

# Drivers and barriers for the reduction of single-use plastics in the member countries of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

## Single-use plastic initiatives in ASEM member countries

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# Research scope



Characterising single-use plastic waste reduction initiatives across ASEM

Implementation drivers and barriers

Impact of COVID-19

# Research approach

## Scope:

- Single-use plastic waste initiatives in ASEM
  - bottom-up initiatives
  - self-sustainable
  - operational for at least one year

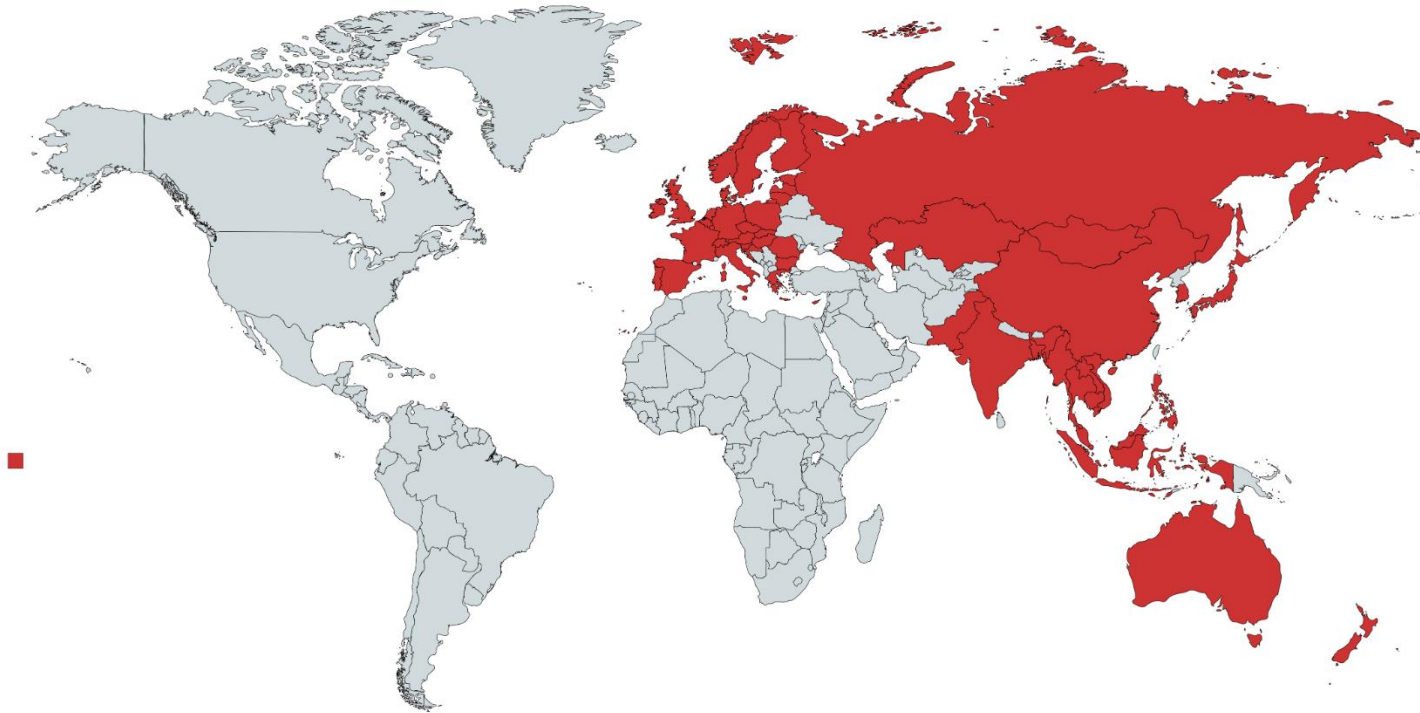
## Methodology:

- Desk research and survey

## Data collection:

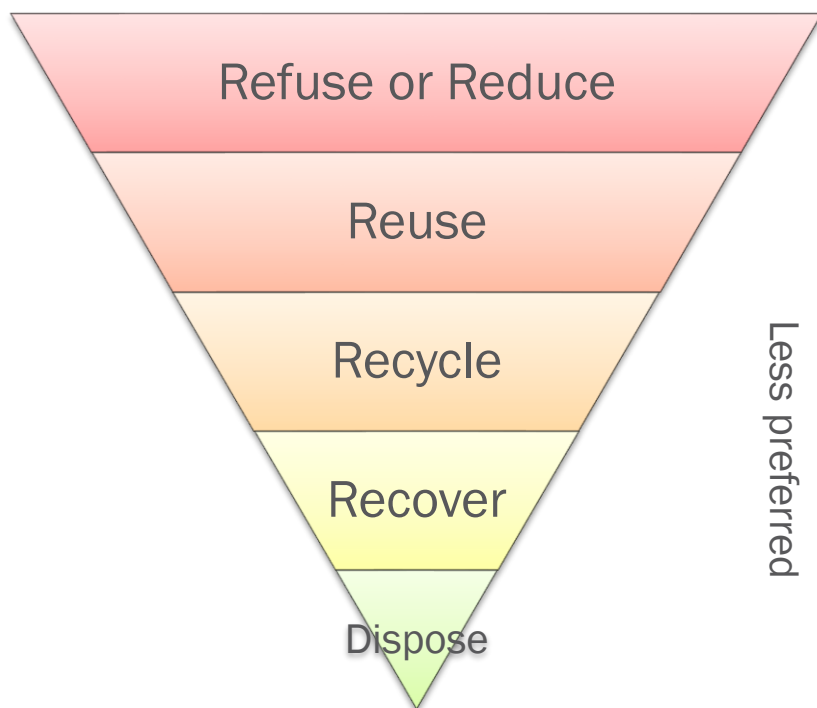
- 51 ASEM partner countries
- Between November 2019 and January 2020

# Asia-Europe Meeting Partner Countries

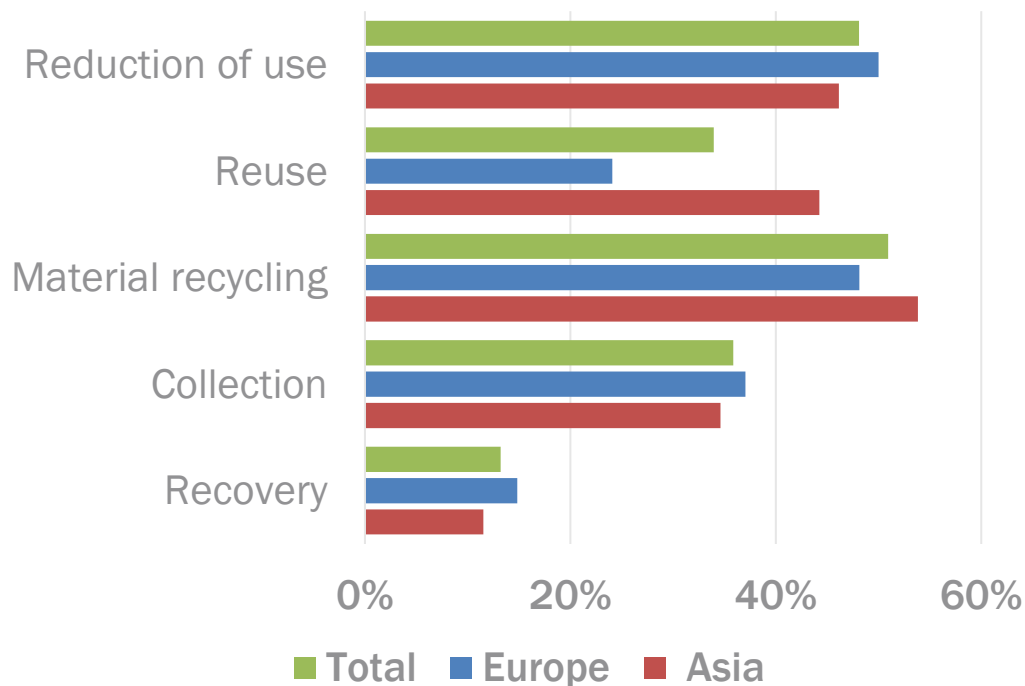


Generated at [www.mapchart.net](http://www.mapchart.net)

