

CLUSTER (C_A.3.1_0014)

WP3 – A.3.1.1 Profiling and needs assessment of NEETs and Women

Profiling Report

General Agency For Regional Development (CGDR)

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Introduction

The report is the result of the activities relating to the project Intellectual Output 3.1 (A.3.1.1 - *Profiling and needs assessment of NEETs and Women*), implemented within the Work Package number 3 (Needs Assessment and Benchmarking of Successful Experiences and Efficient Practices).

This report is therefore the result of several different actions carried out by CGDR in coordination with the WP3 leader (ARCES Association, PP1), the Project coordinator and all the project partners (PPs), namely : design and translation of the questionnaire for Profiling and needs assessment of NEETs and Women; creation of e-forms; delivery of questionnaires to interested people belonging to the project target groups (NEETs and women); promotion through social channels, websites and other tools; collection of the filled questionnaires (data collection) and analysis of collected data (data analysis).

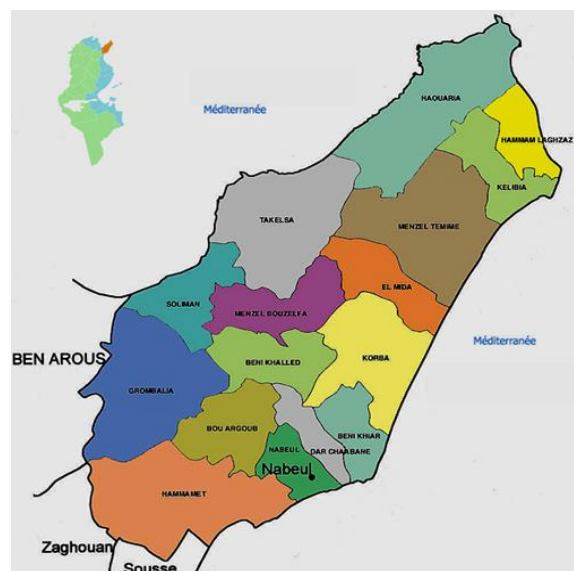
The report is produced by following the instructions provided by ARCES Association (WP3 leader) in the so-called “Methodology Report”. It will consider all the actions implemented during the profiling phase by all PPs.

According to the statistics published by the Tunisian NIS (INS), the governorate of Nabeul counts 866.4 thousand individuals (2021), which represents roughly 7.5% of the Tunisian population. However, the governorate continues to be residential attractive to people. This is why we register an annual increase of the population higher than the national level during the decade 2004-2014 (1.03% Vs 1.28%).

A detailed analysis of the population growth shows that people aged under 4 years are increasing from 8.2% to 9% in the same period, as well as people over 60 years old from 9.5% to 11.5%. But citizens aged between 5-14 and between 15-59 are decreasing respectively from 17.5% to 15.1% and from 64.1% to 64.4%.

The location of the governorate at the extreme point in the North East, with 180 km of coast opening on the Mediterranean sea, with an important activity in the blue economy related to the importance of the fishing activities (17% of the national production), the coastal touristic sector holds the first range in terms of capacity.

About the economic activity, the governorate shows a large variation in its fabric, since that 15.9% of the workforce is active in the agriculture economic sector, 44.9% in service activities and 39.1%



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in industrial sector. With so distribution of workforce on economic sectors, we find that the Governorate of Nabeul contributes with 15% to national agricultural production in terms of values. Moreover, the 12.9% of national industrial units are in Nabeul, while 17.5% of national touristic units are located in the governorate of Nabeul, with the famous and well known international touristic station of Hammamet and its hand craft products.

Agriculture sector represents the most important activity in the governorate. Not only for the number of people employed, but essentially for its contribution to national production of specific items such as the production of spices (90% of the national production) and different kinds of fruits (especially oranges and grapes). All these specifications would have a major impact on the activities of the current project, in the green, blue, circular and sustainable economy.

Figures about unemployment show that 10.9% of population are unemployed in 2019; this was largely under the national rate of 15.3%. In terms of gender analysis, we find that 14.4% of women are unemployed where's only 7.7% of men are unemployed. But in terms of qualifications, graduated unemployed people represent 33.8% from total employed. This can be explained by the quality of the economic enterprises and their capacities for employment, where we find that from 58128 active enterprises in the year 2017, and independent working individuals represent 87%, enterprises engaging between 1-9 salaries represent 11.1% and those employing more than 10 salaries represent only 1.8%.

