



european
council for an
energy efficient
economy

ecee 2013 Summer Study evaluation

Event report, key figures and results from the participant evaluation

ecee 2013 Summer Study on energy efficiency
Rethink, Renew, Restart

3–8 June 2013

Club Belambra Les Criques, Presqu'île de Giens, Toulon/Hyères, France

<http://www.ecee.org/summerstudy>

<http://proceedings.ecee.org/>

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Summary:

Excellent ratings and participant numbers reaching all time high

The 2013 issue of the Summer Study was entitled *Rethink, Renew, Restart*. The Summer Study – the 11th since 1993 – reinforced the position of the conference as Europe’s premier event for information exchange and networking on energy efficiency. At the Summer Study, the energy efficiency policy of tomorrow is formulated.

The 2013 edition of the eceee Summer Study was held at Presqu’île de Giens near Hyères in Southern France 3–8 June. This year’s event attracted over 450 participants who spent five intense days listening to presentations and debating them, setting up and participating in informal sessions, solutions workshops, plenaries and around the clock networking.

The evaluation results are based on the answers of 340 people (75 % of the conference participants) in the online evaluation tool. Quotes are from participant evaluations.

The conference itself received a very good rating of 4,4. (The average rating of a number of parameters in previous years has resulted in a total of around 4,0.).

“This is the only place where you can find energy efficiency people from all the different worlds (industry, consultancies, universities, etc.) and fields (engineering, social sciences, economy, finance, lobbying, etc.). And the organisation of the conference makes it the best place for real exchanges between everybody. When you come back home after the conference, you get enough new ideas to work on for the two years before the next one!”

“Excellent quality. Probably one of the best energy-efficiency events I ever attended.”

The value-for-money rating reached an all-time high 4,1 rating.

“Best value for money that I know”

The Summer Study is a hotspot for international collaboration

“It was and is a great place to stay in touch with colleagues from around Europe and increasingly also other parts of the world, and a good opportunity to learn more about their work.”

The Summer Study is an excellent event for networking and starting international collaborations. Of the respondents in the participant evaluation;

- 95 % said they made new contacts, which will be useful in their professional life.
- 97 % said they learned something new, which will be useful in their work.
- 72 % said they made new contacts, which they believe will result in new international collaboration.

“At the moment we are writing a bid for a Danish tender together with a British contact I got at eceee.”

“It is the most valuable event for sharing information internationally on the Energy Efficiency Calendar.”

Some countries dominate in presence but more countries involved

With participants from 35 countries, 2013 reached a new high (28, 33 and 29 countries in 2007, 2009 and 2011 respectively).

Although the number of participants keeps increasing, the distribution among countries remains uneven. The seven biggest countries in terms of participation in 2013 were UK (74), Germany (62), Belgium (49), France (48), Sweden (41), USA (36), and Denmark (25). In total, these seven countries represent almost 75% of all participants. There are a number of particularly noteworthy developments. Four years ago, the number of Belgian

participants were only a bit more than a quarter of the number we see today. Thus, the Brussels energy efficiency community has really found its way to the Summer Study, and this is a very encouraging. The UK number of participants dipped deeply down from 45 participants in 2007 to 20 participants in 2009, and has since bounced back and beyond to a staggering 74 participants. On the other hand, the number of participants from the Netherlands have been halved since 2007.

Non-European participants are growing and now make up a little more than 15 % of the total (compared to 10% in 2011). Southern and Eastern European participants make up about five percent of the total, still very low. The affiliation of participants represents a good mix of researchers, practitioners, private sector, energy agencies and NGOs.

The 2013 Summer Study attracted many first time visitors. 52 % of the attendees took part in the event for the first time (compared to 59 % in 2011 and 44 % in 2009).

Competition to get a paper accepted tougher than ever

After having grown by about 25% for each event, the number of submitted abstracts only increased slightly in 2013. 239 final peer-reviewed papers were published in the proceedings based on 519 submitted abstracts. The competition to get a paper published is thus very hard with only a little more than 40% of all submitted abstracts making it all the way to a final paper.

All papers are available at proceedings.eceee.org and plenary presentations are available at eceee.org/summerstudy.

Panels and poster sessions, plenaries

The Summer Study's charm – and strength – is the mix of various kinds of sessions.

Panel sessions where peer-reviewed papers are presented constitute the back-bone of eceee. These sessions received an average general rating of 4.1. They are the most appreciated contents-related feature after the proceedings (average rating of 4.3) – just as in the two previous Summer Studies.

Participants' attendance at the poster session was as usual quite high – almost 80 % of the respondents attended it. The average rating was high – 4.0 for the poster session as a whole and 3.9 for the quality of the posters. Many respondents commented that there were many interesting posters and that they really appreciate the opportunity to walk around among them and discuss projects and studies with the authors.

“I was very surprised by the outcome of this kind of presentation. I think loads of information was exchanged. People could ask questions on their specific interest - easier than in the panel discussions. Clever idea to place the event outside.”

Plenaries received one of the higher ratings since the start of the Summer Study. Tuesday's plenary on policy, technology and behaviour featuring Nick Eyre and Amory Lovins got a high rating of 4.2.

Informals and solutions workshops

Many of the informal sessions seem to have been very useful and inspiring for the respondents. More than 40 informal sessions were arranged, which is a record, and almost 90 % of the respondents attended at least one session. They were very popular – among both session organisers and participants – with an average rating of 4.0

“The informal sessions were very interactive and inspiring! I can recall that during one discussion, I found a different approach on an issue at home, just by listening to people's experience and viewpoints!”

Solutions workshops were introduced at this year's Summer Study. These workshops were arranged by eceee and/or conference partners as topical events or presentations and



discussions of projects etc. The overall rating of the solutions workshops was 4.0, whereas the individual ratings of workshops range from 3.5 to 4.1.

The respondents thought it was quite good that partners could arrange a solution workshop and be visible at the Summer Study.

The specific workshops were generally regarded as interesting and well prepared. Some of them were considered a bit too general and respondents thought that a few of the presentations could have been shorter and allowed for more discussion.

High ratings for content and organisation

The content of the conference continues to receive consistently high ratings: proceedings on average received a 4,3 rating whereas the flash drive was rated 4,7. The panel sessions kept a high 4,1 rating (4,2 in 2011), the poster session's rating jumped up to 4,0 (from 3,6 in 2011), informal sessions up to 4,0 (3,9 in 2011). The Graffiti was rated slightly lower this year but still has a high 4,2 rating. The plenary session's rating keeps improving. This year, they reached 3,8, compared to 3,6 in 2011 and just 3,0 in 2009.

eeeee is also pleased to see that the organisational aspects of the conference are well received. The pre-conference registration and paper submissions process received high average ratings. The paper submission system received a rating of 4,4 whereas the support from the secretariat saw a soaring 4,7 rating. The registration process received a very high 4,6 rating and the new online payment system reached a 4.5 rating.

The venue keeps on being highly appreciated by conference participants, although the location close to Toulon still presents logistical challenges to both participants and organisers.

Annex: The evaluation in detail

About the evaluation by the participants

The evaluation results are based on the answers of 340 people (75 % of the conference participants) in the online evaluation tool. Respondents were asked to rate a large number of topics from 1 to 5 (5 being the highest rating) by ticking one option only, whereas a few questions simply had the answers “yes”, “no” and “don’t know”/“did not attend”. They could also write additional comments on every topic.

The three questions on professional usefulness were asked in September and were only answered by 241 participants (53% of all participants).

Global assessment of the event

For the first time, participants in 2013 were asked to provide a global rating of the event. The global rating came out very high, with participants rating the event 4,4 on a 1-to-5 scale.

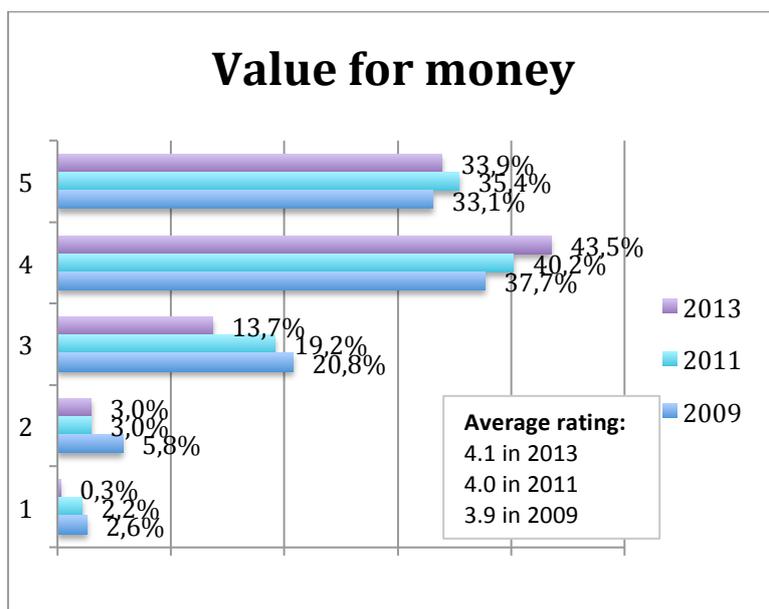
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Proceedings (usefulness/quality)	4,1	4,5	4,4	4,5	4,4	4,3
Quality of papers						4,1
Flash drive						4,7
Abstracts book						4,3
Panel sessions	4,3	4,2	4,4	4,2	4,2	4,1
Poster session (general)	3,5	3,3	3,5	3,4	3,6	4,0
Quality of posters						3,9
Plenaries	3,0	3,4	3,8	3,0	3,5	3,8
Informal sessions	3,7	3,9	3,9	3,9	3,8	4,0
Graffiti	4,3	4,4	4,3	4,2	4,4	4,2
General organisation	4,5	3,9	4,6	4,4	4,6	n/a
Communication before event						4,6
Registration process	4,2	4,0	4,3	4,0	4,2	4,6
Payment process						4,5
On-site organisation	4,5	4,4	4,4	4,3	4,5	4,6
Paper process	4,3	4,4	4,0	4,4	4,2	n/a
Submission system						4,4
Support from eceee secretariat						4,7
The review process						4,3
Accommodation	3,6	4,4	3,5	3,1	4,4	4,2
Meals	3,8	4,2	3,5	3,5	4,0	4,2
Value for money	4,0	4,0	4,0	3,9	4,0	4,1
Total rating*	4,0	4,1	4,0	3,9	4,1	4,4

* The total rating is the average of the different ratings above until 2011. From 2013 the total rating was asked as a specific question.

