

Spring Summit 2024

Environmental sustainability NCS Survey


By the ESC Insight Team

Prof Michael Papadakis

President European Association Preventive Cardiology (EAPC)

Professor of Cardiology, St George's, University of London

michael.papadakis@sgul.ac.uk

 @MichaelPapadak2



Environmental Sustainability

Mindfulness of the environmental footprint and active pursuit of environmental sustainability across all ESC activities



Environmental sustainability of operations and activities will be a necessity in the future, with a particular responsibility towards environmental sustainability in the context of cardiovascular disease and health. Credible efforts towards environmental sustainability furthermore constitute an increasingly important component of an organisation's reputation and brand. Finally, environmentally sustainable operations will be financially beneficial.

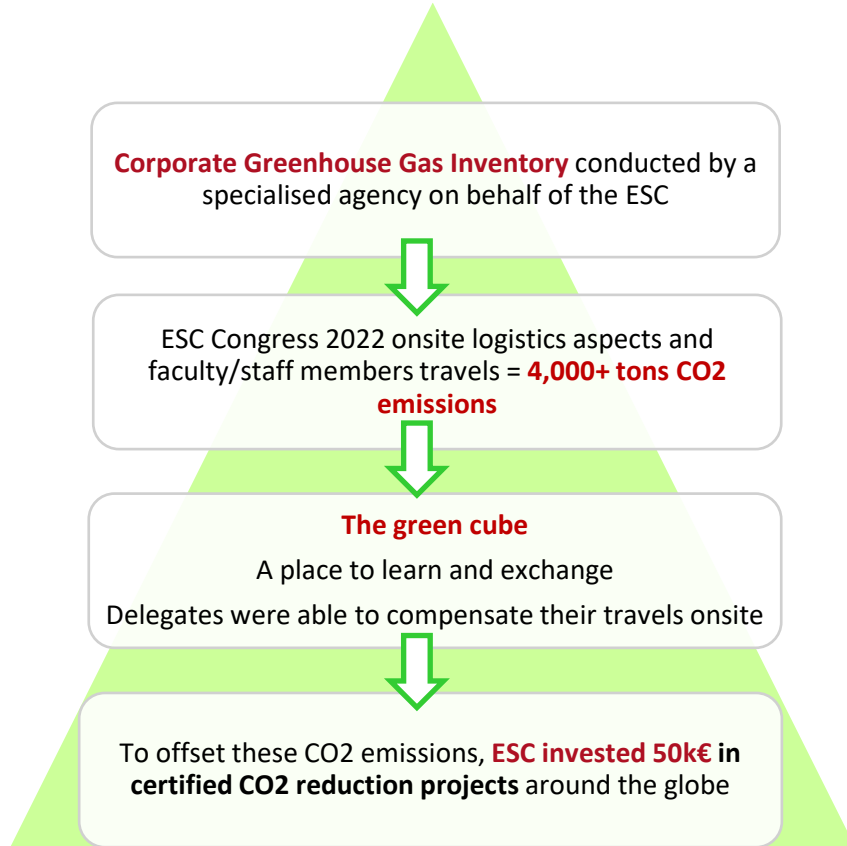


Specific objectives include:

- 1 Establish the ESC staff position of an environmental officer and create an overall sustainability plan for the Society.
- 2 Aim for carbon neutral operations.
- 3 Prioritise the provision of education on sustainability in cardiovascular healthcare.
- 4 Actively engage with National Cardiac Societies around topics on sustainability.
- 5 Actively engage with industry, regulators, and healthcare providers around sustainability of cardiovascular practice.
- 6 Make environmental issues a priority in research funding.
- 7 Prioritise environmental impact on cardiovascular health in the advocacy agenda and introduce and use of the term "cardio-hazardous".
- 8 Publish official scientific statement(s) around sustainability and environmental impact of cardiovascular practice.

Our first step towards a more sustainable future

@ESC Congress 2022 - Barcelona



2021 ESC Guideline on CVD Prevention

Putting in place measures to reduce air pollution, including reducing PM emission and gaseous pollutants, reducing the use of fossil fuels, and limiting carbon dioxide emissions, are recommended, to reduce CVD mortality and morbidity.

