

Master of Science programme Sustainability Science and Policy

Master's Open Day
Ron Cörvers | 24 March 2018



Maastricht University

Maastricht (*Mestreech*)





Fast facts

- ✓ the youngest and most international university in the Netherlands
- ✓ 16.000 students, 4.000 staff, 40.000 alumni
- ✓ one of the best young universities in the world (THE, QS)
- ✓ the only Dutch university in the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)



ICIS Master SSP



International Centre for Integrated assessment and Sustainable development (ICIS)

Research, Education & Learning for *Sustainable Development*



ICIS Kapoenstraat 2



Not all ICIS staff is in the picture



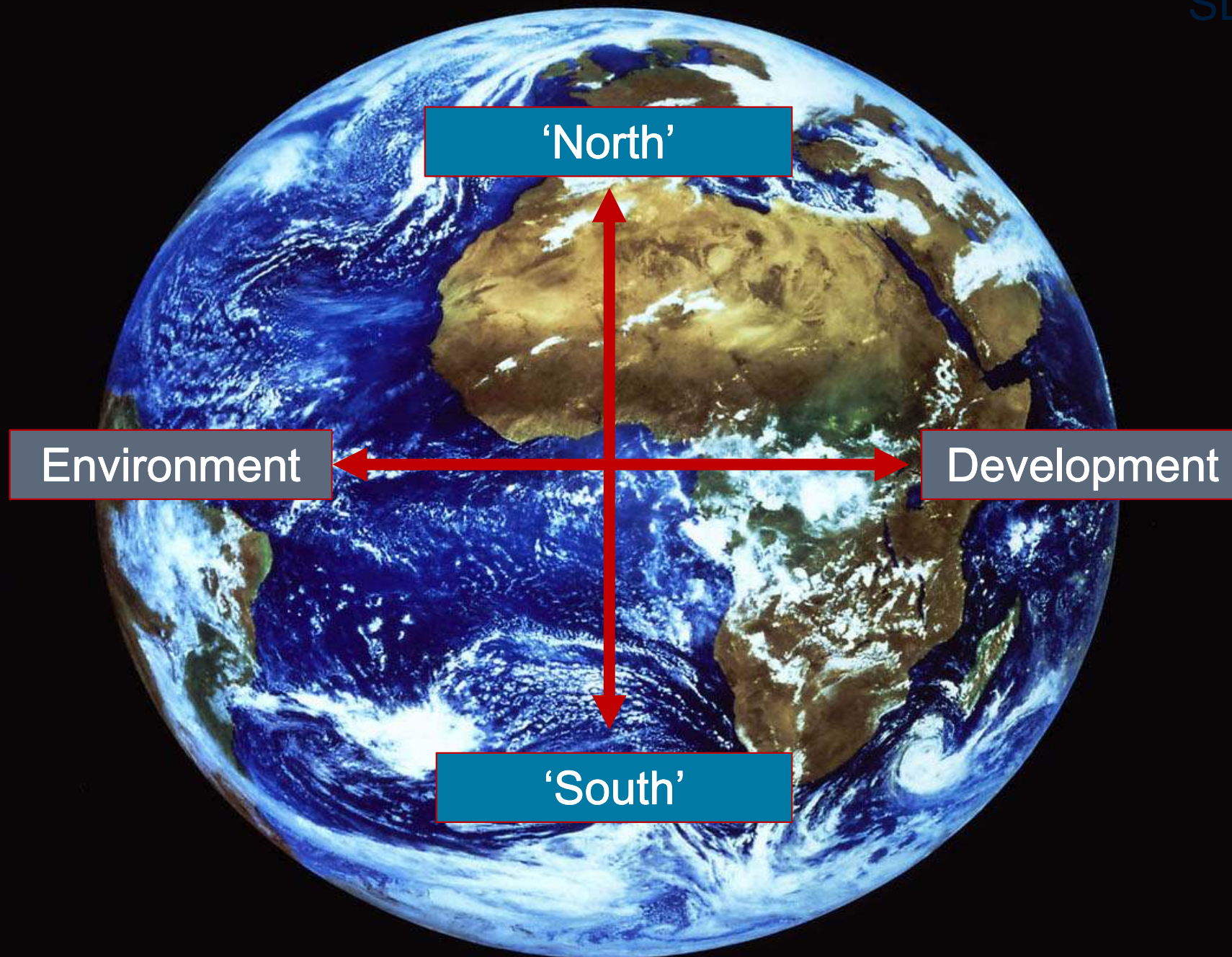


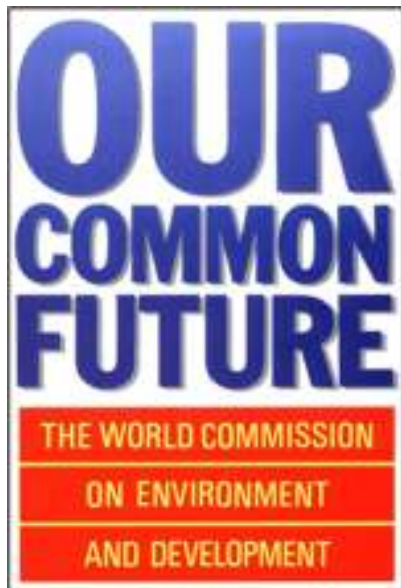


Worldwide interdependencies

- ecological interdependencies
(ecosystem services, life support systems, nature, etc.)
- economic interdependencies
(global markets, global trade, supply chains, value chains, etc.)
- political interdependencies
(nation states, EU, UN, WTO, etc.)







Sustainable development

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (WCED, 1987)

SD – ecological dimension



SD – economic dimension



SD – social dimension



SD – institutional dimension



Sustainable Development = complex & normative

=> integrative approaches



People. Planet. Prosperity.



ENVISIONING
SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Master programme Sustainability Science and Policy



- 1-year program fully taught in English
- Problem-based Learning (PBL)
- international, multidisciplinary student group
- small-scale teaching and learning
- thematic courses
- actual cases for real clients (Integrated Sustainability Project)
- on average weekly 10-12 hrs classes, 28-30 hrs group work & individual







2011



2012



2013



2014

Year	Total students	NL	Other European	Non European
2011/12	10	3	6	1
2012/13	22	6	12	4
2013/14	18	1	11	6
2014/15	13	2	7	4
2015/16	37	9	23	5
2016/17	44	8	27	9
2017/18	46	13	26	7
Total	190	42 (22%)	110 (59%)	36 (19%)



2015



2016



2017



2011



2012



2013



2014

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2015/16	37	9	23	5
2016/17	44	8	27	9
Total	145			
		Graduated	Re-registered	Stopped
Oct 2017		127 (88%)	11	7



