

# Towards 2020: New Horizons for RTD and Innovation in the Western Balkan Region

WBC-INCO.NET Final Conference & Brokerage Event

Tech Gate Vienna / Donau-City-Straße 1 / 1220 Vienna / Austria

Parallel Session 4: Human resources and brain drain

## Results of the Impact Analysis of the „Brain Gain Program“

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w u s a u s t r i a

*right to education*

# Introduction

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- ▶ Project manager at WUS Austria and coordinator of the “Brain Gain Programme Plus”
- ▶ WUS Austria is a non for profit NGO committed to the promotion of the human right to education, established in Graz in 1983
- ▶ Besides the head office in Graz it has offices in Sarajevo and Prishtina and it implements activities in Europe, Asia and Northern Africa with focus on South-Eastern Europe
- ▶ WUS Austria offers services in four main areas:
  - ▶ Higher Education Development
  - ▶ Linking Higher Education with Economy and Society
  - ▶ Higher Education and Human Rights
  - ▶ Technical Support

# Introduction – Brain Gain Program (+)

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With the aim of using the **potential of migrants**, WUS Austria has developed a measure – which has become well accepted **in SEE** over the years – which **brings emigrated academics back** to their home country/ region providing **teaching and research capacities** at the universities that are still lacking in these countries, while at the same time **individual and institutional cooperation** is being built.

**BGP**plus

# Structure of the Brain Gain Program (+)

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In 2007, BGP was upgraded to BGP+, with the following components:

- ▶ **BGP+ classic**: teaching, 1-3 weeks stay
- ▶ **BGP+ with extended period of stay** (one semester):
  - ▶ Teaching and mentoring
  - ▶ Teaching, mentoring and research
- ▶ A **database** was developed containing offered and demanded courses and research projects
- ▶ Since 2002, over **600 guest lectures** took place in the frame of BGP, thereof:
  - ▶ 218 in Bosnia and Herzegovina
  - ▶ 101 in Kosovo
  - ▶ 60 in Montenegro
  - ▶ 309 in Serbia



# Brain Gain Program (+) - Objectives

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- ▶ Fill in gaps in teaching and research
- ▶ Introduce new teaching and research methods and up-to-date literature
- ▶ Curricula development (e.g. introduction of new and modification of existing courses)
- ▶ Enhancement of international cooperation
  - ▶ Cooperation with the Diaspora
  - ▶ Student and staff exchange
- ▶ Brain gain

Questionnaires for guest lecturers and hosting institutions, examining two issues:

- Development of international cooperation
- Quality improvement

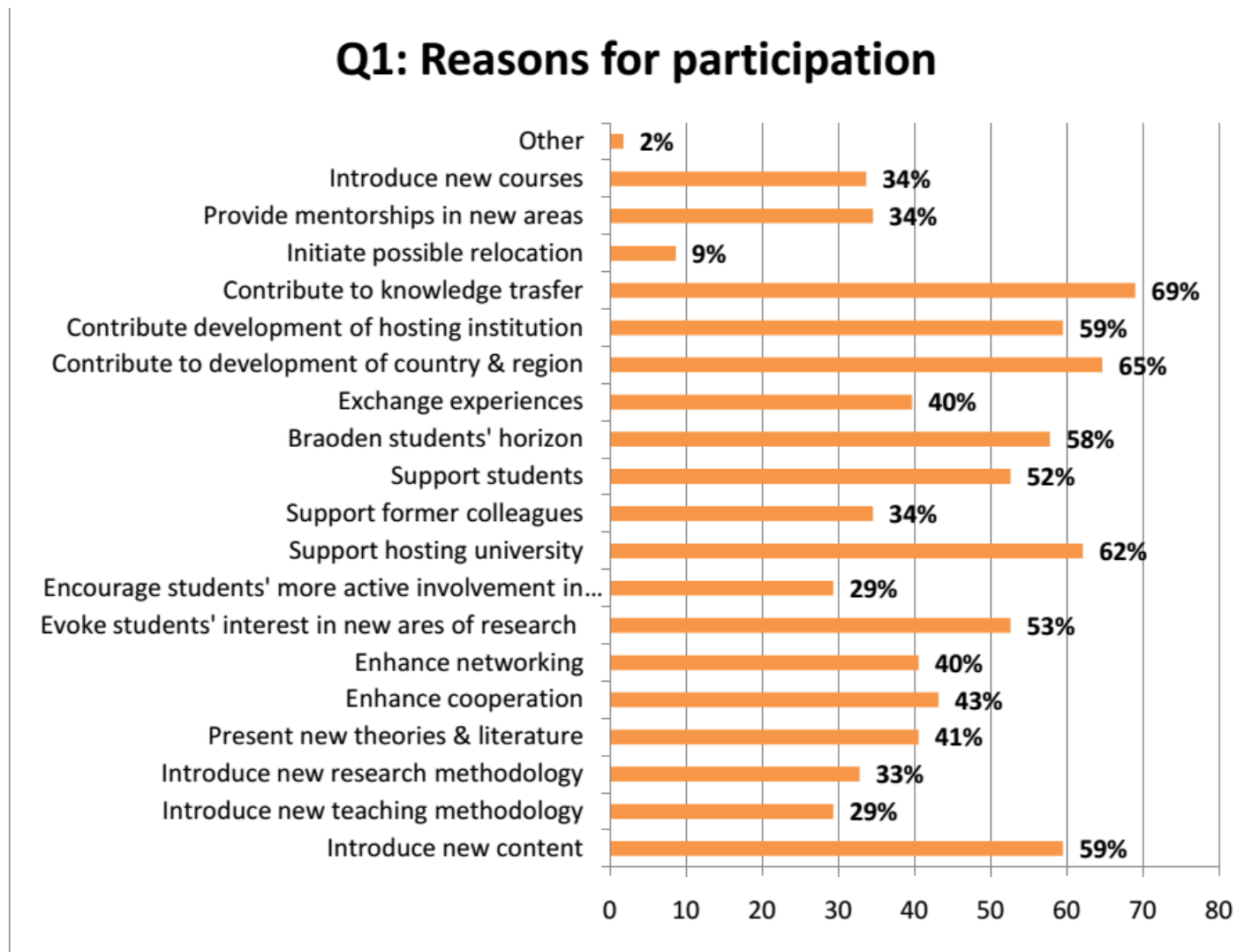
# Impact analysis – questionnaires and sample

