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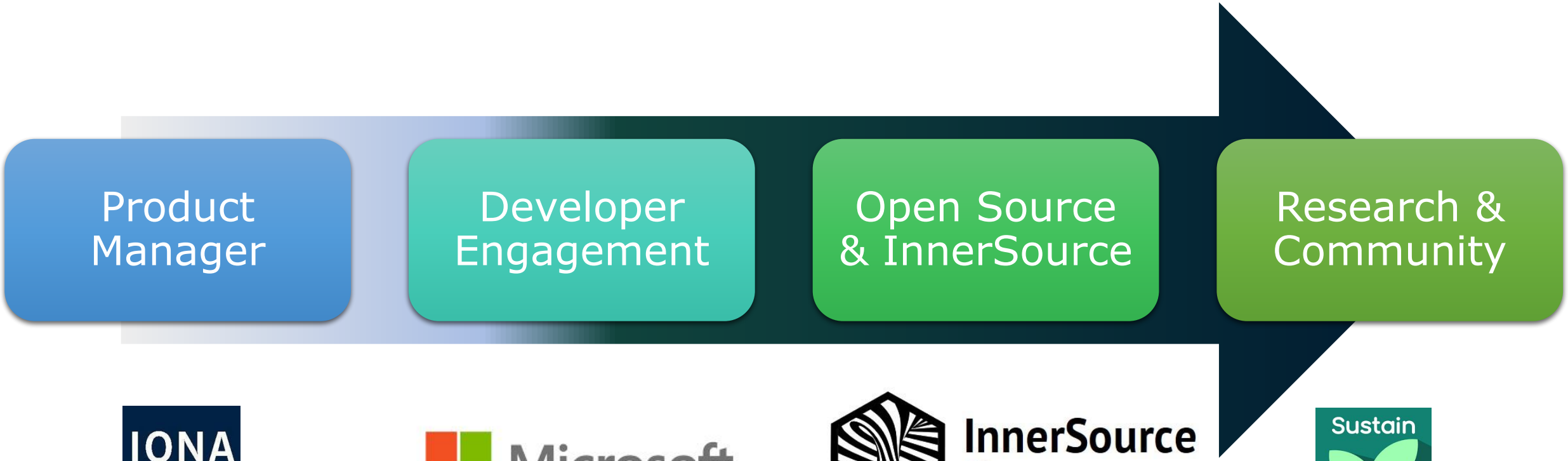
Promoting Open Source in Ireland

Clare Dillon, Open Ireland Network

My Open Source & InnerSource Journey....



IONA Technologies

Microsoft

InnerSource Commons

Sustain

havok

Open Ireland Network

FINOS

CHAOSS

OSPO++

Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway

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Background & Motivation

- Value of Open Collaboration
- OSS Opportunities for Ireland
- Ireland a “laggard”?
- Ireland’s Opportunity!

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Open Ireland Network Overview

- Founded 2021
- Community Organized
- Supported by Skillnet
- 180+ Members
- Virtual First

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Mission & Purpose

- Connect the Ecosystem
- Create Awareness / Showcase
- Increase Skills
- Remove Blockers

www.openirelandnetwork.com

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Approach

- Community Calls / Events
- Engaging Community / Outreach
- Speaking Ops (3rd party events)
- Skills Report
- Align with related initiatives (NORF)

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Events

- OSS Innovation
- OSS Software, Hardware
- OSS in Government
- OSS Security & Risk
- OSS Research

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Open Source and InnerSource Skills in Ireland: A Call for Action

