



Results from SCOR ECS Survey

Dr. Kai Deng (邓凯)

ECS member on the SCOR Executive Committee

State Key Laboratory of Marine Geology, Tongji University (China)

Outline



Aim of the SCOR ECS Survey



A brief summary on the respondents



Summary on key survey results



Conclusions and recommendations

Aim of the SCOR ECS Survey

Survey title: Perception by Early-Career Scientists on the Scientific Committee on oceanic Research(SCOR)

Collection period: April to October, 2025

Perception by Early-Career Scientists on the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. This survey aims to understand early career ocean professionals' (ECOPs; used interchangeably with "early-career scientist") familiarity with the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and explore how SCOR can better support ECOPs.

This survey would take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Brief introduction of Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR): SCOR, the first interdisciplinary body established by the International Council for Science (ICSU, now the International Science Council) in 1957, is an international non-governmental, non-profit organisation that promotes international cooperation in planning and conducting oceanographic research, solving methodological and conceptual problems, and setting scientific priorities for ocean science. SCOR covers all areas of ocean science and collaborates with other organisations with shared interests to conduct many SCOR activities. Scientists from thirty-two nations have formed national SCOR committees, which serves as the foundation for international SCOR. Currently, around 600 scientists from nearly 60 countries participate in SCOR activities.

Aim of the SCOR ECS Survey

- 1) To **reach a broader range of ECS** within and beyond the current SCOR network, and help identify the most effective channels for engaging with ECS.
- 2) To explore how to **better serve oceanic research needs** of the ECS community, and help prioritize our role in supporting the next generation of ocean scientists.

2 July 2025

Input Requested from Early-Career Scientists

SCOR is conducting an online questionnaire/survey for early career scientists (ECS), defined as students and those less than 10 years since their last degree. This survey aims to reach a broader range of ECS within and beyond the current

