

Carbon Capture and Storage is a key technology for the transition to a low carbon economy. Strong normative, substantive and instrumental rationales for public acceptance of large scale CCS.

Interviews: 13 experts in CCS from the UK, the Netherlands and Norway were interviewed from November 2015 to January 2016 on the **barriers** of CCS deployment and public engagement with CCS, and potential **ways of addressing them**.

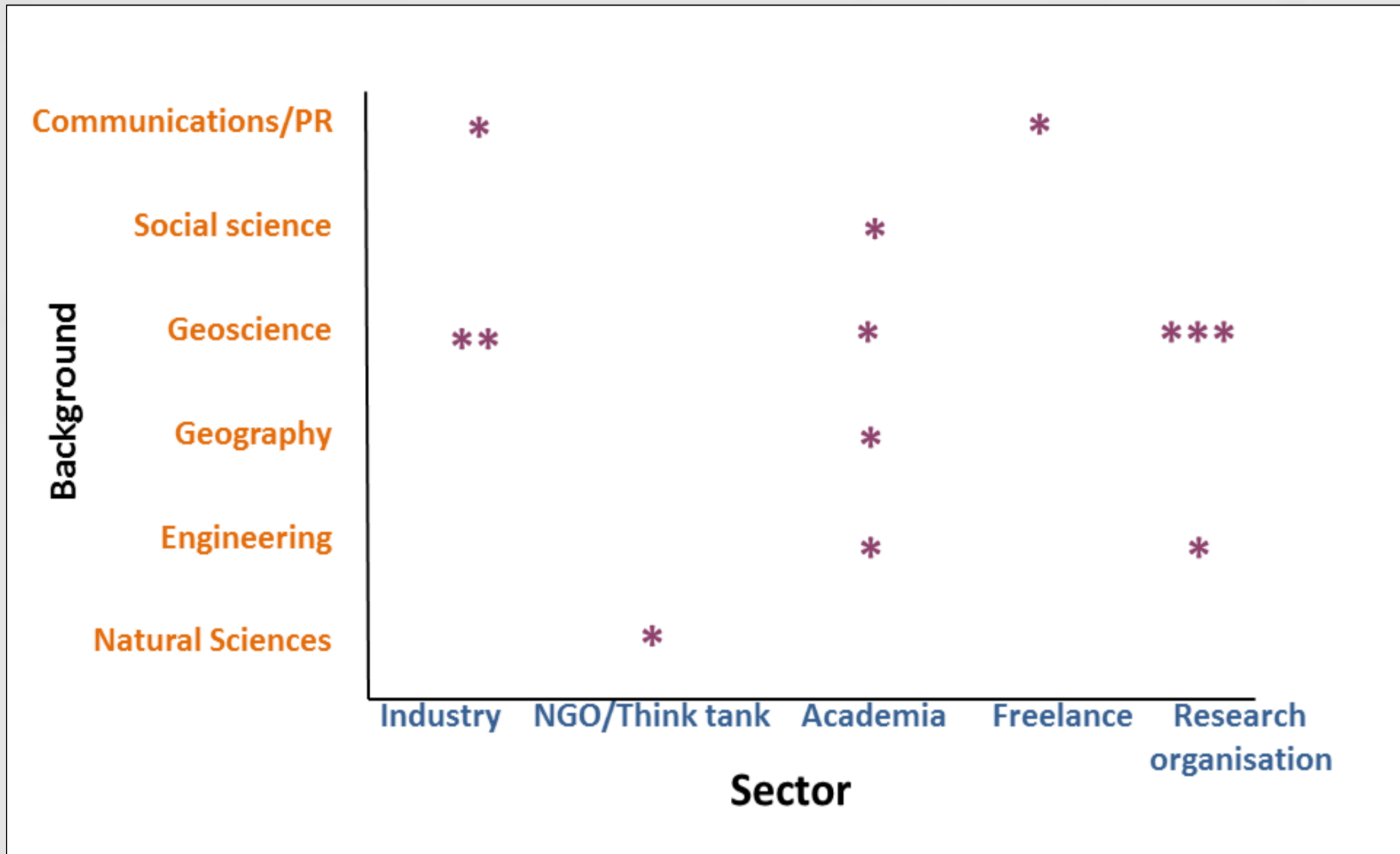


Fig. 1: Expert sample distribution by sector and background

BARRIERS to CCS and public engagement

Experts identified several barriers to CCS roll-out and to communicating CCS with the public as seen below:

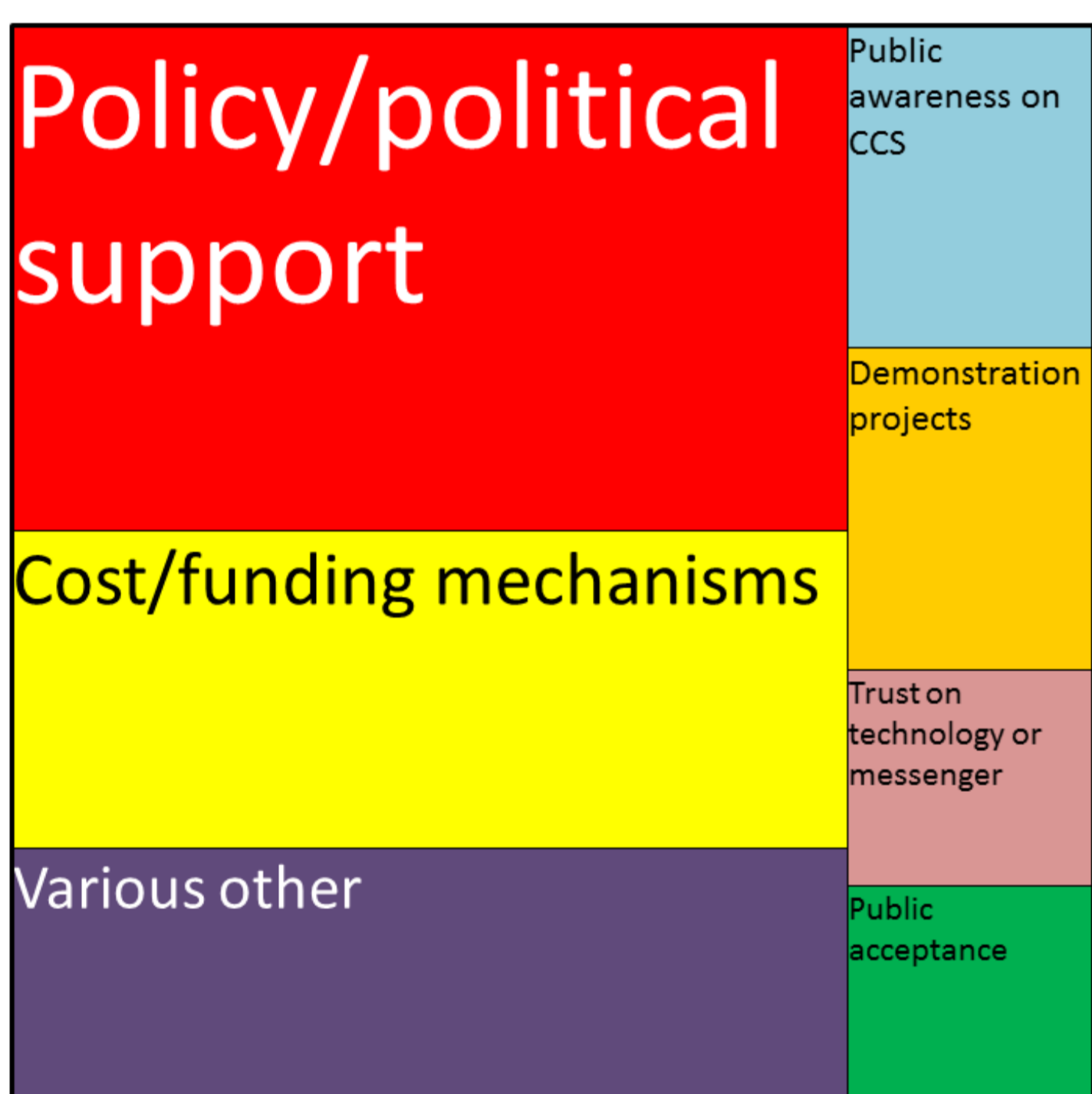


Fig. 2: Lack of these factors constitutes barriers to CCS roll-out in the UK

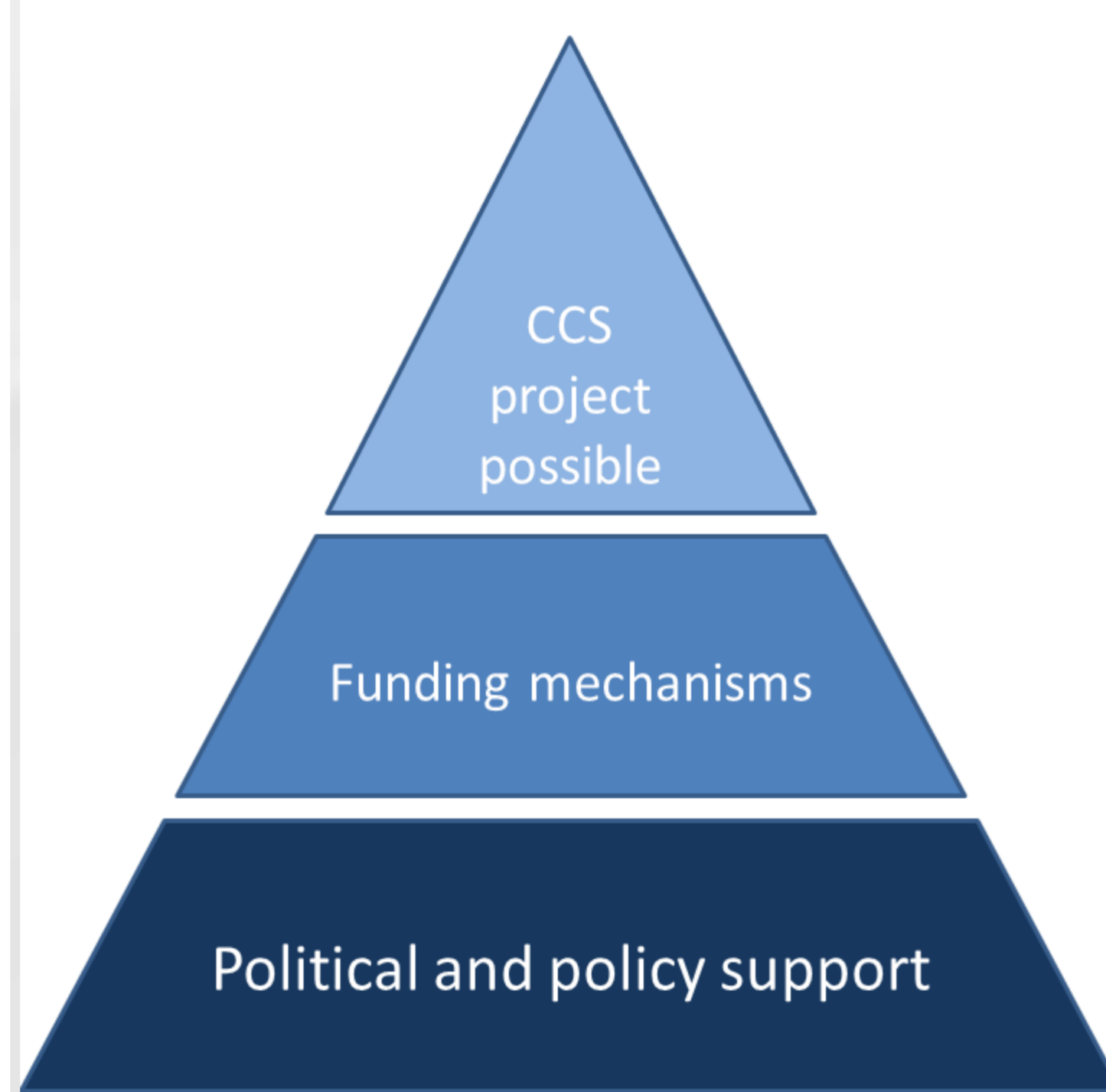


Fig. 3: Public acceptance of CCS assumes supportive political and financial context

The existence of a **supportive political context** is crucial, as this determines the funding paths, provides the rationale for CCS and therefore drives R&D and roll-out of CCS.