Report Overview

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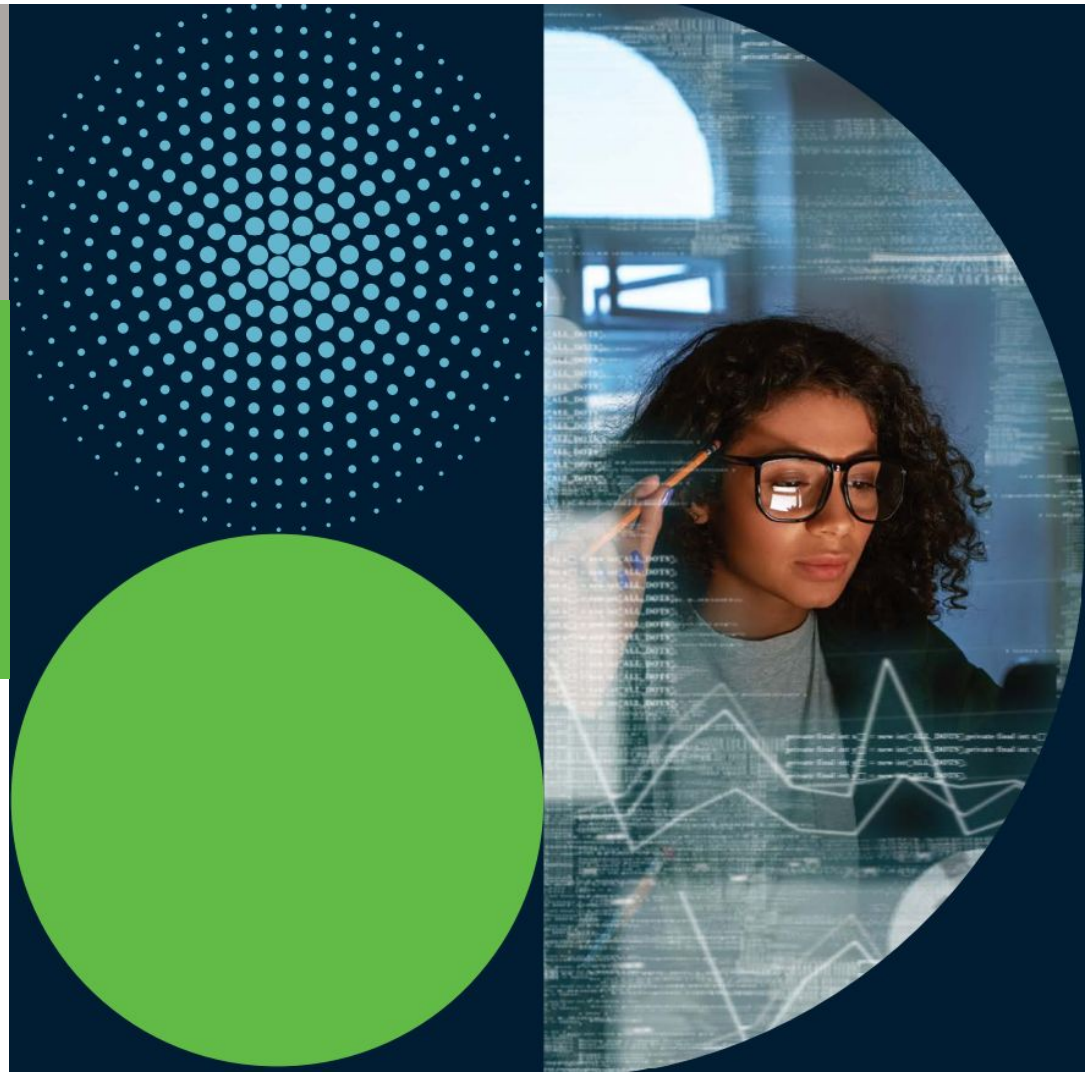

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Background

Open Source and InnerSource Skills in Ireland: A Call for Action

Research Goals

- Understand the open source & InnerSource skills gap in Ireland
- Gather input on how to address any skills gaps

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Audience

Open Source and InnerSource Skills in Ireland: A Call for Action

- Large & Small Orgs
- Multi-national & Indigenous
- Academics & Community
- Variety of Industries
- Software & Hardware
- Commercial Open Source Companies

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Engaging Community

"In the Irish Government, we are actively engaging with the EU and also with initiatives such as GovStack, because we very much see the ***potential for open source in Ireland*** *to help us build solutions that can enable pan-societal and pan-European activities such as travel, health and education to be much more simple and convenient. We strongly believe that open source can help with this by assisting* ***better collaboration, stronger security and greater transparency****.*

– Barry Lowry, Irish Government CIO, DPER

Research Findings

- Ecosystem Trends
- Org Interest & Investment
- Engineering Skills
- Non-Engineering Skills
- Learning Preferences

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Org Interest & Investment (3)