A brief summary on the respondents

Country of residence

Responses

330

Countries & regions

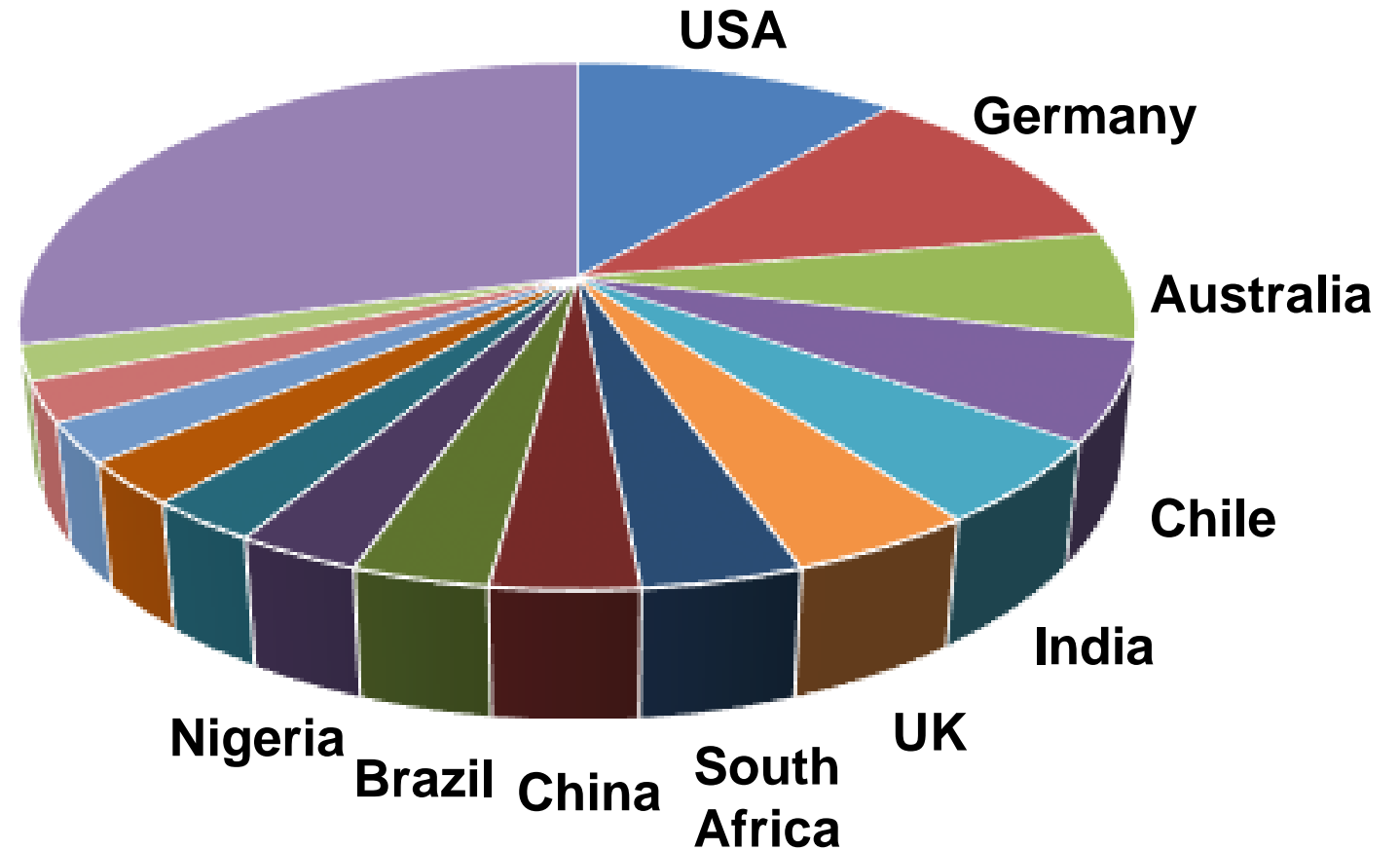
58

Top 3 nations

USA

Germany

Australia

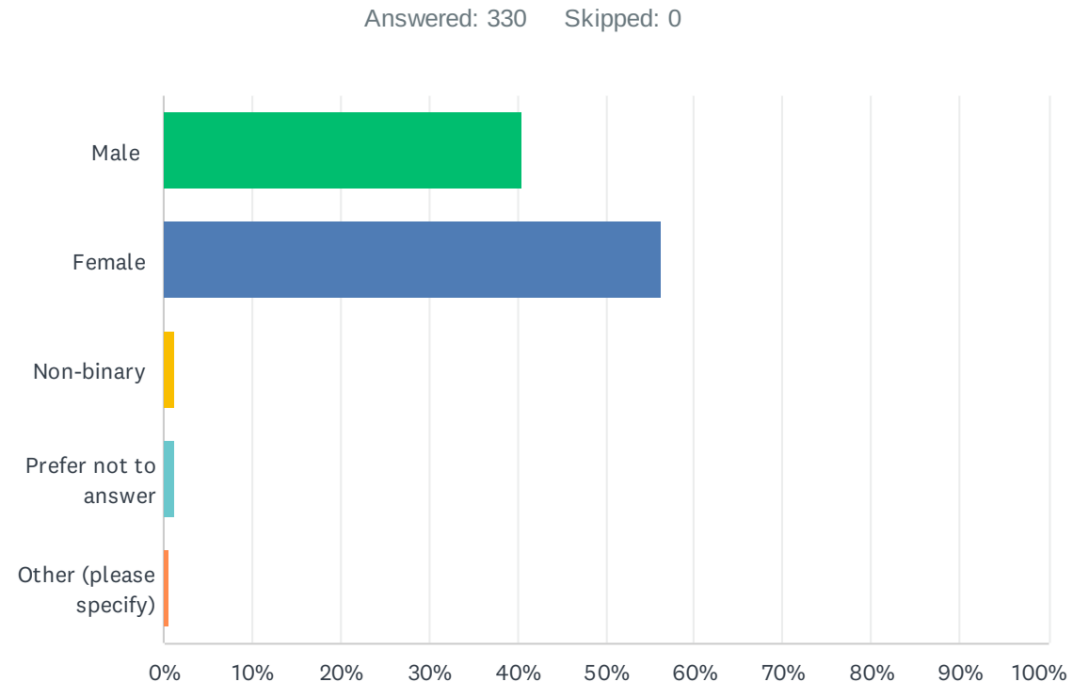


A relatively good balance in the distribution of countries!

