



African Scientific  
Research and  
Innovation Council

**“FREEING AFRICA FROM POVERTY, HUNGER AND DISEASES”**

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**REPORT ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CALL FOR ABSTRACTS  
FOR  
ASRIC 2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS  
NOVEMBER 2019**

**AFRICAN UNION – SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH COMMISSION  
(AU-STRC)**

# BACKGROUND.....

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The AU-STRC has its mandate to:

- To implement Africa's Science and Technology Policy in coordination with relevant stakeholders; Promote the Intra-Africa Research activities; identify new and comparative priority areas for research; and to popularize the scientific and technological research culture in Africa.

# BACKGROUND.....

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- The STRC supports and contributes to research across a spectrum of disciplines in science and technology including forestry and agricultural sciences, medical sciences, soil and botanical sciences, environmental sciences, industrial and technological sciences, and natural sciences like physics, chemistry, etc., fostering partnerships and engaging in training opportunities as we aim to maximize the impact of science research on the growth and development of the African Union Member States.

# BACKGROUND.....

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- The Scientific, Technical and Research commission (STRC) of the African Union is a specialized institution of the African Union with a long history founded in 1965, the AU-STRC has been at the vanguard of promotion of science and technology in the past 5 decades at continental level. Today STRC is at a crossroad with the Maputo Declaration which set forth the role of the Department of Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST) and its relevant Divisions which mandate covers science and technology promotion; at that time STRC was integrated into the HRST department.

# BACKGROUND.....

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- Within the framework of the Consolidated Plan of Action CPA and its successor Science Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA 2024) which is termed the bible of the AU science policy, and with the guidance provided by the Specialized Technical Committee on Education, Science and Technology STC-EST (composed of Ministers of Education and Science and Technology of African Union Member States), STRC is tasked to implement specific programs to enhance the contribution of Science and technology for the development of the continent.

# BACKGROUND.....

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- In AUC's strategic plan, the AU/STRC action is designed to spearhead the role of science, technology and research in the integration, cooperation and development priority pillars. Areas of priority action include the promotion of research in all fields of science such as biology, medicine, basic science, new and renewable energies, training to build African capacity to address emerging issues on intellectual property rights and also to address those issues of traditional knowledge, folklore and genetic resources; and developing a framework for the capacity building of science journalists to better equip the concerned professionals in writing and reporting of science activities.

# BACKGROUND.....

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- In recognition of the role of science, technology and innovation, as essential tools for socio-economic transformation of Africa, and the necessary institutional setting for the implementation of Africa Science, Technology and Innovation Agenda, the Executive Council of AU Member States adopted the Decision Ex.CL/Dec.747 (XXII) and Decision Ex/CL/Dec.216 (VII) on the establishment of the African Scientific, Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC).
- Hence, the Official Launch and First Congress of **ASRIC** in November 2018 and it is headquartered in the AU-STRC Abuja, Nigeria which oversees its full operationalization.

# OBJECTIVES.....

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- ❑ To Promote Scientific Research and Innovation in order to address the challenges of Africa's socio-economic development



# FUNCTIONS.....

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- Mobilize African Research excellence to advance the African Development Agenda;
- Build and sustain a continental scientific, research and innovation policy nexus;
- Mobilize resources to support scientific, research and innovation activities and programmes in accordance with the AU policy in this area;
- Promote dialogue and provide voice of the scientific community that expresses continental excellence

Among others.

# ASRIC 2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS.....

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African Scientific  
Research and  
Innovation Council

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ASRIC Congress

**FREEING AFRICA FROM POVERTY,  
HUNGER AND DISEASES**



# ASRIC 2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS.....

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- **RATIONALE**

- Africa is confronted with a myriad of well-known development challenges across her various countries, where some of the challenges are multifaceted, interlinked and transcend national boundaries.
- The STISA-2024 Priority Area 1: ***Eradication of Hunger and Achieving Food Security*** highlights Africa's urgent need to deal with emerging challenges in food security, climate change and variability, water and land management, and increasing price volatility in global markets

# ASRIC 2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS.....

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- **RATIONALE**

- Poverty in Africa is a major cause of hunger and disease with about 40% of Africans living under the World Bank International Poverty Line of US\$1.90 per day. Africans living in abject poverty are unavailable to afford the barest minimum of basic human needs - food, clothing and shelter.
- Chronic hunger and poverty are major determinants for sicknesses and facilitate quick spread of diseases. Yearly, Africa records huge numbers of preventable deaths from treatable illnesses like malaria, tuberculosis and yellow fever.

# ASRIC 2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS.....

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- The 2<sup>nd</sup> ASRIC Congress shall be a **unique potpourri** with scientific sessions and paper presentations by **eminent scientists** and **professionals** with the aim of enhancing the application of Science, Technology, Research and Innovation to address Africa's pertinent challenges.

