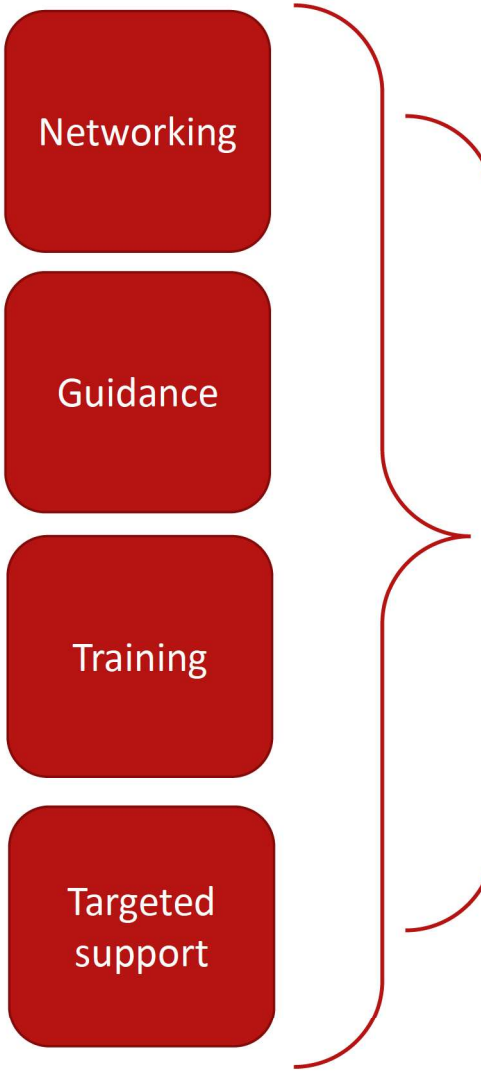
FWD AMR· RefLabCap

Project evaluation and impact
Way forward

Egle Kudirkiene, DVM, PhD
Foodborne Infections (FBI)
Statens Serum Institut (SSI)

Final Network meeting, 29-30 October 2024
Copenhagen

The main areas of support and participants



12 Priority countries (PCs)- has a 'priority country' status in the project (15 NRLs)

Participation in all project activities

20 other countries (Other) – do not have a specific status in the project (24 NRLs)

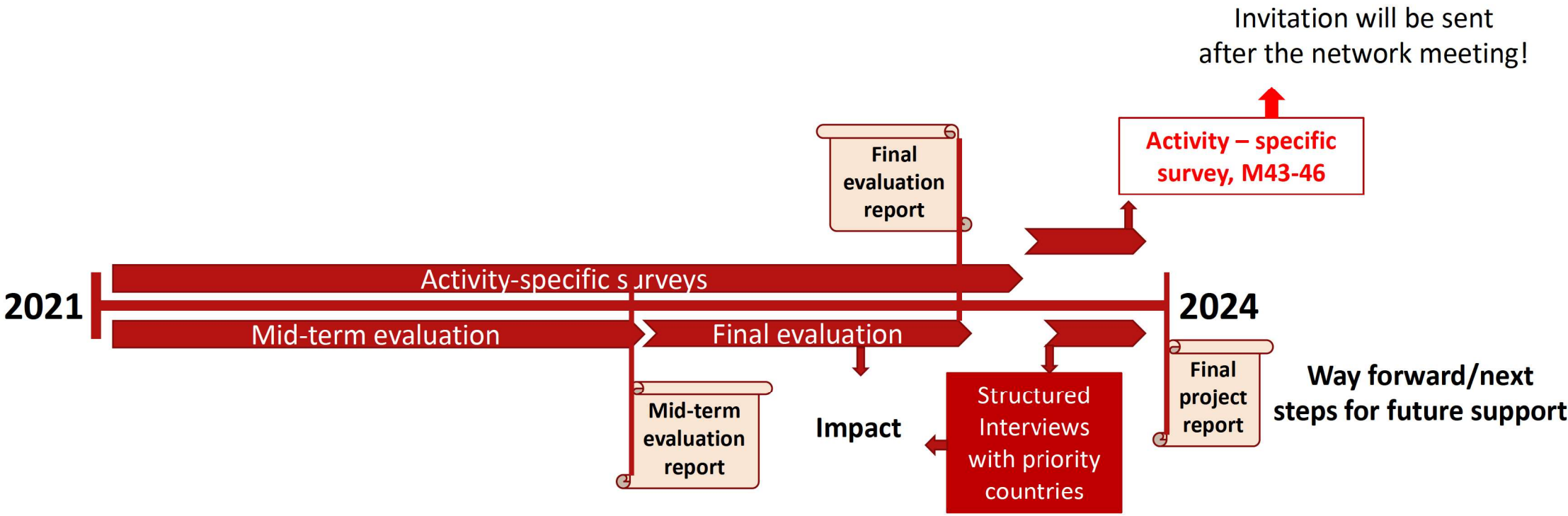
Participation in networking and training activities, and additional activities, if relevant

