

CONFERENCE EVALUATION REPORT

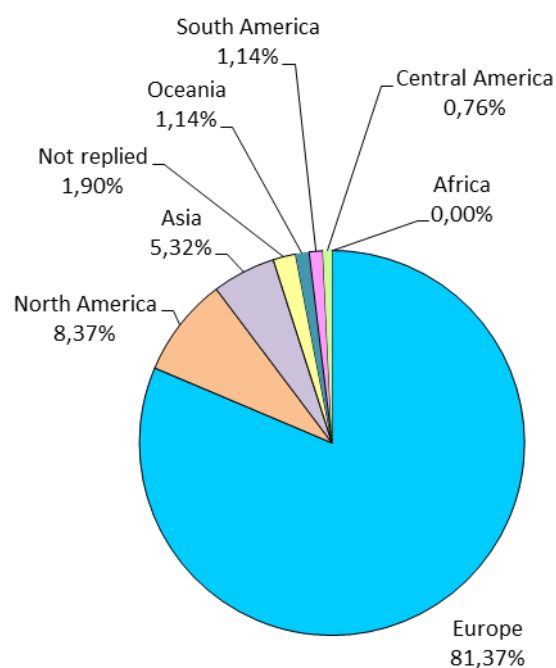
Survey period	27 June to 11 September 2016 (76 days)
Conference participants	680
Submitted surveys	263
Response rate	38,68%

CONFERENCE PUBLICITY, LOGISTICS AND ORGANISATION

1. Region

Percentage of responses 98,10%

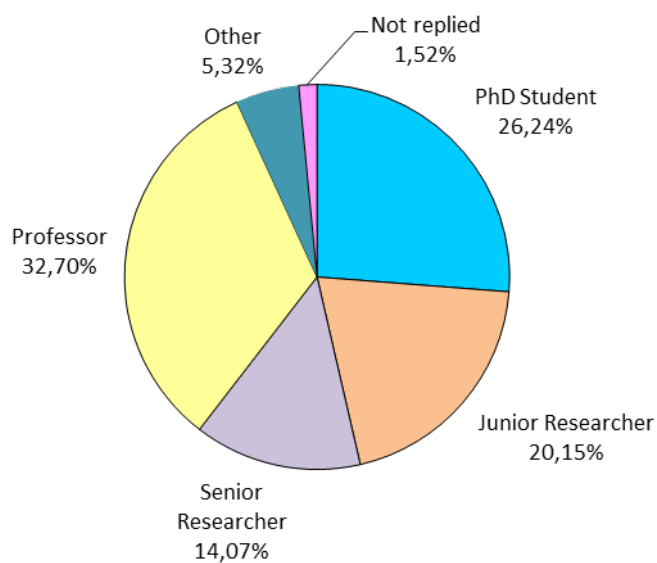
Region	Absolute value	%
Asia	14	5,32%
Africa	-	0,00%
Europe	214	81,37%
Oceania	3	1,14%
North America	22	8,37%
Central America	2	0,76%
South America	3	1,14%
Not replied	5	1,90%
	263	



2. Position

Percentage of response 98,48%

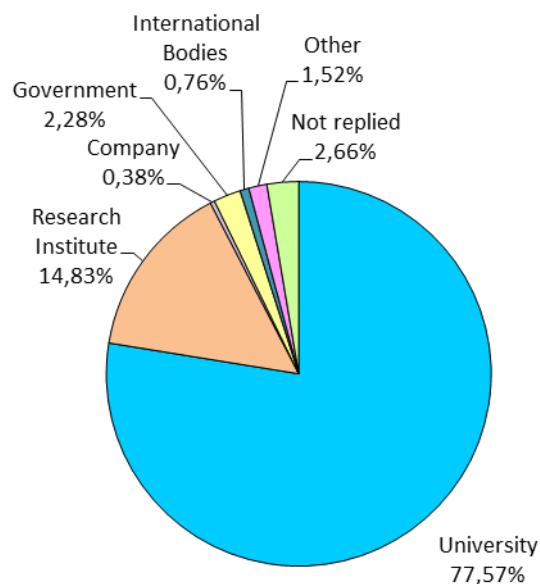
Position	Absolute value	%
PhD Student	69	26,24%
Junior Researcher	53	20,15%
Senior Researcher	37	14,07%
Professor	86	32,70%
Other	14	5,32%
Not replied	4	1,52%
	263	



3. Affiliation

Percentage of response 97,34%

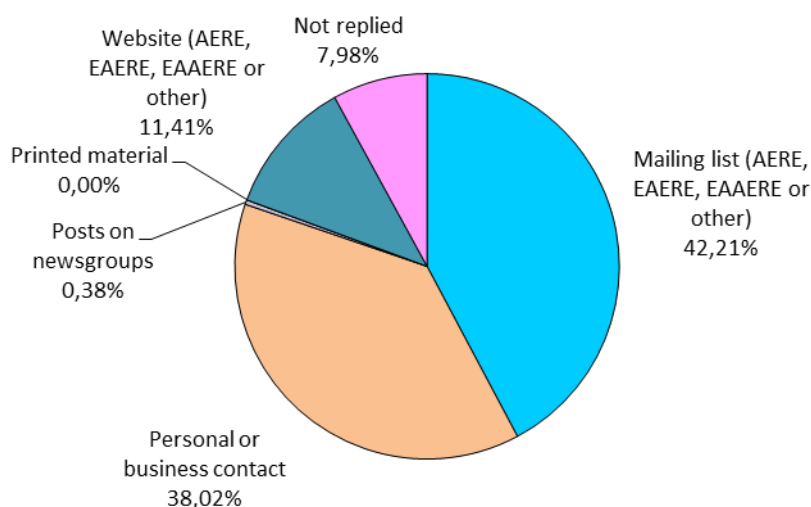
University	204	77,57%
Research Institute	39	14,83%
Company	1	0,38%
Government	6	2,28%
International Bodies	2	0,76%
Other	4	1,52%
Not replied	7	2,66%
	263	



4. I learnt about the Conference through (select one)

Percentage of responses 92,02%

Mailing list (AERE, EAERE, EAAERE or other)	111	42,21%
Personal or business contact	100	38,02%
Posts on newsgroups	1	0,38%
Printed material	0	0,00%
Website (AERE, EAERE, EAAERE or other)	30	11,41%
Not replied	21	7,98%
	263	



Indicate which Mailing list:

AERNA	1	0,90%
EAERE	75	67,57%
EAERE, AERE	1	0,90%
EAERE, resecon	1	0,90%
EEPSEA	1	0,90%
inomics	2	1,80%
many	1	0,90%
resecon	3	2,70%
not indicated	26	23,42%
	111	

EAERE	22	73,33%
not indicated	8	26,67%
	30	

Indicate which newsgroups:

School of Agriculture and Resource Economics, University of Western Australia	1	100,00%
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1

Indicate which website:

5. How satisfied are you with the following? Please select one rating for each item. In case you did not need the service or did not attend the event, please select the option N/A (not applicable).