Once a project is feasible, **public engagement becomes important** in shaping the project and ensuring public support.

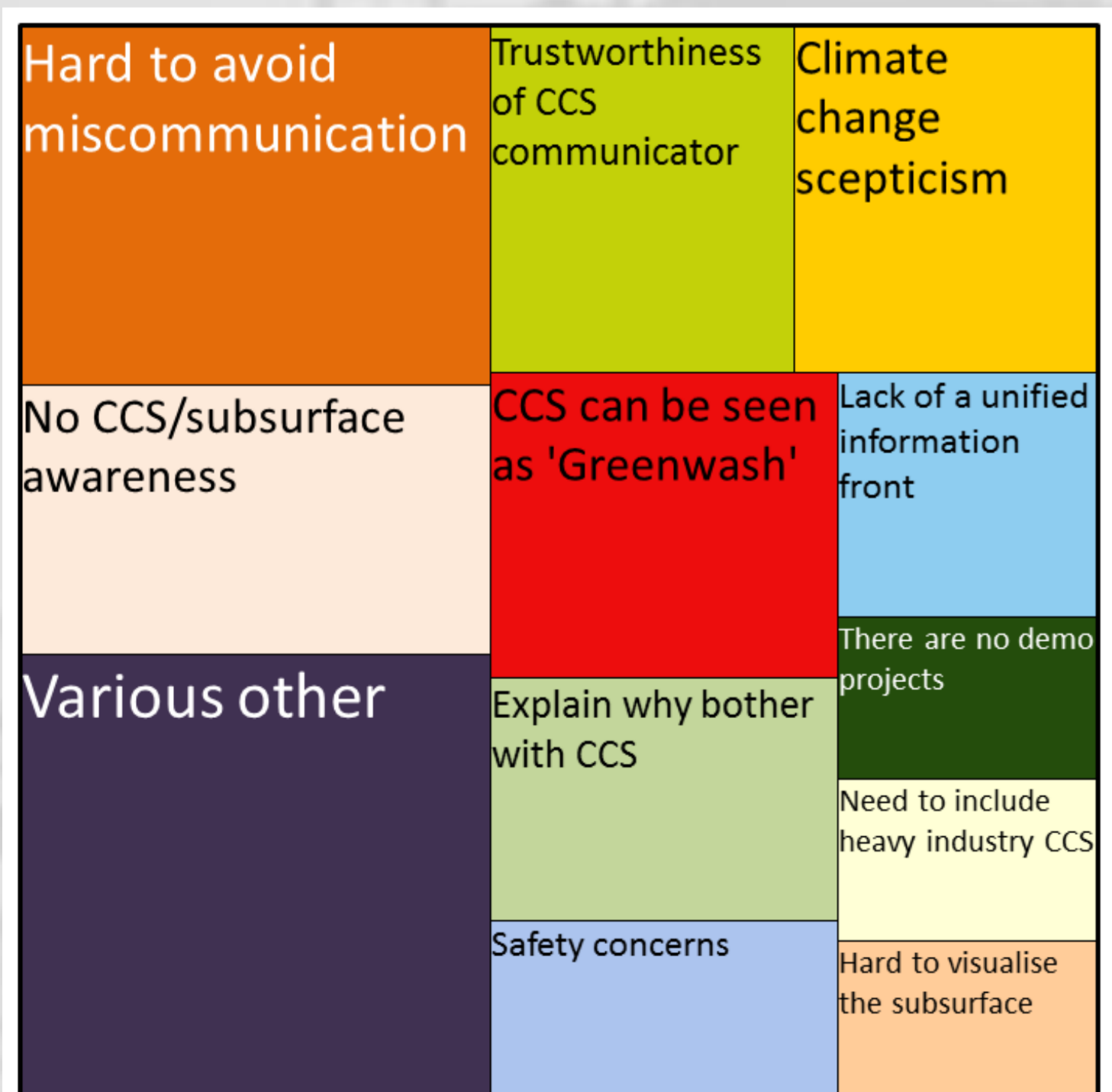


Fig. 4: Key issues with communicating CCS to the public

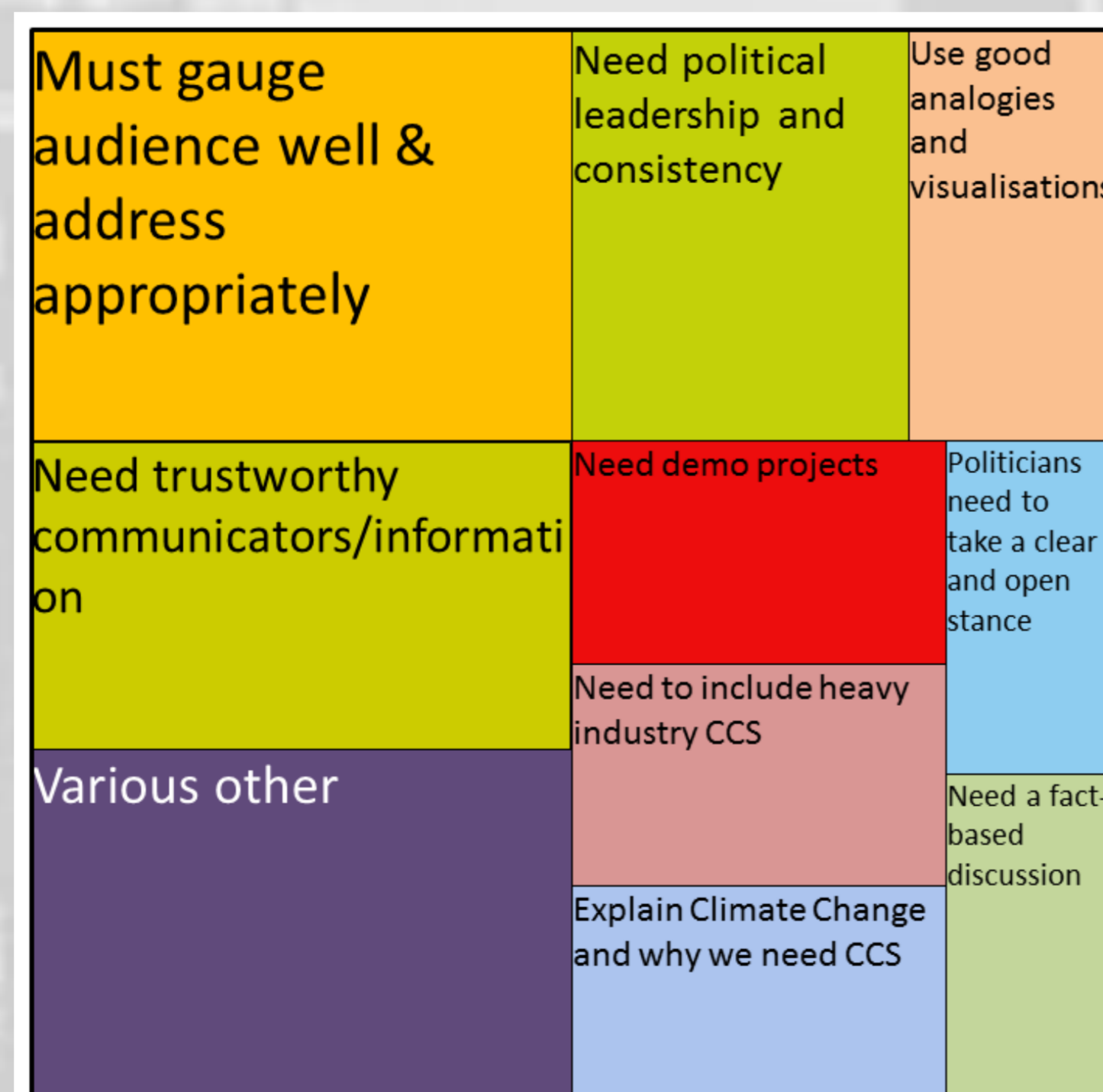


Fig. 5: Ways of addressing issues of CCS communications to the public

WAYS OF ADDRESSING the barriers

Analysis indicates broad consensus on the importance of **assessing and addressing each audience appropriately**. The use of appropriate **analogies and visualisations** for CCS and the subsurface was deemed particularly important—a sample improvement is shown in *fig. 7*. Discussing **CCS for heavy industry** was also considered important to gain wider audiences.

