

Green Impact Auditors: Career development

Congratulations on completing your [Green Impact](#) Auditor training, and for adding great value to the programme through your role as an auditor. In Green Impact, it is vital that we maintain the integrity of the awards we present, and for the staff teams to see that importance is placed upon their work to support their continued positive action for sustainability. It is also a valuable experience for you as an auditor. How you use the skills you have developed, and phrase your learning and experience, will influence how useful it becomes! The current graduate job market can be a tough place, so being able to clearly demonstrate your skills, knowledge and attributes can support you in future applications.

This document will outline some of the key attributes you will have gained from your training, how to phrase them on your CV or in interviews, and places to look for careers in sustainability. There is also an [exclusive 50% discount on IEMA student membership](#) to support your early career in the sustainability profession!

Writing the experience on your CV

You can use the below wording (or similar) on your CV or within applications to demonstrate your experience in the audits:

IEMA approved training course: 'Introduction to auditing and evaluating environmental behaviour change', delivered by SOS-UK

- Training course covering sustainability issues in the workplace
- Developed professional auditing, analytical and relationship building skills
- Practical experience conducting sustainability audits of the organisation's departments as part of the Green Impact Programme

We will issue you a digital badge, and once you have claimed this, you can also link directly to the badge which outlines in more detail the types of skills you have developed during the auditing process.

Key Skills

"Indeed, employing people with the right environmental skills, knowledge and expertise could save UK businesses £55bn a year, through energy and resource savings", according to the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), "Sustainability skills and good business skills are increasingly the same thing"

With this in mind, it is clear that the skills employers are looking for, whatever discipline you are entering, will relate more and more to sustainability as the agenda continues to widen. But what are sustainability skills?

The charity Change Agents UK say that the top skills and behaviours they are looking for when taking on recent graduates for their first paid roles in sustainability are:

Skills	Behaviours
Communications (written/verbal)	Professionalism
Project and time management	Motivation and enthusiasm
Attention to detail	Passion
Ability to take initiative	Open-minded/diplomatic
Leadership	Approachable
Flexibility	Creativity
Organised	Team worker

These skills and behaviours can be demonstrated through your role as an auditor so articulating the experience and the outcomes is important. Here are some examples:

- Make the training sound **professional**: if you were selected/interviewed for the auditor role, make sure you demonstrate you had the skills and attitudes desired by the panel.
- You were given a lot of **responsibility** to audit professional departments in a short time frame: this is key for showing your ability to work quickly, efficiently and as a trusted member of a team.
- You had to **report** your findings: this will demonstrate attention to detail and the ability to communicate to senior members of the Green Impact team.
- Auditing is a time-bound exercise: you had to complete a new set of tasks quickly but accurately, so can show strong **time management** skills.
- You were required to use discretion and respect the confidentiality of the departments within which you were working. This exemplifies an ability to be **diplomatic** and to understand different work environments.
- You had to work well as part of a **team**: during training you took part in group exercises and during the audits you may have worked with a partner to assess the practices within the department.
- **Communication skills** were integral to your success as an auditor: communication between peers within training, communicating diplomatically with staff during the audits, and communicating the result back to your Green Impact trainer all show different ways in which you had to communicate well.
- You were trained in **environmental auditing skills** and the key environmental impacts and opportunities that staff and student have to make a difference: even outside of an environmental role these are key skills that employers look for to show empathy, passion and an understanding of your environment.

Next steps: IEMA student membership

The training you were part of is an IEMA-approved course. [IEMA](#) (Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment) is the professional body for everyone working, studying or interested in environment and sustainability. IEMA offers a student membership package, which gives you a career head-start, by connecting your studies with the possibilities that lie ahead for you as an environment and sustainability professional. [You can find out more and join on the IEMA website](#), including access to an exclusive 50% discount code on student membership!



Future roles and Opportunities

Looking at roles in the sustainability sector, or training schemes within a whole variety of industries, the results are clear: the key skills discussed above are always relevant! No matter what sector you choose to focus your career in, showing you understand sustainability and the skills and behaviours needed to develop within their organisation, you will be in demand.

So, here are some useful websites to get you started in terms of looking for roles or gaining advice on how to get into the sector:

<https://www.iemajobs.net/>
<https://goodmoves.com/>
www.environmentjob.co.uk
<https://www.changeagents.org.uk/jobs>
<https://jobs.thirdsector.co.uk>
www.graduate-jobs.com
<https://www.sos-uk.org/jobs>

You can also follow us at [SOS-UK](#) on social media to keep up to date with latest news and opportunities:

