

International trends and activities in learning outcomes

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International trends in learning outcomes policies in quality assurance

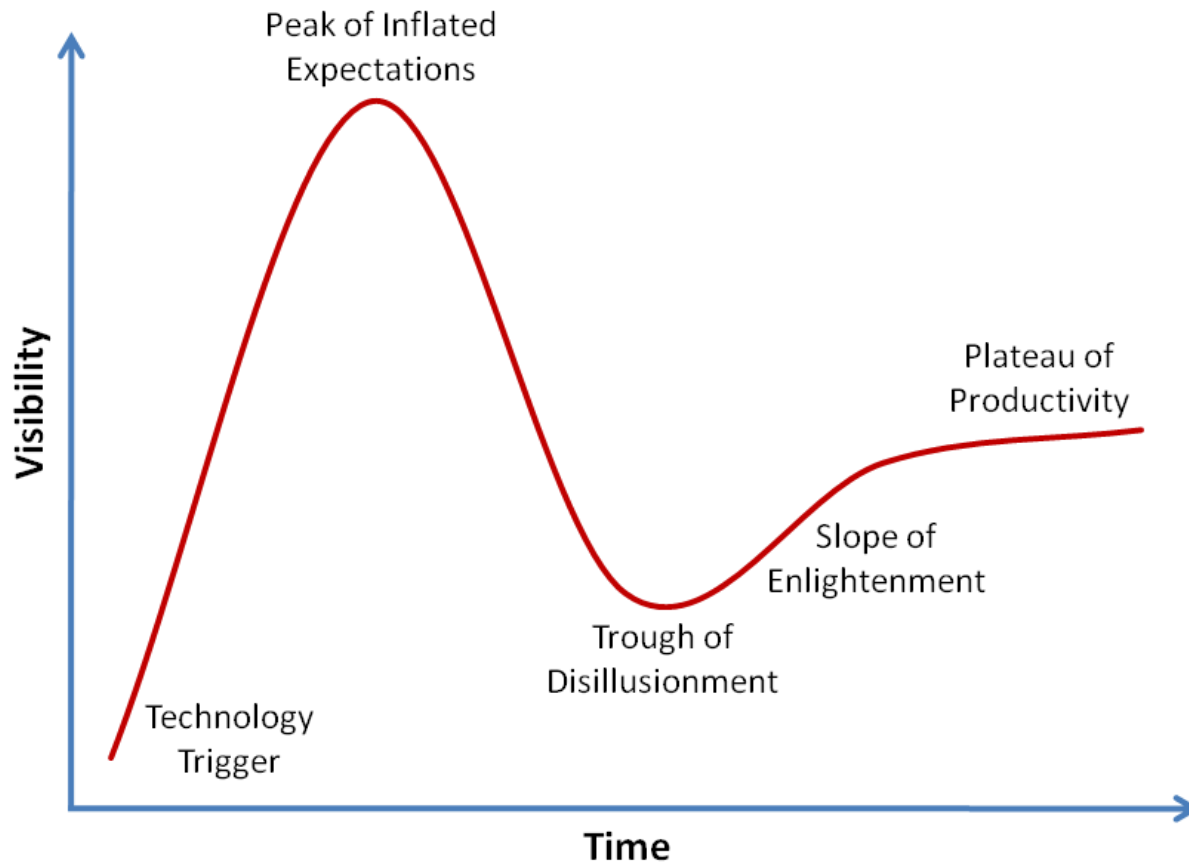
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Capturing quality

- Higher education systems are actively developing and implementing initiatives in order to demonstrate, or 'prove', the value of higher education and learning
- Learning outcomes considered to be the 'silver bullet' able to capture and quantify educational quality.