Value for money

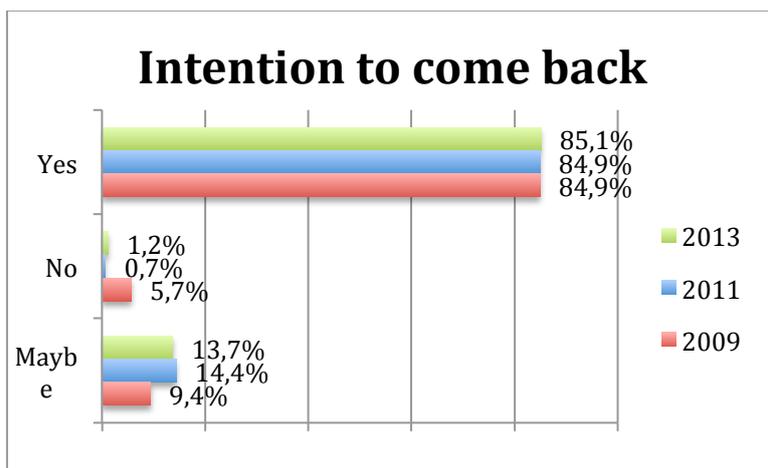
77 % of the respondents give the value for money (Summer Study as a whole in relation to the fee) a 4 or 5 rating. The average rating (as well as the proportion of respondents who has given a 4 or 5 rating) has steadily increased over the last few years.

The price is still an issue for several categories of participants, though. Even if the value for money is regarded as good, and the conference is regarded as an excellent training opportunity for young people, quite many respondents commented that the fee is rather at the top end of affordability. Especially participants from NGOs and Eastern and non-European states wrote that it is too expensive for them. Several students, people from small businesses and independent consultants also noted that they had problems with the fees (especially in combination with high travel costs).



Intention to come back

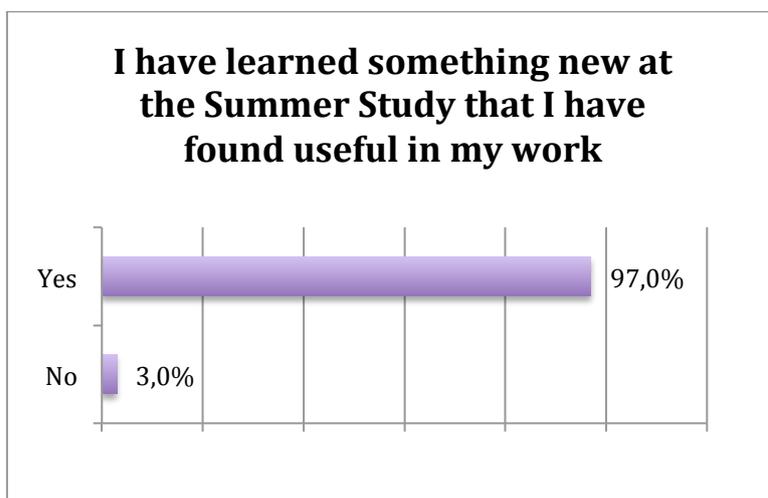
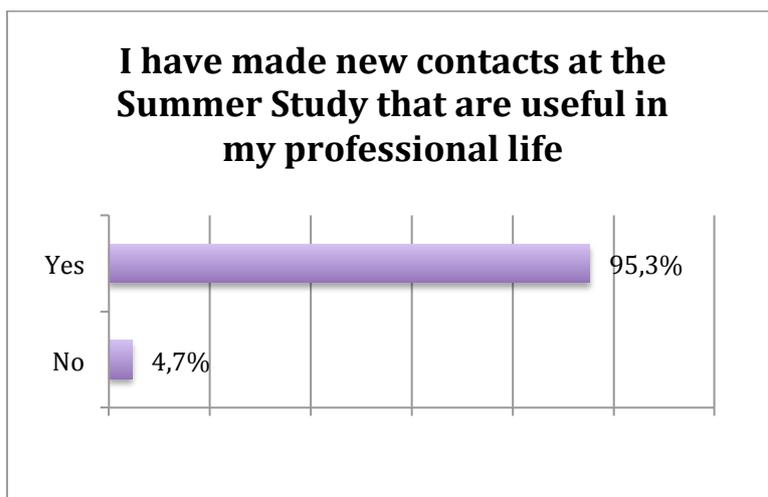
When asked about their intention to come back to future ecee Summer Studies, 85 % of the respondents answered “yes”, which is the same share as last time. Only four people said they would not return. None of them gave any specific reasons, but from the comments it seems as two of these people think the content of the Summer Study did not really match their fields of work, and the other two still gave high ratings for the different parts of the conference, so they might simply be changing jobs or retire soon.

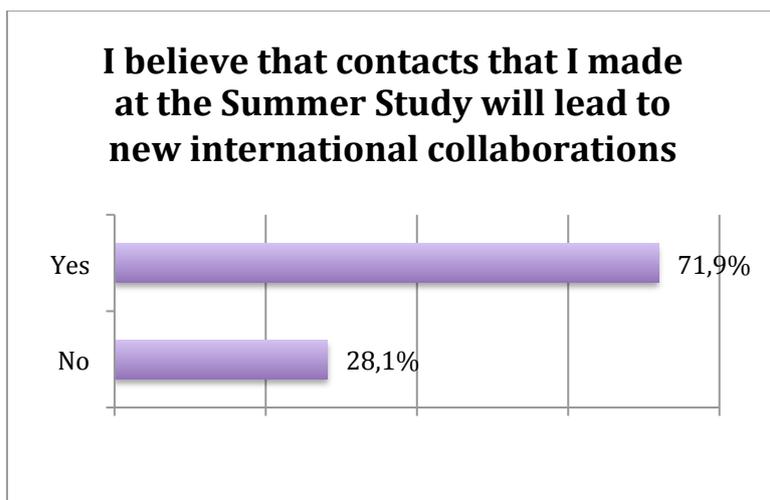


Those who were unsure if they would come back mostly commented that the uncertainty depended on budget/funding issues, internal organisational issues and uncertainty if they would remain in the energy efficiency area.

Professional usefulness and international collaborations

Additional questions were sent out in September to ask three simple questions about professional usefulness and international cooperation. 53% of participants responded to the question. Overall, the event is seen as extremely useful for participants.





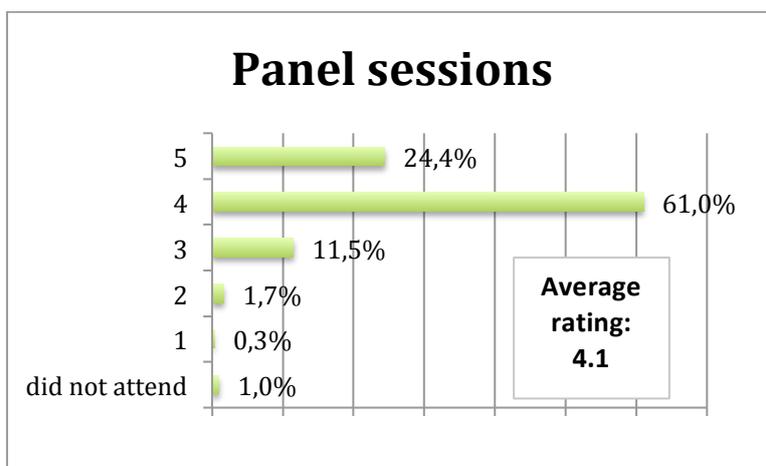
The scientific and policy content part of the conference

The scientific and policy part of the conference has several elements: Panel and poster sessions, with presentations of peer-reviewed papers; the proceedings where all the papers are published; informal sessions, where participants can set up an impromptu session on any topic they want; the evening plenaries with invited speakers and a final plenary where panel leaders report back; and finally solutions workshops where a sponsor or a project holds a topical event or discussion.

Participants' rating of the panel sessions

Panel sessions, the heart of the Summer Study, run for four days in the morning, with three papers before the coffee break and three papers after the coffee break. Eight panels were run in parallel (or nine if taken into account that the buildings panel was split into two panels).

Panel sessions received an average general rating of 4.1. They are the most appreciated feature after the proceedings (average rating of 4.3) – just as in the two previous Summer Studies. The general opinion was that the panel sessions were well organised and that there were many high quality presentations and good discussions. Several respondents commented that it was difficult to choose between presentations since there were many interesting topics in the schedule, and a few commented that the quality was even higher than usual.



As usual, there were some comments that a few of the presentations were of quite low quality. Respondents also asked for a few more practical, hands-on papers, more links to industrial solutions, and more on available technologies.