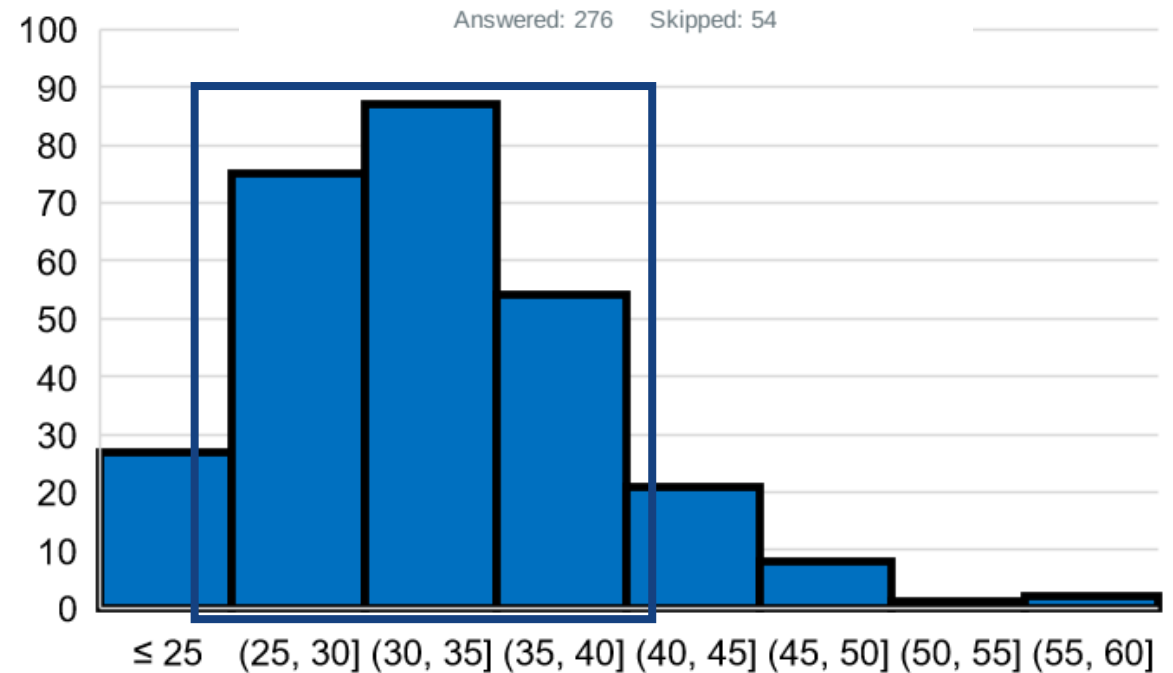
A brief summary on the respondents

Gender & age

Q5 How do you identify your gender?



Q6 How old are you now? (optional)



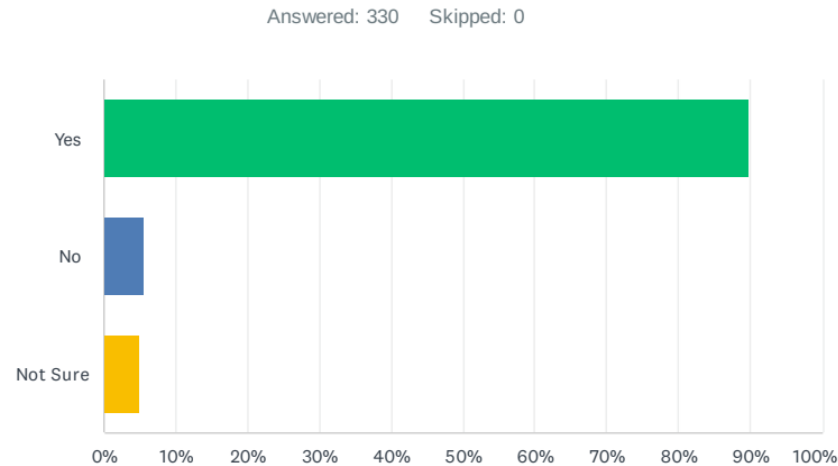
Female > Male
A relatively good gender balance!

