

## **“GOVERNMENT IS RIGHT TO PUT SKILLS AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT THE CENTRE OF THE ECONOMY” SAY IEMA**

**The introduction of a Government commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 will promote much-needed economic growth and create new business opportunities - that is a prediction from the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) announced today.**

**By pledging this commitment in the forthcoming Low Carbon Industrial Strategy new markets, new jobs and new skills will emerge, bolstering the UK's fragile economy.**

Martin Baxter, Deputy, Chief Executive of the IEMA, outlines how the transitional period after the Strategy is released will provide opportunities for business growth and skill development in the second IEMA-backed environmental careers supplement released today (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March) in *The Independent*.

Under the heading 'THE GOVERNMENT HAS RIGHTLY PUT SKILLS AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT THE HEART OF THE ECONOMY' Baxter advises "A critical element of the transition will be developing environmental knowledge and skills. Not only will this need to be done through shaping the skills of young people going through the education system, but with an estimated three quarters of the 2020 workforce already in employment, there's also a massive task to be undertaken in re-skilling across all sectors of the economy.

*"The multi-disciplinary environmental professional is crucial to make this happen and IEMA will champion their role in the new low-carbon economy."*

This careers guide (available in all copies of *The Independent* today and in all copies of Issue 75 of 'the environmentalist' magazine from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April) is the latest contribution by the IEMA to promote the environmental profession. As a professional body with a worldwide membership of over 14,000 environmental practitioners, the IEMA is in the best position to advise on the condition of the environmental sector and the continuing development of environmental skills. Since the IEMA's formation in 1999, the Institute has supported individual practitioners' careers and development while promoting the overall profile of the profession.

This edition of the supplement profiles the environmental profession including an article on how the environmental sector can help lead the UK out of recession and how a charity is helping nurture sustainable energy projects that inspire communities. Case studies of environmental practitioners from across the IEMA's membership demonstrate the various routes into a career in this growing field and the development needed to maintain a competitive edge.

For more information on the IEMA, its events, services, products, membership, training and publications, visit [www.iema.net](http://www.iema.net).

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