Percentage of responses 94,33% (Average)

How satisfied are you with:	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	N/A	Not replied
Pre-Conference publicity	—	2,28%	13,31%	47,15%	16,73%	15,59%	4,94%
Conference website	0,38%	3,42%	12,55%	51,33%	31,56%	—	0,76%
On-line registration	—	3,04%	11,41%	56,65%	25,48%	0,38%	3,04%
Accommodation offer	1,52%	7,22%	20,91%	23,95%	7,60%	32,70%	6,08%
Support for visa requests	—	0,38%	1,14%	1,52%	3,80%	78,71%	14,45%
Travel grants	1,90%	2,28%	2,28%	4,56%	1,90%	73,00%	14,07%
Feedback and support (quick answers)	—	1,52%	5,70%	23,19%	22,05%	39,92%	7,60%
Programme website	—	4,56%	19,01%	44,49%	29,28%	0,38%	2,28%
Mobile version of scientific programme	1,14%	4,56%	6,84%	23,95%	8,75%	45,25%	9,51%
On-line paper submission	—	0,76%	7,22%	49,43%	28,90%	9,89%	3,80%
Paper review process	0,38%	3,80%	17,11%	43,35%	16,73%	14,83%	3,80%
Printed programme, info package	1,14%	4,18%	11,79%	42,21%	36,12%	2,66%	1,90%
Job market	1,52%	2,66%	2,28%	4,56%	0,76%	75,67%	12,55%
Exhibitors' programme	1,14%	4,18%	12,17%	20,15%	3,80%	48,67%	9,89%
EAERE General Assembly of Members	—	1,14%	5,70%	14,83%	9,51%	57,03%	11,79%
Conference venue	0,76%	1,90%	6,84%	39,16%	49,05%	0,76%	1,52%
Computer/wi-fi access	1,90%	5,70%	10,65%	36,50%	33,84%	6,46%	4,94%
Transportation	—	0,76%	6,08%	33,46%	24,33%	26,24%	9,13%
Lunches	3,04%	11,03%	28,90%	38,78%	15,21%	0,38%	2,66%
Coffee breaks	1,90%	2,28%	14,83%	48,29%	30,04%	0,38%	2,28%
Welcome Reception - June 22 nd	0,76%	1,14%	3,42%	19,77%	45,63%	24,71%	4,56%
Social Event – Cocktail and Swiss dinner - June 23 rd	1,90%	3,80%	17,87%	29,66%	30,80%	13,69%	2,28%
Social Event – Conference dinner - June 24 th	1,14%	2,66%	11,41%	29,28%	25,48%	25,86%	4,18%
Conference fee	6,08%	19,77%	41,44%	25,48%	2,66%	2,66%	1,90%
Overall cost	8,37%	23,19%	42,21%	18,63%	2,66%	3,04%	1,90%

6. How satisfied are you with the following? Select one rating for each item. In the case you did not attend the event, please select the option N/A (not applicable). If you wish to comment upon a specific session, please use the space provided at the bottom of this form.

Percentage of responses 93,27% (Average)

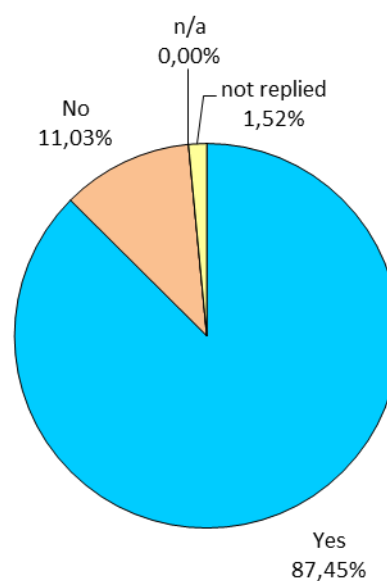
How satisfied are you with:	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	N/A	Not replied
Pre-Conference Workshop “Valuing and Designing Payment Systems for Ecosystem Services”	—	—	0,76%	3,42%	3,80%	75,67%	16,35%
Plenary session 1 – Matti Liski (relevance,	0,38%	4,94%	14,45%	34,22%	23,57%	15,97%	6,46%

How satisfied are you with:	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	N/A	Not replied
choice of speaker, quality of presentation)							
Plenary session 2 – Rohini Pande (relevance, choice of speaker, quality of presentation)	1,52%	3,80%	13,31%	35,74%	23,95%	16,35%	5,32%
Plenary session 3 – Pietro F. Peretto (relevance, choice of speaker, quality of presentation)	3,04%	8,75%	20,53%	29,66%	15,21%	17,11%	5,70%
Thematic sessions (relevance, quality of presentations)	0,38%	0,76%	10,65%	40,30%	12,17%	29,28%	6,46%
Policy sessions (relevance, quality of presentations)	0,38%	2,28%	7,98%	36,88%	13,69%	30,04%	8,75%
Parallel sessions (relevance)	0,76%	1,52%	17,11%	55,13%	22,05%	0,38%	3,04%
Parallel sessions (quality of presentations and papers)	0,76%	2,28%	23,95%	54,37%	14,83%	1,14%	2,66%
Parallel sessions (grouping of papers into sessions)	3,80%	12,55%	28,52%	37,26%	12,93%	0,76%	4,18%
Poster sessions	—	0,38%	14,07%	23,19%	4,56%	43,73%	14,07%
Relevance and impact of the Conference on my work	0,76%	5,32%	19,01%	46,39%	23,57%	0,76%	4,18%
Overall content compared to other Conferences I attended recently	1,52%	3,80%	19,77%	48,29%	17,49%	4,56%	4,56%
Facilitation of interaction/networking amongst conference participants (rooms/open space for bilateral meetings, social events that promote networking, financial affordability of desks to displace an institution's projects/books/research output in general	—	4,56%	9,13%	47,15%	27,76%	5,70%	5,70%

