NIOSH Evaluation Capacity-Building Plan (ECB) Fiscal Year 2023 Update

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NIOSH Board of Scientific Counselors Meeting

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Background

Why evaluation capacity-building?

- Critical feedback from five program reviews (2016-18)

- Lack of evaluable programs
  - Overlap
  - Burden

- Foundations of Evidence-Based Policy Making Act

Topics included in the ECB Plan at start of FY23

1. Collecting and documenting intermediate outcomes

2. Implementation of program review recommendations

3. Long-term program review strategy

4. Implementation science

Changes made to topics in FY23

1. Conceptualizing activities with impact in mind

- Changed from focusing on intermediate outcomes (IOs) to impact.

2. Long-term evidence-building

- Eliminated topic area on implementing review recommendation.
- Broadened topic area previously focused on external program reviews to long-term evidence building.

3. Implementation science

- Topic area remained unchanged.

FY23 progress update

1. Conceptualizing activities with impact in mind

Fiscal Year 2021

- Conducted focus groups and interviews
  - Intermediate outcomes (IOs)
    - Comprehension of IOs
    - Collection and documentation
    - Barriers
    - Opportunities for process improvements
- Recommendations
  - Definition
  - Resources

Key Learning Activity 2: Prepare for education and awareness raising activities. (Completed FY23)

- **Process Steps**:
  - KLA2a: Develop educational and awareness raising materials around IOs.

1. Conceptualizing activities with impact in mind

Fiscal Year 2022

- Contract with Zimmet Group

- Began development of:
  - Module 1: Conceptualizing Projects with Impact in Mind
    - Researchers' Guide for Conceptualizing Projects with Impact in Mind
  - Module 2: Supporting Researchers in Successfully Conceptualizing and Executing Impactful Projects
  - Module 3: Using Logic Models and Results-Based Frameworks During Project Design
  - Module 4: Review of Logic Models and Results-Based Frameworks for Projects

1. Conceptualizing activities with impact in mind

Fiscal Year 2023

- Finished development of training modules

- Conducted dry runs of each training module

- Roll out of Guide to all NIOSH staff

- Roll out of training to FY24

  - project officers and their supervisors

  - additional NIOSH researchers, scientific supervisors, and communication specialists (lead program analysts-module 1)
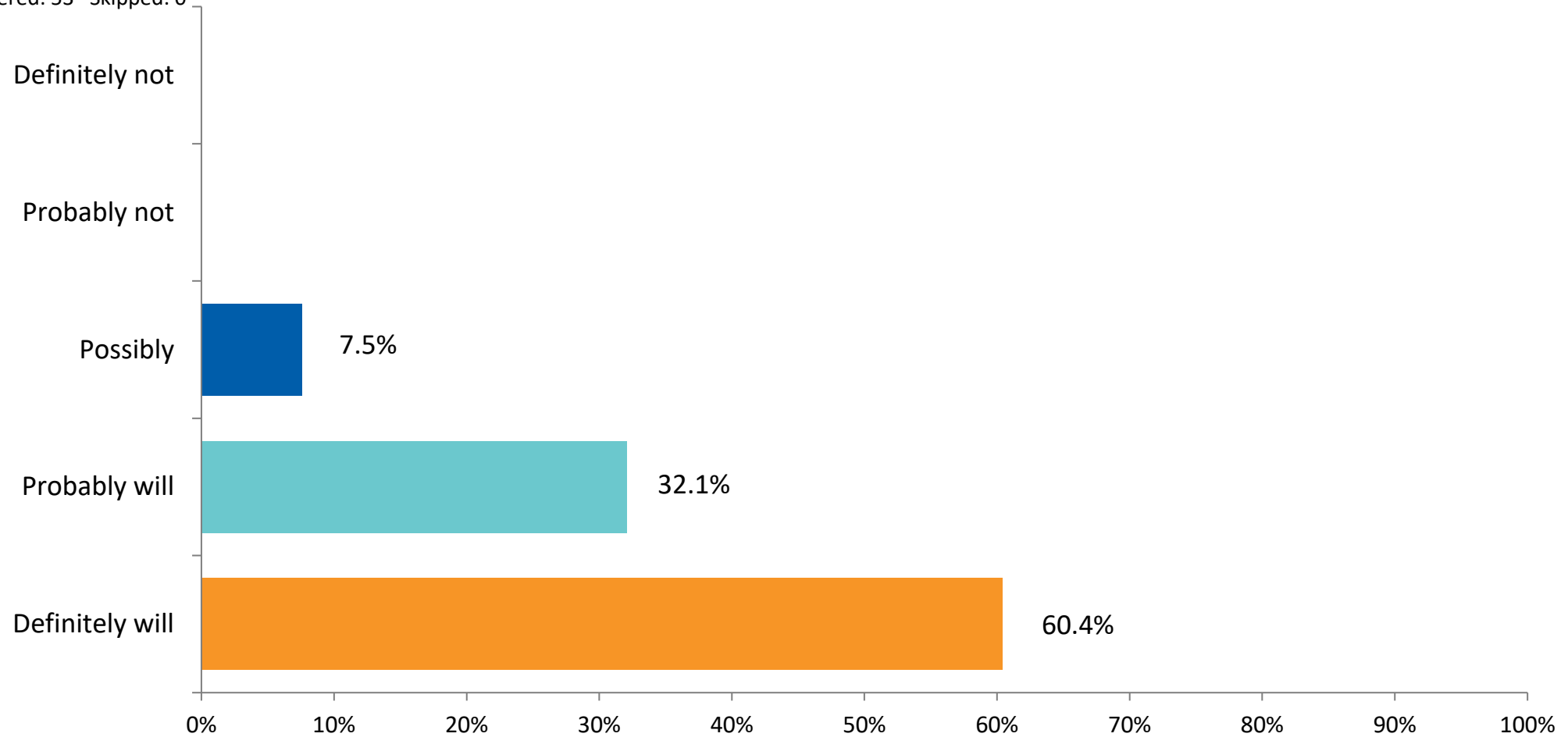
Module 1: Conceptualizing Projects with Impact in Mind