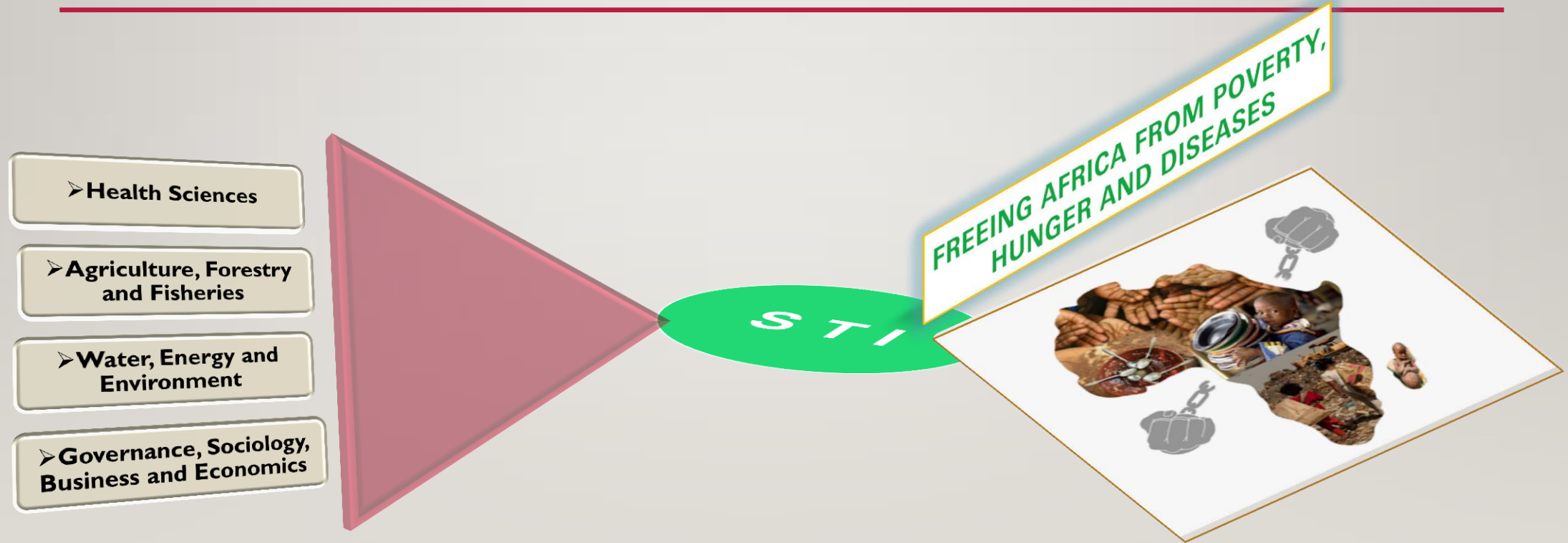
# CALL PRIORITY AREAS.....

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A Call for Scientific Papers launched by the ASRIC Secretariat was designed to focus on four (4) thematic areas which are the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASRIC Congress Sub themes:

- **Health Sciences**
- **Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries**
- **Water, Energy and Environment**
- **Governance, Sociology, Business and Economics**

# IMPLEMENTING THE KNOWLEDGE SHARING STRATEGY THROUGH COLLABORATION IN (STI) TOWARDS A BETTER LIVELIHOOD IN AFRICA



# FIRST CALL.....

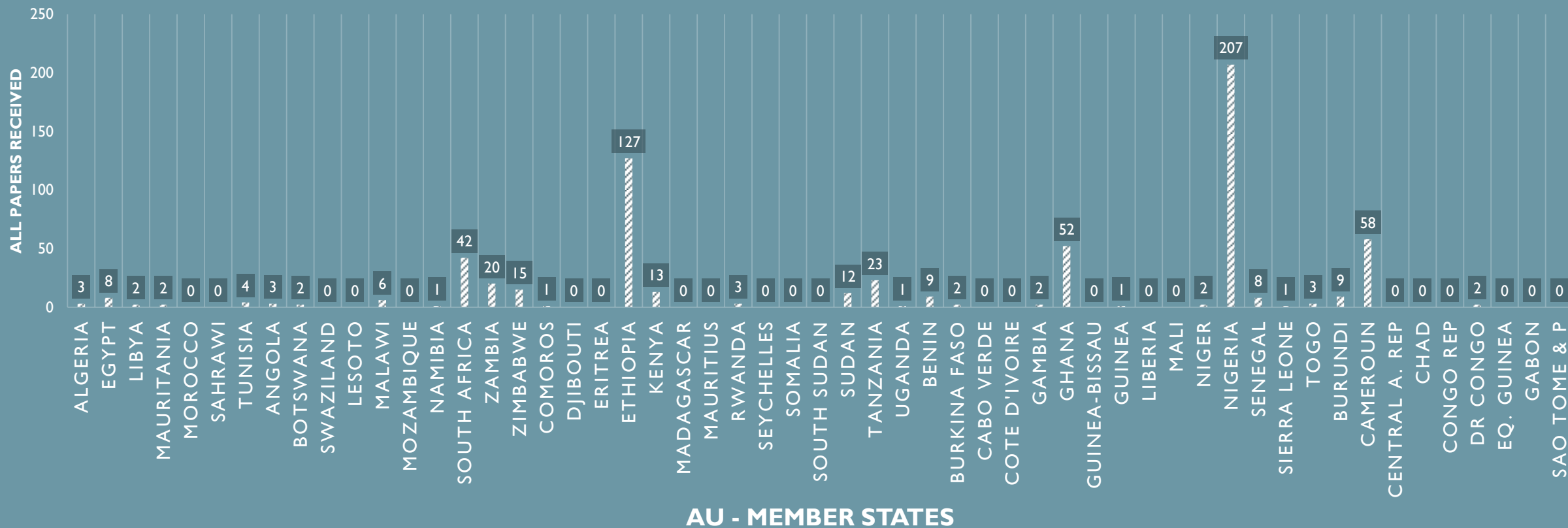
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- Launched **13<sup>th</sup> April 2019**
- Deadline for submission **30<sup>th</sup> June, 2019**