2015

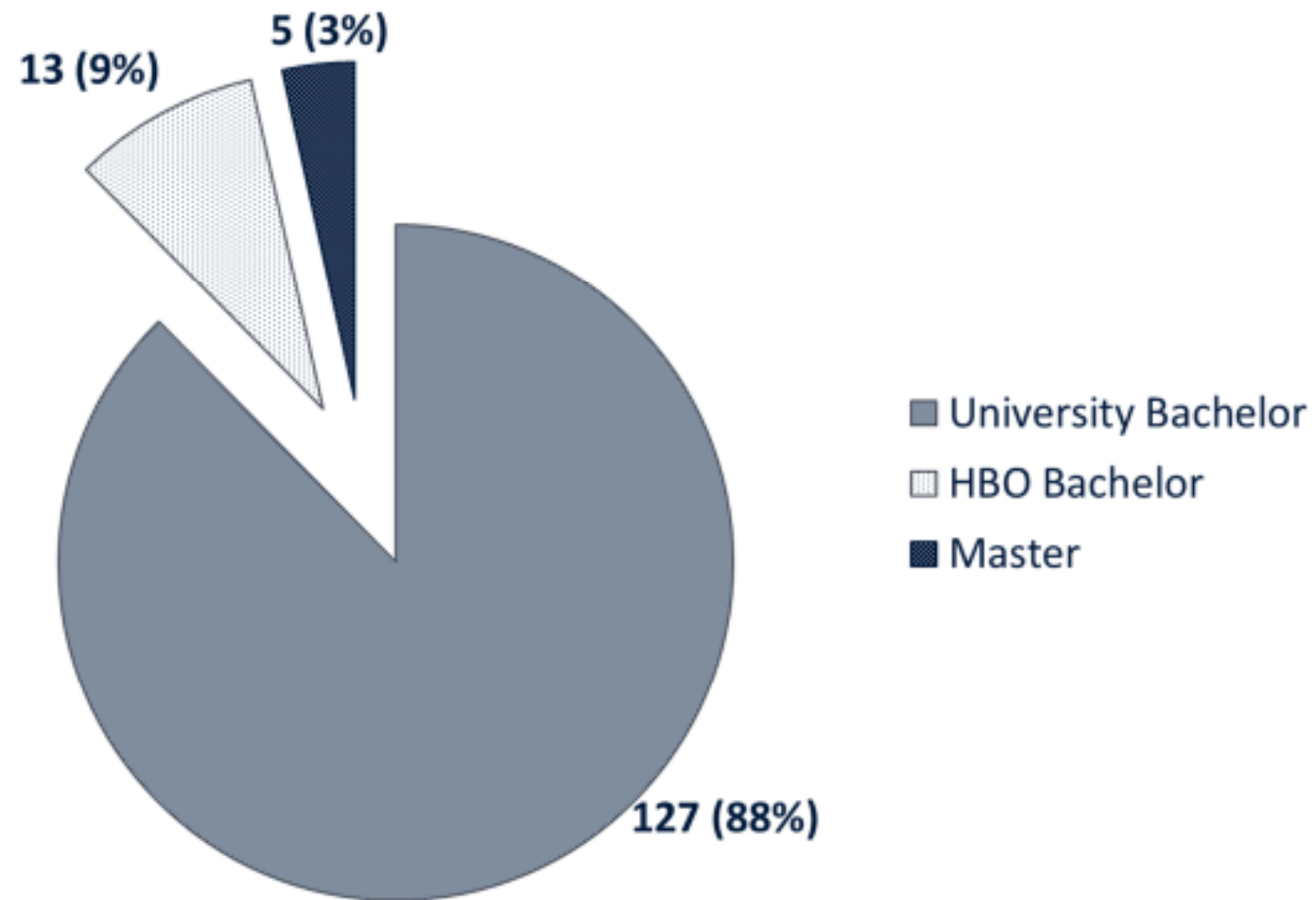


2016

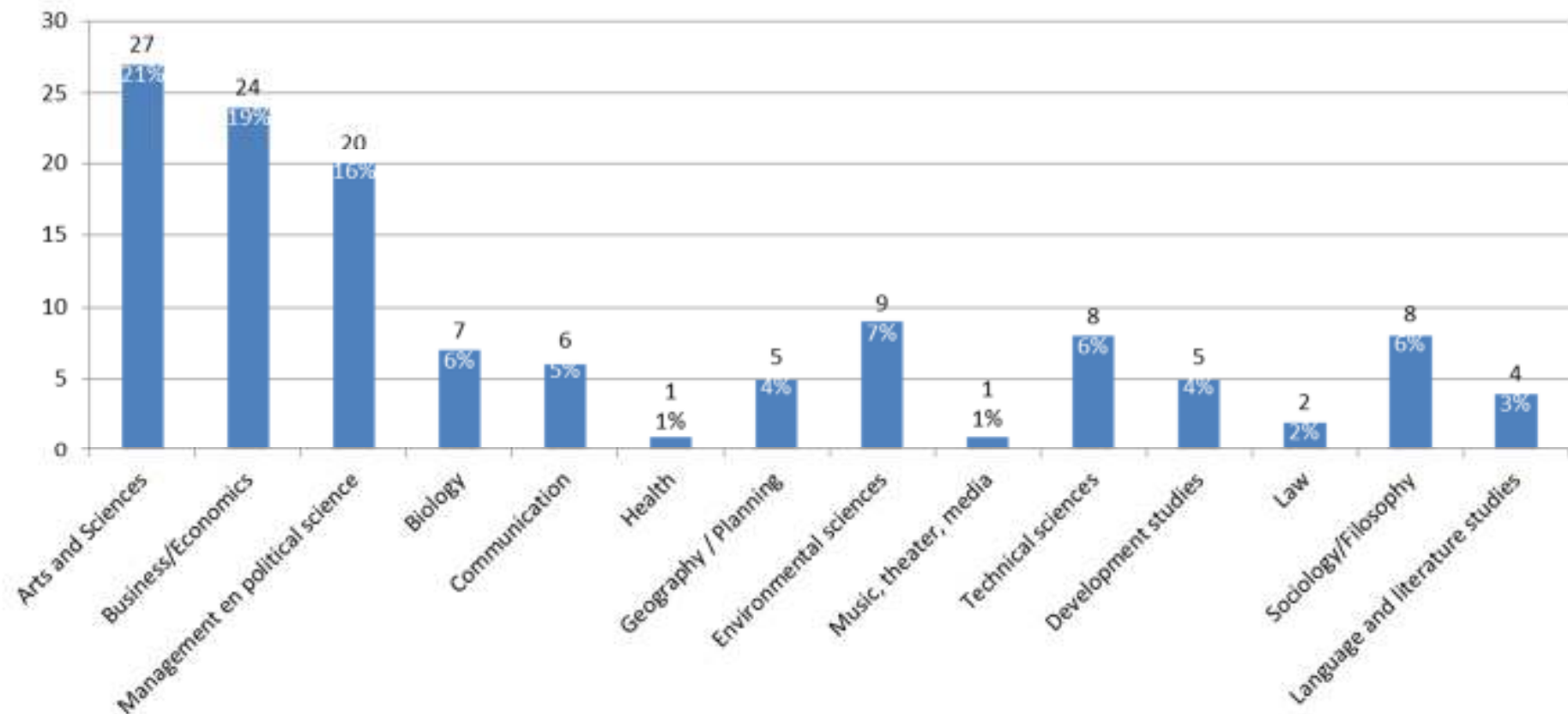


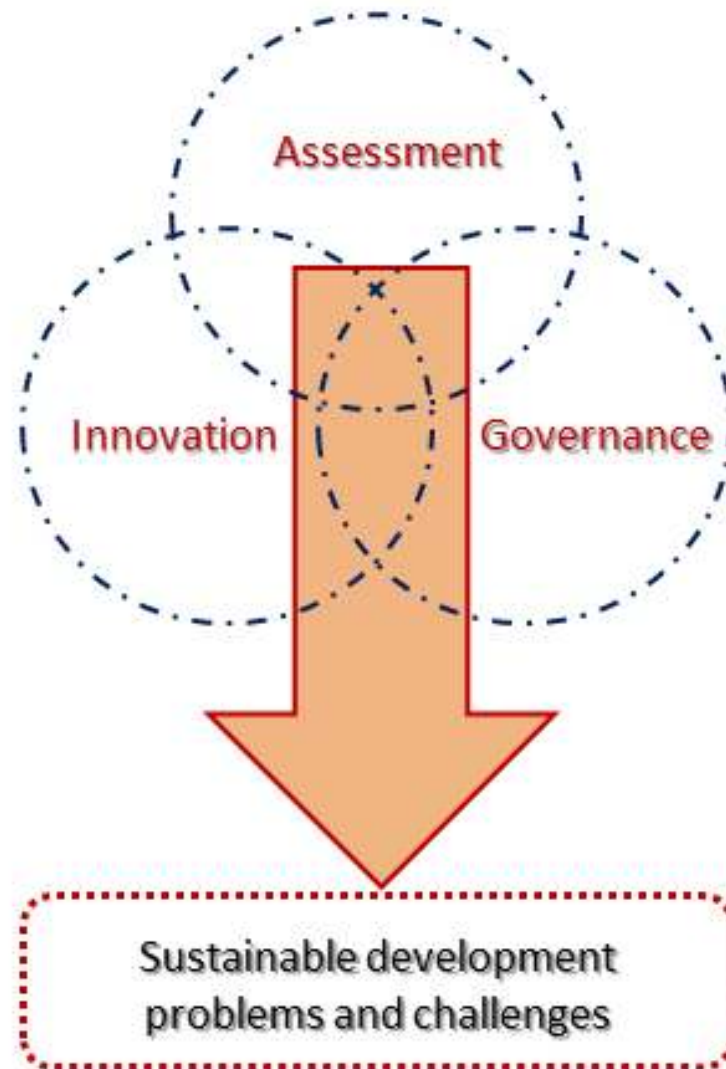
2017

Previous education Master SSP students 2011-2017 (N=145)



Education background master SSP alumni 2011-2016 (N=127)





Master programme Sustainability Science and Policy (60 ECTS)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem Based Learning & Academic skills (1)
<i>Understanding sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable Development (5)• Sustainability Science, Policy and Society (5)
<i>Policy for sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governance for Sustainable Development (5)• Sustainability, Law and the Environment (5)• Innovation for Sustainable Development (5)
<i>Assessing sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Methodology for Sustainability Assessment (5)• Sustainability Assessment Skills (4)• Integrated Sustainability Project (5)
<i>Master's thesis on sustainability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Approaches and Methods (2)• Thesis Research Proposal (3)• Master Thesis (15)

Understanding sustainability

❖ Sustainable Development

- provides an introduction into the field of study
- history and main ideas underlying sustainable development