- 11 training sessions
- 165 NIOSH staff voluntarily completed training
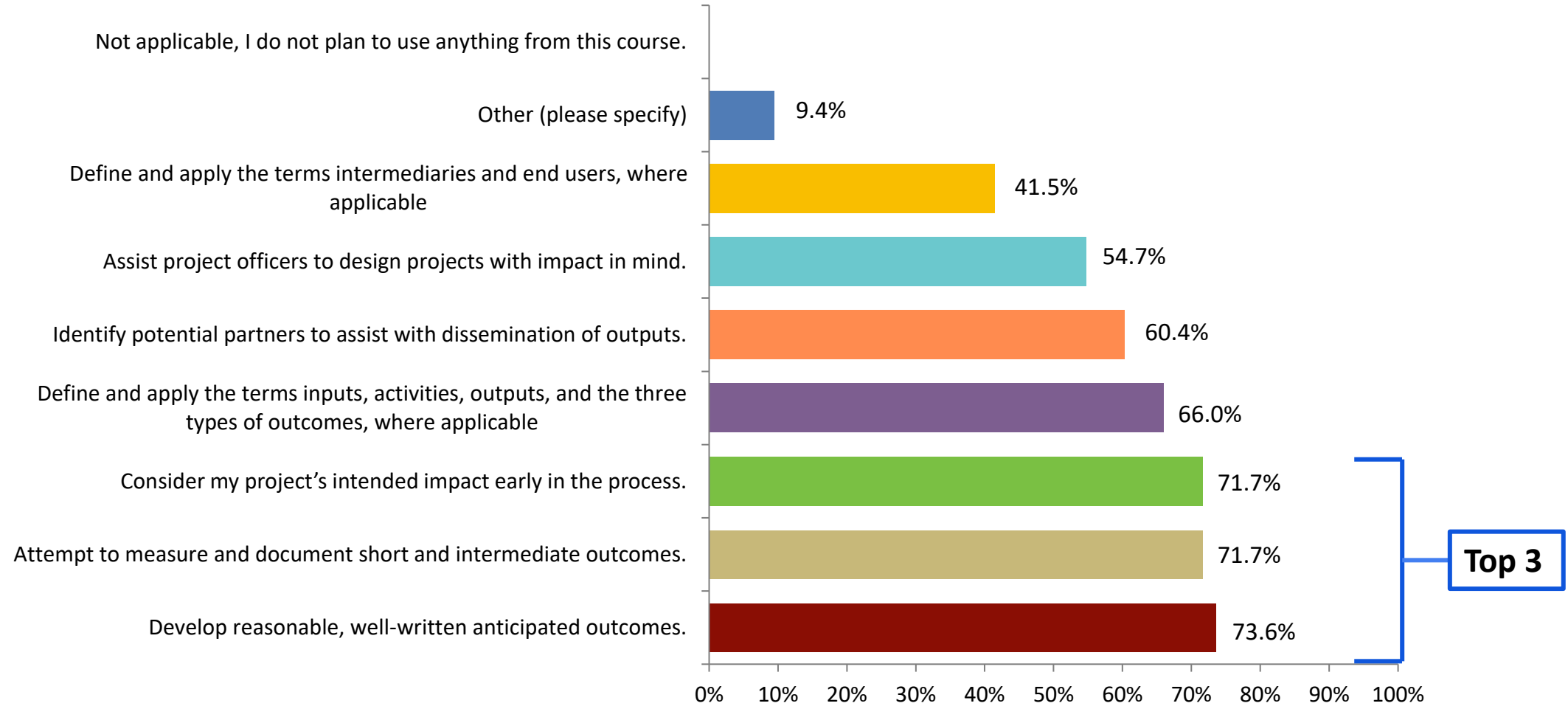- 53 participants completed post course survey

