



# REPORT ON 2018 SURVEY OF ISSCT MEMBERS

APRIL 2018



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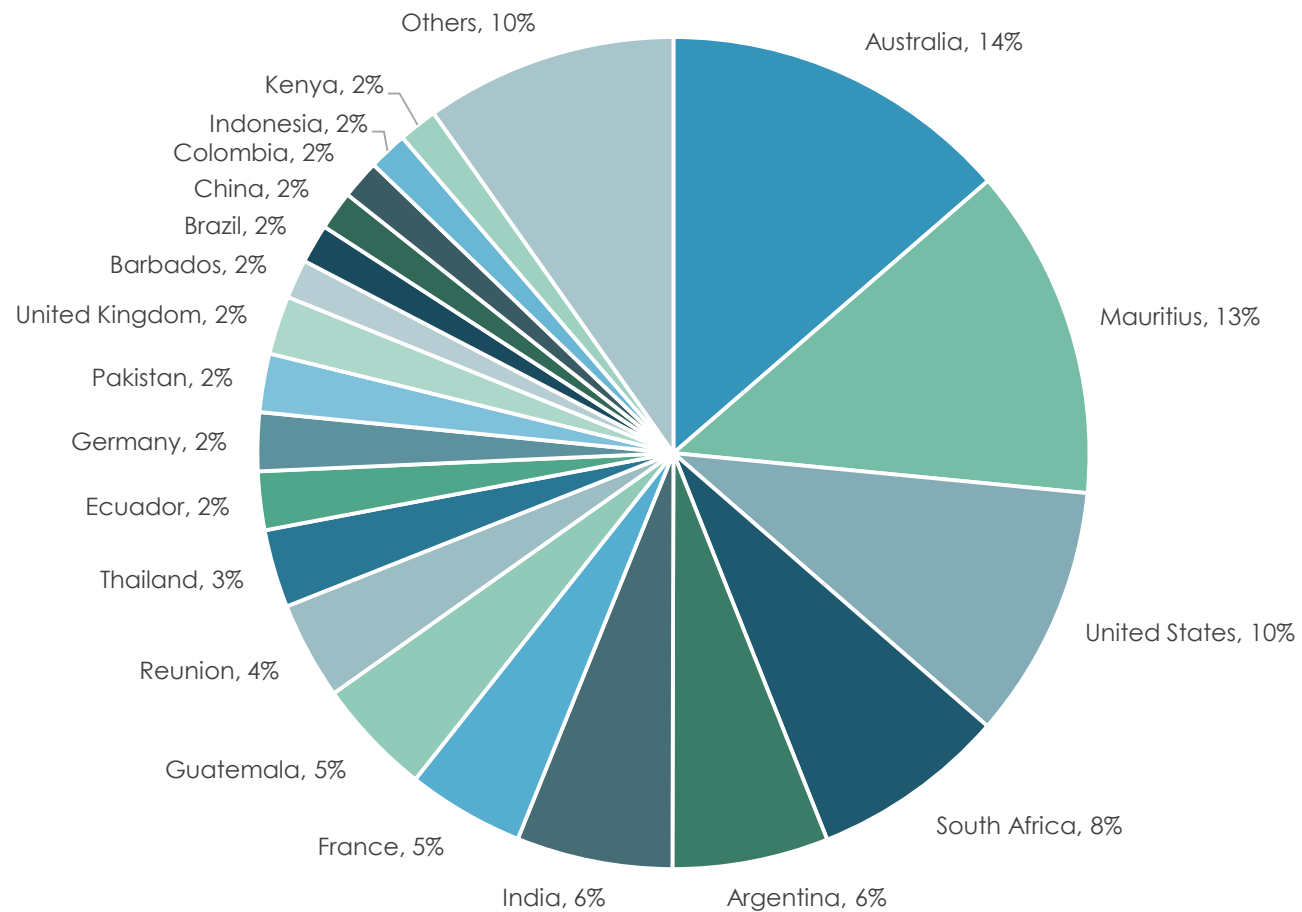
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# SCOPE OF SURVEY

- ❑ Assess the satisfaction level of ISSCT members with respect to the organisation of the last congress, including:
  - Logistics
  - Pre-congress and post progress tours
  - Topics addressed / discussed
  
- ❑ Assess the satisfaction of ISSCT members with respect technical workshops
  
- ❑ Obtain views on the level of communication within ISSCT
  
- ❑ Gather views on the publications of ISSCT and specifically assess the interest for a scientific journal
  
- ❑ Gather recommendations and suggestions from ISSCT members with respect to other possible activities/ initiatives.

# BACKGROUND - RESPONSE RATE

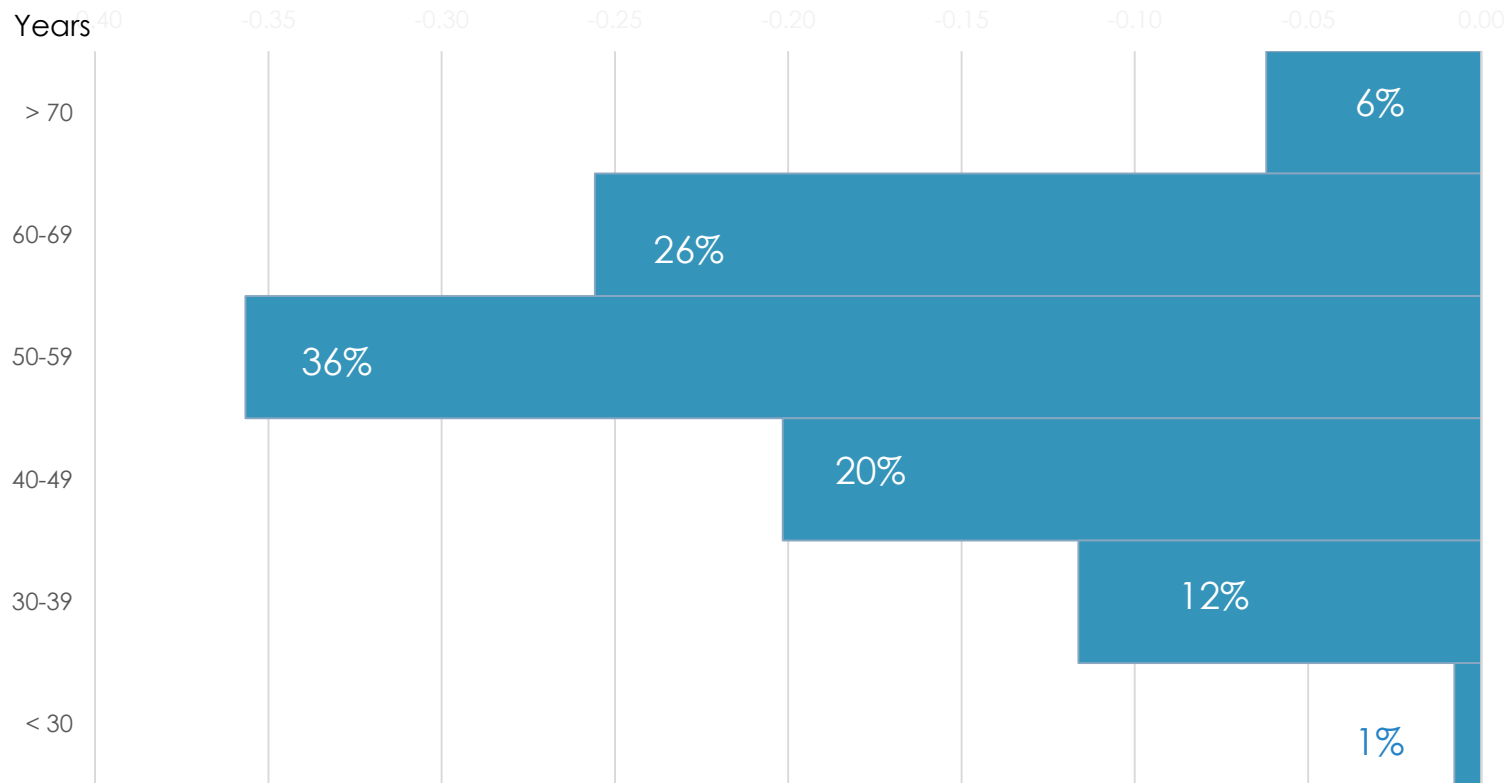
Fig.1: Response rate by country



- The survey was conducted between 2 March and 10 April 2018 amongst members of the ISSCT.
- There were 129 respondents, which represents a response rate of 11% of members (as at the last congress).
- The bulk of the respondents were from Australia (14%), Mauritius (13%) and the United States (10%).

