector	36	6	5	5	5	7	5	5
Research/academia	38	6	5	5	5	7	5	5
Trade union	37	6	5	5	5	4	5	7



## Sample Summary, cont'd

### Number of stakeholders, by source list, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Latin America						
		Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
<b>Total</b>	290	46	40	40	42	40	40	42
GlobeScan	116	23	11	19	19	23	7	14
IDRC	9	0	2	1	2	1	1	2
TTI grantee organizations	165	23	27	20	21	16	32	26



# Approach

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- The approach of this study was designed to gather views of *senior* level policy actors within national policy communities on their needs for research, perceptions of research quality, and think tank performance. The study was not intended to gather perceptions of a larger, representative subset of the policy community which could generate statistically significant findings on demand for research. This approach was chosen consciously, recognizing the limitation it brings to the survey, but acknowledging the value of perceptions of individuals in senior positions within each national policy community who often are very difficult to reach.
- These views then provide the basis for reflection within the organizations supported by the TTI on how the organization's current performance is perceived by key stakeholders, and on ways in which the organization may enhance its organizational capacity to undertake policy-relevant research.
- As was done for the Africa survey in 2010, we set a target of 40 respondents with a balanced quota of responses across different stakeholder categories. The exception was India where the total number of interviews was increased to 80 to reflect the difference in the size of the policy community, while maintaining consistency with the sample sizes in other countries.
- In a number of countries it proved difficult to achieve the target of 40 stakeholders even though a long list of contact names had been generated. Balanced quotas in each country were achieved with varying degrees of difficulty encountered in the data collection process. For example, in Honduras (and in certain countries in Africa and South Asia), it was challenging to reach the target quotas of certain stakeholder groups.

# Findings and emerging questions

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## PERCEPTIONS OF THE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS

- Overall, Latin American stakeholders offer a largely neutral assessment of policy-making processes in their respective countries, giving mainly average and negative ratings.
- Perhaps not surprisingly, government stakeholders (i.e., those closest to policy-making) offer the most positive assessments of the quality of policy-making processes, although even these stakeholders are more likely to give neutral and negative rather than positive ratings. Academic stakeholders are among the most critical across the seven Latin American countries surveyed.
- Only in Ecuador is opinion divided on the quality of policy-making processes: About the same proportion of stakeholders here offer a positive and negative rating, whereas in all other countries, views are more negative than positive.

## EMERGING QUESTIONS

- What specific elements of the current policy-making process are driving stakeholders to offer neutral and negative ratings?
- What can be done to improve perceptions of those stakeholders outside of government about the quality of policy-making processes? What implications are there for think tanks?
  - Do these stakeholders want a greater role in the process than they currently have?
  - Do they want to see greater transparency than currently exists?
  - Do they want more consultation in the process?
- What can government stakeholders do to help improve other stakeholder perceptions of policy-making processes? Is there a role for think tanks in this process?
- What role, if any, can think tanks play in helping improve stakeholder perceptions of the quality of policy-making processes in Latin America?

# Findings and emerging questions

## KEY INFORMATION NEEDS

- Stakeholders in Latin America have wide-ranging information needs: when asked what type of information is required for their work in national policy, eight of the ten information topics prompted in the survey are required by a majority of stakeholders.
- Overall, it is information on poverty alleviation and economic /fiscal issues that top the list in terms of types of information stakeholders say they require to support their work in national policy.
- While information on poverty alleviation and economic issues are among the top information needs across most of the eight stakeholder groups, there are a few notable differences:
  - Media stakeholders report above average needs for nearly all information topics, likely reflecting the broad scope of their reporting needs.
  - In comparison, private sector stakeholders appear to have more specific needs, with only four of the ten topics being required by a majority of these stakeholders (and primarily on trade/industry and economic/fiscal issues).
  - Elected government stakeholders stand out, because of their wide ranging information needs, as they seem to require information on many topics for their work in national policy with little differentiation, instead of focusing on one or two primary issues.
- Across the seven countries, information needs are generally similar: Information on poverty alleviation and economic issues top the list in all countries. Peruvian stakeholders stand out as they have above average requirements for nearly all topic areas, suggesting that stakeholders in Peru tend to require multiple types of information for their work.
- EMERGING QUESTIONS:
  - Why are some information topics in less need than others – e.g., human rights or gender issues versus education?
  - Is there a cyclical nature to information needs – e.g., as economies continue to stabilize, will other areas become more important?
  - If so, how can think tanks best stay attuned to these dynamic information needs? And are think tanks in the region currently delivering in the information topic areas that are most needed?

# Findings and emerging questions, cont'd

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## INFORMATION ACCESS & USEFULNESS

- ACCESS: In Latin America, stakeholders find it somewhat challenging to access information on a range of topics that help support their work in policy development, giving neutral or negative ratings on most information topics prompted in the survey. Trade union and private sector stakeholders report the most difficulty in accessing all information topics, especially in comparison to research/academic stakeholders.
- USEFULNESS: Overall, respondents find the information they are getting is useful to support their policy development work: a majority for nearly all of the information topics tested say the information is useful, and information on economic issues tops the list.
- A notable exception is information on the environment, energy, and natural resources: This is the third most required information topic (overall), yet is rated among the least accessible and least useful. This is an important topic to further explore.
- Elected government stakeholders are much less likely than non-elected counterparts to rate the information they receive as useful in supporting their policy development work.

## EMERGING QUESTIONS

- Do elected and non-elected government stakeholders have access to the same information? Is information being sufficiently shared between these two stakeholder groups?
- What are the barriers to stakeholders' access to information on the environment, energy and natural resources? What would make this information more useful for stakeholders?
- How might think tanks facilitate better overall access to information in the Latin American region?
- What role can think tanks play in improving the perceived usefulness of this information?
- What can think tanks do to specifically address the challenges the private sector and trade unions face in accessing information?

# Findings and emerging questions, cont'd

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## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Overall, international agencies and think tanks are perceived as the primary sources of research-based evidence for Latin American stakeholders.
- There are differences by stakeholder group: multilateral and non-elected government stakeholders are most likely to turn to international agencies while think tanks top the list for those working in media and the private sector.
- Notably, elected government stakeholders are more likely to turn to internal sources like relevant government ministries and government-owned research institutes than external sources, whereas non-elected government stakeholders rely heavily on international agencies.
- Think tanks are reported to be among the primary sources of information in all countries except Ecuador and notably Bolivia, where stakeholders are the least likely to turn to a think tank for research-based evidence.

## EMERGING QUESTIONS:

- Why do elected and non-elected government stakeholders turn to different primary sources?
- What prevents elected-government stakeholders from accessing more information from outside sources (e.g., lack of awareness)?
  - Would doing so have any impact on stakeholder perceptions of the quality of policy making processes in the region?
  - Would doing so improve their perceptions of the usefulness of information they are currently receiving (recall that it is lower than average in many areas)?
- What in the Latin American policy context leads trade union stakeholders to government-owned research institutes as a primary source of research-based evidence?
- What is driving relatively lower use of think tanks for research-based evidence in Bolivia?

# Findings and emerging questions, cont'd

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## PERCEIVED QUALITY OF INFORMATION

- When asked to rate the quality of information from organizations whose research they use, stakeholders give the top ratings to international agencies, think tanks and international university-based research institutes.
- All other sources, including government sources, national universities, NGOs, and industry associations, receive much lower quality ratings from stakeholders; however, it is important to note that ratings are more likely to be neutral than negative.
- International university-based research institutes appear to be an under-leveraged information source in the region: while highly regarded by stakeholders in terms of quality, they are among the least frequently used sources.
- Non-elected government stakeholders have a more favourable view than most other stakeholder groups about the quality of research from government-owned research institutes.

## EMERGING QUESTIONS:

- What role, if any, can think tanks play in helping improve the overall quality of research from lower rated sources such as national university-based research institutes and industry associations?
- What do think tanks, international agencies and international university-based research institutes have in common that results in their higher ratings on research quality?
- To what extent do think tanks, international agencies, and international university-based research institutes currently collaborate with each other across the Latin American region?
- What impact might greater collaboration among these three types of organizations have on the quality of policy-making contexts in the region?
- Could collaboration among these organizations help increase stakeholders' use of international university-based research institutes (which are highly regarded but currently underused)?

# Findings and emerging questions, cont'd

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## FORMS OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- In Latin America, stakeholders prefer online publications and databases to all other prompted forms of information exchange.
- Policy briefs, online forums, and newsletters are considered to be much less useful to stakeholders' involvement in national policy.
- Despite their different professional contexts, there is a great deal of consistency in the perceived usefulness of information exchanges, with online publications and databases topping the list for all stakeholder groups.
- The perceived usefulness of online publications and databases is consistently high across all seven countries. Bolivia is the exception: stakeholders here are most likely to find print publications useful.
- Relatively few stakeholders (i.e., less than 15% overall) consider policy briefs to be a useful form of information exchange (note, however, that non-elected government stakeholders are more likely than others to find these useful in support of their policy work).
- EMERGING QUESTIONS:
  - To what extent are think tanks in the region making online publications available on their websites?
  - Is there any link between stakeholders' preferences for databases and their concern about the audience-friendly nature of think tanks' presentation of results (this concern is elaborated on the next slide)?
  - Why do stakeholders find policy briefs among the least useful forms of information exchange?
    - How are stakeholders currently using policy briefs to support policy-making?
    - What opportunities are there to get more feedback on the perceived usefulness of these briefs?
    - Why do non-elected government stakeholders find policy briefs more useful than others?



# Findings and emerging questions, cont'd




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## STRENGTHS & AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Across the seven countries surveyed, think tanks tend to receive their best ratings for their focus on high priority issues, their knowledge of policy-making processes, their regional knowledge, and the quality of both their research and their researchers.
- Lower performance ratings are given to think tanks' innovative approaches to research, their partnerships with other policy actors, and the value of their in-person events (note that ratings tend to be more neutral than negative).
- When asked (unprompted) what advice they would give think tanks to better assist their work, the most common recommendations are to improve the research dissemination process and to improve the quality and accuracy of their research.
- Quality is a relatively frequent theme in this study: interviewed stakeholders also believe that improved research quality is the most important way for think tanks to improve their overall performance.
- That so many stakeholders recommend improvements in the research dissemination process reinforces the value they place on think tank research (i.e., stakeholders want think tanks to improve their access to it). Quality is clearly important to address, but so too is the dissemination process.
- EMERGING QUESTIONS:
  - Since improving research quality is among the primary advice stakeholders give to think tanks, what specific aspects are most critical for think tanks to address – e.g., their research design, methodology, analysis, interpretation, etc.?
  - What opportunities are there for think tanks to further engage with policy makers in the region?
  - Are there joint venture or multi-party opportunities for think tanks to pursue – e.g., in research, community consultations, etc. – to help improve their collaboration with other policy actors?
  - How might stakeholders be engaged to help think tanks identify more varied ways of sharing findings with a broad policy audience with, as well as dissemination to more targeted members of that audience.

