



EAUC Annual Conference University of Leeds 23 – 25 March 2015

CHALLENGING CONNECTIONS

Incorporating the Student Sustainability Summit, Further Education Sustainability Summit and Transformational Leadership Summit

Workshop 14: Avoiding the Perfect Storm – The Critical Role for Universities and Colleges to Develop Organisational Capability through Individual Competence

Jonathan Nobbs, Head of Partnership, IEMA; Nick Blyth, Policy Lead, IEMA and Rachel Drayson, Senior research officer – Sustainability, NUS



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EAUC Annual Conference **University of Leeds** 23 – 25 March 2015

CHALLENGING CONNECTIONS

Avoiding the Perfect Storm –The
Critical Role for Universities and
Colleges to Develop Organisational
Capability through Individual
Competence



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Partnership and
Engagement



Agenda for this session



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- Introduction
- NUS – Students, skills and employability
- IEMA (and GACSO) – Skills for a sustainable economy: A professional body response
- Q&A



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Engagement



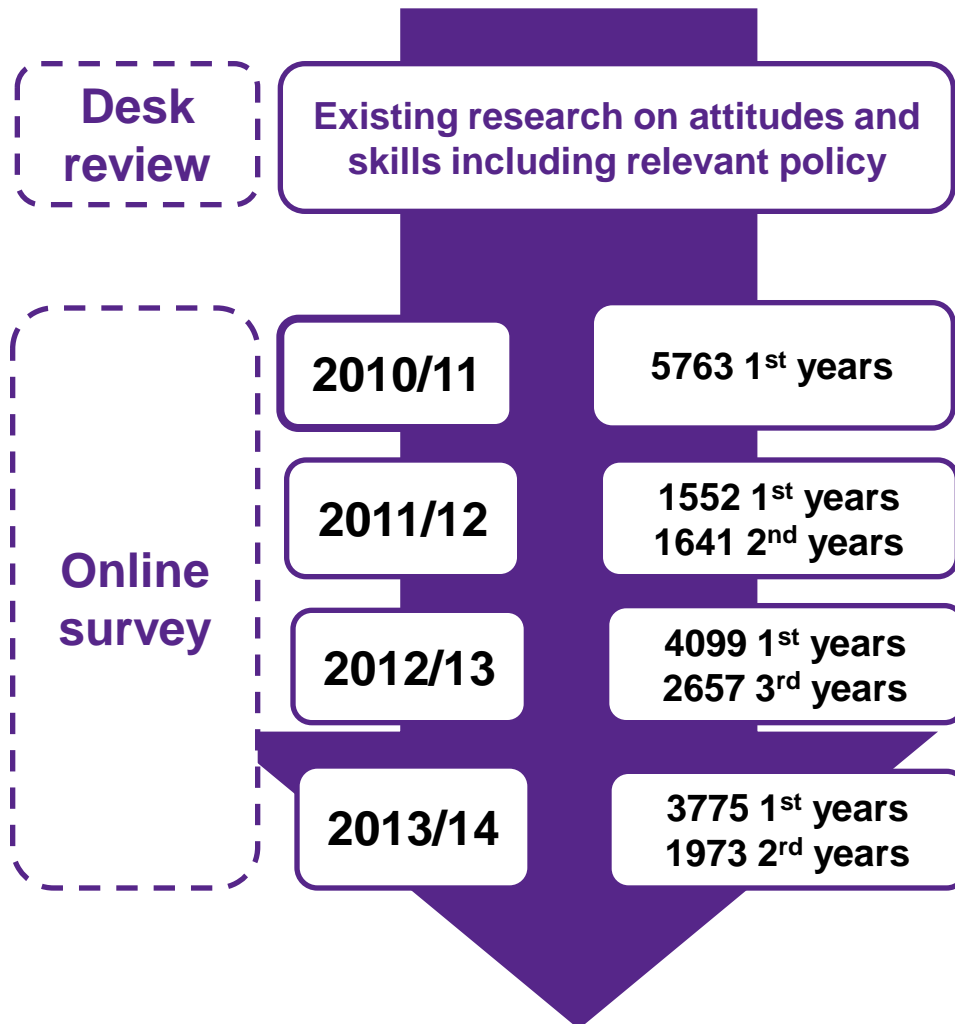
Students, skills and employability



Background and methodology – student research



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Aims and objectives

- Current attitudes towards and understanding of sustainable development (SD) amongst students
- First year student attitudes towards and skills in SD over time
- Attitudes towards and skills in SD as students progress their university career
- The impact of changes in the HE landscape in the UK with the introduction of increased tuition fees for 2012 first year students by tracking first year responses from 2010 to 2012

Skills for sustainability



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Understand people's
relationship to nature

Act as a responsible
citizen locally &
globally

Analyse using many
subjects

Use resources
efficiently

Plan for the long term
as well as the short
term

Consider the ethical
issues of your
subject

Adapt to new
situations

Think of the whole system
and the links when
considering new ideas

Students continue to show a demand for action and learning on SD



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Eight in every ten students consistently believe that SD should be actively incorporated and promoted by universities

Over two thirds of respondents consistently believe that SD should be incorporated into all university courses

Around two thirds of respondents want to learn more about SD

This increases as respondents progress through their studies

International students are significantly more likely to agree that action should be taken by universities in this way

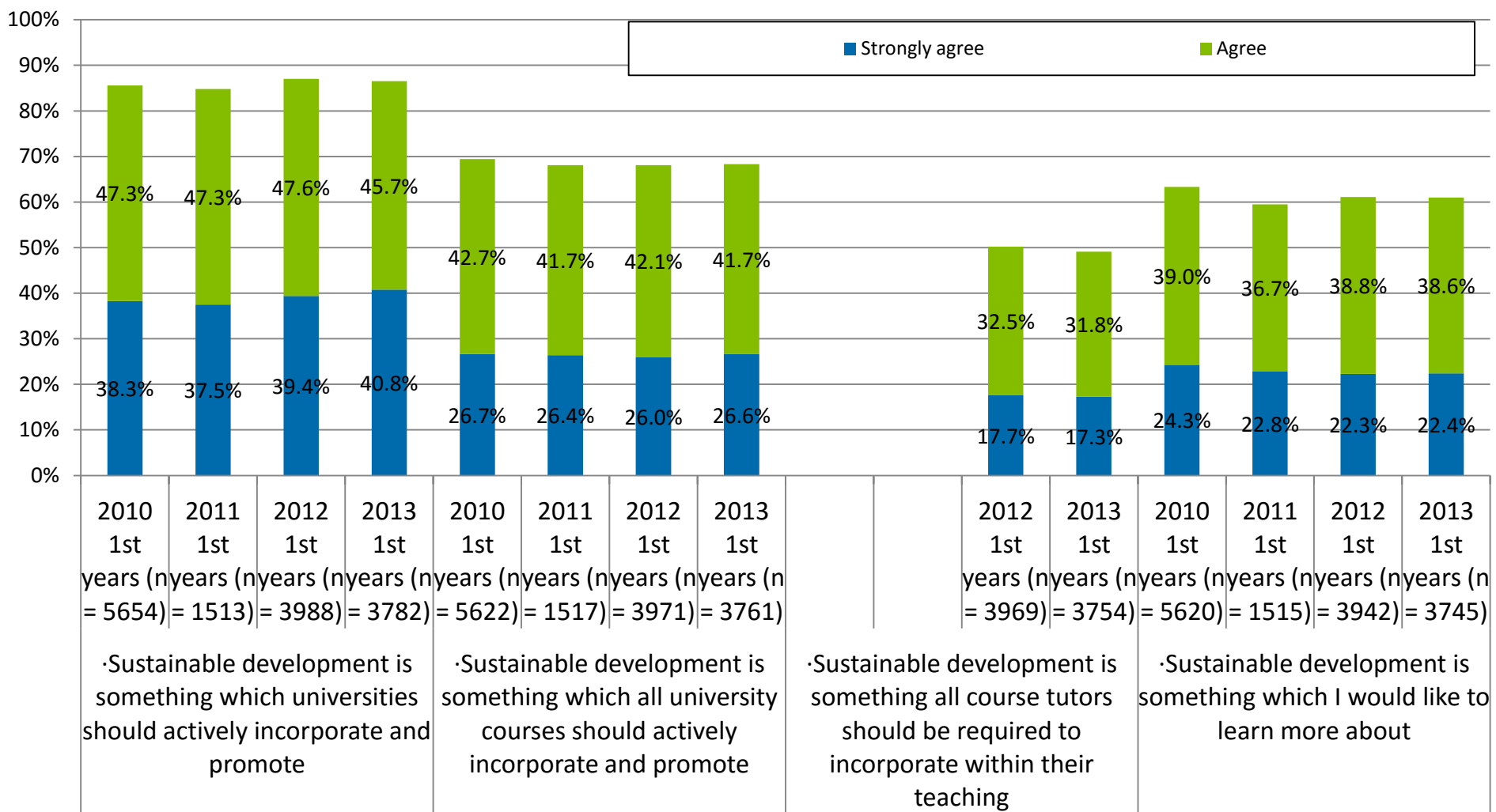
Over 60% of domestic students would like to learn more about sustainable development