Thus, the governorate fits the basic targets of the current project that concerns blue, green, circular and sustainable economies.

Methodology

In order to cope with the main objectives of the current project, based on the profile and needs of the NEETS in different countries, in order to make possible overview of the situation in different social and economic environments; we have to present so far the methodology adopted in our case to contact the NEETS in the governorate of Nabeul.

First of all, we should mention the difficulties to achieve this duty; due to the fact that this category of people are not in education, training or employed. Their contact via official administration (municipality, public administration or whatever else) is misleading. Our strategy was based on three dimensions:

- 1- Targeting NEETS wherever it is possible to contact them.
- 2- Involving public administration sealing with this question
- 3- Involving NGO and associations interested for the subject and working with young people.

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We started the investigation by translating the questionnaire into Arabic and French languages, with questions as simple as possible, so to be clear to everyone and especially young people to answer them.

In a second step, we tested the questionnaire with some people crossed in the area.

Afterwards, the questionnaire was published on the web in an interactive form (I form). We kept in mind that this category of people, addicted to social media, would respond automatically to the questionnaire. Unfortunately, we found out after 2 weeks that the result is not positive and we are not able to get the number of questionnaires we have to reach. To overcome this lack in that step of the project, which is essential to continue the rest of the activities, we organized direct contact with collaborative approach involving the local influent partners administrative (office jobs, social affairs administration, youth centre's supervisors, specific agricultural services, active associations in contact with young people, local authorities.

In order to guarantee a maximum success to the operation some preliminary meetings were organized :

- A first meeting on the 20th April 2022 held in the Regional Development office (DDR) to present the project « CLUSTOR » to regional partners to be involved and to discuss the methodology of direct contacts with young people targeted.
- A second meeting was held on the 22nd of April 2022 dealing with the different detailed questions appeared after translating the three questionnaires to discuss with office jobs managers.

As a result, an abstract summarising the basic axes of the project to be transferred to regional and local partners to be familiar with its concepts.

A couple of weeks after publishing on website the questionnaire intended for NEETS, only 20 answers registered, allowing a change in the procedure. The direct contact with hard copies of the questionnaire was the new method to solve this problem. In total 500 copies distributed by this method and we got around 420 answers. A special team from regional development office (DDR) and regional office jobs were the team mobilized for this target. The questionnaires fulfilled were introduced in online GOOGLE FORMS to get instantly the results and diagrams to be presented and analysed in the following chapter

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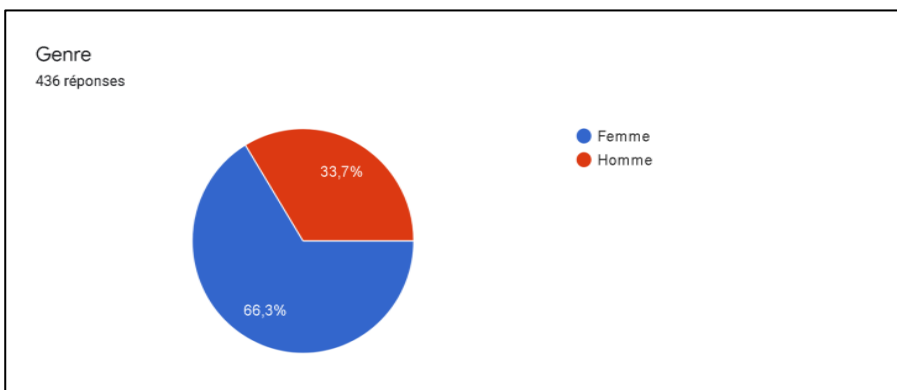


Data analysis and indicators

Statistics obtained from the questionnaire, are to be analysed for different questions related to the actual situation and the needs of the interviewed young people. Some comments matching the results obtained to the specific economic, administrative, and regulatory realities in the governorate of Nabeul.

