

International Permaculture Education Network

(IPEN)

Presentation and call to action
Lachlan McKenzie
30/11/17

Origins

IPEN started at the last IPC, in London 2015, as part of the Next Big Step initiative.



Why IPEN?

It is a mechanism or network for enabling coherent education evolution, expansion - good for teachers and students.



Our situation

Permaculture trainings and education has been going incredibly well considering the limitations and challenges. But has now got to a stage where many feel it is ready for further evolution.



Time is fast running out for social and cultural evolutions needed to prevent climate change, protect our environment and our healthy society. There is huge appetite for change but not enough knowledge out there of how to do it.

Global to regional to local benefits

How does global work actually benefit people on the ground?



Local to regional to global

How do I work locally but still feedback into global systems?

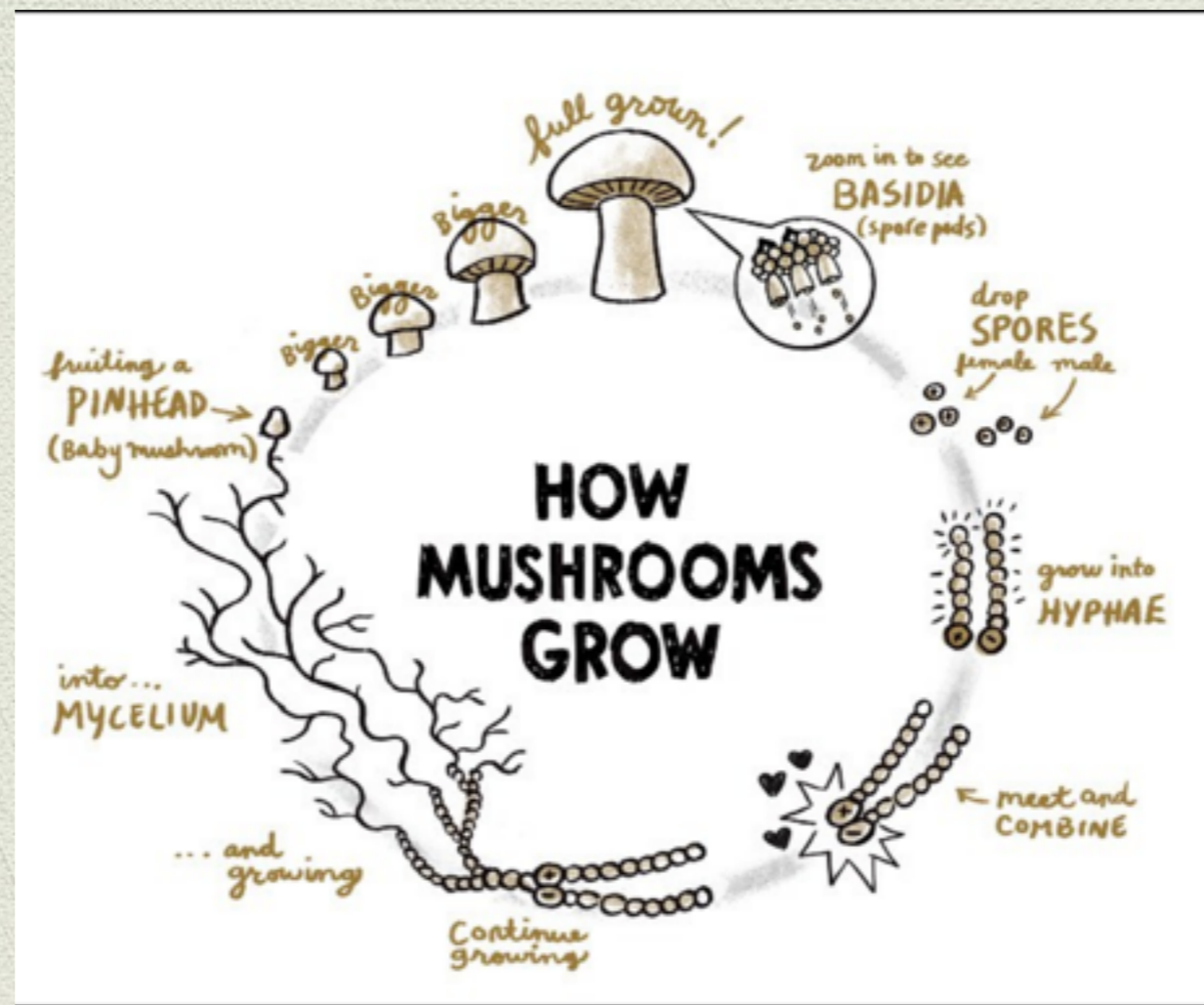


What IPEN isn't...

Permaculture will always grow organically, IPEN aims to feed the organic growth. It isn't a regulator, a representative body or a creator of standards.

Permaculture is like mycelium

From small beginnings mycelium grows and grows until there is enough energy to produce fruit - mushrooms



IPEN aims to feed and grow the mycelium networks

Mycelium interact with tree roots, creating symbiotic relationships



As a vital component of whole ecosystems, mycelium is a connector, a transmitter an absorber, a transformer and a feeder.