Mostly concentrated within the age window of 25-40

A brief summary on the respondents

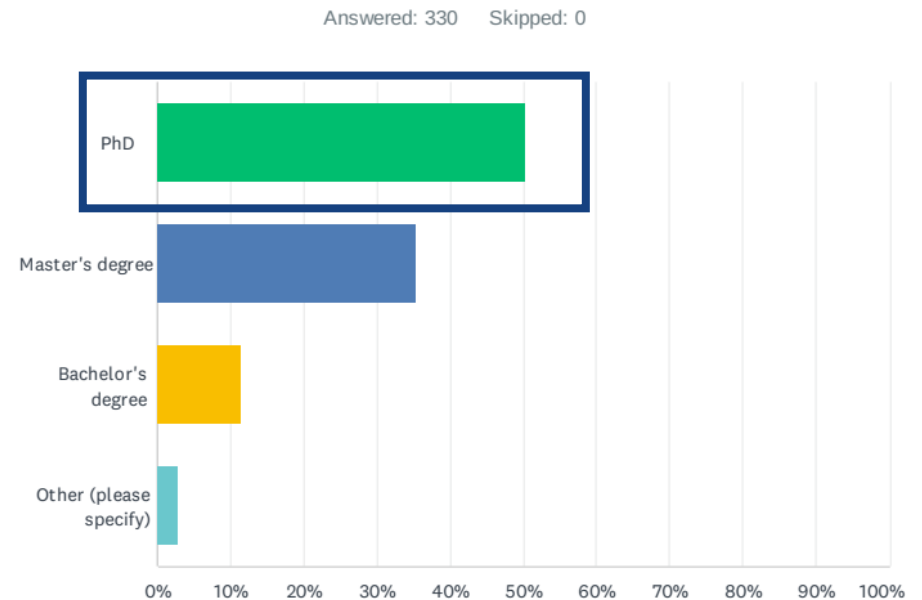
Career stage

Q7 Do you consider yourself a student or early career ocean professional (ECOP)? An ECOP is a person that self-identifies as being early in their career, within 10 years or less of professional experience in any field related to the ocean.



~90% of respondents consider themselves as ECS

Q8 What is the highest level of education you have completed?



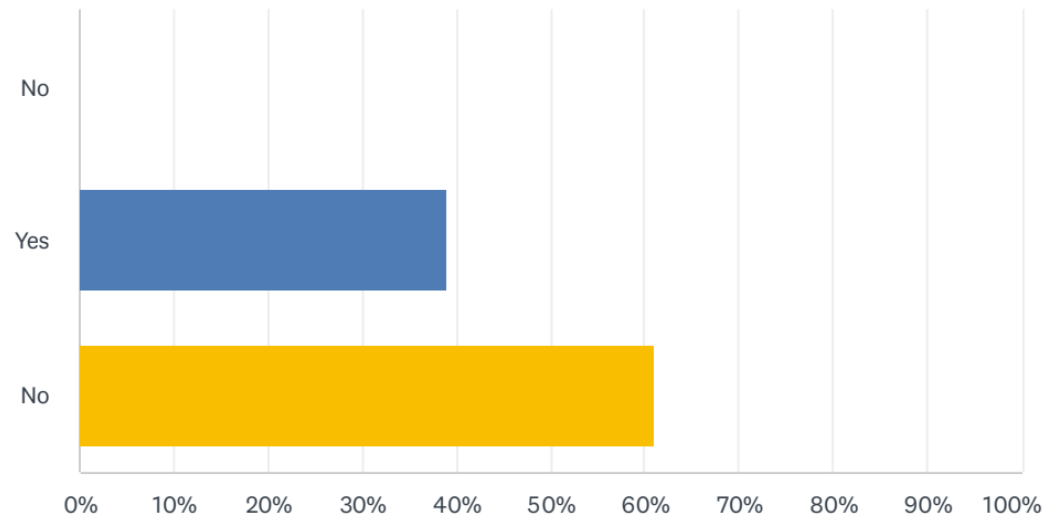
~50% of respondents have PhD degree

Summary on key survey results

Connections with ECS networks

Q11 Are you part of any early-career scientist networks, e.g. UN Ocean Decade endorsed ECOP Programme, APECS, IAPSOECS, ECS committees of SCOR activities, etc. ?