This rises to three quarters of international respondents

This demand has remained consistent across the four years of research



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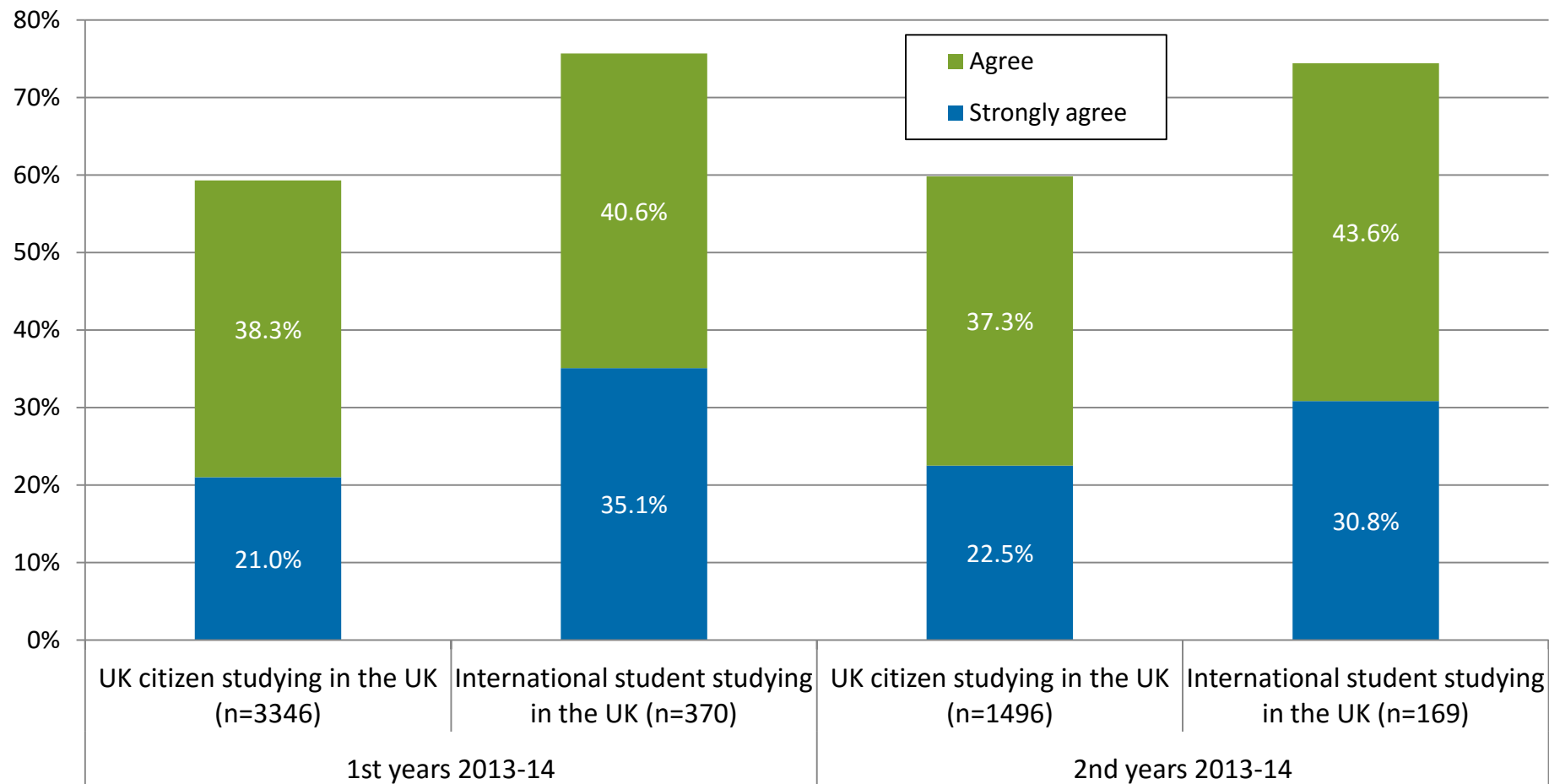


Q. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? Balance: No response

Demand to learn about sustainable development is greater amongst international students



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Q. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? 'Sustainable development is something which I would like to learn more about' Balance: No response

Skills development remains high on respondents' agendas



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Over two thirds of first year respondents consistently agree that universities should be obliged to develop their sustainability skills as part of their course