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- ▶ Online questionnaires in .pdf form
- ▶ Anonymous survey
- ▶ Part 1: general impressions about the project and motivation (large scale with possibility of multiple answers + open questions)
- ▶ Part 2: actual impact (scale of 1 to 4 + “I don’t know”)
- ▶ Pre-test in October -> small adaptation of the questionnaires
- ▶ Duration: end of December 2010 until March 2011 covering the entire period of project duration from 2002

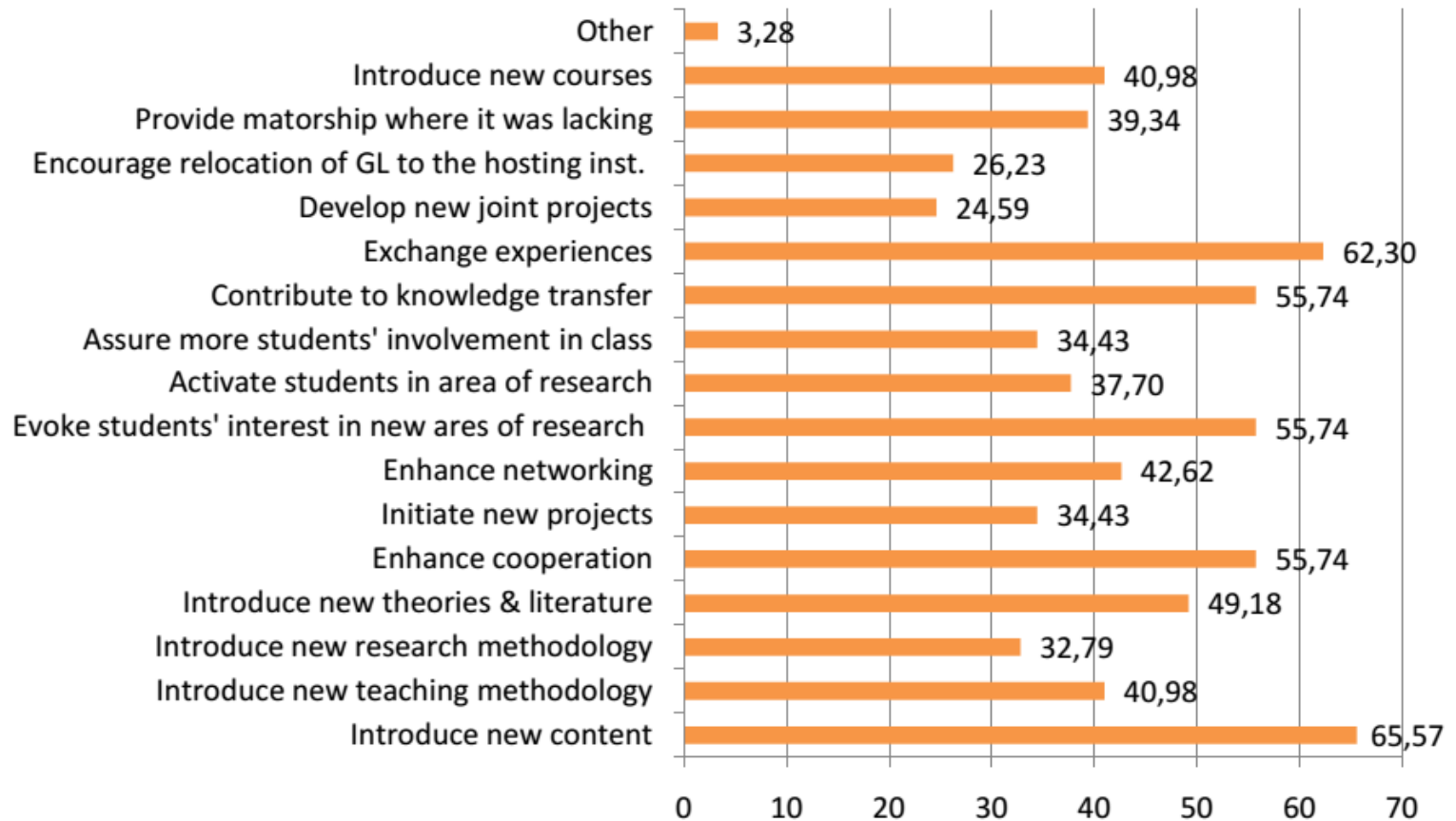
	Total	BiH	Kosovo	Montenegro	Serbia
Hosting institutions	61	17	4	7	33
Guest lecturers	116	30	19	16	60

