



Session 2: Findings & Recommendations

Dr. Thomas Eekhout
M&E Specialist

C4ED – EUTF
March 2025



Outline



-
- I. Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs
 - II. Description of the portfolio evaluated
 - III. Key findings
 - IV. Recommendations



Center for Evaluation
and Development



I. Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs



Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs

CIE = Only method capable of quantifying the impact and attribute it to an intervention.

Mixed-methods ensures understanding why (not) impacts materialise + allows exploring other DAC criteria.

Key requirements:



Appropriate timeline



Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs

CIE = Only method capable of quantifying the impact and attribute it to an intervention.

Mixed-methods ensures understanding why (not) impacts materialise + allows exploring other DAC criteria.

Key requirements:



Appropriate timeline



Many beneficiaries & non-beneficiaries



Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs

CIE = Only method capable of quantifying the impact and attribute it to an intervention.

Mixed-methods ensures understanding why (not) impacts materialise + allows exploring other DAC criteria.

Key requirements:



Appropriate timeline



Many beneficiaries & non-beneficiaries



Survey & Monitoring data



Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs

CIE = Only method capable of quantifying the impact and attribute it to an intervention.

Mixed-methods ensures understanding why (not) impacts materialise + allows exploring other DAC criteria.

Key requirements:



Appropriate timeline



Many beneficiaries & non-beneficiaries



Survey & Monitoring data



Coordination and commitment from the evaluation stakeholders



Lessons learnt from conducting CIEs



CIE = Only method capable of quantifying the impact and attribute it to an intervention.

Mixed-methods ensures understanding why (not) impacts materialise + allows exploring other DAC criteria.

Key requirements:



Appropriate timeline



Many beneficiaries & non-beneficiaries



Survey & Monitoring data



Coordination and commitment from the evaluation stakeholders



A dedicated budget



Center for Evaluation
and Development



II. The portfolio evaluated



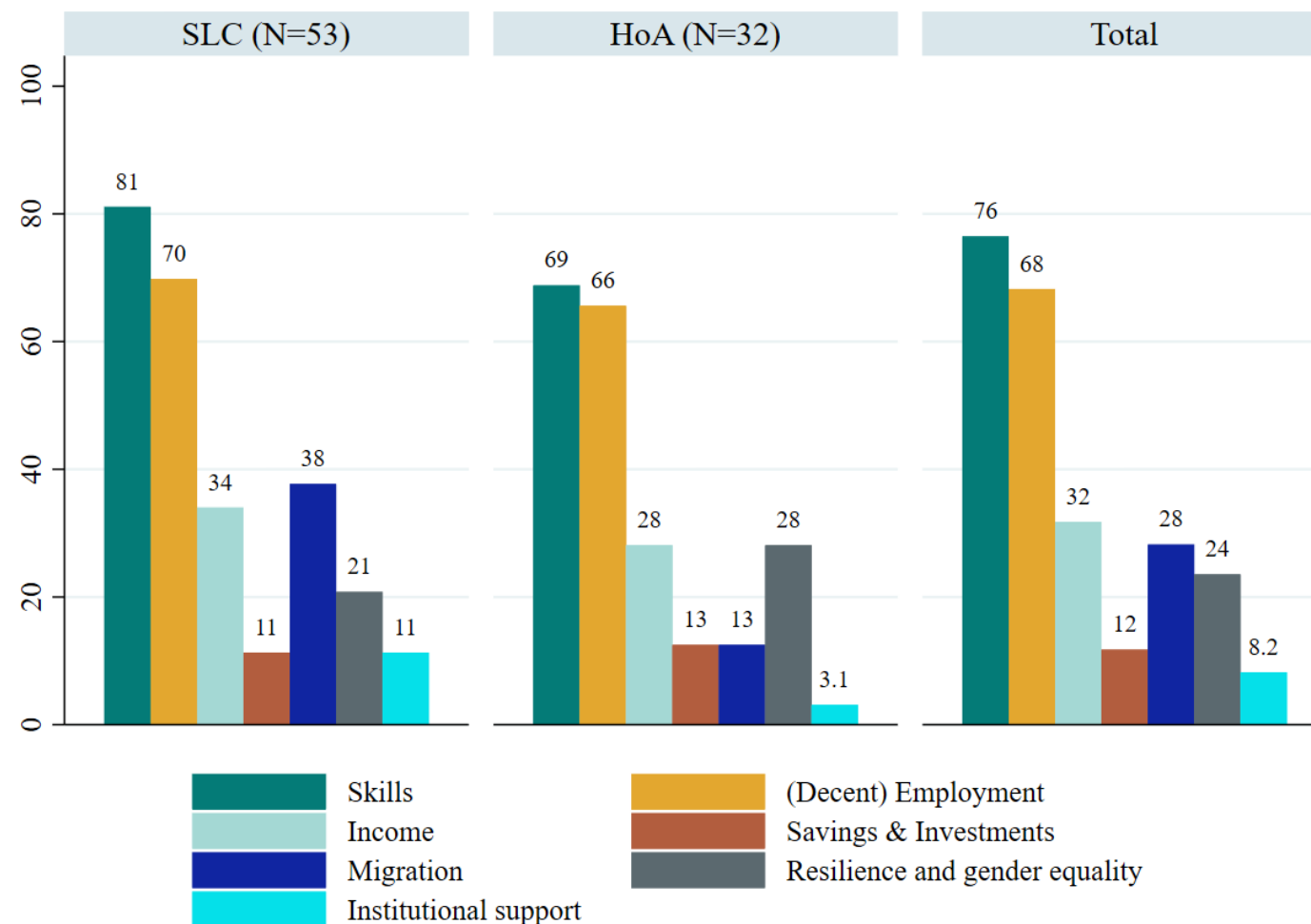
Specific objectives



Sampled projects addressed Strategic Objective 1 (SO1):

“Greater economic and employment opportunities”