Conceptualizing Projects with Impact in Mind

For Researchers and Research Supervisors – May 2023

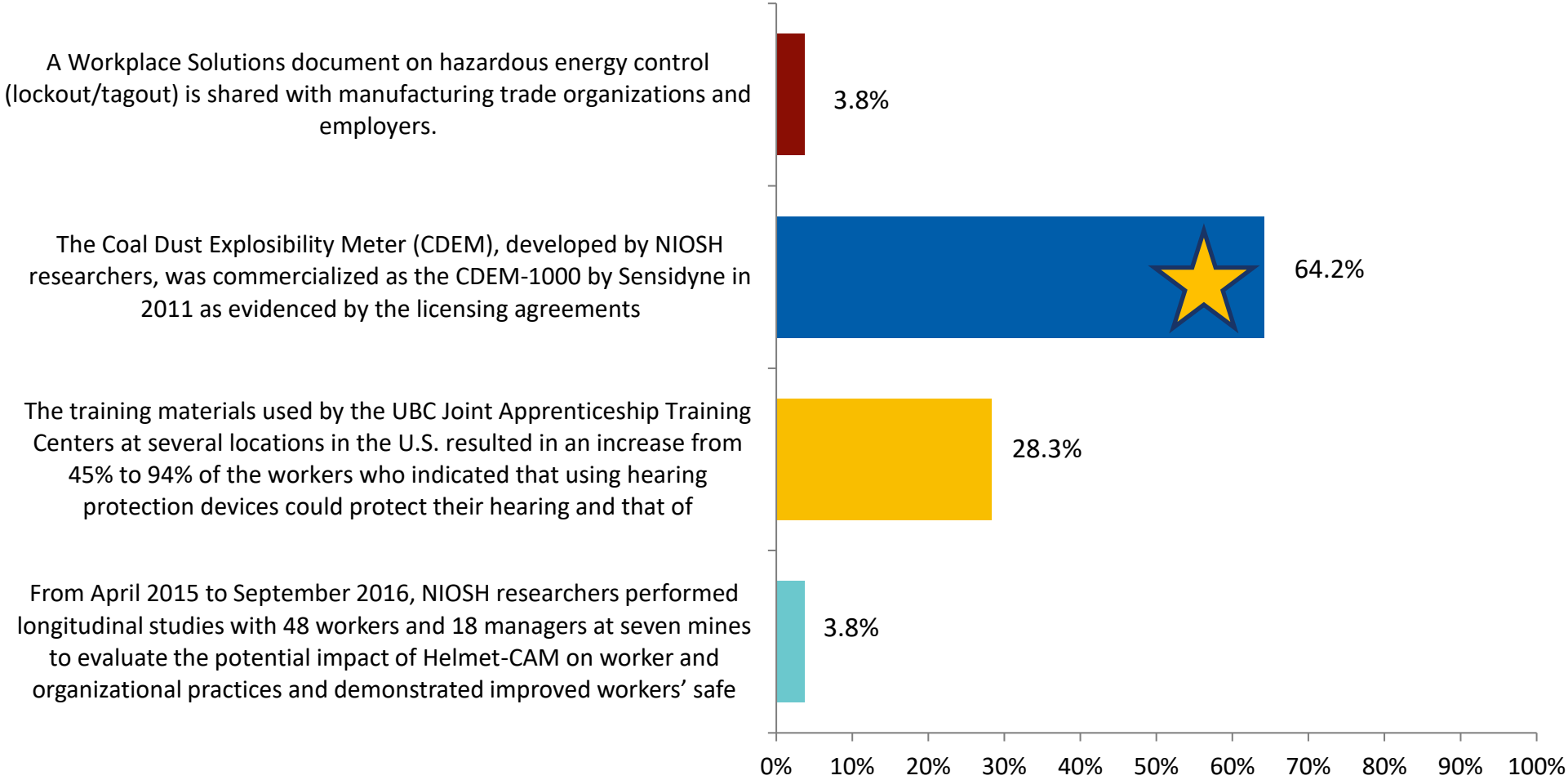# Q4: Will you use what you learned in this course in your current work?