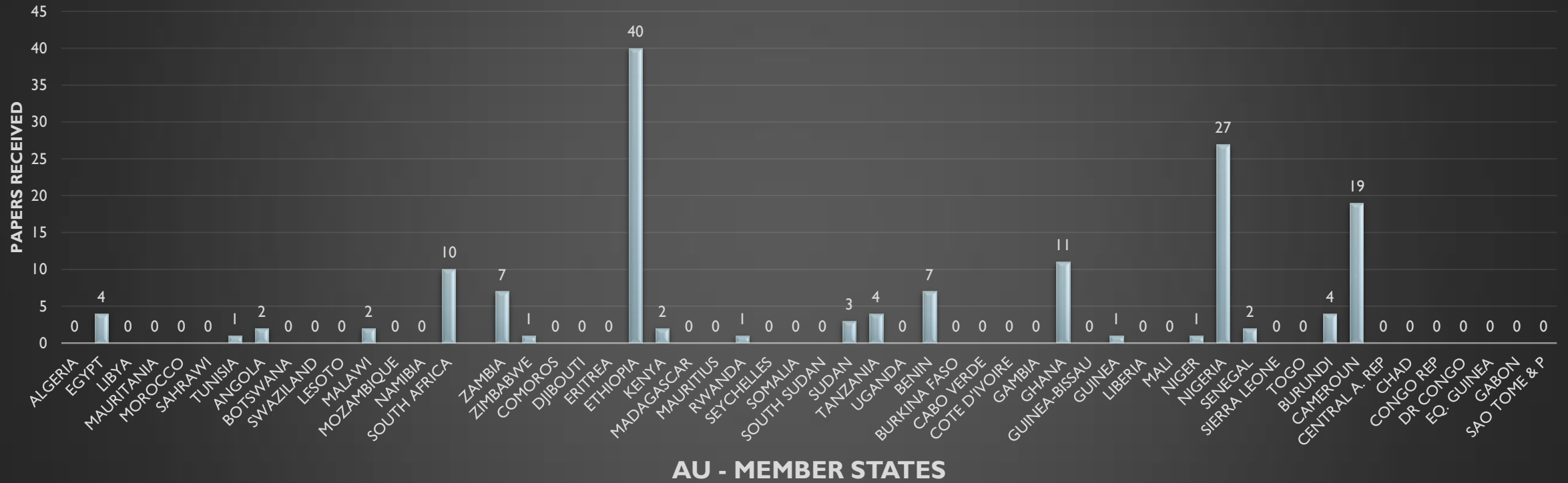
# FIRST CALL RECEIVED 654 ABSTRACTS FROM (32) AU - MEMBER STATES

## ASRIC IST CALL RESPONSE ANALYSIS PER COUNTRY ACROSS 4 THEMATIC AREAS

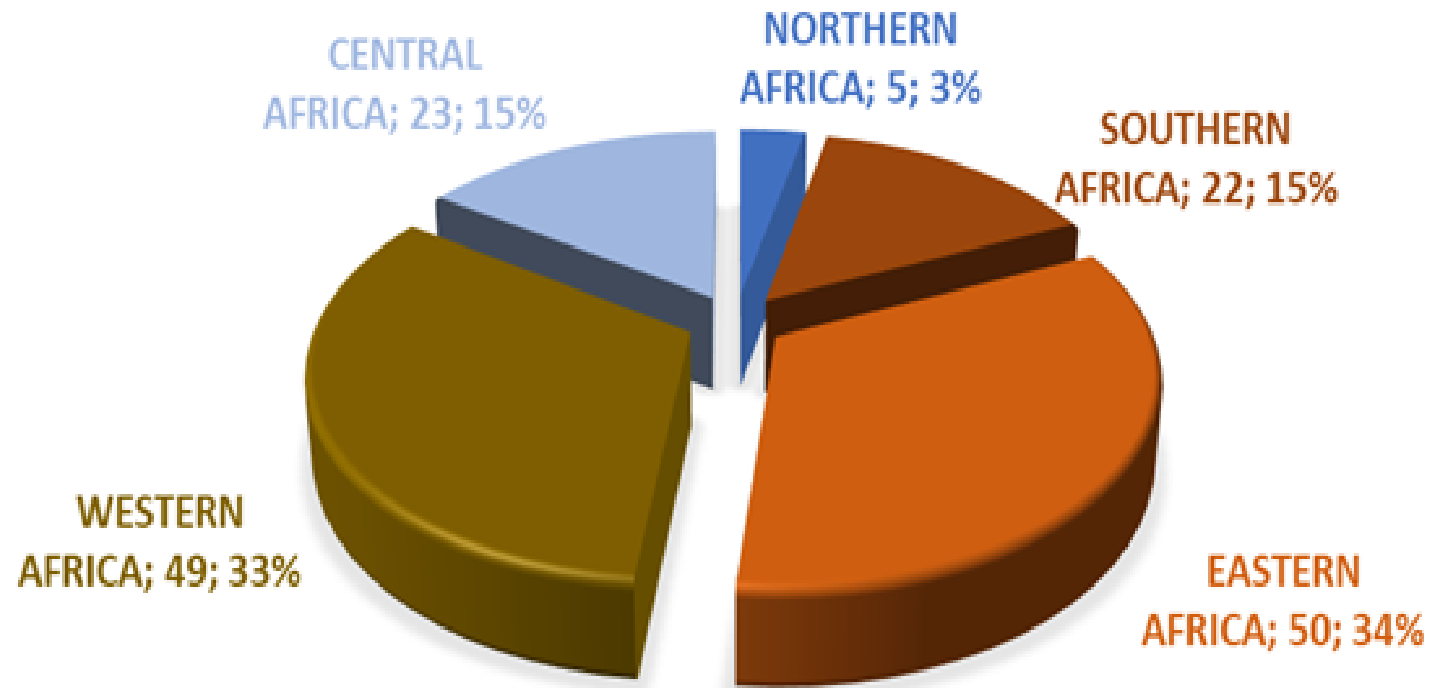


# FIRST THEMATIC AREA CALL ON HEALTH SCIENCES RECEIVED 149 ABSTRACTS FROM (20) AU - MEMBER STATES

## ASRIC 1ST CALL ON HEALTH SCIENCES PER COUNTRY



RESPONSE TO ASRIC CALL ON PAPERS FOR  
HEALTH SCIENCES PER REGION IN  
AU - MEMBERS STATES