Answered: 330 Skipped: 0

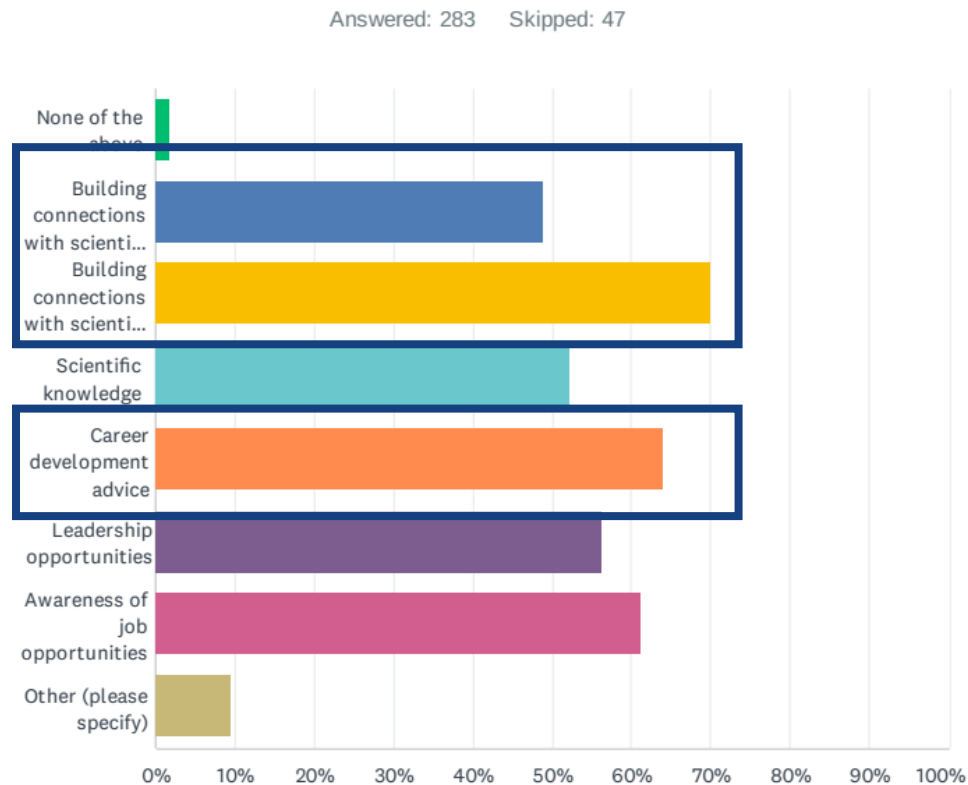


Most ECS did not join in any ECS networks

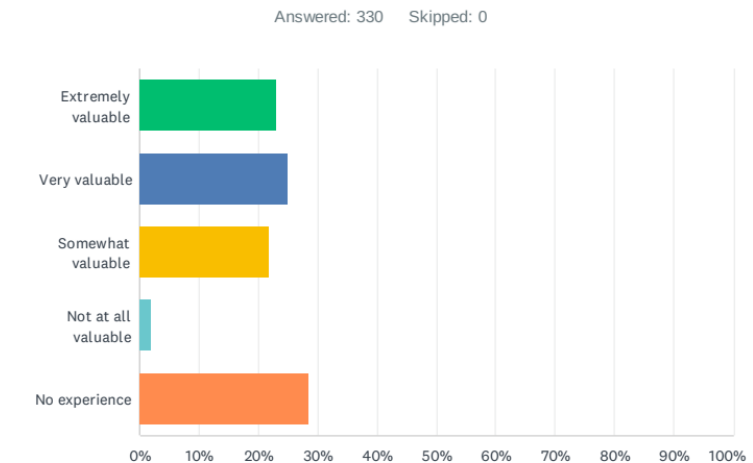
Summary on key survey results

Connections with ECS networks

Q14 What career benefits would you like to obtain from membership in an early-career network that have not been met?



Q15 What is your overall experience with early-career scientist networks?



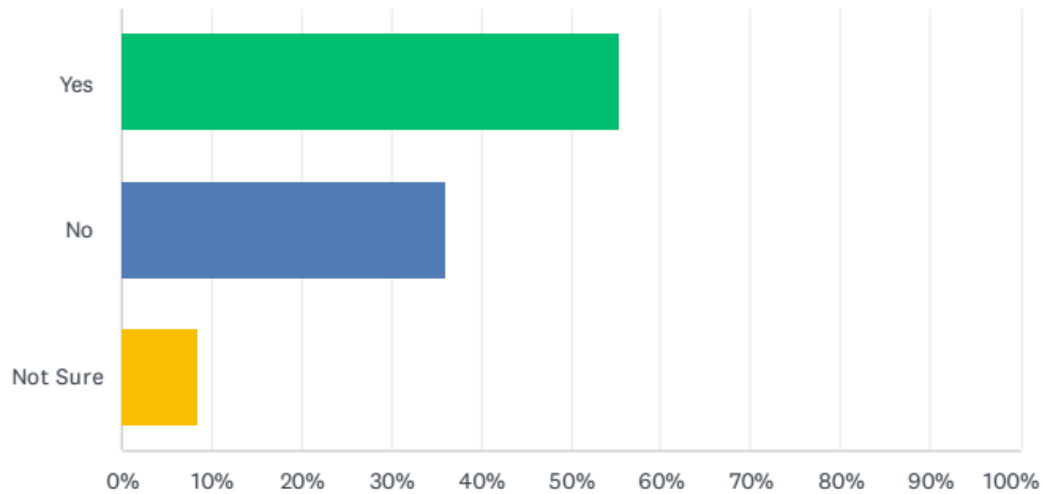
Building connections and career development advice are the main career benefits, but other benefits are also appreciated.