- 97% engaged in open source and/or InnerSource
  - Using OS tools
  - Integrating OSS into products / services
  - Facilitating R&D
- 12% engage in personal capacity only
- 54% formal policies governing use & contributions
- 52% awareness programs around OS/InnerSource
- 38% have an OSPO

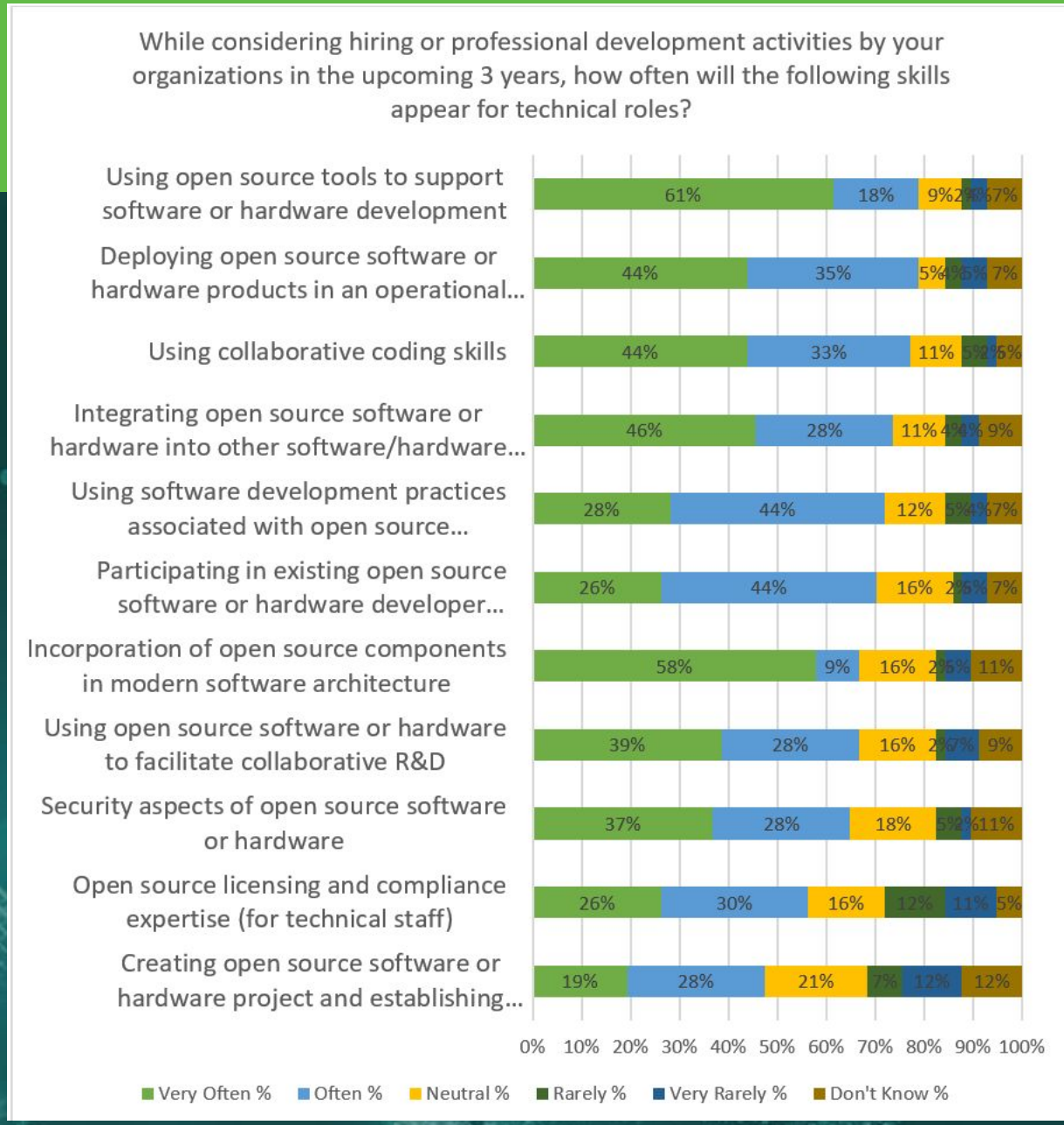
Org Interest & Investment (1)