# Summary of Key Findings

	7-country Latin America average	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Overall quality of policy-making processes % of stakeholders selecting "Excellent" (4+5)	17%	20%	30%	18%	7%	23%	10%	12%
Overall access to information % of stakeholders selecting "Easy" (4+5)	36%	27%	29%	36%	37%	48%	32%	41%
Perceived usefulness of information % of stakeholders selecting "Excellent" (4+5)	54%	53%	38%	54%	71%	60%	46%	50%
Primary source of information	—	Gov't-owned research institutes	Gov't-owned research institutes	Think tanks	Think tanks & International agencies	International agencies	International agencies	Think tanks
Quality of think tank research % of stakeholders selecting "Excellent" (4+5)	68%	62%	64%	69%	60%	75%	61%	86%

	Below 7-country Latin America average
	7-country Latin America Average
	Above 7-country Latin America average

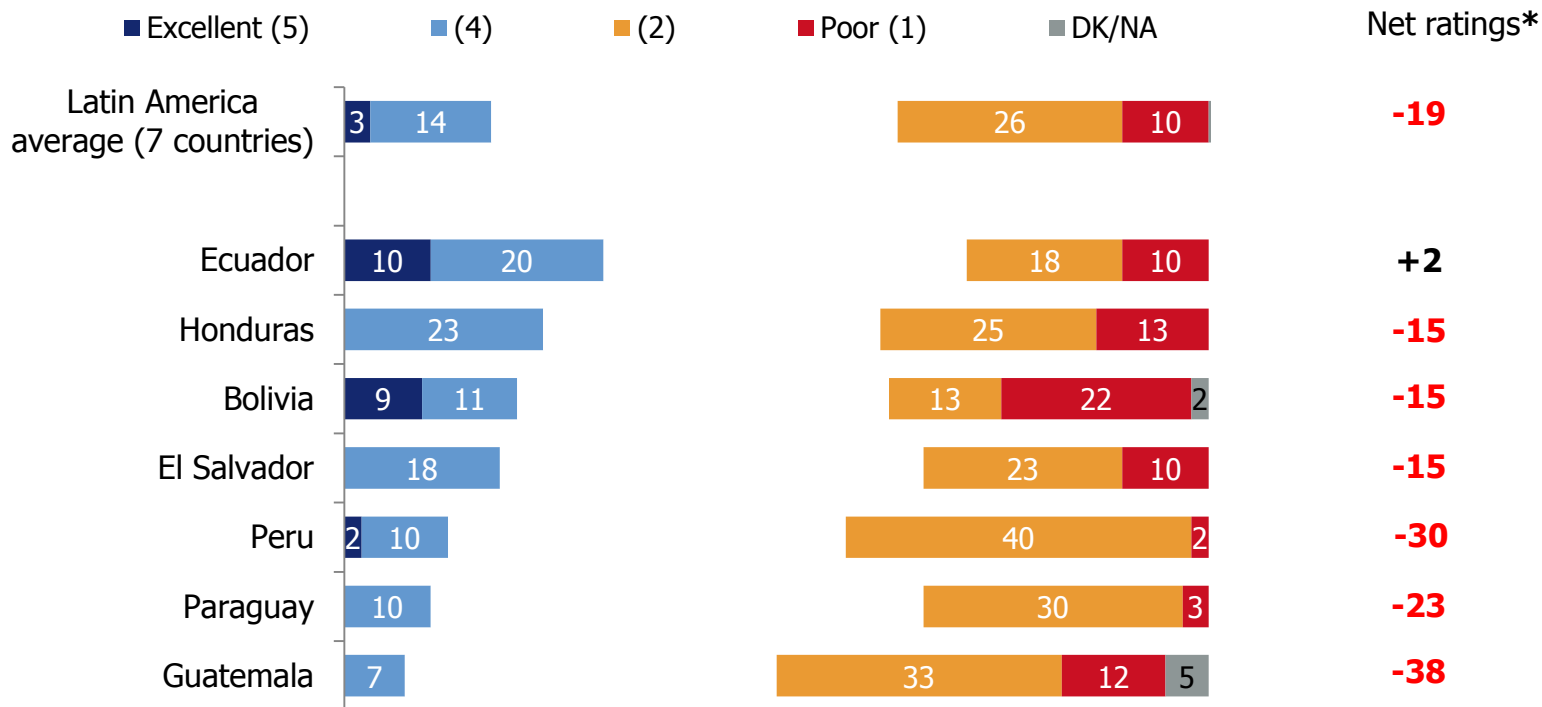


## **Information and policy making in Latin America**

# Stakeholders in Latin America generally hold more negative than positive views of policy-making processes.

## Quality of current policy-making processes in your country

% of total respondents, by country, Latin America, 2011



**Definition of quality given to respondents:** factors such as existence and use of mechanisms for national policy-making and implementation; competency reputation of technocrats; participation by individuals other than policymakers in policy processes; openness of policy makers to expert (or technical advice); use of evidence in policy debates and formulation; transparency of the policy-making process.

\*"Excellent" (4+5) minus "Poor" (1+2)  
Full sample  $n=290$ ;  
Country sample sizes range from  $n=40-46$

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

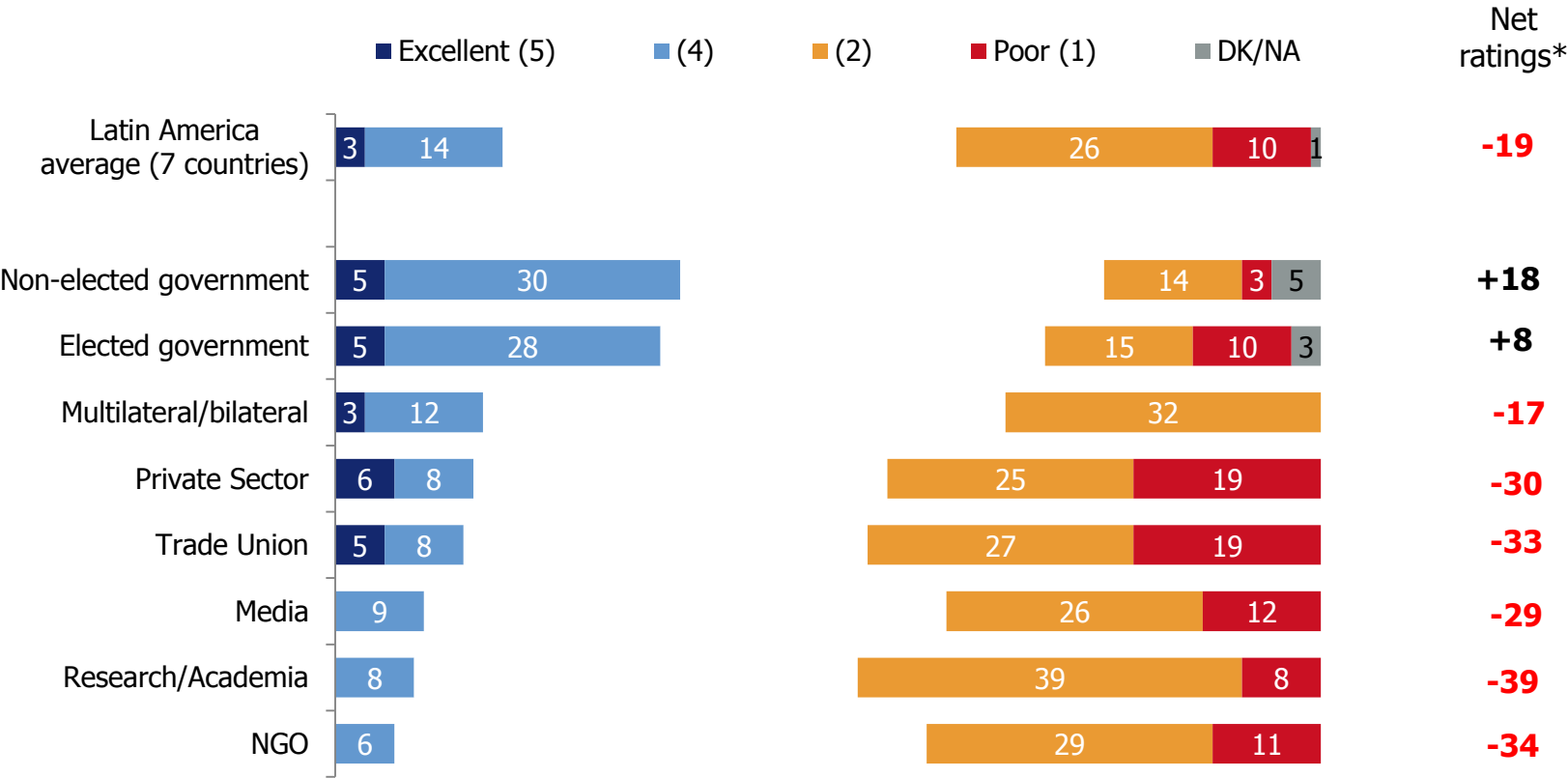
A1. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the current policy making process in your country?

19 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Poor" and 5 is "Excellent."

# Government stakeholders are much more positive than others about the quality of policy-making processes.

## Quality of current policy-making processes in your country

% of total respondents, by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011



\*“Excellent” (4+5) minus “Poor” (1+2)  
 Full sample *n*=290;  
 Stakeholder sample sizes range from *n*=34–39

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).  
 A1. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the current policy making process in your country?  
 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Poor” and 5 is “Excellent.”

# Quality of current policy-making processes

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## SLIDE 19

- Stakeholders surveyed in Latin America are more likely to give neutral and negative ratings when asked about the quality of current policy-making processes in their own countries.
- Perceptions of the policy-making process are slightly more favourable in Ecuador, but only marginally more positive.
- Stakeholder views are particularly critical in Peru and Guatemala, with more than four in ten respondents giving a 'poor' rating to the quality of policy-making processes.

## SLIDE 20

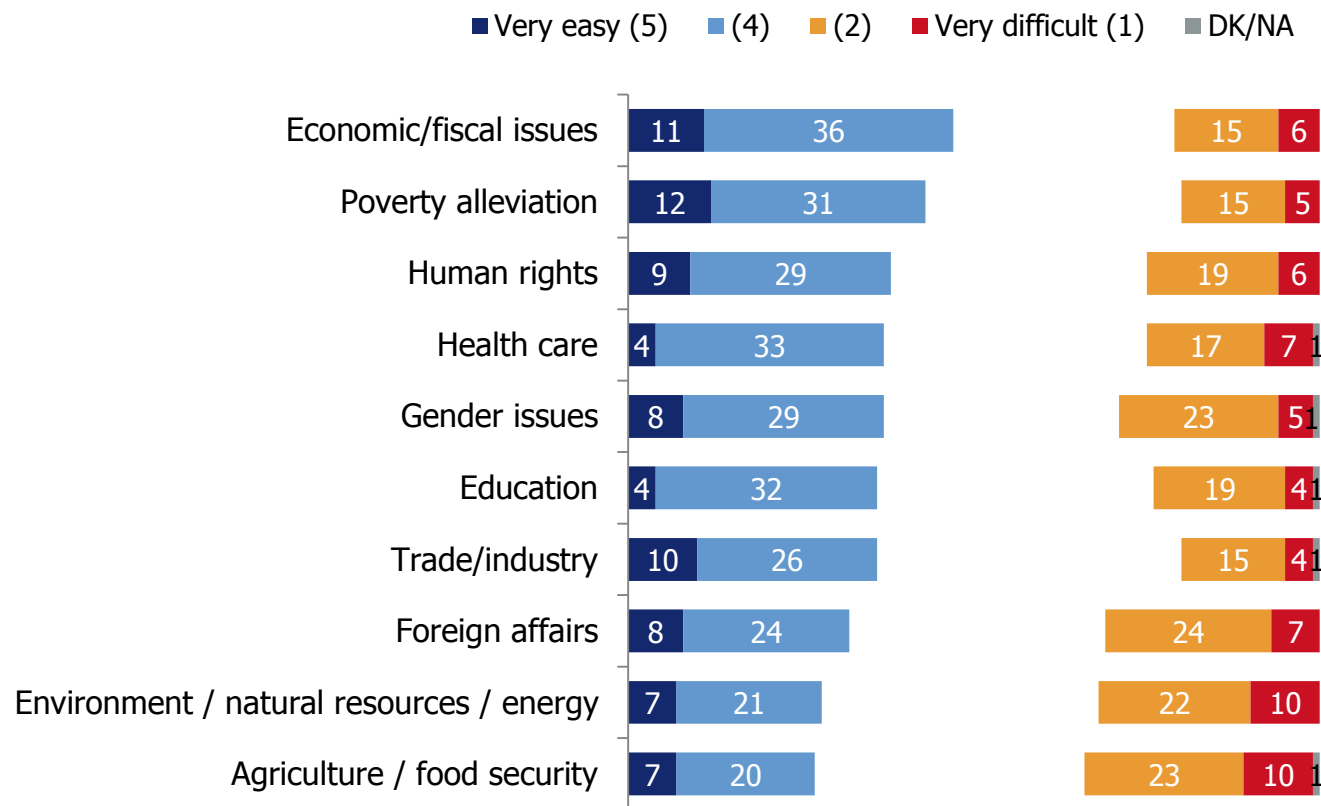
- Both non-elected and elected government stakeholders give the highest ratings to current policy-making processes in their respective countries.
- Those outside of government are much more critical of policy-making processes in their countries.
- Research, private sector and trade union stakeholders have particularly critical perceptions of policy-making processes.