7. Was the balance between papers focused on theoretical aspects, and those covering applied, evidence-based and policy-oriented environmental economics appropriate? (select one)
Percentage of responses 98,48%

Yes	230	87,45%
No	29	11,03%
n/a	0	0,00%
not replied	4	1,52%

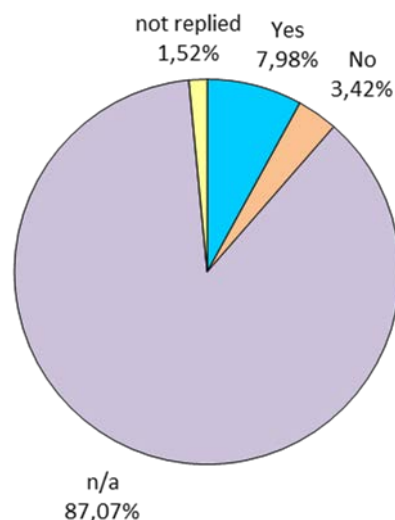
263



8. Are you satisfied with the grants application process (select n/a if you didn't apply for a grant)

Percentage of responses 98,48%

Yes	21	7,98%
No	9	3,42%
n/a	229	87,07%
not replied	4	1,52%
263		



9. What do you think about posters (select one)?

Percentage of responses 98,10%

Posters should be definitively kept in the program, and they number should be even increased	45	17,11%
Posters should be definitively kept in the program, and keep their number as usual (about 30)	186	70,72%
Other	27	10,27%
not replied	5	1,90%
263		

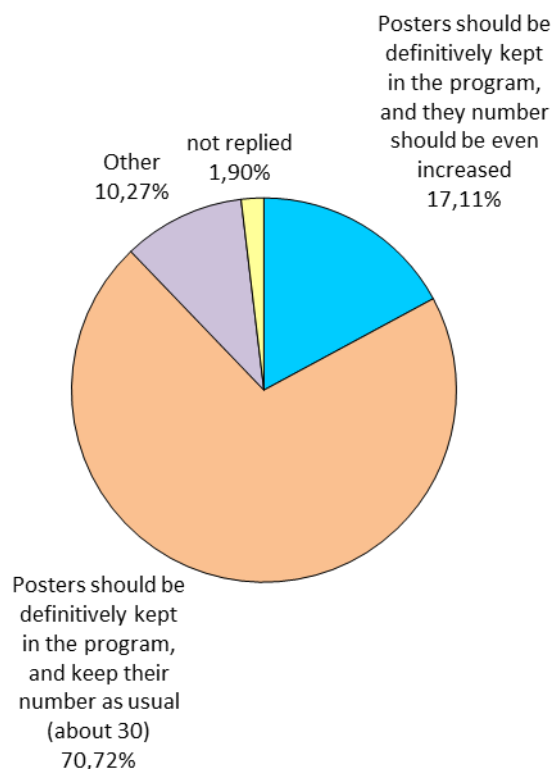
Other /Comments

Contrary

Seriously, no one is looking at the posters.
Posters should be excluded from the program.
Unnecessary
I don't mind if posters are dropped from the program.
The programme is already very dense, so I think posters are not really useful.
I do not think that posters are a good format for presenting academic research.
Posters are still struggling to work in economics conferences. We don't yet have the culture for that
I did not attend any poster presentation since I am not a big fan of this format.
I did not visit the poster section, not sure how useful this is but may provide entry for those not yet able to present paper

About organization

One thing that is really nice to do with posters is have poster presenters give 2-3 minute talks to advertise their posters. Or have the posters as part of a social [programme]
They should be kept in but given more allocated time.
No promotion of the poster sessions, so, a lot of persons never went to the poster session. An own slot for the session makes sense (and no coffee, lunch, etc. to keep participants there).
Their positioning was not easy to find.
Posters can work well, but in this case the numbers seemed too small to be worth seeking out. Would prefer either more or none.
Poster session and exhibitors should be in a more accessible place - it was too spread out with few visitors.
They weren't given enough importance, but I don't think they should be increased in number either

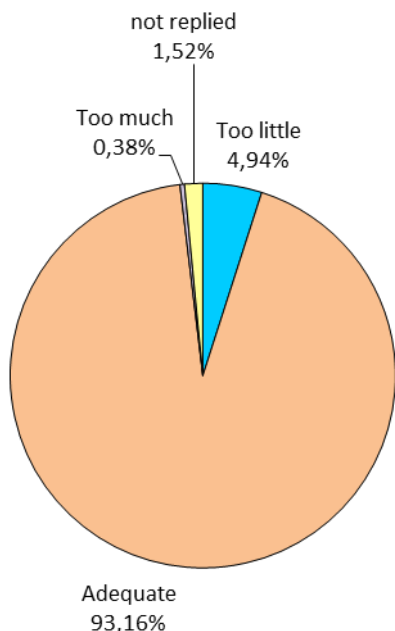


No useful comments
 I didn't see the Posters
 N/A
 Did not participate in the poster sessions
 I do not take time to look at too many of the posters, unfortunately.

CONFERENCE FORMAT

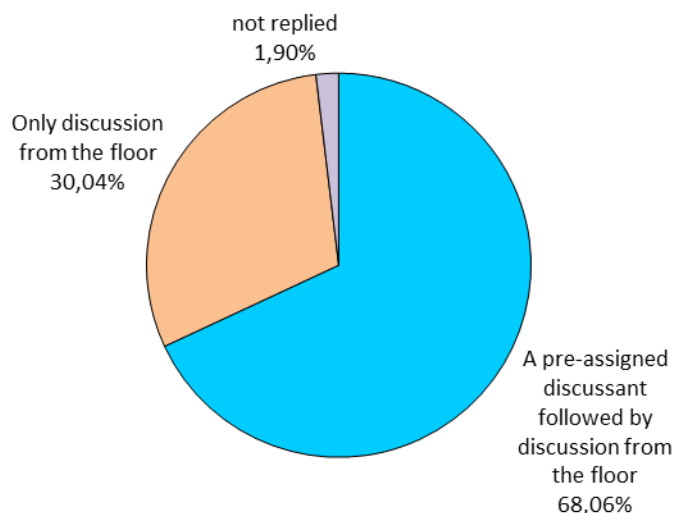
10. The time allocated for presentations in parallel sessions was: (select one)
Percentage of responses 98,48%

