



Aarhus Convention: Recent and forthcoming developments

UNECE Aarhus Convention Secretariat

Geneva

17 December 2013





Focus



- Survey framework
- Access to ICTs
- Availability of priority categories of environmental information through Internet
- EITs used or planned to be used
- Challenges and obstacles to the use of EITs
- Conclusions





Survey framework



- Questionnaire:
 - Mandate given by the Task Force at its first meeting and supported by the Working Group of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting
 - Revised by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Task Force
 - Disseminated on 1 October 2013 with a view to collect comments by 1 November 2013

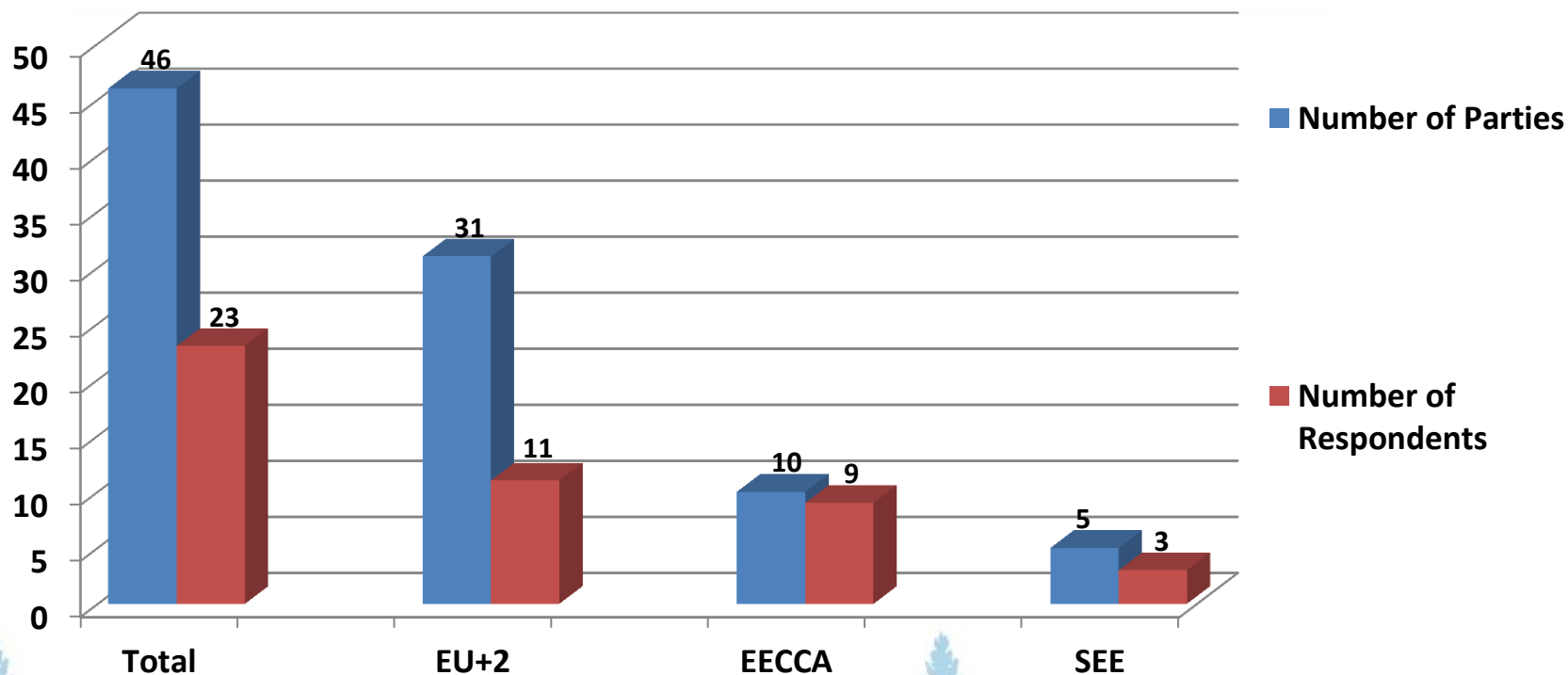




Respondents

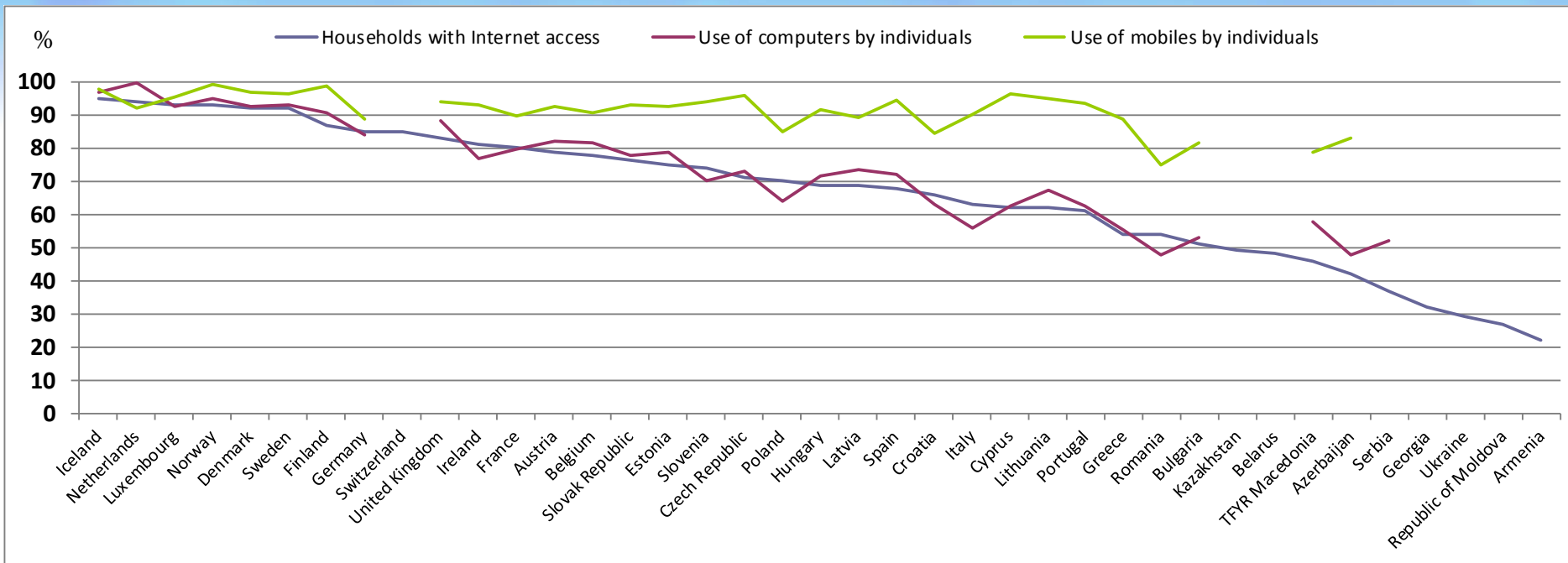


Response to Questionnaire





Access to ICTs (based on ITU statistics)

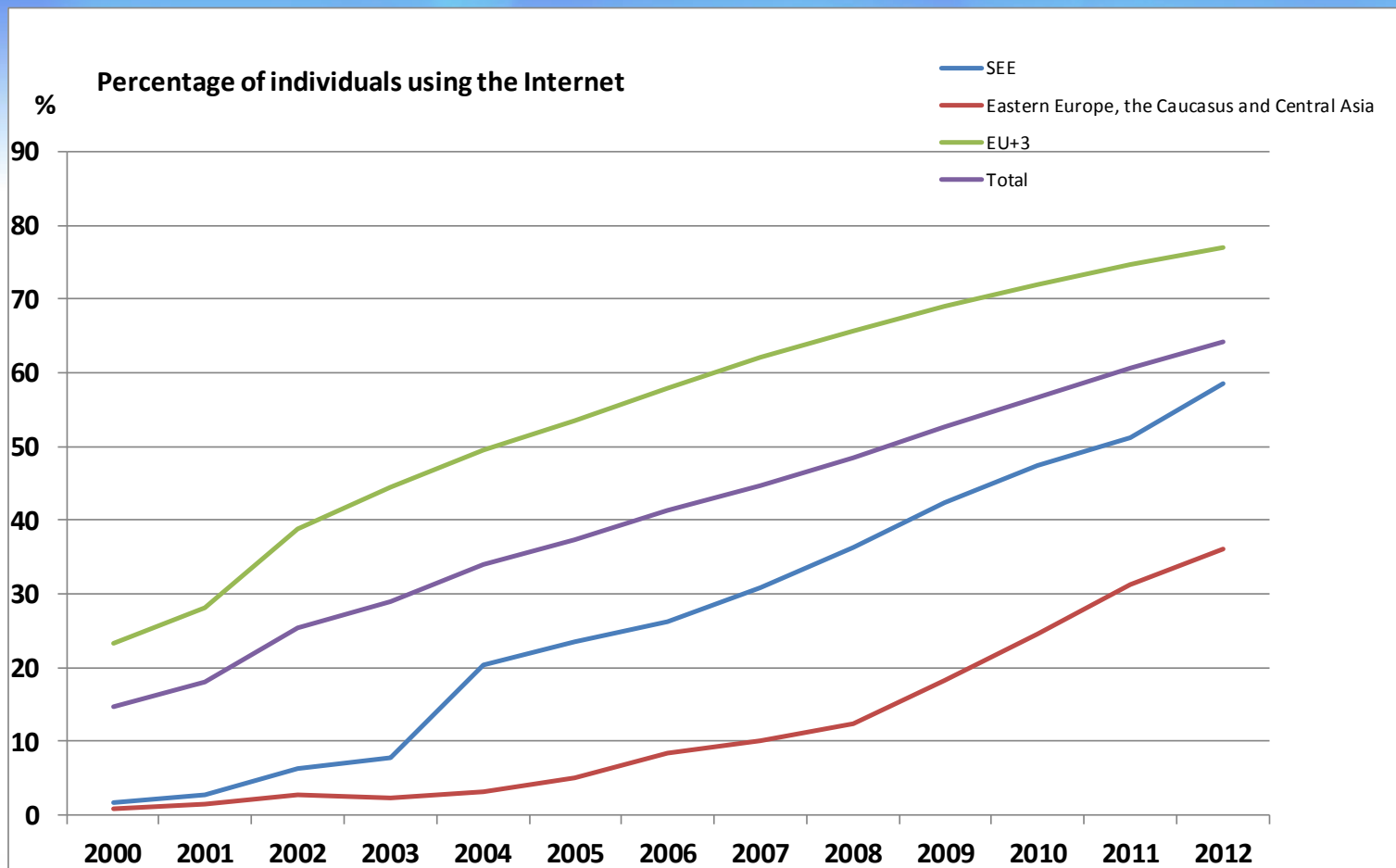




Access to ICTs (based on ITU statistics)