Hype cycle heuristic

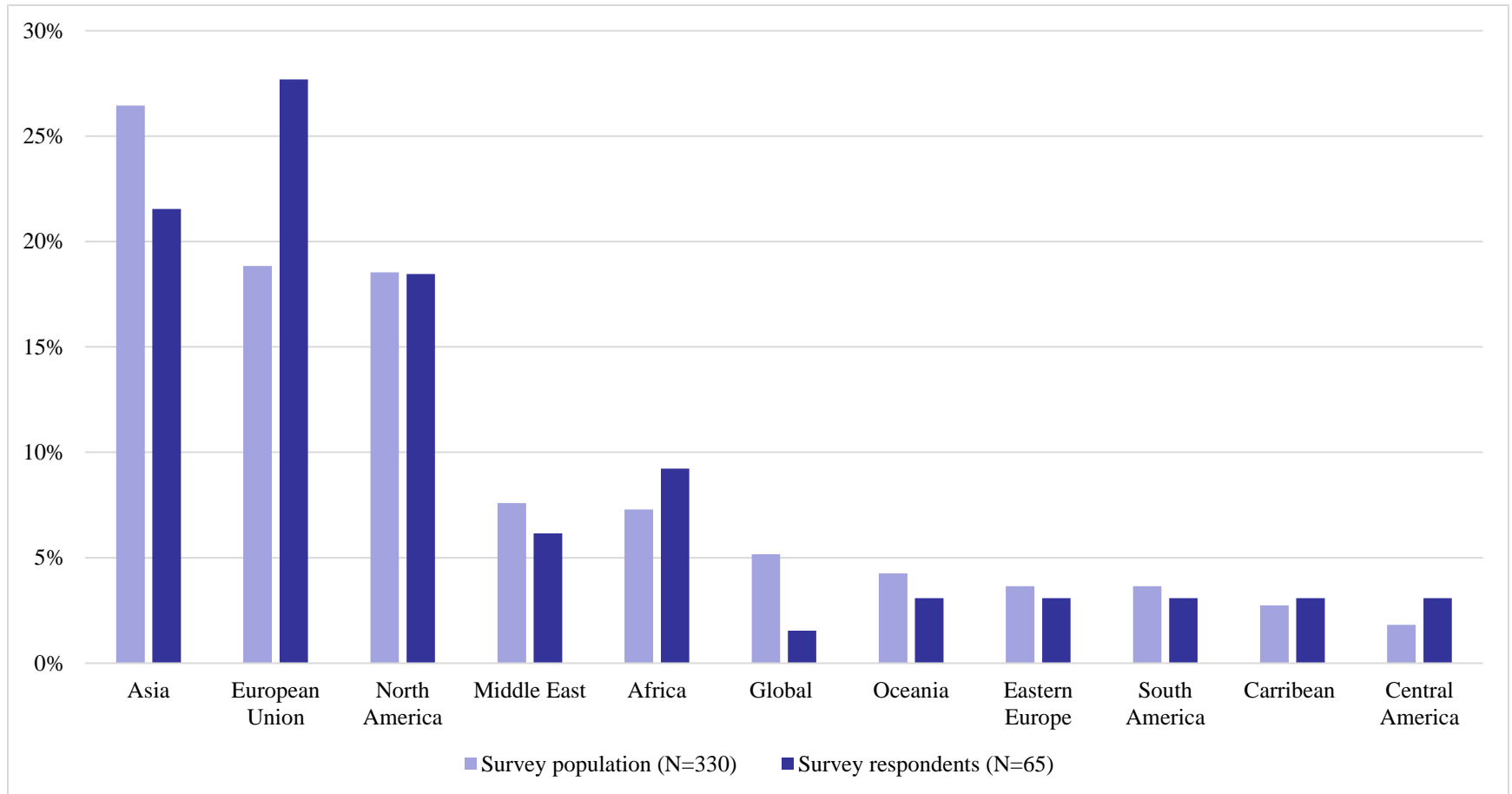


Gartner, 2016

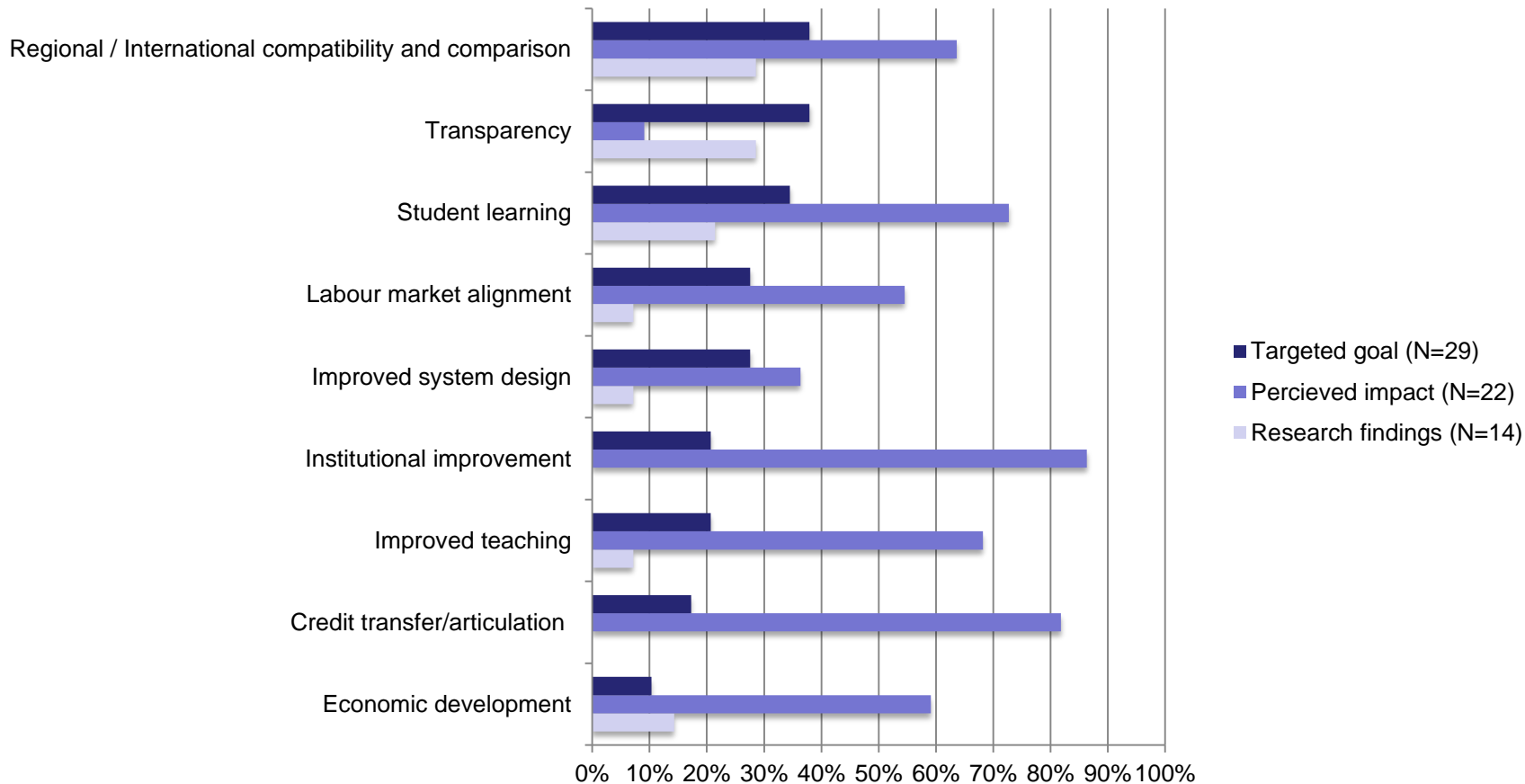
Research questions and methods

- How are learning outcomes policies being used in regulatory schemes?
- What impact, if any, have the policies had?
- Mixed methods:
 1. Global survey of 330 regulatory agencies
 2. Case study analysis of 9 policy evaluations
 3. Meta-evaluation of policy evaluations