# BACKGROUND – AGE DISTRIBUTION

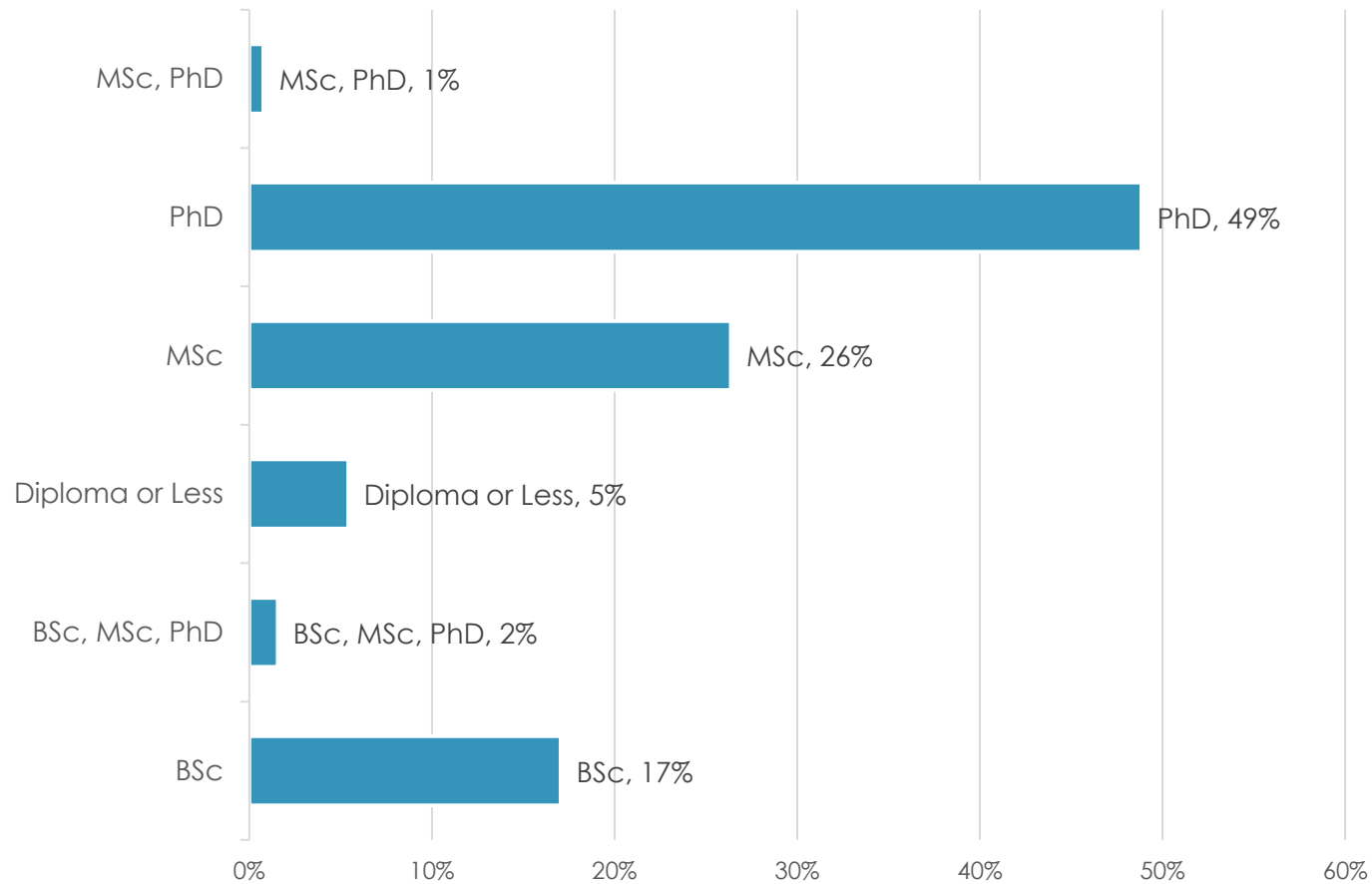
Fig 2: Age Group Distribution



- The majority of the respondents were in the 50-59 years age group (36%), followed by the 60-69 years segment (25%)

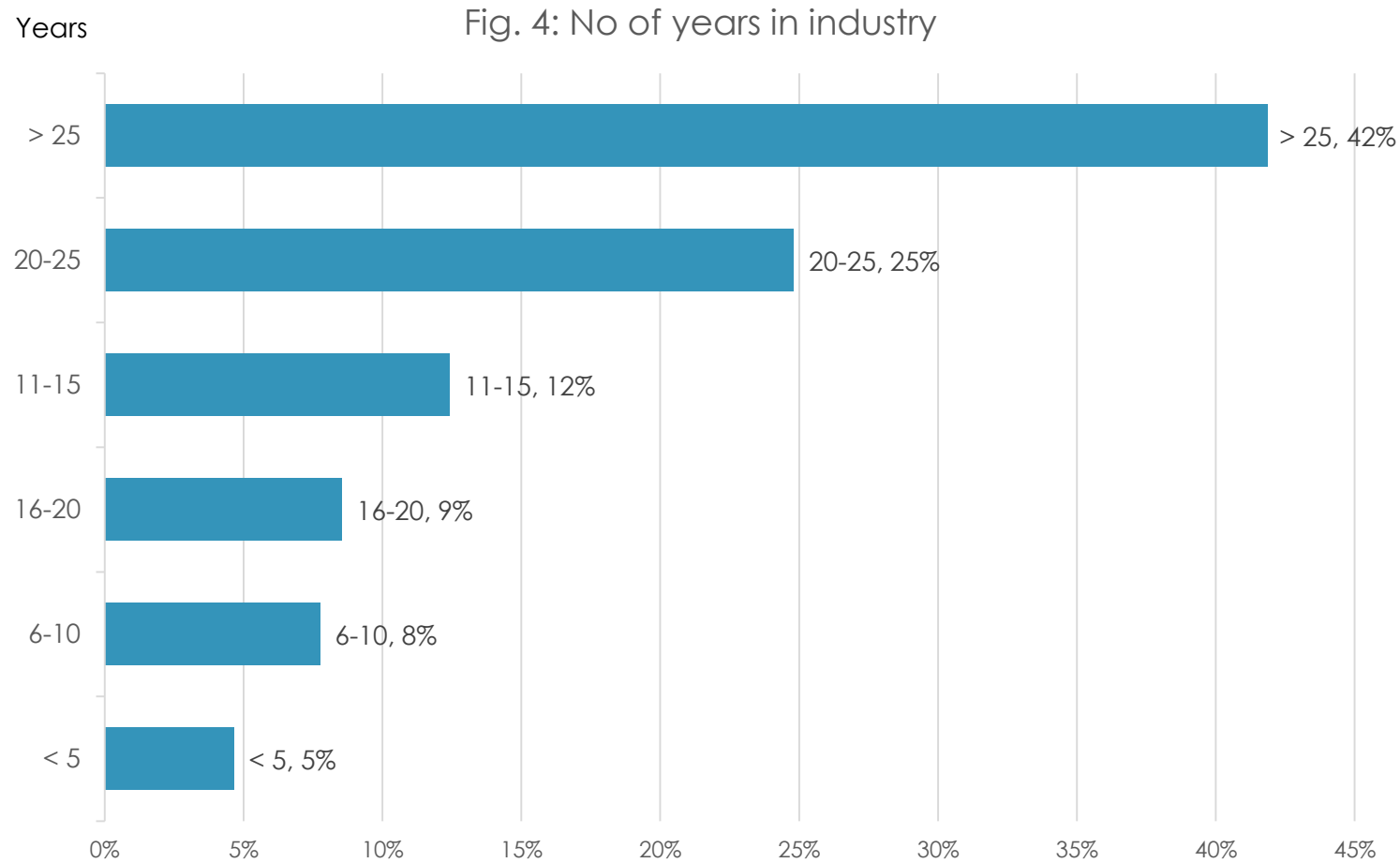
# BACKGROUND – QUALIFICATIONS

Fig. 3: Qualifications



- The PhD holders constituted a significant majority with a 49% representation.

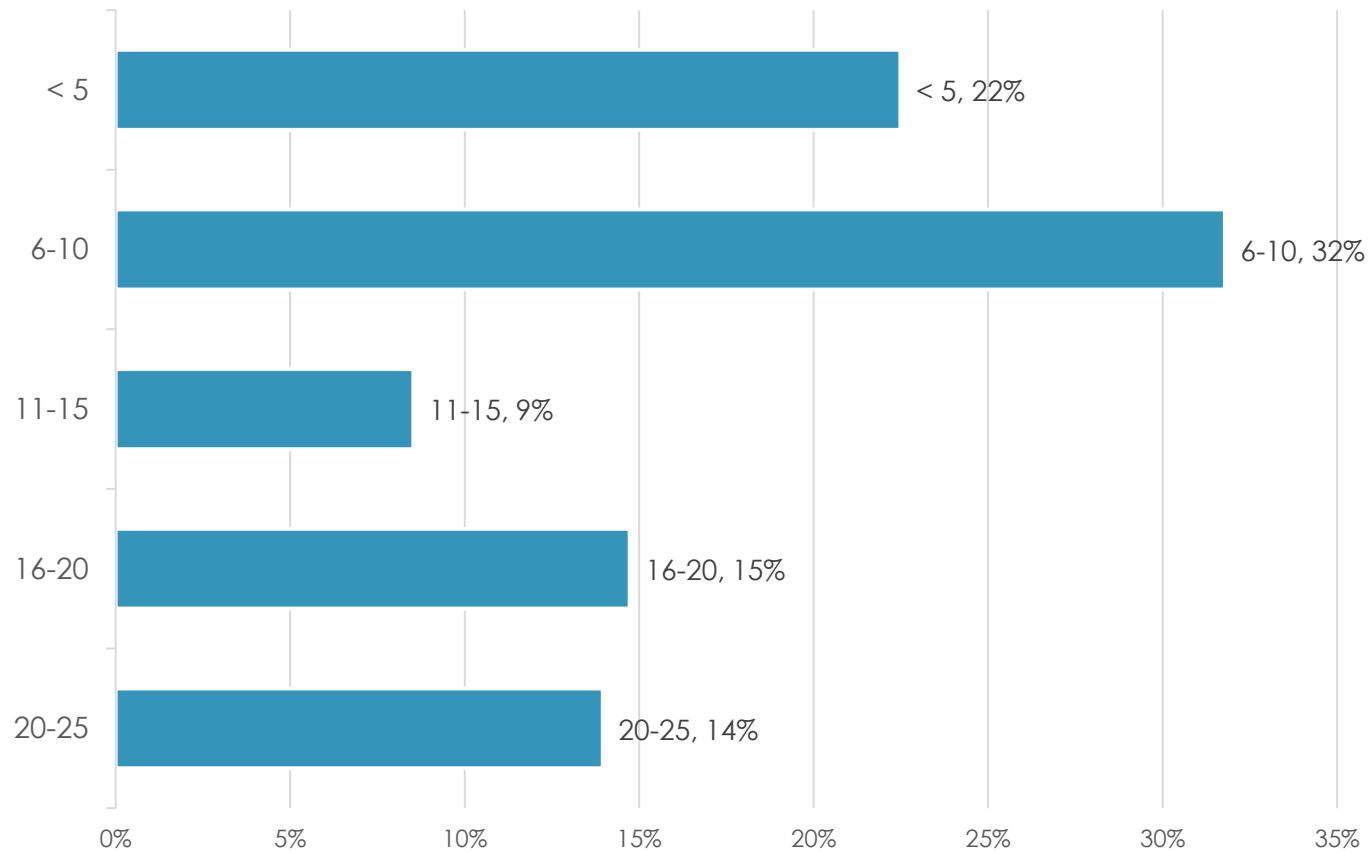
# BACKGROUND – YEARS IN INDUSTRY



- The bulk of the respondents, 67%, held more than 20 years experience in industry.