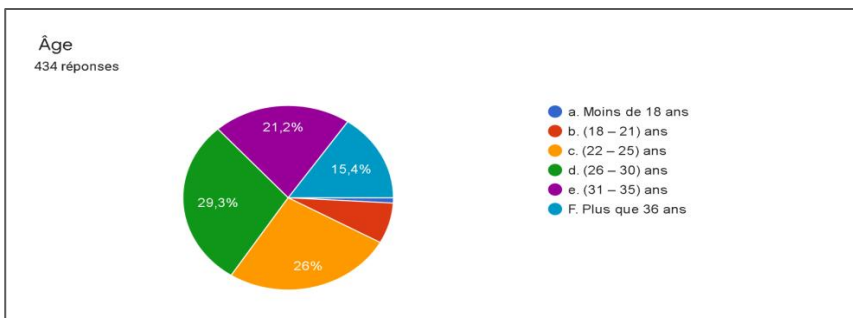
1. Gender specifications

Regarding different technics detailed in the previous chapter, we were able to contact individually about 500 young people with hard copy distributing the questionnaire, in addition to virtual contacts through social media which we have no estimation about the number of youth that consulted the questionnaires online. In total, 439 young people have fulfilled the questionnaire. The results show that the majority of answers are young females with 66.3% against only 33.6% of male answers; while three participants didn't answer the question of gender.



Gender	Total
male	147
female	289
	436

2. Age specifications



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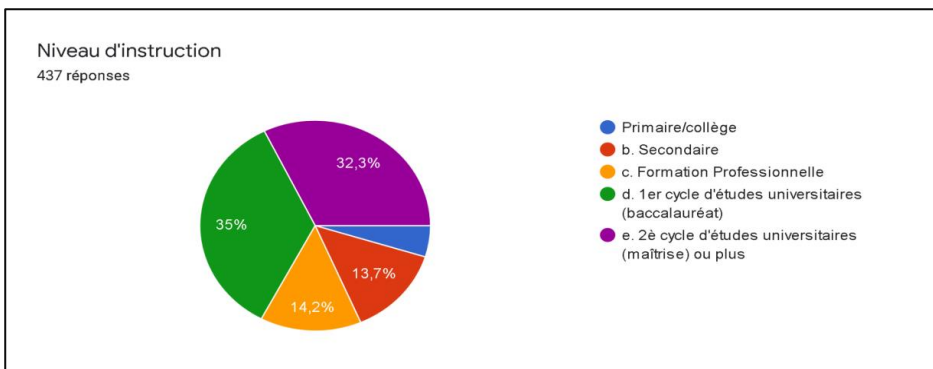
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With five participants refusing to answer the question about their age, we find that the majority of the interviewed people are between 22-30 years old. This is related to where the interviewed are met. In our case, the majority of questionnaires were distributed in employment agencies or in youth centres; where we supposed to reach a max number of youth not in school, training or at work.

It is also important to mention the difficulty we faced to find out the main technique to reach the maximum of TEENS, corresponding to the profile. Even the young people are addicted to social media; we found that they are not interested to answer this kind of questions on social media. That is why we have chosen the direct contact to achieve these results.

Age	Answers
18-21	35
22-25	113
26-30	127
31-35	92
36+	67
	434

3. Level of education

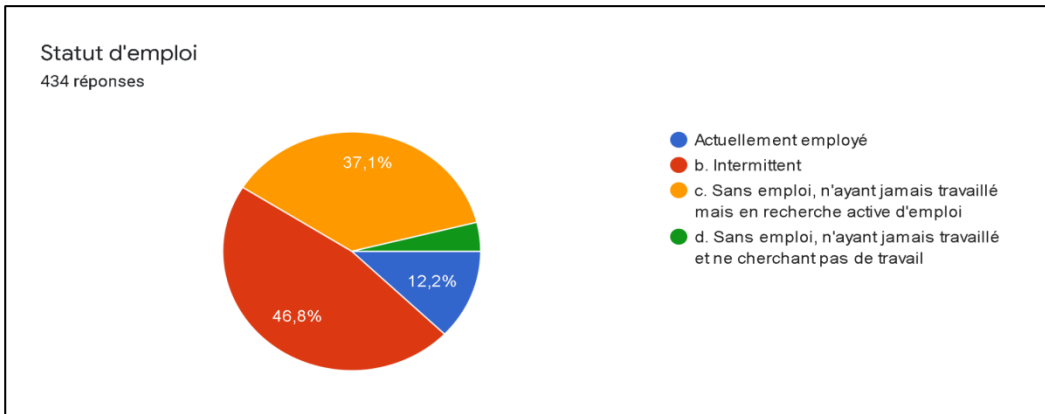


education level	
primary school	21
secondary school	60
TVET	62
1st cycle university	153
2end cycle university	141

The majority of young people answering (67.3%) are from high school. To relate this to the answers about the question whether they are familiar to blue economy or green economy or circular economy, we realize the effort to do individually and collectively to change the situation.