# Reasons for participation in the Program – Guest lecturers



# Reasons for participation in the Program – Hosting institutions

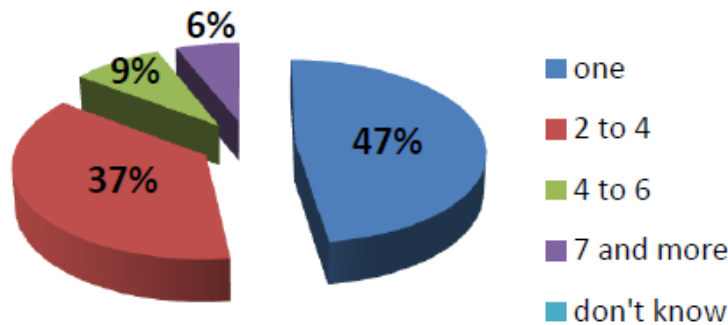
## Q1: Reasons for participation in the BGP project



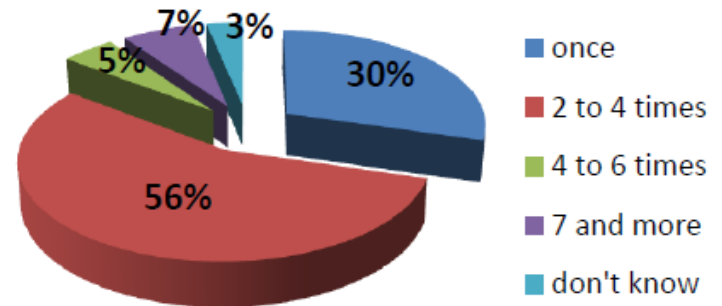


# Results – Number of visits

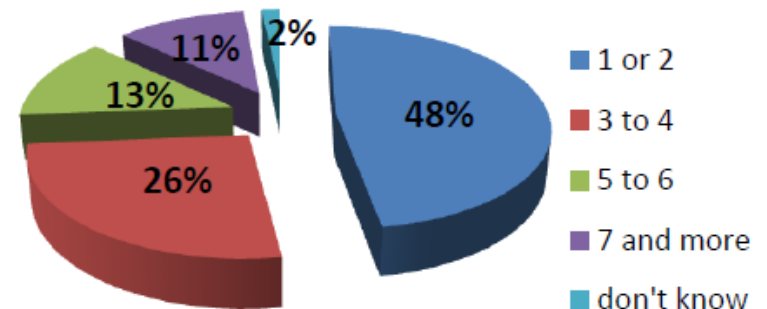
**Q7: Number of BGP visits per guest lecturer**