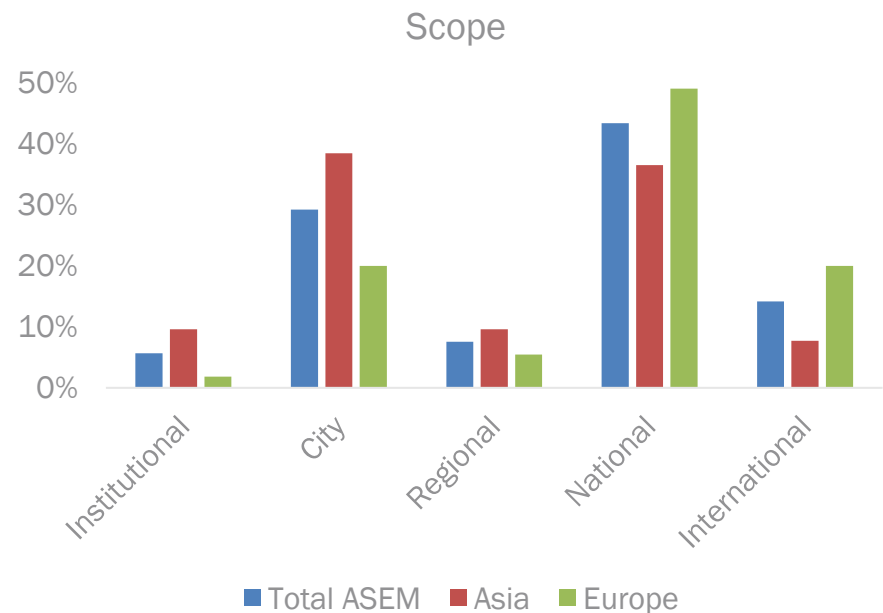
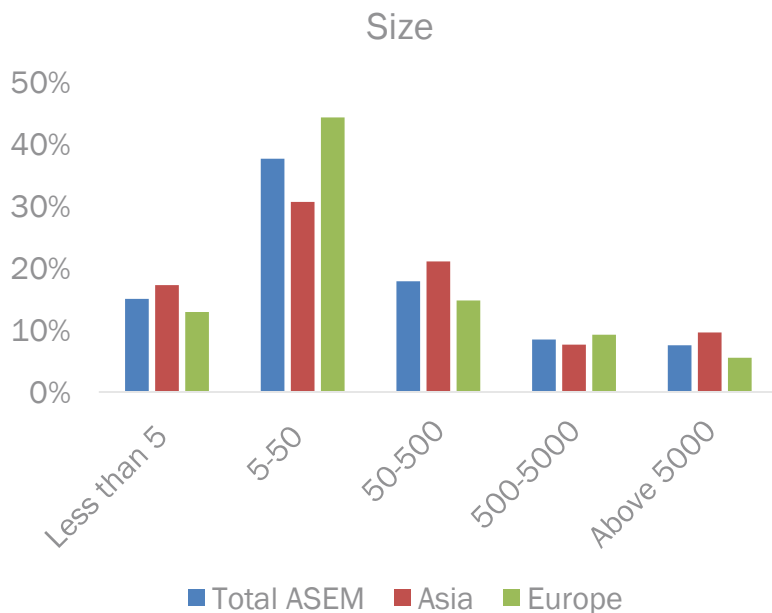
# Project objectives of the studied initiatives and projects



Less preferred



# Size and scale of the identified projects: *prevalence of medium-sized organizations with local or national scope of activities*