Answered: 53   Skipped: 0

Q5: How will you use what you learned from this course? I will: (select all that apply)
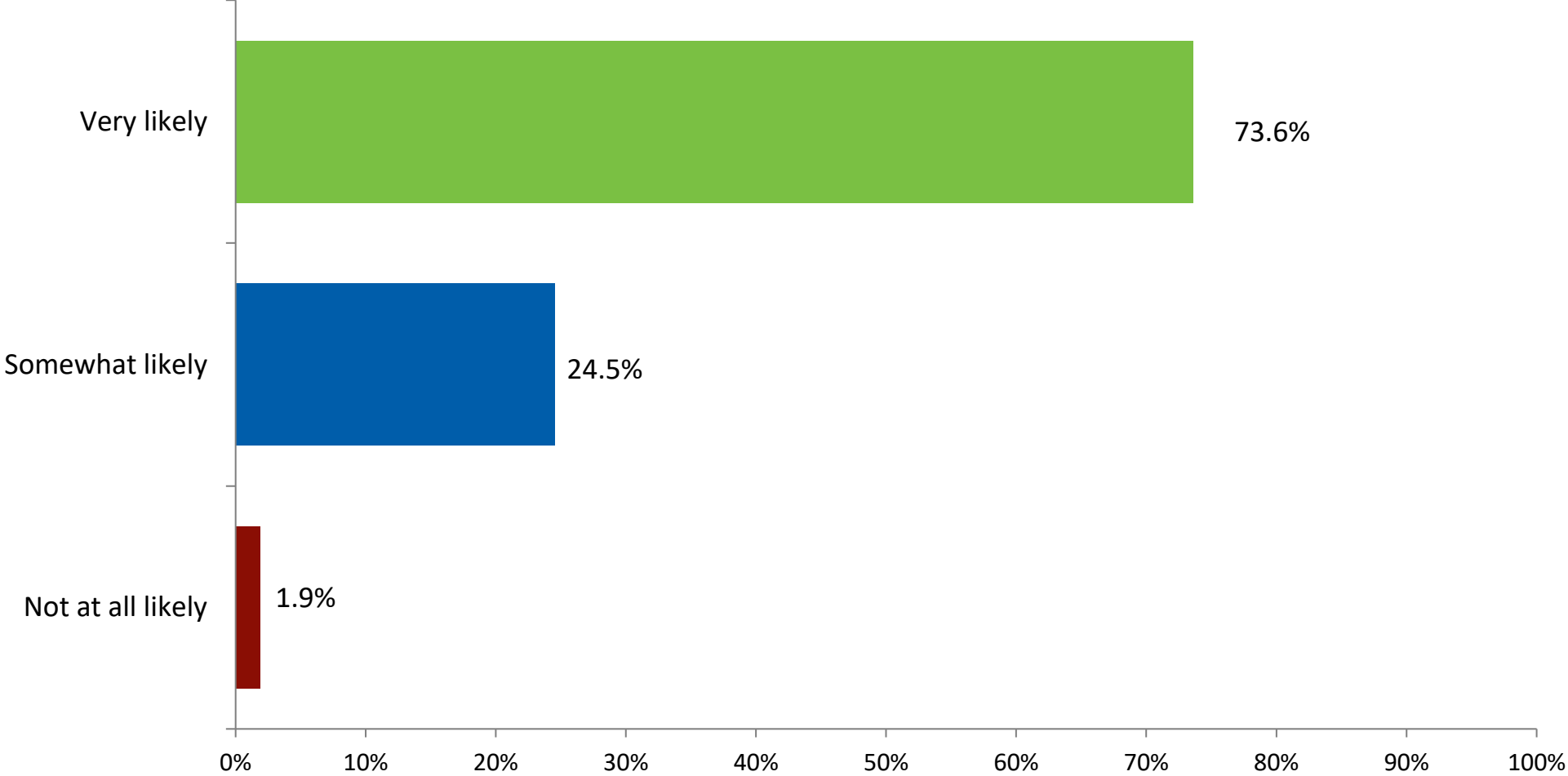
Answered: 53   Skipped: 0

Category	Percentage
Not applicable, I do not plan to use anything from this course.	
Other (please specify)	9.4%
Define and apply the terms intermediaries and end users, where applicable	41.5%
Assist project officers to design projects with impact in mind.	54.7%
Identify potential partners to assist with dissemination of outputs.	60.4%
Define and apply the terms inputs, activities, outputs, and the three types of outcomes, where applicable	66.0%
Consider my project's intended impact early in the process.	71.7%
Attempt to measure and document short and intermediate outcomes.	71.7%
Develop reasonable, well-written anticipated outcomes.	73.6%

Top 3

Q9: Which of the following is an example of a well written, completed Intermediate Outcome

Answered: 53   Skipped: 0

A Workplace Solutions document on hazardous energy control (lockout/tagout) is shared with manufacturing trade organizations and employers. — 3.8%

The Coal Dust Explosibility Meter (CDEM), developed by NIOSH researchers, was commercialized as the CDEM-1000 by Sensidyne in 2011 as evidenced by the licensing agreements — 64.2%

The training materials used by the UBC Joint Apprenticeship Training Centers at several locations in the U.S. resulted in an increase from 45% to 94% of the workers who indicated that using hearing protection devices could protect their hearing and that of — 28.3%

From April 2015 to September 2016, NIOSH researchers performed longitudinal studies with 48 workers and 18 managers at seven mines to evaluate the potential impact of Helmet-CAM on worker and organizational practices and demonstrated improved workers' safe — 3.8%