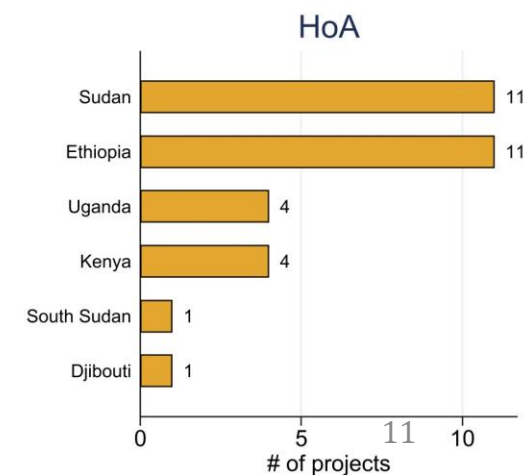
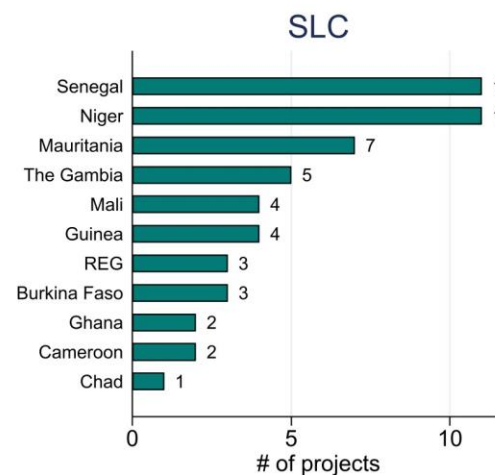
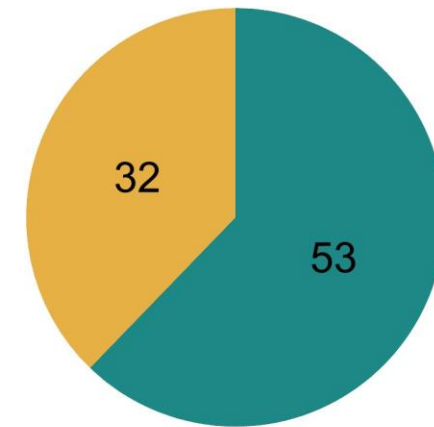
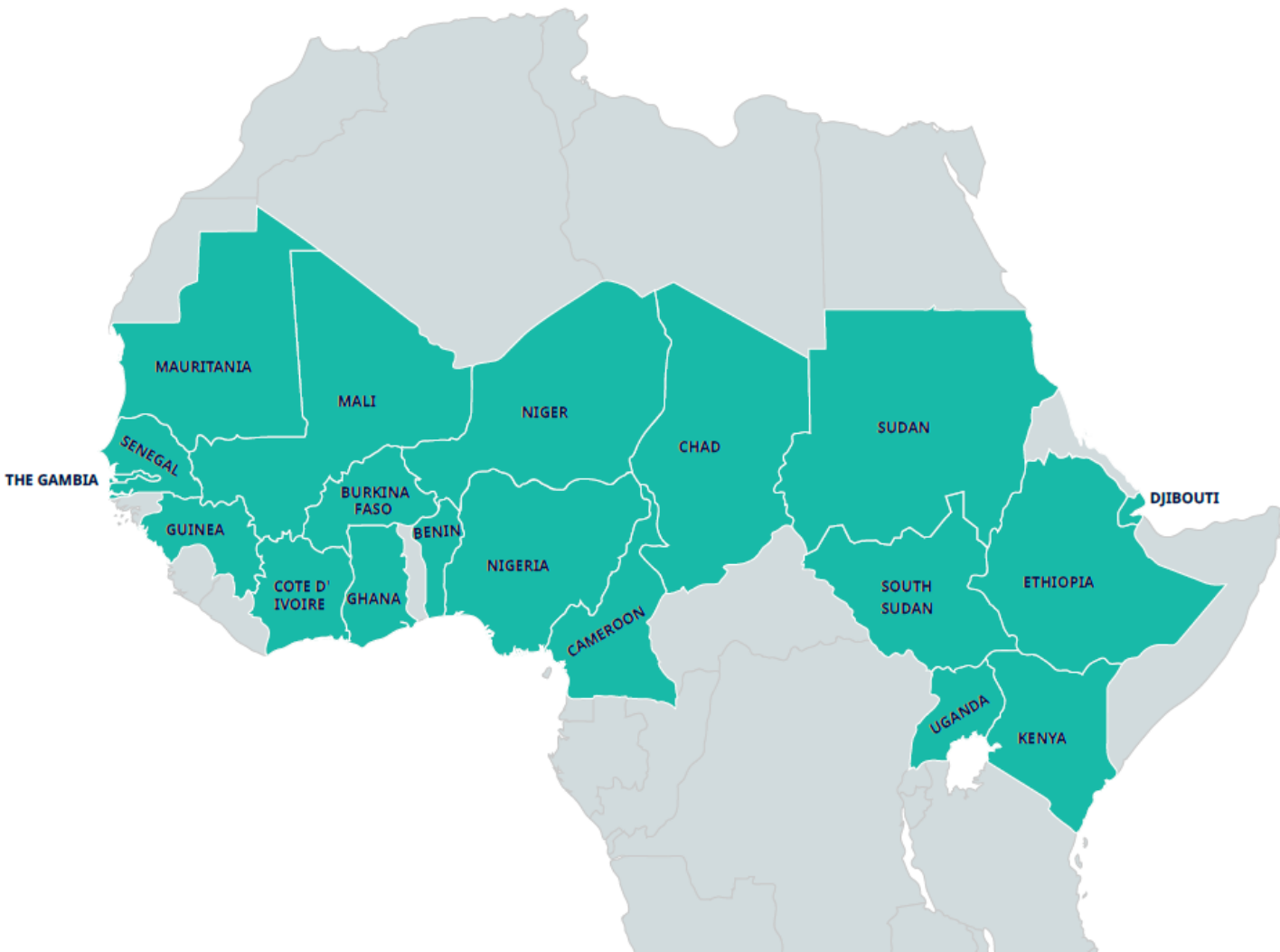
% of projects addressing EUTF-specific objectives





Geographic distribution

Geographic distribution of sampled projects (N=85)





