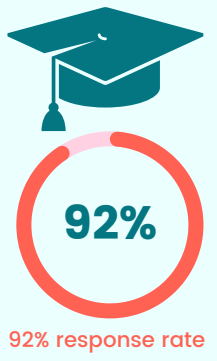


The Net-Zero challenge for tourism and hospitality educators

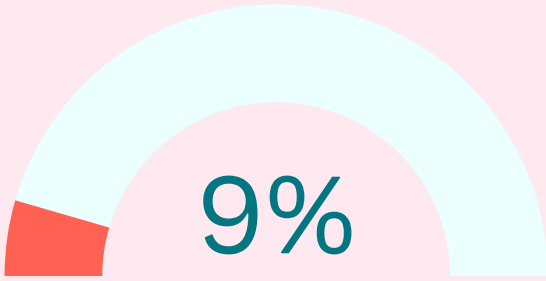
Authors: Anita Conefrey* (anita.conefrye@research.atu.ie) (ATU Sligo), Dr James Hanrahan (ATU Sligo), Dr John Carty (ATU Galway), Dr Conor McTiernan (ATU Donegal) & Dr Deirdre Bryne (ATU Sligo).

Thank you for your participation in this study. We had a 92% response rate from Higher Education Institutes (HEIs), that provide tourism and hospitality education, across Ireland. As you are aware, Ireland is obliged to reach emission targets by 2030 and Net-Zero emissions before 2050. Additionally, all organisations are now required to report their environmental and social impacts - under the new EU 'corporate sustainability reporting' directive established in 2022. Hence, this research identified the level of skills and training required to transition the Irish tourism industry towards Net-Zero emissions. The preliminary results are outlined below to aid HEIs in establishing curriculums that will provide skilled graduates to contribute to climate action and transition towards Net-Zero emissions. While also enabling the tourism sector to become more efficient and profitable, benefiting communities and destinations.

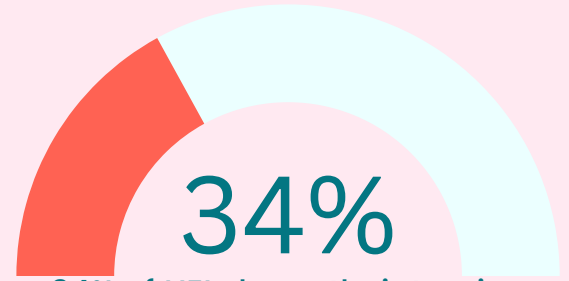


50%
50% of HEIs have aligned their tourism and hospitality programme(s) with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs)

8%
8% of HEIs have aligned their tourism and hospitality programme(s) with Goal 13 (Climate Action) of the UNSDGs



9% of HEIs have their tourism programme(s) learning outcomes focused on decarbonisation



34% of HEIs have their tourism module(s) learning outcomes focused on decarbonisation

Sustainable literacy:

Tourism & climate action literacy



Sustainable tourism and decarbonisation policies



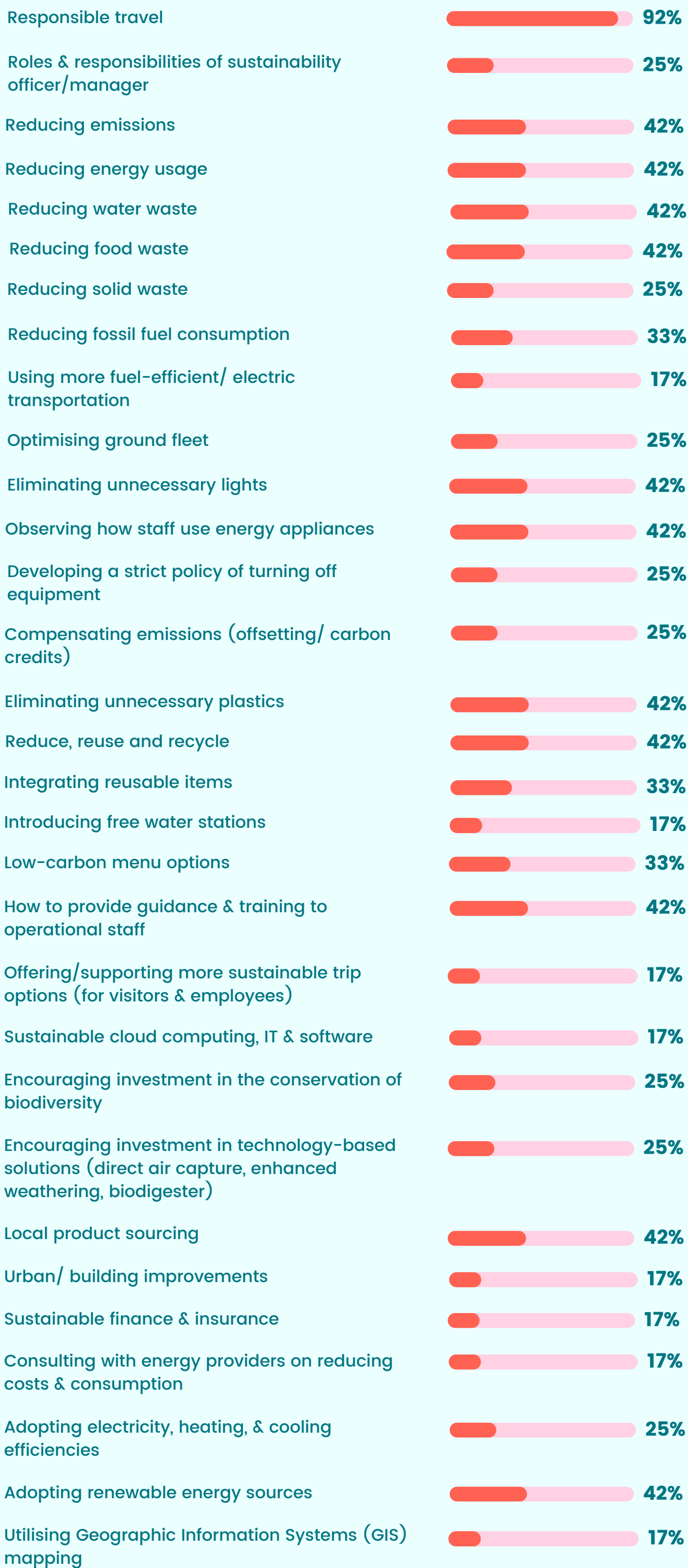
Training on measuring tourism emissions:



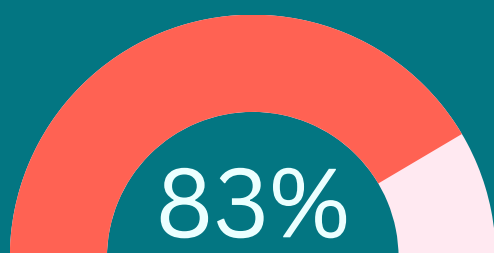


50 % of HEIs provide tourism and hospitality graduates with training on tourism decarbonisation practices

Training on decarbonisation practices:



Continued professional development



The majority (83%) of the tourism and hospitality educators in HEIs would like training on tourism decarbonisation practices