Participants' rating of the thematic panels

All thematic panels received good ratings, and they all got a rating of approximately 4. As in previous years, the more specialized panel "Transport and mobility" attracted the smallest crowd.¹

Panel	Average rating	1	2	3	4	5	Did not attend	Attendance
1. Foundations of future energy policy	4.25	0.0%	2.0%	6.0%	30.5%	25.8%	35.8%	64.3%
2. Current energy efficiency policies: What delivers?	4.12	0.7%	0.7%	8.0%	39.8%	19.4%	31.4%	68.6%
3. Local action and national examples	4.05	0.3%	1.7%	6.5%	28.2%	13.4%	49.8%	50.1%
4. Transport and mobility: How to deliver energy efficiency	3.90	0.3%	1.4%	4.1%	15.9%	5.1%	73.2%	26.8%
5A. Cutting the energy use of buildings: Projects and technologies	4.11	0.0%	1.7%	7.6%	27.9%	16.9%	45.8%	54.1%
5B. Cutting the energy use of buildings: Policy and programmes	4.15	0.0%	1.9%	6.8%	32.5%	19.9%	38.9%	61.1%
6. Appliances, product policy and ICT	4.14	0.0%	1.3%	7.0%	19.7%	15.7%	56.3%	43.7%
7. Monitoring and evaluation	4.05	0.7%	1.7%	6.7%	22.1%	14.4%	54.5%	45.6%
8. Dynamics of consumption	4.09	0.3%	2.0%	8.0%	26.3%	18.0%	45.3%	54.6%

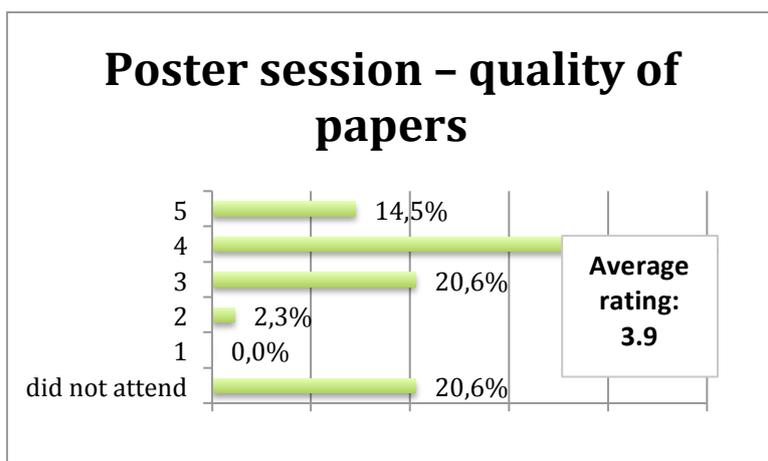
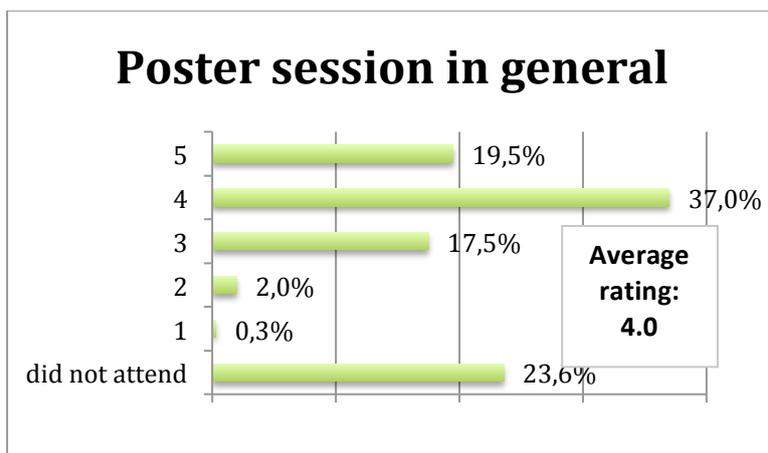
The poster session

36 short papers were included in the proceedings this year, compared to 46 in 2011. Most of them were presented, which is a feat since three of the poster presenters lost their physical posters during the travel to the Summer Study and had to make new ones.

Participants' attendance at the poster session was as usual quite high – almost 80 % of the respondents attended.² The average rating was a bit higher than last year – 4.0 for the poster session as a whole and 3.9 for the quality of the posters. We only had a general rating of the poster session in 2011, with an average rating of 3.6. Many respondents commented that there were many interesting posters and that they really appreciate the opportunity to walk around among them and discuss projects and studies with the authors.

¹ The "attendance" column records the portion of respondents who rated this panel out of the total number of respondents. It is therefore a rough indication of the level of attendance.

² Please note that different amounts of participants answered "did not attend" to the two different questions below. The reason for this is that the number of persons who answered these two questions differed.



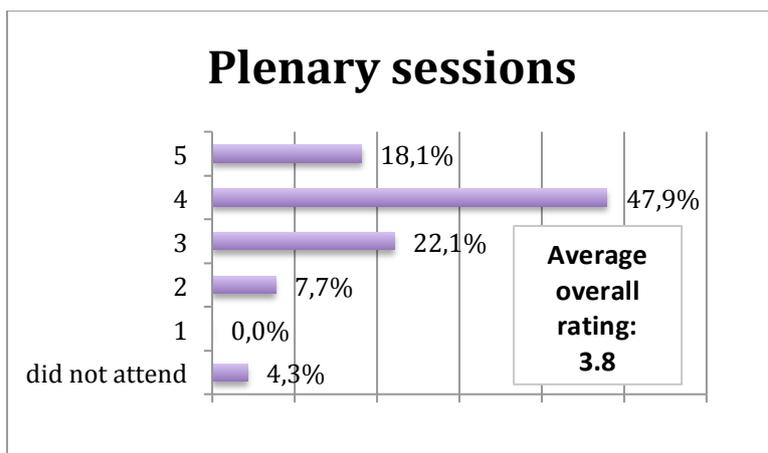
This year, the poster session was held outside for the first time. This was also generally appreciated for the nice atmosphere and weather, but also for the lower sound level compared to the indoor sessions in previous years. Participants thought it was too crowded, though, and asked for more space next time.

Just as last year it was considered very useful that the posters were kept on display for the rest of the week. The winners in the poster competition were decorated with a “bow” so that participants could see which poster won which category – as suggested in the evaluation of the ecee 2011 Summer Study.

Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions were held each evening except Wednesday evening when there was no scheduled activity.

Similarly to previous Summer Studies, plenary sessions received the lowest rating of the different kind of sessions (average rating of 3,8), but the rating is one of the highest since the start of the Summer Study and steadily increased the last few years (3,0 in 2009 and 3,5 in 2011). The individual plenaries got steady ratings of 3.7–3.8, apart from Tuesday’s plenary on policy, technology and behaviour which got a higher rating of 4.2. (Note that the overall plenary session rating is from a separate question asking for plenaries in general, not an average of the rating of individual plenaries. The average of the individual plenary sessions is higher than the overall rating, namely 3.9.)



It is always difficult to please everyone, which shows in the evaluation comments; the respondents have very different views of what plenaries or keynote speakers were brilliant, good, useful or poor. Some remarks were that there should be more time for discussion, better time-keeping and that the plenaries are a bit long considering that they take place at the end of the day – especially the plenary the last day.

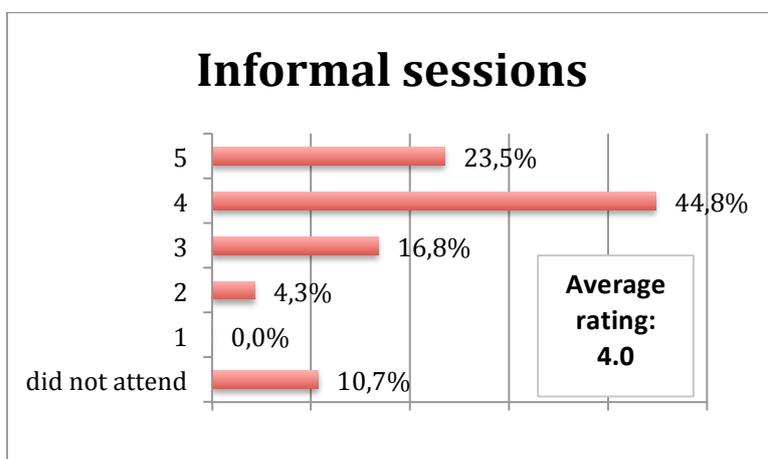
Just as in previous years, some respondents wished for more focused topics and new information, and more differentiated voices, as well as plenaries better adjusted to the audience.

Rating of individual plenary sessions

Plenary session	Average rating
Monday: <i>EU policy</i> (Hall, Canevari, Riley/Hope)	3.8
Tuesday: <i>Policy, technology & behaviour</i> (Eyre, Lovins)	4.2
Thursday: <i>Local actions</i> (Isbell, Lecuyer/Hermans, Hoyne)	3.7
Friday: Summary and debate (The panel leaders)	3.7

Informal sessions

Informal sessions were organised in the afternoons Tuesday–Friday. These were very popular – among both session organisers and participants – with an average rating of 4. More than 40 informal sessions were arranged, which is a record, and almost 90 % of the respondents attended at least one session.

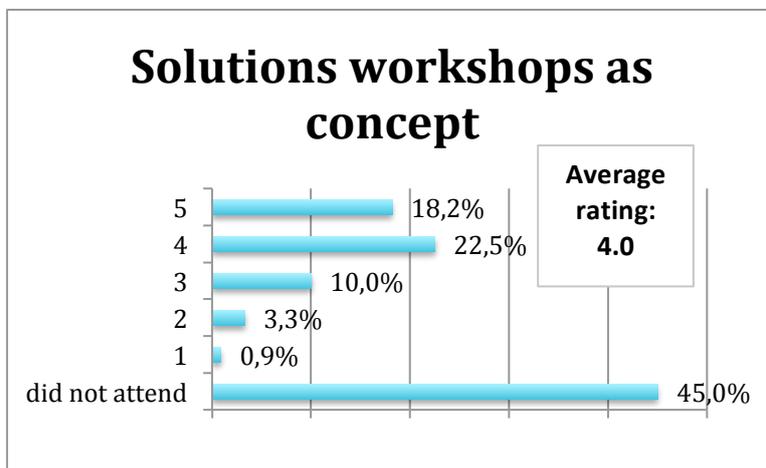


Many of the informal sessions seem to have been very useful and inspiring for the respondents. The organisers were often very welcoming and careful to get the

participants input, but some of them just had a long presentation. A list of “useful tips for successful informal sessions” were suggested.