Financial distribution

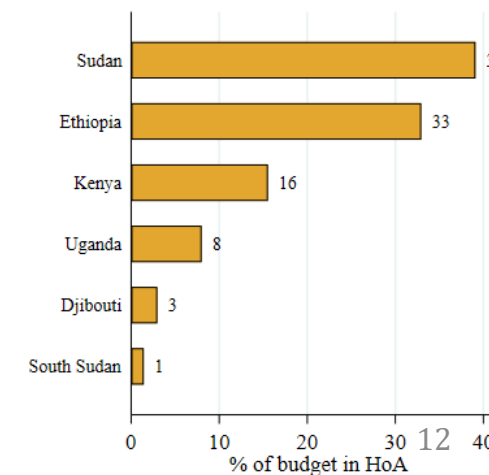
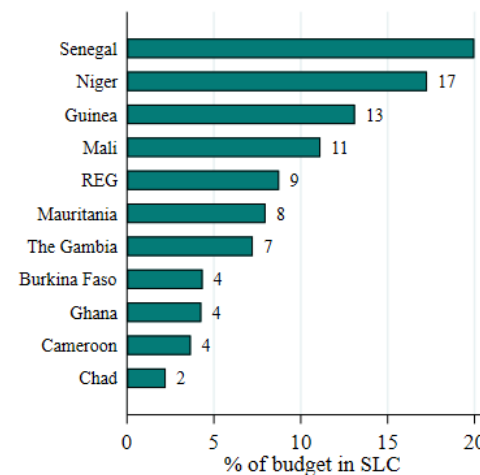
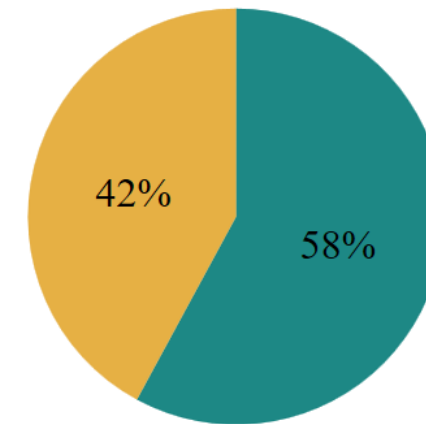


Budget distribution across regions and countries (N=85)