**Definition of quality given to respondents:** factors such as existence and use of mechanisms for national policy making and implementation; competency reputation of technocrats; participation by individuals other than policymakers in policy processes; openness of policy makers to expert (or technical) advice; use of evidence in policy debates and formulation; transparency of the policy-making process.

# Economic information easier to obtain than information on foreign affairs, environment / natural resources, and agriculture.

## Ease of obtaining information to support policy development

% of respondents, by type of information, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work;  $n=120-226$

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

A3. How easy or difficult is it to obtain information to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

22 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Very difficult" and 5 is "Very easy."

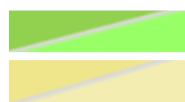


# Perceived ease of access to information varies by stakeholder type.

## Ease of obtaining information to support policy development

% of respondents selecting “Easy” (4+5), by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral /bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research /academia	Trade union
Economic/fiscal issues	47	50	60	37	47	47	43	53	37
Poverty alleviation	43	25	58	48	43	48	17	57	37
Human rights	38	40	23*	52	23*	29	25*	71*	35
Gender issues	37	42*	39	46*	32	45	14*	28*	36
Health care	37	47*	36	35	40	35*	25*	56*	28
Education	36	36	33*	37	40	40	0*	40	34
Trade/industry	36	57*	30	27	21*	35*	54	48*	17
Foreign affairs	32	47*	41*	30*	29*	28*	30*	38*	12*
Environment / natural resources / energy	28	32	32	37	17	24	36	12	28
Agriculture / food security	27	36	24	33	28*	27	14*	23*	25



Easiest

Most difficult

Note: two shades of green and yellow have been used when very little differences exist between the bottom or top two responses

Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work (Total  $n=120-226$ )

\*Small sample sizes for some issues within some stakeholder groups ( $n<20$ )

A3. How easy or difficult is it to obtain information to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

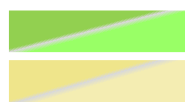
23 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Very difficult” and 5 is “Very easy.”

# Stakeholders in most countries express difficulty in obtaining information on environment and agriculture.

## Ease of obtaining information to support policy development

% of respondents selecting “Easy” (4+5), by country, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Economic/fiscal issues	47	39	31	40	41	57	48	70
Poverty alleviation	43	23	47	47	38	48	37	60
Human rights	38	50*	25	20	45	57*	30	40
Gender issues	37	21*	23*	45	44	38*	25	44
Health care	37	41*	16*	56	33	36*	36	40
Education	36	32	30	21	34	48	39	42
Trade/industry	36	15	34	34	44	60	26	39
Foreign affairs	32	14*	41*	42*	24	36*	31*	28
Environment / natural resources / energy	28	20	28	17	33	48	21	27
Agriculture / food security	27	14	17	39	29	53*	22	20



Easiest

Most difficult

Note: two shades of green and yellow have been used when very little differences exist between the bottom or top two responses

Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work (Total  $n=120-226$ )

\*Small sample sizes for some issues within some stakeholder groups ( $n<20$ )

A3. How easy or difficult is it to obtain information to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

24 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Very difficult” and 5 is “Very easy.”

# Ease of obtaining information to support policy development

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## SLIDE 22

- Stakeholders' reported ease of access to information is average at best, with those who require various types of information more likely to give average or negative ease-of-access ratings for types of information prompted in the survey.
- Results show that stakeholders find it easier to obtain information on economic/fiscal issues and poverty alleviation, and find it much more difficult to obtain information about foreign affairs, the environment, and agriculture / food security.

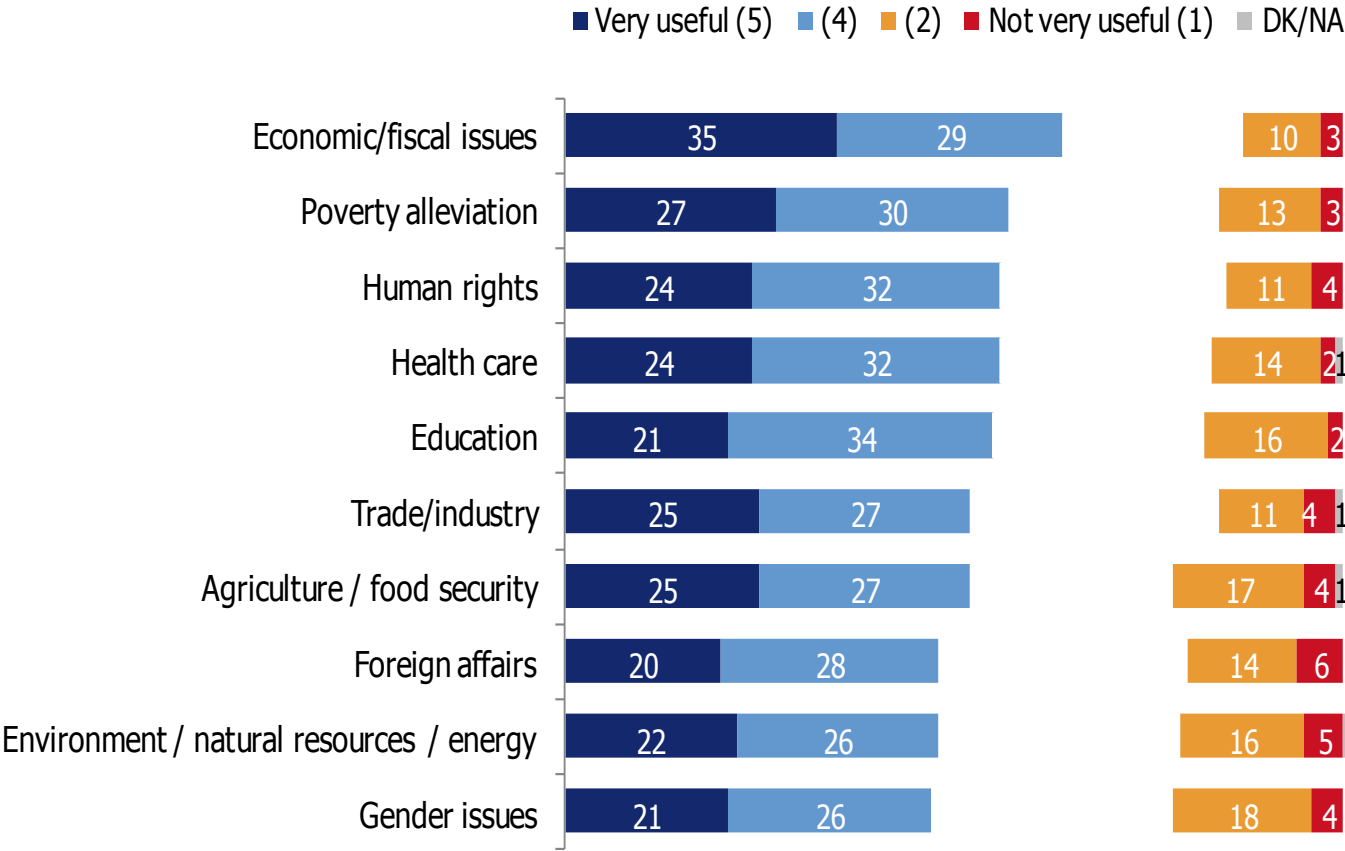
## SLIDE 23 & 24

- Overall, trade union and private sector stakeholders are generally more likely than others to express difficulty in accessing information in most areas.
- Elected government stakeholders express significantly more difficulty than nearly all other stakeholders, and notably, their non-elected counterparts, in accessing information on poverty alleviation.
- In fact, information on poverty alleviation is the most difficult type of information for elected government stakeholders to come by (in comparison, it is the second most accessible topic area for stakeholders overall).
- Stakeholders in Peru and Honduras are more likely than others to report ease of information access on a number of topic areas.
- Notably, stakeholders in Honduras are more likely than all others to report that information on trade/industry is relatively easy to obtain.

# Information on economic and fiscal issues seen as especially useful in supporting policy development.

## Usefulness of information to support policy development

% of respondents, by type of information, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work;  $n=120-226$

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

A3a. How useful is the information you obtain to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

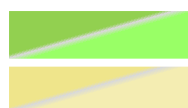
Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not very useful" and 5 is "Very useful."

# Perceived usefulness of information varies across stakeholder groups but economic information consistently among most useful.

## Usefulness of information to support policy development

% of respondents selecting “Useful” (4+5), by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral / bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade union
Economic/fiscal issues	64	54	80	60	70	68	64	79	38
Poverty alleviation	57	33	83	58	53	69	38	60	56
Health care	56	47*	63	54	55	65*	50*	56*	57
Human rights	56	55	61*	72	28	59	50*	50*	59
Education	55	44	67*	59	64	65	10*	56	53
Trade/industry	52	43*	60	50	53*	59*	60	42*	43
Agriculture / food security	52	44	60	62	56*	58	28*	38*	55
Environment / natural resources / energy	48	41	50	63	35	68	36	32	58
Foreign affairs	48	40*	64*	47*	58*	28*	60*	50*	42*
Gender issues	47	30*	48	67*	41	50	14*	50*	56



Most useful

Least useful

Note: two shades of green and yellow have been used when very little differences exist between the bottom or top two responses

Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work (Total  $n=120-226$ )

\*Small sample sizes for some issues within some stakeholder groups ( $n<20$ )

A3a. How useful is the information you obtain to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

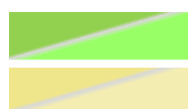
27 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Not very useful” and 5 is “Very useful.”

# Perceived usefulness of information varies by country.

## Usefulness of information to support policy development

% of respondents selecting “Useful” (4+5), by country, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Economic/fiscal issues	64	57	52	56	73	72	69	66
Poverty alleviation	57	45	44	63	75	64	44	68
Health care	56	70*	37*	60	71	50*	52	50
Human rights	56	67*	35	55	77	50*	56	45
Education	55	59	44	47	73	56	54	51
Trade/industry	52	47	43	46	75	55	39	50
Agriculture / food security	52	46	30	65	68	74*	37	45
Environment / natural resources / energy	48	46	43	42	67	57	38	45
Foreign affairs	48	43*	30*	52*	69	73*	32*	34
Gender issues	47	50*	23*	50	62	46*	40	44



Most useful

Least useful

Note: two shades of green and yellow have been used when very little differences exist between the bottom or top two responses

Subsample: Those who require information about each issue for their work (Total  $n=120-226$ )

\*Small sample sizes for some issues within some stakeholder groups ( $n<20$ )

A3a. How useful is the information you obtain to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

28 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Not very useful” and 5 is “Very useful.”