Too little	13	4,94%
Adequate	245	93,16%
Too much	1	0,38%
Not replied	4	1,52%
263		



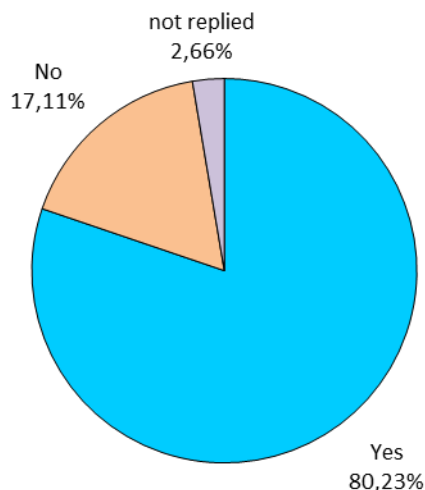
11. I find it most effective to have: (select one)
Percentage of responses 98,10%

A pre-assigned discussant followed by discussion from the floor	179	68,06%
Only discussion from the floor	79	30,04%
not replied	5	1,90%
263		



12. Was there sufficient time for discussions at each session? (select one)
Percentage of responses 97,34%

Yes	211	80,23%
No	45	17,11%
Not replied	7	2,66%
263		



13. What topics would you like to see addressed at next years' conferences? (indicate two top choices)

Topics mentioned 3 or more times are marked with *. Similar topics with more than 2 mentions are indicated in green.

Topic	n. of mentions
Agricultural (optimization with environmental externalities)	
Agriculture-related studies	
Air pollution	
Anything other than climate change	
Applied papers over theoretical	
Applied research (more)	
Assessment of natural capital	
* Behavioral economics	4
Behavioural economics in energy	
Behavioural and experimental economics to environmental policy	
Behavioural insights and environmental policy	
Behavioural psychology	
Benefit transfer	2
* Biodiversity	3
Biodiversity and protected areas	
Biosecurity	
Burden sharing	
Carbon permits financial aspects	
Carbon taxation	
Choice	
Choice experiments	
* Choice modeling	4
Climate change	2
Climate change (Adaptation to)	2
Climate change and ecosystems quality	
Climate change and human health	
Climate change and migration	
Climate change and productivity	
Climate change impacts	
Climate change policies after Paris	
Climate engineering	
Climate policy	
Climate skepticism	
Computational economics	
Conflict	
Cooperative game theory	
Cost of environmental regulation	
Cost-benefit analysis	
Crop choices	
Decision under uncertainty	
Decision-making under risk and uncertainty in economic experiments	
Decision-making under risk and uncertainty in stated-preference	

Topic	n. of mentions
Demography	
Development and dependence on natural resources	
Development economics	
Development, energy & environment	
* Directed technical change	3
Direction of technological change	
Discrete choice	
Distributional consequences of environmental policies	
Dual rate discounting (relative carbon prices)	
Eco-certification	
Ecology and economics	
Economic experiments and the environment including methodological issues (more on)	
Economic growth and environment	
Economic models to ground all this regression analysis	
Economic valuation of ecosystem services	
Economics of biodiversity conservation	
Economics of climate adaptation	
Economics of water management	
Econometric analyses	
Ecosystem services	3
Efficiency in market based instrument regulation	
Electricity markets and renewables	
Empirical topics	
Empirics	
Energy and climate change	
Energy economics	
Energy economics topics both theoretical and empirics	
Environment and development	
Environment and migration	
Environmental goods and services industry (the)	2
Environmental conflicts	
Environmental friendly innovation	
Environmental and public economics / policies	2
Environmental implications of land-use policies	
Environmental policy implementation	
Environmental regulation and employment	
Environmental regulation: firm-level analysis	
Environmental taxation	
Equity and justice	
EU ETS	
Experimental behav. environmental econ	
Experiments	2
Field experiments	2
Island economies (focus on)	
Firm and the environment (the)	
Forest And climate change	

Topic	n. of mentions
Forest empirics	
Game theory application	
Genuine savings/ adjusted net savings	
Globalization and environment	2
Globalization and natural resource depletion	
Green accounting	
Green growth	2
Green preferences (the foundation of)	
* Green public procurement	3
Growth and the environment	
Health and the environment including areas such as food and nutrition and physical activity (more on)	
Health economics	
Hedonic modeling	
Heritage assets and sustainability	
Household and firm responses to environmental policies	
How EE can contribute to national green growth agendas	
Human behavior	
Human behaviour toward nature	
Hybrid choice modeling	
Identity economics	
Impact of demographic change on the environment	
Impact of migration on sustainability (the)	
Impact of population growth / fertility on sustainability (the)	
Income gap and environment	
Influence of interest groups	
Information	
Innovation	
Innovation and the environment	
Institutions	
Interaction between research and policy	
Intergenerational issues	
International environmental agreements	
Invasive species	
Land Use policies and environmentally related issues	
Links with fundamental physics	
Macroeconomics	
Marine resources	
Microeconometrics	
Migration and refugees (issue linked to)	
Modelling	
Momentum effects	
Monitoring and enforcement	
Natural resource economics	
Natural resource management (theory and empirics)	
Natural resources and development	
Network and cooperative behavior	

