



OUTREACH EVENT ON THE ACTIVITIES AND FINDINGS OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC), Tehran, I.R. of Iran
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Towards a more Integrated Role for Early Career Researchers in the IPCC process

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The first idea:

Workshop “Integrating science across the IPCC on climate risk and sustainable solutions: Lessons learnt from AR5 to inform AR6,”

co-organized by Future Earth and PROVIA, and co-sponsored by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Stockholm, Sweden, 29 – 31 August 2016.

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YOUNG EARTH SYSTEM SCIENTISTS community



Research Questions

- **How could ECRs increasingly contribute to the IPCC process?**
- *How aware are ECRs of the IPCC process and possibilities to get engaged?*
- *How motivated are ECRs to contribute to IPCC process?*
- *What would be possible opportunities for ECRs to get engaged?*
- *What are the barriers hindering ECRs from participating in the IPCC process?*

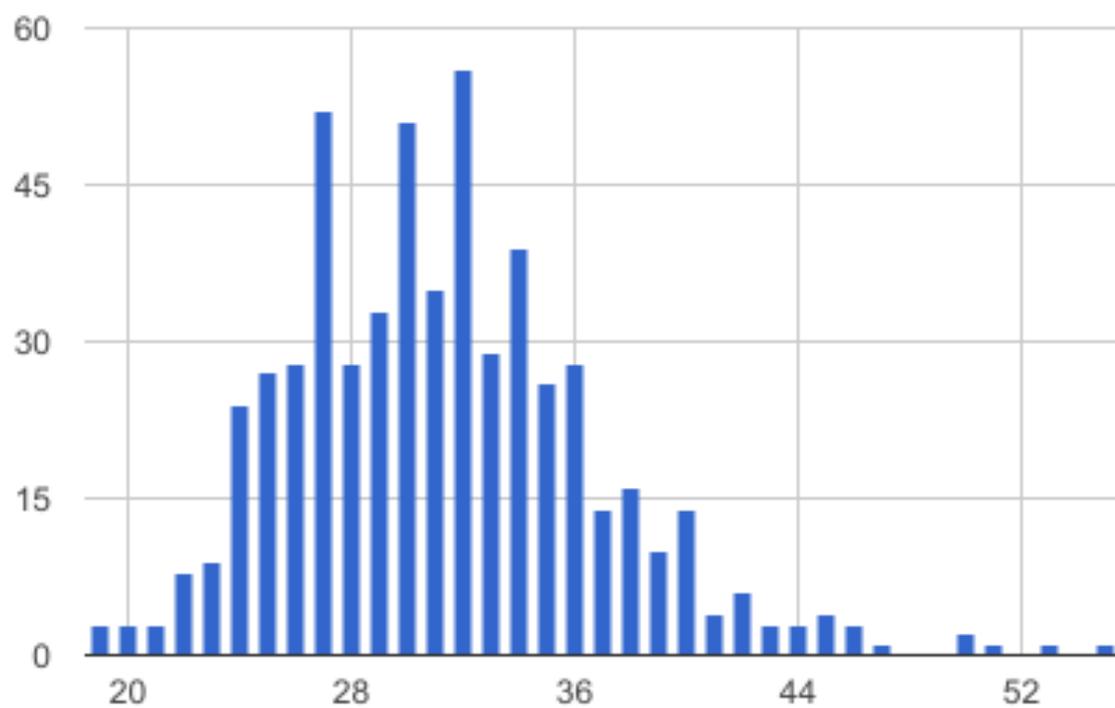
Note: ECRs were considered to be young researchers in the broader sense, ranging from Bachelor and Master students, PhD students, researchers within/equal to 5 years after obtaining PhD, as well as young practitioners and scientists with academic degrees under 35 years old.