5 candidate/potential candidate country (Observers)- belongs to the group of countries that are not funded by the project (5 NRLs)

Participation in online activities

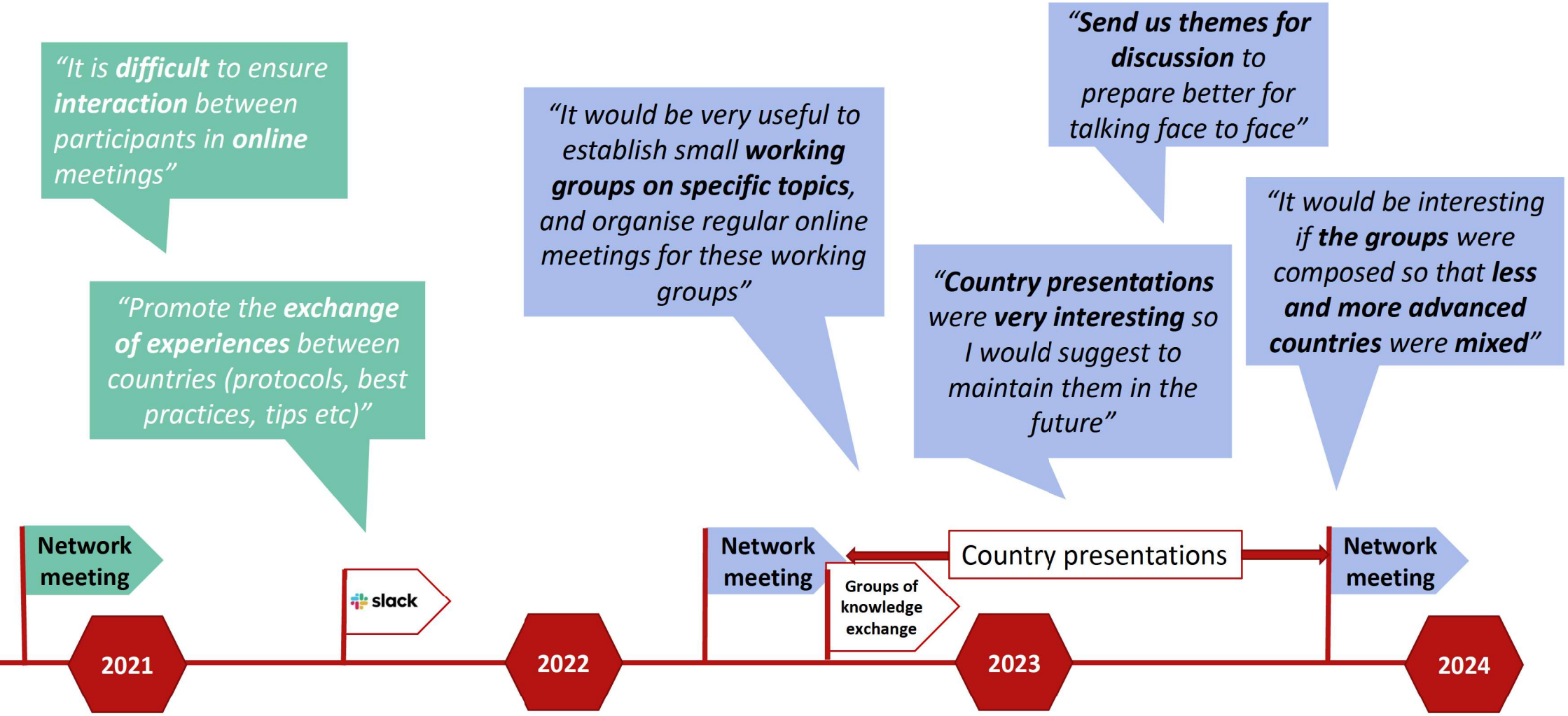
Project evaluations

- Activity - specific surveys
- Mid-term evaluation
- Final project evaluation
- Structured interviews with the priority countries