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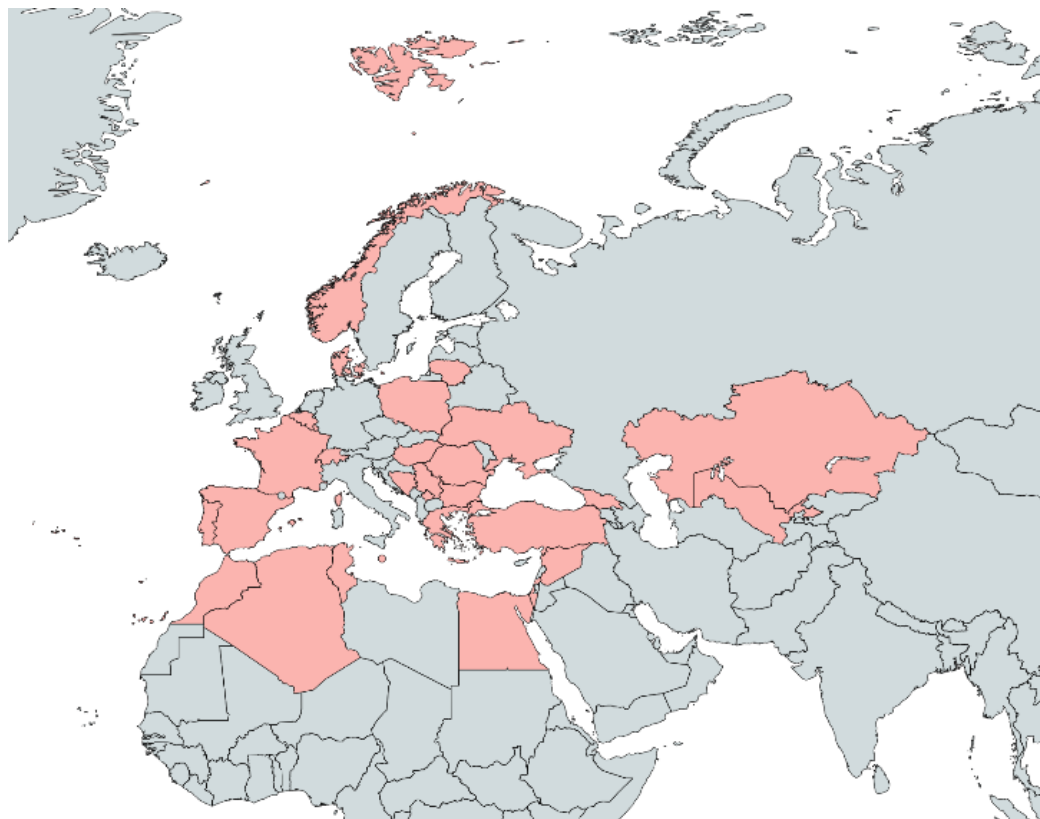
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Aim

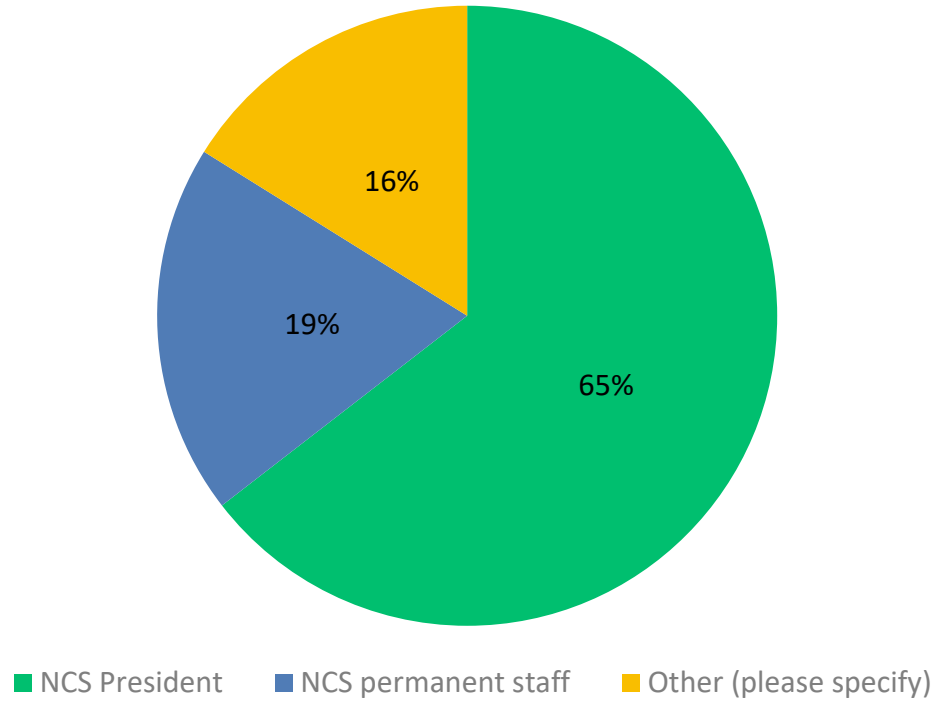
Asked 7 questions relating to the environment