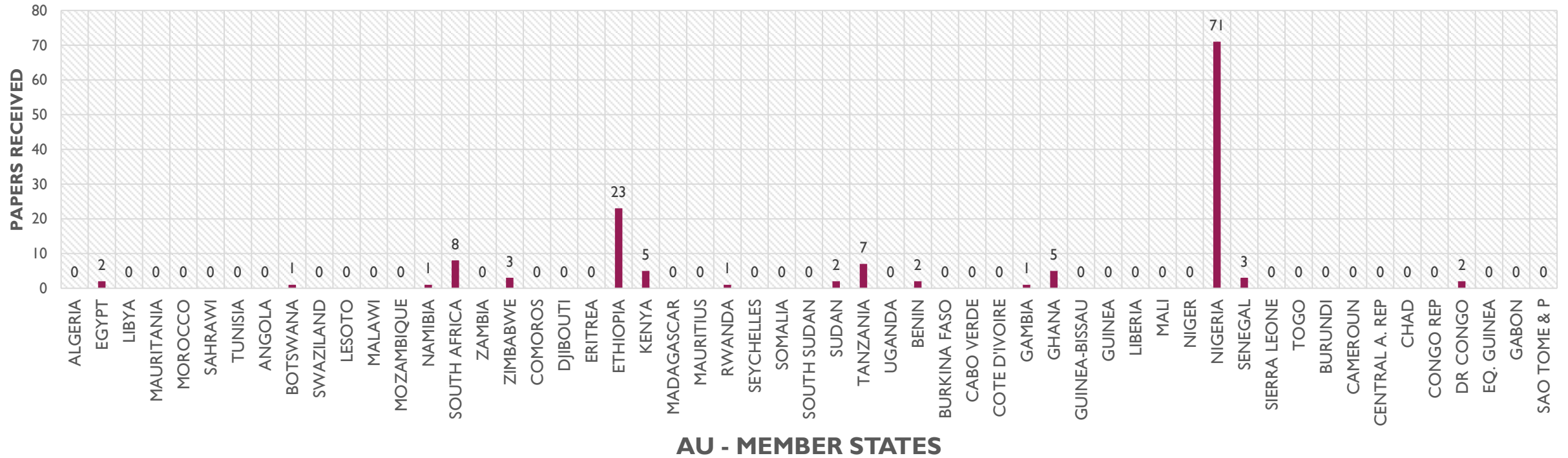
# QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF RESPONSES TO CALL ON HEALTH SCIENCES .....

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- Further assessment and analysis carried out on the papers submitted reveals that **38 Abstracts** scored ( $\geq$ ) than **70%**.

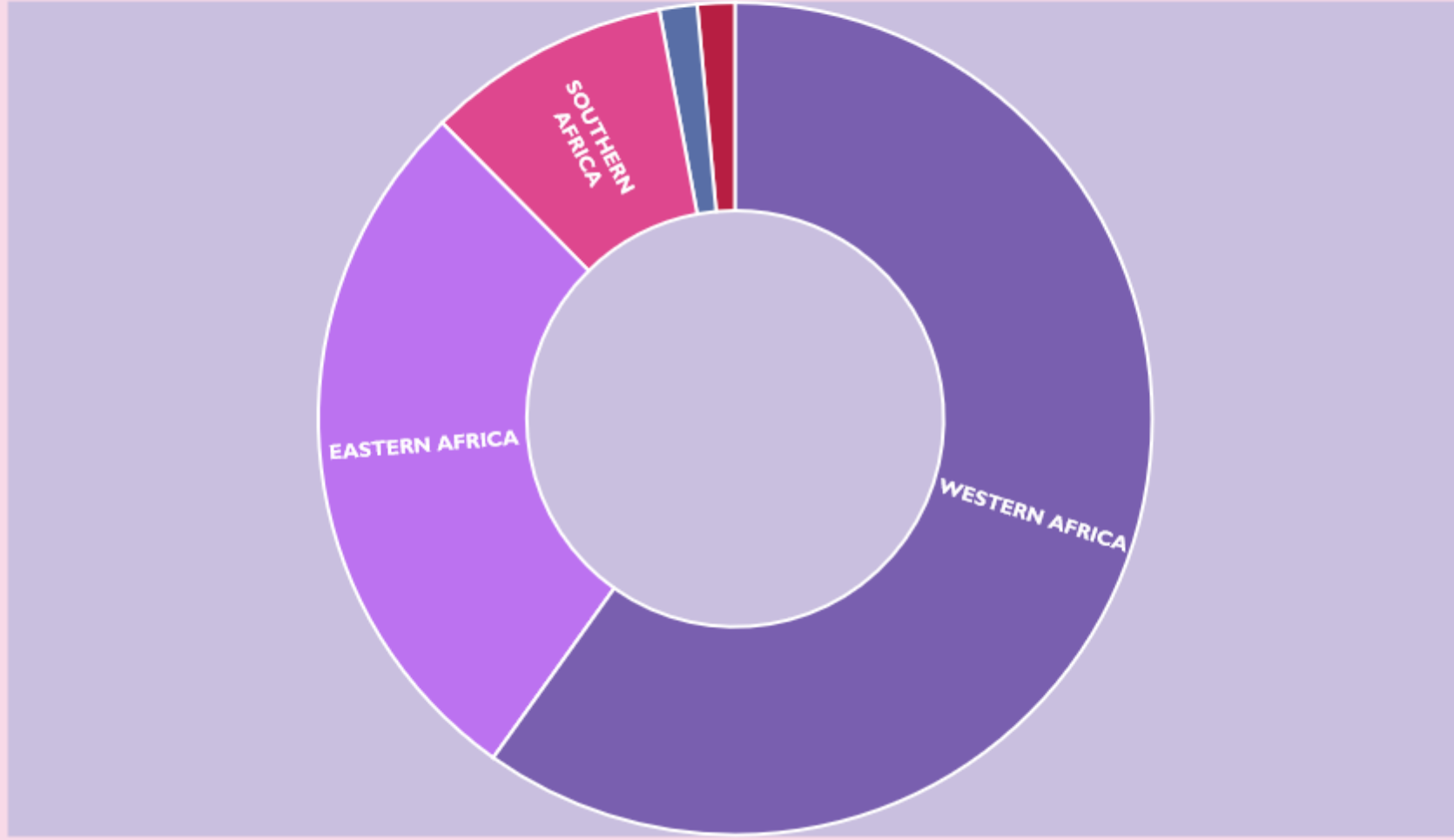
## SECOND THEMATIC AREA CALL ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES RECEIVED 137 ABSTRACTS FROM (16) AU - MEMBER STATES