# BACKGROUND – YEARS AS ISSCT MEMBER

Fig.5: No of years as ISSCT Member

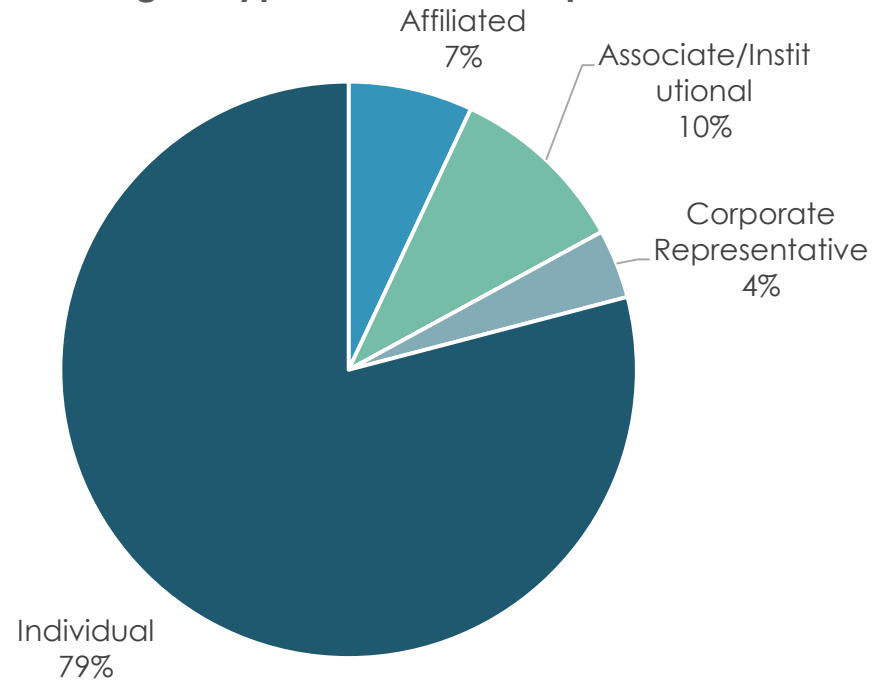


- The majority of respondents (32%) held between 6-10 years membership within ISSCT
- It is however noteworthy that as a combined figure, 46% had been ISSCT members for more than 10 years.



# BACKGROUND – TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

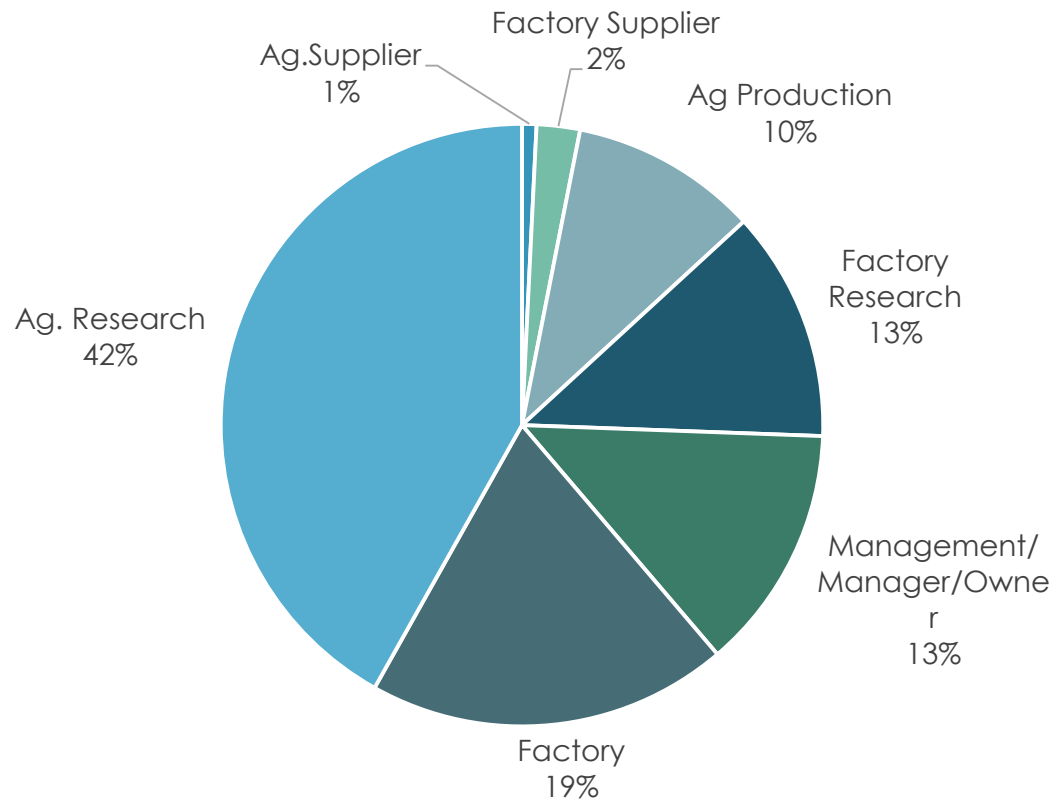
**Fig. 6: Type of membership**



- A significant majority of respondents, 79%, were individual members.

# BACKGROUND – AREAS OF INTEREST

**Fig.7: Areas of interest**



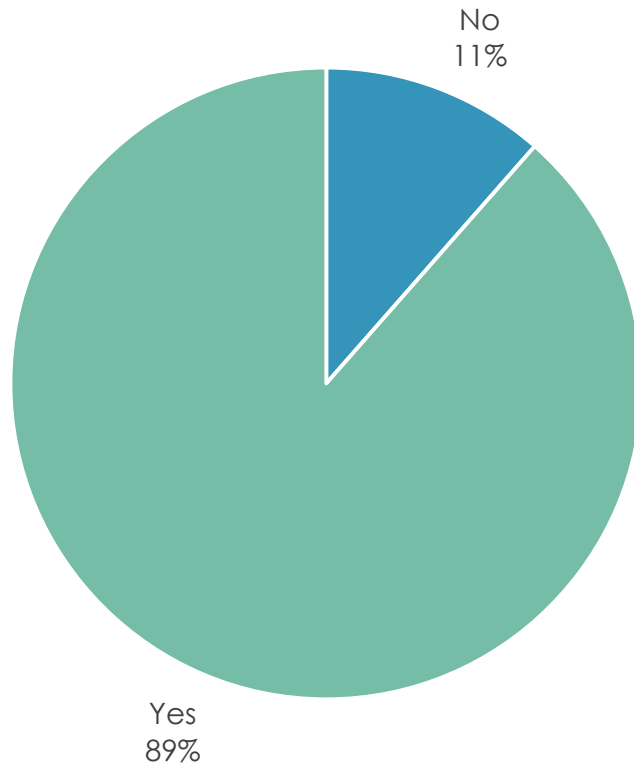
- The majority, 42%, indicated **Agricultural Research** as their main area of interest
- In second position were Factory (19%) followed by Management/Manager/Owner (13%)
- Agricultural Supplier (1%) and Factory Supplier (2%) represented the smallest proportions

# BACKGROUND – REASONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- The main reasons for joining ISSCT, in order of importance, were as follows:
  1. To keep up-to-date with trends in sugarcane production worldwide and be aware of advances in specialised areas, such as equipment and processes, process monitoring and control, increased yields, new irrigation techniques etc.
  2. To connect and network with fellow sugar technologists worldwide, for knowledge exchange and new collaborations, amongst others.
  3. To participate in workshops and congress
  4. To be part of a well established international sugar association

# PAST CONGRESS RATINGS – ATTENDANCE

Fig.8: Attendance to previous congress

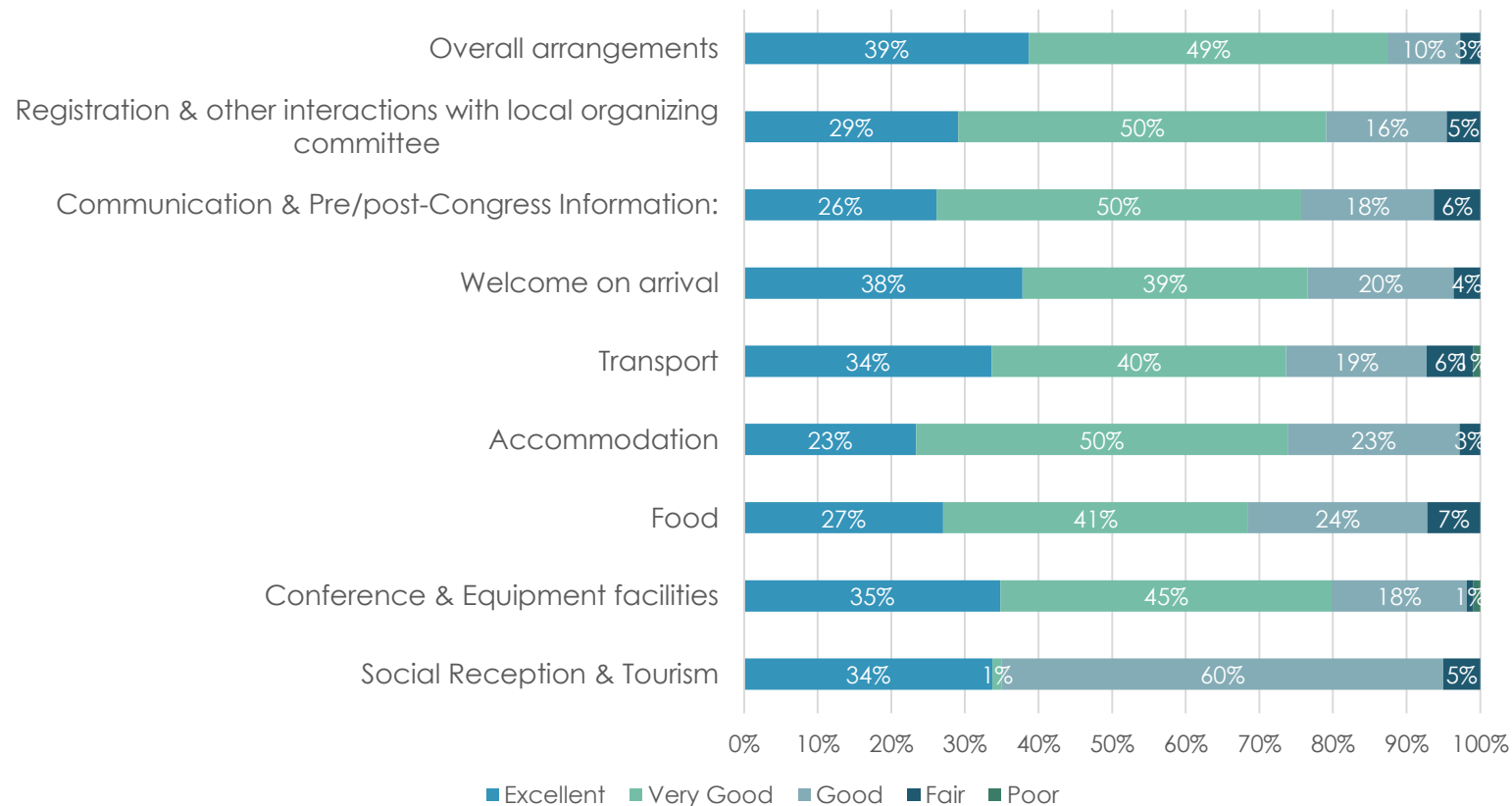


- A significant majority of respondents, 89%, had attended a previous ISSCT congress