- **Perceptions within NCS**
 - NCS
 - Respective governments
- **Action plans**
- **Platform for discussion**
 - Learn from each other
 - How can we do better together

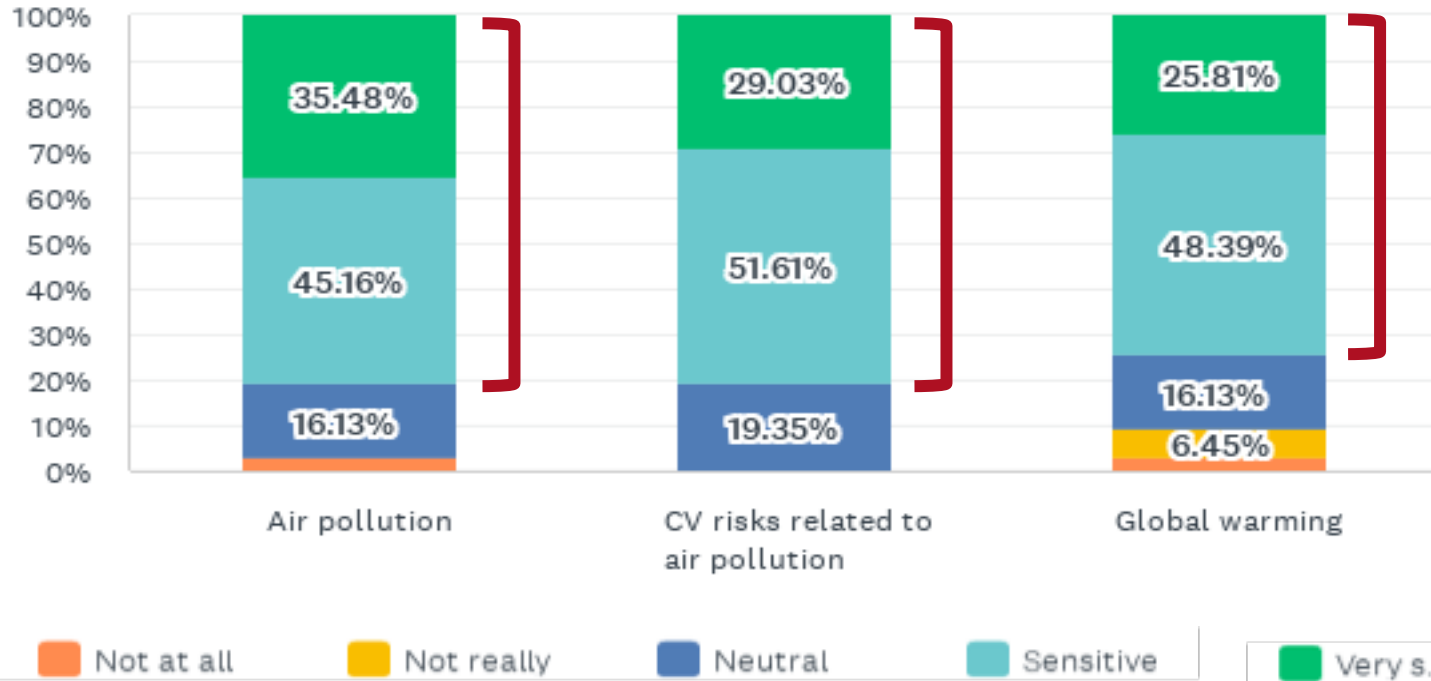
NCS that responded – 29 of 55