Summary on key survey results

Connections with SCOR

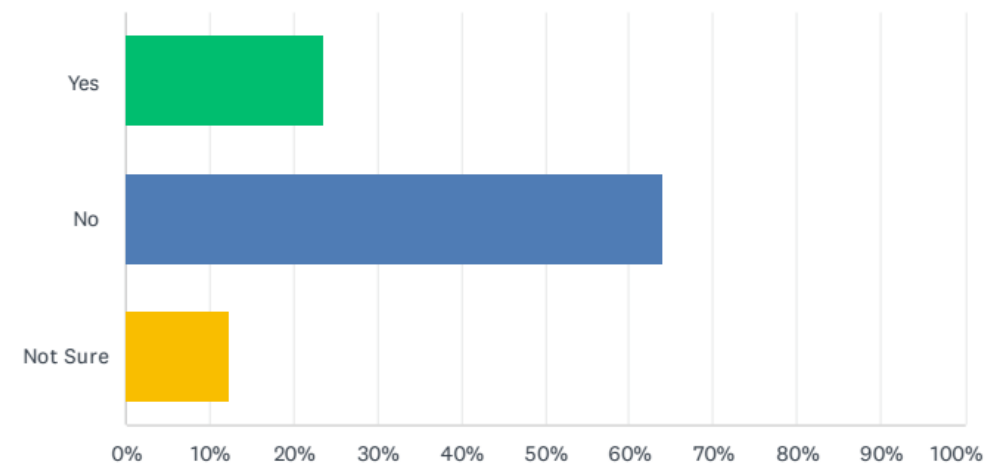
Q16 Have you heard of SCOR?

Answered: 330 Skipped: 0



Q17 If yes, are you aware of a SCOR National Committee in your country of residence? [National SCOR Committee list here](#)

Answered: 266 Skipped: 64

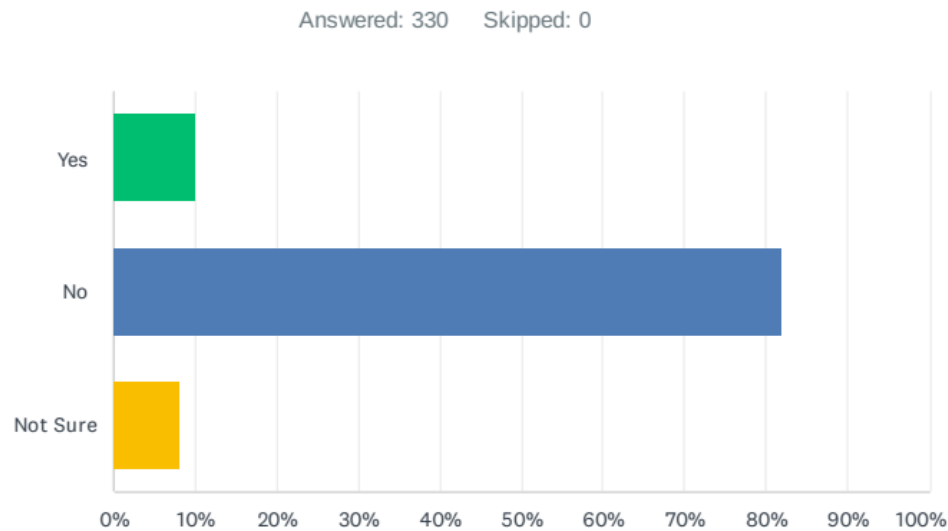


Even though >50% of respondents heard of SCOR, but most of them are not aware of its national committee. **More outreach activities are needed!**

Summary on key survey results

Connections with SCOR

Q18 Are you currently involved or have you previously been involved in any SCOR activities?



Q19 If yes, please indicate the name of the activities e.g., working groups, large-scale research projects, infrastructural projects, etc. (Optional)



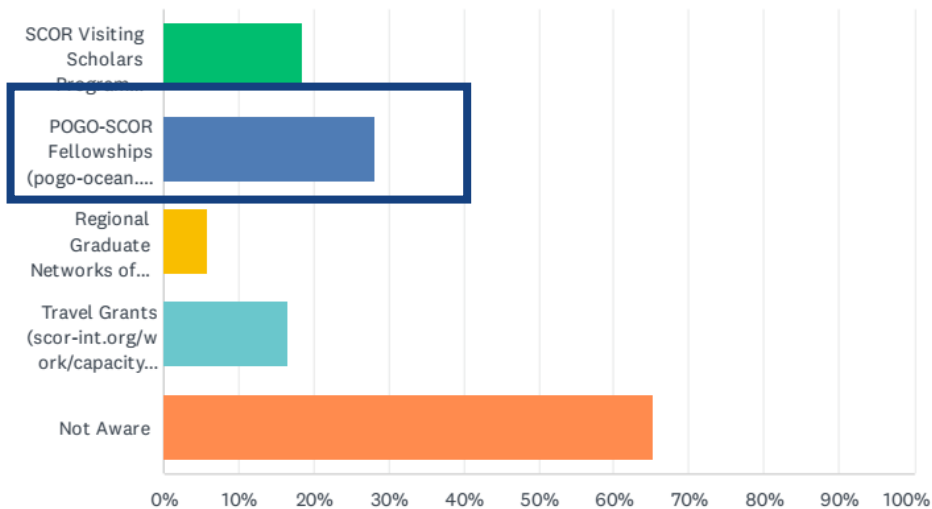
Even though >50% of respondents hear of SCOR, but most of them are not involved in its activities. **More outreach activities are needed!**