### ASRIC 1ST CALL ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES PER COUNTRY

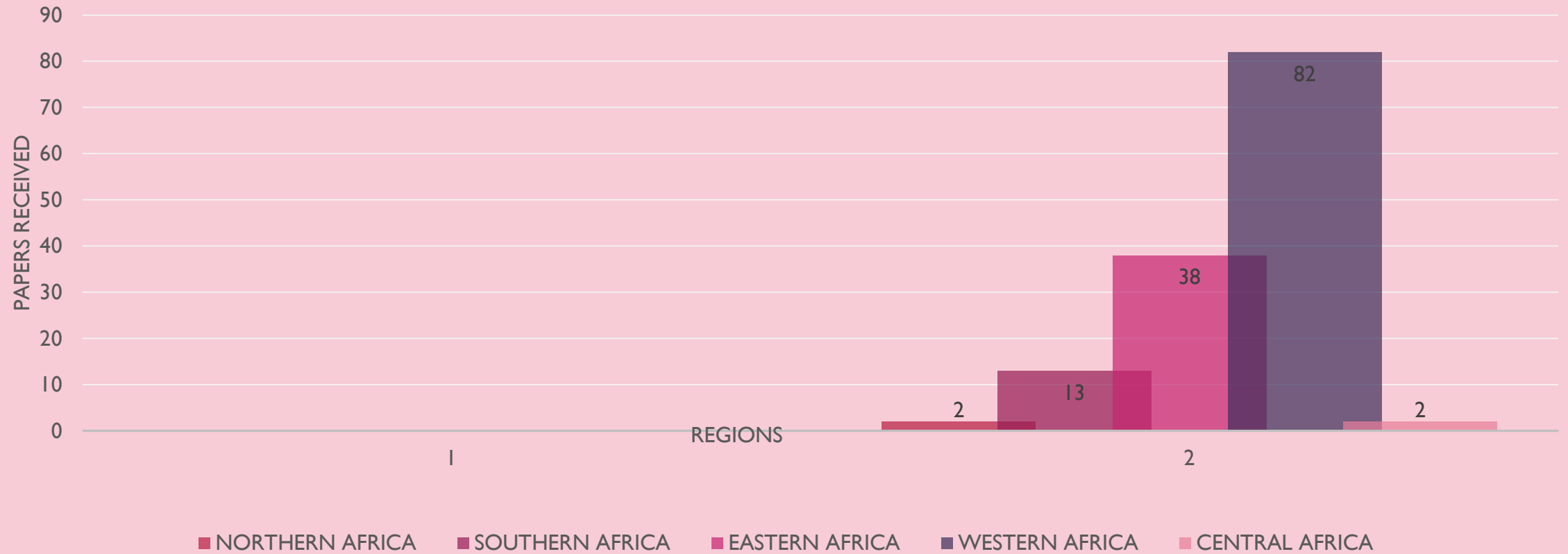


## RESPONSE TO ASRIC CALL ON PAPERS FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES PER REGION IN AU - MEMBER STATES

■ NORTHERN AFRICA ■ SOUTHERN AFRICA ■ EASTERN AFRICA ■ WESTERN AFRICA ■ CENTRAL AFRICA



# RESPONSE TO ASRIC CALL ON PAPERS FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES PER REGION IN AU - MEMBERS STATES



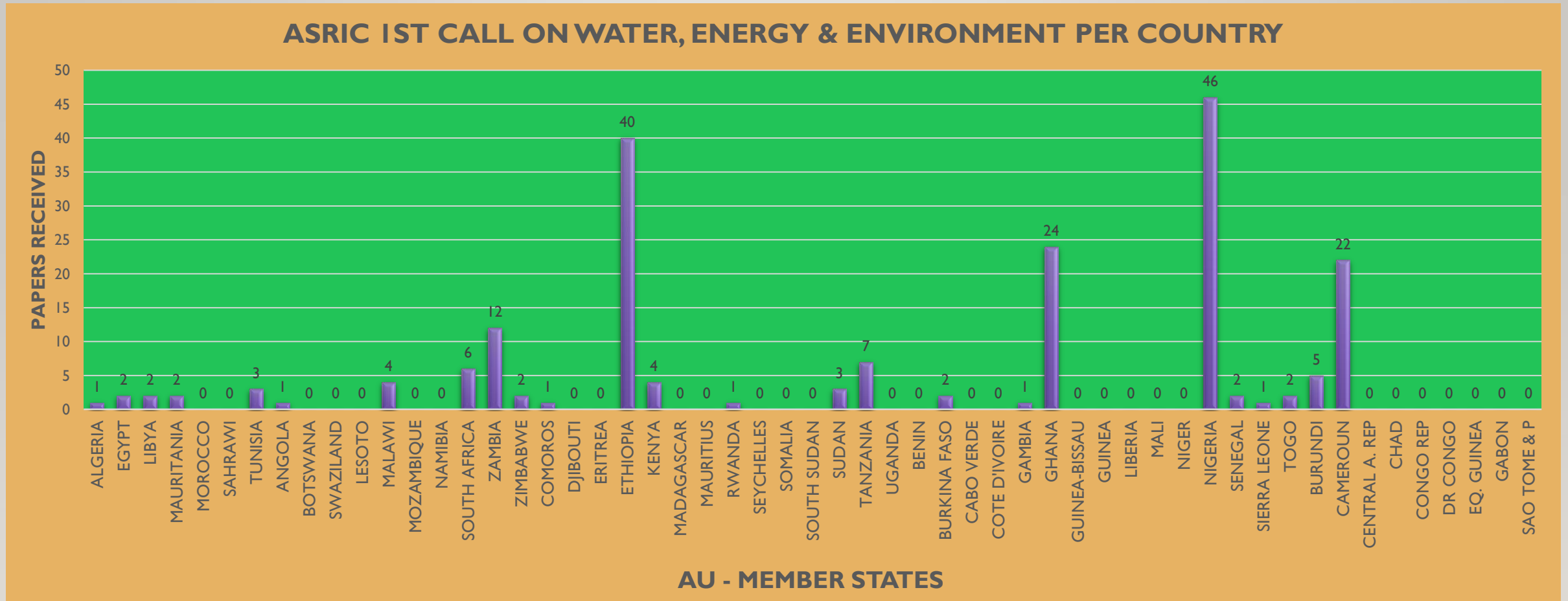
# QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF RESPONSES TO CALL ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHERIES.....