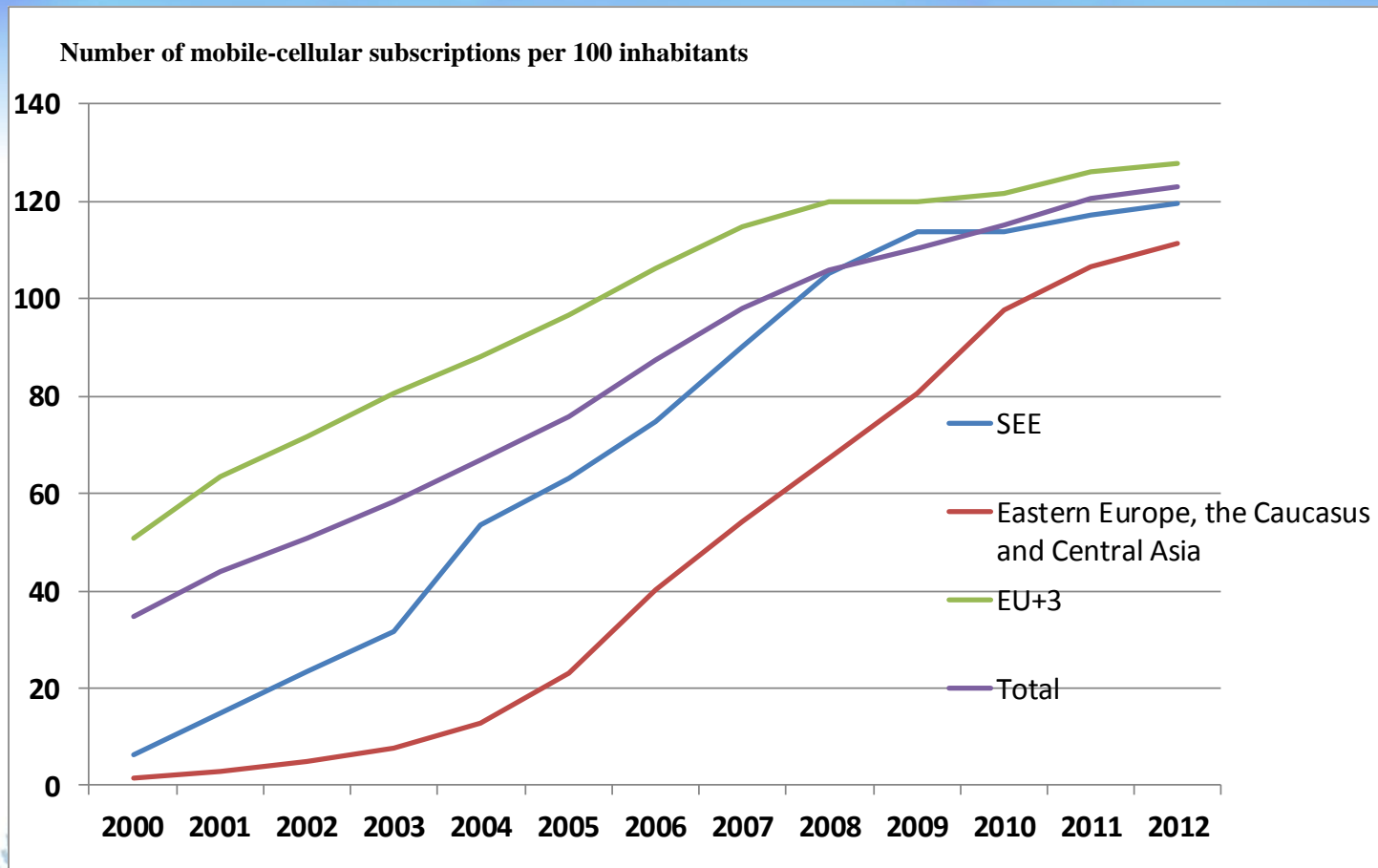


JUSTICE
AARHUS CONVENTION
for our environment



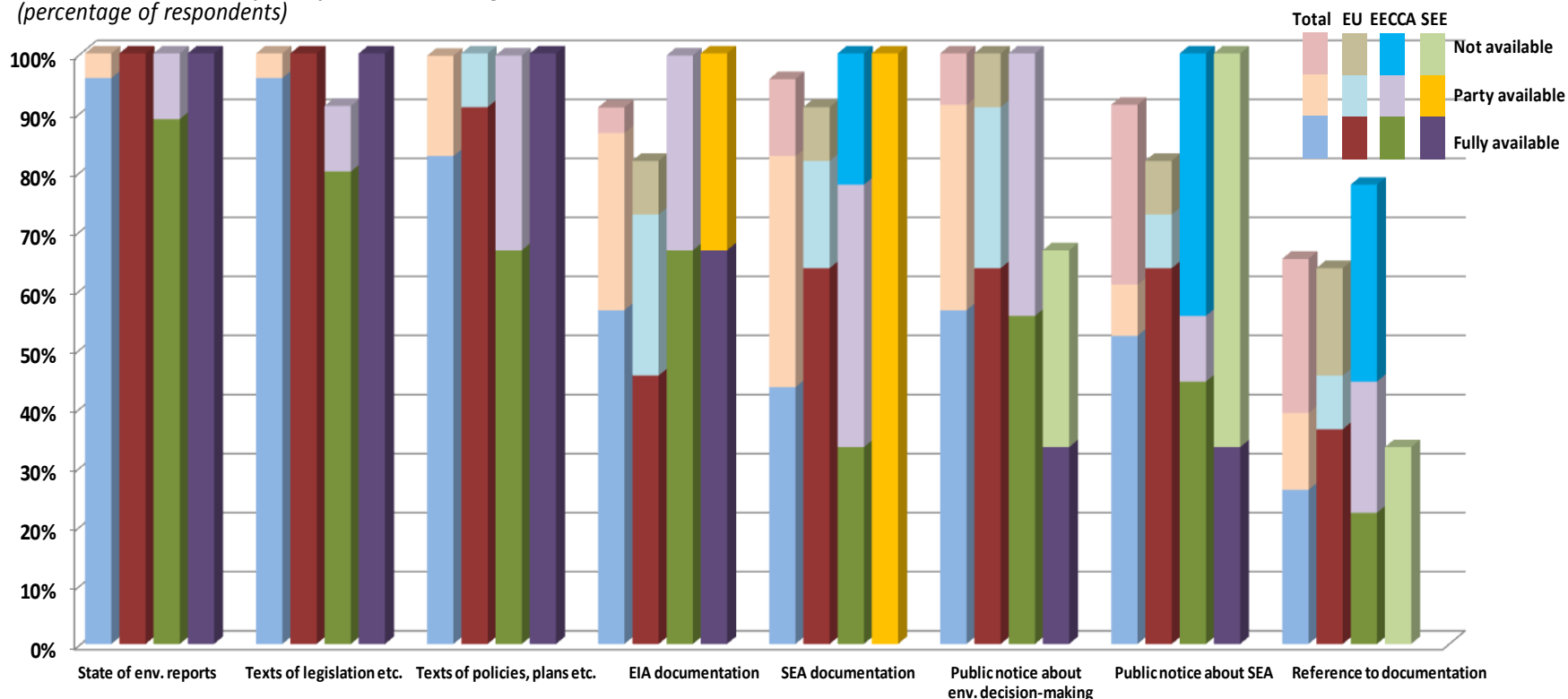