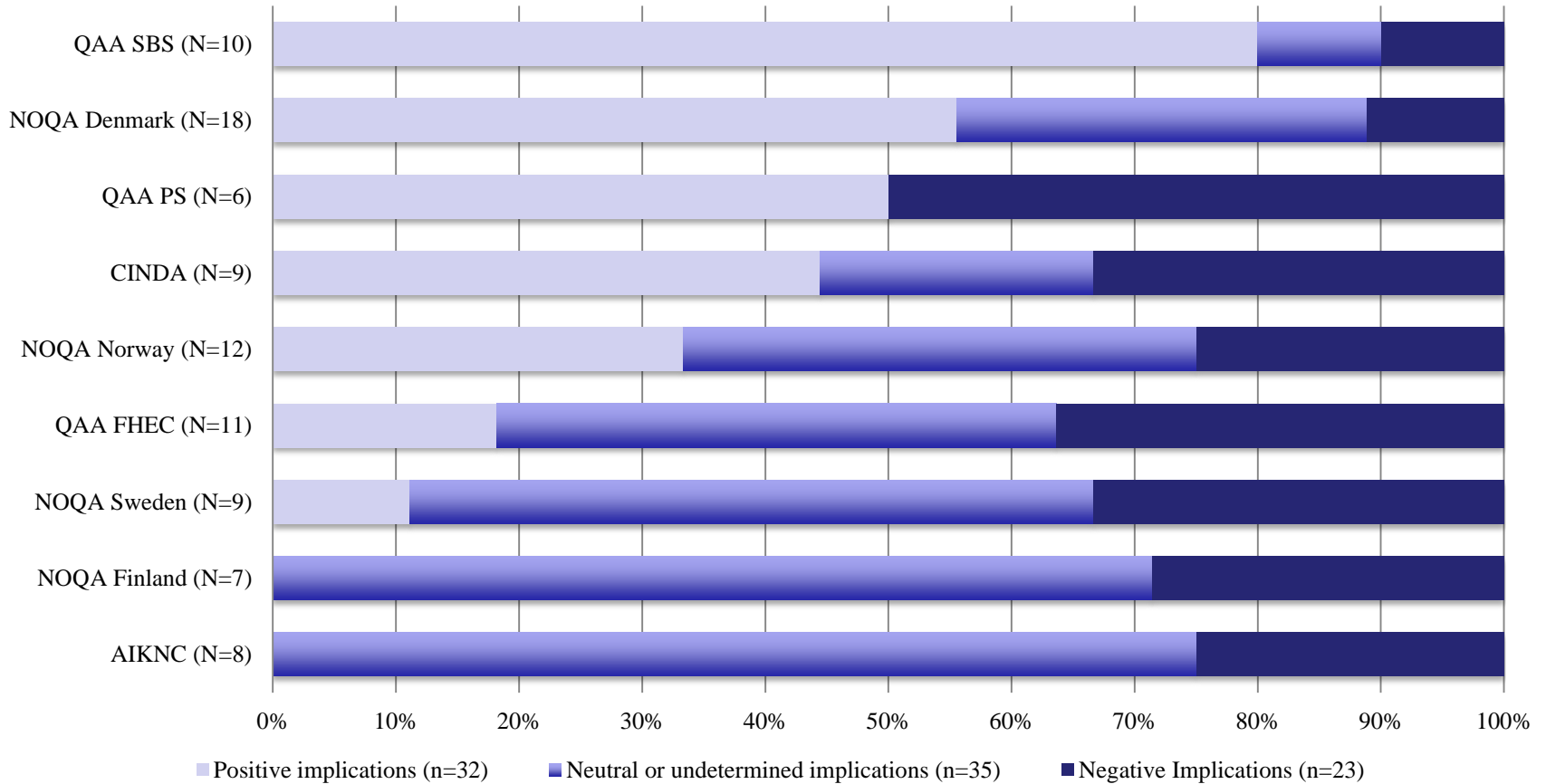
Survey participants