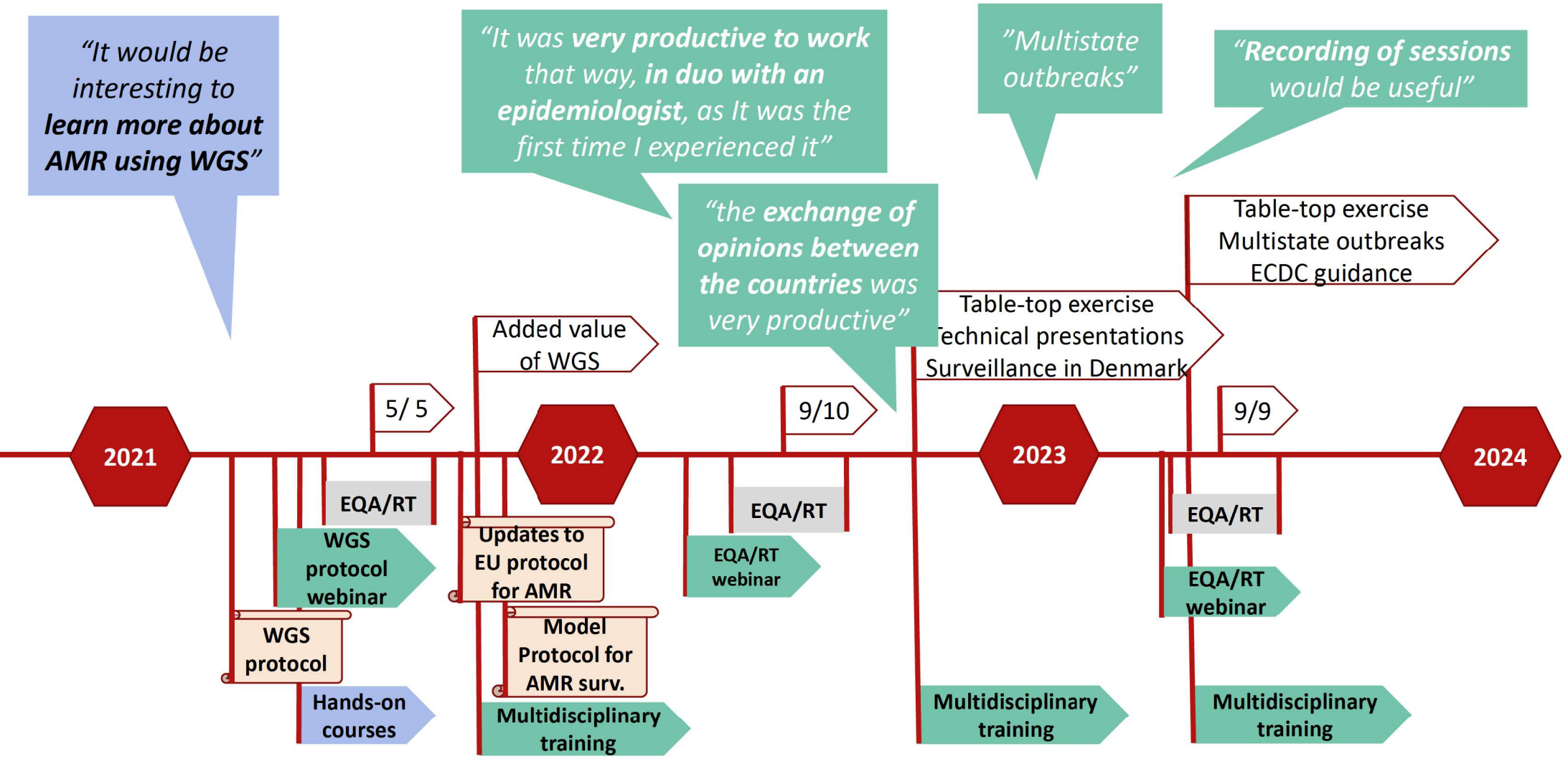


Overview of project activities

Activities for all countries - Networking



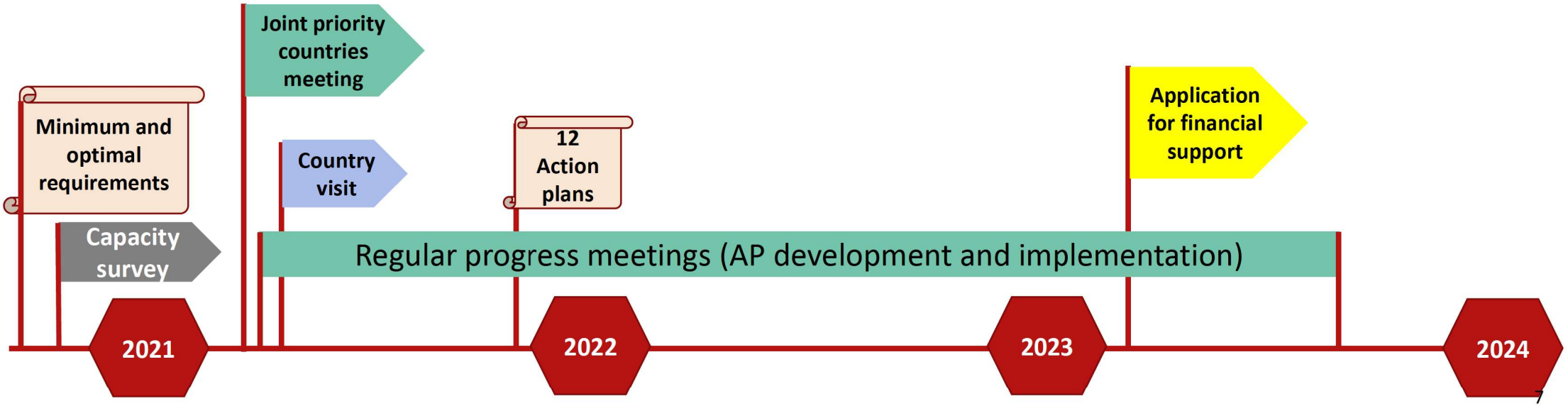
Activities for all countries – Training and Guidance