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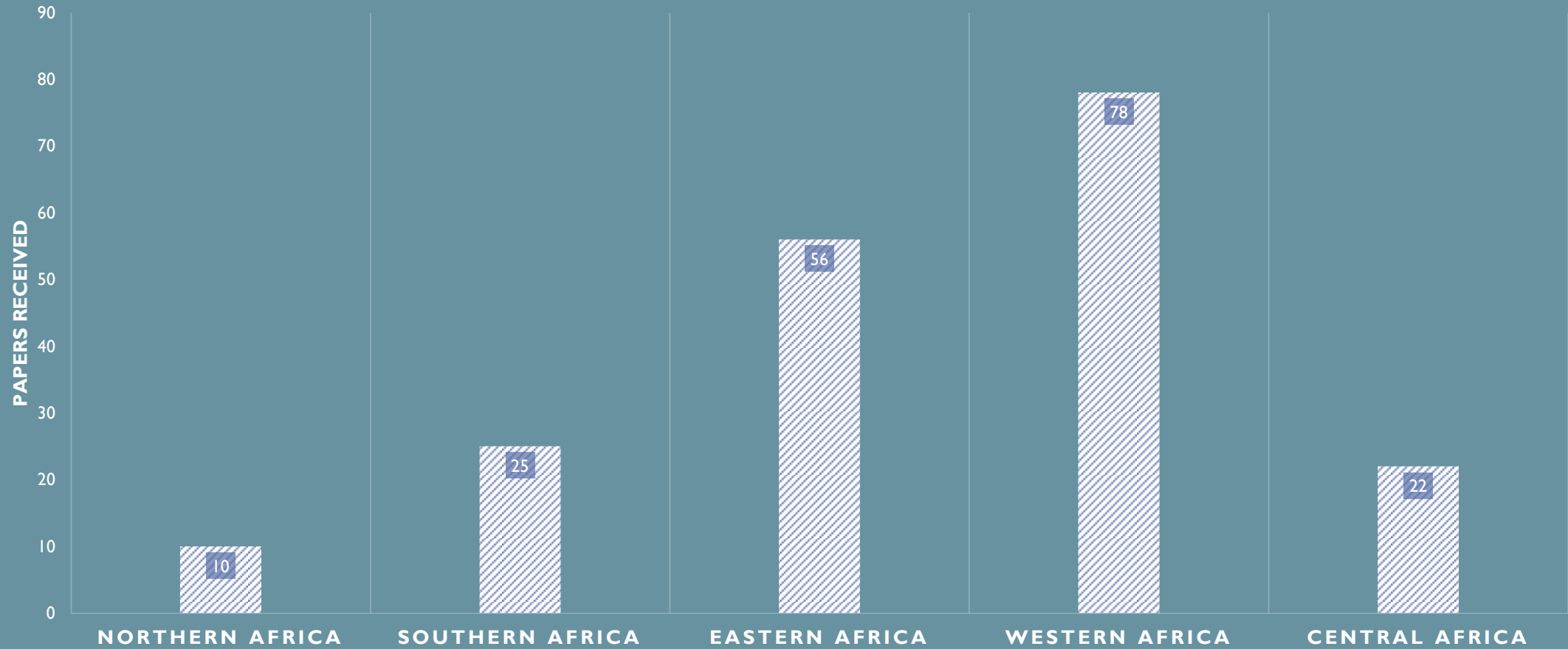
- Further assessment and analysis carried out on the papers submitted reveals that **54 Abstracts** scored ( $\geq$ ) than **70%**.



# THIRD THEMATIC AREA CALL ON WATER, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT RECEIVED 196 ABSTRACTS FROM (25) AU - MEMBER STATES