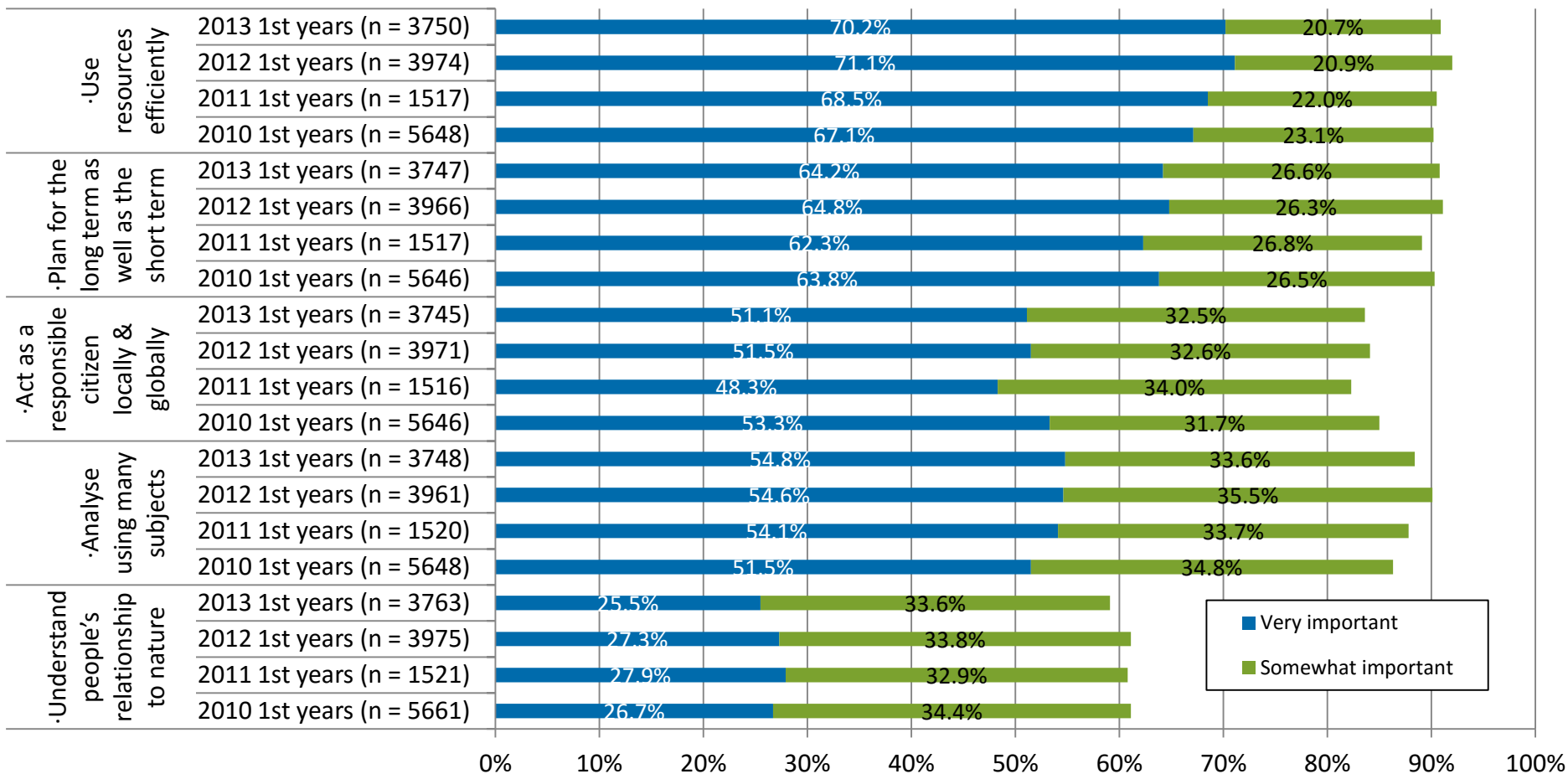
There is a continued desire amongst students for a reframing of curriculum content, rather than additional content or courses

Maintaining and developing links with employers is increasingly relevant to respondents with internships increasingly seen as a method of further skills development

SD skills are perceived to be highly valued by employers



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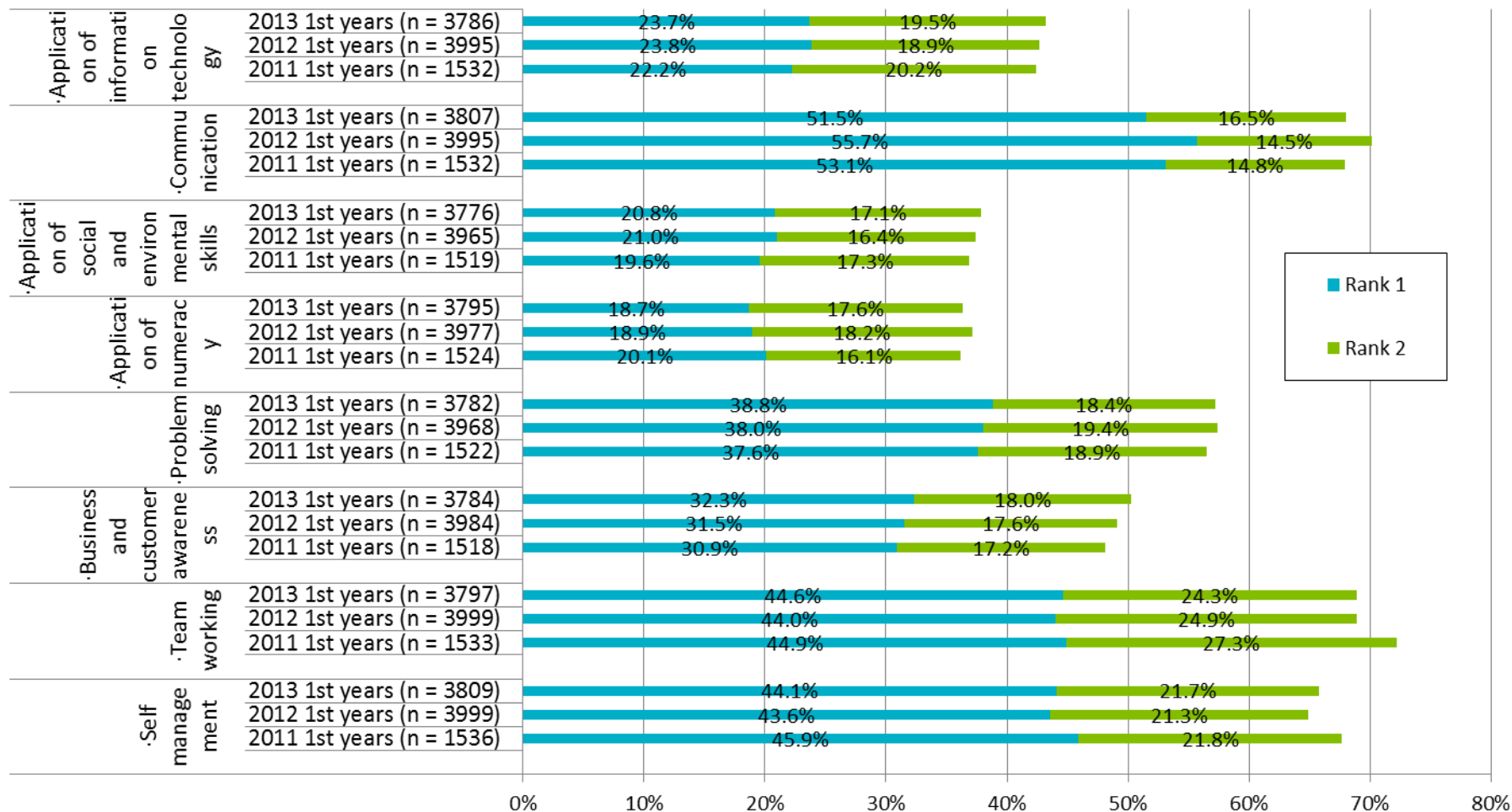


Q. How important do you think the following skills are to your future employers? Balance: No response

Communication, teamwork and self-management skills seen as most highly valued by employers



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Q. How important do you think the following skills are to your future employers when compared against each other? Where 1 is the most important.
Balance: No response