Access to ICTs (based on ITU statistics)



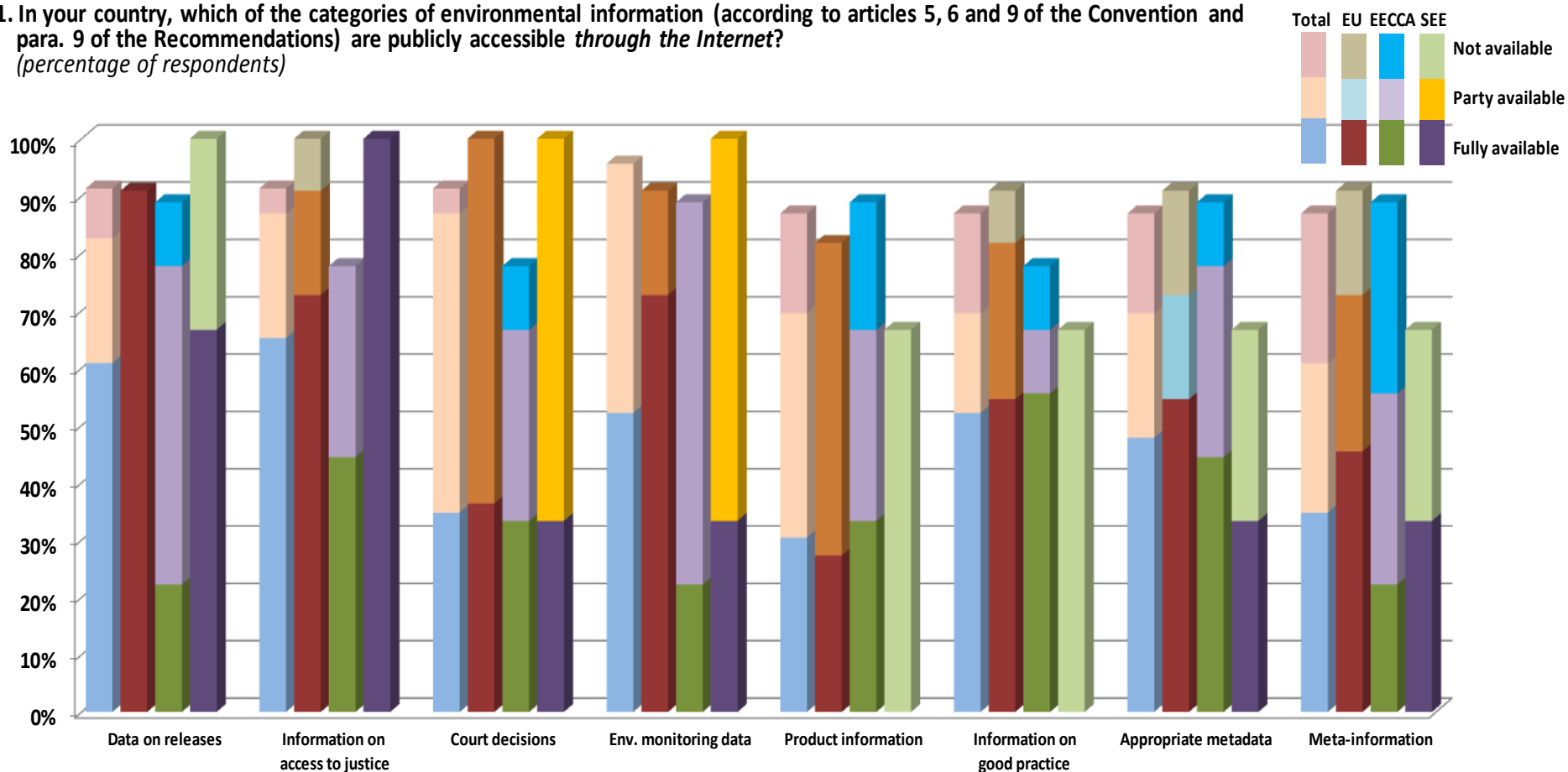
Availability of priority categories of information through Internet