Q11: How likely are you to recommend this course to someone else?
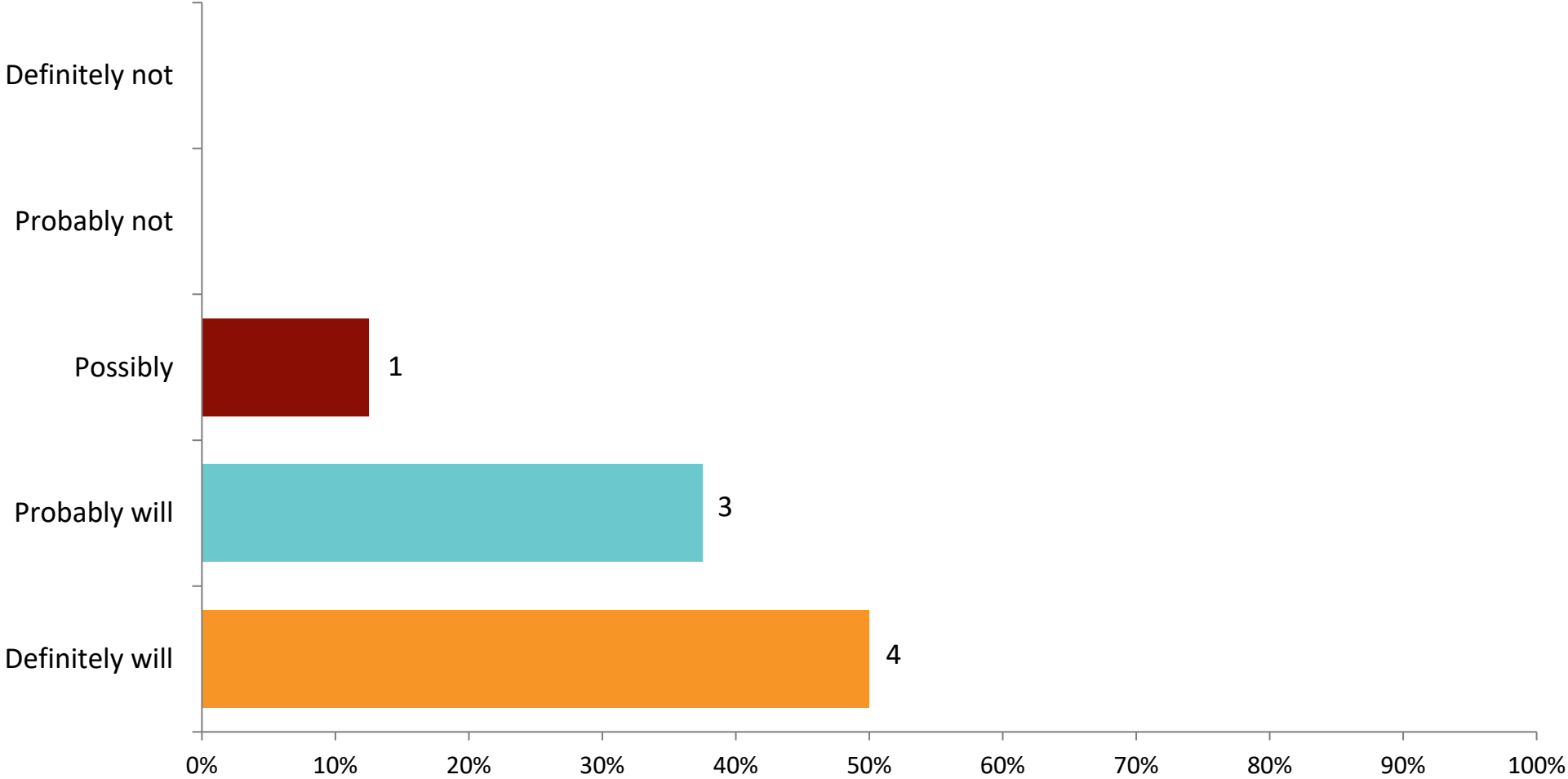
Answered: 53   Skipped: 0

Module 2: Supporting Researchers in Successfully Conceptualizing and Executing Impactful Projects