Respondents show a continued desire to work for employers taking positive action on SD, and also for specific roles which contribute to positive social and environmental change



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£1000 salary sacrifice to work for a **company** with a positive social and environmental record



£3000 salary sacrifice to work for a **company** with a positive social and environmental record



£3000 salary sacrifice to work in a **role** with a positive social and environmental record

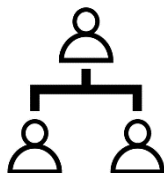
Background – employer facing research



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Senior leadership (n=50)



Organisation size:

18 respondents – 1-24 employees
21 respondents – 25-499 employees
11 respondents – 500+ employees

Organisation type:

31 respondents – Limited company
5 respondents – Academia
4 respondents – Charity / NGO
4 respondents – Public limited company / Incorporated company

Organisation sector:

15 respondents – Professional and business services
12 respondents – Education
10 respondents – Manufacturing
2 respondents – Media and creative services
2 respondents – Construction

Examples:

Asthma UK, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council, Wilmott Dixon

HR and Recruitment (n=29)



Organisation size:

10 respondents – 25-499 employees
16 respondents – 500+ employees

Organisation type:

14 respondents – Limited company
4 respondents – Government body
4 respondents – Public limited company / Incorporated company

Organisation sector:

7 respondents – Education
4 respondents – Professional and business services
3 respondents – IT and telecommunications services
3 respondents – Wholesale
2 respondents – Retail, hire and repair

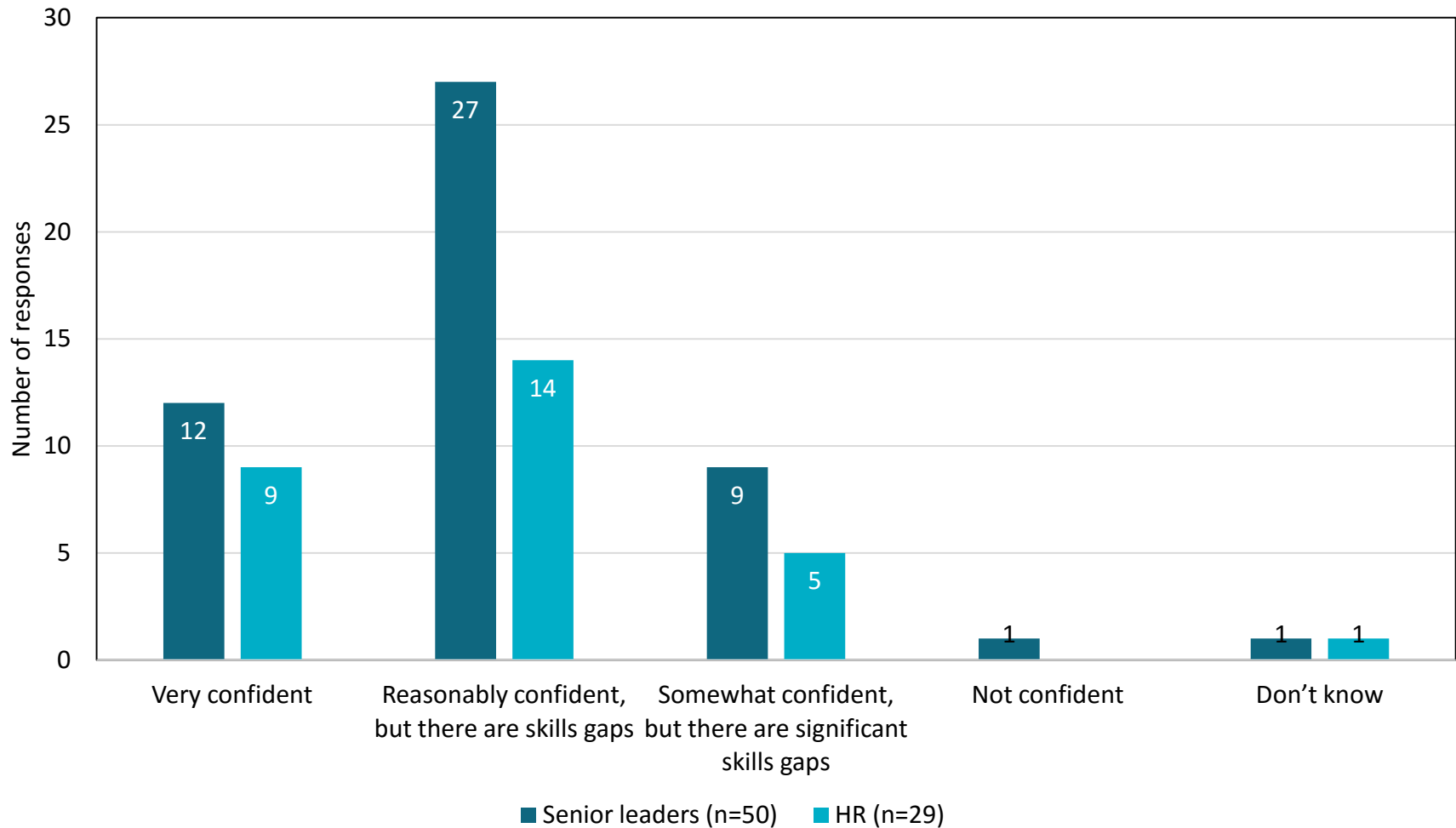
Examples:

Marks and Spencer, Freshfields, Waterstones Ltd, Royal Navy, CB&I Ltd

Respondents are reasonably confident their organisation has the skills to compete in a sustainable economy, though there are some with significant concerns