1. In your country, which of the categories of environmental information (according to articles 5, 6 and 9 of the Convention and para. 9 of the Recommendations) are publicly accessible through the Internet?
(percentage of respondents)



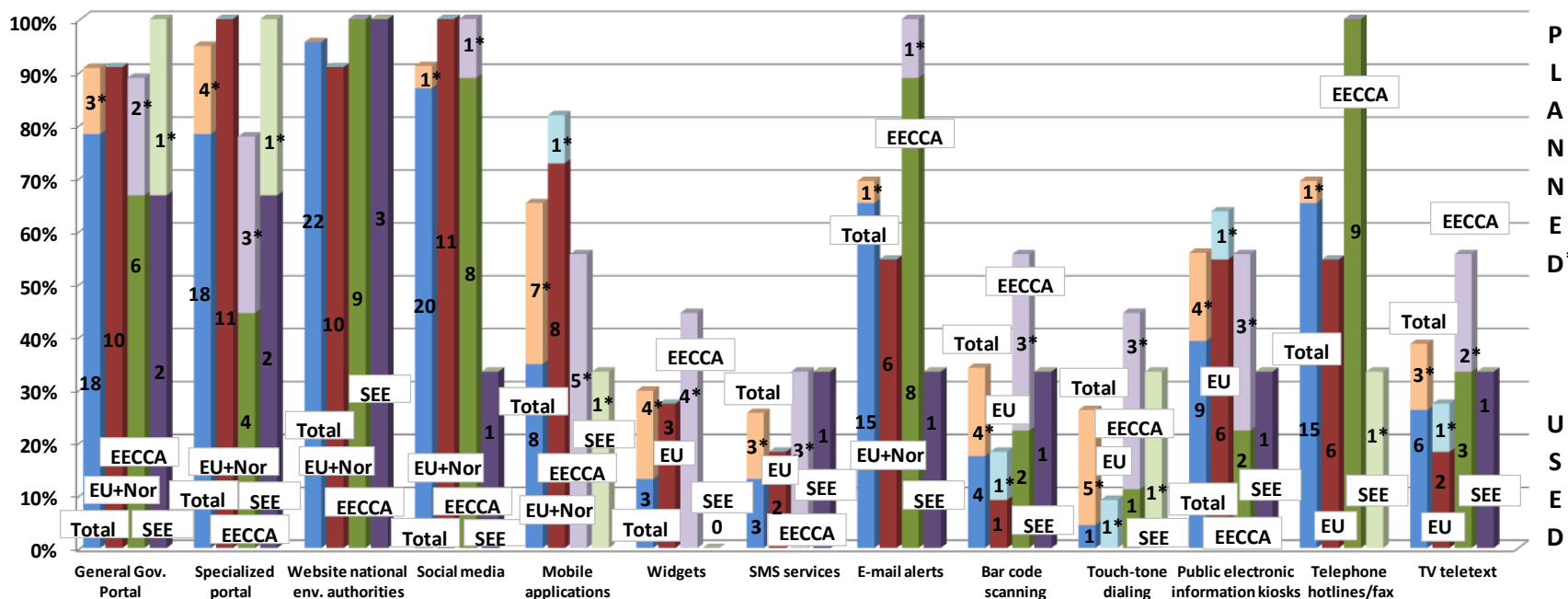
Availability of priority categories of information through Internet

1. In your country, which of the categories of environmental information (according to articles 5, 6 and 9 of the Convention and para. 9 of the Recommendations) are publicly accessible *through the Internet*? (percentage of respondents)