- important theories, concepts and milestone publications regarding the complex interactions between environment and society

❖ Sustainability Science, Policy and Society

- emerging knowledge domain/discipline
- role of knowledge at the interface of science and policy
- roles of scientists
- concept of boundary work
- structuring of sustainability problems

❖ Governance for Sustainable Development

- shift from governing by government to governing as governance
- global governance, local governance, multi-level governance
- all in the context of sustainable development

❖ Sustainability, Law and the Environment

- builds on governance theory, examines role of law for sustainable environmental protection from the perspective of the government, business and victim (e.g. NGOs)
- international climate policy and law

❖ Innovation for Sustainable Development

- different forms of innovation (product, process, social)
- transitions, socio-technological transformation
- social economy initiatives, experiments and social learning

Assessing sustainability

❖ Methodology of Sustainability Assessment

- steps in sustainability assessment
- how to apply and combine different methods
- project plan for a sustainability assessment of a real-world sustainable development problem commissioned by an external client

❖ Sustainability Assessment Skills

- students practise and improve their skills in basic modelling, participatory methods, scenarios, and multi-criteria analysis

❖ Integrated Sustainability Project

- students work in small teams and conduct the assessment, which include an integrated analysis of the problem, identification and assessment of solution options, and formulation of recommendations for the client

Integrated Sustainability Project

TOPIC	YEAR	COMMISSIONED by
Energy efficiency of the UM buildings	2012	Green Office (UM)
Sustainable Housing in the South Limburg Region	2012	Province of Limburg
Moving towards Climate Neutrality in Maastricht	2013	Platform COOL
Towards a Sustainable Waste Management at UM	2013	Green Office (UM)
Sustainable River Basin Management	2013	Deltares
Philips: Roadmap for conflict-free minerals	2013	Philips NV
Car use, parking, and air quality in Maastricht	2013	Q-Park
Sustainable Tourism in Leudal	2014	Gemeente Leudal
Maastricht Accessible	2014	Maastricht Bereikbaar
Agglomeration Agriculture	2014	Province of Limburg
Repurposing Tapijnkazerne	2014	Green Office (UM)
Meat Alternatives	2015	Netherlands Nutrition Centre
Circular Economy	2015	Gemeente Maastricht
Biobased economy Leudal	2015	Gemeente Leudal