Methodology

- Survey from ECRs (> 600 responses worldwide)
 - i) general information about ECRs;
 - ii) the level of knowledge on the IPCC process and opportunities for involvement;
 - iii) motivation for contributing;
 - iv) obstacles and limitations.
- Interviews with 10 key experts involved in IPCC previously or currently
- Analysis of results:
 - Survey: Python explorative & statistical study among sub-groups (scientific expertise and geographic background);
 - Interviews: R Package for Computer-Aided Qualitative Data Analysis (RQDA)

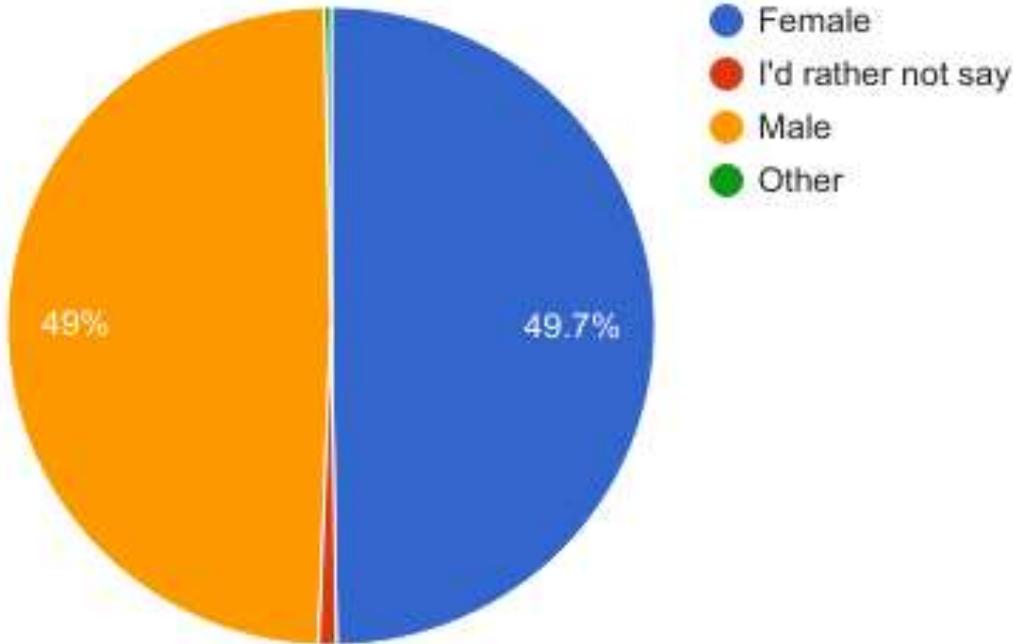
Responses

1. Your age:



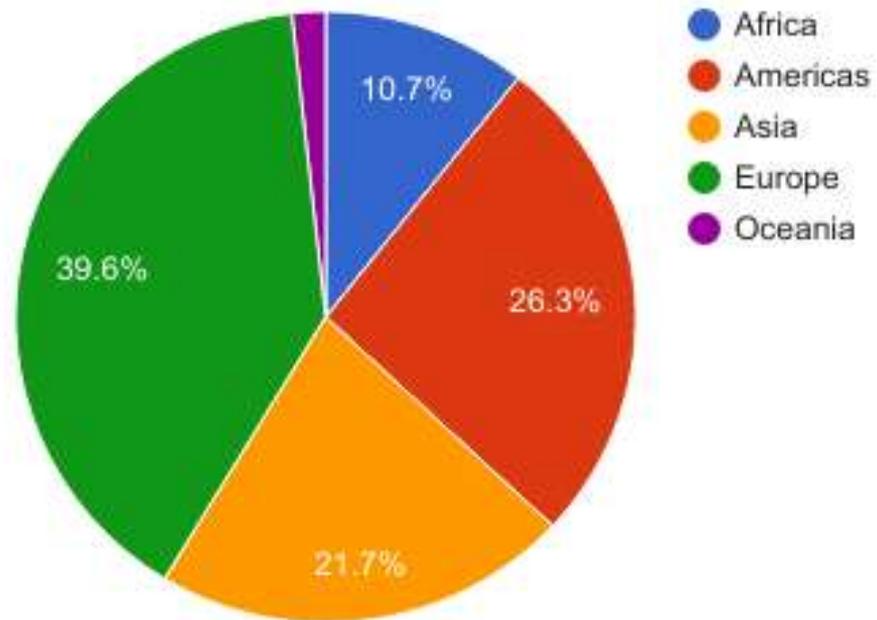
Responses

2. You would identify your gender as:



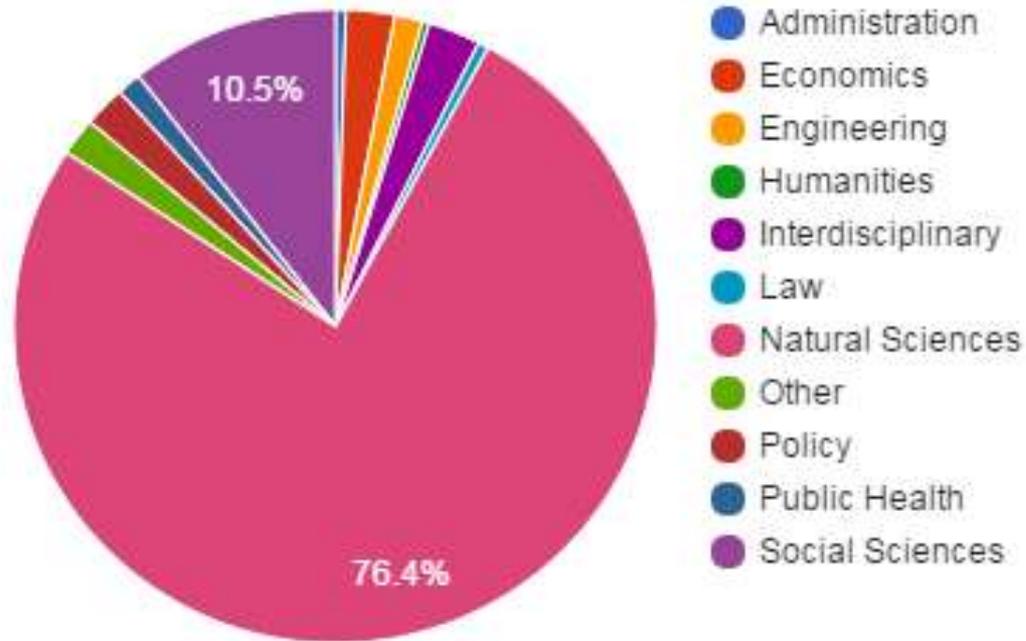