Activities for 12 priority countries - Action plan (AP) development and implementation

The AP includes all five core functions of NRL with the main focus is on:

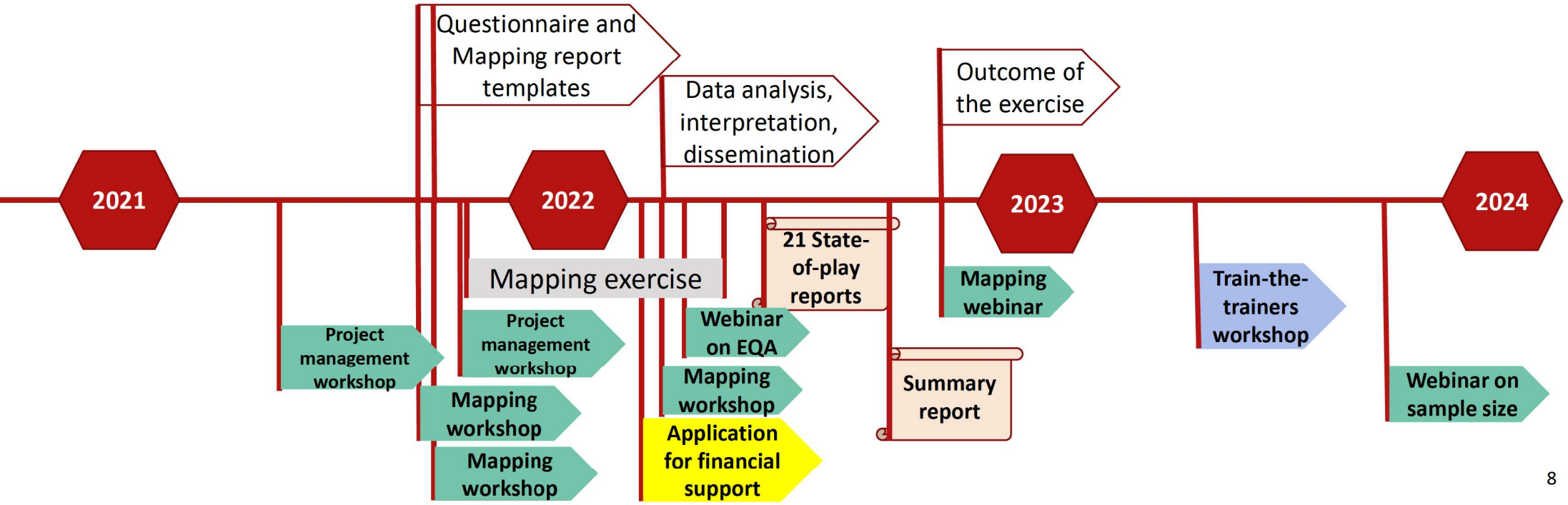
- reference diagnostics
- monitoring, alert and response