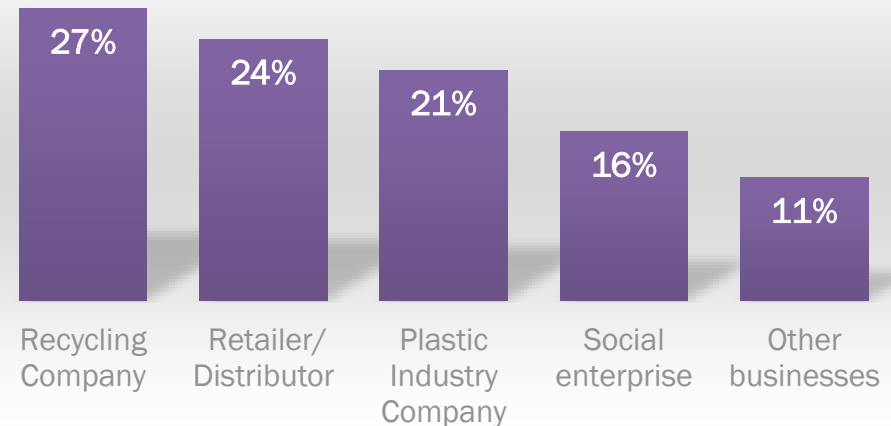


# Managing organizations: *the majority of identified projects were initiated by for-profit organizations*

Type of managing organization



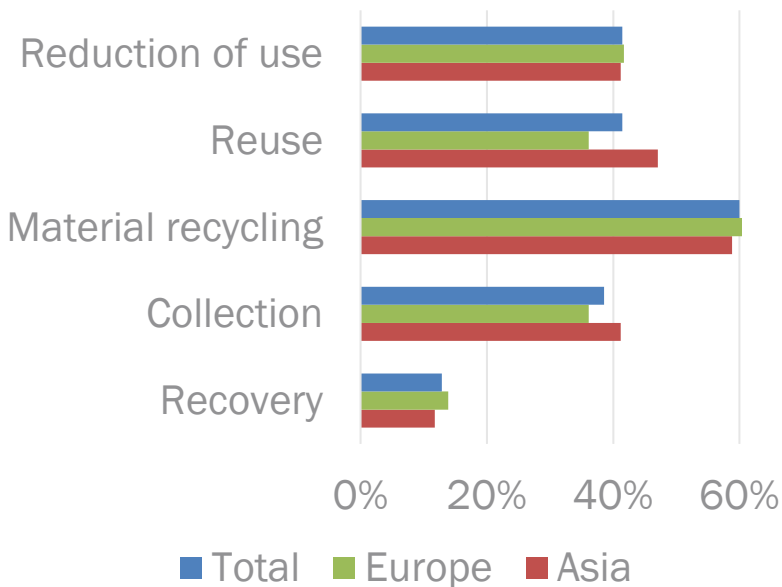
Type of businesses



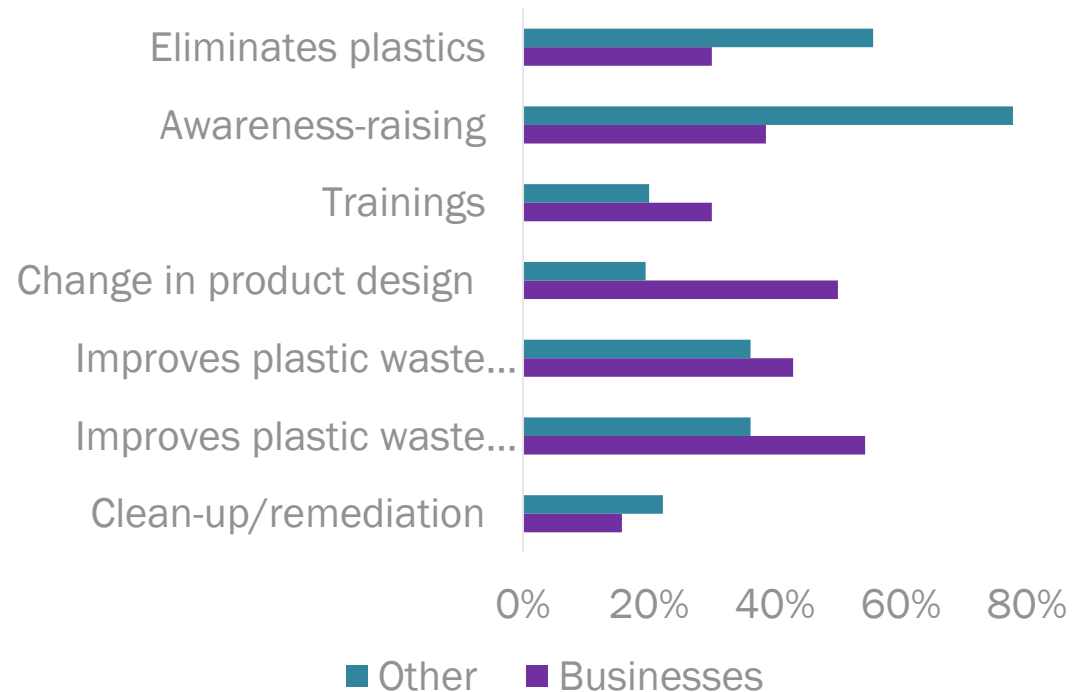
# Activities:

*projects initiated by businesses are more likely to focus on recycling and collection*

Objectives

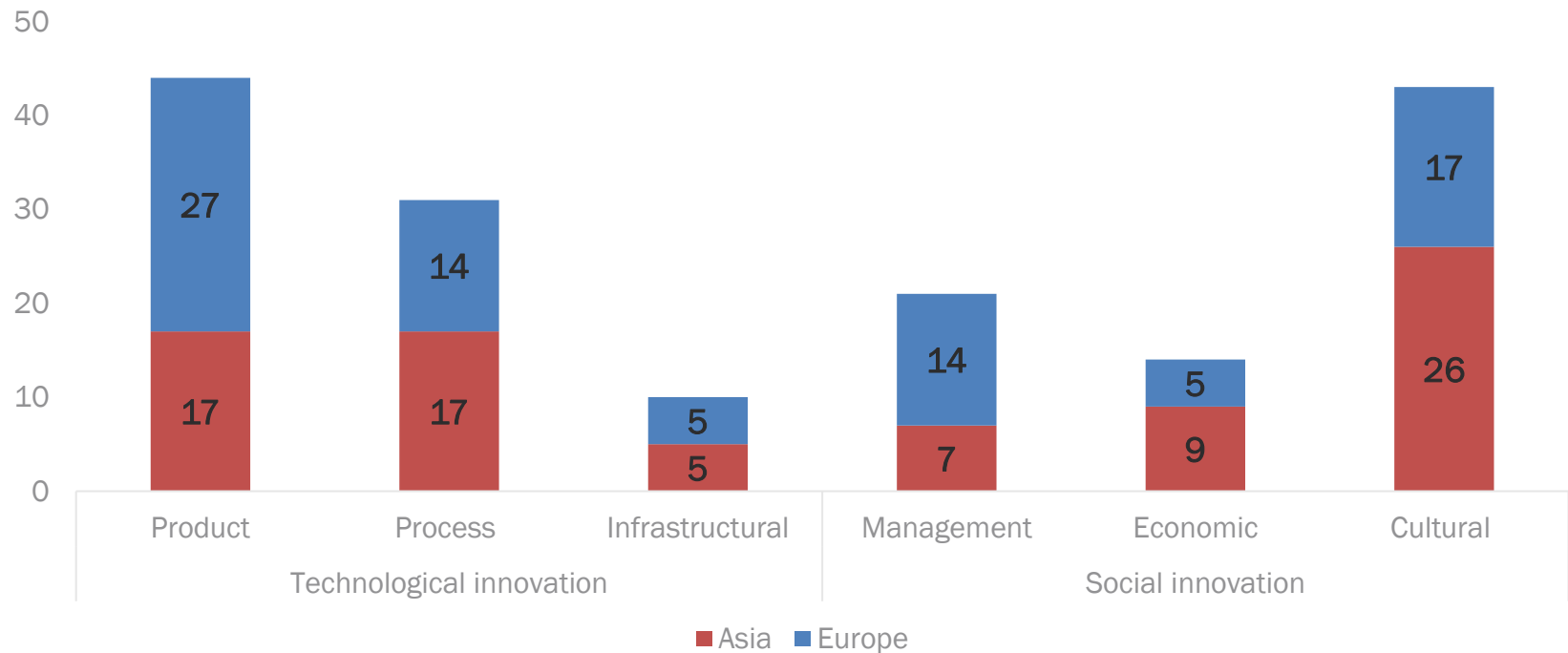


Activities

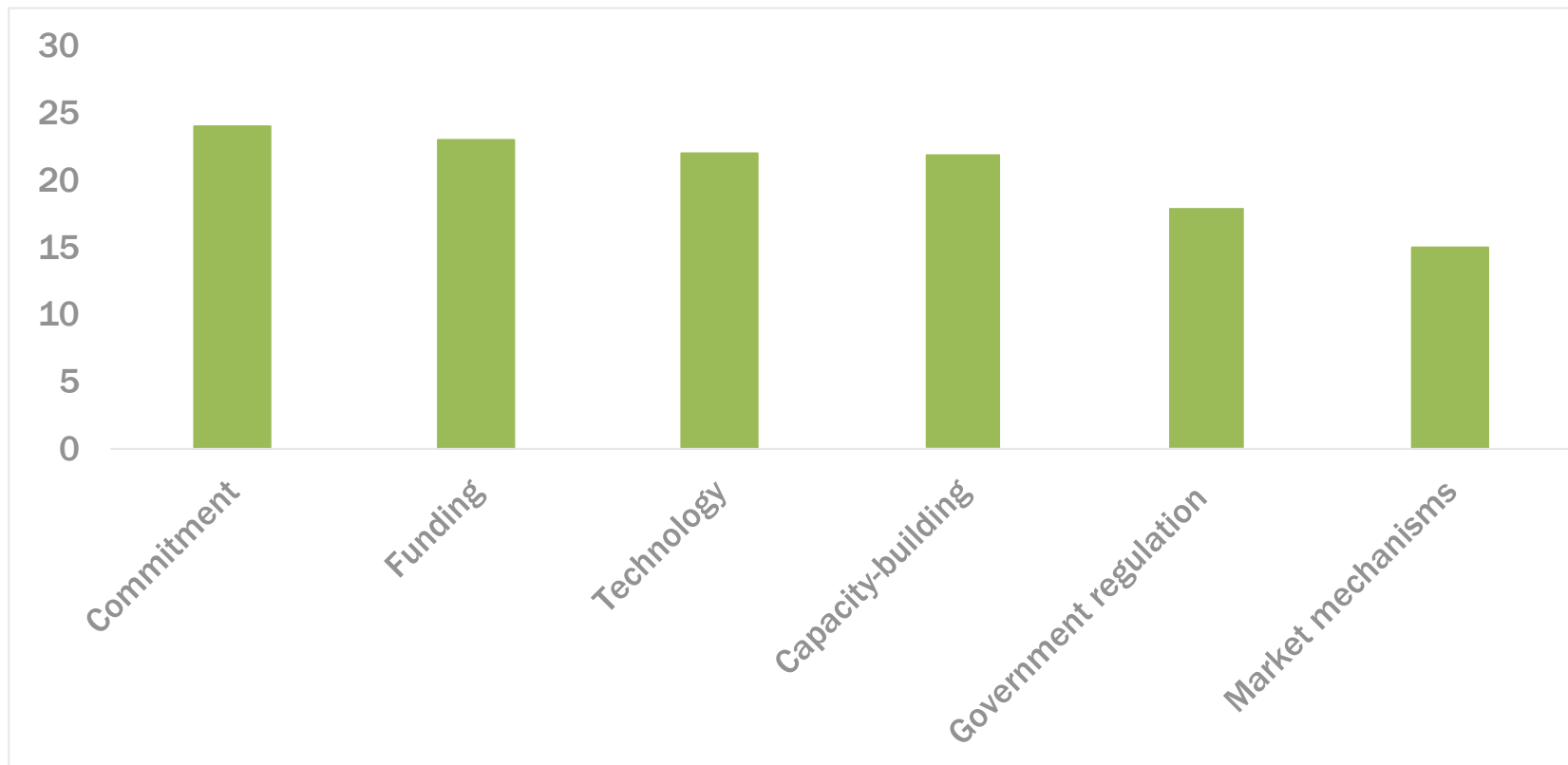




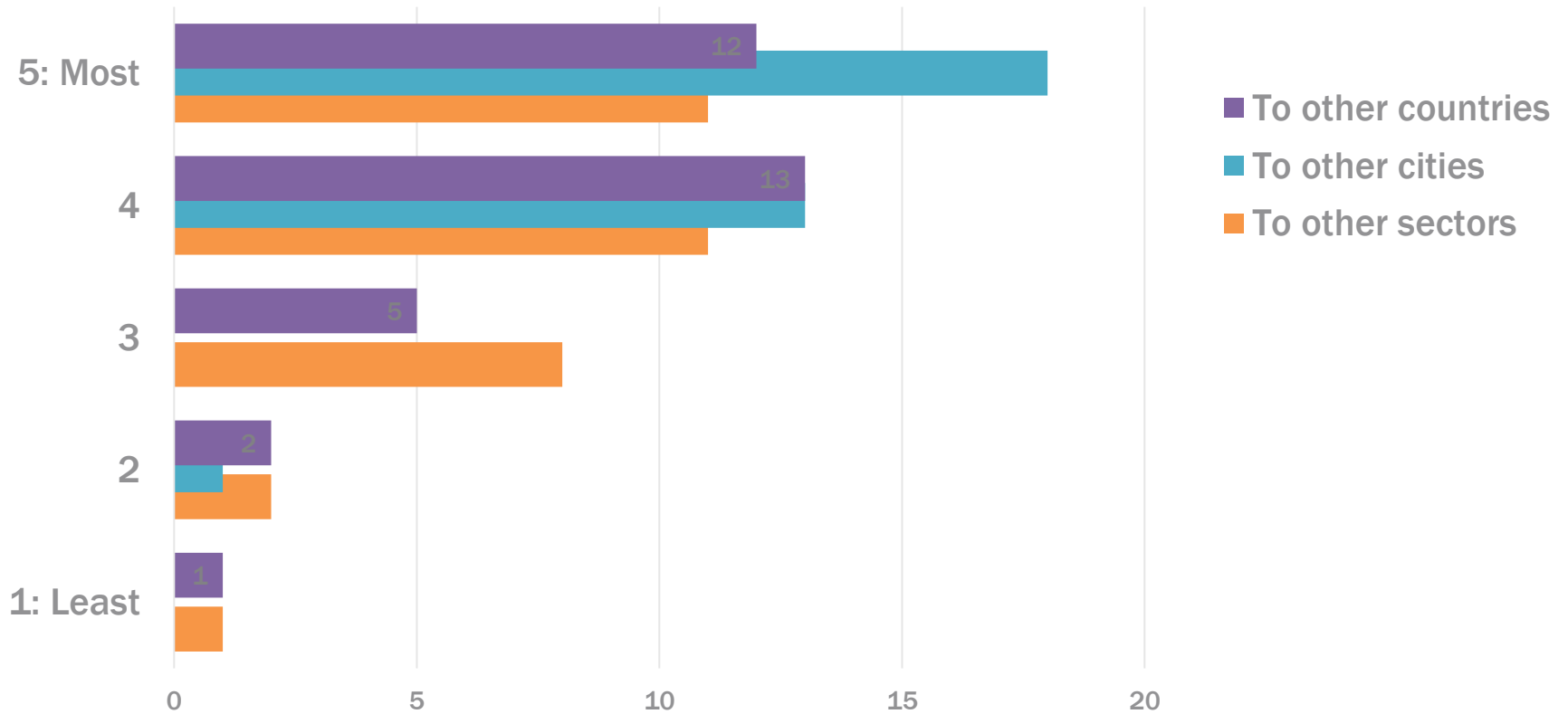
# Innovations delivered by the studied projects



# Implementation drivers of single-use plastic waste initiatives in ASEM



# Scalability of projects



# Potential barriers of upscaling single-use plastic waste reduction initiatives

- regulation/standards
- tax incentives
- public and private funding
- collection and recycling infrastructure
- awareness, interest or commitment
- coordination along the plastic production chain

# Impacts of Covid-19

- Limited interruption with required health measures
- Shifting production to produce protective equipments
- Moving education and awareness-raising events online

# Conclusions

1. Potential to create synergies, if single-use plastic waste reduction are coordinated across the supply chains.
2. Businesses across ASEM have a high potential to deliver product, process and infrastructural innovations.
3. Innovations to tackle the plastic waste challenge are more likely to happen at the smaller organizational scale.
4. ASEM countries will need to support the expansion of scattered single-use plastic waste initiatives to trigger systemic change.

Thank you for the attention!