Responses

3. Your country of origin (per continent)



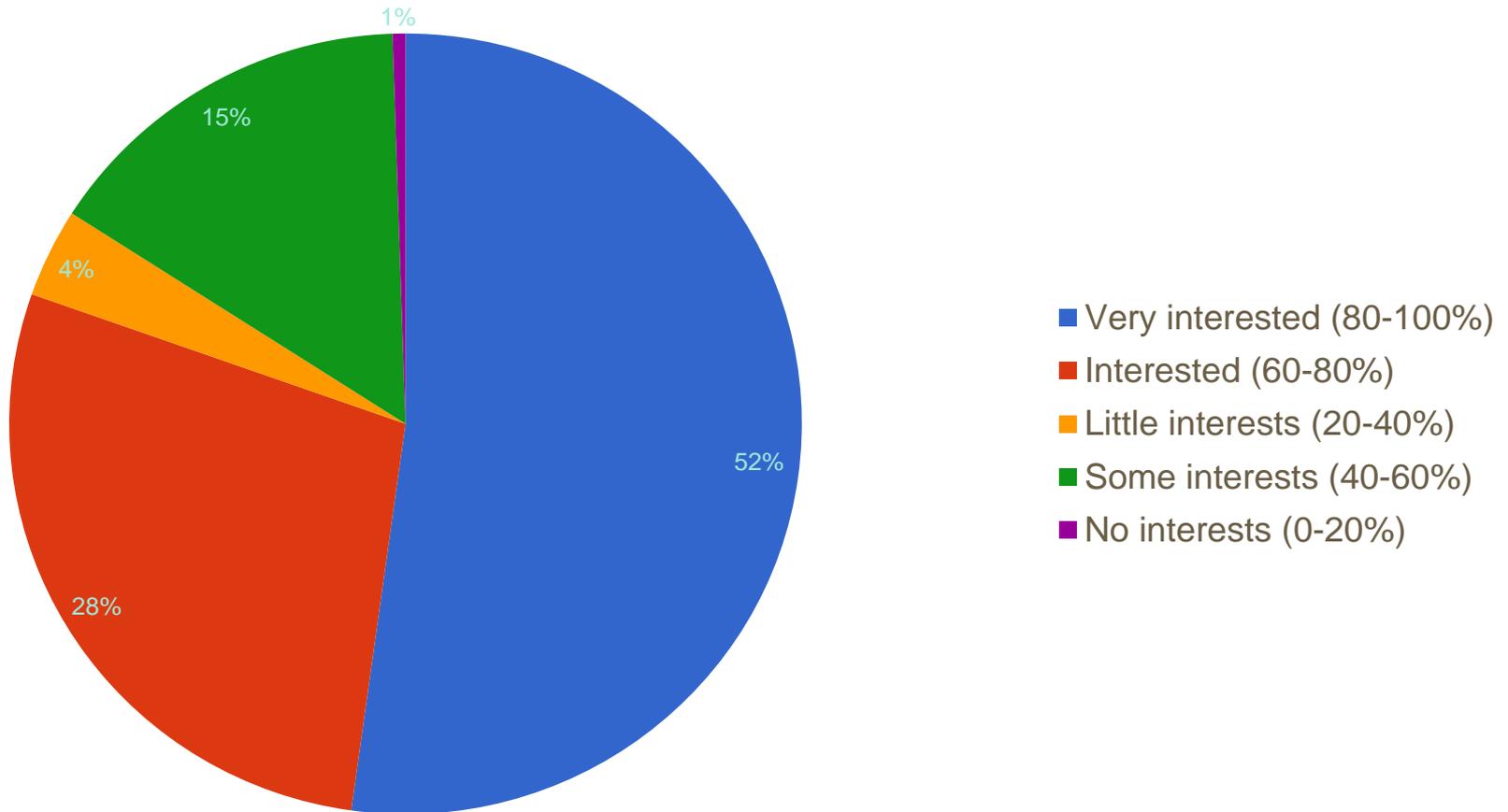
Responses

7. What is your primary area of expertise?

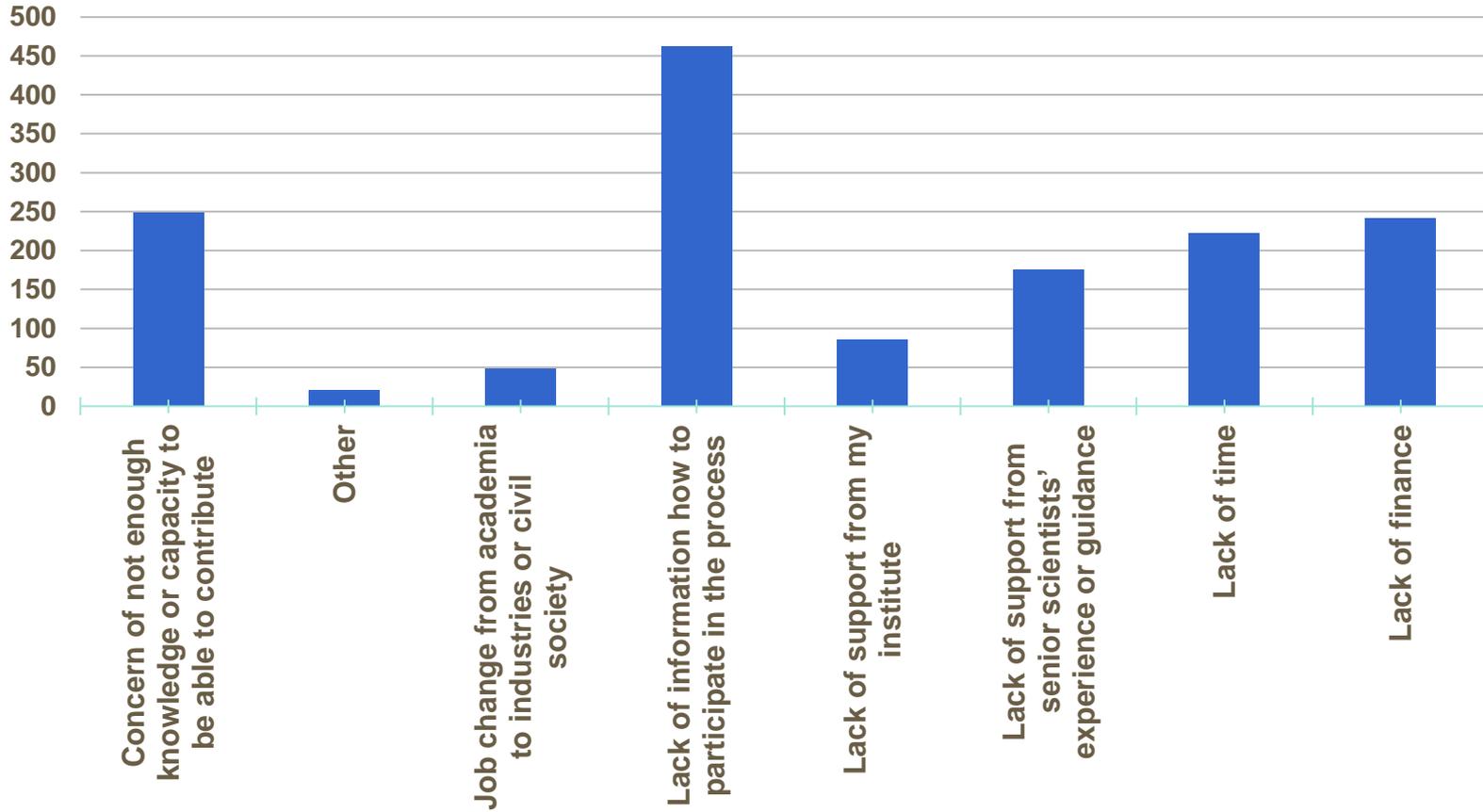


Results from survey

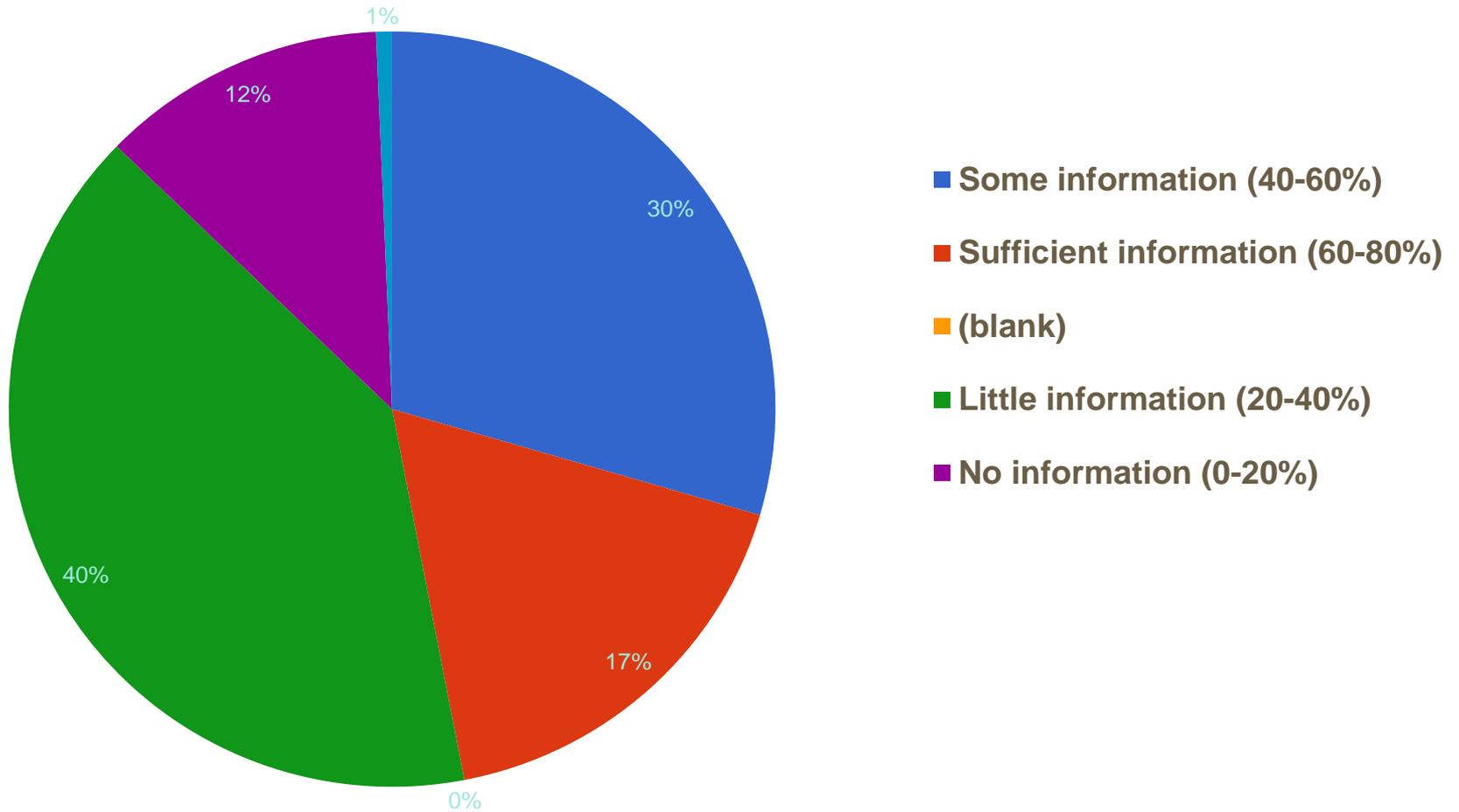
2. Are you interested in getting involved in the coming assessment report, AR6, or upcoming special reports of IPCC?



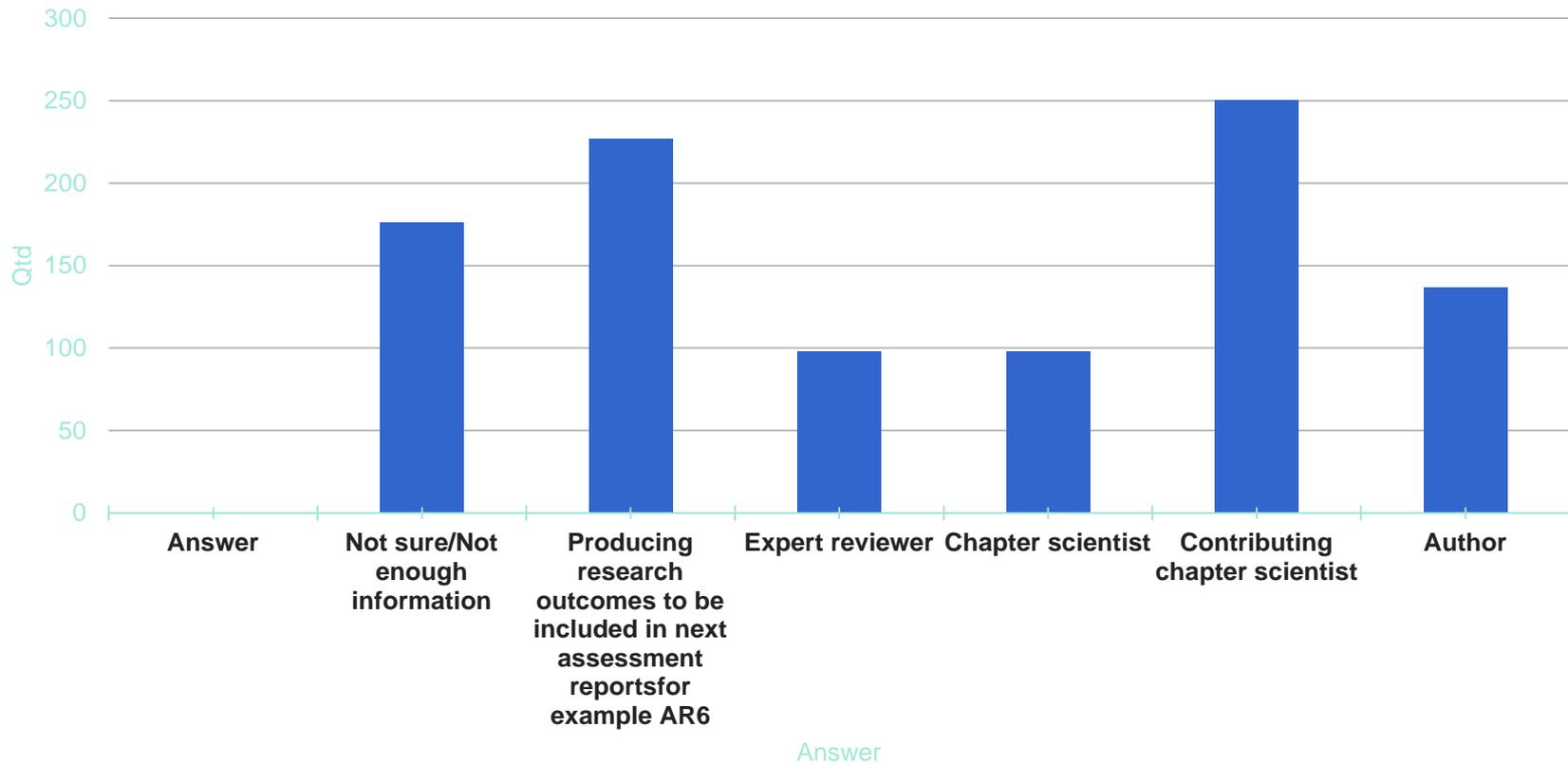
4. What would be the biggest obstacle if you would like to contribute but cannot?