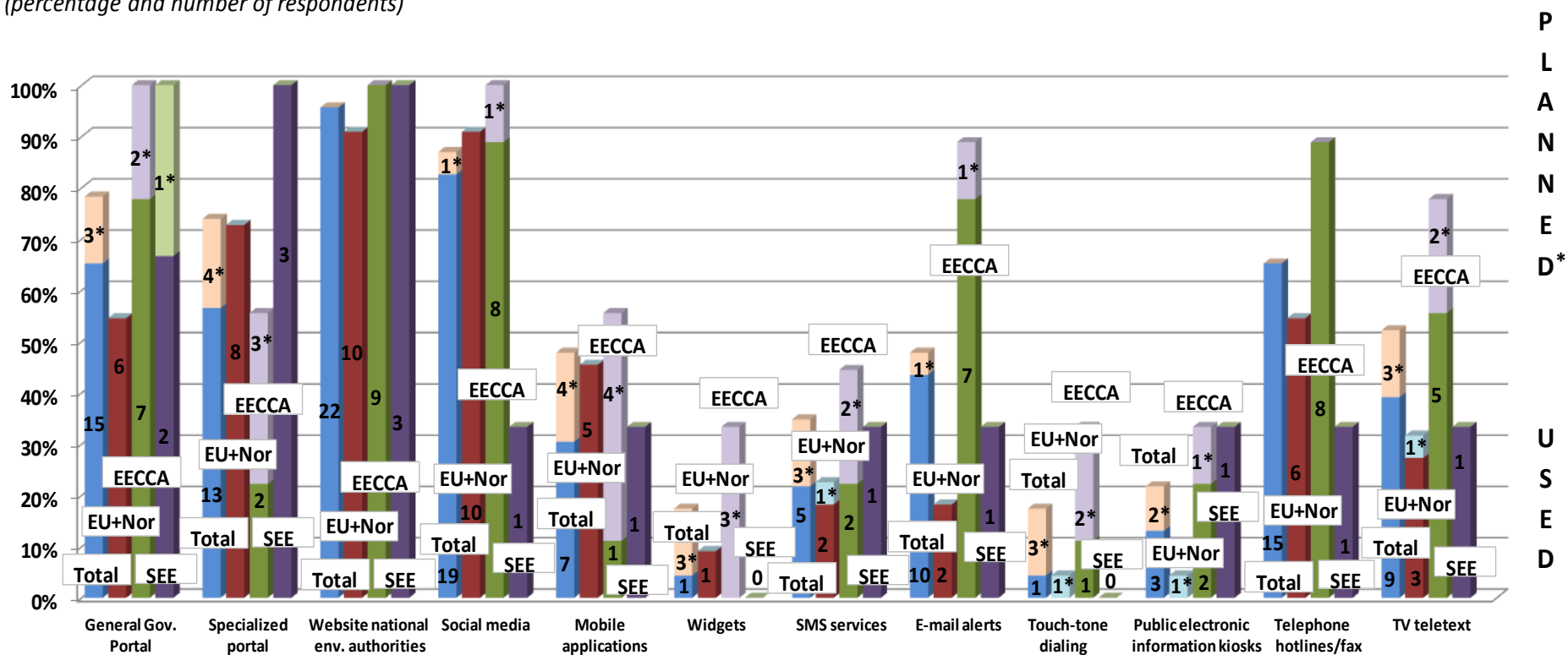
EIT used or planned to be used

7. What electronic tools are generally used or planned to be used in your country to disseminate environmental information?
(percentage and number of respondents)



EIT used or planned to be used

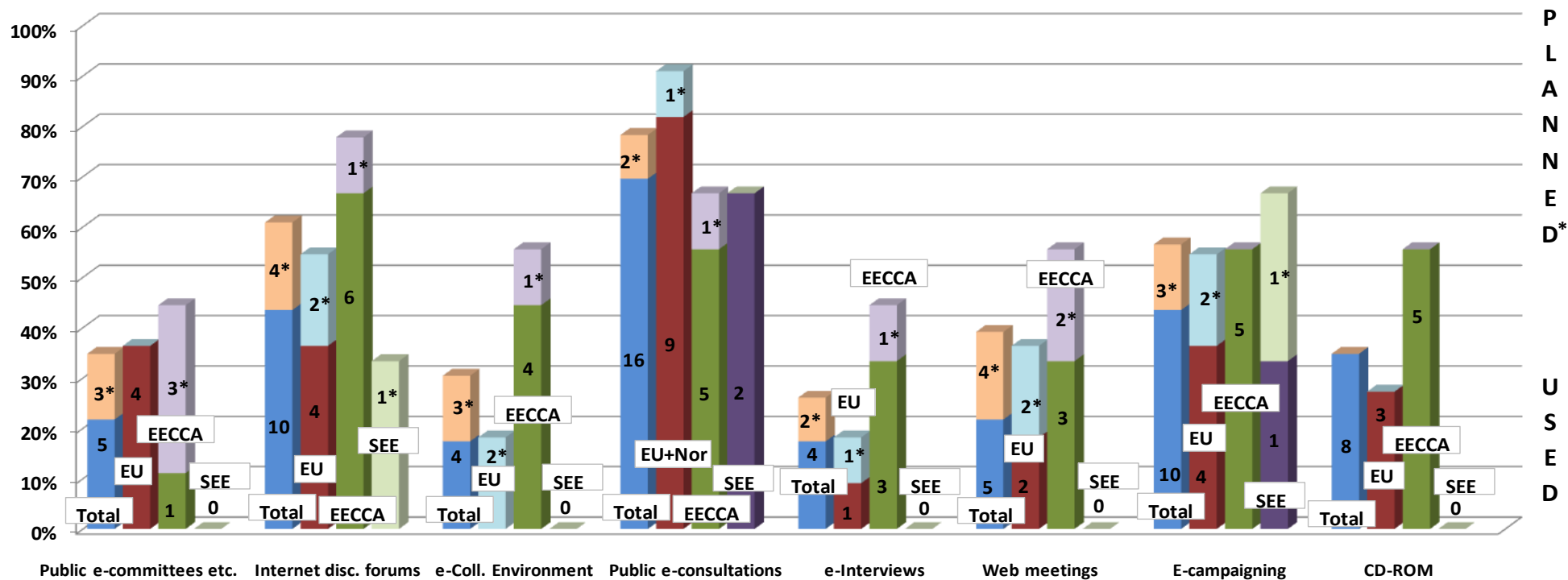
8. In the event of any imminent threat to human health or the environment, whether caused by human activities or due to natural causes, what electronic tools will be used by a public authority in your country to disseminate information which could enable the public who may be affected to take the measures to prevent or mitigate harm arising from the threat (article 5, paragraph 1 (c), of the Convention)?
(percentage and number of respondents)