Solutions workshops

Solutions workshops were introduced at this year’s Summer Study. These workshops were arranged by ecee and/or conference partners as topical events or presentations and discussions of projects etc. The overall rating of the solutions workshops was 4.0, whereas the individual ratings of workshops range from 3.5 to 4.1.

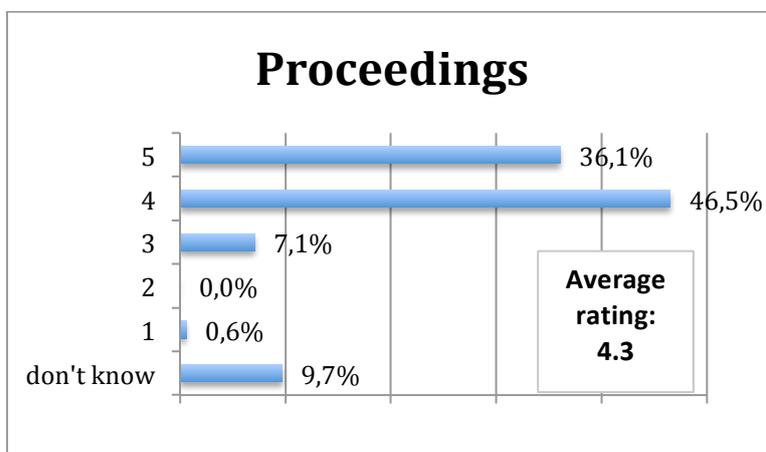


The respondents thought it was quite good that partners could arrange a solution workshop and be visible at the Summer Study. Some of them were a bit worried that too many of them – or too long workshops – would take too many participants from the informal sessions. Some of them also commented that they did not really see the difference between the workshops and the informal sessions, so it might be good to have a clear distinction between them.

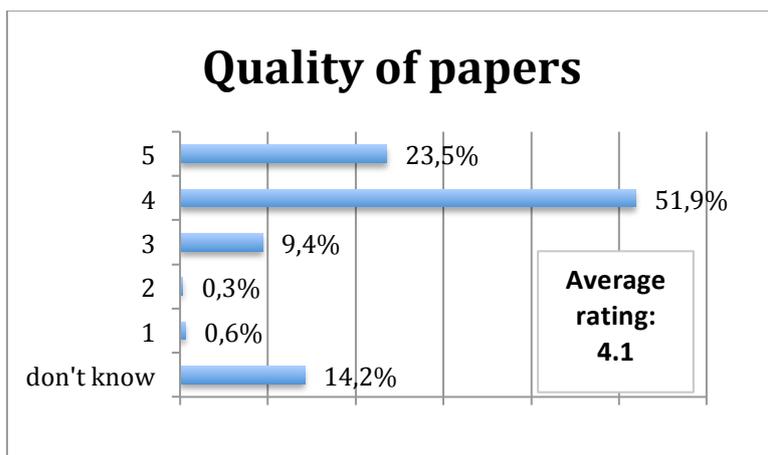
The specific workshops were generally regarded as interesting and well prepared. Some of them were considered a bit too general and respondents thought that a few of the presentations could have been shorter and allowed for more discussion.

Proceedings – the written legacy of the Summer Study

The conference proceedings were given the highest average rating (4.3) of all the contents issues rated by participants. They are always considered very useful, especially as later references for work or studies.

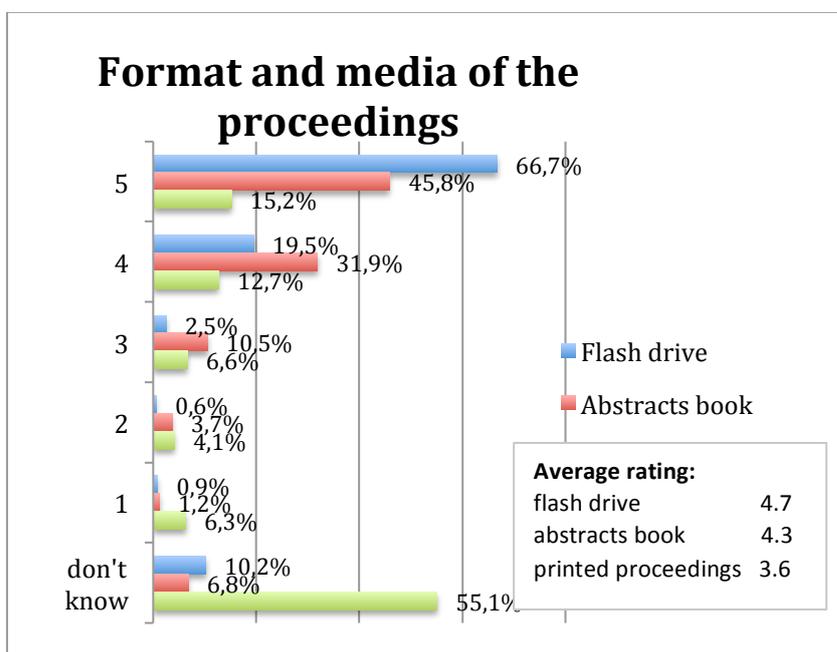


The quality of the papers in the proceedings were given a rating of 4.1. Many of the respondents commented that the quality differs between different papers (of course), but also that they had only read a few papers; the mark concerned only this small selection, and it was difficult to give a fair overall rating.



The participants were asked about the format and media of the proceedings, and it is quite clear that they use the components very differently. Almost all respondents think that the flash drive is great, whereas the opinions whether the abstract book is useful differs a lot, and quite many do not see the point of the printed proceedings (which are very useful for research institutes and libraries).

There were many wishes and suggestions for changes that are impossible to meet considering the tight production schedule of the proceedings, such as providing the proceedings and abstract book in advance of the conference, or significantly rearranging the proceedings on the flash drive. Some of the participants would prefer to have all information digitally, which would of course be a good idea if we could solve it logistically and it would be possible for everyone to receive it and read it during the Summer Study.



Participants' rating of organisation and venue

Good organisation is the mother of a good conference. The ecee Summer Study is no exception to this.

The general organisation

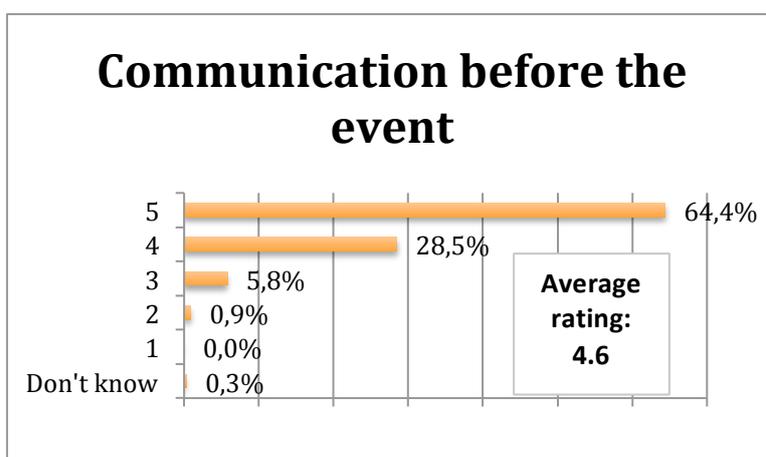
In 2013 we never asked the question about the general organisation. Instead, we asked a few more specific questions. Although not directly comparable, we believe that the general organisation of 2013 is as good as or even better rated than the 2011 Summer

Study, which received a very good average rating of 4,6, with more than two thirds of the respondents rating it 5 and more than 90 % of them rating it 4 or 5.

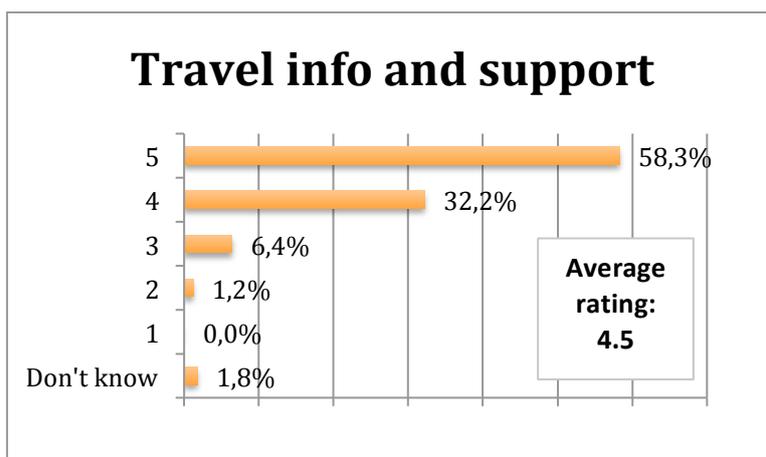
For 2013, the conference team is happy to see that the Summer Study participants thought they got good and efficient support throughout the paper and registration process and the conference.

The communication before the event got a high rating of 4.6. The participants generally thought that they got good information in a timely fashion. Several people complained about the amount of emails sent before the Summer Study, though. Especially those who had registered for the conference were frustrated by the number of registration reminders they received.