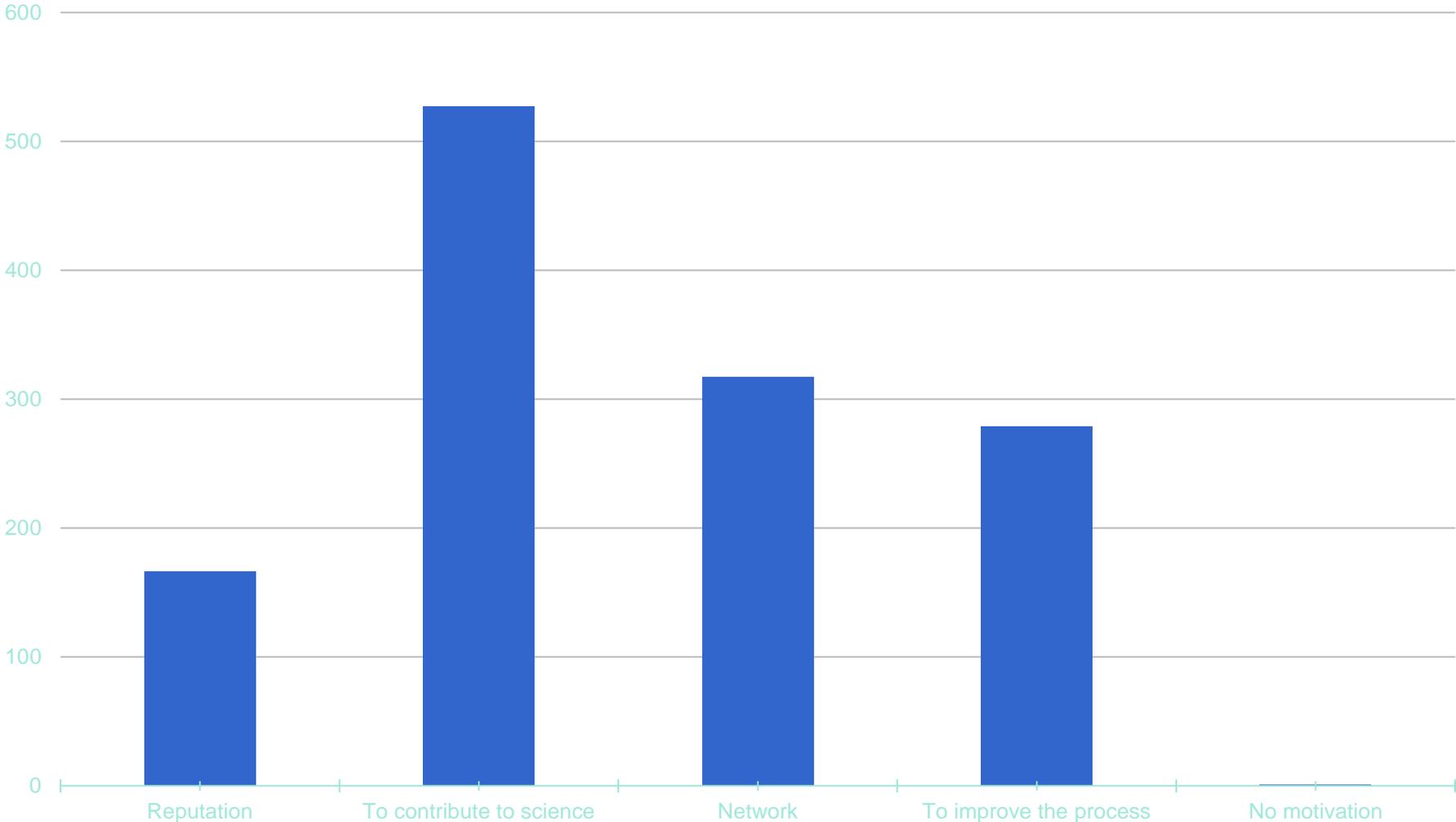
6. How much information did you find on how to join the IPCC process as an early career scientist?