**Q6: Number of visits per single guest lecturer**

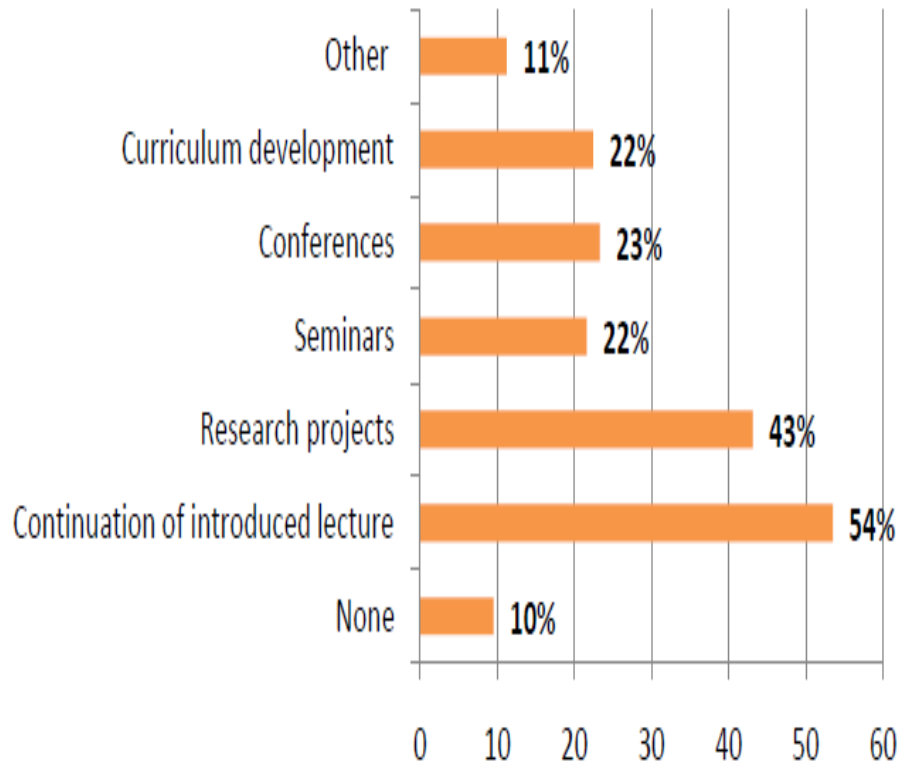


**Q7: Number of hosted guest lecturers within BGP project**

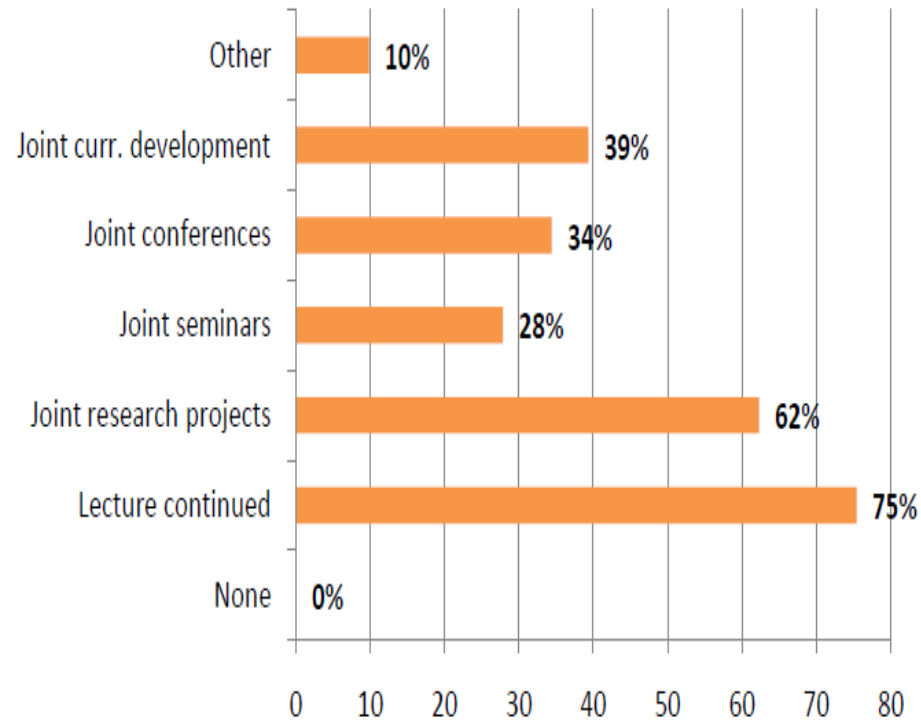


# Results – Planned follow up activities

## Q4: Planned follow-up activities



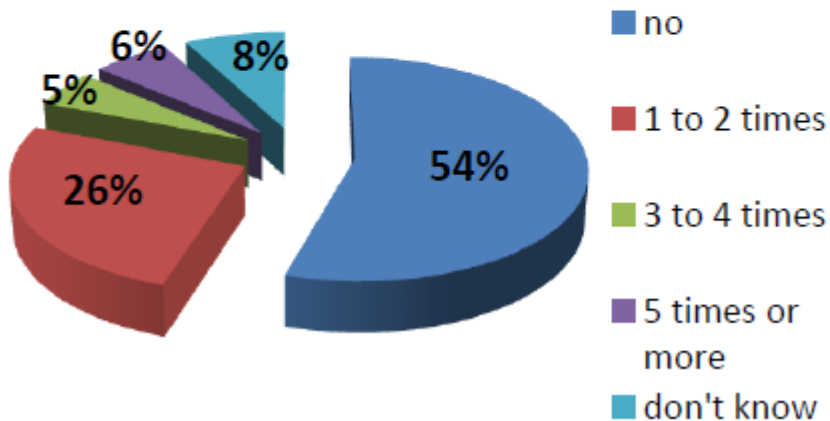
## Q35: Planned follow-up activities with the guest lecturer



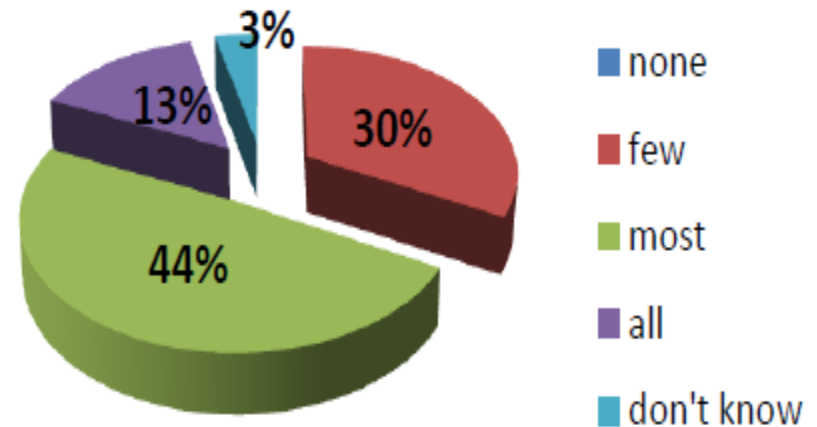