EIT used or planned to be used

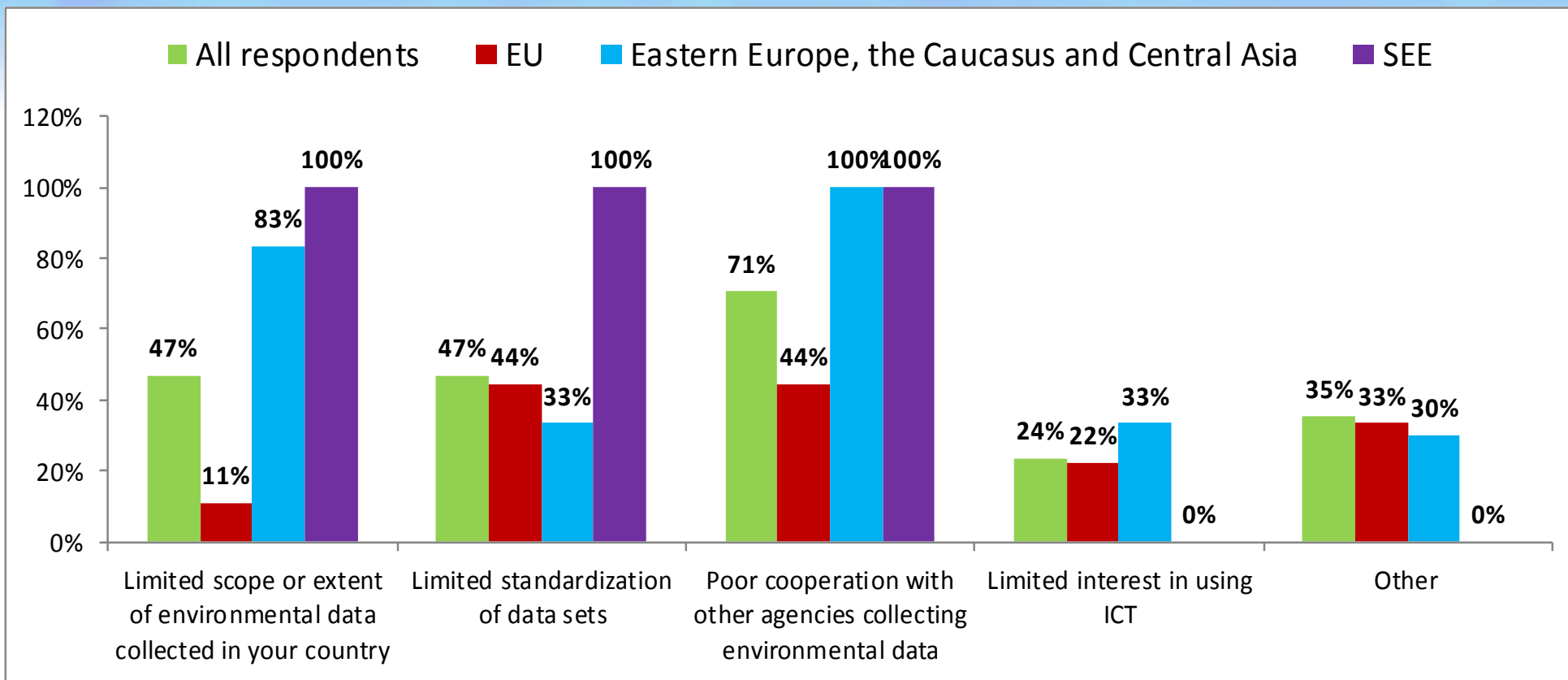
16. Please indicate what tools are used or are planned to be used in your country to support e-participation in environmental decision-making

(percentage and number of respondents)