Summary on key survey results

Connections with SCOR

Q20 Are you aware of the following SCOR-supported programmes?
Please check all that apply.

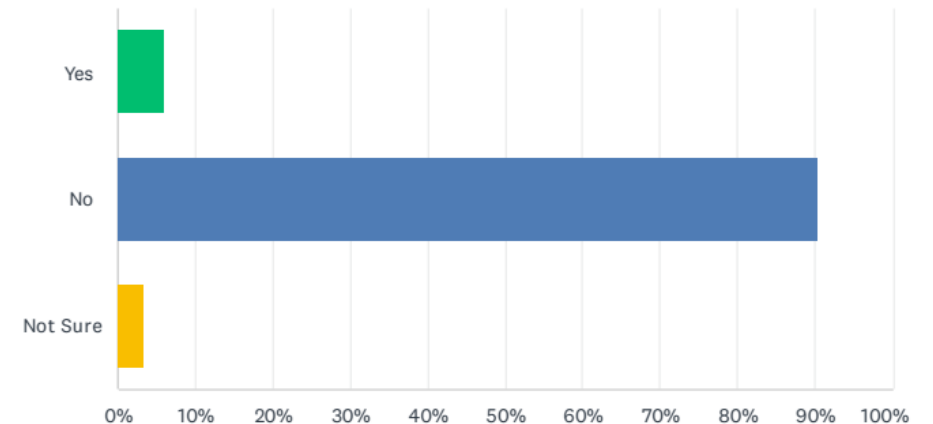
Answered: 330 Skipped: 0



POGO-SCOR Fellowship is the most known program.

Q21 Have you ever been a recipient of SCOR travel support (scor-int.org/work/capacity/travel-grants/)?

Answered: 314 Skipped: 16

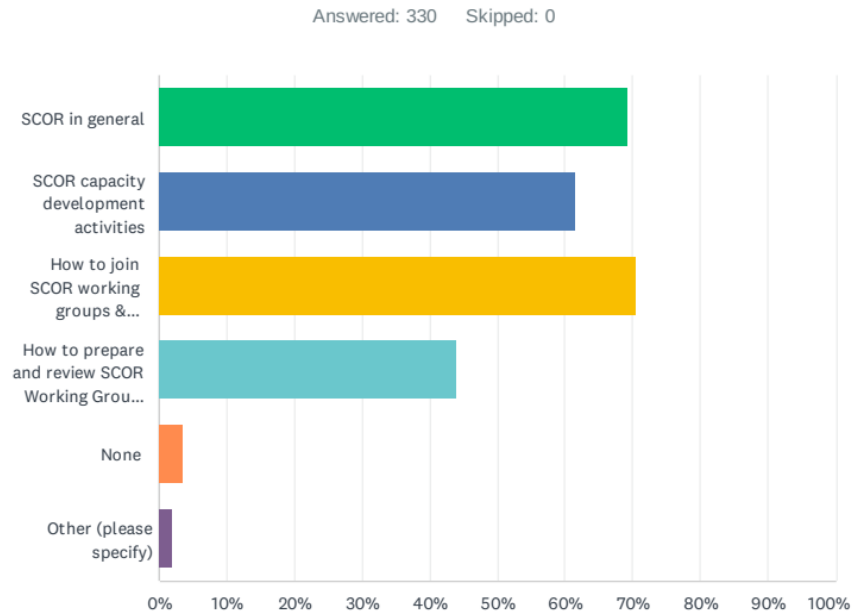


Most respondents have never received SCOR travel support.