# Results – Cooperation with lecturers

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**Q11: Local lecturers' visits to the guest lecturer's inst.**



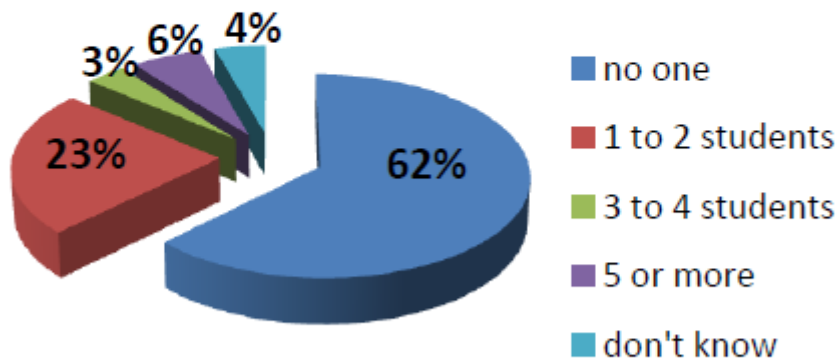
**Q25: Continued cooperation: Lecturers - Guest lecturers**



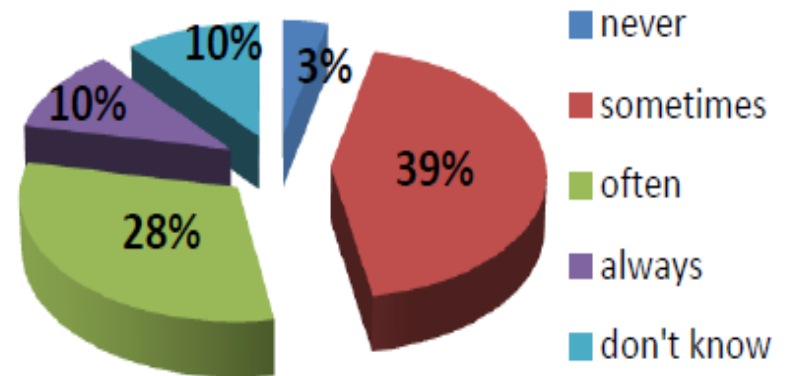
# Results – Cooperation with students

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**Q13: Students' visits to the guest lecturer's institution**