- Supervisors only

- 3 training sessions

- 15 NIOSH staff voluntarily completed training

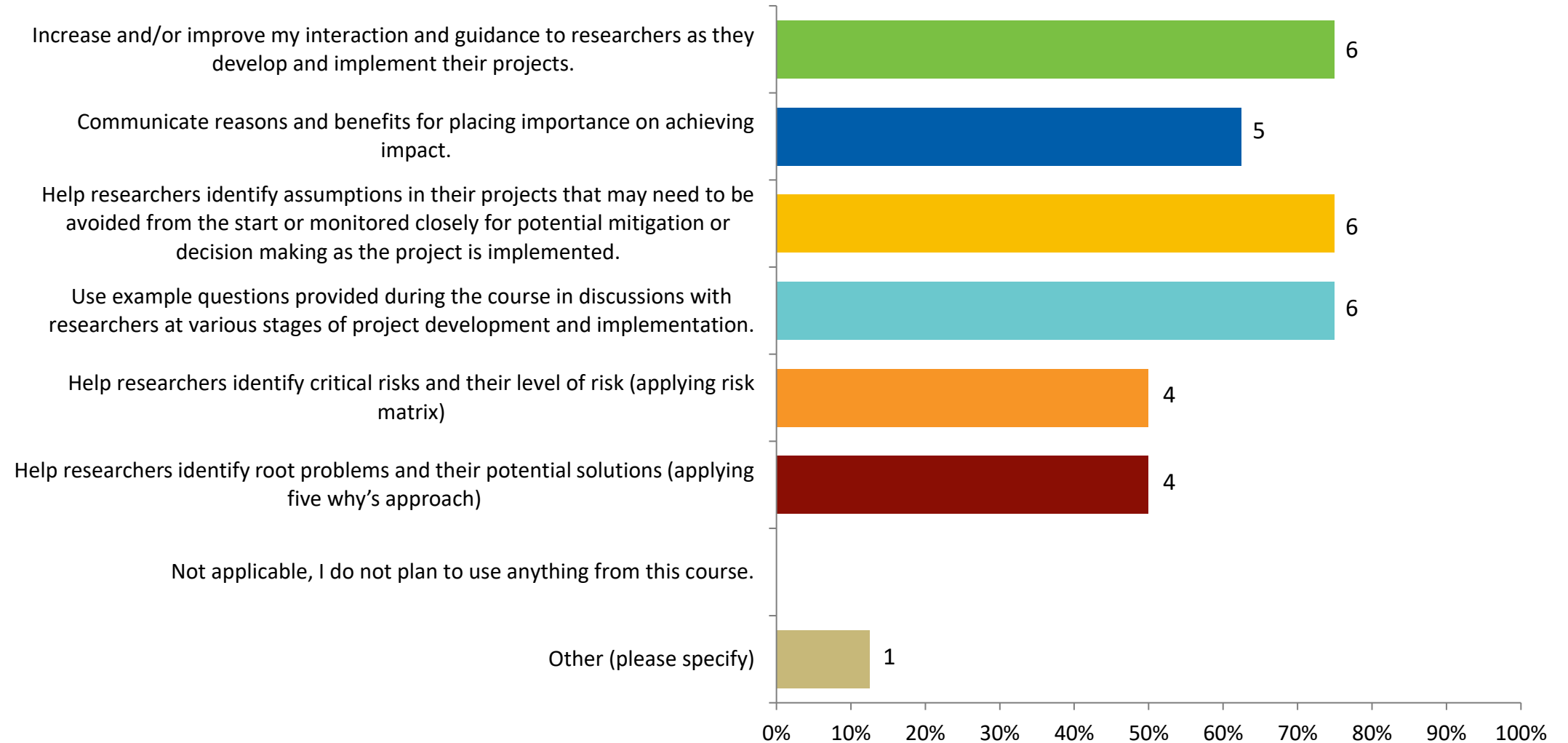- 8 participants completed post course survey

National Institute for
Occupational Safety and Health
NIOSH

Supporting Researchers in Successfully Conceptualizing and Executing Impactful Projects

May 2023

Q5: How will you use what you learned from this course? I will: (select all that apply)

Answered: 8   Skipped: 0

Q12: How likely are you to recommend this course to someone else?

Answered: 8   Skipped: 0
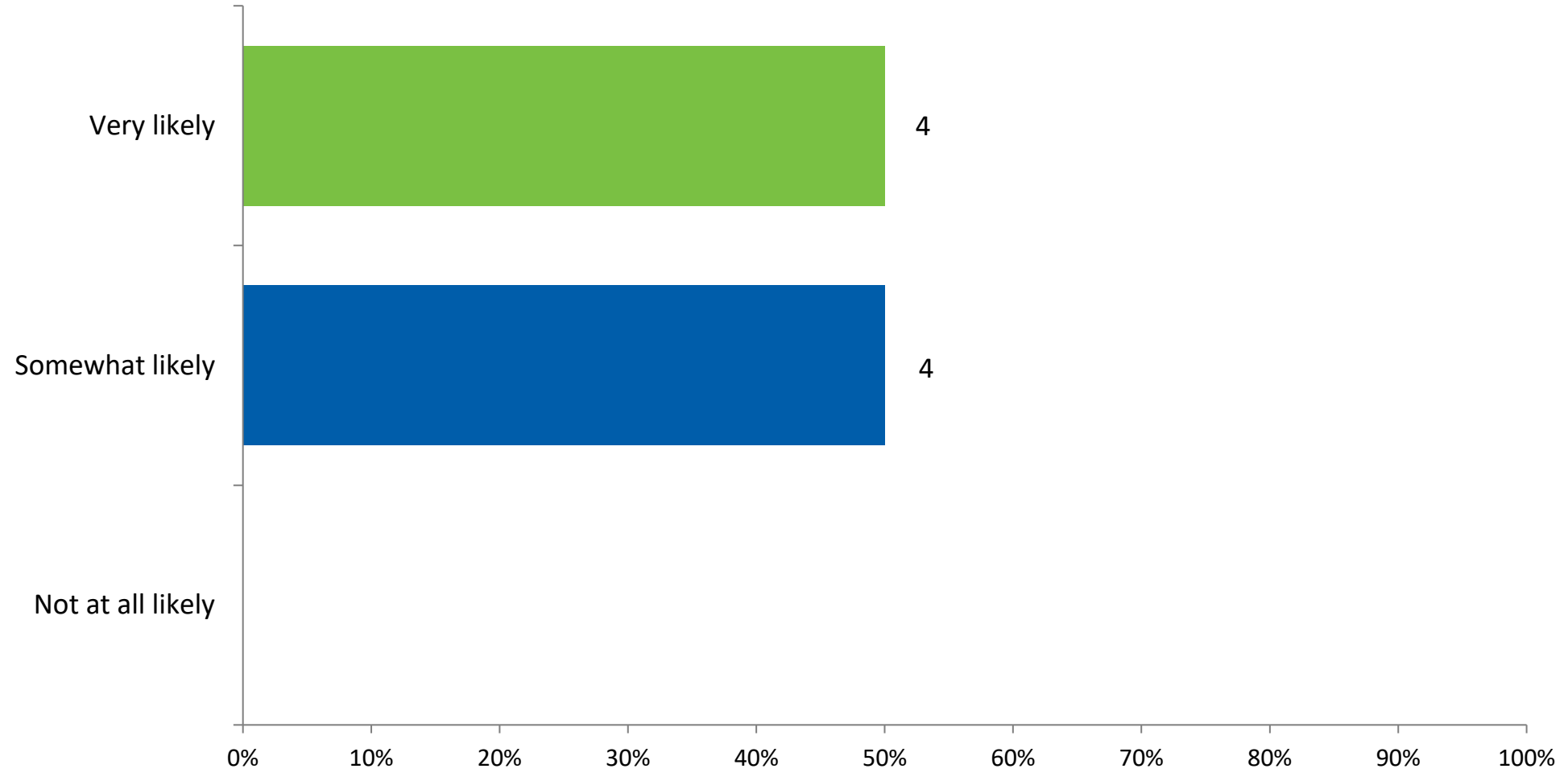
Long-term evidence-building strategy