Integrated Sustainability Project

Genk Smart Grid	2016	VITO
Energy agreements	2016	SER
Award for accessibility	2016	Maastricht Bereikbaar
Maastricht Smart City?	2016	Gemeente Maastricht
Urban Nature Vision	2016	IVN-Maastricht
Sustainable river management	2016	Gemeente Maastricht
Sustainable degrowth	2016	Province of Limburg
Biobased Economy	2016	Deltares / Rijkswaterstaat

Integrated Sustainability Project

Towards animal-friendly, sustainable food in the hospitality sector of South-Limburg	2017	International Institute for Animal Ethics (IIAE)
The potential contribution of the UN Volunteers to the Sustainable Development Goals	2017	United Nations Volunteers (UNV)
Locally produced sustainable energy as a means of value creation	2017	In de Tussentijd (Consultancy)
Sustainable energy in primary schools in Maastricht	2017	Suringar School
Sustainable management of litter in Maastricht	2017	Municipality of Maastricht
Assessment of new public transport approach around Maastricht	2017	Maastricht Bereikbaar
Towards a more sustainable energy system by stimulating self-organisation	2017	SELL – Servicepunt Energie Lokaal Limburg (Servicepoint for Local Energy)
Towards a sustainable built infrastructure	2017	WML – Watermaatschappij Limburg (water company for province of Limburg)
Nature-based solutions for sustainable cities	2017	DuneWorks

Master's thesis on sustainability

❖ Research Approaches and Methods

- research traditions/ways of knowing
- research methods

❖ Thesis Research Proposal

- Thesis market (December)
- topic and supervisors
- research proposal (April 1st)