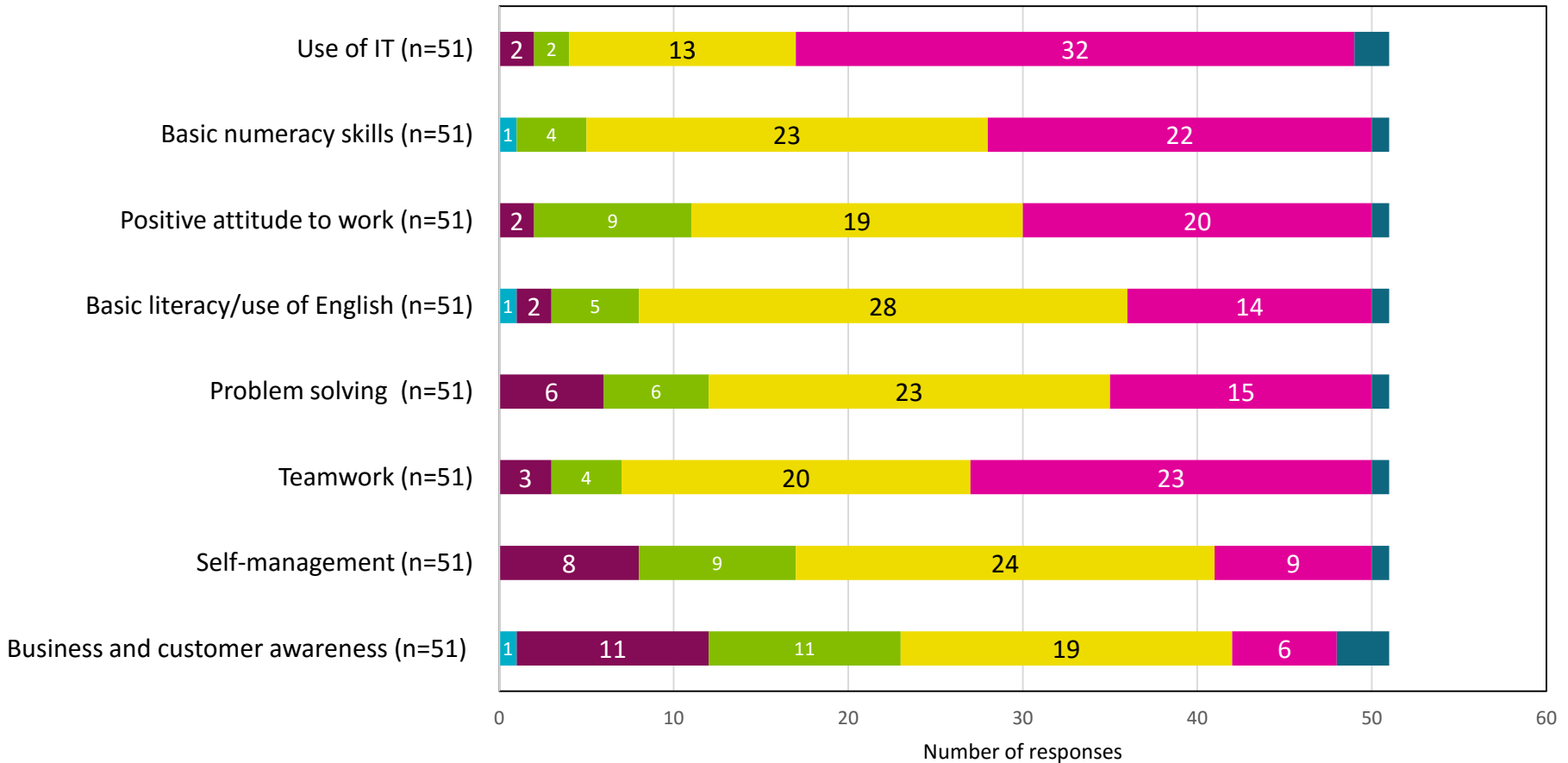
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Business and customer awareness skills are the least satisfactory amongst recent graduates, with IT and team work rated as the most satisfactory



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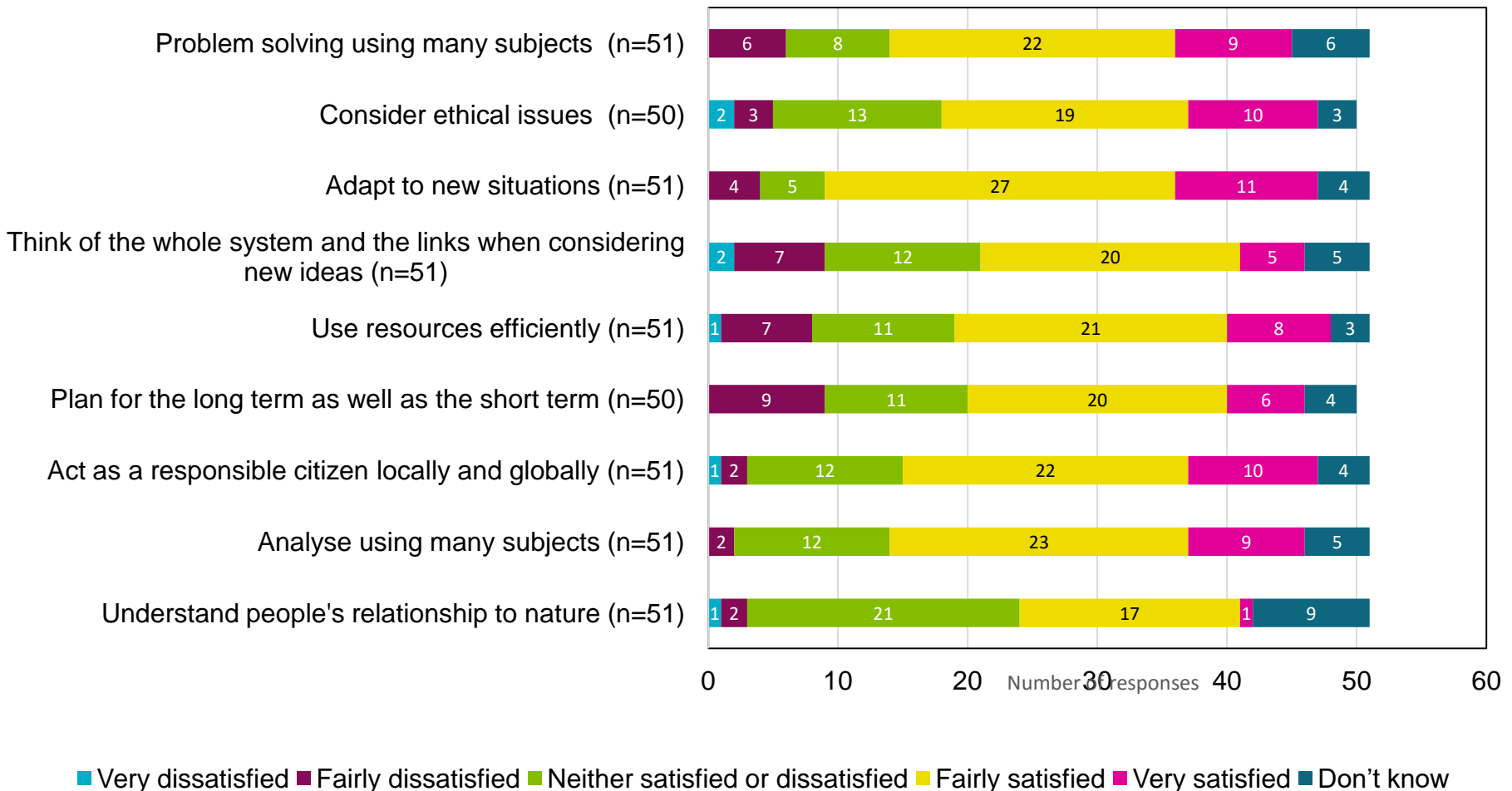
■ Very dissatisfied
 ■ Fairly dissatisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
 ■ Fairly satisfied
 ■ Very satisfied
 ■ Don't know

Q. To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the following skills amongst recent graduate employees? [Senior leaders] Balance: No response

Respondents show less certainty when asked about sustainability skills but are most satisfied with the adaptability of recent graduates and least satisfied with their ability to understand people's relationship to nature



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Q. To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the following skills amongst graduate employees? [Senior leaders]
Balance: No response