# Usefulness of information to support policy development

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## SLIDE 26

- Latin American stakeholders are generally positive about the usefulness of information they are getting. Among those who require each type of information for their work, a majority say that the information is useful in supporting their work in policy development for nearly all topic areas.
- Information on economic/fiscal issues tops the list in terms of perceived usefulness in supporting policy development.
- In comparison, stakeholders are much less likely to rate information they obtain on gender issues, the environment / natural resources / energy, and foreign affairs as useful in their policy development work.

## SLIDE 27 & 28

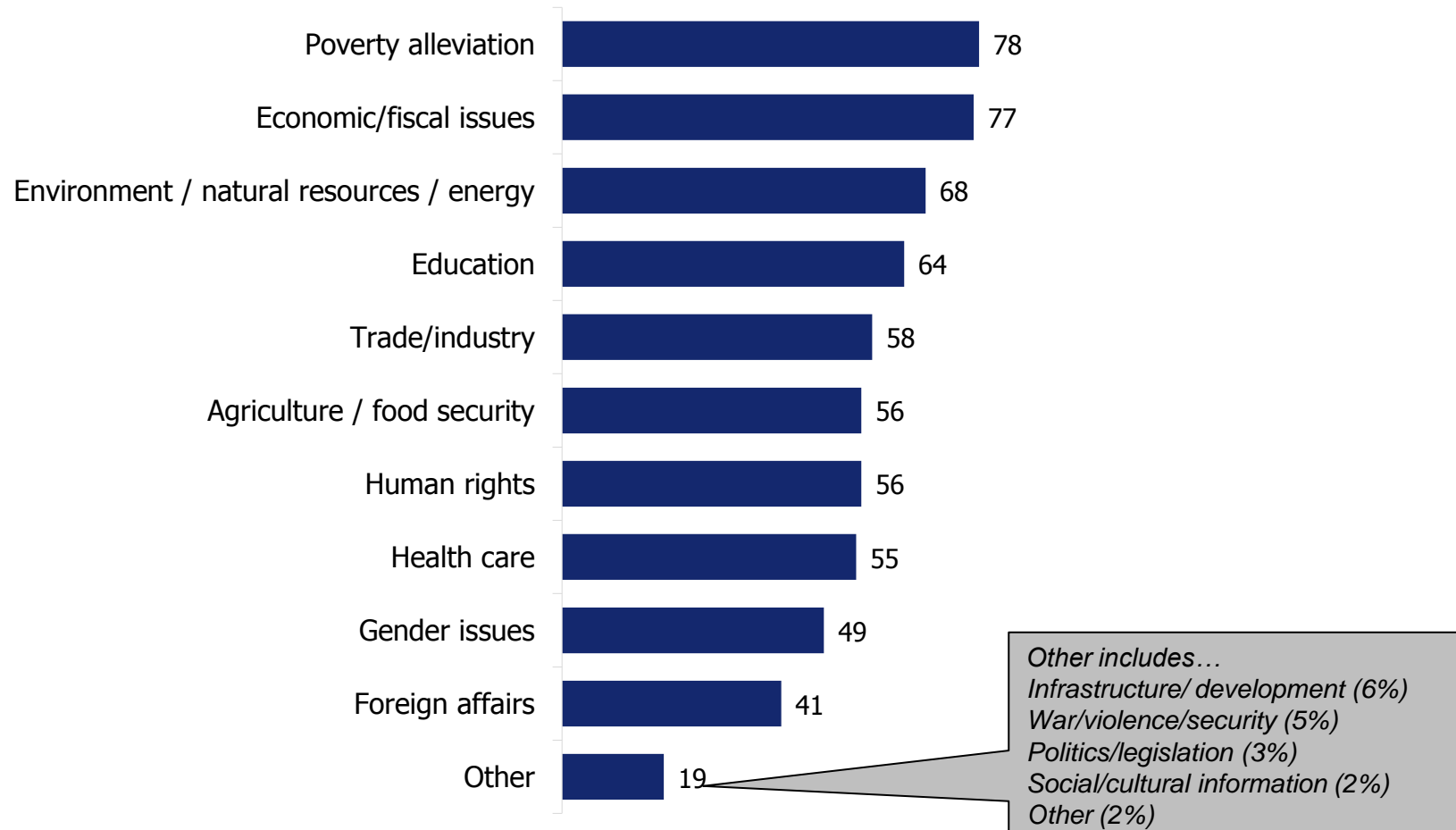
- While the information considered to be most useful varies by stakeholder type, information on foreign affairs and gender issues tends to be consistently considered least useful by all stakeholders except research/academia.
- Elected government stakeholder views are notable: in nearly all areas, they are less likely than others—and especially non-elected government stakeholders—to rate the information they receive as useful in supporting their policy development work.
- In contrast, non-elected government stakeholders have a much more positive view about all the information they receive.
- By country, perceived usefulness of information varies, although information on economic/fiscal issues and poverty alleviation stands out as among the most useful in most countries.
- Stakeholders in Honduras give above average ratings for a number of topic areas (recall that Honduran respondents also reported above average ease of access in a number of areas).
- The perceived usefulness of information on human rights is noteworthy in Guatemala, where it is perceived as most useful. By stakeholder group, information on human rights is considered most useful by elected government, and trade union stakeholders.



# Information on poverty and economic issues is most required by stakeholders

## Information required for your work in public policy

Combined mentions, Latin America, 2011



Total full sample  $n=290$

A2. What information do you require for your work in national policy? Information related to ... *Select all that apply.*

# Needs vary across groups, but information on poverty alleviation and economic issues are consistently among the most required.

## Information required for your work in public policy

Combined mentions, by stakeholder type, Latin America 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral/ bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade unions
Poverty alleviation	78	62	78	91	88	94	67	74	73
Economic/fiscal issues	77	56	81	94	68	80	83	76	78
Environment / natural resources / energy	68	56	59	79	68	71	69	66	78
Education	64	64	49	79	74	57	28	79	86
Trade/industry	58	36	62	65	56	49	83	50	62
Agriculture / food security	56	64	68	62	53	74	39	34	54
Human rights	56	51	49	74	53	69	22	45	84
Health care	55	44	59	76	59	49	33	47	76
Gender issues	49	44	57	44	65	57	19	37	68
Foreign affairs	41	38	46	50	41	40	28	42	46
Other	19	10	8	26	18	31	14	18	24



Total full sample  $n=290$

A2. What information do you require for your work in national policy? Information related to ... *Select all that apply.*

# Information requirements of stakeholders by country are similar.

## Information required for your work in public policy

Combined mentions, by country, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Poverty alleviation	78	67	80	80	76	63	90	90
Economic/fiscal issues	77	72	73	75	88	70	83	79
Environment / natural resources / energy	68	57	80	73	79	53	60	79
Education	64	48	58	70	71	63	65	79
Trade/industry	58	46	53	60	76	50	58	62
Agriculture / food security	56	48	58	58	67	48	68	48
Human rights	56	39	50	50	74	35	58	83
Health care	55	37	48	63	67	35	63	76
Gender issues	49	30	33	55	69	33	50	71
Foreign affairs	41	15	43	48	69	28	40	50
Other	19	2	18	23	29	23	13	26



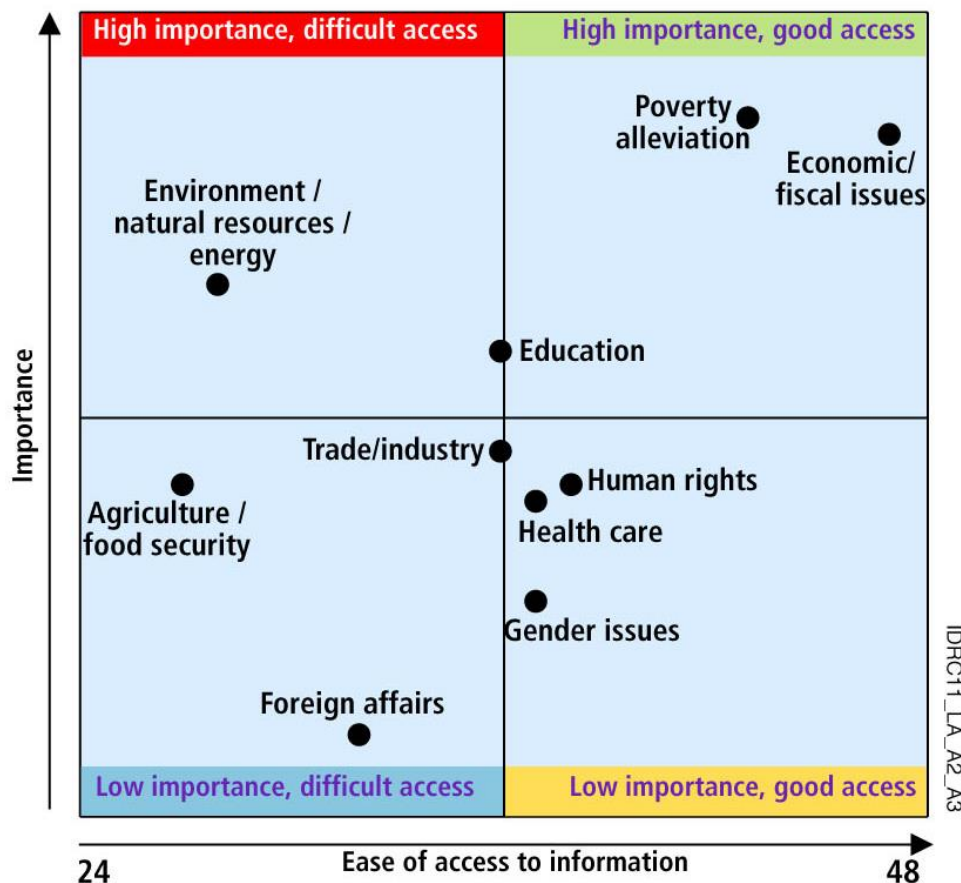
Total full sample  $n=290$

A2. What information do you require for your work in national policy? Information related to ... *Select all that apply.*

## Stakeholders' key information needs are generally accessible, except on the environment, natural resources, & energy.

### Importance vs ease of access to information

Combined mentions vs respondents selecting “Easy” (4+5), Latin America, 2011



A2. What information do you require for your work in national policy? Information related to ... Please select all that apply.

A3 Subsample: Those who require this information for their work ( $n=120-226$ )

A3. How easy or difficult is it to obtain information to support policy development in each of the following areas currently?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Very difficult” and 5 is “Very easy.”

# Obtaining information to support policy development

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## SLIDE 30

- Information on poverty alleviation and economic/fiscal issues is in high demand among stakeholders in Latin America to support their work.
- Stakeholders are less likely to say they require information about foreign affairs and gender issues to support their policy work.

## SLIDE 31 & 32

- While needs vary across stakeholder groups, information about poverty alleviation and economic/fiscal issues are consistently rated among the most required across all groups.
- For nearly every category, media stakeholders report above average needs, likely reflecting the broad scope of their reporting and information needs.
- In comparison, private sectors have more specific needs, and are most likely to say they require information on trade/industry and economic/fiscal issues.
- NGO stakeholders are much more likely than others to say they need information on agriculture and food security.
- Elected government stakeholders report a need for a wide range of kinds of information, with no single kind standing out as most needed. Instead, they indicate that a number of information types are most needed.
- Across the seven countries, information needs are similar: information about poverty and economic issues are near the top of the list for stakeholders in all countries.
- Stakeholders in Peru tend to have above average need for nearly topic area, whereas needs for information of Bolivian respondents tend to be lower than average.