Activities for min. 16 countries - Support to NRLs for national capacity building

19 countries participated in mapping exercise (21 NRLs):

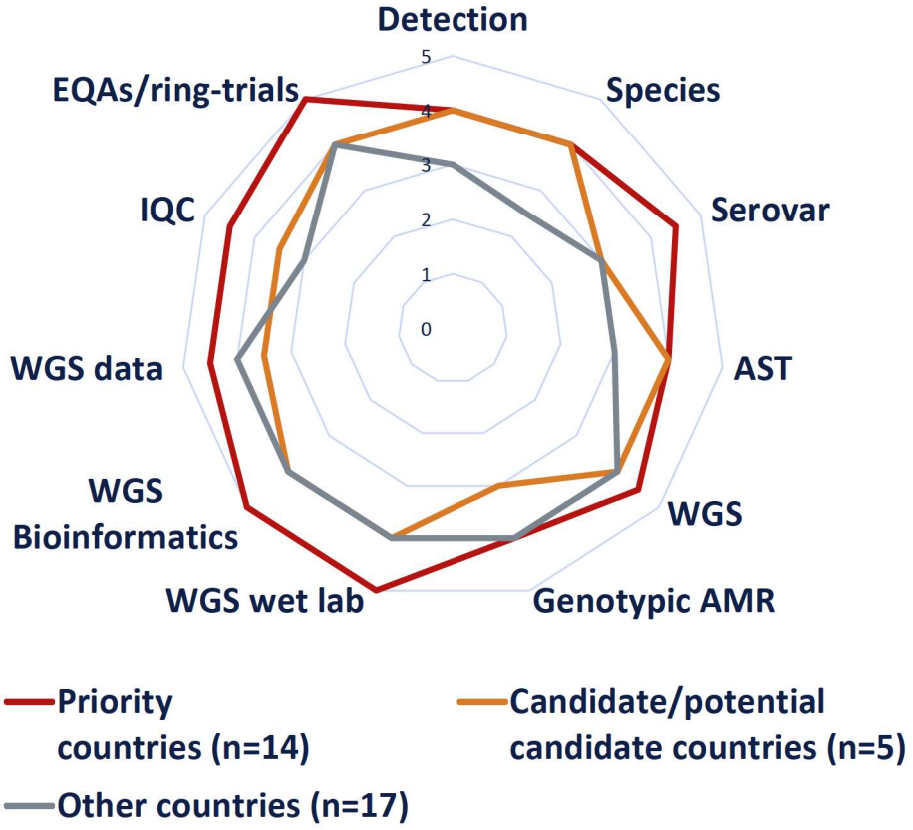
- 11 priority countries, 7 other countries, 1 observer country



Impact of the project

The impact on reference diagnostics function

- High impact to priority countries, Mdn=4.5
- Medium impact, to other and to observer countries, Mdn=4.0