# PAST CONGRESS RATINGS

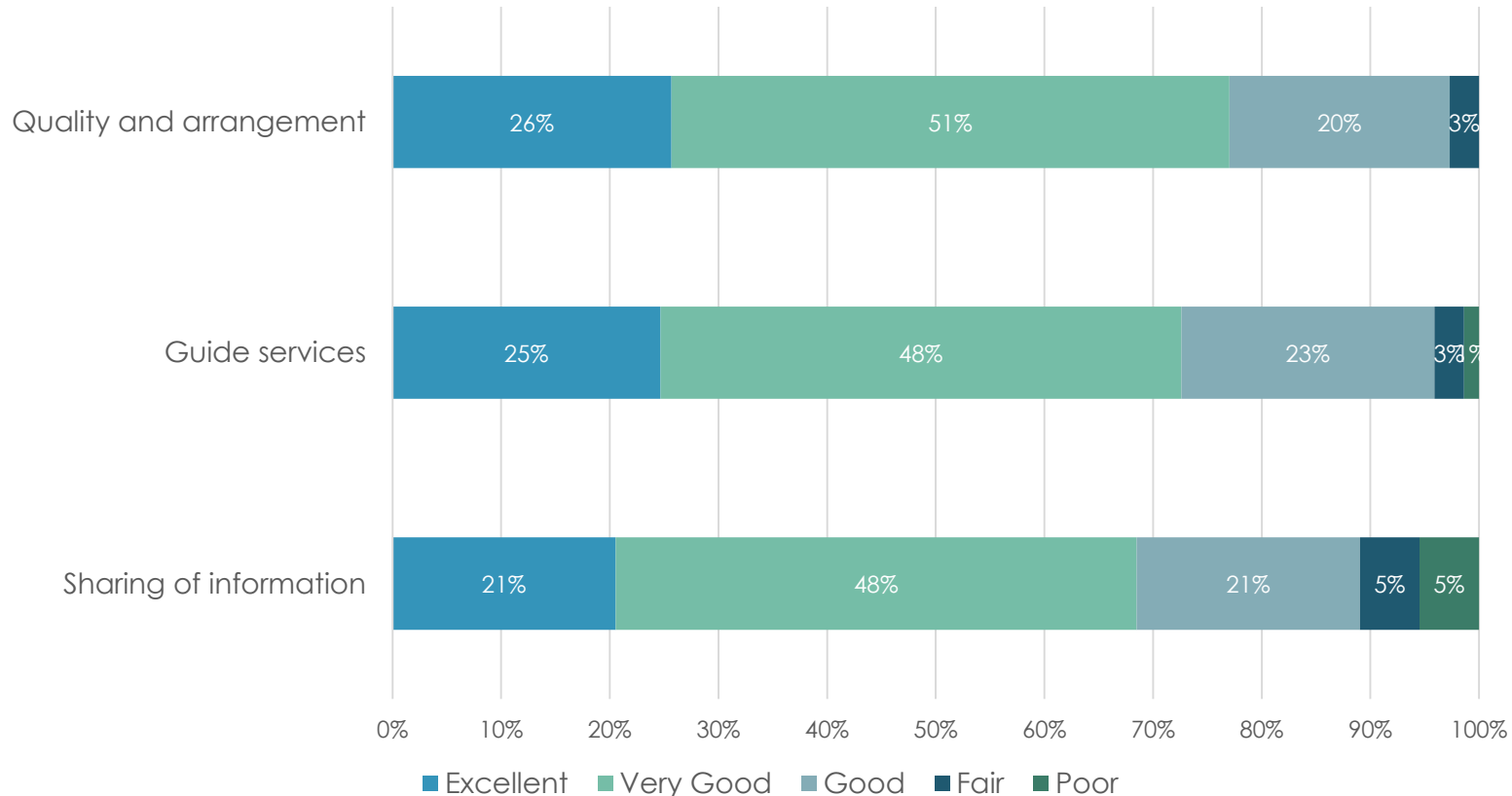
**Fig. 9: Congress facilities**



- In general, a high 87% rated overall arrangements as either excellent or very good.
- All specific facilities scored above 65% in terms of either excellent or very good - the highest being for Conference & Equipment facilities (80%) and registration and interaction with local organising committee (79%)
- A minor 1% rated the transport and Conference & Equipment facilities as poor .

# PRE/POST CONGRESS TOUR RATINGS

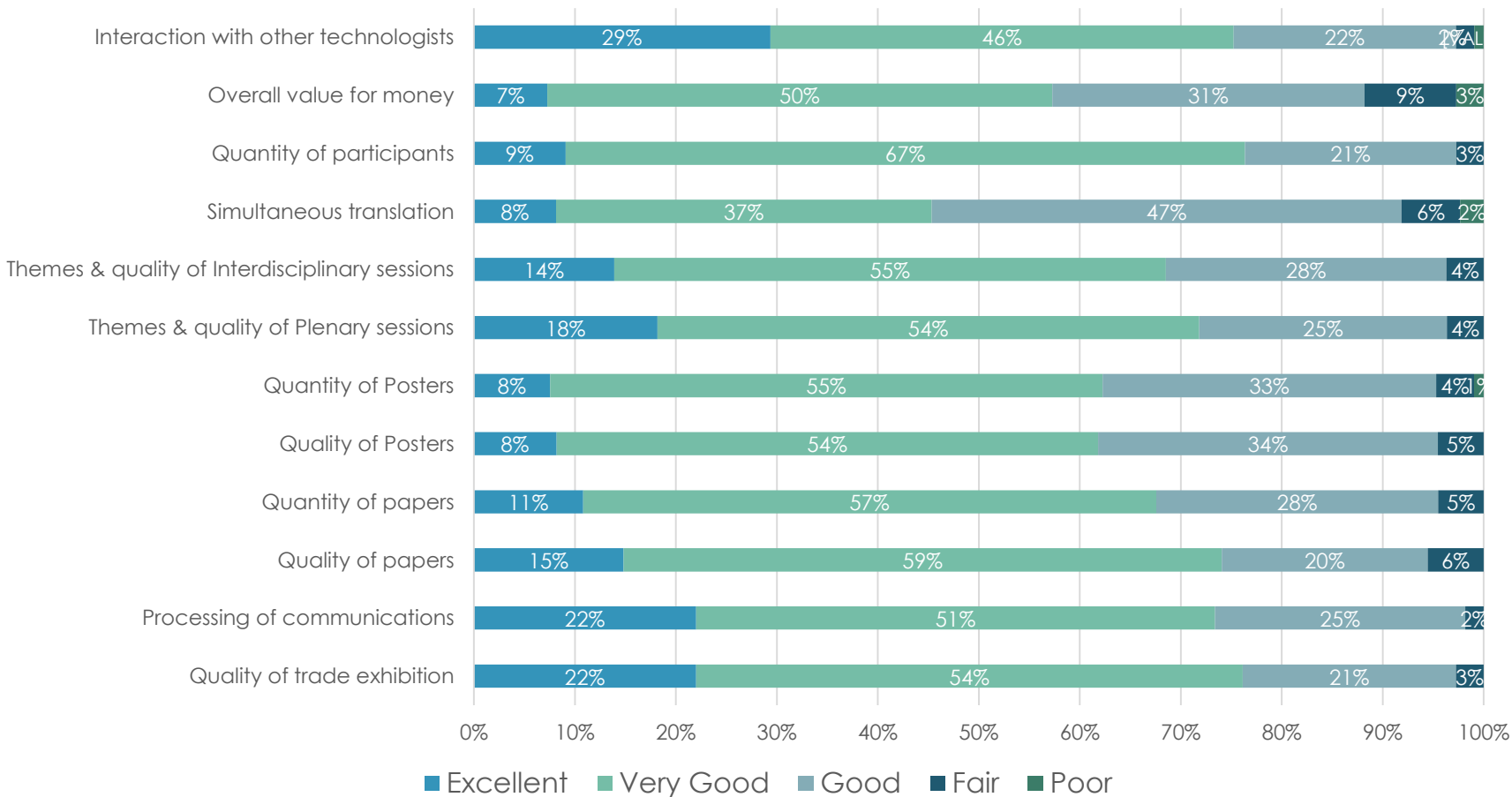
**Fig. 10: Pre/Post-Congress Tour**



- All areas scored above 65% in terms of either excellent or very good
- A minor 5% rated as poor the sharing of information, and 1% as poor the guide services.

# CONGRESS RATINGS

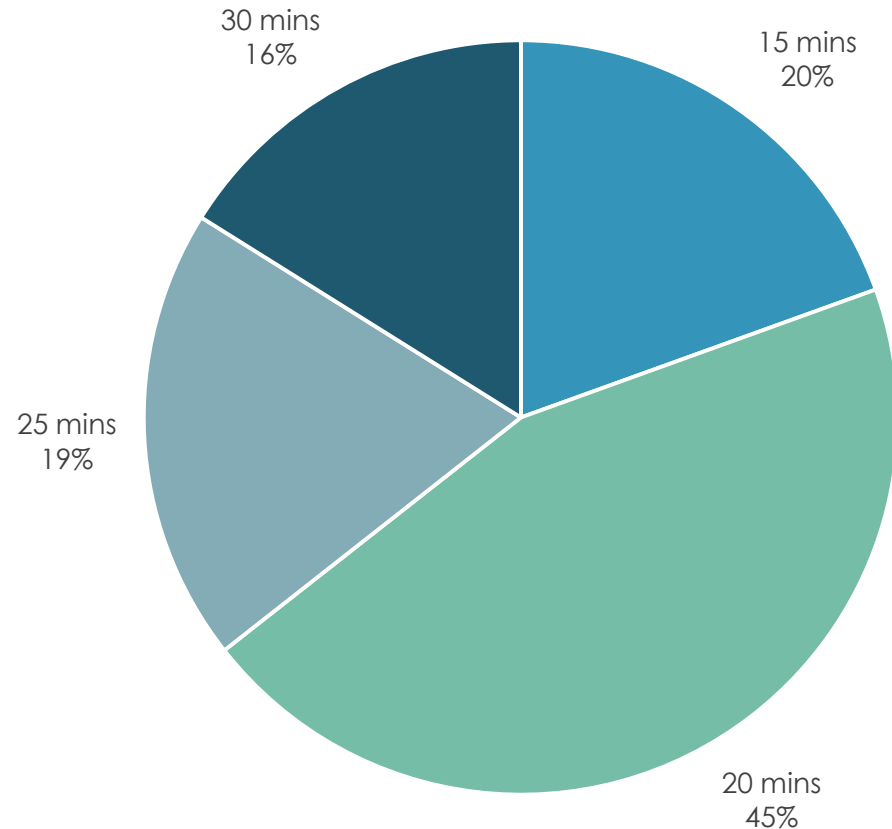
Fig.11: Congress



- 11 out of 12 areas scored above 50% in terms of either excellent or very good, the highest being for quality of trade exhibition and quantity of participants (76% respectively).
- In comparison, the lowest combined score was registered by simultaneous translation - 45% rated as excellent or very good, and 8% as fair or poor.