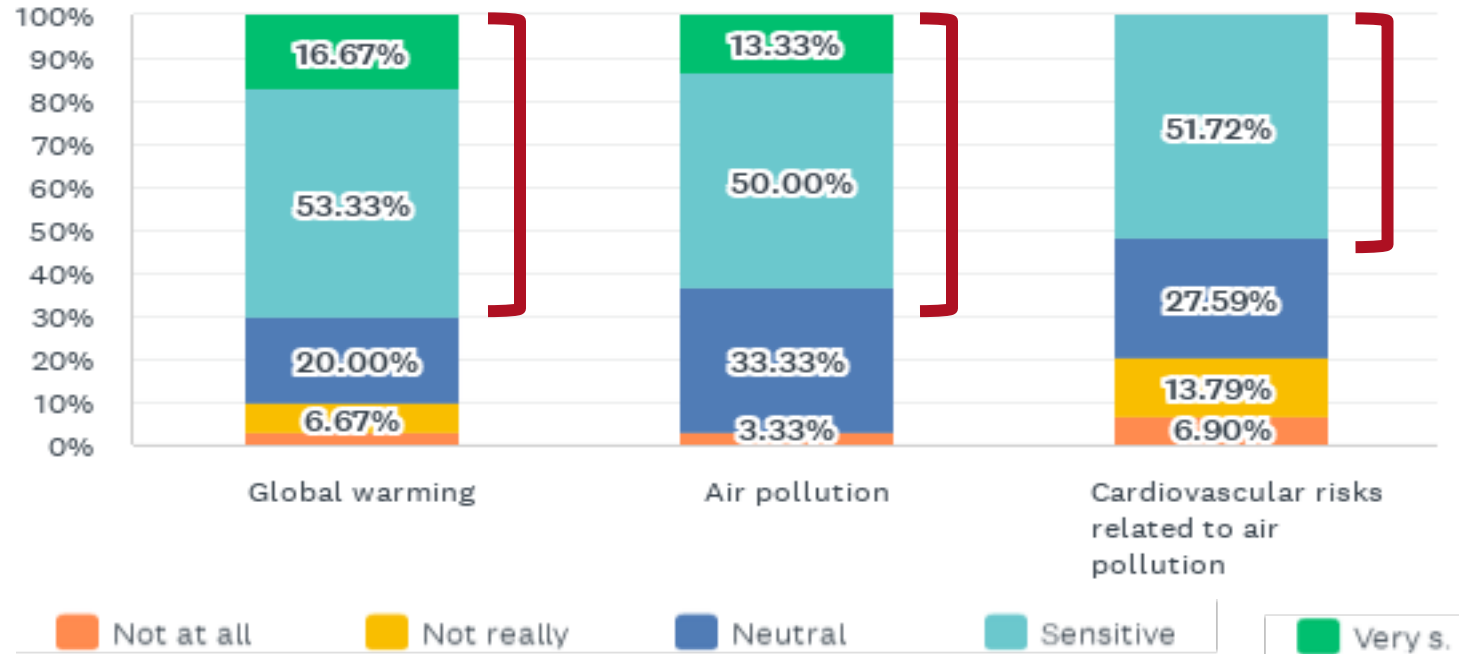
Role of individual responders within the NCS



How sensitive is your NCS towards the following?

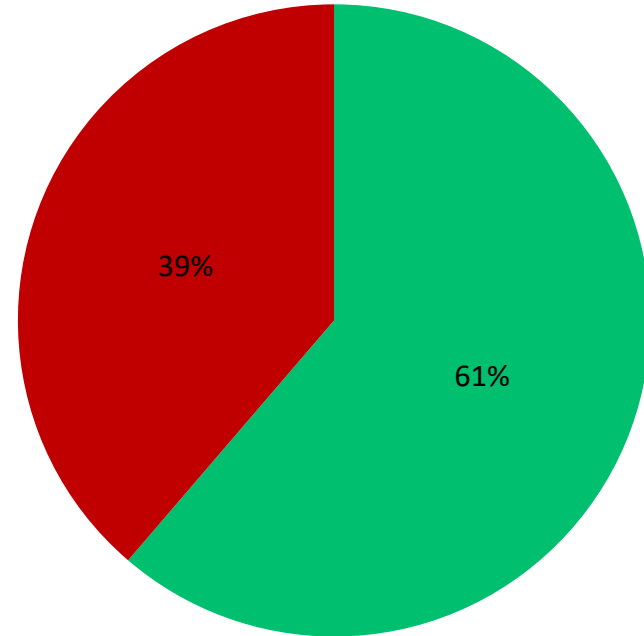


How sensitive is your country's political leadership towards the following?