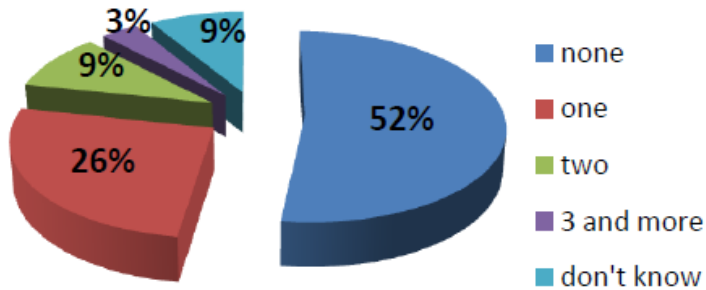
**Q28: Continued cooperation: Students - Guest lecturer**



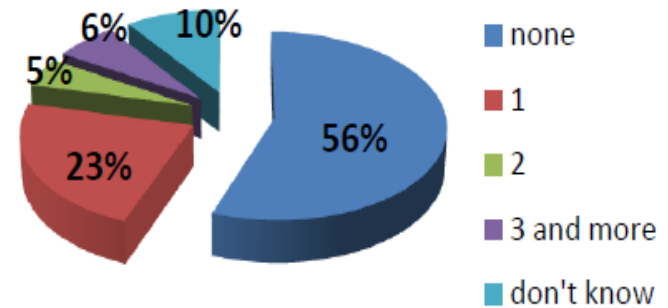
# Results – Curriculum development

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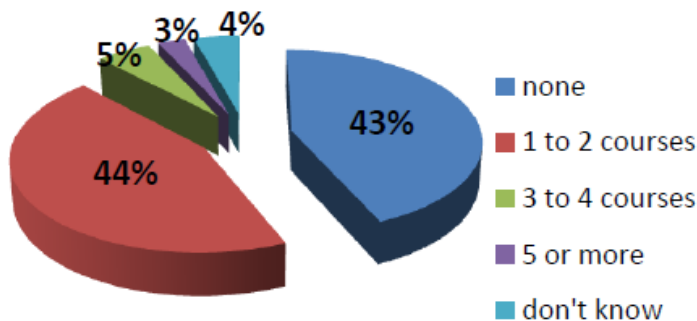
**Q18: Assistance in development of new study programmes**



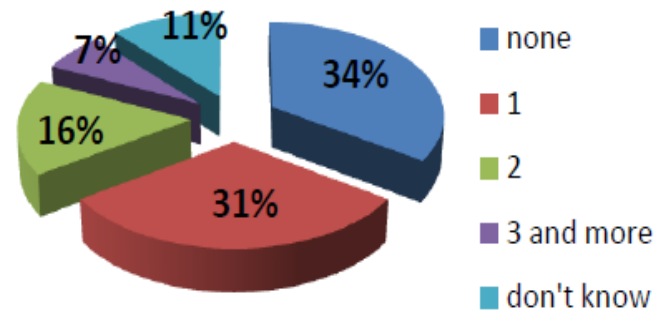
**Q 17: New study programmes**



**Q19: Participation in the development of new courses**



**Q18: New courses**



# Concluding remarks

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- ▶ The majority of lecturers is at least considering **repatriation**
- ▶ **Mobility of the lecturers and students** from the hosting institution to the guest lecturers' institutions has taken place and is planned in the future
- ▶ Guest lecturers are involved in the projects other than BGP in the host country
- ▶ Guest lecturers initiated other projects and other **cooperation for the hosting institution**
- ▶ Positive impact on the improvement of quality of education at the hosting institution (**content and methods**)
- ▶ On-going support
- ▶ Big and positive influence of the students' academic development (**mobility and research interest**)
- ▶ <sup>14</sup> **Sustainability** (mobility, follow-up activities and projects)



# **Towards 2020:**

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# Thank You For Your Attention!

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**[www.wus-austria.org/project/0/21.html](http://www.wus-austria.org/project/0/21.html)**