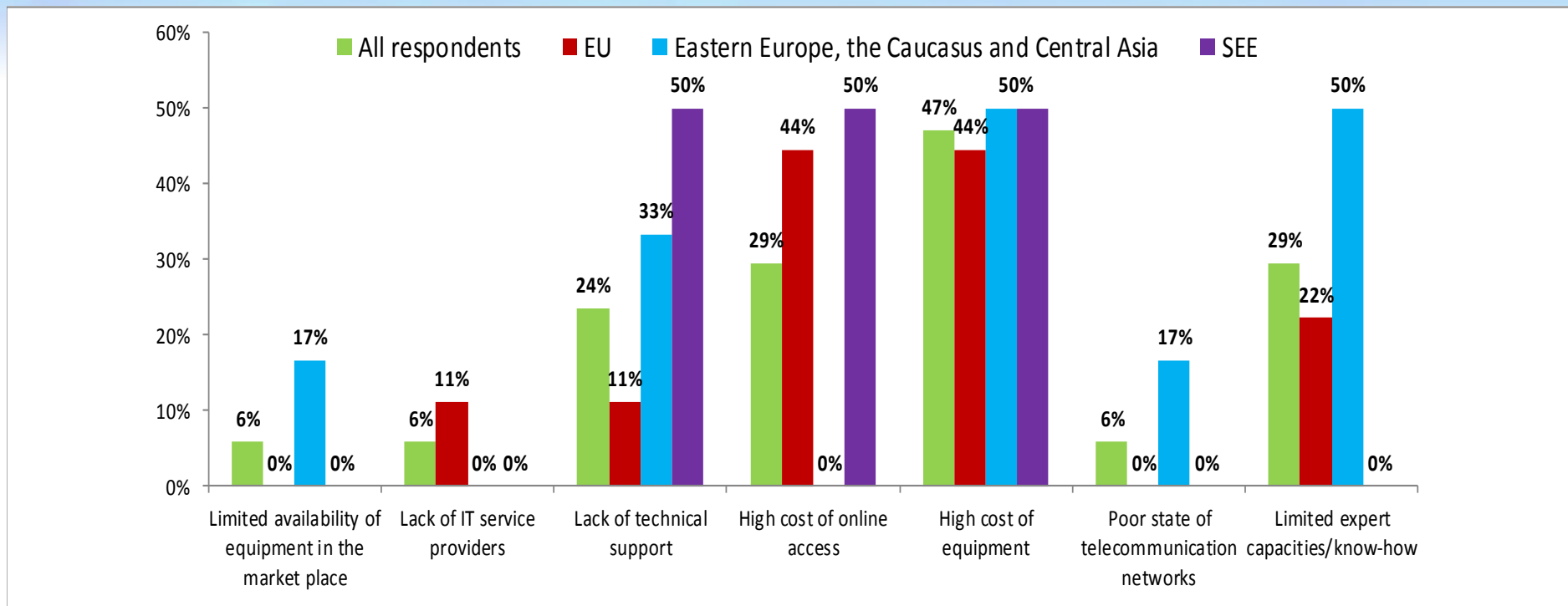




Institutional challenges and obstacles to the use of EITs

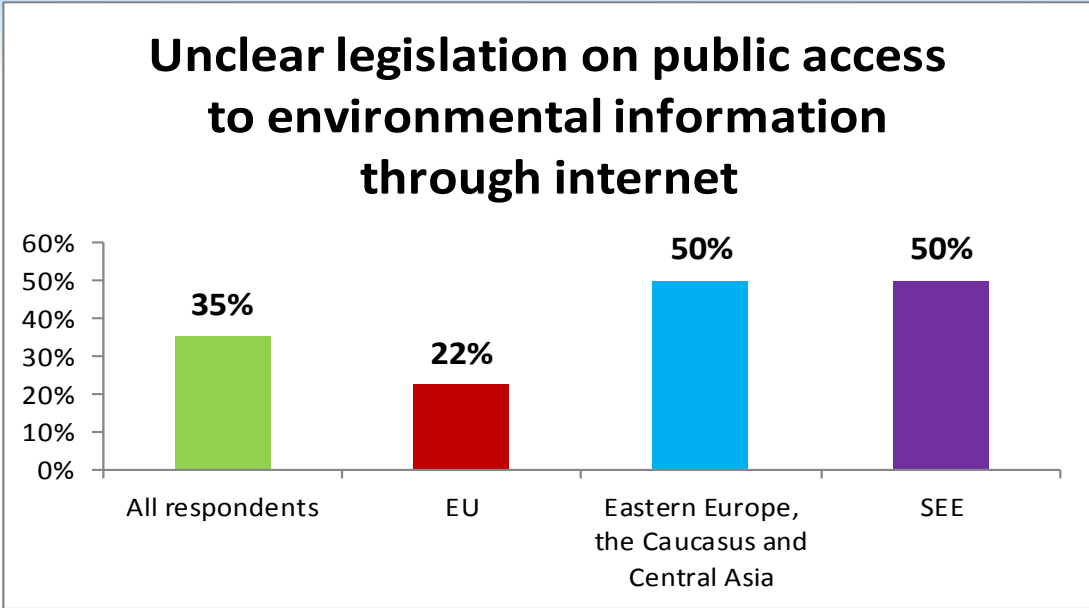


Economic challenges and obstacles to the use of EITs





Challenges and obstacles to the use of EITs





Conclusions



Increasing availability of environmental information of priority categories but its level depends on particular category

- National websites of national environmental authorities, general governmental portals and national specialized portals for environmental information are commonly used
- Implementation of electronic information tools at the regional and local level should receive specific attention
- Further improvement is needed for access to documentation and e-participation tools related to environmental decision-making procedures subject to article 6, 7 and 8 of the Convention
- Increasing interest to use social media, mobile application and e-participation platforms
- Include environmental component in the national “e-government” strategies and “open government data” initiatives





Thank you!

Contact: public.participation@unece.org