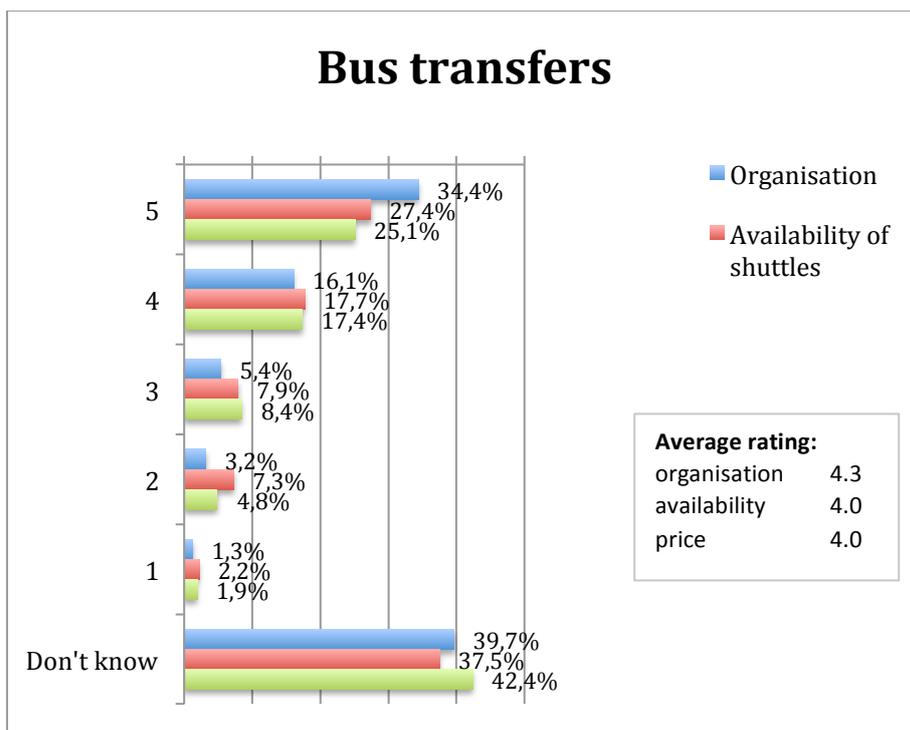
As usual, some respondents commented that they would have liked to get the panel session overview communicated earlier. As previously stated, the organisers are also at the mercy of late cancellations and withdrawn papers, so it is very difficult to achieve this.



The travel information web site was considered to be very useful, and so was the taxi sharing billboard. Some respondents would have liked information on the shuttles earlier, so they could have planned better. There was also a suggestion for more tips on sustainable travel.

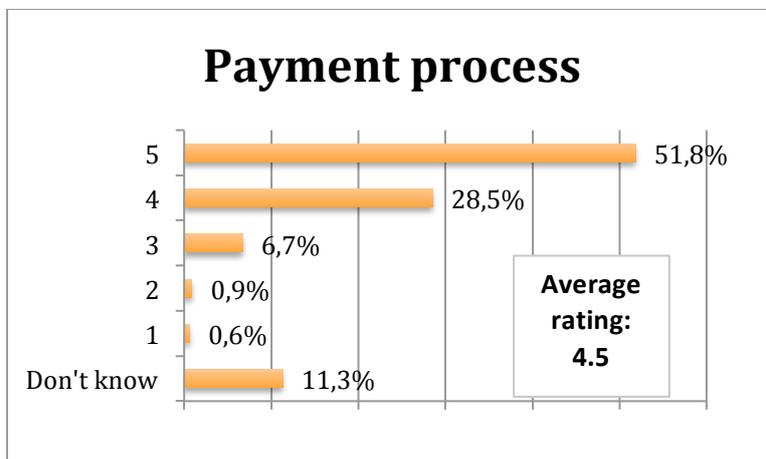
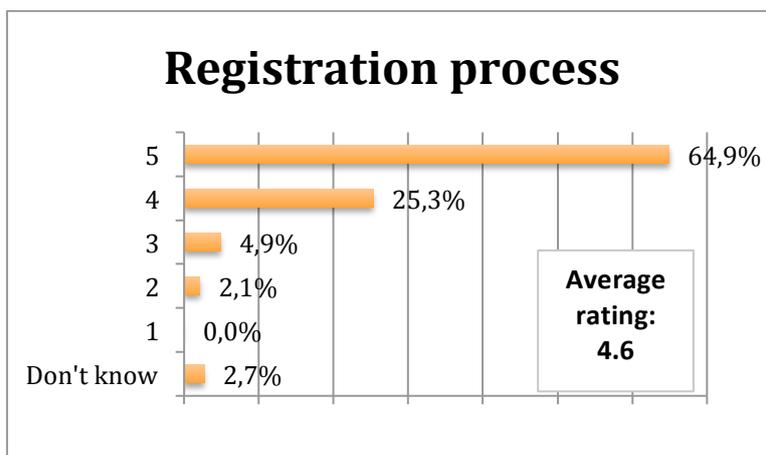


More shuttles at different times were asked for. Some conference participants had difficulties booking shuttles (e.g. getting answers from Novatours, payments etc).



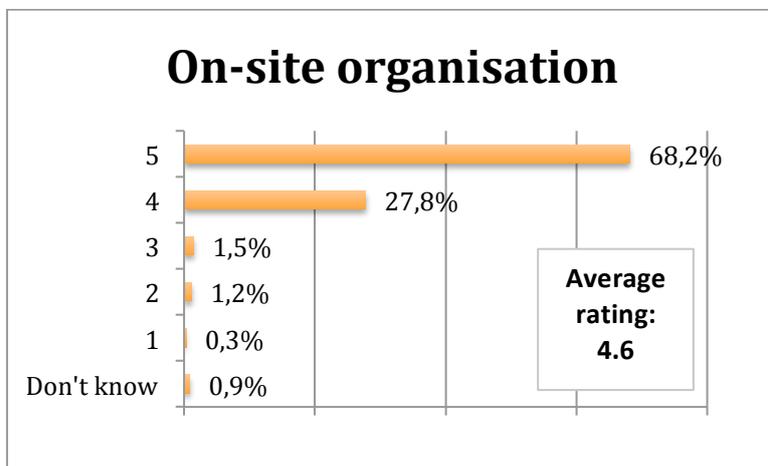
The registration process

Registrations and payments went well this year. There were a few cases with participants who had problems, but almost all seem to have been solved quickly.



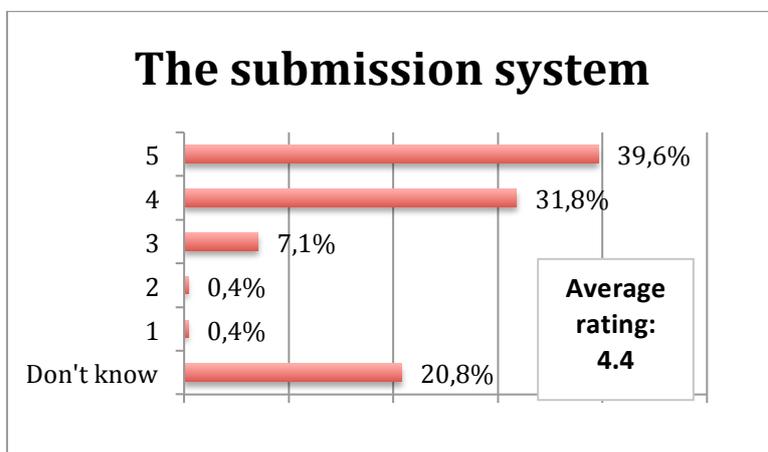
On-site organisation

With an average rating of 4.6, on-site organisation was also one of the most appreciated features considering the preparation and organisation items. The conference management team and Belambra staff were perceived as very friendly, helpful and professional. A few people commented that they had problems with the Belambra staff, but they did not convey what kind of problems they had or what they entailed.

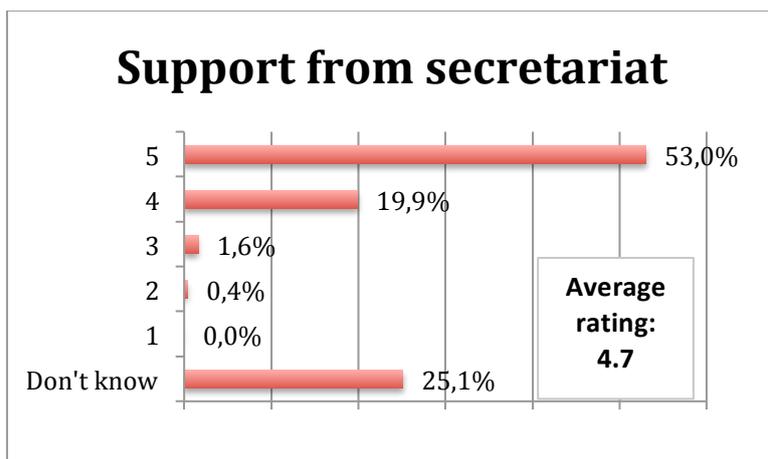


The paper submission, review and preparation process

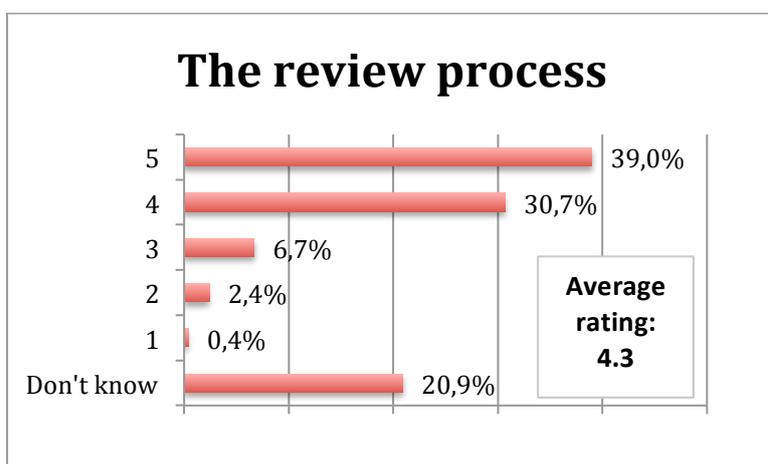
The respondents who also were paper authors seemed quite happy with the whole paper process – the different items rated 4.3–4.7. The submission system worked well for most authors; some of the new authors thought it took some time understanding how it worked and getting used to it, but that it then worked fine. Some of the authors had technical problems with document uploads due to company firewalls or security settings, but got help from the ecee office with the paper uploads.