6. If you would like to contribute, what role would you aspire to have?



3. What is your motivation to contribute to the IPCC process?



Results from interviews



Benefits ECRs bring to IPCC

1. Continuity of IPCC
2. Share of workload
3. Improved quality control of IPCC products
4. Original view, independent and open minded
5. Novel and/or diverse analytical tools and approaches
6. Communication technology and visualization of information
7. Bring in interdisciplinary and possibly even transdisciplinary views
8. Enthusiasm and spirit
9. Amplifying effects of ECR networks

Barrier for ECRs to participate

1. Formal regulation and nomination restrictions
2. Limited financial support
3. Competitive selection process
4. Time constraints vs. long assessment cycle
5. ECRs too junior for IPCC
6. Communication of opportunities by IPCC
7. Timidity and low confidence of ECRs
8. Inconsistent inclusiveness of IPCC towards ECRs
9. Limited flexibility of IPCC, mainly due to its formal institution and heavy work load

Recommendations for IPCC

1. Communication of opportunities for ECRs to contribute
2. Initiate and/or facilitate group reviews for ECRs
3. Hold ECRs workshops
4. Establish database of promising ECRs to participate in IPCC process, with special emphasis on developing countries
5. Connect to ECR networks to disseminate information, opportunities and to recruit potential ECRs
6. Improve transparency of participatory process for ECRs, e.g. of chapter scientists
7. Explore possibility to include a quota of ECRs for the assessment cycles

Recommendations for ECRs

1. Establish a scientific career and pursue strong publication record
2. Become a reviewer of IPCC reports
3. Establish direct contact to LA or CLA
4. Connect to the scientific community in home country
5. Participate and/or organize a group review among ECRs
6. Participate in country/regional related meetings of IPCC and/or ECRs
7. Be courageous, experimental and vocal
8. Be pro-active and participatory
9. Bring in new ideas, innovation, independent thinking and perspectives
10. Go beyond IPCC; be entrepreneurial, original and innovative

Conclusion:

ECRs have great potential to actively contribute to the IPCC process and stir the field of climate change research towards a truly interdisciplinary direction

The ECR - IPCC Landscape



Thank you