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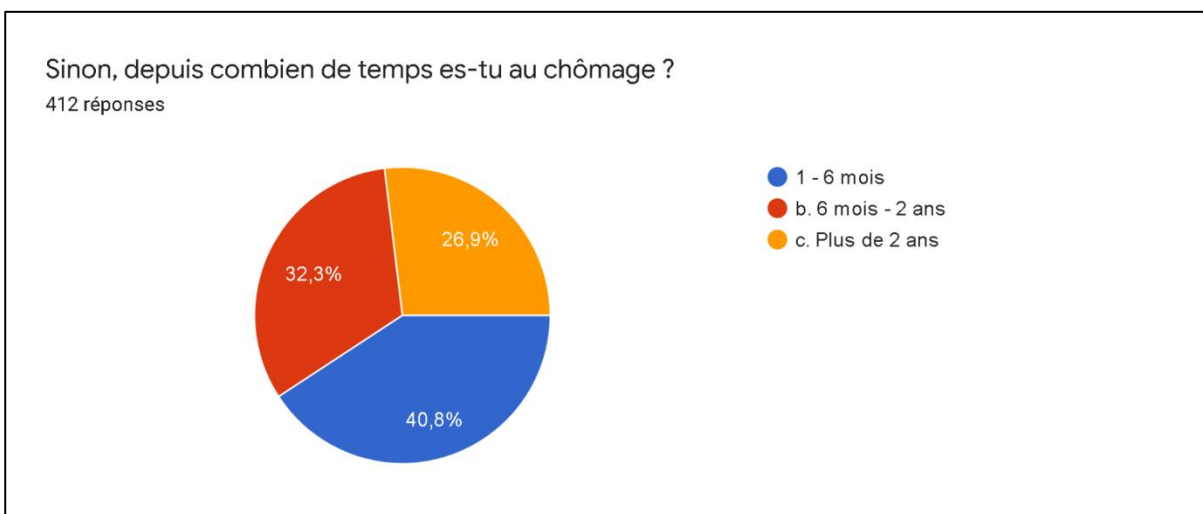
4. Employment situation



employment situation	
actually employed	53
Recently unemployed	203
never employed and looking for job	161
never employed and not looking for job	17
	434

The sample participating to the enquiry is dominated by unemployed people. This responds exactly to the topic of the project. Only 53p people from 434 answers are employed, so that 88.2% are actually unemployed.

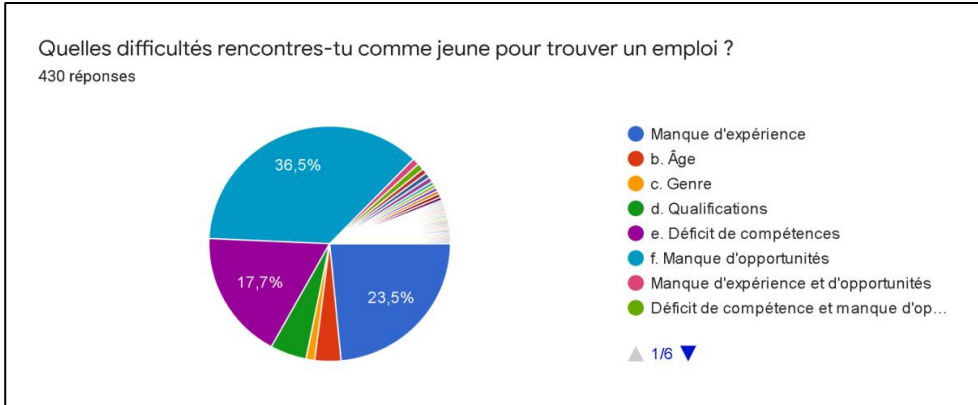
5. Unemployment duration



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6. Difficulties to find a job



Reasons for not finding job	Count
lack of opportunities	157
lack of experience	101
skill gaps	76
Others	96
Total	430

The majority of answers (36.5% of the interviewed) recognize that lack of opportunities remains the most obstacles to find a job for young people. This, is related to the fabric of the region where more than 87% of enterprises are personal activities not hiring any employees.