- 97% engaged in open source & InnerSource
  - Using OS tools
  - Integrating OSS into products / services
  - Facilitating R&D
- 44% collaborating with OSS Communities
- 49% Using OSS Tools & Practices

Engineering Skills

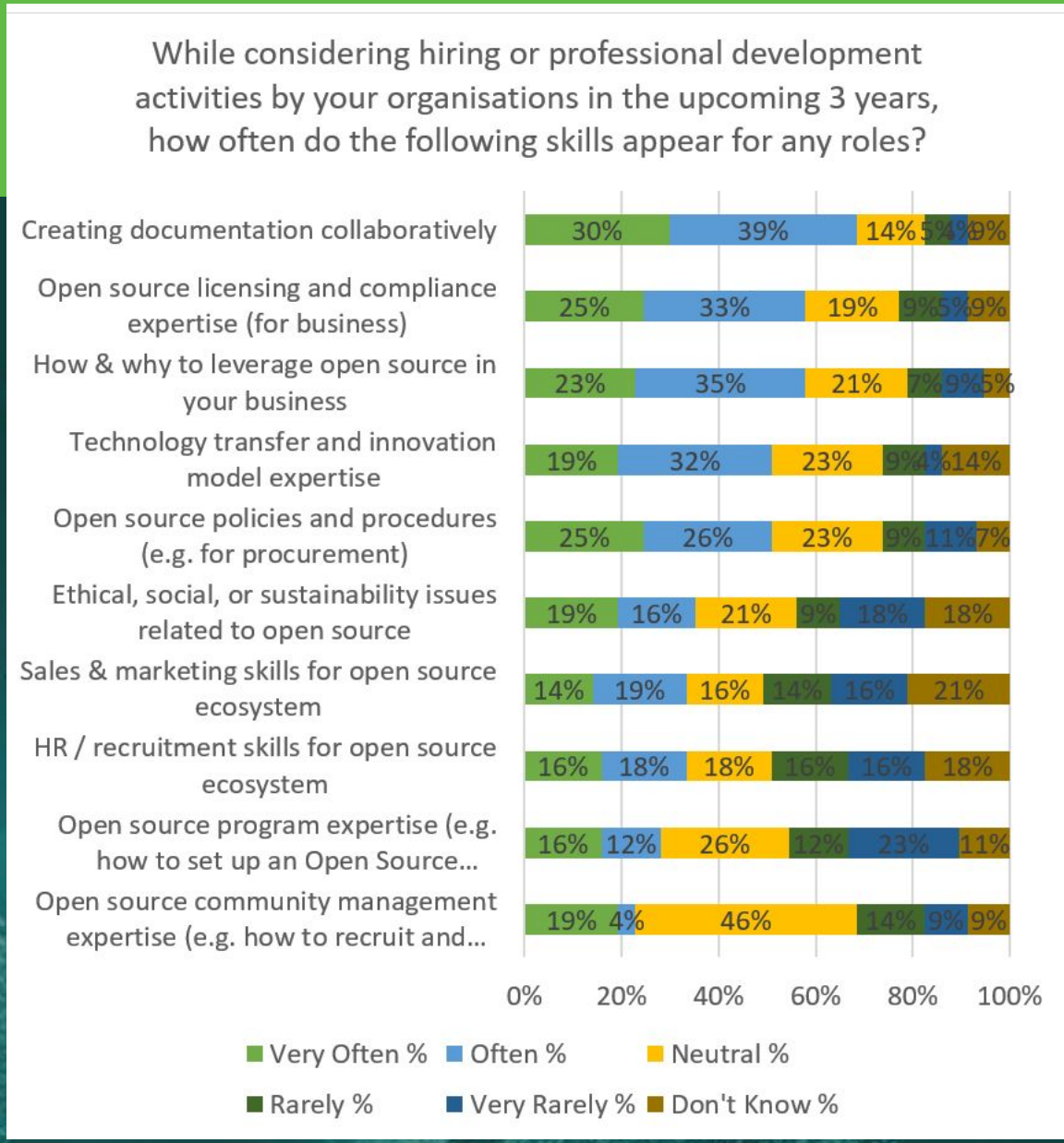
- Using open source tools to develop S/W & H/W
- Deploying open source software & hardware
- Collaborative Coding Skills
- Integrating open source software & hardware
- Open Source development practices & InnerSource