## RESPONSE TO ASRIC CALL ON WATER, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT PER REGION



AU - MEMBER STATES REGIONS

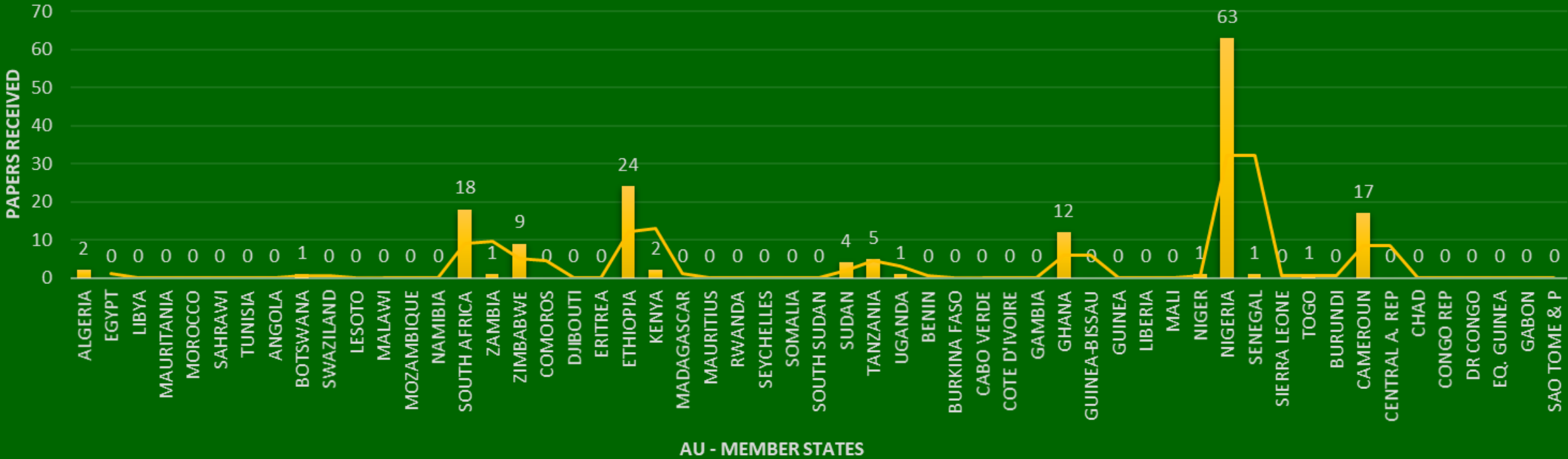
# QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF RESPONSES TO CALL ON WATER, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT.....

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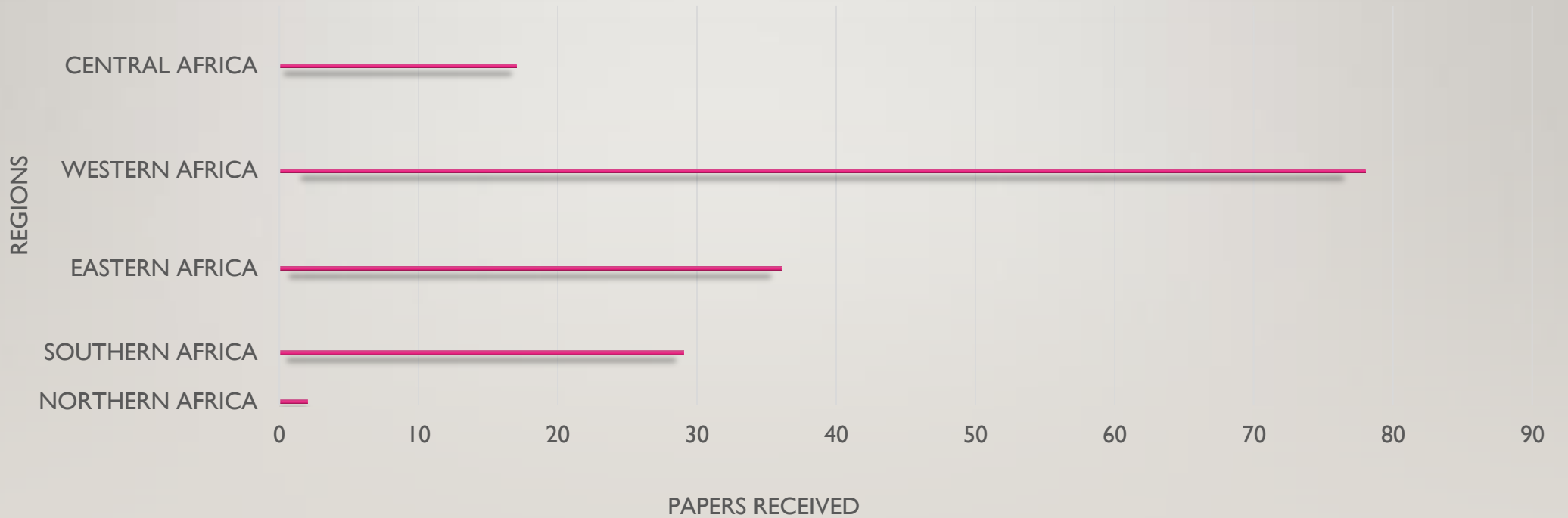
- Further assessment and analysis carried out on the papers submitted reveals that **25 Abstracts** scored ( $\geq$ ) than **70%**.

# FOURTH THEMATIC AREA CALL ON GOVERNANCE, SOCIOLOGY, BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS RECEIVED 196 ABSTRACTS FROM (25) AU - MEMBER STATES

## ASRIC CALL ON GOVERNANCE, SOCIOLOGY, BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS



# RESPONSE TO ASRIC CALL ON GOVERNANCE, SOCIOLOGY, AND BUSINESS & ECONOMICS ASSESSMENT PER REGION



# QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF RESPONSES TO CALL ON GOVERNANCE, SOCIOLOGY, BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

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- Further assessment and analysis carried out on the papers submitted reveals that **41 Abstracts** scored ( $\geq$ ) than **70%**.