Incorporation of SD skills is less common than incorporation of SD values

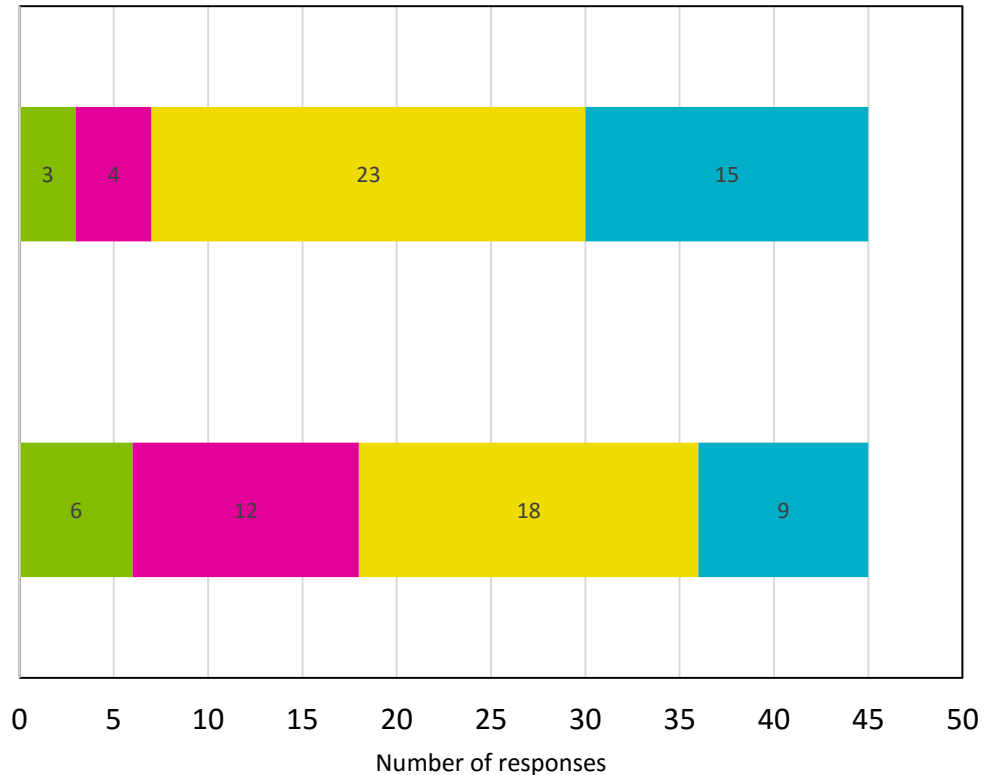


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Sustainability values are incorporated into the business strategy for my organisation (n=45)

Sustainability skills are incorporated into the business strategy for my organisation (n=45)



■ Don't know ■ Strongly disagree ■ Disagree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Agree ■ Strongly agree

Q. To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements? [Senior leaders] Balance: No response

Agenda



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Tools for skills development

Holistic institution-wide approach: Responsible Futures



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The vision for Responsible Futures is to create an educational environment where students leave with the knowledge, skills and attributes required to critically challenge the world around them, and a desire and willingness to tackle social, economic and environmental issues and inequalities.

nus

**Responsible
Futures**

A framework which will help:

- foster holistic institutional change
- develop social norms around sustainability education in both the formal and informal curriculum
- Piloting in 2014/15 at 13 HE and FE institutions across England and Scotland
- Find out more from Quinn Runkle – Quinn.Runkle@nus.org.uk

Skills for a Sustainable Economy – A professional body response

March 2015



Agenda

- Setting the scene – New Vision
- Professional Levels (approach)
- A sustainability skills map
- A new entry level of membership
- Next steps

“Transforming the World to Sustainability”

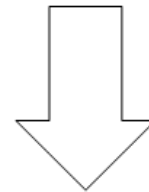
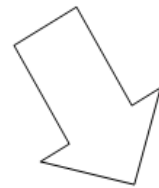
Horizon Scanning/ Thought Leadership



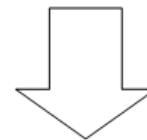
Engagement



Voice



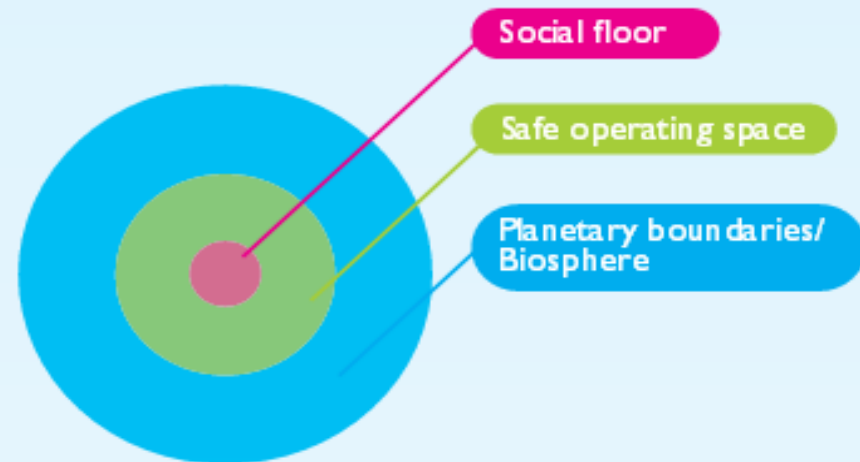
Products and Service Delivery



Members, Volunteers and Networks

Defining Corporate Sustainability

A GACSO & IEMA white paper



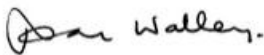
Addition of social floor – Conceptual diagram drawn in workshop – From: Leach, M; Raworth, KA; Rockström, J (2013) Between social and planetary boundaries: Navigating pathways in the safe and just space for humanity. In: ISSC and UNESCO, World Social Science Report 2013: Changing Global Environments. OECD Publishing and UNESCO Publishing Paris.

Requirements for Transformational change ?



iema
Institute of Environment
Management & Assessment

Our Supporters



Professionalising Sustainability

1. Developing work - a cohesive Skills Map for sustainability professionals.
2. Framework can be applied across sectors, geographies and levels for professionals working in environment, social and/or governance impact areas.
3. Evolve from IEMA skills map (2011)
4. Engagement with sustainability professionals
5. Provides a foundation from which training and certification can be developed.

*“Our survey found that **74% of businesses employing Environment & Sustainability professionals indicated they had sustainability skills gaps**, while a further **13% had no confidence in their ability to compete in the future economy**”- Skills for a sustainable economy IEMA*