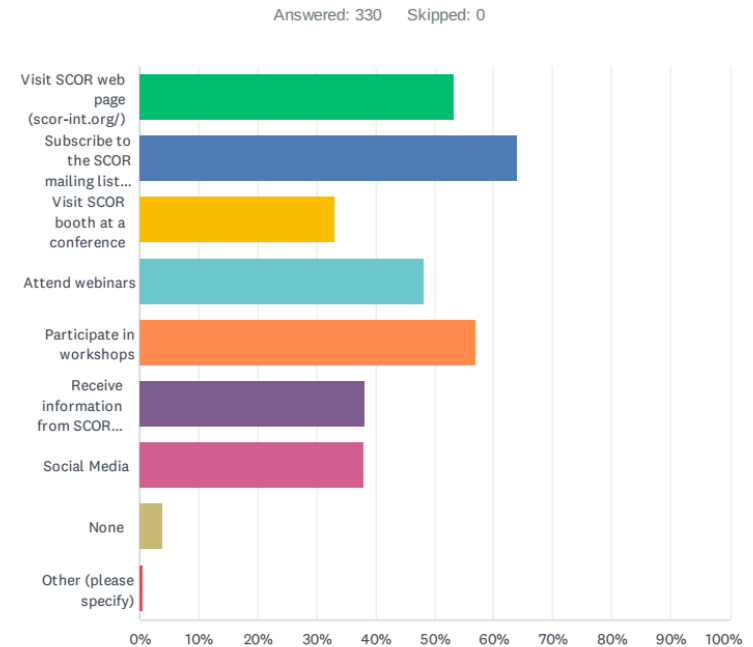
Summary on key survey results

Suggestions to SCOR

Q22 Which of the following SCOR activities would you like to learn more about, if any? Please check all that apply.



Q23 Which is your preferred platform for learning about SCOR activities? Please check all that apply.



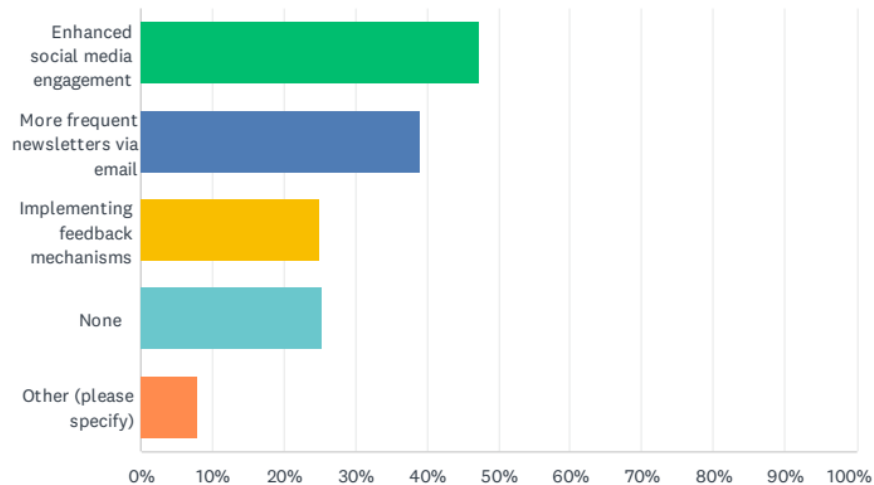
Respondents are interested in all SCOR-related activities and in all platforms to receive the related information

Summary on key survey results

Suggestions to SCOR

Q24 Do you have any suggestions for SCOR to improve communication with Early-Career Scientists?

Answered: 330 Skipped: 0



- **Enhanced social media engagement (47%)**
- More frequent newsletters via email (39%)
- Implementing feedback mechanisms (25%)

Summary on key survey results

Other suggestions

- **Utilize** social media platforms (LinkedIn, Instagram, Slack, Facebook) more intensively for advertising grants and job opportunities.
- **Ensure** SCOR-funded projects actively promote SCOR.
- **Establish** special booths at conferences/workshops.
- **Liaise** with or partner-up existing ECS groups.
- **Implement** a formal mentor/mentee program.
-

Conclusions and recommendations

Our survey reached a broad sample of ECS across nation, gender, and discipline (**N = 330**). The key conclusions are:

- While most ECS have heard of SCOR, they are largely unaware of and **have not participated in any SCOR-related activities**.
- ECS are interested in **building professional connections and receiving career development advice** through an ECS network.

To reach a broader range of ECS, we recommend the following actions:

1. Increase awareness of our media channels (e.g., X, mailing list) by encouraging members to **include QR codes in their presentations and email signatures**.
2. **Explain SCOR-related activities** on social media platforms periodically.
3. Encourage SCOR **national committees to be more proactive in reaching local ECS** by creating/utilizing accounts on these media channels.



Thank you for your attention!

Kai Deng (邓凯)

<https://scor-int.org/>