# Obtaining information to support policy development

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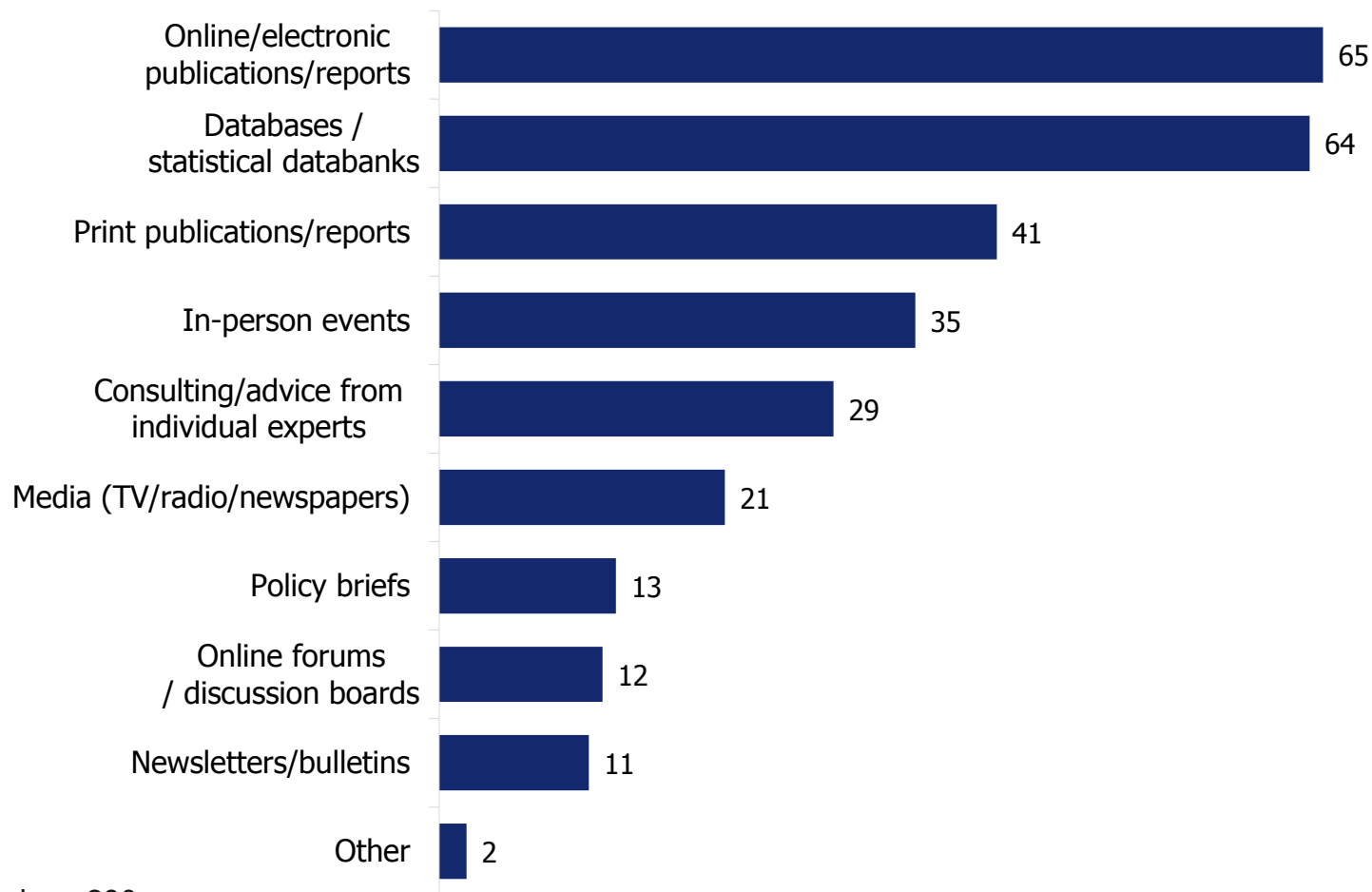
## SLIDE 33

- The chart on slide 33 is a graphical representation of how the need for the information required (vertical axis) relates to how easy it is to access this information (horizontal axis).
- The top right box, highlighted in green, contains topic areas that are both important and easily accessible. Poverty alleviation and economic issues fall into this quadrant.
- The top left box, highlighted in red, contains those areas that are important, but less accessible. Information on the environment falls into this category. In addition, the perceived usefulness of environmental information is among the lowest of the 11 areas tested in the survey. Results suggest this is a critical area to address, both from an access and quality perspective.
- The bottom right box, highlighted in yellow, contains those types of information that are less important, but easily accessible. Gender issues, human rights, and health care information fall into this category.
- The bottom left box, highlighted in blue, contains those types of information that are less important, and also less accessible (information on agriculture / food security and foreign affairs).
- With the exception of information on the environment, generally, in Latin America, the types of information considered most important to support national policy development are relatively accessible. However, it is important to note that most stakeholders say their current access to all information areas is either average or difficult.

## Databases and online publications are the sources of information most used by stakeholders.

### Forms of information exchange useful to support involvement in national policy

Combined mentions, Latin America, 2011



Total full sample  $n=290$




# Stakeholder groups find similar forms of information exchange useful.

## Forms of information exchange useful to support involvement in national policy

Combined mentions, by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral/ bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade unions
Online/electronic publications/reports	65	59	62	65	59	69	69	82	54
Databases / statistical databanks	64	59	73	50	74	71	58	71	54
Print publications/reports	41	44	57	41	38	40	31	42	38
In-person events	35	26	27	38	38	43	33	29	49
Consulting/advice from individual experts	29	31	35	35	26	29	25	24	27
Media (TV/radio/newspapers)	21	26	5	24	21	14	36	16	30
Policy briefs	13	10	24	15	15	9	11	8	11
Online forums / discussion boards	12	23	5	6	9	17	11	11	14
Newsletters/bulletins	11	15	3	12	9	6	19	13	14

 Top mention  
 Second mention


Total full sample  $n=244$ ; Stakeholder samples sizes range from  $n=34-39$

# Across all countries, online reports and databases are preferred to other information exchange platforms.

## Forms of information exchange useful to support involvement in national policy

Combined mentions, by country, Latin America, 2010

	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
Online/electronic publications/reports	65	61	83	58	83	48	53	69
Databases / statistical databanks	64	67	63	65	71	65	55	60
Print publications/reports	41	63	20	33	38	43	35	55
In-person events	35	24	28	43	43	33	48	31
Consulting/advice from individual experts	29	17	43	45	19	33	25	24
Media (TV/radio/newspapers)	21	11	23	25	14	33	20	26
Policy briefs	13	7	13	18	7	23	13	12
Online forums / discussion boards	12	11	20	5	19	15	10	5
Newsletters/bulletins	11	24	10	10	2	8	8	17

 Top mention  
 Second mention

Total full sample  $n=290$ ; Country sample sizes range from  $n=40-46$

# Useful forms of information exchange

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## SLIDE 36

- Databases and online publications are considered the most useful forms of information exchange to support stakeholders' involvement in national policy.
- Policy briefs, newsletters, and online forums, are considered much less useful.

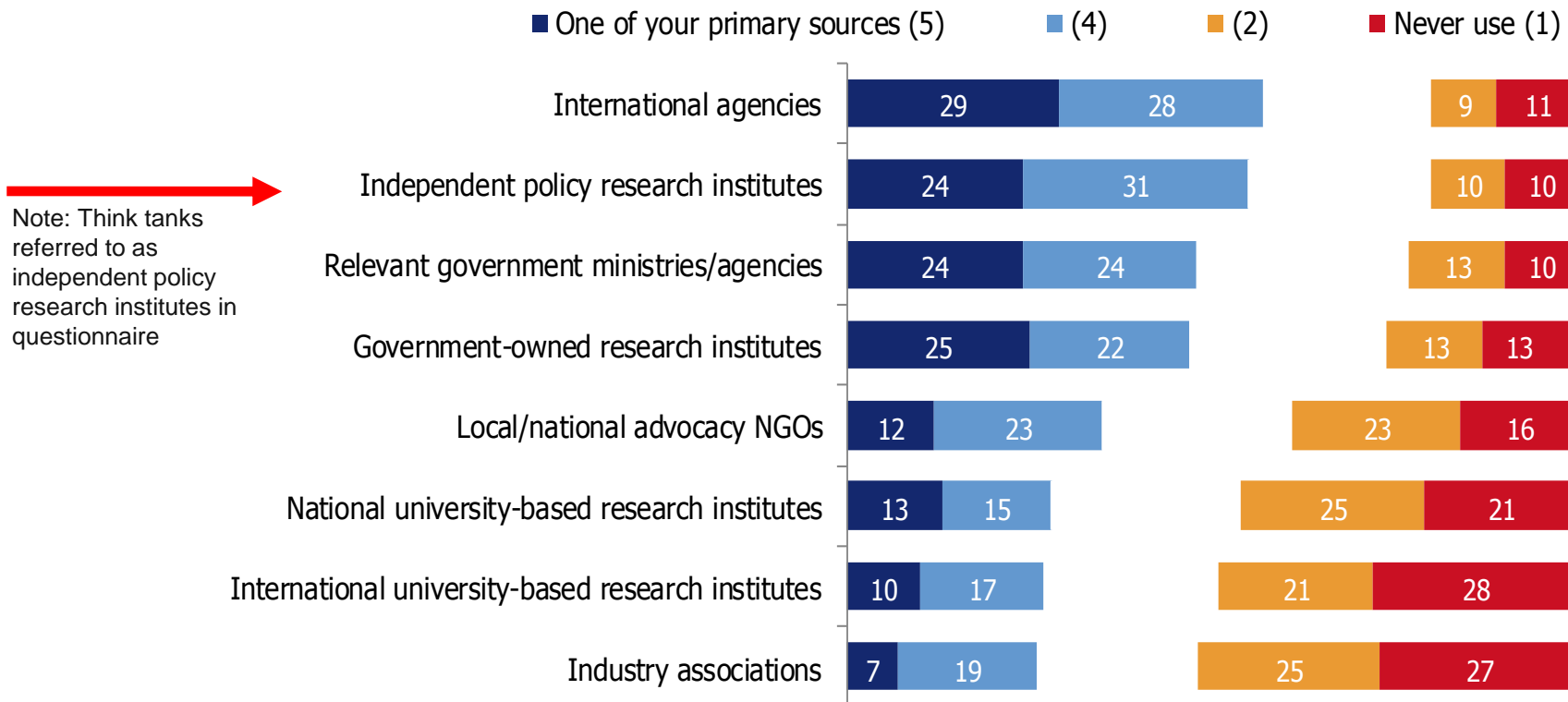
## SLIDE 37 & 38

- Despite their different professional contexts, there is a great deal of consistency in perceived usefulness of information exchanges: Databases and online reports top the list for all stakeholder groups.
- Non-elected government stakeholders are the most likely to find policy briefs useful (although only one-quarter of respondents say so).
- Across the seven countries surveyed in Latin America, online reports and databases are the information exchanges of choice.
- Bolivian stakeholders are somewhat unique in their higher than average preference for print publications (especially in comparison to Ecuadorian respondents who rate print publications among the least useful information exchange).
- In all countries, newsletters, online forums, and policy briefs are considered much less useful than other information exchanges.

# International agencies and think tanks are among the top sources that stakeholders turn to for research-based evidence.

## Types of organizations used as a source of research-based evidence

% of total respondents, Latin America, 2011



Total full sample  $n=290$

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

B1. When you require information related to social and economic policies, what types of organizations do you typically turn to for research-based evidence?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Never Use" and 5 is "One of your primary sources."

# Media and NGO stakeholders are the most likely to turn to think tanks for research-based evidence on social & economic policies.