Group activity



Break into groups of 2 - 4 and discuss what is most needed to improve permaculture education in your area.

IPEN structure

Advisory panel

- Guidance, project advice and approval, working in groups as well
- Our aim is 1 female and 1 male from each continent on a 2 -3 year rotation

Working groups and projects

- As needed, as created, as inspired

Secretariat

- To enable smooth functioning of the IPEN process

So far..

Already 70 people from our survey and from different international networks are keen to be involved.

We have some seed funding to help establish the IPEN structures and for seeding a few I-LAND education sites.

Our Global Survey

- Derived from two similar versions, the survey represents the views of 115 experienced permaculture educators from around the world.
- Responses feed into initial working groups and projects
- The survey itself is a valuable tool for IPEN members to use for their own projects, project proposals, reports etc
- The answers asking for written responses have provided us with a rich body of information about the on-the-ground situations for educators across the globe.

Responses...

Measuring effectiveness

Q7 #94 When I see students/participants actively taking measures in their own lives and their communities to become more resilient, self-reliant and creative with solving environmental and social issues.

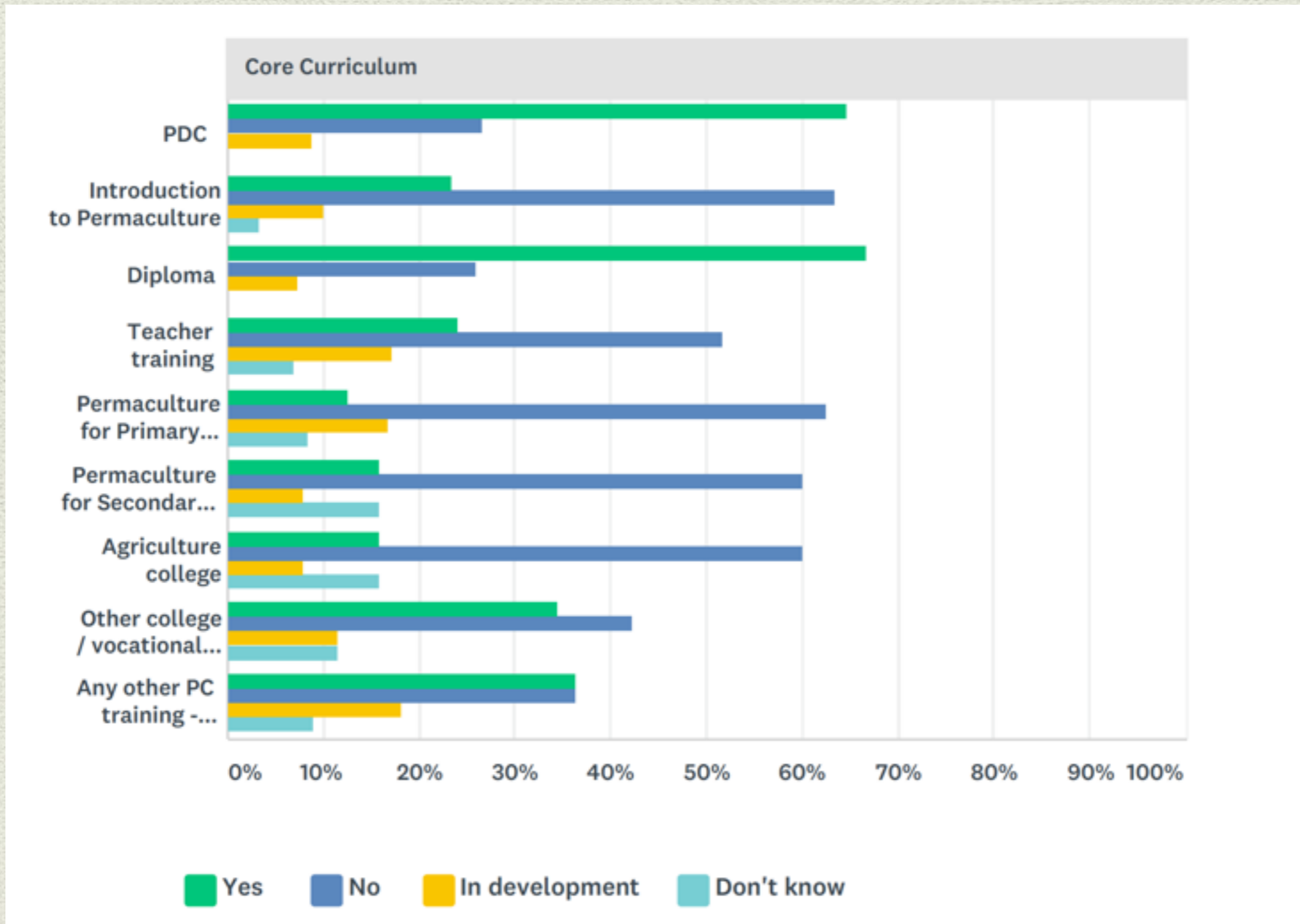
Q7 #65 feedback surveys/individual conversations/ participation in permaculture groups and activities/life changes/hands on projects

Increasing effectiveness

Q7 #110 Create learning communities which actively further the learning experience and share resources i.e. not just making a Facebook group or mailing list, but putting structures in place for a space where people's ideas can be incubated.