2. Long-term evidence-building strategy

Fiscal Year 2021

- Conducted an environmental scan
- Interviewed division/lab/office directors

Fiscal Year 2022

- Drafted, internally reviewed, and finalized purpose statement and objectives for external program reviews.

Key Learning Activity 3: Prepare for development of learning agenda (e.g., select format and create a process for development). (Completion by end of FY24)

- **Process Steps**:
  - KLA3a: Develop an outline for a long-term evidence-building strategy.

Fiscal Year 2023

- NIOSH evaluators proposed an outline for a new evidence-building strategy to NIOSH Director and his deputies. The proposal was subsequently accepted.
- The outlined was then shared with the NIOSH Lead Team and Program Portfolio leaders.

2. Long-term evidence-building strategy
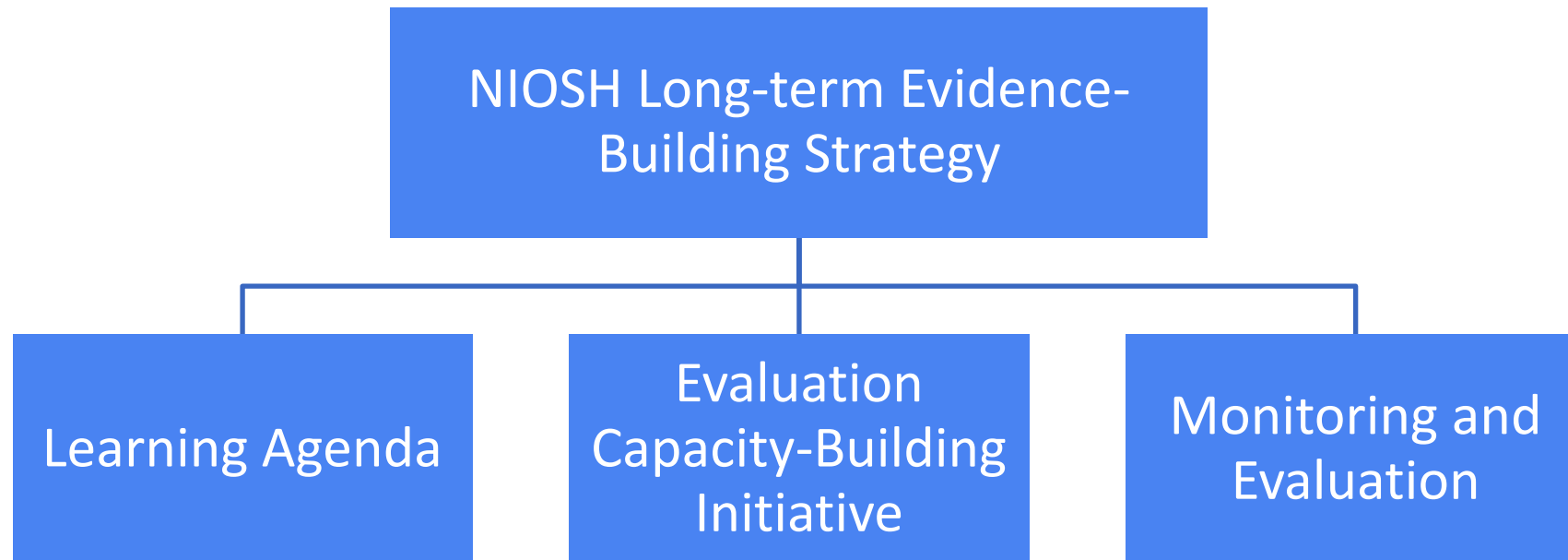
Learning Agendas

- Identify evidence needs and gaps aligned with strategic goals and objectives
- Specific, answerable questions, activities, and products
- Flexible and iterative