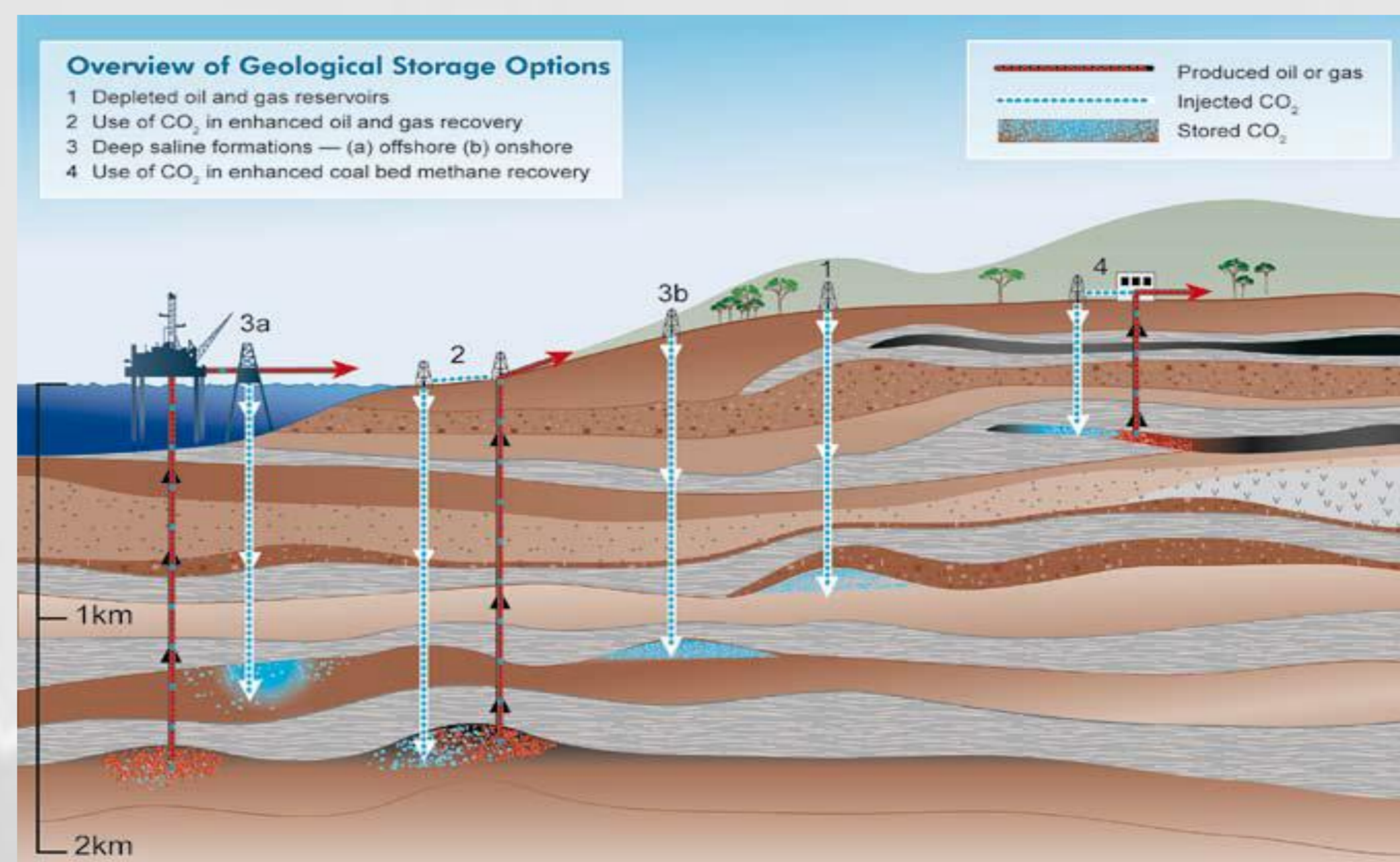


Fig. 6: Typical illustration for carbon storage (after Cook, 1999)