The support from the secretariat was rated 4.7. Respondents wrote that they received good and efficient help in regard to the submission system, review problems and general information.



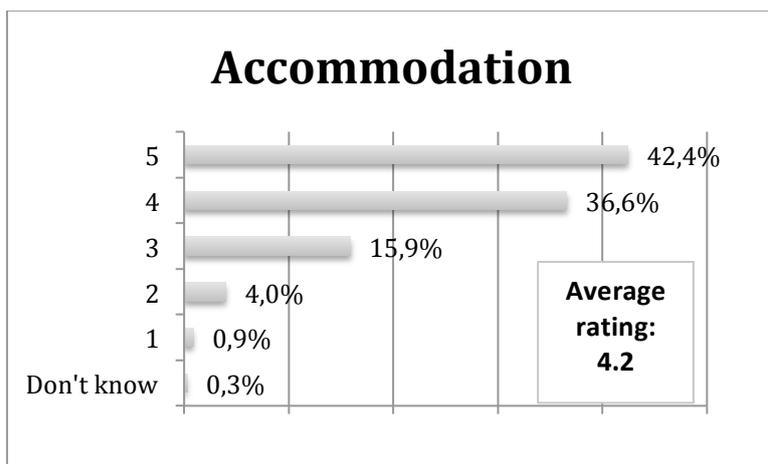
The authors generally thought the review process was very useful, and in some cases it contributed substantially to the final paper. Some of the authors wrote that they got very brief review comments and would have liked more substantial feedback. ecee is working on how to improve the instructions for reviewers to even-out the quality of the review comments.



Accommodation

The accommodation received a rating of 4.2 this year, a little lower than last time. Most participants were very happy with the accommodation – especially in connection with the closeness to the sea and the surroundings of the venue.

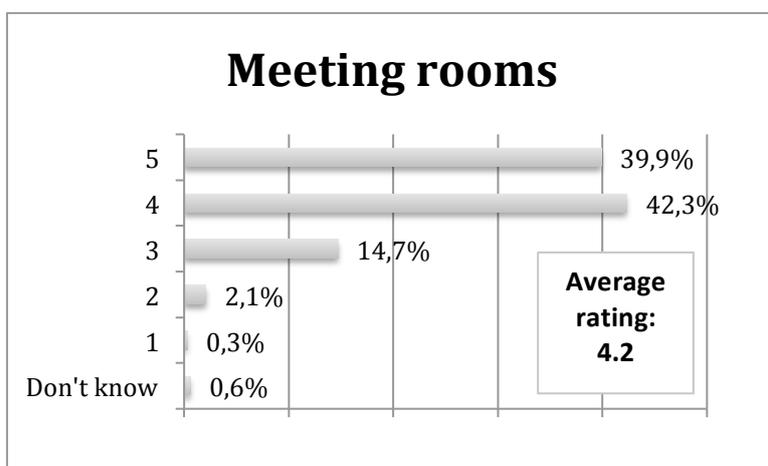
Some respondents thought the standard of the rooms were a bit lower compared to last time (which probably is true since the venue was newly renovated last time). There were some comments that the price for accommodation was high in regard to the basic standard of the rooms.



Meeting rooms

The respondents were generally content with the meeting rooms, which were rated with an average of 4.2. The most important thing was that all the meeting rooms were so close to each other, which made panel hopping between the parallel sessions very easy.

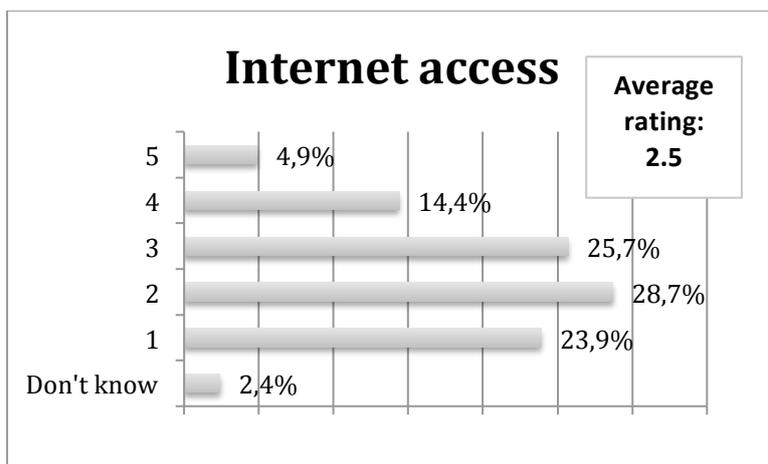
Some of the panels were at times a bit crowded, which usually happens as it is very difficult to foresee exactly how many people will attend the different panels, and it differs from one presentation to the next. There were a few complaints that it was a bit difficult to see and hear the presentations then. There were also a few complaints that the ventilation was poor in some of the rooms, and that the microphones did not work as well as could be expected during the panel sessions that took place in the plenary hall.



Internet access

The Internet access was not great this year, although the venue had upgraded the wifi since 2011. Some of the respondents commented that it worked fine if you just used it at the right hours, whereas others had big problems both to connect to the Internet and to use their mobile phones. Among the latter, some had real difficulties to keep up with their work and calling home, and others did not mind at all and thought it was good with less distraction.

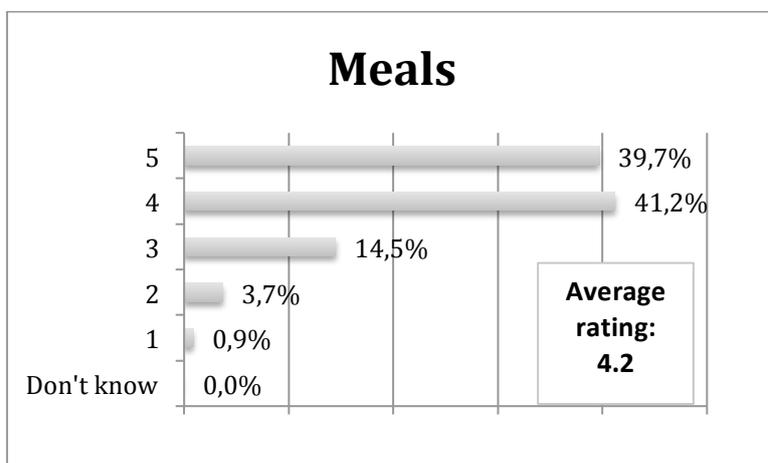
The respondents were asked how the wifi worked compared to the conference in 2011, but most (64.4 %) of them did not know – and the rest of the answers were quite evenly distributed between “worse”, “same” and “better”.



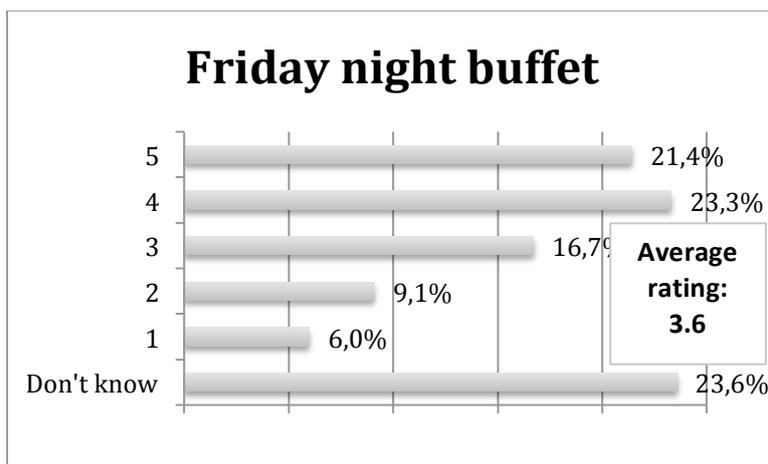
Food at the Summer Study

The meals got the highest general rating since it was included in the evaluation form (together with the rating of 2005, when it also got a rating of 4.2). Many respondents thought the quality of the food was a very good, but there should have been more choices for vegetarians. Some food could easily have been vegetarian, such as pizzas or mixed salads, but contained meat or fish, and it was difficult to spot since they were not labelled correctly.

Some respondents also commented that they would like more sustainable meals – less meat, less food in general to minimize the waste, more organic and local food. See also the section on “Possibilities to decarbonise the Summer Study” below.



The Friday night buffet got a pretty good average rating of 3.6, but the respondents had quite mixed opinions about it. Some thought it was very nice to mingle, others would have preferred to sit down for dinner, or at least to have a table to stand by. Some respondents would also rather have had a “proper dinner”.

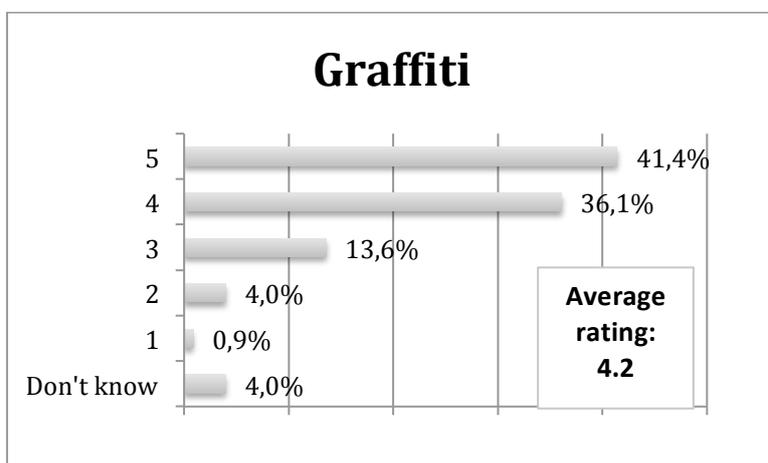


Graffiti – the daily conference newsletter

The daily conference newsletter, *the Graffiti*, is an important feature of the Summer Study as it communicates information, introduces panel leaders and keynote speakers, advertises events, and helps create a community spirit.