- 100+ OS projects identified



Non-Engineering Skills

- Licensing & Compliance
- Open Source Business & IP
- Open Source Policies & Procedures
- Sales & Marketing
- Ethics, Social & Sustainability Skills

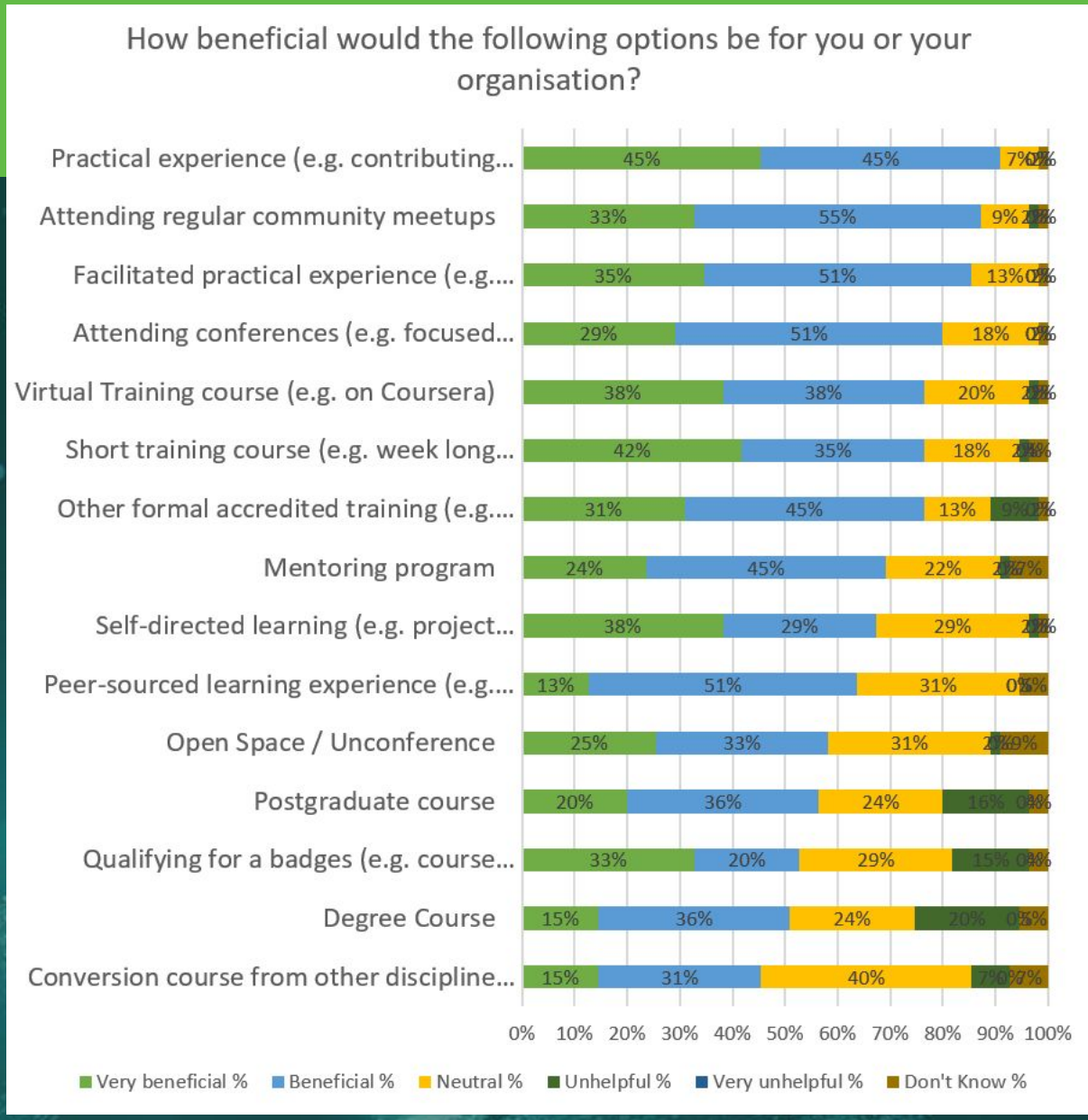


Learning Preferences

- Practical Experience Essential
- Community & Mentors
- Facilitate Learning
- Uplevel Through Flexible Courses & Accreditation