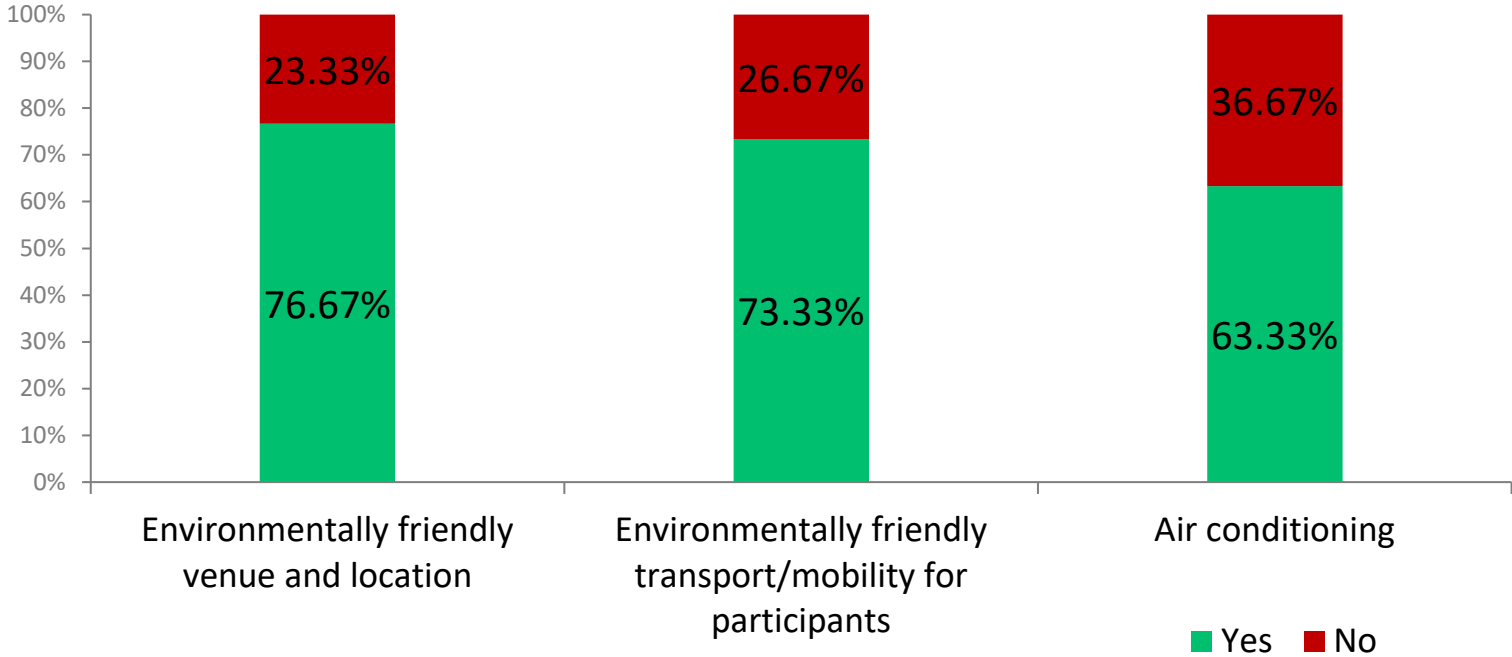
When a societal initiative is planned is environmental sustainability taken into consideration?

- **Societal initiative**
 - Congresses, conferences
- **Sustainability examples**
 - Transportation, mobility, venue location, air conditioning

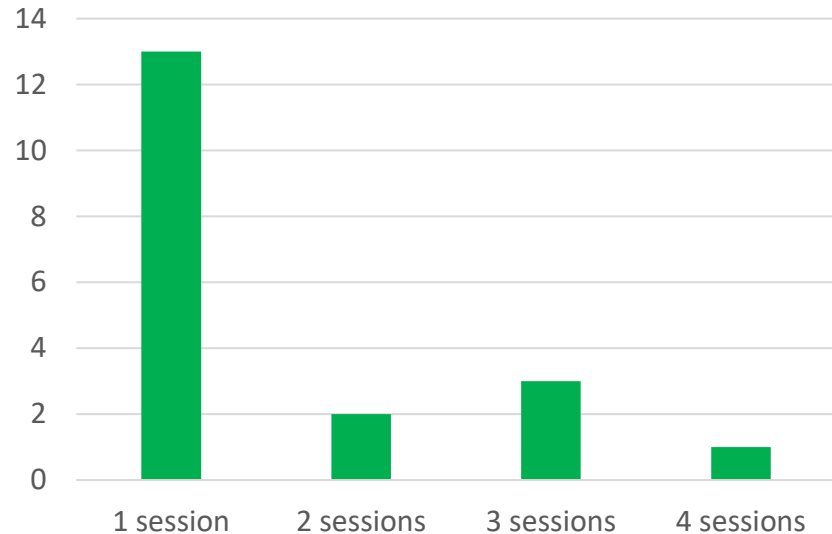
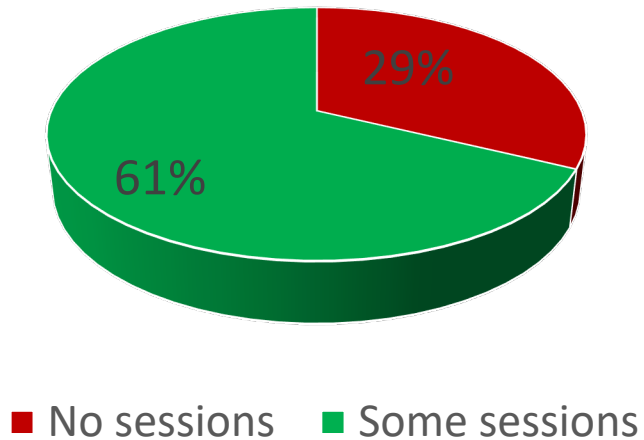