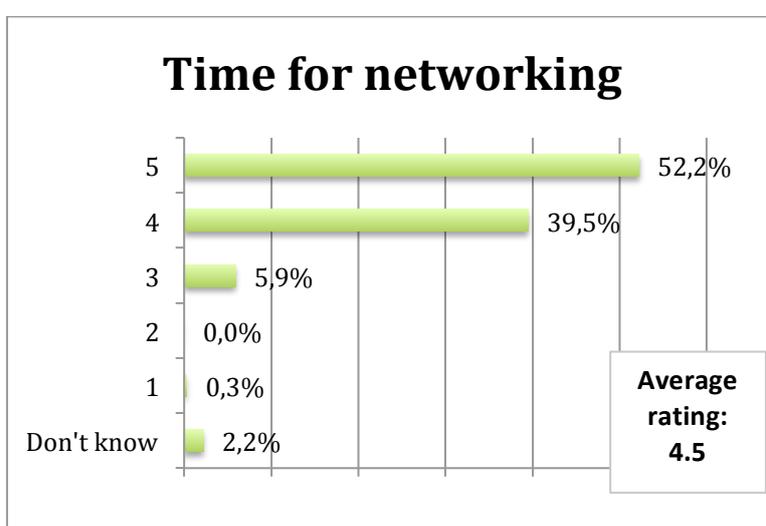
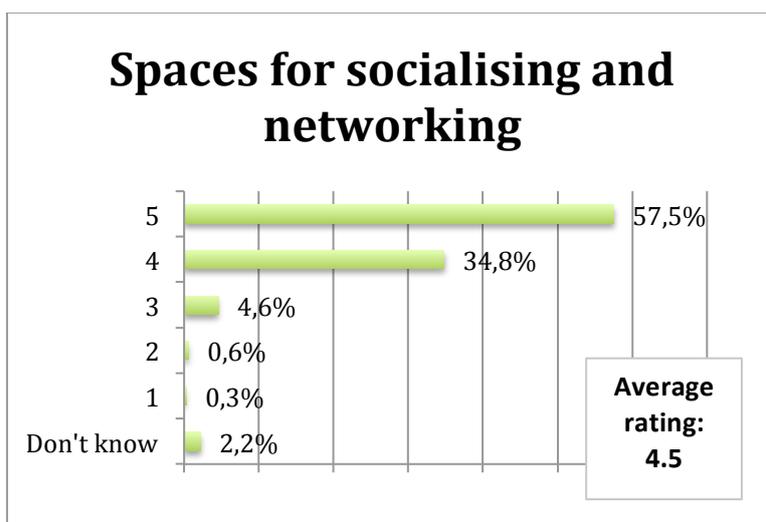
The average rating this year was 4.2. The respondents saw it as very functional and a good source of information, and that it had some interesting articles. They thought that the interviews could have been conducted better and that the newsletter could have engaged the ecee community better, though.

Just as in 2011, some conference participants commented that they would prefer a digital or online copy of the newsletter to save paper. This would of course be a great idea if the internet infrastructure would allow all the participants to download it or view it on the web site.



Social space and networking

The spaces for socialising and networking as well as the time allocated for networking received ratings of 4.5. More than half of the respondents gave both items a rating of 5, and many of them commented on the beautiful surroundings and how valuable it was for networking and socialising. Most of them also think the balance between suggestions/programme and free time is good.

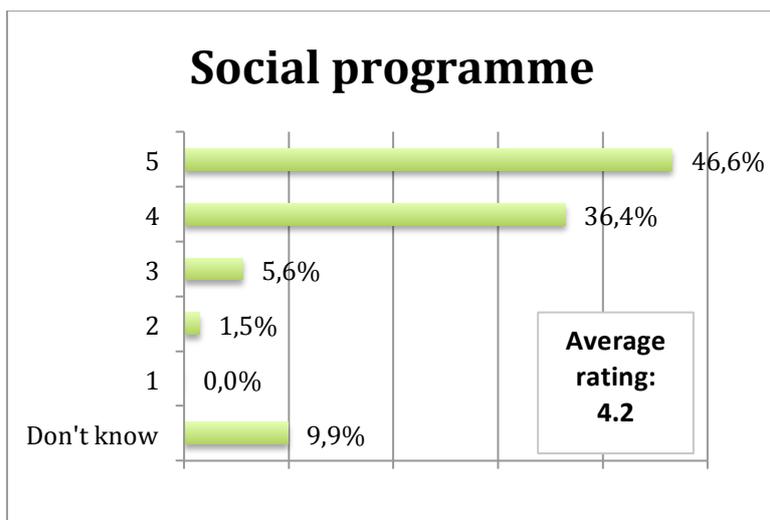


Social programme

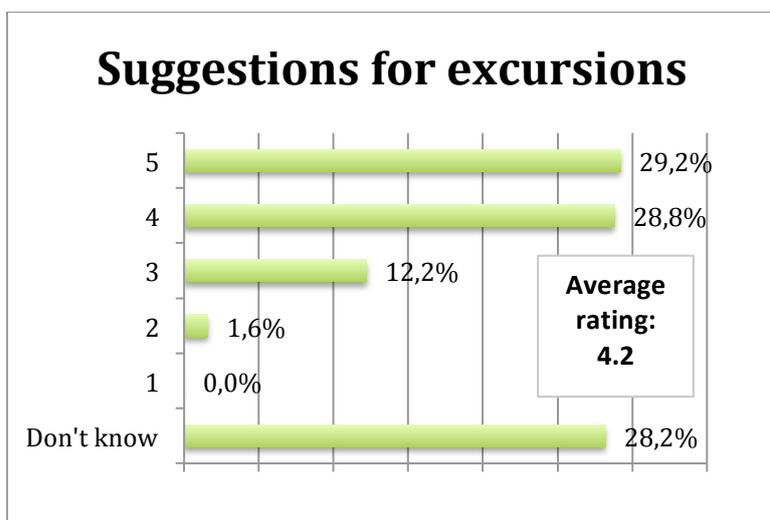
The social programme and suggestions for excursions on the free afternoon got average ratings of 4.4 and 4.2, respectively. The organised activities such as the pétanque and Friday night party are always very appreciated, and so are the activities organised by other participants (volleyball, jogging, etc.).

Some respondents thought that there could have been more community building activities, such as quizzes or talent shows. As the Summer Study grows, some participants feel that it is more difficult to socialize with people they do not know, and someone pointed out that it can be difficult for newcomers who are shy and do not know anyone. Others commented that it would be nice with some social activities that did not involve sport.

There were some complaints that the music was very loud on Wednesday evening and kept on too long into the night, which was not fair on those who had their presentations on Thursday morning. The conference team agrees and had not planned a late party in the middle of the week.



Although the participants seemed to have enjoyed the free afternoon and the excursions they participated in, some of those who attended the 2011 conference commented that they would have liked more new options, such as a self-paid trip up in the hills, to town or to other nearby sights. There were also suggestions for a site-visit or some other kind of energy related excursion.



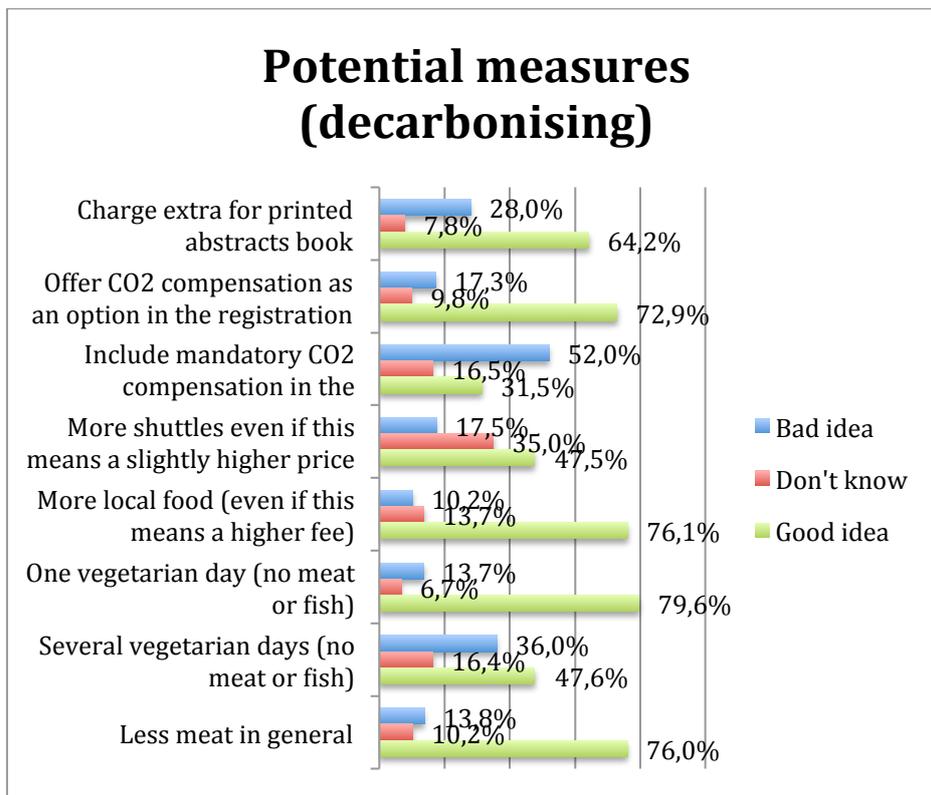
Possibilities to decarbonise the Summer Study

Some of the conference participants took the initiative to discussions about what ecee could do to make the Summer Study more climate neutral, which led to a few additional questions in the evaluation about the respondents thoughts on this. 80 % of the respondents chose to answer these questions.