Key Contacts: Claire Kirk and Nick Blyth



Membership Structure

Fellow + Significant Contribution – FIEMA +

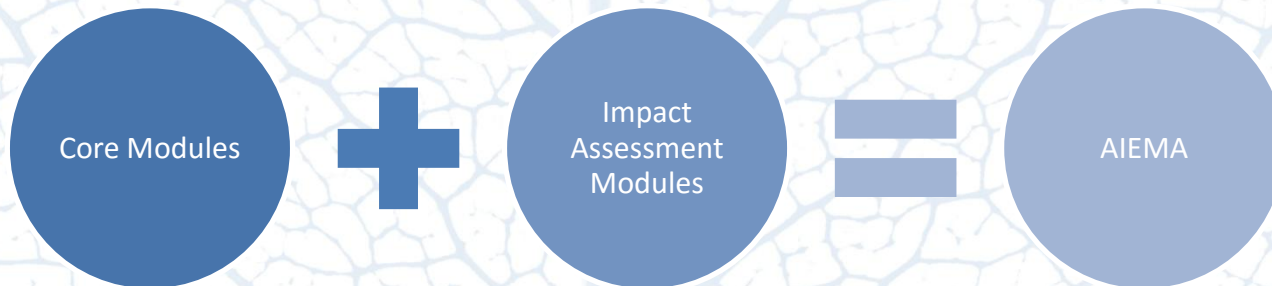
	Knowledge and understanding					Analytical thinking		Communication		Sustainable practice			Leadership for change	
Competency	Fundamental environmental and sustainability principles	Environmental policy issues	Environmental management and assessment tools	Environmental legislation	Business management	Analyse, interpret and report data and information	Develop sustainable solutions	Implement effective communication	Engage stakeholders (internal and external)	Implement sustainable thinking	Deliver environmental improvement	Managing business resilience	Lead change	Influence behaviour
Leadership	Fellow - FIEMA													
Managerial	Full Member - MIEMA													
	organisations					making and provide advice	deliver sustainable solutions	approaches		implement whole life-cycle thinking	making a business case		barriers	sustainability
Specialist	Explain environmental and sustainability principles as they interact with work or study area	Explain environmental policy issues and trends in work or study area	Describe environmental management and assessment tools and their application	Identify, critically review and interpret environmental legislation in work or study area	Explain key business and commercial tools	Collect, analyse, interpret and report information, and/or conduct research to develop sustainable	Research developments in work or study area to develop and propose sustainable	Advise and influence others using effective communication methods	Identify and engage in two-way communication with stakeholders	Use sustainable thinking to lead research, develop or promote new methodologies or	Lead projects to deliver environmental performance improvement, making a business case	Explain how a changing environment affects work or study area	Lead a process of change management, overcoming barriers	Demonstrate leadership in work or study area
Operational	Associate - AIEMA													
Non-graduate/ Graduate entry	Graduate - GradIEMA							Technician - TechIEMA						



Scope – Environment Management, Assessment & Corporate Sustainability



Routes to Recognition



A Common Core

- The Sustainability Challenge
 - The Earth as a Life support system, 1 planet living
 - Macro trends
 - implications for environment, society, economy and organisations
- The Role of Sustainability Professionals
 - Skills and Behaviours
 - Agents of Change / Leadership / Impact
 - CPD / Code of Practice
- Tools of Trade
 - Policy and legislation
 - Management and Assessment Tools (an overview)
 - Standards and guidance (ISO, GRI etc)

Understanding the Skills Map

The skills map allows individuals and organizations to map the sustainability skills they need.

As the field of sustainability widens incorporating other technical areas its essential to understand how the skills can be mapped to each area. The three areas identified are Environment, Social and Business Management/Governance. Within these areas there are specific knowledge skills that differentiate the technical area and underpinning the knowledge skills are core (non-technical) skills that are relevant to working within the sustainability profession.

Knowledge skills (technical)

Knowledge Skills include critical and emerging sustainability-specific capabilities, specialities and skills. These are divided into three technical subsets: Environment, Social and Business Management/Governance.

Core skills (non-technical)

Core Skills are 23 distinct skills that are relevant to everyone working in sustainability - *regardless of sector, geography or specialism.*

Core Knowledge (technical)

Core Knowledge is relevant to everyone working in sustainability - *regardless of sector, geography or specialism.*

Sustainability Professionals

Knowledge Skills (technical)

Environment

- ▶ Fundamental environmental principles, standards and issues
- ▶ Environmental policies, legislation and regulation
- ▶ Environmental management and assessment tools
- ▶ Innovative and leading practices in environmental solutions

Social

- ▶ Fundamental social issues within communities
- ▶ Social policies, legislation and regulation
- ▶ Social management and assessment tools to capture impacts
- ▶ Innovative and leading practice in social solutions

Governance

- ▶ Fundamental governance principles and issues
- ▶ Corporate governance policies, legislation and regulation
- ▶ Business management and process improvement tools
- ▶ Innovative and leading practices in governance

Core skills (non-technical)

Leadership for Change

Project & Program Management

Relationship Development

Analytical Thinking

Sustainable Practice

Problem Solving

Effective Communication

Core Knowledge

The Sustainability Challenge, The role of the sustainability professional, tools of our trade

Sustainability Professionals		
Knowledge Skills (technical)		
Environmental	Technical	Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental environmental principles, standards and laws • Environmental impact assessment and regulatory requirements • Environmental management systems and assessment tools • Environmental monitoring and reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental engineering, science and technology • Environmental engineering and design • Environmental management systems and assessment tools • Environmental monitoring and reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental management principles and skills • Environmental management systems and assessment tools • Environmental monitoring and reporting • Environmental management systems and assessment tools • Environmental monitoring and reporting
Core skills (non-technical)		
Leadership for Change	Project & Program Management	Relationship Development
Analytical Thinking	Sustainable Practice	Problem Appreciation and Reframing
Effective Communication		

Core skills (non-technical)

The core skills below are the most referenced skills needed for sustainability & environmental professionals.

Leadership for Change

- Influencing behaviour
- Team Management
- People Development
- Managing people through change

Project & Program Management

- Business case creation
- Program management
- Project monitoring & control
- Project planning

Relationship Development

- Building & maintaining relationships
- Structured conversations
- Stakeholder management

Analytical Thinking

- Critical analysis
- Data analysis

Sustainable Practice

- Systems thinking
- Innovation
- Resilience

Problem Appreciation and Reframing

- Negotiation
- Decision making
- Persuasion

Effective Communication

- Facilitation
- Message development
- Presentation delivery
- Written communication