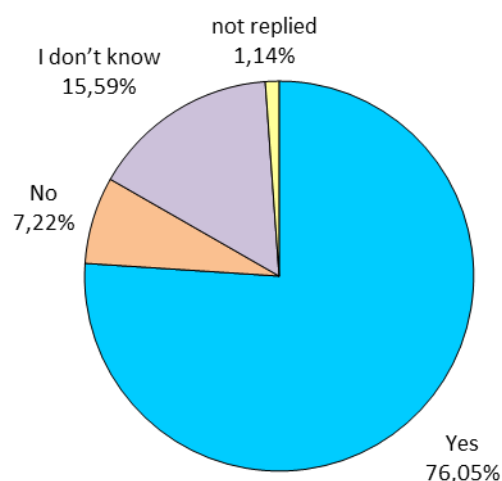
Topic	n. of mentions
New regulatory instruments	
Non-market valuation (Non-conventional approaches to) (life satisfaction indexed, expert elicitation, etc.)	
Non-market valuation	
One-Health	
Payment for ecosystem services	2
Plastic pollution	
Policies regarding Baltic sea water protection	
Policy evaluation	2
Policy implementation (enforcement, firm compliance)	
Policy instruments for emerging economies	
Political economics and the environment	
Political economy	
Political economy and environment	
Population and environment	
Population issues	
Property rights	
Public good games	
Public -private cooperative mechanisms	
Rcts	
Regime shifts	
Renewable energies	
Renewable energy and the carbon curve bend	
Resilience economics	
Resource curse	
Resource depletion due to globalization	
Resource efficiency, circular economy	
Role of unilateral climate policy	
Shallow lakes problem	
Short-term entry points to climate policy	
Smart grids	
Social discounting	
Solutions for fisheries discard prohibition	
Spatial issues	
Sustainability	
Sustainability economics	
Sustainability economics both theoretical and empirics	
Sustainable agriculture	
Sustainable demand	
Sustainable livelihoods and deforestation	
Theoretical underpinnings of sustainability as a normative concept	
Theory and empirics of technical change	
Tipping points	
Tourism	
Trade and the environment	2
Transition of power systems	

Topic	n. of mentions
Transportation	
Uncertainty	
Urban	
Urban and environmental issues	
Urban ecosystems	
Urban growth and sustainability	
Urban issues and the environment	
Use of EE policies to meet indcs (the)	
Valuation	
Valuation approaches (a plenary on)	
Valuation of ecosystem services	
Waste	
Water	
Water and land use	
Water policy	
Welfare of environmental policies	

14. Discounted registration fee: do you find it useful?

Percentage of responses 98,86%

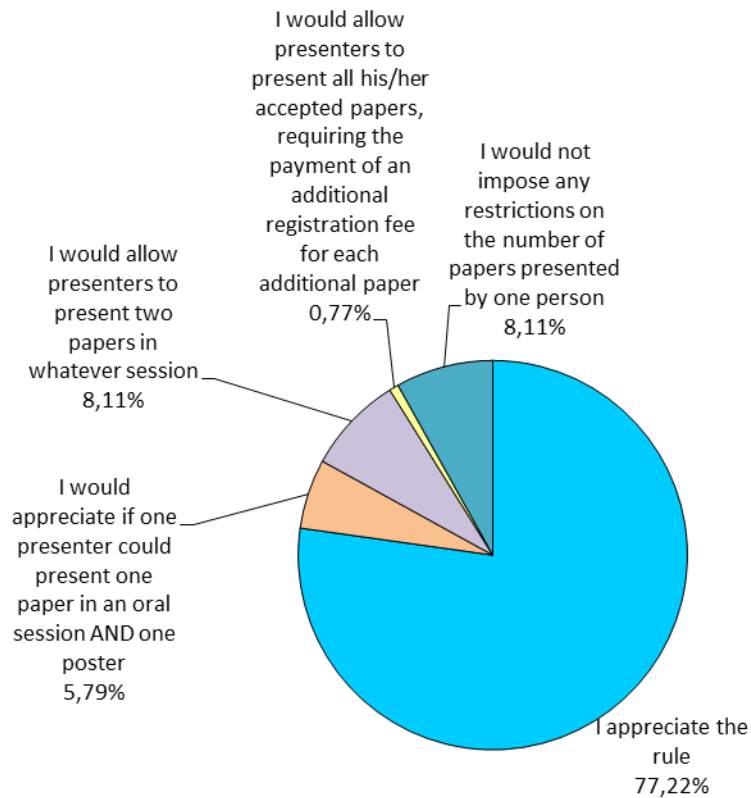
Yes	200	76,05%
No	19	7,22%
I don't know	41	15,59%
Not replied	3	1,14%
	263	



15. Rule one-person-one paper presented. What best describes your opinion (select one):

Percentage of responses 98,48%

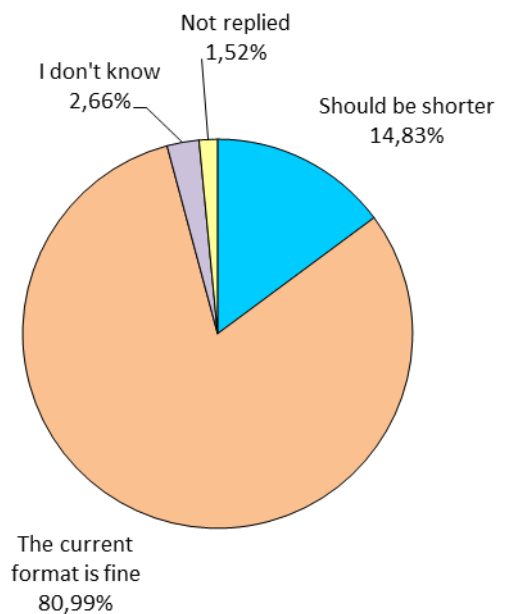
I appreciate the rule	200	76,05%
I would appreciate if one presenter could present one paper in an oral session AND one poster	15	5,70%
I would allow presenters to present two papers in whatever session	21	7,98%
I would allow presenters to present all his/her accepted papers, requiring the payment of an additional registration fee for each additional paper	2	0,76%
I would not impose any restrictions on the number of papers presented by one person	21	7,98%
Not replied	4	1,52%
	263	



16. Conference Duration – The Conference lasted for 4 days (Wednesday to Saturday). Do you think that the Conference overall duration:

Percentage of responses 98,48%

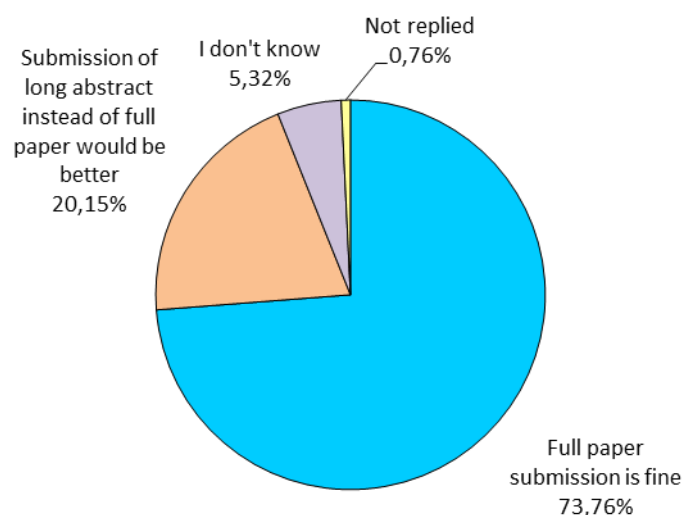
Should be shorter	39	14,83%
The current format is fine	213	80,99%
I don't know	7	2,66%
Not replied	4	1,52%
263		