## Types of organizations used as a source of research-based evidence

% of total respondents selecting “Primary Source” (4+5), by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral / bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade unions
International agencies	57	36	70	56	73	74	50	69	35
Independent policy research institutes	55	33	54	73	53	71	64	61	35
Relevant government ministries/agencies	48	41	51	61	59	65	36	42	32
Government-owned research institutes	47	46	52	41	64	63	36	39	41
Local/national advocacy NGOs	35	28	27	53	30	60	30	21	36
National university-based research institutes	28	29	25	33	18	37	22	26	35
International university-based research institutes	27	21	32	21	30	45	25	29	14
Industry associations	26	23	25	44	18	23	58	11	11

 Type of organization used most often

Total full sample  $n=290$

B1. When you require information related to social and economic policies, what types of organizations do you typically turn to for research-based evidence?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Never Use” and 5 is “One of your primary sources.”

# Think tanks are the primary source of research-based evidence in three of the seven countries.

## Types of organizations used as a source of research-based evidence

% of total respondents selecting “Primary Source” (4+5), by country, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Bolivia	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Paraguay	Peru
International agencies	57	46	53	63	50	75	63	57
Independent policy research institutes	55	35	56	78	50	53	53	67
Relevant government ministries/agencies	48	30	50	58	36	71	48	50
Government-owned research institutes	47	48	70	55	29	43	43	48
Local/national advocacy NGOs	35	26	36	38	28	35	33	53
National university-based research institutes	28	39	43	31	35	25	8	15
International university-based research institutes	27	22	41	31	26	38	16	19
Industry associations	26	27	23	23	24	41	28	22

 Type of organization used most often

Total full sample  $n=290$

B1. When you require information related to social and economic policies, what types of organizations do you typically turn to for research-based evidence?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Never Use” and 5 is “One of your primary sources.”

# Relevance and quality of research (and researchers) are the primary reasons for choosing an information source.

## Reasons for turning to specific organization mentioned

% of respondents, by organization type, Latin America, 2011

	Government -owned research institutes (n=73)	National university based-research institutes (n=37)	International university- based research institutes (n=29)	Independent policy research institutes (n=71)	Relevant government ministries/ agencies (n=70)	International agencies (n=85)	Local/national advocacy NGOs (n=35)	Industry associations (n=20)
Relevance of research	33	27	21	27	29	32	31	25
Only / one of few organizations of this type	29	14	0	13	30	6	11	10
High quality research	10	32	41	27	11	40	29	20
High quality of staff/researchers	5	5	34	23	4	11	17	10
Only organization of this type I am familiar with	5	11	3	3	4	6	6	15
Personal contact	5	11	0	13	7	2	3	15
Other	12	0	0	4	14	4	3	5

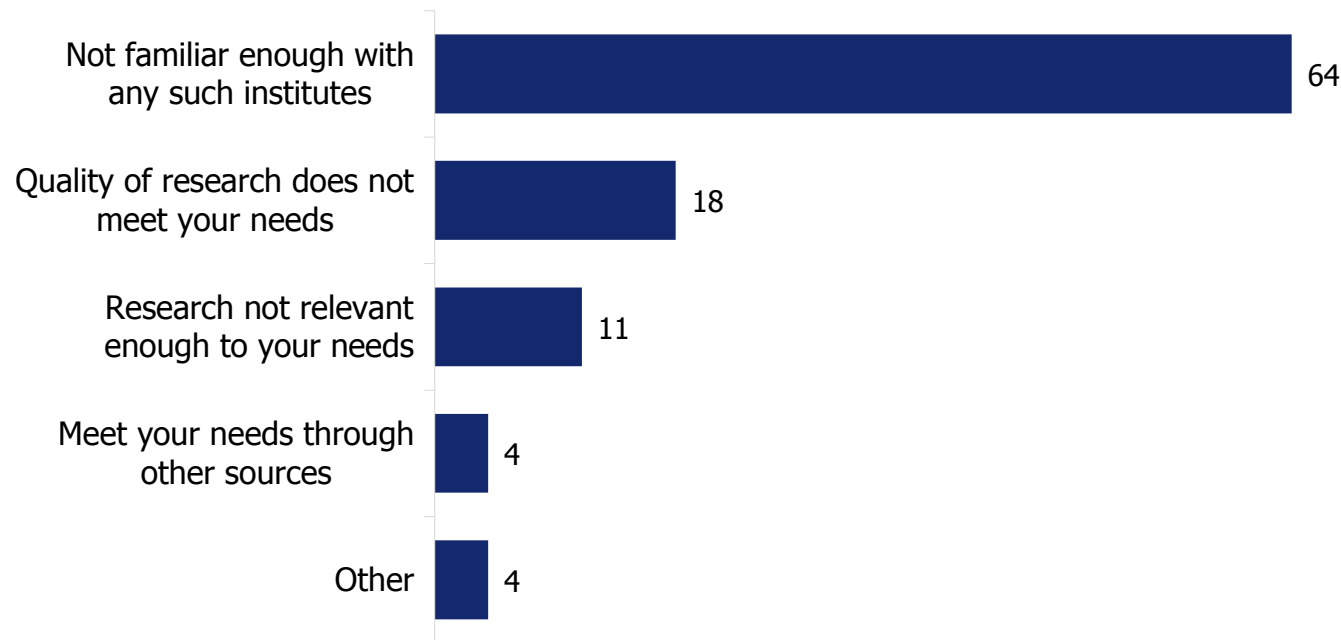
Subsample: Those who say they use type of institute as a primary source  
(5 on 5-point scale)

 Top mention  
 Second mention

## Lack of awareness of think tanks is the main reason why they are not chosen as a primary source.

### Reasons for not turning to think tanks for research-based evidence

% of respondents, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Those who have never used independent policy research institutes ( $n=28$ )

B1b. Why is it that you never use independent policy research institutes when you are looking for research-based evidence?



# Types of organizations used as sources of research-based evidence

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## SLIDE 40

- Of the prompted types of organizations, international agencies and independent policy research institutes (think tanks) are the most frequently used sources of research-based evidence.
- Industry associations and university research institutes (both national and international) tend to be used the least as primary sources for research-based evidence.

## SLIDE 41 & 42

- Multilateral and non-elected government stakeholders strongly prefer international agencies to all other sources for research-based evidence on social and economic policies.
- Think tanks are the primary information source for media and private sector stakeholders.
- NGO stakeholders are notable in their use of multiple sources: for seven of the eight sources tested, NGO respondents report a much higher than average use.
- Elected government stakeholders and trade unions tend to use government-owned research institutes and are the least likely to use international agencies as a source of information.
- Stakeholders in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Peru turn to think tanks as a primary source of research-based evidence.
- In comparison, Bolivian stakeholders are the least likely to use think tanks as a primary source. Instead, Bolivian stakeholders (along with those in Ecuador) are most likely to turn to government-owned research institutes.

# Types of organizations used as a source of research-based evidence

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## SLIDE 43

- When asked why they turn to a specific kind of organization for research-based evidence, research quality and relevance is a consistently mentioned reason for nearly all information sources.
- Government agencies / ministries and government-owned research institutes appear to be occupying a niche space: respondents using these as their primary source of information say it is because it is either the only one or one of a few organizations of this type.

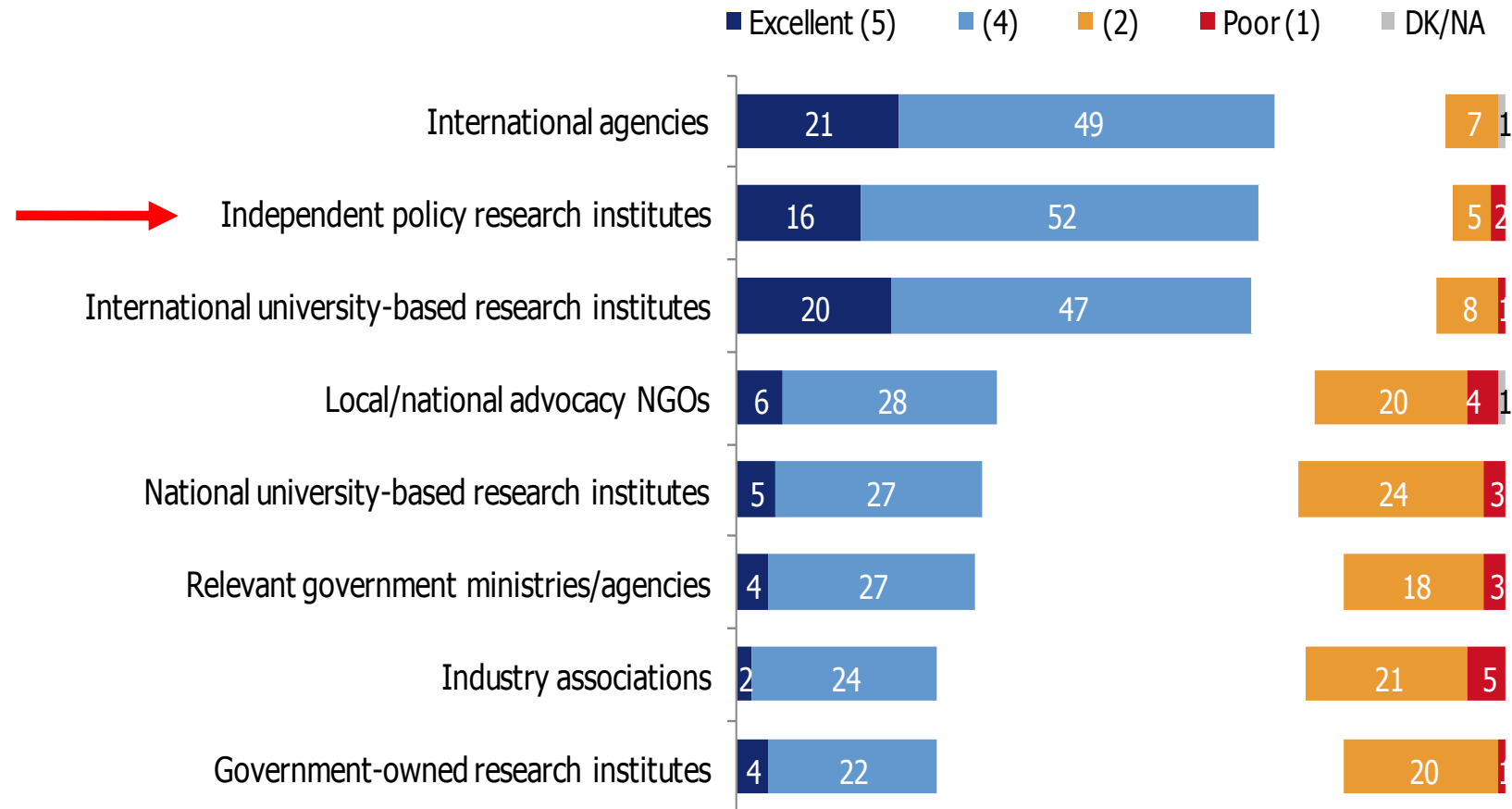
## SLIDE 44

- Few stakeholders (28 of 290) say they have never used a think tank as a source for research-based evidence and a lack of familiarity is the main reason why they have not.

# International agencies, think tanks, and international university-based research institutes are rated very highly on research quality.