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PRESENTATION TIME

Fig. 12: Preferred presentation time for oral communications



- The majority, 45%, preferred 20 minutes as the preferred time span for oral communications (including questions).



# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 1)

The main suggested topics were as follows (in italics, repeated choices)

- *Sustainability*
- *Energy Efficiency in Sugarcane factories*
- *Climate change and prediction*
- *Diversification of sugarcane end products/economic impact for factory end farmers*
- *Value addition to sugar*
- *Sub-products*
- Crop improvement
- Crystallization
- Adoption
- Sugar Quality
- Broyage vs diffusion
- Sugarcane for Energy
- Irrigation
- Fitopatologia
- Bioeconomy
- Opportunities to improve international research collaborations and its importance
- IIOT
- Meeting the challenges of the anti-sugar lobby
- World sugar outlook
- Industry review
- International collaboration
- Membrane Technology
- Precision Agriculture
- Automation, IOT and Artificial Intelligence
- Return on investment on research
- Market trends and perspectives
- Fertilization
- Future realities of sugar industry globally
- Innovation
- Co-relation of Sugarcane viral diseases with global warming
- Milling of sugar cane
- Irrigation - Best practices
- Sugar & Health
- Soil Health
- Selecting/managing research for effective practical industrial application.
- Weeds

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 1... CONTD)

- Green Cane Harvesting
- Funding of research
- Breakthrough technologies
- CEO's and their view on research
- Sugar Economics
- Fisiologia
- New emerging diseases
- Sugar policy
- New business paradigm
- Experiences
- Mill research & development
- Latest trends in relevant science
- The marker of disease resistance gene
- Innovation
- Sugarcane pests management
- The future of sugar cane
- Sustainability of sugar industry
- Precision farming and innovative ideas
- International sugar trade
- Sugarcane genetics
- Fives Cail
- Future of plant pathology
- Bio-energy
- Cane quality
- Digital agriculture
- Phytosanity of the crop

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 2)

The main suggested topics were as follows (in italics, repeated choices)

- *Biotechnology*
- *Energy consumption and optimisation*
- *Reduction in environmental impact*
- *Organic material*
- Value addition
- Farmer participation
- Low cost production
- Cuit & automation
- Use of proper pesticides
- Where is the frontier between microorganism and pathogen ?
- How to Increase capacity of Mill Tandem
- Entomologia
- Climate Change Mitigation
- New products
- Sugar production trend in the world and the factors effecting these trends
- Precision agriculture
- Economy
- Inter-country technology transfer
- Introduction of latest machinery in sugar industry
- Variability
- Traditional genetic improvement methodologies
- Variety development
- Sugarcane as a renewable resource
- Sugar recovery
- Future challenges
- Value addition to byproducts
- Farmer adoption
- Water Conservation
- implementation of academic research in the field
- Land and Community issues
- Sugar and health
- GMO
- Crop Physiology
- Sugar Beet vs. Sugarcane
- New technologies
- Standing cane quality vs. quality when crushed

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 2 ... CONTD)

- Loss of biodiversity
- Evolution of Cane Sugar Markets
- Bluesky thinking and its implementation
- Measure of sugar colour
- Competing products to sugarcane; will sugarcane be competitive in 20 yrs
- Maturation
- Sugar quality
- Diversification
- Progress in Developing Molecular Markers
- Economics
- Towards Sugar Fortification
- New process equipment
- Relation of weeds with insect pests
- Current trend in sugar industries
- Latest trends in industry
- Latest trends in industry
- Disease control technology in the field
- Future of sugar industry
- Digital tools
- General decline in sucrose % cane
- Artificial intelligence for sugarcane
- Updated agri. research for improvement of sugarcane
- Molecular breeding approaches
- Alternative sources of biofuel
- Health aspects of sugar
- Sugarcane breeding
- Sustainability
- Cane losses
- Service plants in association of sugar industry
- Relationship Insect weed in sugarcane cultivation
- Molecular diagnosis of diseases

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 3)

The main suggested topics were as follows (in italics, repeated choices)

- *Novel technologies (HTP etc.)*
- Sugar industry pollution
- Overall yield
- Improvement in Recoveries
- Energy management
- Adapted varieties
- Improvements
- Social responsibility
- Integrated productivity, economic and social assessments
- Nano Technology
- Automation
- Resource use efficiency
- Environmental Impact water and carbon footprint
- Experiences in the area of substitution of varieties by disease attack
- Sugarcane Nutrition
- Impact of climate on sugarcane production
- Equipment cleaning technologies
- Interdisciplinary topics
- Effective maintenance and Preventive maintenance
- Digital Farming
- Efficient water use by the Sugar Industry
- Biorefining
- Soil management
- GMO
- Effluent Handling
- Sucrose accumulation
- Sugar marketing
- Impact of variety on process / co-products

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 3 ... CONTD)

- Biotechnologies
- Old research is new again - revisiting repurposing research from times past
- Automation in field and in factory
- Environment
- Fostering collaboration to solve regional problems. Example White Leaf and Red Rot
- Germplasm
- Modernisation
- Environment and energy
- New Technology for cultivar development
- Update on industry issues in different countries
- Resistance evaluation technology for sugarcane diseases
- Circular economy
- Green technology in processing
- Cost effective and improved technologies
- How the excessive fertilization influences in plague insects
- Harvest management in green

# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 4)

The main suggested topics were as follows

- Cost benefit ratio
- Energy Efficiency
- Sugar markets
- By-products and energy
- Ecofisiologia
- Innovation
- World benefits of sugarcane production
- Water Conservation
- Methodologies for transferring varieties of sugarcane
- Best management practices for sugarcane
- Preparation of cane / extraction
- Energy Benchmark with Renewable Energy
- New technologies
- Climate change effect on cane
- Transgenic varieties
- Crop nutrition
- High value, low volume co-products

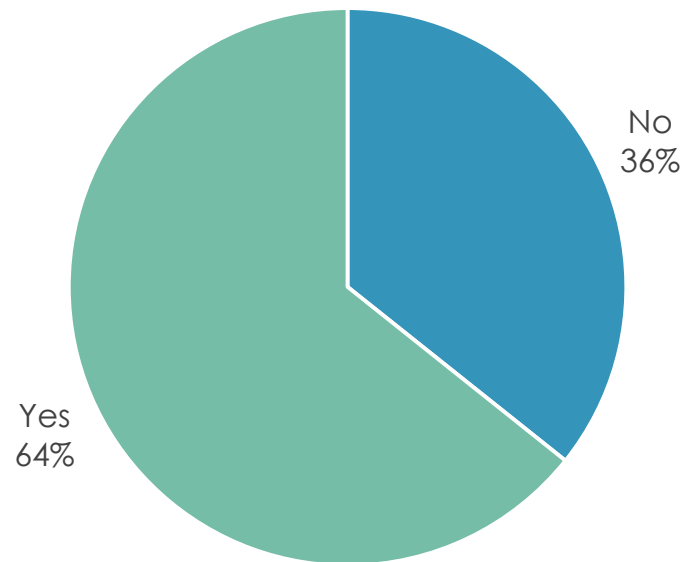
# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: PREFERRED TOPICS (CHOICE NO 4 ... CONTD)

- Agroecology and new practices
- Modern harvester doesn't work but manufacturers have high investment in current models - how to break through with novel design
- Sugarcane uses that fits a market demand in a particular context; sugar, ethanol, cogeneration, etc etc
- Germplasm diversification
- Value-added products
- Contribution of Agronomy for productivity
- R&D systems and management
- Use of robots and other tools
- Alternative uses of the by-products



# FUTURE CONGRESS FORMAT: 5-MINUTE POSTER PRESENTATION IN EACH SECTION

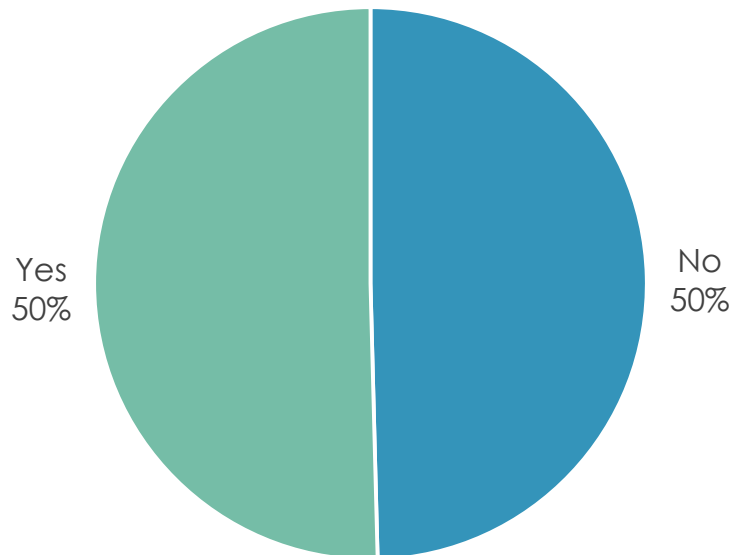
**Fig. 13: 5-minute poster presentation in each section**



- The majority, 64%, would like to have a five-minute poster presentation in each section.