17. Paper submission - Do you think that:

Percentage of responses 99,24%

Full paper submission is fine	194	73,76%
Submission of long abstract instead of full paper would be better	53	20,15%
I don't know	14	5,32%
Not replied	2	0,76%
263		

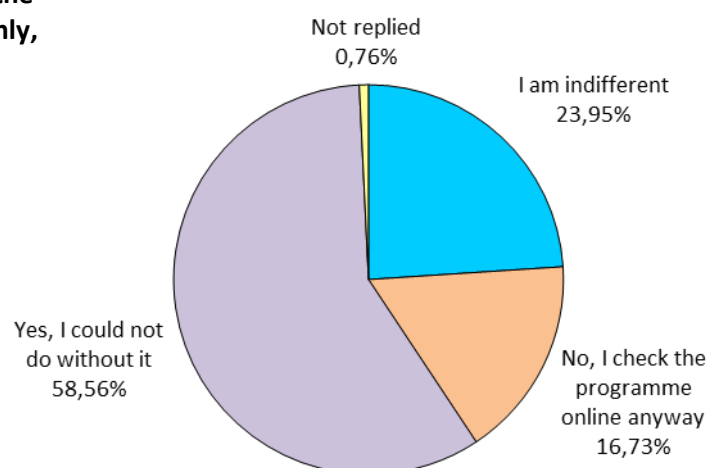


SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

18. Conference Book. If the Conference Book containing the programme and logistical information would be online only, would you miss its printed version?

Percentage of responses 99,24%

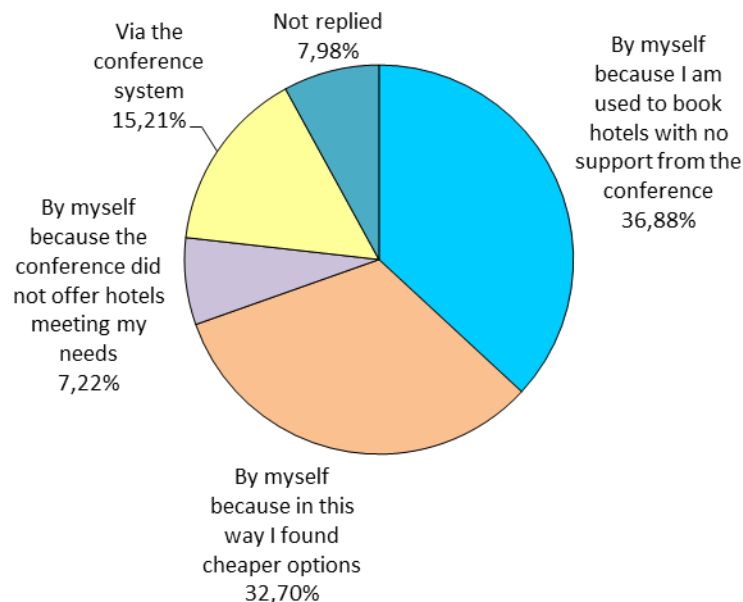
I am indifferent.	63	23,95%
No, I check the programme online anyway	44	16,73%
Yes, I could not do without it.	154	58,56%
Not replied	2	0,76%
	263	



19. Accommodation. Did you book your accommodation:

Percentage of responses 99,24%

By myself because I am used to book hotels with no support from the conference	97	36,88%
By myself because in this way I found cheaper options	86	32,70%
By myself because the conference did not offer hotels meeting my needs	19	7,22%
Via the conference system	40	15,21%
Not replied	21	7,98%
	263	



20. Any other suggestions or comments you would like us to know about logistics and format?

General comments

Very helpful people! Thank you very much!

Great organisation, thank you.

Sessions were very well organized.

The Swiss team made a great work that I really appreciate. Many thanks to you all!

Thanks for this great conference.

Everything was very well organized. "

Punctuality also was excellent!

Very well organized conference!!

Overall it was a great conference. Well done!

Thank you a lot! It's a marvelous and fruitful event. I look forward to Athens!

Great job

Thank you! It was great!

Accommodation

Hotel prices in Zurich are crazy.

Still, affordable accommodation was very hard to find.

Zurich is super expensive. I am aware of people who had problems finding a budget for this conference.

Conference duration/Schedule

I think it should be better if the conference starts on Tuesday and finish on Friday.

I would suggest keeping the format of the duration of the conference because it gives more time to know each other better between members and maintain a close relationship the rest of the year. The conference should focus both on the academic part and the meetings between members to strengthen the association, so I suggest we have a good number of social events. This year the organizers did very successfully.

Start at 8:30 can be problematic. Possibly more session in parallel and shorter days would allow more free discussion and be less tiring.

Starting at 09 am instead of 08:30

One could think about having the first parallel session on Wednesday afternoon before the welcome reception instead of late on Saturday. Many people have to leave before the last session and maybe attendance would be somewhat higher if a first session was scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, but, of course, that would interfere with the pre-conference workshop.

Two days, one keynote, fewer and higher quality papers, no social dinner (just cocktail).

Conference Fees and scholarships

Conference fees are way too high.

The choice of having numerous social events is fine to me; but the overall fee would be reduced if these events were less ambitious. People only need a place to meet and chat ... For example, an aperitif every night from 18.30 to 20.00 would be enough, then people would go to the restaurant they choose, with the people they like or want to work with. My guess is that this is a priority for the EAERE; people find the conference too expensive, and many of them did not attend it for this reason.

Conference gadgets

I liked the glass bottles very much.

The conference bag was missing. I think that conference bags should be available on request through registration. There can be simple question with a picture of the bag: Do you want a conference bag or not?

I registered on Thursday and did not receive a print version of the program nor the goodie (bottle). In lack of the program booklet, I would have appreciated at least a printed floor plan.