## Quality ratings of research provided by...

% of respondents, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Those who use each type of organization (n=210–262)

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

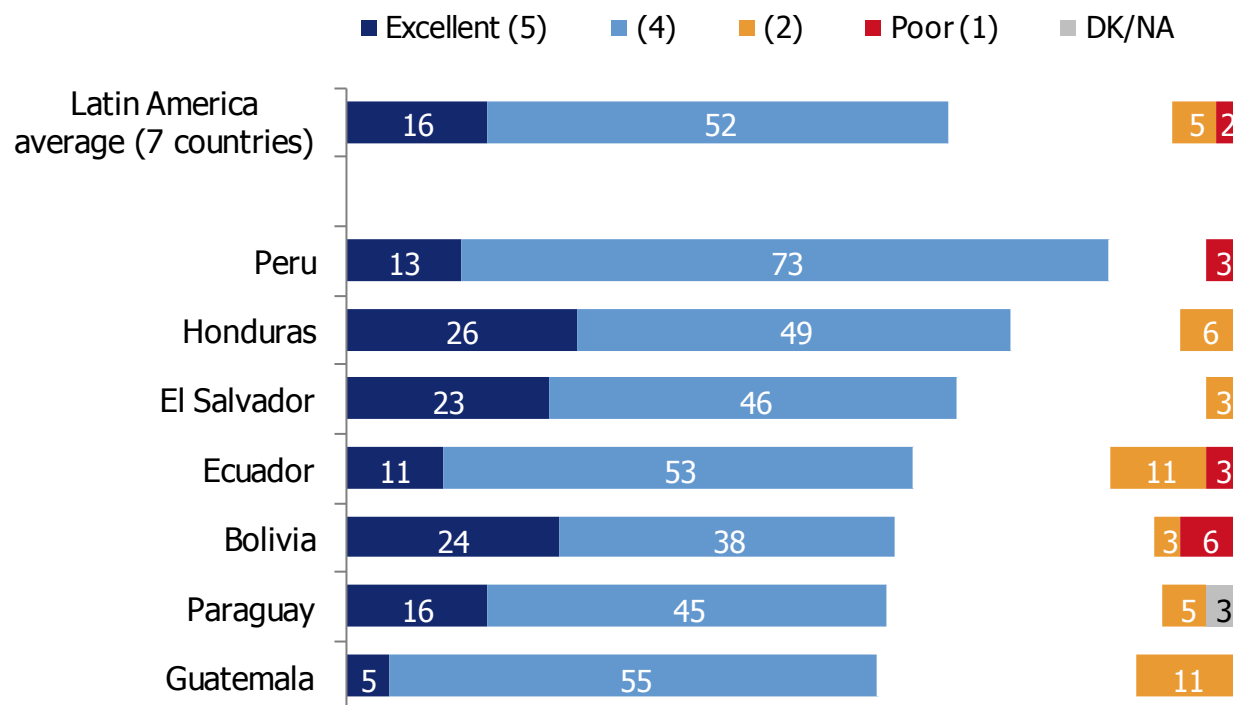
B2. How would you rate each of these sources in terms of the quality of research provided to work on policy issues in your country?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Poor" and 5 is "Excellent."

# Peruvian stakeholders are particularly positive about the quality of research from think tanks.

## Quality ratings of think tanks

% of respondents, by country, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Respondents who use independent policy research institutes ( $n=34-40$ )

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

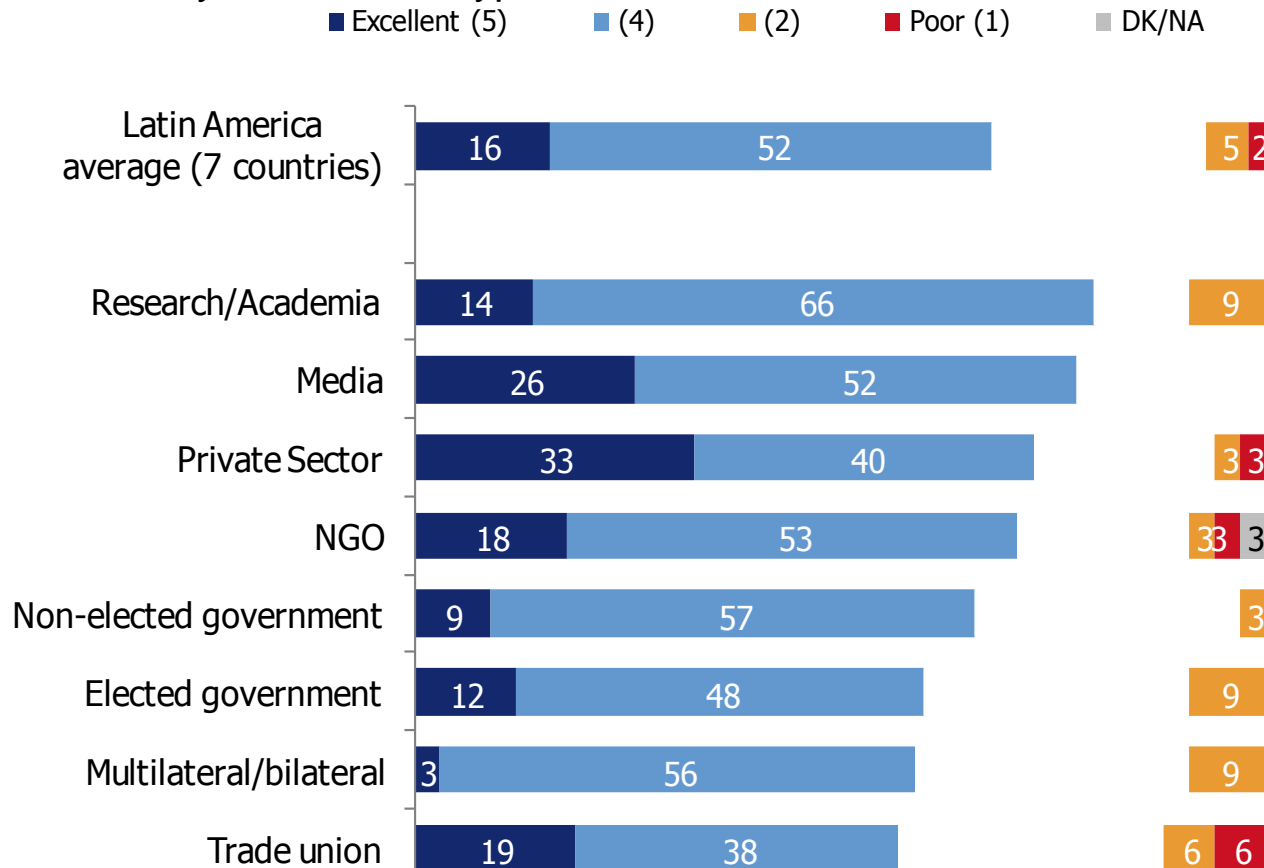
B2. How would you rate each of these sources in terms of the quality of research provided to work on policy issues in your country?

48 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Poor" and 5 is "Excellent."

# Majorities in all stakeholder groups give think tanks positive ratings on their research quality.

## Quality ratings of think tanks

% of respondents, by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011



Subsample: Respondents who use independent policy research institutes (Total n=226; n=30–35)

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

B2. How would you rate each of these sources in terms of the quality of research provided to work on policy issues in your country?

# Think tanks get very good quality ratings from all stakeholder groups.

## Quality ratings of research provided by...

% of respondents selecting “Excellent (4+5), by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral / bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade unions
International agencies	70	53	80	63	73	79	65	76	66
Independent policy research institutes	68	60	66	78	59	71	73	80	57
International university-based research institutes	67	52	79	58	60	76	69	71	53*
Local/national advocacy NGOs	34	34	26	42	22	46	33	30	36
National university-based research institutes	32	42	44	29	4	27	40	29	55
Relevant government ministries/agencies	31	42	38	38	18	27	24	29	38
Industry associations	26	28	23	34	26*	17	51	20	9
Government-owned research institutes	26	31	44	24	22	15	35	13	25

Subsample: Those who use each type of organization (Total  $n=210-262$ )

\*Small sample sizes for some organizations within some stakeholder groups ( $n<20$ )

B2. How would you rate each of these sources in terms of the quality of research provided to work on policy issues in your country?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Poor” and 5 is “Excellent.”

Top mention  
Second mention

# Perceptions of quality of research

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## SLIDE 47

- Across all stakeholder groups, international agencies, think tanks, and international university-based research institutes top the list in quality ratings.
- Non-elected government stakeholders have a much more favourable view than others of government-owned research institutes.

## SLIDE 48 & 49

- Across the seven countries, majorities give think tanks a positive rating on research quality.
- Stakeholders in Peru give the highest quality ratings to think tanks, while stakeholders in the other countries give relatively lower, but still positive ratings, without much differentiation.
- Across all stakeholder groups, majorities give think tanks a positive rating on research quality. Negative ratings are rare: 12 percent - from trade unions – is the highest percentage of respondents who give think tanks a 'poor' quality rating.

## SLIDE 50

- International agencies, think tanks, and international university-based research institutes top the list in terms of perceived quality of research.
- There is a significant gap in perceived quality between these three sources and all others tested in the survey. However, it is important to note that these lower rated sources are more likely to receive 'average' rather than 'poor' ratings.
- The lower rated sources include government sources, national universities, NGOs, and industry associations.

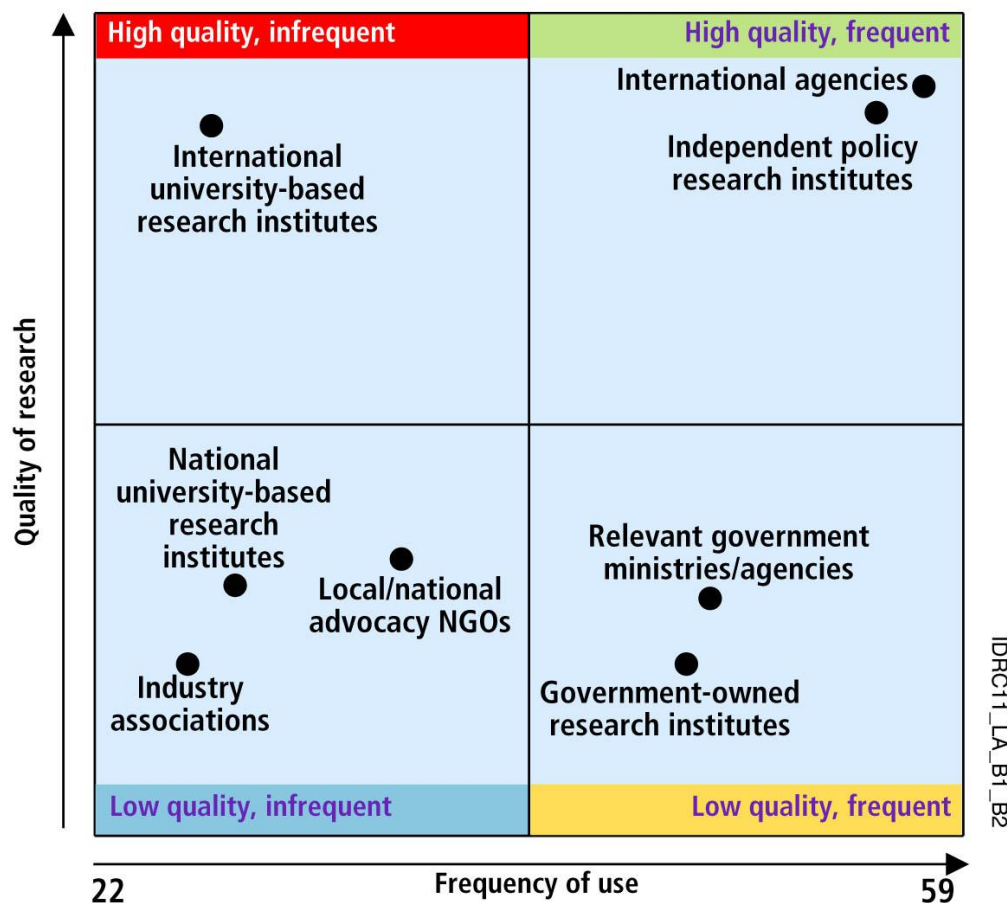
# Both high and lower quality sources of information are used frequently for research-based evidence.