Evaluation Capacity-Building Initiative

**Consist of objectives and metrics
in three areas**

- Continuing Education

- Building Evaluation and
  Implementation Science Expertise

- Use of Evaluation Findings and
  Results

Monitoring and Evaluation Component

Consist of performance management functions

- Government Performance and Results Modernization Act (GPRA)

- Healthy People 2030

- CDC Priorities

- NIOSH Strategic Plan

- NIOSH Learning Agenda
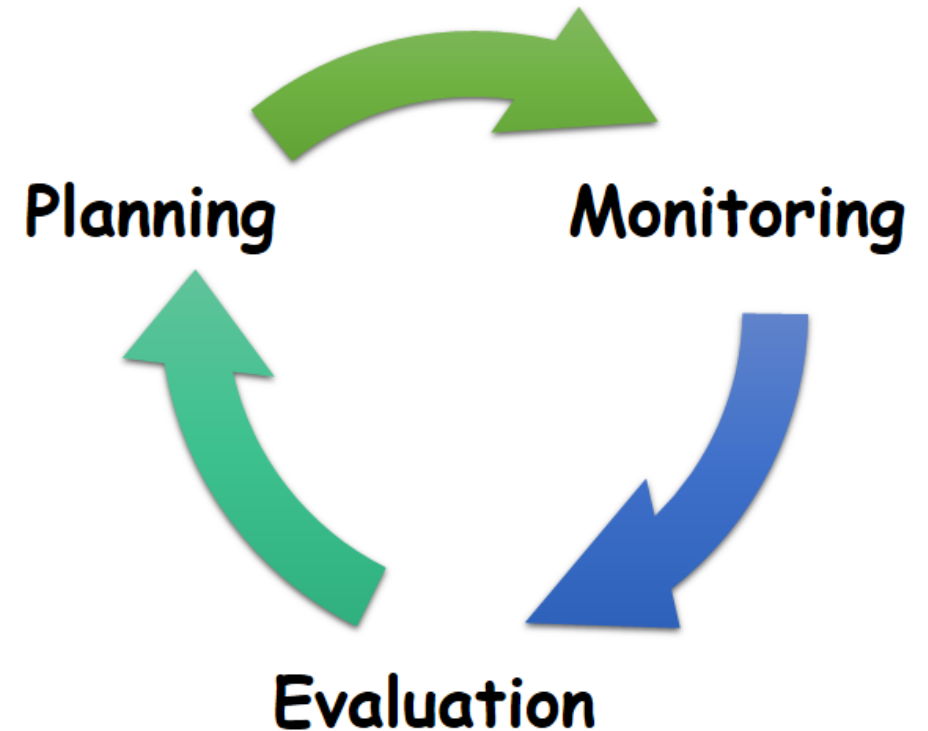
Implementation Science

3. Implementation Science

Fiscal Year 2021

- Literature review is published
- Environmental scan report is complete

Fiscal Year 2022

- Terminology changed to implementation science
- Drafted:
  - Implementation science definition
  - NIOSH Research to Impact Framework
  - 7P's of implementation table

Key Learning Activity 1: Refine definition and develop supporting materials for implementation science. (Completed FY23)

Process Steps:
- KLA1c: Seek division/laboratories/offices (DLO) feedback and finalize definition and supporting materials.

Fiscal Year 2023

- Sought division and laboratory input on building implementation science capacity within NIOSH through listening sessions.

- Finalized definition and supporting materials.

Implementation Science:

Study the processes by which interventions that were developed and tested to address OSH hazards and risks and/or promote health and well-being (i.e., under the intervention research umbrella) are disseminated, adopted, implemented, sustained, and scaled up equitably in real-world settings. Research under this area will use models, methods, and measures to systematically identify, develop, evaluate, and refine strategies that support the dissemination, adoption, implementation, sustained use, and scale up of previously tested interventions into community and workplace settings for all workers and especially those who are disproportionately impacted by OSH risks and hazards.

Listening sessions (Jan-March 2023):

- 7 listening sessions
- Eight divisions/labs
- 34 participants
- Two-prong approach
  - Brief introduction
  - Listening session

NIOSH DLO	# participants
DFSE	7
DSI	4
NPPTL	5
PMRD	4
RHD	5
SMRD	4
WSD/HELD	5

3. Implementation Science

Purpose of the Small Group Listening Sessions: To learn together about best strategies in introducing implementation science (IS) to NIOSH and their specific divisions and labs

Questions for Small Group Listening Sessions:
- Lingering questions about IS
- Relevance to your research and opportunities for IS in your research
- IS already in your work
- Needs to meaningfully incorporate IS into your program's/division's work

Recommendations: (no specific order)

- Resources for IS

- Incorporation of IS in all stages of the project

- Incentives for engaging in IS

- More examples of successful use of IS in OSH projects

Thank you to the NIOSH staff who were part of Year 3 implementation!

Plus, external SMEs
- Borsika Rabin
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- Eric Carbone

- Zoe Dugdale
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- Rebecca Guerin
- Tom Cunningham
- Christy Forrester
- Rachel Walker
- Devin Lucas
- Alan Katruska
- Jay Vietas

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- Lilia Chen
- Brianna Eiter
- Carol Nixon
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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.