I appreciate your awareness about the environment and other issues, but providing a bag, I mean, even those simple bags where to put the program and things was really missed this time. It is fine if you do not include this if you tell this in advance to participants, so we can bring something from home. I think a simple (even from recycle material) bag, a small notebook or just few sheets of papers and a pen wouldn't harm too much the environment.

I appreciated the minimum waste approach of the conference. The glass bottles of water and water fountain, smaller conference book, food serving format, etc. Well done!

I really appreciated the effort to lower the conference's footprint via offering sober quantities and minimizing all the waste that can be produced.

Conference services

I was surprised that there were no conference assistants in the parallel sessions. This could have been quite problematic with the computers, since not so many people understand German.

A register of speaker-session information would be appreciated, though.

I had trouble using wifi in the main building.

Wifi connection didn't work. Detection of problems indicated that wifi was not properly set. There was no other wifi available, thus people at information desk were not able to do anything. I propose the next time should be at least two wifi networks available. Actually, there were several wifi networks, but staff had password only for one of them.

The additional video room for the keynotes was useless, because (a) the audio transmission broke off every 5 seconds, (b) the screen just mostly showed the presenter without the slides, the talk was impossible to follow."

EAERE meetings (AGM, Country representative meeting...)

Great to have a Country representative meeting and additional time at the General Assembly. Would be even better if, next year, we can share preparation material with all members.

Exhibitors

The exhibitors were assigned spaces on the bottom floor. Few visitors - not worth the high cost of the fee for exhibitors.

Food, water and related services

Lunch and coffee breaks were very badly organized. Queues were too long to be acceptable. Food quality was very poor and there was little if any choice.

Missed coffee at lunch.

I appreciate that the organizers did not put limits on coffee, lunches, alcohol etc.

At the grill party on Thursday there were no lactose-free food.

At the conference dinner the band was great but the food seemed a bit low quality (especially compared to the dinner last year in Helsinki).

Loved it, especially the food

I also appreciated the healthy and tasty choice of food!

Lunch must be easy and quick to serve.

Gender issue

It seems to me that the conference participants are about 40% women but yet the percentage of female plenary speakers over the last few EAERE conferences doesn't come close to that level.

Location/logistics

The Conference venue was not so easy to understand and there were missing indication to reach the room.

Rooms could have been better indicated.

The placement of information booths was completely unacceptable. They were spread out in a way that made it impossible to find relevant information. In this particular case they should of course all have been in the same hall as the registration desk.

I would have liked a better system of directions within the building, I got lost many times the first two days and it was very frustrating not to see almost any signs at all to find the rooms and the bathrooms.

The "blue shirt" team was very nice but not helpful on the directions either.

I appreciated that in a city as expensive as Zürich, the conference catering, social events and logistics minimized the need for additional expenses on food or transport.

Zurich is a nice place. ETH hospitality is very much appreciated.

Programme book

It is confusing if the conference book includes so many printing and other mistakes as in 2016.

Having a list of participants will be good.

The compact conference book used this year is great.

My other problem is that presenters in policy sessions are not included in the list of presenters. This makes it difficult to find colleagues, and I would like to suggest this is corrected next time.

Too many errors in the conference book.

Social Event

Music on Friday was very good but too loud

The music at two of the three social events – though fine by itself – was too loud. Especially at the dinner, talking and understanding the other person was hard. I expect that this is even more an issue with people who have already difficulties with understanding English in quiet surroundings.

The venue for the social event on day 2 was poor

Website / Conference programme website

Yet again, it was not possible to add keynote sessions to the "My personal programme" feature on the website.

If possible, I would appreciate if you add to the online programme the emails of the authors. It'll be much easier to contact the authors before and after the conference.

There should be some guidelines on preparing the presentation (some participants' presentation skills were very limited, despite their good papers).

21. Any other suggestions or comments you would like us to know about the Conference scientific content? (topics covered, quality of papers, etc.)

SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF THE CONFERENCE

Awards

I was a bit staggered that one of the prizes was given to a paper with researchers from Zurich. No doubt the paper is good, but it simply did not look very good, in the sense that the process looked potentially biased. This is not an accusation, just an observation about appearances.

Chairs and discussants

Overall I am in favour of eliminating the role of discussants or, at minimum, banning discussant slides. It seems to trigger an unfortunate race to the bottom/top, where every discussant feels the need to have extensive slides, yet no discussant relishes preparing these slides and the audience do not appreciate them much either. This incentive seems particularly strong among young researchers.

About "one designated discussant": I guess this is a good thing in general, but since I found the sessions quite heterogeneously mixed, I found it very difficult to see how valuable comments should be made from people not very familiar with topic or methodology. Other conference participants had the same impression. So overall, if the sessions were internally more homogeneous -- I'd especially put attention to methodological similarities -- then I'd totally agree with one designated discussant.

My opinion is that, having no discussant at various sessions is not good overall for the following reasons:

- 1.) Even though the scientific committee does its best to match papers to various sessions, it is often the case that discussant might discuss areas of research they are not familiar with. Thus, a discussant taking time to read the paper beforehand serves as a bridge between the audience and the presenter.
2. The discussant is therefore able to summarize the paper and asking few questions, which might help the presenter revised the paper and rethink about his article before submitting it to a suitable journal. In effect, it opens the floor to the audience, who might have some interesting questions or doubts they would like to clarify.

Plenary sessions

The first and third keynote speakers were excellent, the second keynote was bad, off topic and not given by an expert (as keynotes are supposed to be, in specialized conferences like EARE).

Plenary speakers should be urged to provide a broad perspective on their topic, rather than presenting a single research paper (review papers fine).

I really enjoyed Matti Liski's keynote speech which provided the kind of inspiration one expects from such interventions.

I was really disappointed by P. Perreto's presentation, which failed to take some height towards the research question and was basically a long (and somewhat boring) standard paper presentation.

Pearce session should be policy. This one was theory disguised.

I enjoyed the plenary talk by Pande but it is extremely disappointing to me that so few women are asked to be plenary speakers and that when a woman is asked, she is not an environmental or resource economist.

The keynotes should not too closely support the conference organizers own work.

The keynote sessions should be topics related to the broader direction towards environmental economics research and the issues related to climate change.