Biggest Blocker to Learning:

- Time Available to Learn



Recommendations

- Directory of Resources
- Create New Learning
- Extend Existing Portfolio
- Support OSPOs
- Continue Conversation

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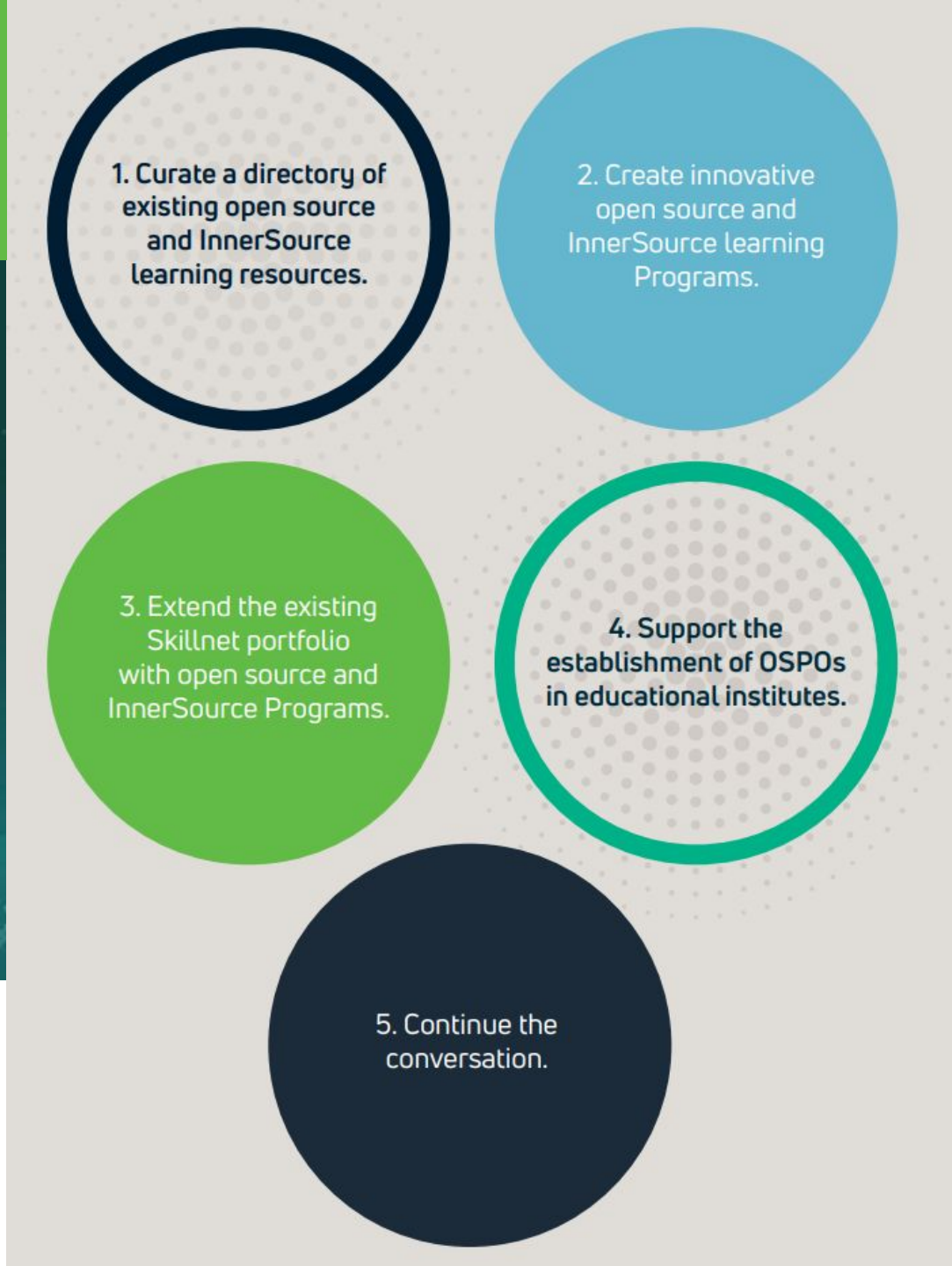