■ Yes ■ No

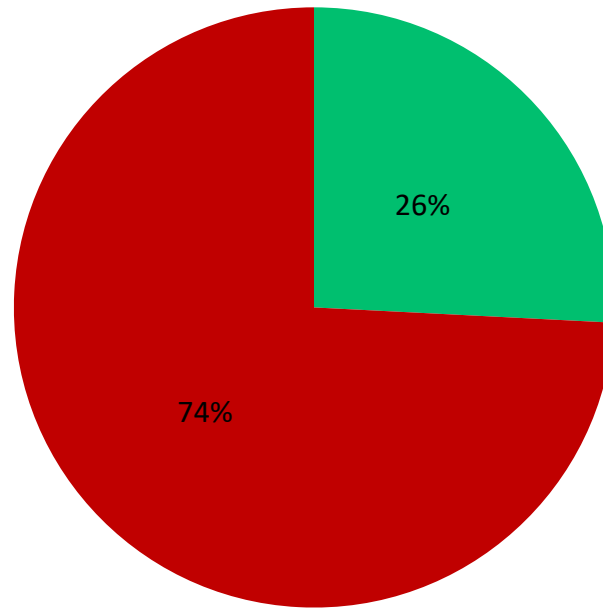
If environmental sustainability is taken into consideration or ESC would be, are the following aspects considered?



How many sessions of your last National congress were dedicated to cardiovascular risk in relation to environment, air pollution, and climate change?



In 2023, have any dedicated initiatives been organised to raise awareness on this issue?



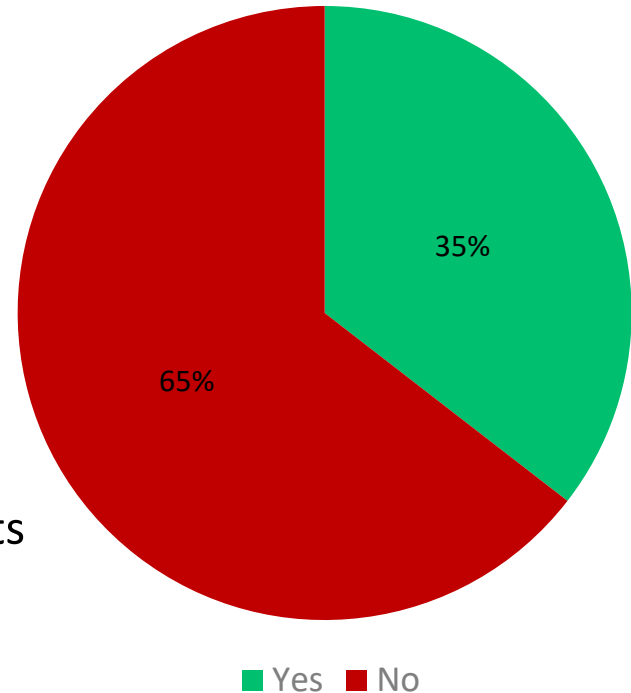
■ Yes ■ No

In 2024, are there any initiatives planned to raise awareness on this issue?

- **Activity examples**

- Events related to conferences
- Position papers

- National policy
- Dedicated events
- Research projects
 - Spain, Tunisia – pollution and CV events



Summary

- **NCSs are relatively sensitive to environmental issues**
- **Country's political leaderships appear less sensitive compared to NCSs**
- **Environmental sustainability is often considered when planning a new initiative, including conferences**
- **Most NCS conferences include environmental impact during scientific session**
- **There are NCS led initiatives but much more work to do**