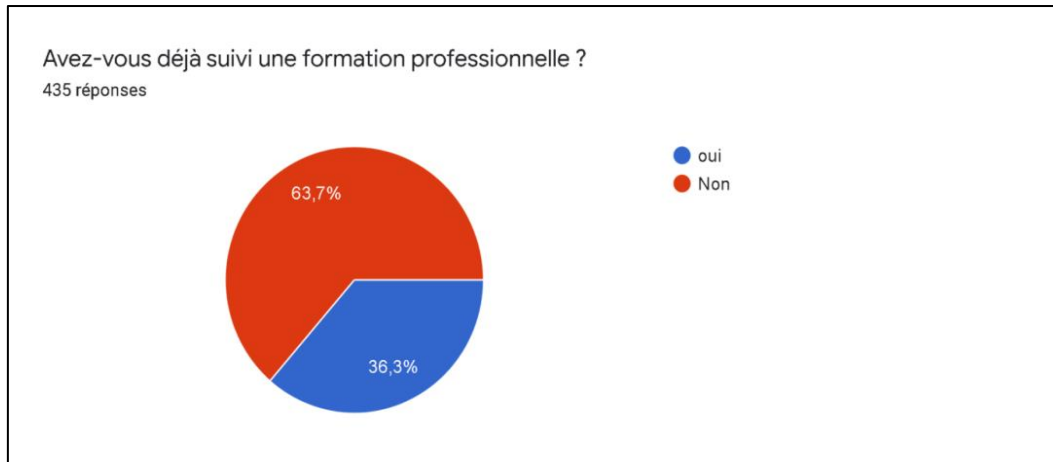
The second reason lowering chances to fit the few opportunities declared are the lack of experience. The majority of the people contacted for the actual survey are young people recently unemployed aged between 22-30 years old, not experienced or have a little experience at work.

The third reason is related to skill gaps, and this is a common reason for all economic sectors. In the way that we find out that curricula delivered in high schools and universities does not match the real needs of enterprises. Moreover, equipment's and training supports in training centres are generally obsolete and are no more attractive for young persons to join training centres because it doesn't fit their needs.

The other difficulties mentioned such as age or gender is not highly considered by the young person's answering the questionnaire. This is due to the fact that we initially targeted this category to be in harmony with the main objective of the project. The majority of asked people are aged between 22-25 years old, and they are recently unemployed.

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7. Professional training



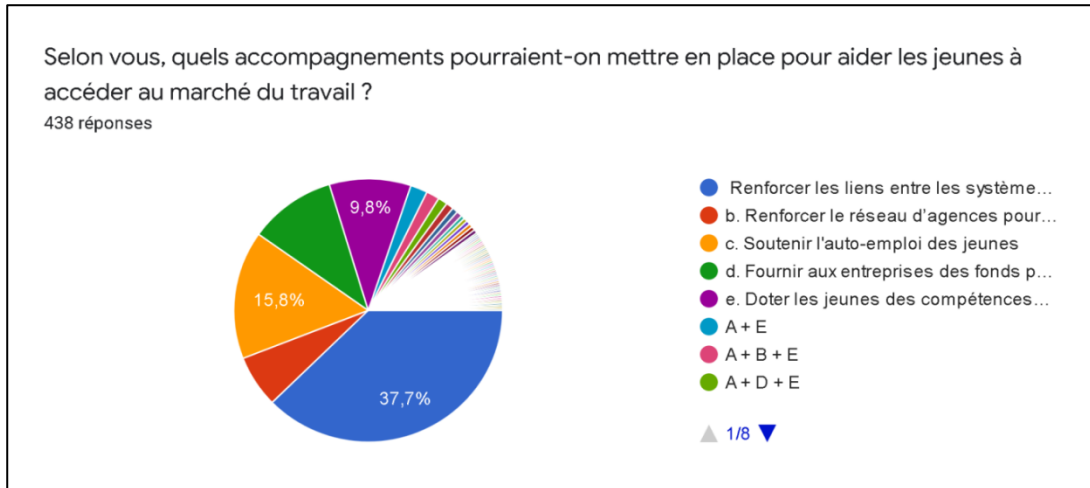
trainings	
training qualifications	158
no training qualifications	277
	435

The majority (63.7%) didn't have any professional training. This can be explained by different criteria :

- Young people are not really convinced by the curricula, support and equipment's in training centres available.
- Tunisian families still consider that young people to be oriented to training system are those who "failed "in conventional education system. This may deter young people to join training system.
- It appears that chances to get experienced especially for qualified youth is so hard. This is related to laws organizing labour market in Tunisia, having so many restrictions for enterprises to hire employees may deter them from engaging new trainees. This would limit the possibilities to new graduated students to access to market labour.