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: PAST ATTENDANCE TO ISSCT WORKSHOPS IN LAST 3 YEARS

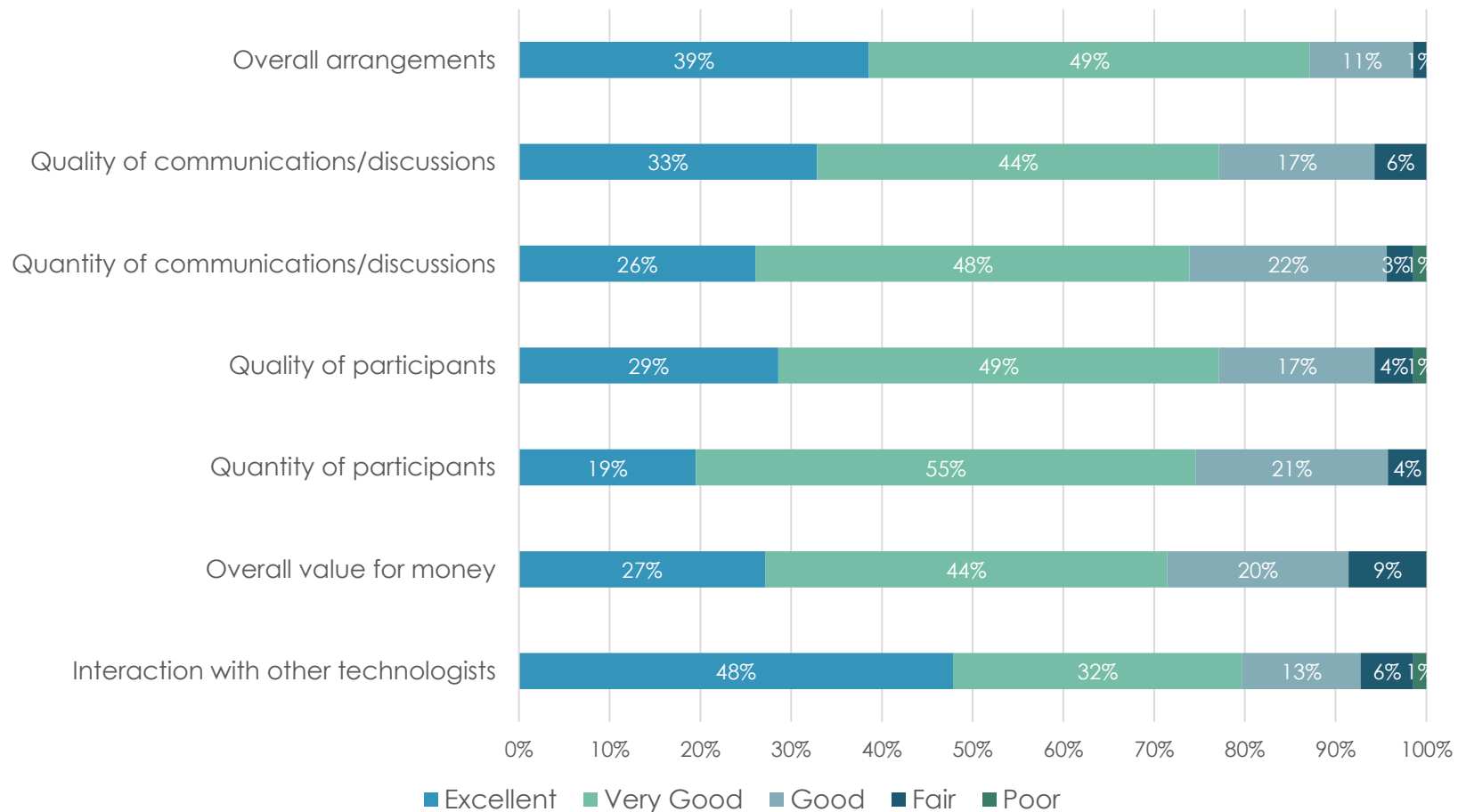
**Fig. 14: Attendance of previous ISSCT Workshop/s in the last three years**



- An equal proportion, 50% had attended a/several ISSCT workshops in the last three years

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: PREVIOUS RATINGS

**Fig. 15: Rating of previous workshop**



- All areas scored above 70% in terms of either excellent or very good, the highest being for overall arrangements (87%) and interaction with other technologists (80%).

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: COMMENTS (INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING WORKSHOPS AT CONGRESS)

- The strength of ISSCT is in the workshops. I have attended Agronomy 3x, Pathology 3x, Breeding 5x, Ag Engineering 1x and hosted a post-congress tour and an agronomy workshop
- Pre-workshops were very informative
- Thanh Thanh Cong Groupe organises conferences every 2 years
- I think it is good programme to develop sugar industry in the world
- Fitopatologia
- The congress is more expensive to attend and does not provide much time or opportunity to interact with other researchers. There are too many sessions going on at the same time and hard to follow. The workshops format is more interactive, less expensive and has a better value of your money than congress.
- It does make sense to consider holding workshops adjacent to Congress, although separate workshops does allow other countries to host events.
- Workshops should not be held during congress
- Workshops and Congresses are excellent held individually because they target different audiences.
- Workshops should not be held at Congress. Congress are very expensive and only a few people from our organization are allowed to attend. Workshops are more affordable.
- The sugar sector desperately needs to canvass from agronomists working in other sectors. It is extremely inward-looking and very conservative as a result.
- The workshops are becoming increasingly like mini-congresses. There is limited time for discussion on key research topics. I would suggest placing less focus on individual presentations and more on tackling broad issues in a workshop-type setting - at least for 1 or 2 of the days. The field trips are always extremely interesting and useful.

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: COMMENTS (INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING WORKSHOPS AT CONGRESS) ... CONTD (2)

- No, it will be very repetitive. Nevertheless, maybe, to make workshops more often than congresses could be more yielding.
- Too many commercial papers, too few practicing factory technologists
- Workshop to monitor losses in process
- Workshops have better in-depth information than congress. I see no benefit to holding workshops at the congress as this would increase the length of the congress and not allow as much discipline-specific interaction. The benefit of the congress is to look outside your discipline, while the workshops are to interact within your discipline.
- The Workshops are crucial!! In my opinion its not enough to present Academic researches and new developments. the main challenge of the industry, especially referring to growing sugarcane is the implementation at field level , training and adaptation of best practices.
- Except for Management, not in favour of holding workshops at congresses as the current objectives will be lost.
- Workshops should be other dates
- I agree, if the agenda of the same is informed before the Congress
- I would like to participate in my specialty workshops (culture nutrition)
- Workshops are ideal sessions to learn about new developments. The groups are relatively small and there are excellent leaning opportunities. Congresses tend to be big and often find it difficult to get to grips with some of the issues being faced globally. The pre-and post- congress tours tend to lack technical detail and are more flag waving tourist events than actual technical visits.

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: COMMENTS (INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING WORKSHOPS AT CONGRESS) ... CONTD (3)

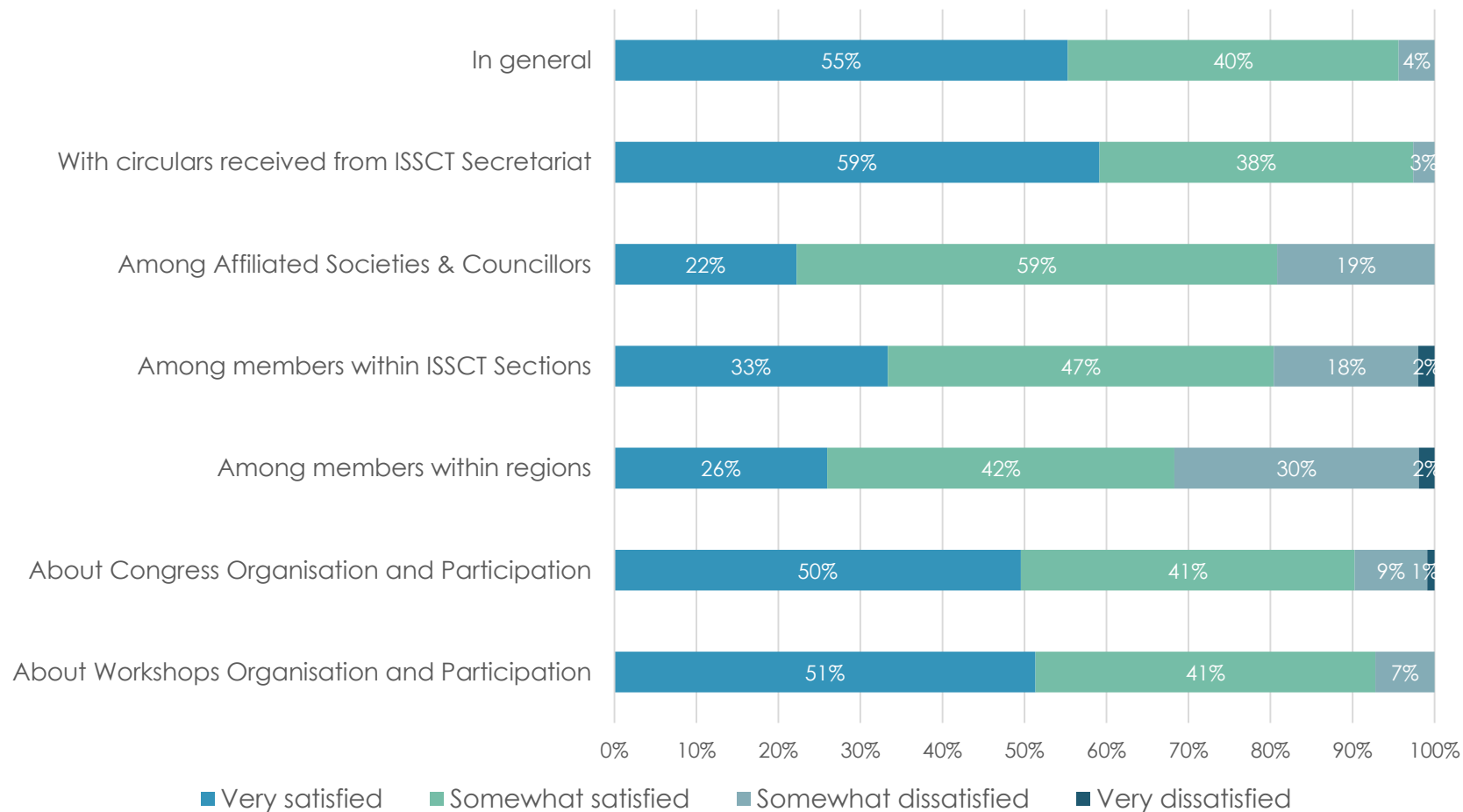
- Good start with the organization of the Management Workshop in the last Congress!
- Workshops at Congress is a great idea, saves cost and will increase participation and hopefully make sure the workshops are attended by some of the more influential decision makers and not just technologists. Workshops should be a spawning ground for new ideas and collaboration for future research.
- Decisions made at the workshops are seldom followed up. More decisive decision making needs to be made at the workshops, and more decisive follow-up is needed on decisions made at previous workshops, to show progress. I have not seen any progressive advancement of themes/workshop decisions made in any workshop attended since the one in South Africa in 1994. Each workshop is the "same old, same old" themes. Nothing new coming out or followed up.
- Was not well supported
- Fair, that there must be specific workshops within the congresses that allow discussing each participant's knowledge.
- It would be very interesting to have the option of workshops during the congress.
- The workshops are excellent because they are held separate from the Congress and there is more interaction and building of relationships.
- I am planning to attend the ISSCT Joint Germplasm & Breeding and Molecular Biology Workshop in Okinawa, Japan October 22-26, 2018

# TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS: COMMENTS (INCLUDING POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING WORKSHOPS AT CONGRESS) ... CONTD (4)

- I find the workshops to be an excellent forum. Better value than Congress.
- I thought the last Congress (Thailand) was particularly well organized in comparison to other recent Congresses. I prefer keeping workshops separate to Congress.
- This would be a difficult task at the congress. However, based on the demand of ISSCT member & participants, one common workshop would be ideal at the end of the congress.
- I think the workshops may have become too much like mini- congresses, and there should be some effort to include debates and discussions and training courses other than just formal presentations.
- Very good
- Number of days for congress may be increased and workshops can be arranged at the same venue
- Try reducing cost of attending congress / workshop. make it more working meeting rather than entertainment - any side trips etc, members can arrange individually. smaller venues, less "shows" & food/drink to reduce cost to attendees.
- Would be a great idea
- Workshops at congress would favour more interaction but the numbers could be problematic. The host country participation being by far the highest, perhaps the host country could undertake a selection, to limit the numbers to a manageable size?
- It would be very good because it would be spent once with the possibility of attending the Congress and the Workshop that interests us, in my case the Entomology.

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SATISFACTION RATINGS ABOUT COMMUNICATION WITHIN ISSCT

**Fig. 15: Satisfaction Levels**

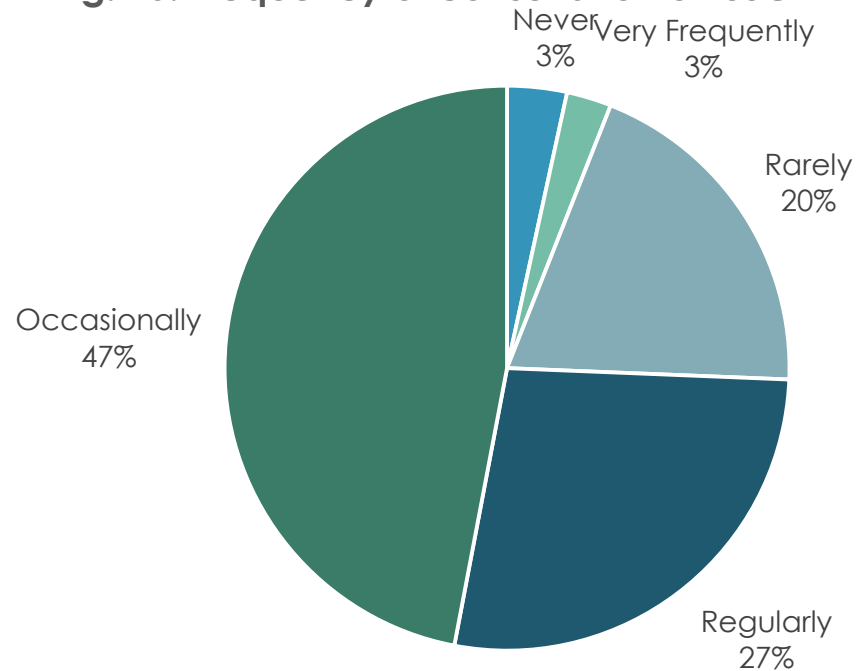


- Nearly all areas scored above 80% in terms of either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied, except for members within regions (68%).
- The highest scores were registered by (in order of ranking):
  - Circulars received from ISSCT Secretariat (97%)
  - In General (96%)
  - Workshops Organisation and Participation (93%)
  - Congress Organisation and Participation (90%)



# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: FREQUENCY OF WEBSITE CONSULTATION

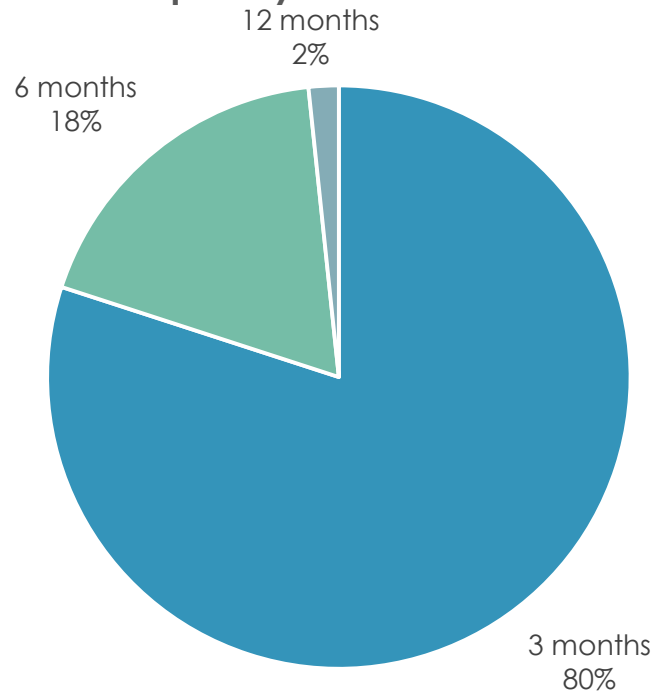
Fig. 16: Frequency of consultation of ISSCT Website



- The majority, 47%, consulted the website occasionally, followed by 30% for regularly and very frequently.
- It is to be noted that a non-negligible 23% had either never or rarely consulted the website

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: DESIRED FREQUENCY OF COMMUNICATIONS FROM ISSCT

Fig. 17: Desired frequency of communications from ISSCT



- A significant majority of 80% requested that ISSCT sends communications every 3 months.

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

- Use advance electronics and multimedia communication with its members
- Easy access to documents - working links and one click opening of document
- I'm not sure at this point. Have a banner below emails with the website. If there is one already, that's good. Make emails more attractive/reader friendly.
- Make available papers presented at all congress
- Newsletters by Internet
- Set-up on ISSCT website discussion forum on main topic issued from the different workshop or other important topic as quarantining...
- Printed journal or web
- Possible communications of technical developments
- Generate quality content for newsletters, initially the specific sessions could offer list of publications or inform important local or regional developments that could be of interest. It is important to connect ISSCT with other global efforts such as International Energy Agency (IEA), IRENA, Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) and others. A concise newsletter that we could circulate could help show much improvement we are obtaining in the sugarcane industry.
- The web site is mainly useful for Congress and workshop information. To be more useful, a wider variety of information should be presented.
- Send occasional mails with world sugar pricing and other related news.
- Communicate with affiliated societies but those organisations must pass on communications to their members

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS ... CONTD (2)

- While the Secretariat is excellent in communication, little is heard from the Executive.
- Regular interaction with members.
- Flash info brief
- Perhaps we could subscribe to communications more targeted to member's interests.
- I know is difficult because ISSCT is driven by technologists and time it is not quite enough. But a regular communications could be good, not only when congresses is near to be hold.
- Have a search facility on ISSCT papers
- Perhaps more frequent e-mails...
- Implement news bulletin and virtual "magazine" with technical articles
- More email-based communications with direct links to the website. Need to increase traffic to the website.
- Develop ISSCT portal icon for each member having all the latest communication.
- Placing workshop presentation on the website
- Presentation of all papers & poster submitted at Conference / Workshops shall also be available under member' s corner with valid login details.
- Just keep it up

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS ... CONTD (3)

- A news alert system for consulting the ISSCT website
- Establish an information network by internet
- Information Network, ISSCT technical and information e-news, every three months
- Communication is what should be
- Send a monthly or at least bi-monthly newsletter (news, meetings, workshops, congresses ...)
- Keep on pushing out information to the R&D organisations, leading companies and government organisations concerning its activities.
- Higher frequency. Easier website access to documents/ proceedings.
- Communicate on other events in sugarcane (research and development, technology, industry) worldwide
- Become a centre for communicating relevant research and news for the industry to reduce high costs from commercial news feeds and publications entities.
- Posts Linked In
- What are the objectives of the ISSCT, its reason to be? Once you are clear on that you will know better what to communicate. In this world of information overload, it might just be to advertise congress and workshops?
- Provide feedback on decisions made at workshops, and the subsequent actions to achieve those decisions before the next workshops are done
- Better format on email coms, more eye catching and less text
- I do not know if the database is updated, so there is better communication

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS ... CONTD (3)

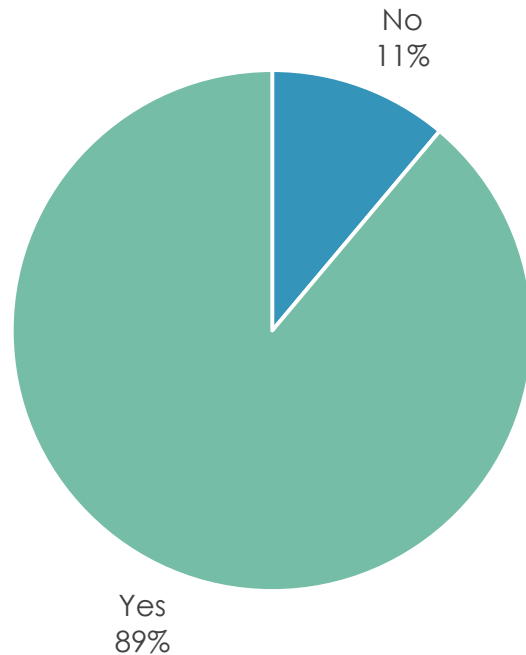
- Allow more participants by reducing registration fees
- Edit a magazine every three months.
- Communications from the Workshop Subject Committees to their subject members.
- Open access?
- Breakthroughs in sugar industry research and technology transfer
- Update them via email
- Use social networks and email. In addition, make periodic regional meetings.
- For example, this survey in Spanish is very good and is an advance to get closer to the group of Spanish-speakers. That in fact they are many and with excellent referents in the agricultural and industrial area. Although it is already public knowledge that the Congresses and workshops are in English. But it is something that improves communication.
- I'm happy with its communications.
- In the current commercial world "WEBINAIR" is very popular to attract members and also get more attraction from others to develop societies. We have excellent people in our society. Can invite them to develop periodic program and air it in ISSCT website. Industry and crop research, economics, and many other areas can be webcasted.
- I'm happy enough with current communication, for other industry information I look elsewhere
- More should be done to attract suppliers to actively participate in ISSCT conferences and workshops, with more focus on factory engineering and co-generation applications.