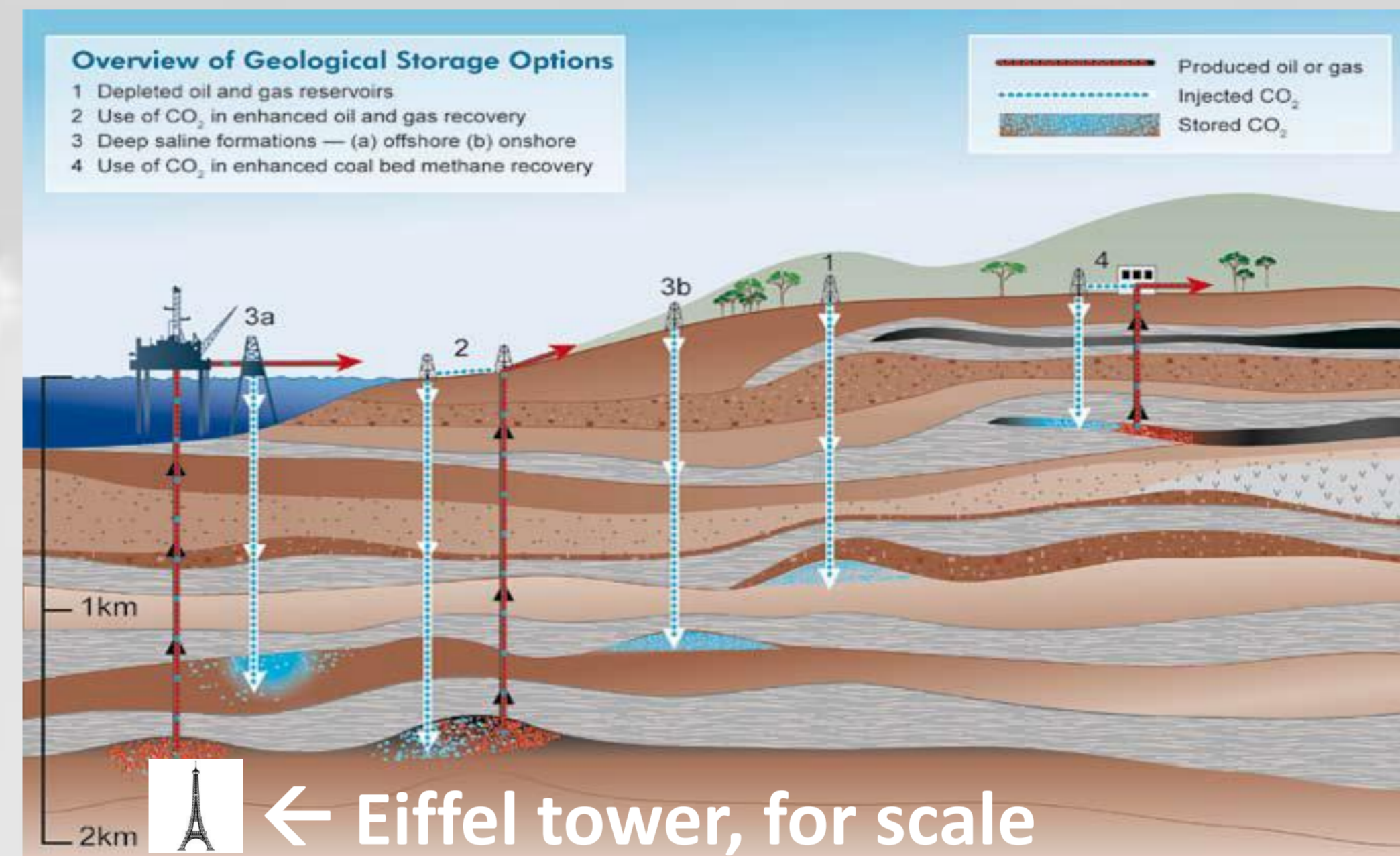


Fig. 7: Illustration for carbon storage with sample improvement

The present findings confirm existing literatures on public acceptance of CCS. Two important additional findings include:

- the **normative influence of the political context** and
- the **need to include emphasis on CCS for heavy industry**, which should engage broader publics.