Total budget for the sampled projects:
799 million €

Projects' average budget range:
9.39 million €

Average annual budget:
2.37 million €

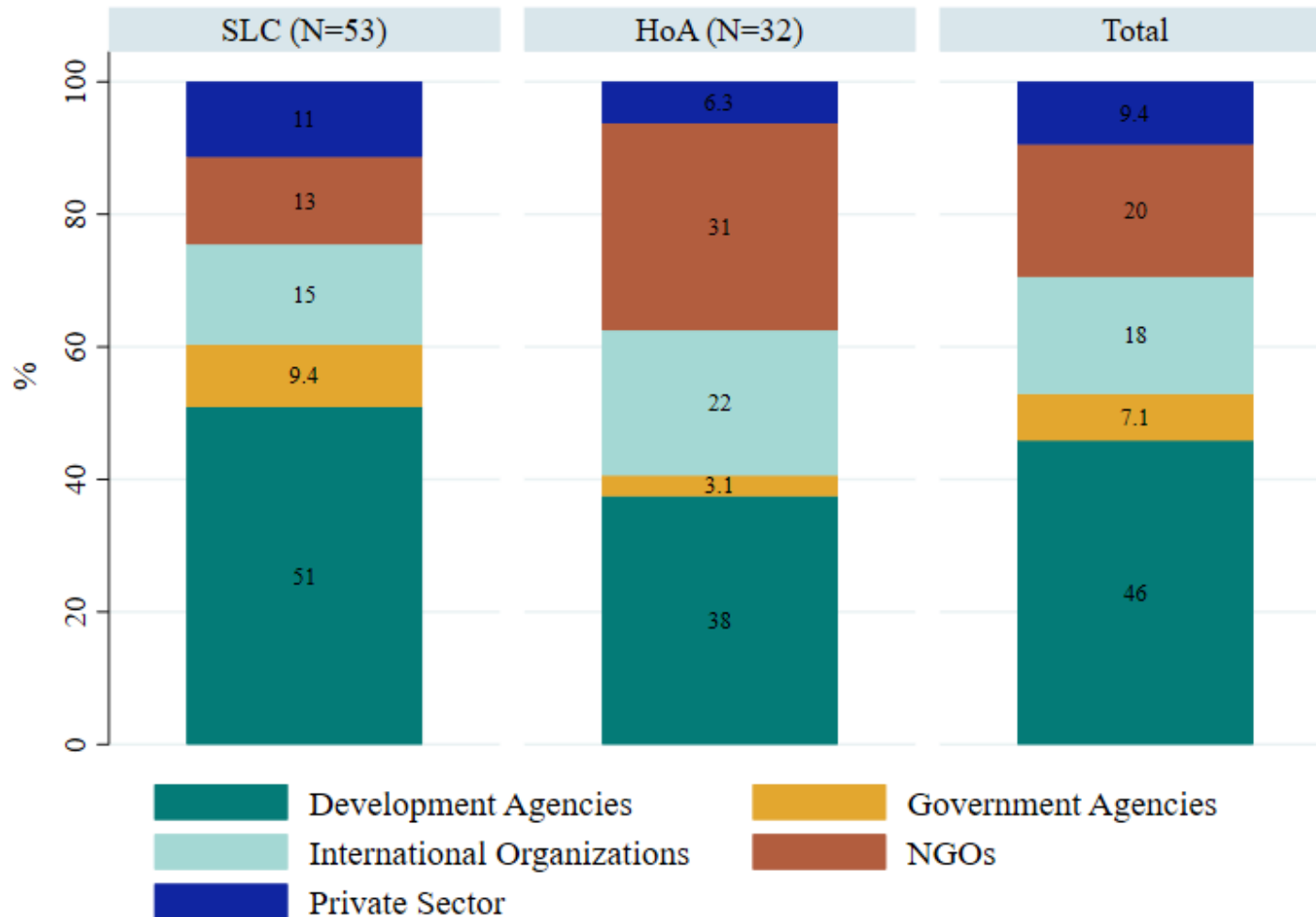




Implementing partners



Distribution of IP types (N=85)



Most common IPs:
-GIZ (10 contracts)
-AFD (7 contracts)



Center for Evaluation
and Development



III. Key Findings



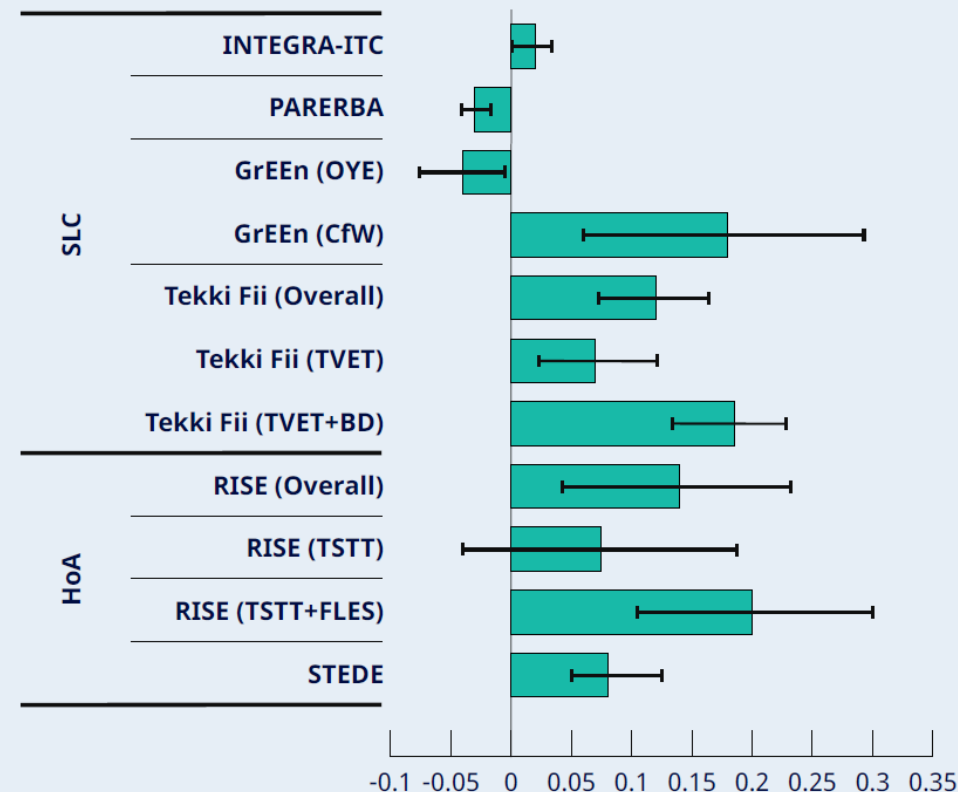
1. Positive impacts on employment

*“On average, beneficiaries of an EUTF-funded project are almost **3pp** more likely to have a stable job than non-beneficiaries.”*

Impact size:

- High variation
- Comparable to other studies

Effect sizes across evaluated projects





1. Positive impacts on employment

Key impact features:

- Impacts often take more than one year to materialize (>1-2 years).
- Youth tend to open their business instead of finding a job in an existing firm.
- Impacts are larger when the support combines technical training and (financial) support to develop a business.
- Impacts on employment **quality** are limited among women and refugees in comparison to less vulnerable populations such as men and host community members.



2. Principal barriers to employment

Principal barriers to employment include:



The limited hiring capacity of the private sector.



Limited capital to open a business.