Q7 #96 Higher quality courses, better feedback loops on what students did and didn't understand, follow up programs.

Core curricula in development



Course format and content

Q9 #92 A clear text focused on main themes in simple language and with abundant visual treatment of ideas

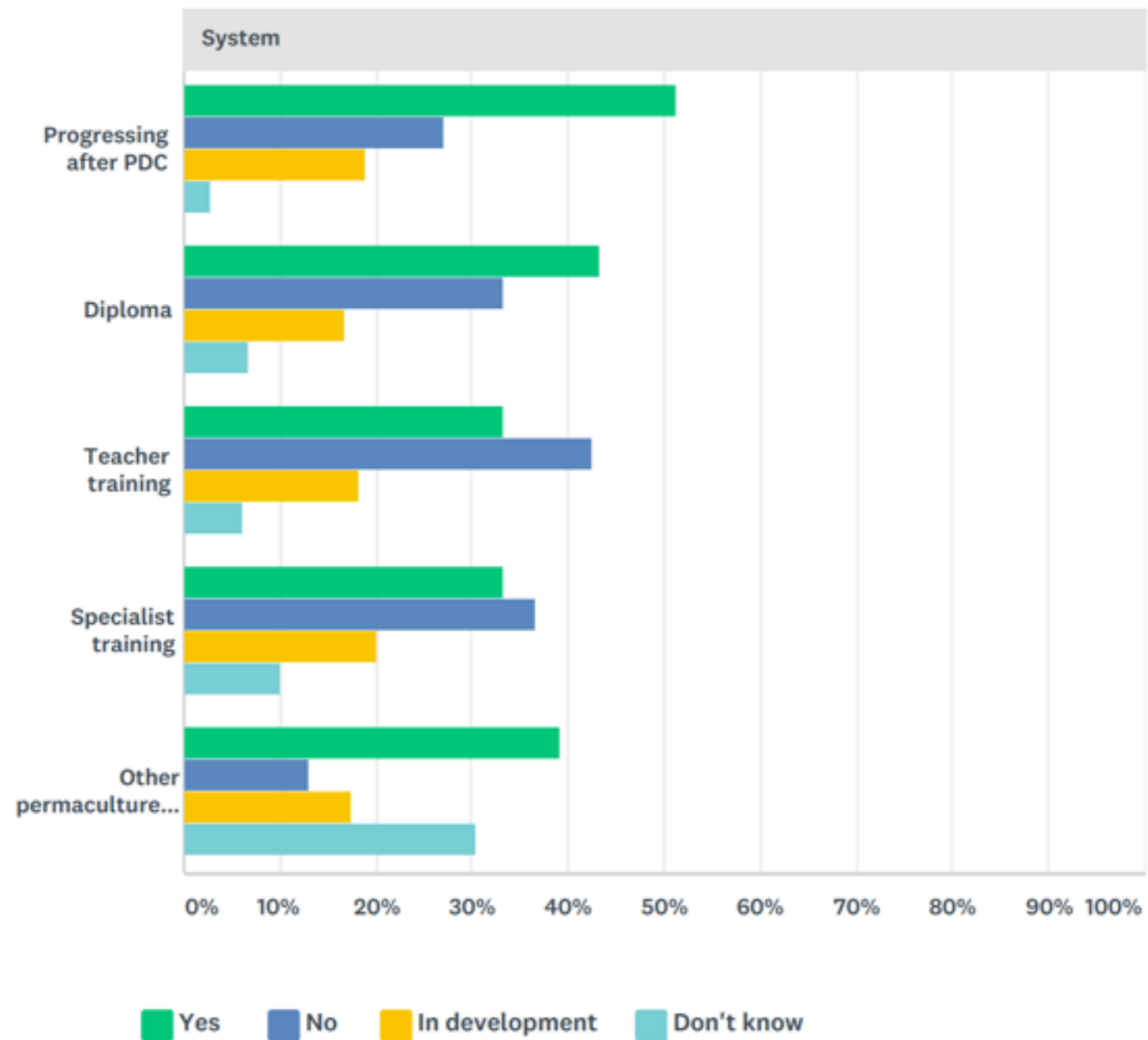
Learning resources

Q9 #102 develop material for teens and young people

Teacher training

Q9 #18 Teacher training in lots of countries/languages. The TOT course I did transformed how I taught courses even though I had already done a city & guilds certificate. Made my teaching so much more creative.

Course follow up support systems



IPEN working groups (some, so far...)

- iLANDS
- Training of Trainers
- More and varied courses
- Educators guilds
- Resources
- Curricula
- Wiki style interactive website

Lets discuss!

For more information on IPEN visit:

[https://www.permaculture.org.uk/
about/international](https://www.permaculture.org.uk/about/international)