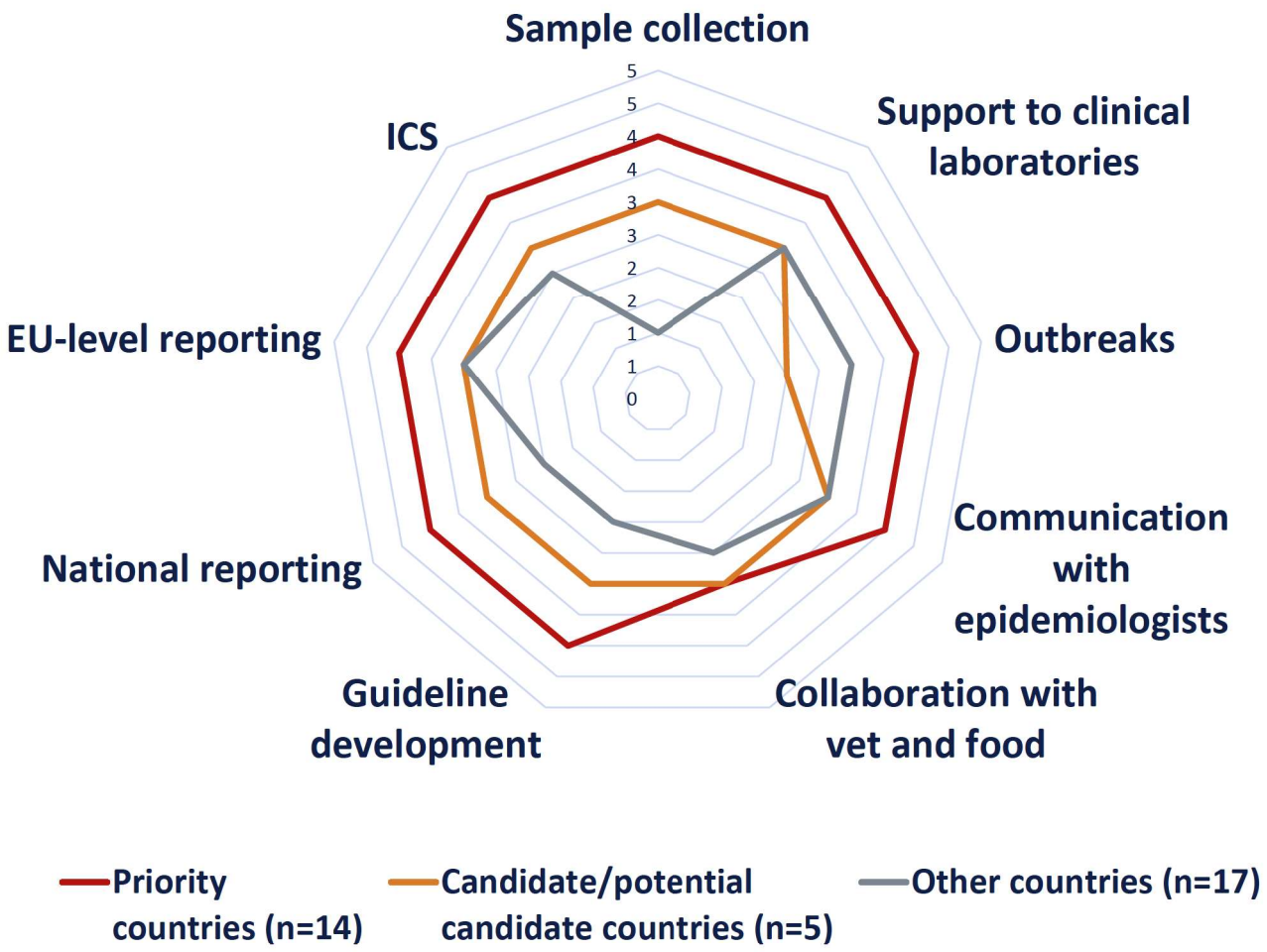


Improvements in technical and operational skills at 15 NRLs in 12 priority countries

	Salmonella		*Campylobacter*	
Skills	2021	2024	2021	2024
Phenotypic AMR	11	12	9	12
Genotypic AMR	5	6	1	4
Non-WGS strain typing	3	4	3	3
WGS-based AMR	0	9	0	7
WGS-based strain typing	1	9	1	7

>4, High impact
2-4, Medium impact
<2, Low impact

The impact on monitoring, alert and response function



Medium impact for all countries:

- Priority countries, Mdn=4.0,
- Observer countries, Mdn=3.0
- Other countries, Mdn=2.5

>4, High impact
2-4, Medium impact
<2, Low impact

Conclusions

- The project provided opportunities for knowledge and experience sharing among NRLs across Europe
- The capacity of NRLs and national surveillance systems were significantly improved through a series of targeted activities
- The project developed several key documents and protocols for WGS. This, coupled with organization of EQAs and ring trials, will contribute in developing more uniform standards for AMR testing and characterisation across Europe.

Way forward/next steps for future support

- Enhancing the utilisation of WGS for PH action
- Strengthening further the NRLs role at the national level
- Improving interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration for AMR surveillance