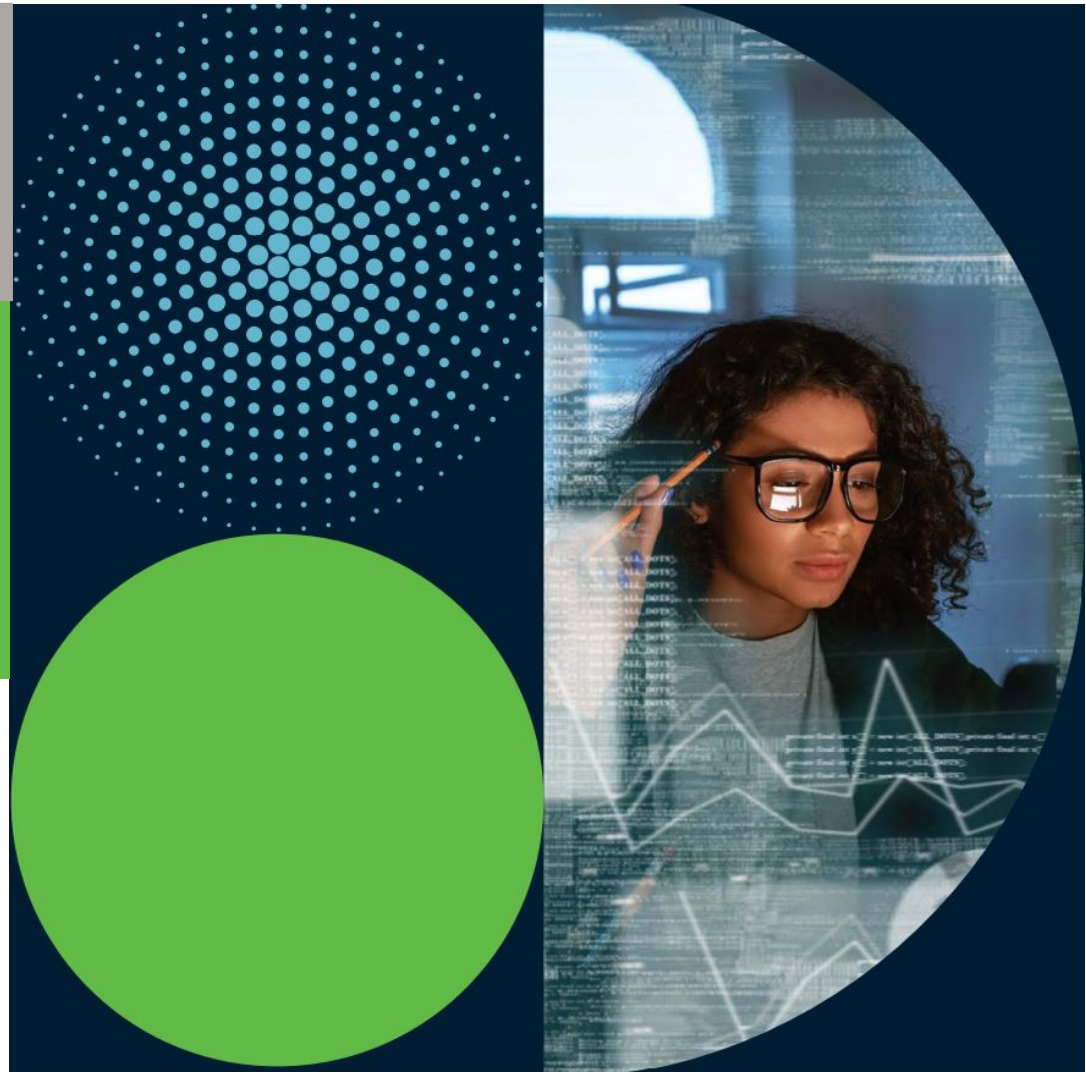


What's Next?

OSS Policies in Universities (NORF Project)

LERO
Software for a better world

NORF
NATIONAL OPEN RESEARCH FORUM



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Thanks!

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