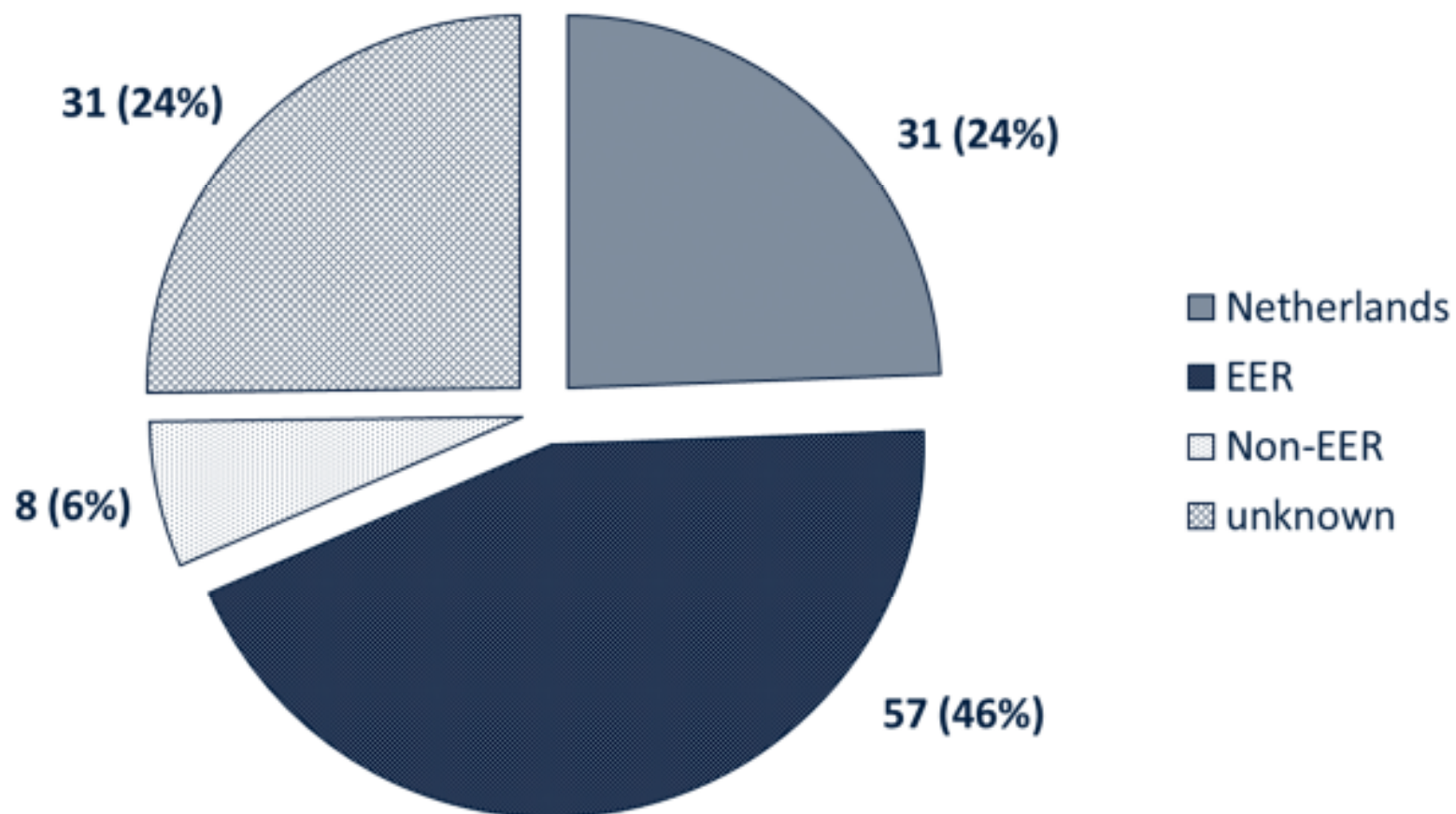
❖ Master Thesis

- research and writing (May onwards)
- presenting early July or late August

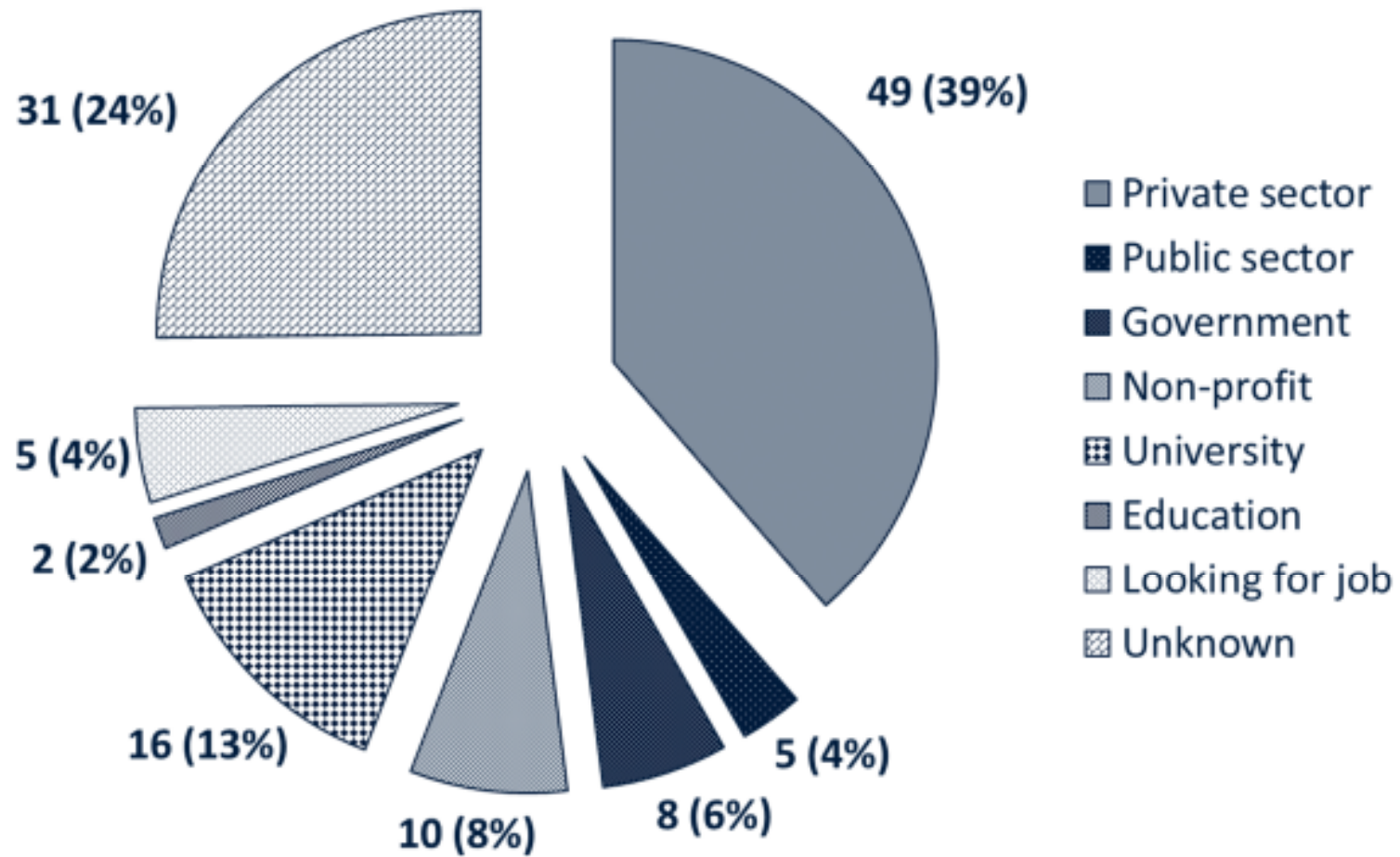
Careers SSP graduates



**Place of employment Master SSP alumni
2011-2017 (N=127)**



**Sector of employment Master SSP alumni
2011-2017 (N=127)**



SSP graduates report suitable careers as sustainability professional, e.g.

- advisor
- analyst
- consultant
- lecturer
- manager
- policymaker
- researcher
- trainer
- PhD candidate
- etc.

Examples employers

- Amnesty International
- Columbus Earth Center
- Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute Europe
- CSR Europe
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Ernst & Young
- European Environment Agency
- General Electric
- Green Trust
- KPMG
- Siemens
- Tata Consultancy Services
- Universities (Aalborg, Charleston, Maastricht, Stockholm, etc.)
- Waterleiding Maatschappij Limburg
- WWF European policy office

UM Master SSP website

<http://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/masterssp>

Introductory video



A screenshot of the Maastricht University website for the Master of Science in Sustainability Policy (MSc-SSP). The page features a dark blue navigation bar at the top with links for 'About UM', 'Research', 'Education', 'Faculties', 'Library', 'Information for', 'Contact', 'Agenda', and 'News'. Below the navigation bar is a search bar and the Maastricht University logo. The main content area is titled 'International Centre for Integrated assessment and Sustainable development' and 'Frequently Asked Questions'. A sidebar on the left contains links for 'Sustainability Science and Policy', 'Programme Information', 'Course descriptions', 'Career prospects', 'Testimonials', 'Application and admission', 'Frequently Asked Questions', and 'Contact'. The 'Frequently Asked Questions' section includes a list of questions and answers, such as 'What are the admission requirements for the MSc-SSP?' and 'What are the application deadlines?'. The page is designed with a clean, professional layout using a color palette of blue, white, and orange.

UM Master SSP website

<http://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/masterssp>

Thank you for your attention!

QUESTIONS?