A majority (64.2–79.6 %) of the respondents who answered the questions thought it would be a good idea for ecee to charge participants for the abstract book (or alternatively, find out in advance if participants want the printed book or a digital copy), offer optional CO₂ compensation in the registration fee (10 % of the respondents answered that they compensate themselves), offer more local food (even if this would mean a higher registration fee) and serve less meat as well as have a vegetarian day at the conference. Better vegetarian alternatives, better information on which dishes are really vegetarian and less meat were specifically asked for by the respondents.

A majority (52.0 %) thought it would be a bad idea to include a mandatory CO₂ compensation in the conference fee, and the respondents were less unanimous about whether there should be several vegetarian days or more shuttles even if it meant a

higher price for the shuttle tickets. Several respondents also commented that they were very hesitant about various extra fees – considering that many have problems raising the funds to go to the Summer Study – even if the ideas are good.



We received some suggestions for other measures to decrease the environmental impact of the Summer Study. Most of them were recommendations for the venue itself, which the conference team of course can pass on, but are not realistically things ecee can change since Belambra is owned by a very large and centralized corporation.

Some of the respondents would like more detailed information on how it would be possible to travel sustainably to the conference – for example which ways one could cycle to the venue from the train station or airport.

The conference team also asked if the respondents had any ideas how they could get better information on when the participants will be present on site to reduce the food waste to a minimum. This year the participants were asked to enter times of arrival and departure in their registration, and were reminded several times before the conference to update that information, but only a fraction of them did. Respondents suggested a symbolic reduction of the registration fee for each meal that participants do not eat.

Key figures

Participation

Countries of origin

With participants from 35 countries, 2013 reached a new high (28, 33 and 29 countries in 2007, 2009 and 2011 respectively).

Although the number of participants keeps increasing, the distribution among countries remains uneven. The seven biggest countries in terms of participation in 2013 were UK (74), Germany (62), Belgium (49), France (48), Sweden (41), USA (36), and Denmark (25). In total, these seven countries represent almost 75% of all participants. There are a number of particularly noteworthy developments. Four years ago, the number of Belgian participants were only a bit more than a quarter of the number we see today. Thus, the Brussels energy efficiency community has really found its way to the Summer Study,

and this is a very encouraging. The UK number of participants dipped deeply down from 45 participants in 2007 to 20 participants in 2009, and has since bounced back and beyond to a staggering 74 participants. On the other hand, the number of participants from the Netherlands have been halved since 2007.

Non-European participants are growing and now make up a little more than 15 % of the total (compared to 10% in 2011). Southern and Eastern European participants make up about five percent of the total, still very low. The affiliation of participants represents a good mix of researchers, practitioners, private sector, energy agencies and NGOs.

The 2013 Summer Study attracted many first time visitors. 52 % of the attendees took part in the event for the first time (compared to 59 % in 2011 and 44 % in 2009).

First time visitors

The 2013 Summer Study has managed to attract many first time visitors. 52 % of the attendees attended the event for the first time, compared to 59% in 2011 and 44 % in 2009.

Country of origin	Authors and co-authors of papers/posters				Participants			
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2007	2009	2011	2013
Australia	14	7	10	10	7	2	8	11
Austria	32	27	39	22	14	12	16	12
Bangladesh	1	1	1				1	
Belgium	9	7	17	21	13	13	46	49
Brazil		5						
Bulgaria			2	3		1		
Canada	4	6	3	3	3	3	1	1
Chile					1			
China	1	3	7	3		5	1	3
Croatia	1							
Cyprus	2				1			
Czech Republic	2	1		1		2	1	5
Denmark	20	37	30	21	33	43	33	25
Estonia	1							1
Finland	5	12	6	2	5	5	5	5
France	62	65	57	52	48	49	50	48
Germany	56	66	74	109	25	39	38	62
Greece	3	2		1	1			1
Hungary	10	14	4	4	2	5	4	3
India	2	1	3	2	6	4	2	1
Ireland			4	3	1	3	2	2
Israel				1				1
Italy	12	25	13	14	6	9	5	6
Japan	6	5	10	4	9	5	4	4
Korea								1
Latvia			6	2	1	1	1	2
Lithuania								1
Luxemburg				1				
Mongolia			2				3	
New Zealand	1	1	7	2	1	1	2	2
Norway	10	16	13	16	22	18	19	15
Palestine territories		1				1		

Country of origin	Authors and co-authors of papers/posters				Participants			
	2007	2009	2011	2013	2007	2009	2011	2013
Poland		1	1	2		6	1	2
Portugal	7	22	8	7	4	8	6	4
Qatar				1				
Romania	3			2	3	1		1
Russia				1				
Saudi Arabia							2	
Serbia-Montenegro				1	1			
Singapore		1						2
Slovakia						1		3
Slovenia	3	2		1		1		
South Africa				2				2
Spain	1	7	1	5		3	1	
Sweden	43	60	48	30	49	53	47	41
Switzerland	10	6	12	7	6	6	10	12
Thailand	1		1	1				
The Netherlands	49	20	19	10	26	24	16	12
Tunisia						2		
Turkey								7
United Kingdom	84	49	60	97	45	20	38	74
UA Emirates		1				1		
USA	93	46	51	72	21	27	37	36
Vietnam		1						
Undisclosed			3		3			
Totals	548	518	512	536	357	376	400	457

Participants' affiliation

Affiliation information is taken from the eceee database, where the information is not always complete and some times based on an assessment of an individual's affiliation. In some cases, multiple affiliations are also given and in those cases we have picked the one that seems most likely.

Type of affiliation	2007		2009		2011		2013	
University/research institution	119	33%	139	37%	162	41%	206	45%
Intergovernmental organisation	11	3%	11	3%	12	3%	24	5%
National government/energy agency	83	23%	64	17%	59	15%	50	11%
Local government/energy agency	7	2%	9	2%	10	3%	7	2%
Consultant	61	17%	58	15%	52	13%	70	15%
Energy utility or utility associations	29	8%	40	11%	29	7%	10	2%
ESCO (*)	1	0%	3	1%	2	1%	2	0%

Journalist, magazine etc.	3	1%	2	1%	1	0%	2	0%
Supplier of EE products/services (*)	21	6%	23	6%	20	5%	19	4%
NGO	14	4%	16	4%	35	9%	45	10%
Trade organisation (for equipment suppliers)	6	2%	6	2%	10	3%	14	3%
Other, unknown	2	1%	5	1%	8	2%	8	2%
Total	243	100%	357	100%	400	100%	457	100%

* The categories “ESCOs” and “Supplier of EE products/services” are increasingly becoming blurred.

Developments and observations

In most categories, the relative changes are small compared to 2009 and 2011, but a few trends can be noted:

- The number of representatives from academia and research institutes keep growing.
- The relative share of participants from national energy agencies keep decreasing.
- It is encouraging to note that the number of suppliers of energy efficient equipment and efficiency services remain high, both relatively and in absolute numbers. In 2005 there were only four such participants.
- Since trade organisations have been rather stable over the years, it is very encouraging that the individual firms now find it worthwhile participating in the Summer Study. (It should be said, however, that some of these may see themselves as representing both.)
- It is very encouraging that the share of NGOs has more than doubled from 4 % to 10 % since 2009.

Abstracts & papers

519 abstracts were submitted to the 2013 Summer Study, a few more than the previous record of 507 in 2011. It might seem like the increase of abstracts have declined, but the fact is that it is quite strong since the industry panel has been broken out of the traditional Summer Study and has its own conference.

17 % more abstracts were accepted than for the previous Summer Study (or 11 % after paper merges).

Abstracts	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Submitted	302	367	415	507	519
Selected	221	303	278*	283*	330*

* Total amount of accepted abstracts. 18 of them were merged in 2009, 2 in 2011, and 35 in 2013, resulting in a total of 269, 282 and 312 abstract, respectively.

After withdrawals and the review process, 239 final papers were finally included in the Summer Study proceedings. Note that some authors withdrew their papers immediately after notification since they may have ended up with several accepted abstracts due to the blind review process. The total amount of final papers is the highest ever..

Final papers	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Full papers	145	171	160	175	194
Poster papers	20	51	35	46	36
Total	165	222	195	221	230

Dropout rate

The total dropout rate this year from accepted abstract to final papers was 26 %. This includes abstracts that were withdrawn for various reasons as well as papers rejected as a result of the review process. The dropout rate has been at about the same level for the last couple of conference, except for a dip in 2011. The conference team believes the high number of abstracts in 2011 was one of the reasons for the lower dropout rate since fewer authors had several abstracts accepted. There were a few more abstracts submitted for the 2013 Summer Study, but more papers were accepted (with one more panel at the conference) and a lot more merged papers, which always increases the number of dropouts.

Dropout rate*	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Full papers				20 %	22 %
Poster papers	49 %	34 %	34 %	29 %	44 %
Total	28 %	26 %	28 %	22 %	26 %

* Including rejected papers.

Distribution of orally presented papers between panels in 2013

Panel	No. of final full papers
1. Foundations of future energy policy	24
2. Current energy efficiency policies: What delivers?	25
3. Local action and national examples	23
4. Transport and mobility: How to deliver energy efficiency	15
5A. Cutting the energy use of buildings: Projects and technologies	20
5B. Cutting the energy use of buildings: Policy and programmes	23
6. Appliances, product policy and ICT	23
7. Monitoring and evaluation	19
8. Dynamics of consumption	22
Total	194