The worst case is that a keynote is conference organizers past supervisor. Luckily it did not happen this time.

Poster sessions

The poster presentations were only during the coffee breaks. I always used that time to have a coffee and talk to one of the presenters of the sessions I just went to and that way totally missed the posters. Furthermore the posters and also the exhibition were not very prominent and could easily be missed at all.

Parallel sessions

I suggest a better organization of parallel sessions. I have noticed that there were quite a few random sessions, meaning some presentations didn't fit at all in the general topic of the session. My feeling is that sessions should be centered around methodological issues, rather than around environmental issues. Take the example of decision-making under risk and uncertainty. The way I would organized risky-session is: risk and uncertainty in stated-preference, risk and uncertainty in lab and field experiment, risk and uncertainty in revealed-preferences, risk and uncertainty in macro. Also I would suggest a better check of participants who are coming or not. I was in a session where the chair didn't show up and I had to take the lead of the session out of the blue. This is unfair.

You need a better system for organizing the sessions - the papers often had very little relevance to each other. Even worse was the discussants, so many started by saying I know nothing about this field. 2 hours is long, I suggest possibly 1.5 hours with no discussants. It would be very helpful to have decisions about papers earlier, about 8 weeks out; and knowing the day of the talk within 6 weeks would be helpful as well.

Perhaps more efforts could be devoted towards ensuring the thematic (and methodological) coherence of parallel sessions. It would be good to have either sessions focusing on a very narrow theme (even though approaching it from different perspectives - theory vs. empirics) or on narrowly defined approaches (e.g. theory only). This format will increase time efficiency and facilitate participants' attendance to different sessions. Several of the sessions I attended (including the one I was presenting in) were lacking an adequate level of coherence across papers.

Please, pay more attention to how to group papers together in one session. In a lot of cases there was a least one paper that did not fit into the session!

The scientific programme clearly benefited from the redesign of the topic structure.

As usual, I found that papers on my topic - the resource curse - were scattered across sessions, and that my presentation was the odd one out in my session. I have yet to attend an EAERE conference where this is not the case, which is frustrating.

Better matching of papers and sessions would be nice.

I would have liked to have more sessions on agriculture. In some of the sessions the topics of the papers varied a lot. In some cases it seems a bit random which paper gets accepted and which not.

You need a better system for organizing the sessions - the papers often had very little relevance to each other. Even worse was the discussants, so many started by saying I know nothing about this field. 2 hours is long, I suggest possibly 1.5 hours with no discussants.

The conference covers a broad range of topics and of methodologies. There is certainly a trade-off for grouping different papers in a session, but I would prefer to have a grouping of presentations based on methodology, and less based on the topic.

Plenary should be given to the best papers published in ERE (or to the best submissions to EAERE)

I find the paper selection a bit to be like Russian roulette. I had poor papers accepted, and excellent papers rejected, and I must say that this is rather frustrating. Especially this time, in which I had a paper rejected with great policy relevance, and a sound but not super innovative methodology, I feel that it is a bit too much about the use of certain key words that are fashionable and not necessarily about paper quality.

I had a paper about forestry and I ended up in a risk uncertainty session so the discussion was rather poor. I was disappointed when the next day, in a forestry session, I attended a presentation about fishery!

Scientific Contents

In Europe, most researchers do theoretical work, but this needs to change - much theory is useless. I encourage the association to try to recruit more empirical papers.

Too many theoretical papers and ongoing work without any concrete/final results were selected and presented.

Residual session categories (e.g. with both theoretical and empirical papers) do not bring the input expected

I appreciated the fact that sessions mixed empirical and theoretical papers on one specific topic; sessions were more topic-relevant than in other conferences. However being in the position of presenting the theoretical paper in an otherwise empirical session, I found the audience not particularly engaged in both methodologies (and not only in my session). So I wonder if mixing is indeed a good strategy.

Selection process/quality of papers

The quality of papers is decreasing. The implication will be that competent scientists may not participate the EAERE meetings in the future.

The quality of papers was poorer than in previous EAERE conferences. A lot of emphasis was on risk and uncertainty which is great, but the assignment to these "risky sessions" was almost totally random.

The quality of the papers was higher, based on my personal experience, than last year's selection in Helsinki.

The quality of presentations and discussions was great.

Way too many theory papers

Overall quality could improve

I appreciate the broad range of topics and methods -- broader than the AERE meetings. Overall, the quality seemed quite good, continuing an upward trajectory. I do suggest giving up on having discussants; it's too hard to organize good matches. Rarely does the presenter get feedback that is worth giving up the time to deepen either the presentation or the broader discussion.

In past conferences I have found the quality of papers very uneven - the refereeing process was not good and many weak papers were presented (and I heard of good papers being rejected). This time I found the average quality of papers quite good. Not sure if this was random or if you did something different. But well done.

The conference would benefit from having more explicitly policy oriented sessions in the style of the policy sessions. The quality of the discussions in the parallel sessions is generally quite poor and it would probably be worth considering just opening the floor instead of having a discussant assigned to each paper. If it's possible to assign a chair to the session who can take more responsibility for managing the discussions and making sure there's a productive discussion, e.g., by assigning researchers from the conference home institution that might help in this regard.

I would be good to get any indication why papers were accepted or rejected; for a scientific society it should be standard to give at least some reason why a decision was taken and not only to inform people about whether

their paper was accepted or rejected; at the moment the procedure lacks transparency and it is in some cases not really understandable why certain papers were accepted (mainly case study without anything new, e.g.)

I find some poor papers in the conference, while some of my papers were not accepted by the conference but accepted by good journals. This gives me a feeling that the review process needs much improvement.

I want to suggest that there should be provision for quality papers to be included in the conference proceedings and possibly published in EAERE journals.

Many of the sessions I attended contained very low level papers. I was really disappointed by the quality of the papers.

I found that the presentation quality of the posters were not great. Some had excellent exciting content but failed to draw audience because of poor choice of graphics, colour schemes and overall arrangement.

The paper review process should provide feedback to the authors on the strengths and weaknesses for possible improvement.

The quality of many papers is very low. Smaller conference (200 papers) would be better.

I am concerned the review process is favoring rather applied papers using familiar methodologies uncritically. This may come from involvement of too many junior researchers in the review process. Longer abstracts proving points of originality of the work could be reviewed more quickly by senior reviewers.