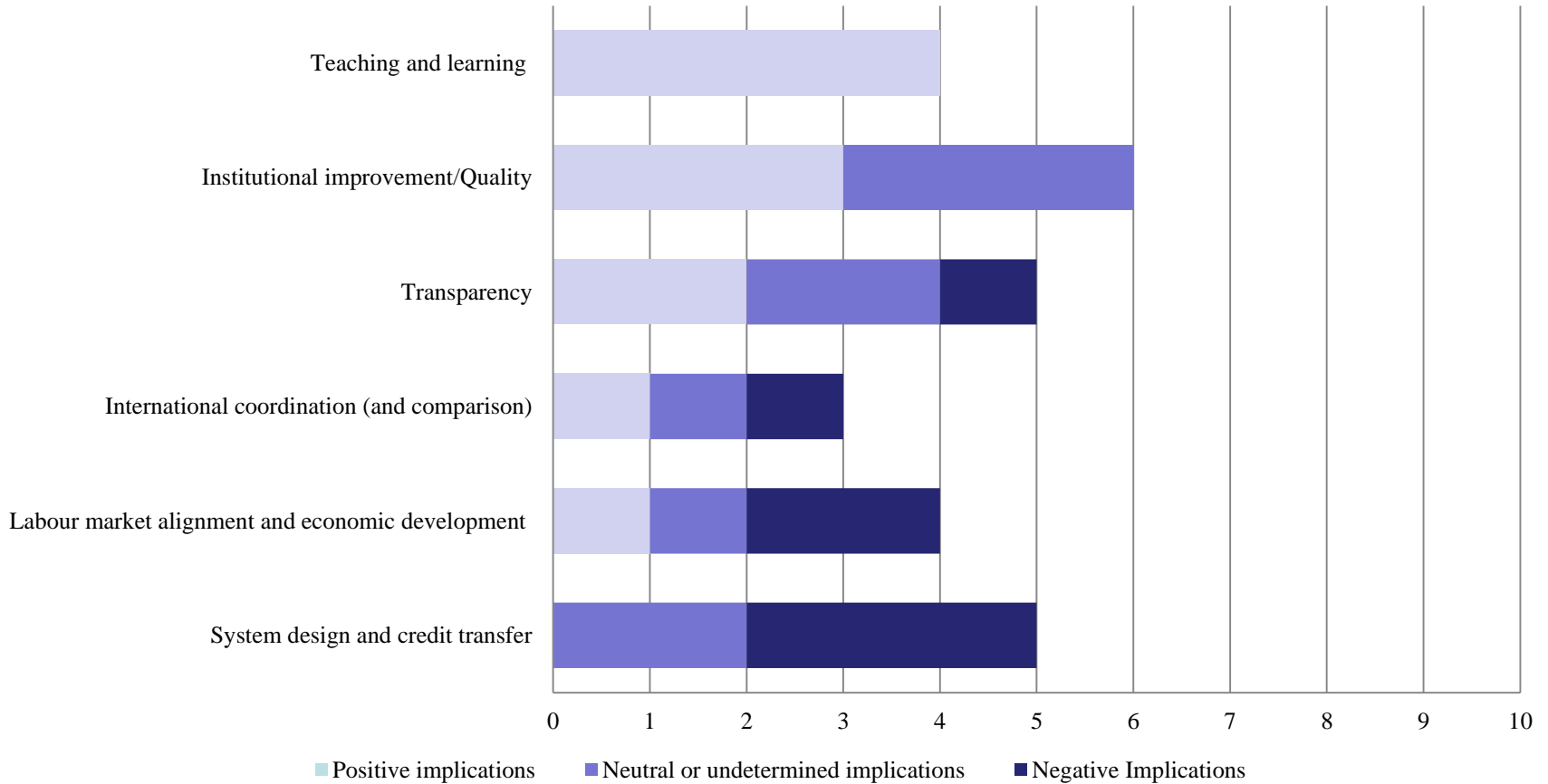
Policy impact: Goals, guesses and gains in the QAA's