# COMMUNICATION & WEBSITE: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS ... CONTD (3)

- Share more news about industry news
- More communication with members in workshop.
- Email is the best tool for communication.
- Must circulate the areas of innovative technologies in different areas related to sugarcane and industry
- Regular updates on developments and upcoming events
- Rank producers. Rank exporters. Clean membership database of seemingly double entries, as receiving too much of late.
- Update the website more frequently and make web pages specific to works, news, current projects on sugar cane.
- Publish more communications in Spanish. The Hispanic community is great and its researchers of excellence. For which I encourage this type of communication to reach more people. Although we know that the language is English in the Congresses and Workshops but communication in Spanish would be a possibility to increase communication.
- Improve communication among members within regions and sections.
- Regular updates of Industry scenario -region and worldwide
- Just be more proactive

# PUBLICATIONS: SATISFACTION WITH THE CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

**Fig. 18: Satisfaction with the Congress proceedings**

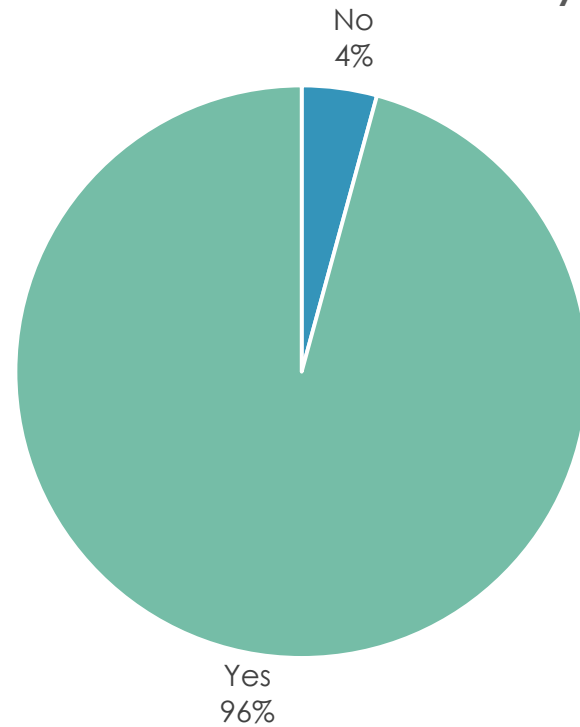


- A significant majority of 89% expressed satisfaction with the Congress proceedings



# PUBLICATIONS: CONTINUATION IN ISSCT PUBLISHING PAPERS FROM PROCEEDINGS IN JOURNALS RELATED TO THE INDUSTRY

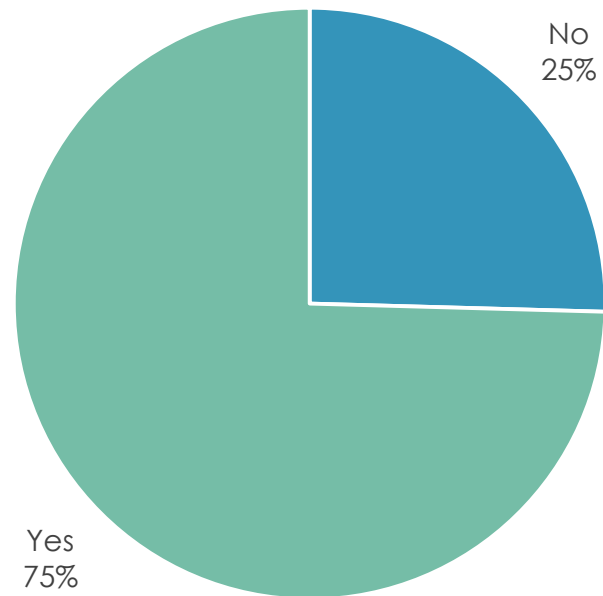
Fig. 19: Continuation of papers from proceedings in Journals related to the industry



- A significant majority of 96% are in favour of ICCST continuing to publish papers in journals related to the industry

# OF RESEARCH RESULTS (INCLUDING CONGRESS PAPERS) ON SUGARCANE

Fig. 20: Creation of a scientific journal for publication of research results



- A high 75% are in favour of ICCST creating a scientific journal for publication of research results (including congress papers) on sugarcane (The ISSCT Journal for example).

# ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- There is a need to motivate Young Researchers to be member of the ISSCT from different countries of the world
- Pawning off the congress presentations to third party, not-so-well recognized journals within academia downgrades the value of the research presented. The ISSCT Proceedings should be peer-reviewed. The standards that are used in the acceptance of papers and the workshops appear to be lowered to open the door to some pretty weak science. Some of the manufacturing type papers are practically advertisements.
- All papers and innovations to be made available on website
- Desire for a Congress in Asia
- Simultaneous translation English-French-Spanish
- The journals where ISSCT offers to publish conference papers are very low impact. We need higher impact and open access to make it more appealing.
- On the topic of ISSCT to creating a scientific journal for publication, there is a journal (Sugar Tech) and an industry magazine currently published. Perhaps an arrangement could be made with the Journal (rather than the magazine) to publish Congress papers, provided the editorial standards of the Journal are maintained. If ISSCT published it's own journal, it would need to increase editorial standards compared to those currently applied to congress papers (noting that the current standards are appropriate for conference papers).
- ISSCT should endeavour to contain costs to make attendance at Congress more affordable so more technologists can afford to attend.
- Managers and supervisors etc. at factories seem to be completely unaware of ISSCT activities. Consideration is needed to address this problem.

## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS ...CONTD (2)

- As the Secretariat currently performs an excellent job, the current status and location should be continued as is into the future.
- Wall paper support is to be provided by ISSCT in all respect as candidate can not arrange it at that location.
- You MUST get ISI recognition; absolutely essential for scientific integrity.
- Implement library of technical articles, consultable by members.
- ISSCT should establish a forum of Visiting Sugar Technologists, which can work/assist with industry on request. funds to be generated from the benefited/visit requesting sugar industry units.
- The pre / post congress tour to be arranged during crushing season to have a look on **plant** running performance also.
- Focus in Field level. I feel there is still very big gaps between the academic research and what is going on (implementation) in the fields.
- Less expensive congresses
- Good idea to do this survey
- Create a Sustainability and Environment Commission, which is then organized by Sections.
- Should tap into and continue work with existing sugar technical bodies (STAB, SASTA, ASSCT and others) to publicise events. There appears to be many different Sugar shows developing which appear to be profit driven and are taking away the energy from ISSCT.
- Generally I am happy.

## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS ...CONTD (3)

- I think this a good way to publish ISSCT articles in Journals such as Sugar Tech, International Sugar Journal and related journals
- ISSCT mission from ISSCT website: ... promoting innovative research, development and the adoption of technology, and by sharing the knowledge among its members for their professional development. This needs to be reviewed. As a first attempt: promoting innovative IDEAS THAT ARE RELEVANT AND ADD VALUE (CONTRIBUTORS NEED TO QUANTIFY THIS VALUE ADD AND THE HIGHER VALUE ADD CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE RECOGNISED AS SUCH). ISSCT should focus on becoming a value add change agent. Retaining a focus on traditional robust research is holding the ISSCT back, such research is excellent and should continue to be presented at the ISSCT and ultimately find its way into esteemed peer reviewed journals. In some respects researchers are less inclined to share some of their research because of IP / patents etc. To remain relevant, the ISSCT needs to embrace the presentation of cutting edge ideas, concepts, market trends, etc, that should hopefully attract researchers to help them embark on robust research. ISBUC was a product of this process and needs to be repeated. The workshops should play a significant role in this regard but sometimes end up a miniture specialised congresses. More needs to be done at the 'front end' of research, the ISSCT already does a great job in the 'back end' of research; ie the presentation and publications of research outcomes, which might be a diminishing function given IP / patents etc. Hope this is helpful.
- There are too many disciplines/subjects to be covered at ISSCT congresses, which means that each subject area is poorly, or superficially covered. It may be better to invite the best research reports/presentations/publications from ISSCT workshops held between congresses, to be presented at the next congress, and have the workshop proceedings more formally documented. The workshops are the "engines" of sugarcane research, and need to be recognized as such, and presenters acknowledged more formally on the good work they do. In addition, it is important to have the research documented, so that researchers can build on what has been presented at workshops. Too often research is repeated at workshops- which should not be the case.
- Publication of books and / or short technical courses.
- Maintain the Workshops in their present format since this has been most beneficial to me during my career and I believe it is for most members.

## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS ...CONTD (4)

- Create a database of membership by Country and professional discipline and circulate to enable proper networking of members in related fields of interest
- The ISSCT should organize technical courses more frequently at the geographical region level.
- Continue with the conduct of workshops
- The online resource of past proceedings is particularly valuable. I would like to see a search facility added.
- I think sugar is becoming more health issue in the developed countries but sugar is the main energy source for the poor countries and still more than 60-70% population is in this category. ISSCT can invite some medical and food scientist to the congress and promote safe consumption of cane sugar for better health in developed countries.
- I think an effort should be made to improve quality of papers at congresses, through having the ISSCT Congress partner with a journal that is SCI indexed and having all properly refereed papers published and indexed. I think a bigger effort could be made to have top quality invited speakers at congresses, to talk on topics of emerging interest in sugarcane industries.
- More scientists in different fields at important sugarcane production country should participate the ISSCT. More advocacy about the ISSCT.
- Congress fallow participant should also be awarded with the certificate of attendance and all other benefits.
- I really would like ISSCT to consider a journal on sugarcane
- Reduce the membership free for developing countries researcher. Initiate the travel grant for early career researcher.
- It would be a good idea for the ISSCT to create a scientific journal for the publication of the results.
- Funding for sugar cane- based research from potential donors such as USAID, CIDA EU is very challenging. Most donors support food crops more than industrial crops