This work informed the development of an online survey on CCS experts (*Fig. 8*). Future work needs to include the contexts of other countries to provide insights into how CCS projects are evolving globally.

Survey link: <https://goo.gl/KXLFZV> **Please contribute!**

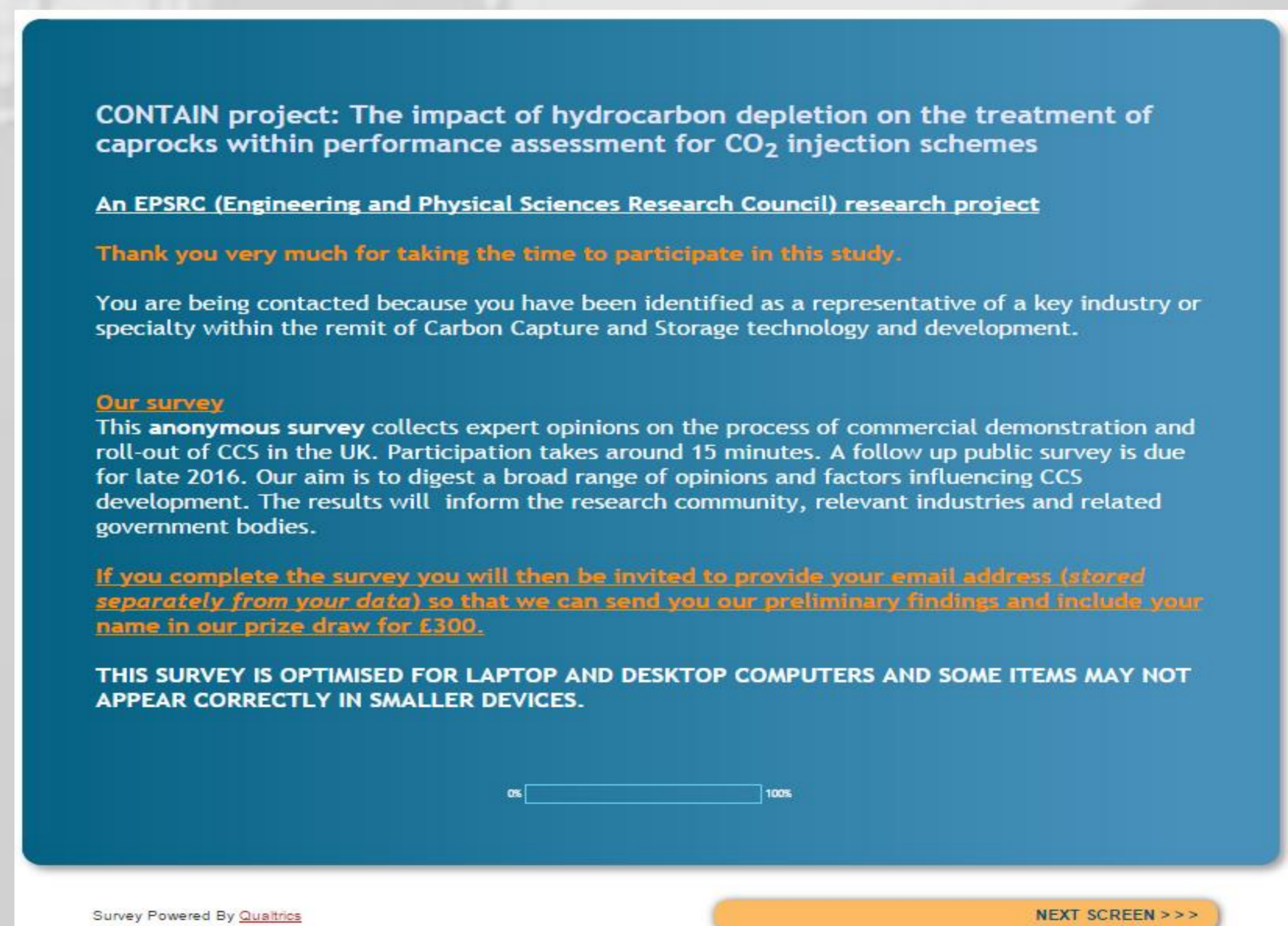


Fig. 8: Snapshot of CCS expert online survey