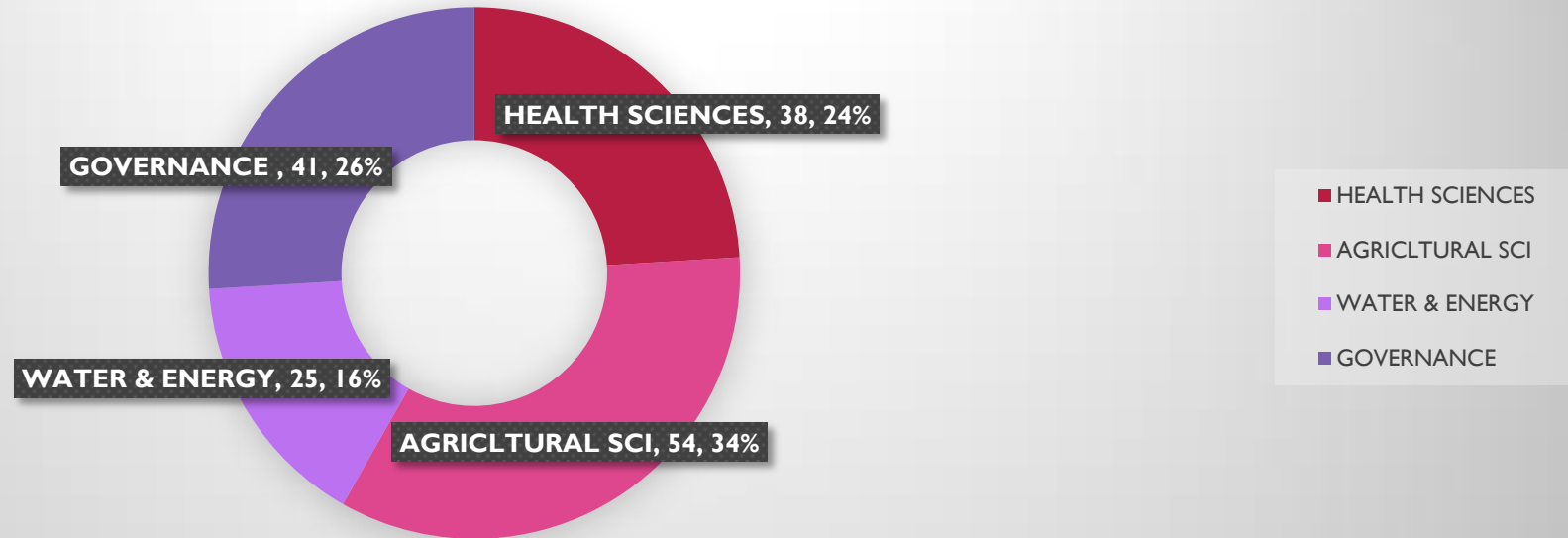
# OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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- The overall assessment across the thematic areas where the call was placed reveals that the quality of scientific abstracts received is high where a total of **158** scored ( $\geq$ ) than **70%**.

# OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**TOTAL SCORES  $\geq$  70% ACROSS THE FOUR (4) THEMATIC AREAS  
ON FIRST ASRIC CALL FOR PAPERS**





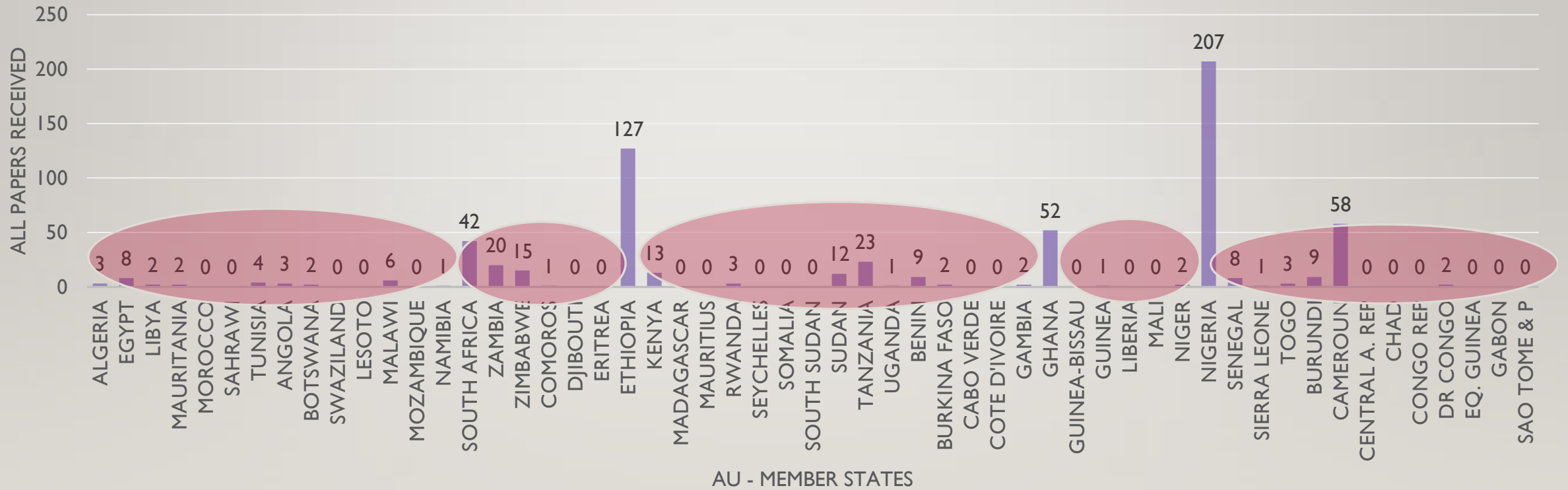
# OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Furthermore, the apparent disparities between the AU-Member States shows the huge gap that needs to be filled through strengthened communication to those AU-Member States that not been represented in any of the analysis made from the abstracts received on the First Call.

Harnessing the rich reserves of the data base of Universities, Scientists, Professors, Research Institutions among others across all AU-Member States will be an asset and also a springboard for the integration and enhanced Intra – Africa collaboration across the domains of science.

# ASRIC IST CALL RESPONSE ANALYSIS PER COUNTRY ACROSS 4 THEMATIC AREAS







***EVERY ENDING  
IS REALLY JUST A  
NEW BEGINNING***