2. Principal barriers to employment

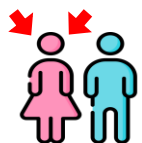
Principal barriers to employment **for women** include:



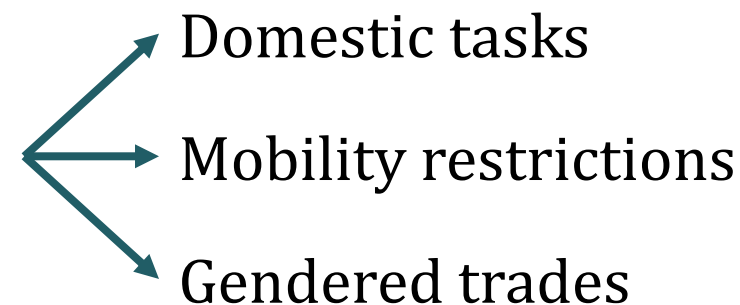
The limited hiring capacity of the private sector.



Limited capital to open a business.



Social constructs and gender roles.





2. Principal barriers to employment

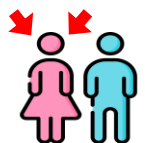
Principal barriers to employment **for women and refugees** include:



The limited hiring capacity of the private sector.



Limited capital to open a business.



Social constructs and gender roles.



Language & educational barriers.



Legal barriers (context specific).



3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration



„There is no solid proof that EUTF-funded projects reduced migration intentions of its beneficiaries.“



3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration



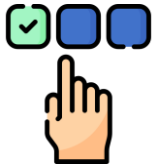
„There is no solid proof that EUTF-funded projects reduced migration intentions of its beneficiaries.“



Most SO1 projects did **not focus** on reducing migration intentions.

3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration

„There is no solid proof that EUTF-funded projects reduced migration intentions of its beneficiaries.“



Most SO1 projects did **not focus** on reducing migration intentions.



Most targeted individuals **did not want to migrate to Europe.**

„There is no solid proof that EUTF-funded projects reduced migration intentions of its beneficiaries.“



Most SO1 projects did **not focus** on reducing migration intentions.



Most targeted individuals **did not want to migrate to Europe.**

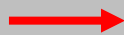


Complex link between employment and migration decisions.



3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration

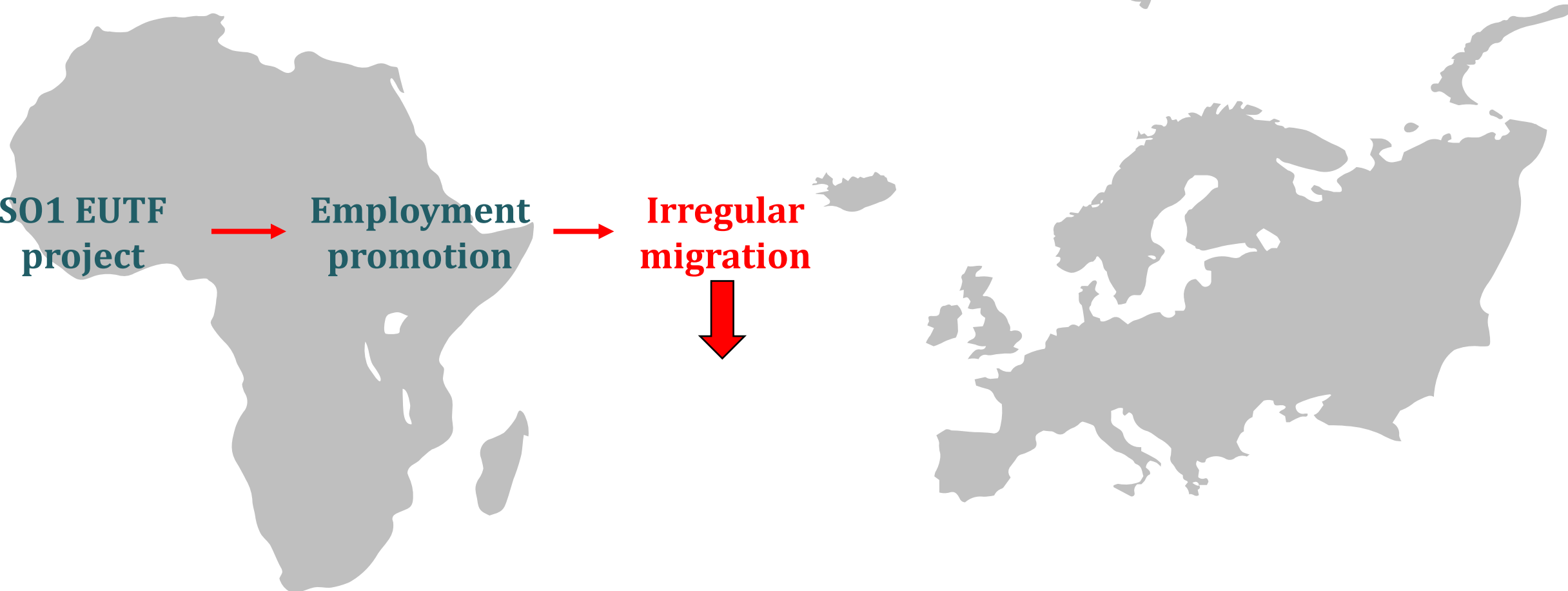
**SO1 EUTF
project**



**Employment
promotion**



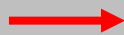
**Irregular
migration**





3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration

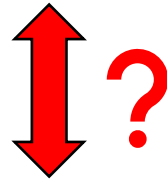
SO1 EUTF
project



Employment
promotion

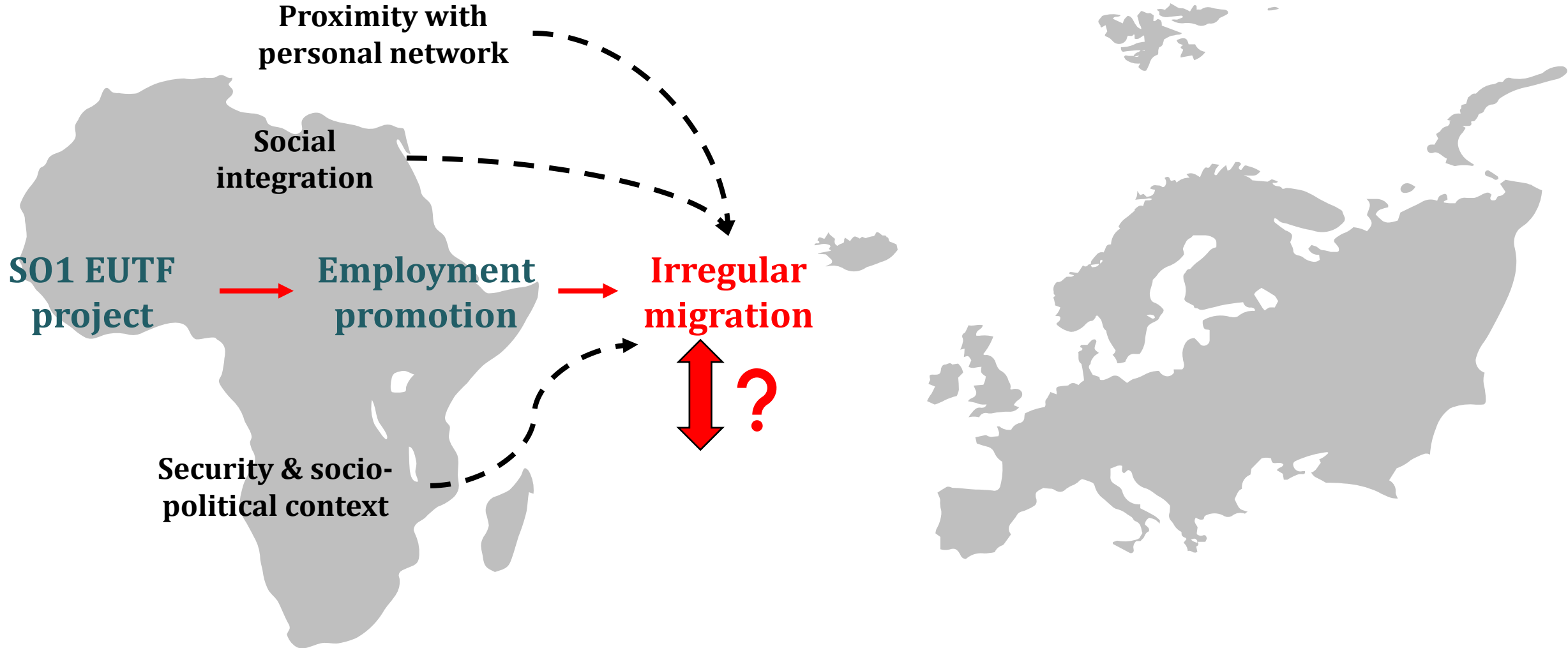


Irregular
migration



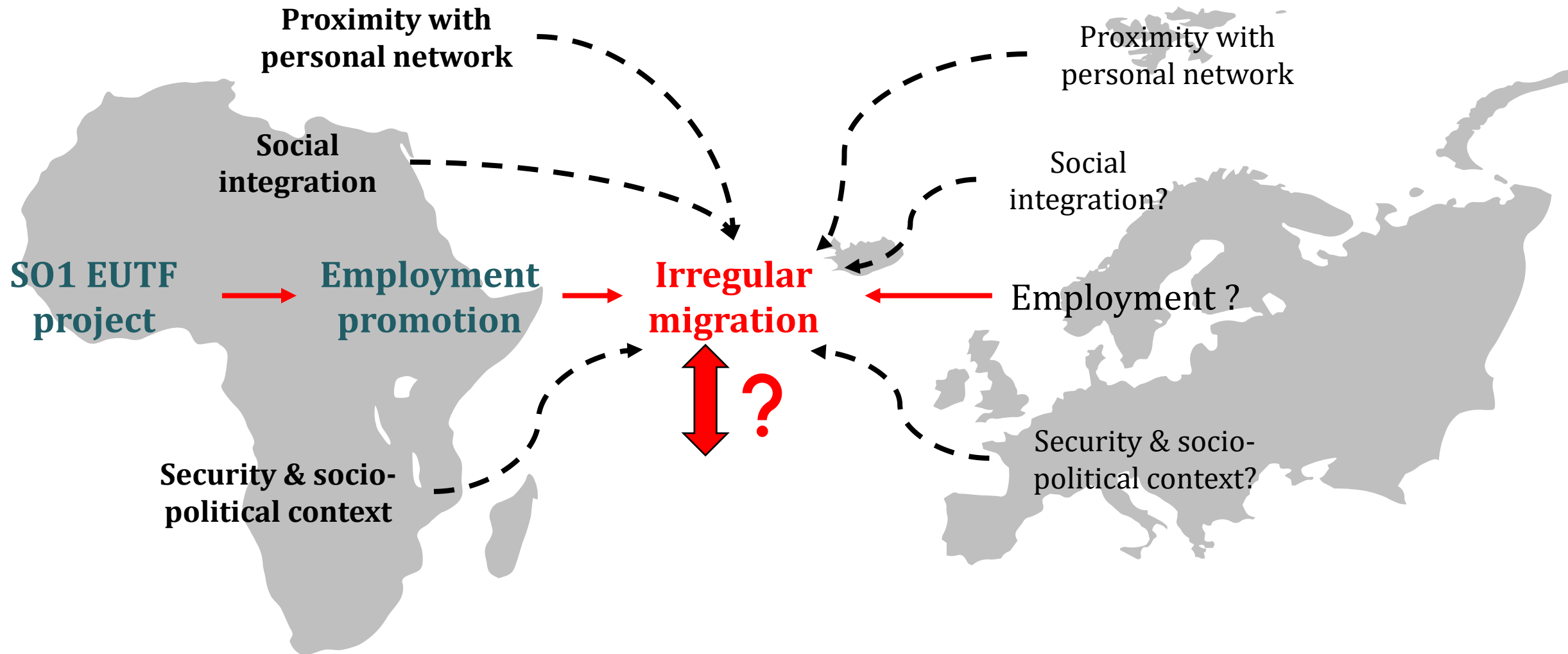


3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration





3. No clear impacts on (irregular) migration





4. Limited gender considerations in the implementation phase

% of projects with explicit gender considerations (N=75)



- Presence of **gender-related aspects** in the design phase but...
... Few concrete measures are reported after implementation
- Gender approaches are often **„superficial“**
- **Limited engagement** to overcome female-specific barriers



Center for Evaluation
and Development



IV. Recommendations



Recommendations



1

Design instruments that ensure project-specific goals are aligned with the programme goals.



2

Build on existing knowledge and previous initiatives in similar contexts.





Recommendations



3

Conduct & use thorough assessments for the different targeted populations, especially for the most vulnerable ones.



4

Promote more coordinated interventions between Member States, IOM and service providers.





Recommendations



5 Beyond promoting skills, connect and support the private sector.



6 Promote/implement a holistic gender-sensitive approach.





Center for Evaluation
and Development



Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?