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8. Needs for support to find job

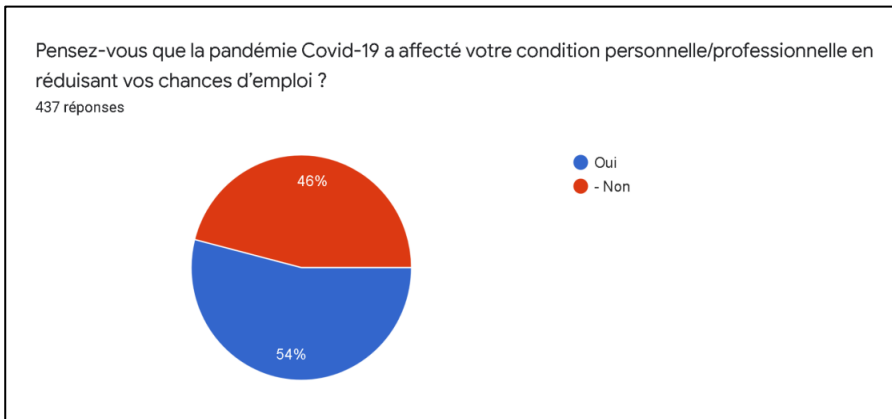


Three major tools recommended by young people asked in order to enhance possibilities to get jobs :

- Ameliorate relationships between educational and training system and market labour needs. So many ideas to develop in this way regarding curricula and needs to review the educational system from primary school to universities in order to introduce in their curricula entrepreneurship courses preparing young people for managing their own professional life.
- Support self-entrepreneurship; This may be a recent trend for young people getting graduated, in opposition to traditional option for this category of graduated or postgraduate to get hired by public services.
- Since that, market labour is more and more animated by new trend for new technologies and management, ameliorating capacity skills would be the issue. This is related to national programs to recycle graduated young people actually in difficulty to introduce to labour market (such as literary diploma) to be reoriented, after specific training into new technologies (such as numerical fields)

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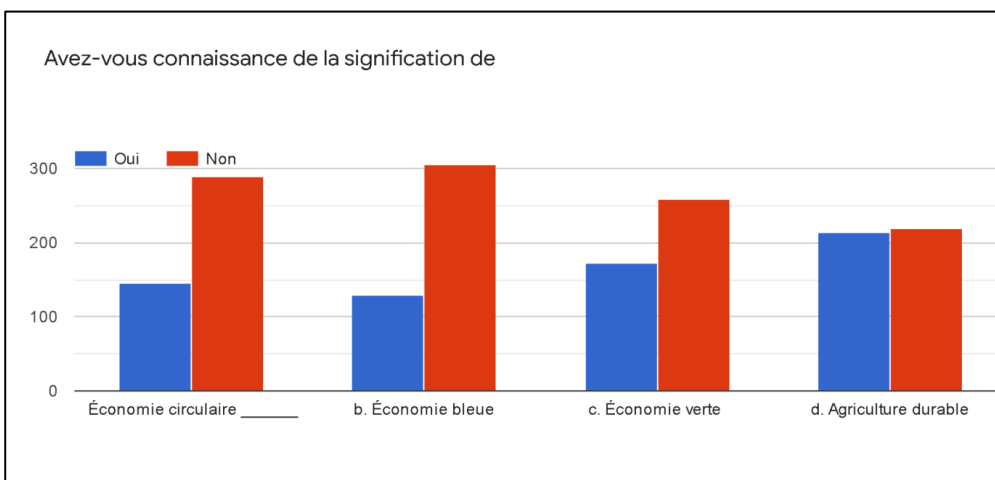
9. Pandemic effect



Pandemy covid 19	
affected	236
not affected	201
	437

It is clear that all economic and social activities are effected at different levels by the pandemic, indeed the results of the enquiry showing that nearly 50% of the interviewed people believe that pandemic had an impact while the other half believe the opposite. It seems that people sharing the common problem would find normal and become insensitive to the pandemic.

10. Familiarity to alternative economies



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It appears that young people have no idea about alternative economy in the fields such as circular, blue, or green economies. This should be consequence of the lack in widespread information's about these activities. They are addicted to social media, but not informed about economic questions related to environmental threats. Hence, a big effort is to be made at different levels (Public authorities, social active association partners, private sector and essentially education system and mass media) in order to change this situation. Because these young people today would be the future generation to implement the big transitions in the world (Energetic, numeric and environmental challenges)

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