## Quality vs frequency of use of research

% of respondents selecting “Excellent” (4+5) vs “Primary Source” (4+5), Latin America, 2011

B2 Subsample: Those who use each type of organization ( $n=210-262$ )

B2. How would you rate each of these sources in terms of quality of research provided to work on policy issues in your country? Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Poor” and 5 is “Excellent.”



B1. When you require information related to social and economic policies, what types of organizations do you typically turn to for research-based evidence?

52 Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Never Use” and 5 is “One of your primary sources.”



## There is a positive correlation between the perceived quality of research produced by think tanks and frequency of use.

### Think tanks: Quality vs frequency of use of research provided by...

% of respondents selecting “Excellent” (4+5) vs “Primary Source” (4+5), Latin America, 2011



B2 Subsample:  
Those who use  
independent policy  
research institutes  
( $n=262$ )

B2. How would you  
rate each of these  
sources in terms of  
quality of research  
provided to work on  
policy issues in your  
country?  
Scale of 1 to  
5, where 1 is “Poor”  
and 5 is “Excellent.”

B1. When you require information related to social and economic policies, what types of organizations do you typically turn to for research-based evidence?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Never Use” and 5 is “One of your primary sources.”

# Perceived quality vs use of research

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## SLIDE 52

- The chart on slide 52 is a graphical representation of how the perceived quality of research (vertical axis) relates to how frequently stakeholders use the organization as a source of research (horizontal axis).
  - The top right box, highlighted in green, contains those organizations used frequently and considered to deliver high quality research. Both international agencies and think tanks fall into this category.
  - The top left box, highlighted in red, contains those organizations that are considered to produce high quality research, but are used less frequently. International university-based research institutes fall into this category. Given how highly regarded these institutes are, it would be useful to understand the barriers that constrain stakeholders' access to this source.
  - The bottom left box, highlighted in blue, contains those organizations that are considered to have lower quality research and are used less frequently. This quadrant contains national university-based institutions, local/national NGOs, and industry associations.
  - The bottom right box, highlighted in yellow, contains lower quality research that is used frequently. Both government sources (research institutes and relevant ministries) fall into this category.
- Overall, think tanks are in an ideal position, as they are used frequently and are seen to deliver high quality research.

# Perceived quality vs use of research

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## SLIDE 53

- The chart on slide 53 shows the relationship between the perceived quality of research provided by think tanks and the frequency of use at the country level.
  - At a country level, there is a link between the frequency of use and perceived quality: the more that stakeholders report using think tanks as a source of information, the more likely they are to think it delivers high quality research. This is especially true in Peru.
  - And conversely, in countries with lower levels of use (e.g., Bolivia), stakeholders are less certain about the quality of research from think tanks.
  - This positive link between perceived quality and frequency of use is an encouraging and important finding for think tanks in Latin America.

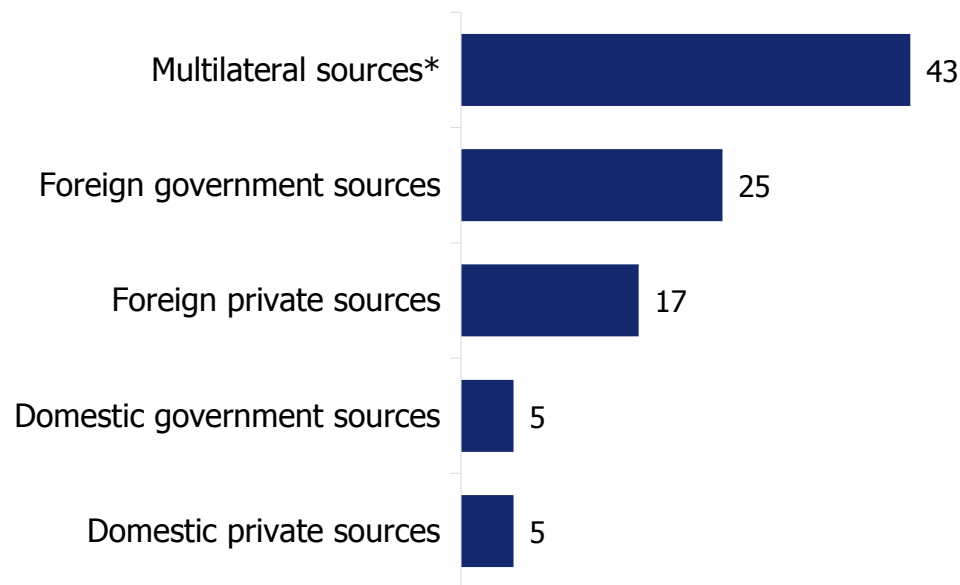


## **The role and contribution of think tanks in Latin America**

# Stakeholders think funding for independent think tanks comes from multilateral sources.

## Most likely source of funding

% of respondents, Latin America, 2011



\*Includes organizations such as the World Bank and the United Nations

Total full sample  $n=290$

C1. In your opinion, which of the following is the most likely source of funding for independent policy research institutes in your country?

## Most likely source of funding

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### SLIDE 57

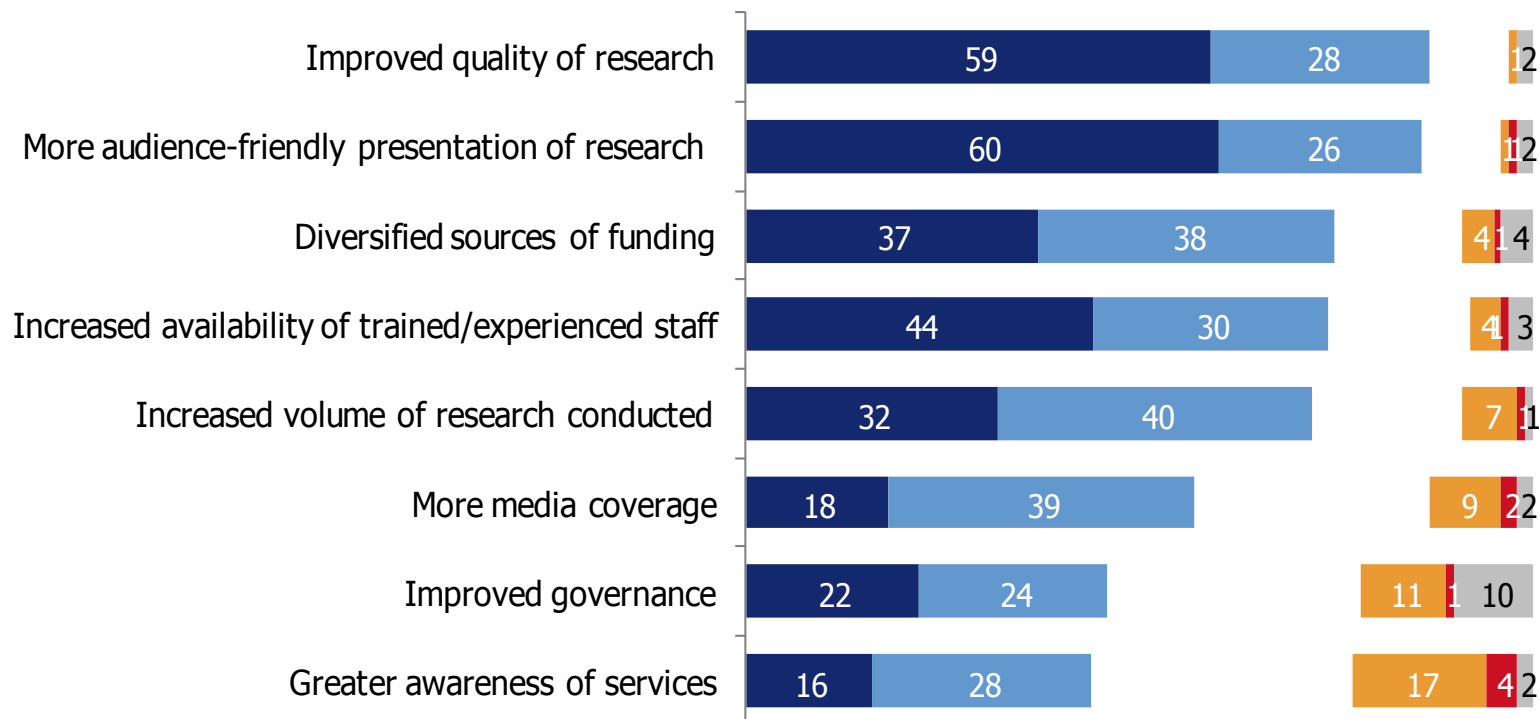
- Forty-three percent of stakeholders believe that funding for think tanks comes from multilateral sources, including organizations such as the World Bank and the United Nations.
- A very small percentage of stakeholders believe domestic sources (either government or private) are the source of think tank funding (5% for each). Although still small in comparison to multilateral sources, a slightly larger percentage believes funding comes from foreign sources (25% for foreign government sources and 17% for foreign private sources).

# Improved research quality & more user-friendly research presentations are keys to performance enhancement.

## Importance of factors for improving performance of think tanks

% of total respondents, Latin America, 2011

■ Highly important (5) ■ (4) ■ (2) ■ Not at all important (1) ■ DK/NA



Total full sample  $n=290$

The white space in this chart represents ratings of (3).

C2. How important are each of the following factors for improving the performance of independent policy research institutes in your country?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not at all important" and 5 is "Highly important."



# Improvements in research quality are among the best ways stakeholders believe think tanks can improve their performance.

## Importance of factors for improving performance of think tanks

% of total respondents selecting “Important” (4+5), by stakeholder type, Latin America, 2011

	Total	Elected government	Non-elected government	Media	Multilateral /bilateral	NGO	Private sector	Research/ academia	Trade unions
Improved quality of research	87	82	87	89	85	94	77	87	89
More audience-friendly presentation of research	86	75	87	95	94	91	89	82	84
Diversified sources of funding	75	82	71	64	76	88	70	84	62
Increased availability of trained/experienced staff	74	72	71	82	76	72	67	79	70
Increased volume of research conducted	72	72	86	62	56	75	78	79	68
More media coverage	57	72	38	74	41	54	58	60	60
Improved governance	46	54	33	53	32	51	39	48	60
Greater awareness of services	44	57	38	53	27	38	41	34	62

Total full sample  $n=290$ ; Stakeholder sample sizes range from  $n=34-39$

 Most important factor  
 Second most important factor

C2. How important are each of the following factors for improving the performance of independent policy research institutes in your country?

Scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is “Not at all important” and 5 is “Highly important.”



# Advising better dissemination processes is indicative of the value stakeholders place on think tank research.

## Advice for think tanks

Unprompted, % of total respondents, Latin America, 2011



\*Advice in this category is related to sources of funding. Respondents give advice regarding where funding should come from or, alternatively, where it should not.

Total full sample  $n=290$

C3. What advice would you have for independent research institutes in your country so that they might better assist your work?

# Improving performance of think tanks

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## SLIDES 59 and 60

- The two most important things that stakeholders believe can improve think tanks' performance are improved research quality and the audience-friendliness of the presentation of research findings.
- While increasing the availability of trained staff, increasing research volume, and ensuring diversified sources of funding are also frequently mentioned, they are mentioned to a lesser extent than research quality and audience-friendly presentations.
- Non-elected government stakeholders put greater emphasis on more volume of research conducted.

## SLIDE 61

- When asked unprompted what think tanks could do to better assist their work, stakeholders point to improvements in how think tank research is disseminated. Improved quality and reliability are also mentioned.
- Results are indicative of the value that stakeholders place on think tank research (i.e., they want think tanks to improve their access to it).
- Stakeholders put less emphasis on expanding the scope of research or improving training for staff.
- It is clear that what matters most to stakeholders is accessible and high quality research.

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