Example in-depth

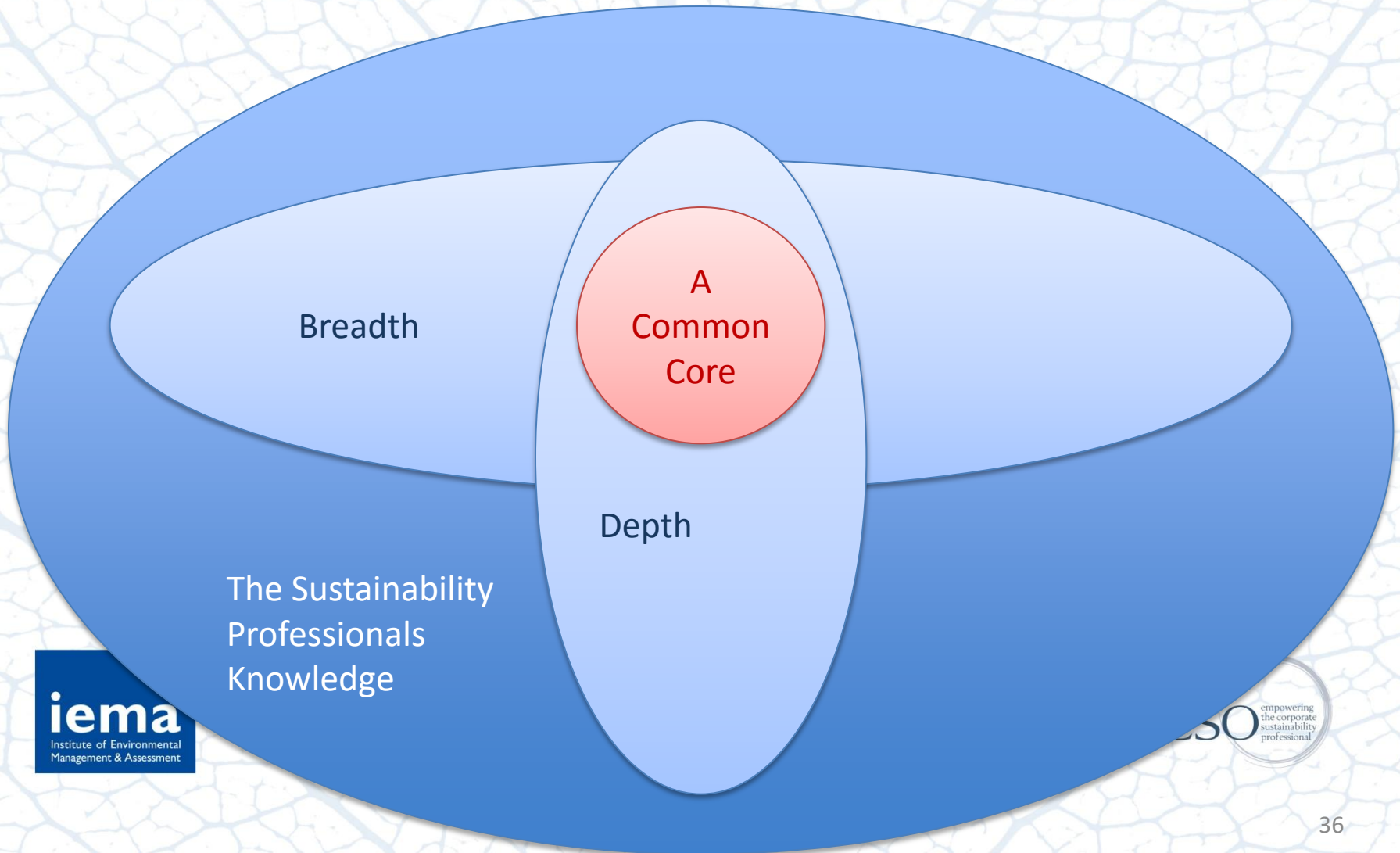


The technical area environment concerns the natural environment (natural capital) and focuses on designing activities to meet human needs while preserving the life support systems of the planet.

Knowledge skills focus on understanding of:

- ▶ Fundamental environmental principles, standards and issues
- ▶ Environmental policies, legislation and regulation
- ▶ Environmental management and assessment tools
- ▶ Innovative and leading practices in environmental solutions

Translating the Skills Map into Membership Standards



Context

Task: To develop an Entry Level of Membership

Context:

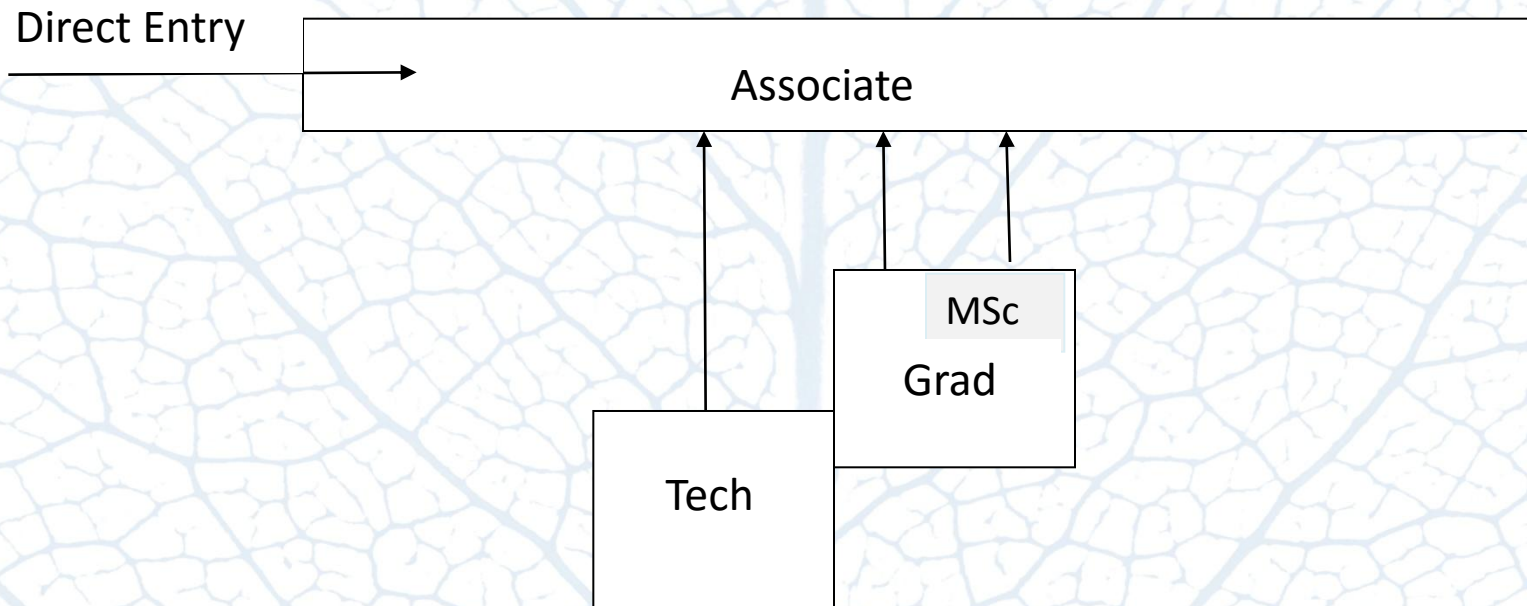
- Current Associate Level of membership hard to achieve
- Significant growth and ambition of IEMA
- Current membership doesn't cater for wider sustainability issues
- Opportunity to support new entrants into business (over time)

Purpose:

- To develop and implement an entry level of membership for IEMA that enables individuals committing to a career in environment and/or sustainability to achieve a professional recognition early in their journey.



The Model Proposed



How to join the new GradIEMA membership

There are likely to be 2 routes into the new Graduate Grade of membership:

1. An Approved course
2. If you haven't completed an approved course you will be able to demonstrate equivalent knowledge (assessment approach to be determined)



What Graduates will need to know

Content	
Understand the Fundamentals of Sustainability	Core content required by all
Understand Core Issues	depth of knowledge required in at least one of - environment, social or sustainable business
Policy Instruments (inc. legislation) Tools and Techniques	Depth of knowledge required in at least 2 areas (3 policy & legislation options and 3 tools and technique options)
Core Skill areas – data and analysis, delivering sustainable outcomes, communication, project and business management in delivering sustainability	Core content required by all
Skill areas – leadership for change, relationship building, and problem appreciation and reframing	Graduate specific content, required by all graduate members

Fundamentals of Sustainability

Assessment Criteria

Identify the global mega-trends driving the urgent need to transition the world to sustainability

Explain the concept of environmental limits in relation to key natural cycles and systems: (inc: carbon, resources, ecosystems, and biodiversity)

Explain concept / purpose of human rights and a social protection floor

Describe how current economic activity regularly drives environmental and social externalities, both locally and globally

**Identify the principles of sustainability in corporate practice
(Accountability, Ethical Behaviour, Inclusivity, Integrity, Stewardship and Transparency)**

Explain the benefits and opportunities organisations can achieve in moving, beyond compliance, towards sustainability

Feedback – yes please

- The framework for a sustainability skills map and graduate membership that you have seen today are both draft.
- If you have any thoughts on what you have seen and heard please share them with us.

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Contact details



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