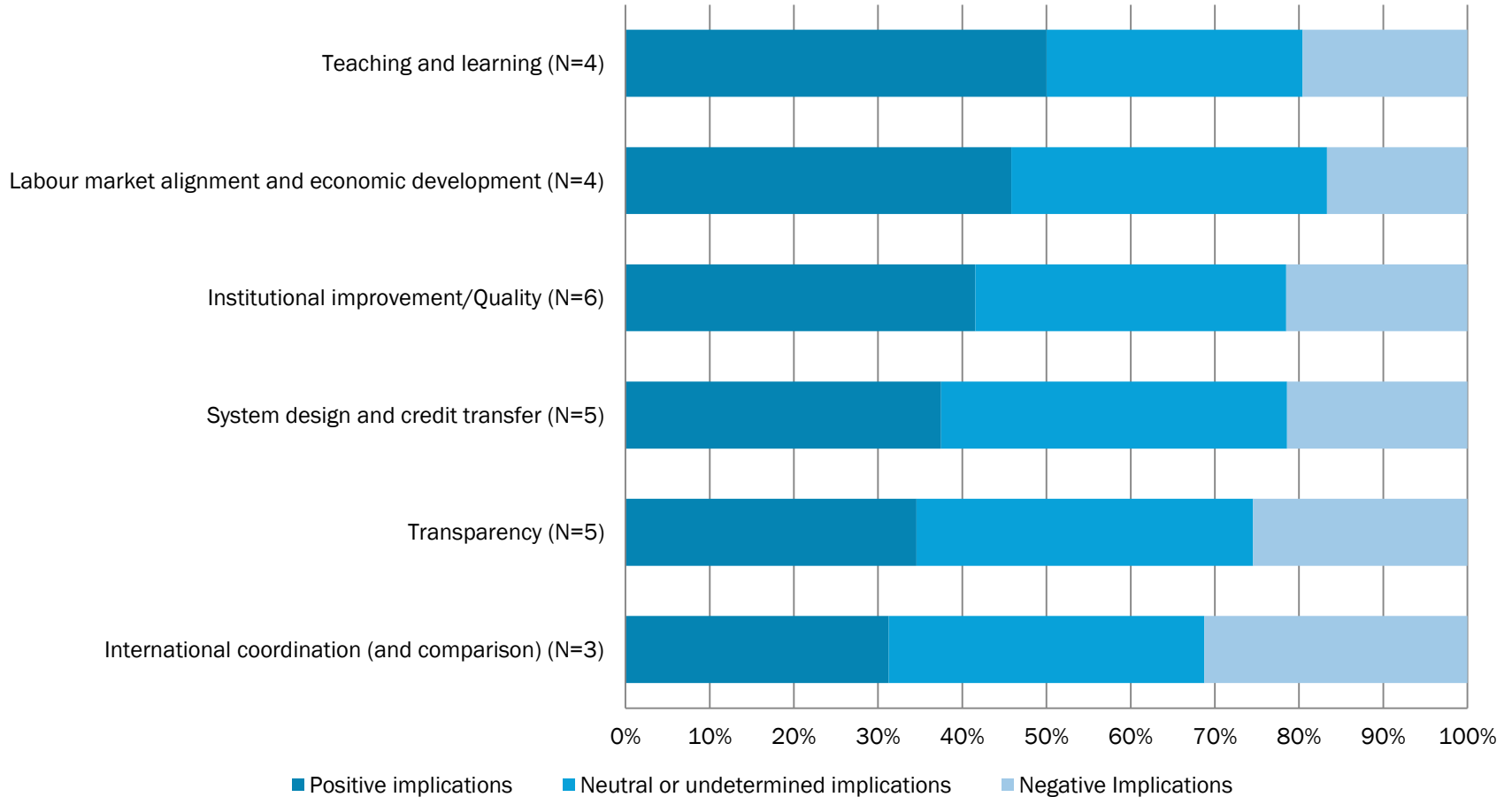
Primary results from meta-evaluation



Impact by goal choice

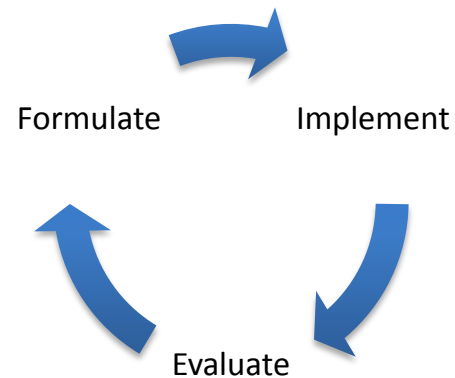


Proportionate impact by goal choice

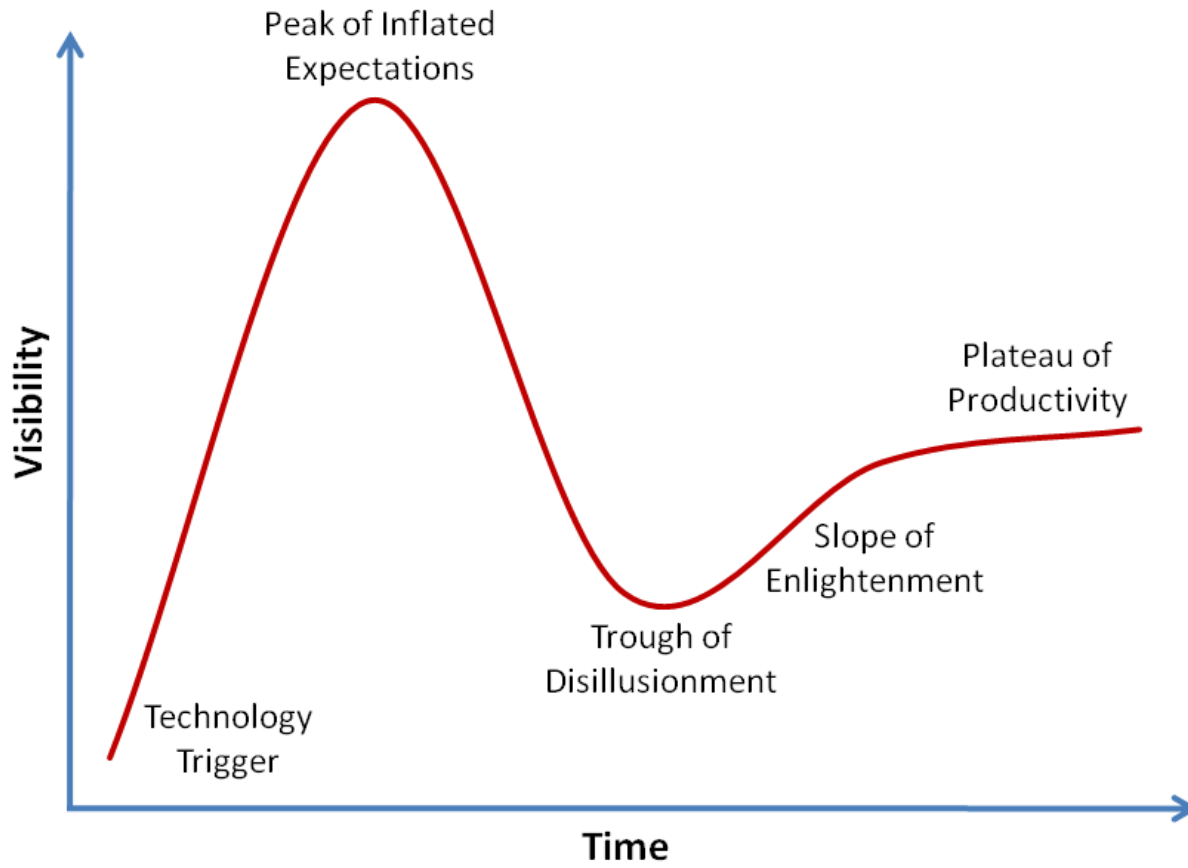


Learning outcomes policies are cycles

- Misaligned
- Misapplied
- Misdirected
- Unexamined



Moving towards targeted policies



Gartner, 2016

“Access without quality is a cruel deception”

National Governors Association, 1986: 10

Thank you for your attention

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